



**THE
6000 YEAR PLAN**

**Part I
The Accuracy of the Primary Dates
As Set By God's Chronological Standards**

**TIME LINE
PROPHECY FOR MAN'S
FINAL TEN YEARS
OF SELF-DETERMINATION**

**Part II
End Time Prophecy With Focus on the Words of Jesus,
and the Books of Daniel and Revelation**

Part I

The 6000 Year Plan

God Himself is the author and creator of time. We read in **Genesis 1:14** – “And God said, Let there be lights in the expanse of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them serve as signs to mark seasons and days and years.” **Psalm 90:4** states – “For a thousand years in your sight are like a day that has just gone by, or like a watch in the night.” One thousand years compares to “Yesterday” – a single day. Peter in his second epistle comments “That one day is with the Lord as a thousand years and a thousand years as one day.” **2 Peter 3:8-10** – “But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day. ⁹The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance. ¹⁰But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything in it will be laid bare.”

In the Book of Hebrews, Paul discussed a 1000-year period of time as a millennial rest. He refers to it as a Seventh Day Sabbath rest. **Hebrews 4:1-11** – “Therefore, since the promise of entering his rest still stands, let us be careful that none of you be found to have fallen short of it. ²For we also have had the gospel preached to us, just as they did; but the message they heard was of no value to them, because those who heard did not combine it with faith. ³Now we who have believed enter that rest, just as God has said, ‘So I declared on oath in my anger, They shall never enter my rest.’ And yet his work has been finished since the creation of the world. ⁴For somewhere he has spoken about the seventh day in these words: ‘And on the seventh day God rested from all his work.’ ⁵And again in the passage above he says, ‘They shall never enter my rest.’ ⁶It still remains that some will enter that rest, and those who formerly had the gospel preached to them did not go in, because of their disobedience. ⁷Therefore God again set a certain day, calling it Today, when a long time later he spoke through David, as was said before: ‘Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts.’ ⁸For if Joshua had given them rest, God would not have spoken later about another day. ⁹There remains, then, a Sabbath-rest for the people of God; ¹⁰for anyone who enters God’s rest also rests from his own work, just as God did from his. ¹¹Let us, therefore, make every effort to enter that rest, so that no one will fall by following their example of disobedience.”

God has given mankind 6000 years to labor according to his reasoning and desires. This has produced systems of government and religion which even at their very best never came close to bringing true freedom and oneness with God. The seventh day millennial rest which begins with the rule of Jesus Christ will actively reinstate God’s righteous laws, the instruction of law as codified and given to Moses. People of all nations will in short time willingly submit and obey and be blessed. It will be a time of widespread peace, prosperity and happiness.

Exodus 20:8-10 – “Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. ⁹Six days you shall labor and do all your work, ¹⁰but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor your manservant or maidservant, nor your animals, nor the alien within your gates.

”Here stated the seventh day of the week is the Sabbath. We are to remember the Sabbath by ceasing from routine labor and give ourselves, on this day, over to God by keeping this time as commanded. We are given six days to labor and do all our work. The analogy is for six days, 6000 years, mankind labored by denying God and His word in our lives, struggling to get it right with human reasoning. This is pure folly and will bring near total destruction and desolation to the earth in a few short years. God in His mercy will take the world into a millennial Sabbath rest. Thus we see in the pattern of the seven-day week, a picture of the 7000-Year Plan for mankind: 6000 years for man’s way, 1000 years for God’s way for mankind.

The early Church of God knew and understood the 7000-year plan. Several commentaries mention that the early church leaders commonly looked for the second coming of Christ at the end of man’s 6000-year history.

The Epistle of Barnabas, written about 200 AD, makes some detailed comments. “Of the Sabbath He speaketh in the beginning of the creation; ‘And God made the works of his hands in six days, and He ended on the seventh day, and rested on it, and He hallowed it.’ Give heed, children, what this meaneth, ‘He ended in six days.’ He meaneth this, that IN SIX THOUSAND YEARS THE LORD SHALL BRING ALL THINGS TO AN END; for the day with Him signifieth a thousand years; and this He himself beareth me witness, saying, ‘Behold, the day of the Lord shall be a THOUSAND YEARS.’ Therefore, children, in six days, that is *in six thousand years, everything shall come to an end*. ‘And He rested on the seventh day.’ This he meaneth; when His Son shall come, and shall abolish the time of the Lawless One, and shall judge the ungodly, and shall change the sun and the moon and the stars, then shall He truly rest on the seventh day.” (Epistle of Barnabus, chap. 15, *The Apostolic Fathers*, pp. 151–152).

Irenaeus, who was a Disciple of Polycarp, who himself was a Disciple of the Apostle John, made similar comments in his writings. “For in as many days as this world was made, *in so many thousand years shall it be concluded*. And for this reason the Scripture says: ‘Thus the heaven and the earth were finished, and all their adornment. And God brought to a conclusion upon the sixth day the works that He had made; and God rested upon the seventh day from all His works.’ This is an account of the things formerly created, *as also it is a prophecy of what is to come*. For the day of the Lord is as a thousand years, and in six days created things were completed: it is evident, therefore, that *they will come to an END at the sixth thousand year*” (*Ante-Nicene Fathers*, Vol. 1, p. 557). There are also many Jewish writings that reference a 7000-year plan.

Archbishop James Ussher’s Chronology and Other Possibilities

When setting about to establish the exact date/time of man’s creation and thus the precise beginning of man’s 6000 years of self determination, several historical perspectives and ideas need to be mentioned. The standard date of acceptance for creation is the year 4004 BC, moreover exactly noon of October 23. This was James Ussher’s conclusion. He was a brilliant biblical historian and theologian born in Dublin in 1581. His premise was simple. History records Nebuchadnezzar died in 562 BC. Ussher’s biblical chronology showed his death was 3,442 years after creation; 3442 plus 562 gives the year 4004 BC.

The Jewish Creation Date

The creation date set by the Jewish calendar is 244 years later than Ussher's 4004 BC date. The given Jewish creation date is 5760 years ago, marking from our year 2000. The Jews are a talented and intelligent people, so how could they come to this date? Briefly, there are two possible reasons. It appears the Jews may have set the calendar nine years after the birth of Enos, the son of Seth, and grandson of Adam. It is possible at this time Adam and Seth made certain conclusions concerning astronomical timetables and thus were able to produce a calendar of sorts.

Another possibility has to do with Jesus the Messiah. The Jewish leadership for several hundred years was well aware of the prophecies concerning the coming of a deliverer who would take on mankind's burden. They knew he would first appear lowly, as a lamb. When Jesus did appear and fulfilled the first half of his commission by preaching the gospel of the Kingdom and dying for mankind's sins, they just could not or would not accept this. We are all familiar with the story.

What they did was to design and contrive the timetables of the Persian Kings in order to make the Messianic Prophecies of no effect and thus have a chronology that puts Jesus' first appearance at odds with scripture. In doing so, this satisfied the people and allowed the leadership to continue in denial.

The Jews according to their calculations believe the year 2012 is the coming of the Messiah Ben David or the Son of David, Yeshua the Messiah and Deliverer.

The Mayan Calendar

The TV series, *X-Files*, has an interesting premise shared by many concerning the end of time. The Mayan Calendar predicts the "End of the Age" to be the Year 2012. The *X-Files* programs consisted of stories revolving around supernatural events all in some way connected and leading to the Year 2012. Certain biblical prophecies do calculate to the Year 2012. This year is not the return of Christ but it is a significant date for other reasons.

Before getting into specific dates and sequences of timing, there are several important related issues that need to be addressed: the Jubilee Years, Adam and Eve's Mysterious Seven Years and the Ten Days of Judgment and Awe.

If one is not familiar with these markers, it is not possible to develop a timeline pattern of events for prophecy. One of the constant problems of prophecy is the fact that historians and theologians have a strong tendency to over engineer the matter. Occasionally someone will try the "simple" approach and still have results no better than the engineers.

As we will see, establishing valid dates and timing is not difficult. It is logical, and everything falls into proper place. The problem for many will be that this is new thinking, out of the box. Today's Church of God groups and others have a very much "in-the-box, do-not-disturb" type of reasoning. What they have filled their box with is some correct assessments, but in the main what they have is inaccurate assumptions that do not have structure or sense in so far as working from a biblical foundation. Many others do not attempt to fix dates for major prophetic events. Some say, "We just are not able to be specific, and besides, scriptures do not appear to offer any help in this matter."

The Jubilee Years/Cycle

To understand where we are in the timeline of prophecy and to place final end time events in their proper place in an understandable way, we need to examine and correctly establish the Jubilee Year Cycle.

God states in **Leviticus 25:23** – “The land must not be sold permanently, because the land is mine and you are but aliens and my tenants.” The land is His, He owns all of it. He gives it to us for our use. God also tells us in **Leviticus 25:8-10, 23 and 28** – “Count off seven Sabbaths of years—seven times seven years—so that the seven Sabbaths of years amount to a period of forth-nine years. ⁹Then have the trumpet sounded everywhere on the tenth day of the seventh month; on the Day of Atonement sound the trumpet throughout your land. ¹⁰Consecrate the fiftieth year and proclaim liberty throughout the land to all its inhabitants. It shall be a jubilee for you; each one of you is to return to his family property and each to his own clan. ²³The land must not be sold permanently, because the land is mine and you are but aliens and my tenants. ²⁸ But if he does not acquire the means to repay him, what he sold will remain in the possession of the buyer until the Year of Jubilee. It will be returned in the Jubilee, and he can then go back to his property.” Every 50th year is a Jubilee Year and the land is to go back to its original owner. “The Trumpet of the Jubilee” means an exclamation of joy is significant. The Jubilee Year in ancient Israel was meant to be a year of liberty and freedom, release from bondage. It was a year of renewal, refreshing, and restoration. It will be so again in the near future.

The Jews and mankind as a whole have lost track for counting the Jubilee Years. God has kept the correct count for us. We will pick up the correct timing of the count, which is necessary if we are to know where we stand in prophecy. God is precise, and everything is on schedule.

In Acts 3:19-21, Peter refers to the Jubilee Year. **Acts 3:19-21** – “Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord, ²⁰and that he may send the Christ, who has been appointed for you—even Jesus. ²¹He must remain in heaven until the time comes for God to restore everything, as he promised long ago through his holy prophets.” The “Times of Refreshing” and the “Times of Restoring Everything” are a reference to what occurs in a Jubilee Year. It was a designated year of liberty, freedom for slaves, forgiveness of all debts and the restoration of all lands.

Properties and Inheritance (Leviticus 25)

Jesus said in **Luke 4:18-19** – “The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed, ¹⁹to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.” This is a quote from Isa 61:1-4, which describes the Jubilee Year. The beginning of the millennium is also a new Jubilee Year. Man will finally be released from the physical and spiritual corruption he has labored under for 6000 years. **Isaiah 11:9** – “They will neither harm nor destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.”

From the very beginning of the creation of man God had a specific plan laid out and specific requirements for this plan; among which we find the 50-year Jubilee Cycle. The Jubilee was an integrated part of Israel's early history. Soon it will once again be for all mankind an important control for fairness and equality for human dignity and property rights. Without it there is no foundation for necessary and timely adjustments, nor is there any type of workable time pattern. With it we have one of God's principle markers of time, and thus we are able to put end time prophecy in its proper time period and sequence. The Jubilee Year was from the beginning, as noted, and given by God to man for 6000 years and continuing on.

Elijah's Prophecy

Certain prophetic words of Elijah are a part of recorded Jewish tradition and history as found in the Talmud. Many of these writings have a basis of historical fact. Along with many others, I believe these comments by Elijah as recorded to be true and reliable.

In the Talmud, Sanh 97B states, "Elijah told Juda, the brother of Sala Hasida, 'The world will endure not less than 85 Jubilees, and on the last Jubilee the Son of David (Christ) will come'." The implication strongly suggests that there will be more than 85 Jubilees to the setting of the Son of David's kingdom. What world was Elijah speaking of? The Bible speaks of the world that was, meaning the pre-flood world and the world that now is this present post-flood world.

The Noahian Flood took place in 2349-2350 BC. That is, the deluge took place 1650 years after the creation. However, the count is back from the year 4000. Thus the year 2350 is arrived at. Many bible historians acknowledge this time frame. God works according to a schedule and purpose. He does not allow things to just happen, but does adjust and influence as is necessary.

Multiplying 85 x 50 is 4250 years. The flood was over in the fall of 2350 BC. We subtract 2350 years from 4250 and what is left is 1900 years. In other words, 4250 years from the flood takes us to the year 1900 AD. This is a significant date, and we will come back to it.

Adam and Eve's Mysterious Seven Years

There are several ancient books which record related Bible history. They recount specific events and activities of biblical personalities. Although not a part of scripture, it appears they are reliable; they don't contradict scripture, but rather compliment it. The Book of Jubilees is such writing.

There is no given time period for the point at which Satan appears in the Genesis account of man's creation. Gen 2:25, "They were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed". Then immediately following is Gen 3:1, the first appearance of Satan. He begins to seduce Eve with lies. Between these two verses is an implied period of time. The Book of Jubilee states, "At the end of seven years which he completed there, seven years exactly, in the second month on the seventeenth day, the serpent came and drew near to the woman," (Jubilee 3:15-17). It seems reasonable and fair to give Adam and Eve time to settle down and become acquainted with life and God. God does not just put a test or trial on any one person or nation without some kind of understanding of

responsibility. (Specifically those peoples or nations he claims as His.) With Adam and Eve, the point and question of temptation was now that they have had personal contact and an intimate relationship. Would they believe, trust and obey God, their Creator? It is around these three questions the history of mankind has revolved.

Adam and Eve's first seven years of life did not include the Devil. God withheld Satan's influence for seven full years. At the point of man's temptation and his failure, God released Satan and allowed him 6000 years of access to influence and at times to orchestrate some of mankind's activities.

The 50-year Jubilee Cycle is one of God's principle means of marking and dividing time. In order to set accurate prophetic dates, these seven years, in relation to the Jubilee count, have to be accounted for and dealt with. These seven years must have an assigned place.

It is truly amazing how God has set everything up, and nothing is left dangling or unaccounted for.

The Ten Days of Judgment and Awe —The Day of the Lord—

That is the period of time God has reserved for Himself to render final judgment and punishment and to set things in a new order.

Between Tishri 1, Rosh Hashanah (Trumpets), which represent the beginning of judgment, and Tishri 10, Yom Kippur (Atonement), which pictures the finality and conclusion of judgment, there are 10 days. The Jewish people refer to these 10 days as "The Days of Awe" or "The Days of Repentance"

These 10 days picture the final 10 years of tribulation and transition for the preparation of the millennium rule of Jesus Christ. The blowing of trumpets is a warning and preparation for what is to come, great impending danger. Atonement pictures total and real repentance and true reconciliation to God. Also atonement pictures the day the last and final trumpet is blown and with it the soon coming of Christ to rule.

These 10 years of awe portray a period of judgment, suffering, repentance and restoration. Seven years of this time deal with God's final judgment and correction: beginning with His church, continuing to the nations he considers his chosen and finally finishing up with judgment and punishment of the rest of the world. The last three years are the necessary time it takes to bring order and arrangement in preparation for Christ's millennium rule.

Everything has been prearranged. The key players have nothing to say about the matter. This is how God has determined to bring man and Satan's rule to an end and to usher in the righteous world rule of Jesus Christ and His saints.

The Number 10

This number signifies completion and/or perfection of God's divine order: The Ten Commandments, The Ten Plagues of Exodus, The Ten Virgins, 10 Generations, Israel's 10 Rebellions, the tithe is one tenth (10 percent). Ten is a perfect number and denotes orderly sequence and arrangement. It commences an altogether new series of numbers. Multiples of 10 added, multiplied or subtracted always end with 0. It is God's

primary working number for arrangement and conclusion of purpose. It implies nothing is wanting; the number and order are perfect. The whole cycle is complete. Summary from Bullinger's book, *Numbers in Scriptures*.

Throughout the Bible the term "Day of the Lord" and similar words are constantly referred to. True, there can be several different and, in a sense, correct understandings; however, God has designated and set aside a specific number of years which He claims as His own and with which to accomplish and complete His purpose for the 6000 years He has given man. This history is one of man doing and living as he sees fit; never coming to any real appreciation for God, His Son and the law. The results of this lack of relationship are what we witness in the world today.

These 10 years of judgment, awe, repentance and reconciliation God claims for Himself. He gave the world 6000 years; He will take 10 years now to set matters straight. This is His devoted time for purpose not shared with man or Satan. It is God's independent hand in closing 6000 years of man's rule and transitioning to the millennium rule of Yeshua the Messiah.

Concluding Comment for this Section

There are seven years for Adam and Eve. There are 10 years for God. These years fit into God's overall plan and must be accounted for. Their proper place must be determined. Without this, there will be nothing but guessing and uncertainty. Accuracy is essential if we are to trust God and His word.

The keys are to seek knowledge and desire to understand; and come to know and appreciate God's character and personality. He challenges us and gives us just enough for intelligent judgments, which allow us to form sure conclusions based on the individual relationship we develop with Him. Faith based in truth and trust that leads to salvation will not come from any man or organization. It will only come with a close dependent relationship with God and Jesus Christ.

Fixing the Primary Prophetic Dates

I believe that we know and understand as a fact that God indeed has given man 6000 full years without his interference or influence except as necessary for His overall plan.

In the 6000 years given man there are 120 50-year Jubilee cycles. Man's countdown began at the moment Adam and Eve sinned. Satan then was allowed continual access to mankind. **Genesis 6:3** – "Then the LORD said, 'My Spirit will not contend with man forever, for he is mortal; his days will be a hundred and twenty years.'" In the days before the flood men lived on the average much longer than 120 years. Soon after the flood men lived much less than 120 years. It was the great exception to live to 100 years of age. God means here that mankind's allotted time of separation from him would be 6000 years.

It's interesting to note that Noah was 500 years old when he begot Shem, Ham and Japheth. It was a Jubilee year. It states that his sons were all born in his 500th year. Does this mean they were triplets? Noah was 600 years old the year of the great flood. He died in his 950th year. An interesting fact, 120 divided by 40 is three; three parts make a continuous form, a triangle. Forty is the number for testing, proving and preparing. Also

if you divide 120 by 10 you get 12. Twelve is the number of government and rule. Thus we see that God considers man's 6000 years of rule to be complete.

We are now several years past the year 2000, and things continue on. We need to understand why and when is the conclusion of all this.

Earlier we discussed Elijah's 85 Jubilees to the Messiah's return, counting from the flood. Multiplying 85 x 50 is 4250 years. There are 4250 years from the conclusion of the flood in 2350 BC to the year 1900 AD.

We remember there are seven years for Adam and Eve and 10 years for God, which are not a part of the 6000 years allotted man. However, these years must be calculated into the overall time period.

In Dan 12:4, Daniel is told that his book is sealed until the time of the end. The verse reads, "but you Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book until the time of the end; many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall increase." Verse 9 states, "...Go your way Daniel, for the words are closed up and sealed till the time of the end." God is precise and organized in His plan. It is reasonable to understand that this is a specific period of time. One hundred and eighteen Jubilee cycles from God's countdown for man takes us to the year 1900 AD.

God took these special allotted 17 years and added them to the year 1900 AD, which then takes us to the year 1917. These 17 years placed at this point are redeemed years that cover for God and Adam and Eve.

From the year 1917 we add two Jubilee cycles, which takes us to the year 2017. This 100-year period constitutes Daniel's "Time of the End." At this point everything thus far discussed is accounted for. We have exact dates based on the Jubilee Year Cycle and have placed the special 17-year period of time.

The year 1917 is the all-critical, all-important year with which to begin the end time countdown. Before continuing on, let us confirm these dates of 1917 and 2017.

In 1917, the British Commonwealth, as a result of WWI, displaced the Turkish Ottoman Empire as a power. The Turks no longer had any form of control in the Middle East and that area called Palestine, the general area now occupied by the state of Israel.

The Belfour Declaration of October 31, 1917, was the British mandate to establish a Jewish homeland. It was thus considered so by God, and the Jews began to immigrate back to Palestine, especially in large numbers during the 1930s. In 1939 the White Paper, another British appeasement document, cut Jewish immigration to a trickle. The Arabs did not want a large Jewish presence in the area. World opinion was more inclined to the Arab position, even as it is today.

The year 1917 was an official biblical Jubilee Year. In God's sight the process of returning the land to its rightful owners had begun.

The year 1947 is also a key year. In this year, the state of Israel officially came into being. It was by official documents and agreement, recognized by the United Nations and many nations of the world. We will discuss the importance of this date later on.

The next official Jubilee Year is 1967. The miraculous six-day war brought back into Jewish control the Golan Heights, Jerusalem and other areas of land. The Jews now had possession of the whole land of Palestine, which was always rightfully theirs. This was all according to God's will. To this day, the neighboring Arab nations and others are in bitter opposition to this Jewish state. This land is rightfully a Jewish possession by Godly decree and design.

Concerning the 1967 Six-Day War

From 1967 to the year 2007 are 40 years. Forty is God's number of proving, testing and preparing. Ancient Israel, because of rebellion, was 40 years in the wilderness and then allowed into the Promised Land. Modern Israel, the Jewish state, has been struggling for nearly 40 years to exist as a nation. True, modern day Israel has grown and prospered. Also, her enemies have been relentless, especially in the last 10-15 years.

In 1967 the Jews freely admitted it was God who had granted them their great victory over the United Arab armies. They knew God upheld their military might. He gave them victory and restored all of Jerusalem, the Temple Mount and other lands. In these 40 years, Israel as a nation has had weak ties to God and is continuing to drift further into a secular humanist approach to life. There are many reasons why God will punish the nation of Israel, the Jewish homeland today. A principle one is that in the month of August 2005, they began to give away for "peace" the lands God had returned them as their rightful inheritance. This demonstrated a complete disregard, lack of faith and lack of trust in God and is their point of no return.

Israel's 40 years ends in 2007. This also is the year that begins Daniel's 70th week prophecy, which will be completed in 2014. 2007 is also the beginning of the period of time called the Lord's Day, specific time God claims for Himself. Its completion comes in the fall of the year 2017; thus a complete 50-year Jubilee cycle. 2017 is a year of release.

The Hundred Years Between 1917 and 2017

Let us examine these years. Here we have an opportunity to see God's mind at work. We will have to exercise common sense and logical thinking and recognize reality.

In the history of mankind, in order that God's plan be fulfilled in all aspects, He has maintained a basic hands-off policy, except in critical times. If God had not brought the flood, mankind possibly within 200 to 300 years would have been at the point that we find ourselves today, with the ability to destroy all life from the face of the Earth. Nimrod and his defiant act at the tower demonstrated man's total disregard for God and His righteousness. From that point God has monitored man and kept him from advancing to the type of turning point technology that has been allowed to develop in the last 90 years or so.

In the year 1917, God took His hand away and allowed advancement in all sorts of technologies without any restraints. A part of the fullness of God's plan is to allow mankind to accomplish anything he imagines, to the point of developing weapons that if unleashed would destroy all humanity. On the other hand, He has permitted man to come to the point of understanding the essence of physical life.

When the history of this time period and the last 6000 is written, mankind will not be able to come back to God and claim that, if only given a little more time, they would have figured everything out. Mankind would have made science and government workable, and this would have saved them from destructive wars; in fact, mankind finally would have discovered how to maintain peace and prosperity for all.

The great and final lesson of life is that there is no possibility of physical or continuous spiritual life without direct involvement with God, Jesus Christ and their laws.

Dan. 12:4 is a key prophecy for this 100-year period of time that is rapidly coming to a close. This specific period of time begins in the year 1917. It is from this date, beginning in earnest, that we see amazing developments in travel and the explosive increase of knowledge unmatched at any other time in history.

Transportation by train was refined in the 1920s and was the principal means of moving people and materials until the late 1950s. From the Model T Ford of the early 1920s to now, the automobile made American society what it is today. The support system of roads, highways, bridges and modern interstate has allowed mobility of populations never dreamed of. The modern jet ties the nations of the world into a small family group – instantaneous communications to any point on earth. The atomic and hydrogen bombs took the world into a new era, and with it came nuclear energy. We have the computer with its ability to calculate and advance science at a head-spinning pace. Computers can control any electric/electronic device from a simple keyboard. Knowledge and new thinking is accumulating at light speed. The list goes on and on.

Most of these things are not bad or evil in and of themselves and have proven a benefit to mankind. The problem is man has lost his way; he is in the wilderness of humanistic reasoning and is no longer able to exercise the necessary control. Man has no longer any sort of foundation for judging good from bad, right from wrong, evil from righteousness. He blindly trudges along, thinking he is making progress.

True progress is based on knowing God and living by His word. The Godless humanistic approach has no lasting value and ends in death. Man's ways aside from God lead to suffering and death that has no hope.

In all this, God has put in place one unique and special control which guaranteed in this end time that His plan would be completed as designed and on time.

Timeline Prophecy and the Seven Seals of the Book of Revelations

Chapter 5 of Revelations reveals that Jesus Christ is found qualified to open the book sealed with the Seven Seals. He is the Lamb of God and worthy of all glory and honor. Jesus opens the Seals and shows to His servants those events that are to lead to His return as ruling King.

Verse 3 of chapter 1 is a blessing with promise. **Rev. 1:3** – “ Blessed is the one who reads the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear it and take to heart what is written in it, because the time is near.” It is for those who hear and read what is written and keep these things as written. Believe and obey. This is a series of prophecies for God’s end time church and specifically for the bride of Christ.

In verse 11 of chapter 1, Jesus clearly establishes His position and commands His words be recorded for the benefit of His church. **Rev. 1:11** – “...saying, ‘I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, and what you see, write in a book and send it to the seven churches which are in Asia: to Ephesus, to Smyrna, to Pergamos, to Thyatira, to Sardis, to Philadelphia, and to Laodicea.’ ” Jesus Christ is the Son of God and has been given all power and authority. Everything has its origins in the single, supreme, all-powerful Creator of the universe we often refer to as God the Father. He is the Lord God of all. Jesus’ statement in verse 11 concerns the matter of redemption and salvation. Christ’s commission is by the express authority of God Almighty, it is He, by the express will of God, who is the real Author and Finisher of man’s salvation. God has given total responsibility to Jesus, and thus He is for true Christians, their beginning and end of accomplishment.

In Revelations, chapters 2 and 3 (please read), Jesus makes specific and individual comments to the seven churches. In the early New Testament era there were seven churches in Asia Minor on a mail route. Each church has particular characteristics. Many were not pleasing to God. It appears each church, except one, had a combination of characteristics not to God’s liking; however there were certain things pleasing to Him. The Philadelphia church is notable for not being specifically faulted. By implication and in context of John’s writings, the comments made of each church in Rev. 2 and 3 is typical and indicative of the seven eras that would be found for approximately the next 2000. A detailed look is warranted for the end time Sardis, Philadelphia and Laodicea Churches, which are present together in the final end time years. This study is a separate matter and is covered in detail by a dedicated writing.

Daniel’s 7--Week Prophecy – Dan 9:24-27

Before going into the Book of Revelation, it will be helpful to take some time to examine Dan 9:24-27, the famous 70 Week Prophecy. **Daniel 9:24-27** – “Seventy ‘sevens’ are decreed for your people and your holy city to finish transgression, to put an end to sin, to atone for wickedness, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophecy and to anoint the most holy. ²⁵Know and understand this: from the issuing

of the decree to restore and rebuild Jerusalem until the Anointed One, the ruler, comes, there will be seven 'sevens,' and 62 'sevens.' It will be rebuilt with streets and a trench, but in times of trouble. ²⁶After the 62 'sevens,' the Anointed One will be cut off and will have nothing. The people of the ruler who will come will destroy the city and the sanctuary. The end will come like a flood: war will continue until the end, and desolations have been decreed. ²⁷He will confirm a covenant with many for one 'seven.' In the middle of the 'seven' he will put an end to sacrifice and offering. And on a wing of the temple he will set up an abomination that causes desolation, until the end that is decreed is poured out on him."

Verse 24 is a summary of what will be accomplished in these prophetic 70 weeks. There are six great achievements. The first three have to do with the sacrifice of the lamb, Jesus, who removes our sins, which allows reconciliation to God. The second group of three has to do with the restoration of righteousness on earth. Many commentaries suggest the "most holy" has to do with the temple. V25, history records that King Artaxerxes gave to Ezra the degree, or commission, to restore Jerusalem in the year 457 BC. The time element is given in two parts, 7 weeks and 62 weeks, which equals 483 years, a day for a year. Jesus the Messiah, the Prince, was prophesied to begin His ministry 483 years from the giving of the degree, probably in the spring of 457 BC. This takes us to the year 27 AD. A year is gained by passing directly from 1 BC to 1 AD. In the spring of 27 AD, most likely around Passover, Jesus was baptized by John. At this time, Jesus commenced teaching the Kingdom of God, the law and true repentance.

Verse 26 states, "After 62 weeks, Messiah shall be cut off." The first seven weeks or 49 years were needed to rebuild Jerusalem and the Temple. Subtracting 49 from the year 457 BC takes one to 408 BC, add 434 years; that is 62 weeks, and the date of 27 AD is arrived at. Jesus began His ministry in 27 AD, 483 years after the degree. As the 69th week began, so began His work. He was cut off three years later. Jesus was crucified Abib the 14th in the year 30 AD. Everything fits together, as it should. It has been reasoned that the second half of Christ's ministry will begin immediately upon his second coming. This is most likely, as will be seen a little later. This is the first part of verse 26. The next half introduces another personage.

"The people of the ruler" or the armies of the ruler (the end time man of sin) will destroy both the city of Jerusalem and the Temple (Sanctuary). This also seems to be a reference to the destruction of Jerusalem and the Temple in 70 AD by Titus and Vespacia; a type of forerunner of what is to happen in the end time.

Verse 26, "...the end of it shall be with a flood and till the end of the war of desolations are determined." It seems reasonable to understand that these words refer to a specific period of time, a constant stream of wars, and the end time war of desolations will be the final war.

With this background we can go through the Book of Revelation maintaining a smooth continuous flow of events without needing to interrupt for digressions. This continuity will allow a more focused examination of Revelations.

In Mat 24:15, Jesus said, "When you see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the Prophet, standing in the Holy Place..." **II Thes. 2:1-4** – "Concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered to him, we ask you, brothers,

²not to become easily unsettled or alarmed by some prophecy, report or letter supposed to have come from us, saying that the day of the Lord has already come. ³Don't let anyone deceive you in any way, for that day will not come until the rebellion occurs and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the man doomed to destruction. ⁴He will oppose and will exalt himself over everything that is called God or is worshiped, so that he sets himself up in God's temple, proclaiming himself to be God.” Paul in these verses agrees with Christ and adds some personal insight and thoughts.

These are references to several prophecies found in Daniel, among them Dan. 9:24-27: 70 weeks, or 70 sevens, or 490 years. Seventy is a combination of two perfect numbers, seven and 10; seven x 10 signifies perfect spiritual order carried out with all spiritual power.

The Final Week of Daniel's Prophecy

“Then He will make a covenant (agreement) with many for one week....” (verse 27). The “He” noted is the final end time evil king or world leader, the man of sin, who makes a contract with many for seven years. See Matt 24:15, Dan 8:24-25, Dan 7:25, Rev 13:5-7, Rev 17:14, II Thes 2:1-4. This agreement may give the Jews the authority to build a temple or more likely some sort of tabernacle/sanctuary. At some point they will be able to institute animal sacrifices.

This agreement is very important for two reasons. After all these years of tumult and conflict between the Jews and the Arabs, there now appears a resolution with official agreement that will, for a time, have the appearance of peace, but is only a respite from their wars. This type of formal treaty will need the cooperation of many nations. The Universal Church, by office of its supreme leader, will in all likelihood play a significant role.

The man of sin (II Thes 2:3-4), unknown to most, has apparently for some time been actively putting this agreement together. Now with its acceptance, he is recognized as a powerful, influential, can do world leader; who, from this point on, must be given very strong consideration in future world politics. His recognition and power will grow unhindered. Now he is in a position to use his charisma, flattery, lying and deception to place himself as world ruler. The true manner and nature of this man will be understood too late for those who now recognize the danger and where it is leading. Certain leaders and people who care will be able to do nothing. This man's rise to power will be greatly welcomed by many world leaders and peoples.

The year 2007 has come and gone. As I write in the early Spring of 2008, there is still no recognized personage that has our attention; we cannot for certainty say, “That is the one” or “he is the man spoken of.” However, I believe this man is present and active.

The year 2007 is correct. The sacrifices being cut in the middle of the week is correct. The “he” of verse 27 is correct (see Dan. 8:23-25). However, this man, although present on the world scene, has little power at this time, and no covenant concerning the sacrifices has been made.

It is important to understand what the intent of this verse is. The year 2007 has its given place in so far as end time prophecy and the timeline to the return of Jesus Christ. These prophecies continue to the Jubilee Year and the start of the seventh millennium.

If we do not correctly understand this verse (verse 27), then the time periods and flow of prophecy, as explained, become fuzzy, and questions arise. A basic premise for end time timeline prophecy is that Jesus Christ will return in the Spring of 2014. This is still correct.

The assumption made was that the making of the covenant/treaty would be at the beginning of the final seven years (70 weeks). Let us look closely at what is being said in verse 27. It is clear that for whatever agreement finally reached, there will be a point of implementation well beyond the year 2007.

For our consideration, the key part of verse 27 is this: “then he shall confirm a covenant or treaty with many for one week; but in the middle of the week he shall bring an end to sacrifices and offering.” First of all, reasonable deduction leads us to understand that sometime during the final seven years, this “king” will appear. Most likely his appearance will be seen and recognized during the middle to latter part of the first 3 1/2 years of the seven years.

As this man gathers power and has successes, he will more and more become lifted up in his own sight, who he thinks he is, and his destiny. As the saying goes, “power corrupts, absolute power breeds absolute corruption.”

Please carefully consider: this man will establish or confirm a covenant for one week (seven years). This is not the 70 week prophecy of Daniel. At some point, as this man accumulates power and influence, he will be able to forge an agreement that will permit the Jewish sacrifices and offerings of ancient times to once again, for a very brief period, become a reality.

The week referring to the covenant and associated with this king has its beginning when all concerned formally agree to the conditions of the treaty. Thus, at some point, well into the 3 1/2 years, a treaty is set and confirmed. Among the agreed-to terms is that it will be valid for seven years.

“But in the middle of the week,” the week being addressed here, is something altogether different than the week (seven years) as established by the king’s covenant. This week is that distinct week, the 70th week of Daniel’s prophecy, which had its beginning in the Spring of 2007. Sometime in the latter days of summer/early fall of the year 2010, the sacrifices will begin. Later, close to and perhaps on a fall Holy Day, the sacrifices will be taken away and caused to altogether cease to be.

The Berkeley version in modern English renders verse 27 in this manner: “In a week, he shall make the covenant to prevail for many, and in the middle of **the** week, he will cause sacrifice and offering to cease.”

Friends, prophecy is a hard but necessary thing for Christians, especially for those with knowledge that allows one to deal with the final years of mankind’s self-determination. Do not become discouraged or allow yourself to become upset and confused. Prevail with God, and all these matters concerning the end time will sort out and make sense.

With the cessation of the daily sacrifices will shortly come armed forces to surround Jerusalem. The ability for this evil ruler to set up the abomination of desolation is now soon to be a reality. At this time the dream of some sort of New World order with

a central government for all will finally become a reality, a terrible fact of life. With this new order will come major economical and military cooperation that will, for a short time, make the world as one. This cruel iron-fisted dictator will draw a part of this strength from a great religious system and its leader.

All pretense of toleration, especially religious, will be dropped. This “ruler” will aspire to absolute authority and complete control over the life and thought of mankind. He will show himself as the incarnation of all divine authority on earth. For a very short time, what Satan and the false prophet have been striving for will be a gruesome reality. This world dictator will enthrone himself over everything that is called God and set himself up in the appointed building, proclaiming his rule to be of God.

One commentary explained this was the pattern Hitler used to consolidate and secure his power: generate a false sense of security for the religious environment; convince the population you are the man of the hour, your visions and dreams for the nations are needed and righteous. Then set yourself up as supreme ruler to be greatly admired and even worshipped. Finally, tolerate no disagreement or dissent by means of threats, armed force and internal security thugs.

In the fall of 2010, shortly after the sacrifices are cut off, there will begin the rapid escalation of the “Times of Jacob’s Great Trouble.” This period of time is also a great time of tribulation for God’s Church and those who He will call to repentance. Many of these will be people who will listen and respond to the message of the two witnesses, their message of explanation, understanding and repentance.

Verse 27, “and on the wing of abomination shall be one who makes desolate.” This sentence is difficult, and many explanations have been offered. The most reasonable goes something like this. “Wing” is best understood as a figure for the vulture-like role of the antichrist as he swoops down on his beleaguered victims for the purpose of oppression, desolation and plunder.

The First 3 and One Half Years of Daniel’s 70th Week

As to what transpires during the second 3½-year period of time will be thoroughly covered as we work our way through the Book of Revelation. This is a good place to list the major activities and events that will occur during the first 3½ years. We will later revisit all these points to one degree or another in this series of presentations.

- Christ selects and prepares his bride.
- The Man of Sin (II Thes 2:1-4) gains recognition, influence and power.
- America and to some degree England will be a growing problem on the world scene.
- Perceived as unwilling to cooperate.
- Judged as a hindrance to the scheme of a New World order.
- Prosperity of sorts will continue to spread to many of the second and third world countries.

- Pestilence, famine, and severe weather of all kinds will become more common.
- Our national sins will escalate, and the ability to judge right from wrong and discern evil will totally fail. Righteousness will disappear altogether from the vast majority of our leaders and a very large part of the population.
- A small work of identifying God, His son, Jesus and preaching the gospel will take place.

The First Seal of Revelation – The White Horse

The first five seals are only briefly described. There is enough given to come to certain reasonable conclusions. In the light of recent history and with an insight for end time prophecy, a very real understanding and appreciation for the seven seals of the Book of Revelation is possible.

Rev. 6:2 – “I looked, and there before me was a white horse! Its rider held a bow, and he was given a crown, and he rode out as a conqueror bent on conquest.” This first seal has been greatly misunderstood, the primary thought being it is representative of a false Christ and a false religious system. The first seal is uniquely different from the three other seals of death and destruction from disease, famine and war. All four horsemen, although riding separately, are on the world scene at about the same time. The white horseman’s ride is almost over. The others have some time left.

White is the symbol for righteousness (Rev 19:8). Zech 6:6 tells us the white horse is connected with the west (west of Jerusalem). For those who are interested, Zech 1:8-11 and Zech 6:1-8 comment about horses that roam the earth according to the command of God.

On occasion the bible mentions certain men and nations that have a measure of acceptable righteousness before God. In particular, God notes certain nations whose motives are not for self gain and to rule over others.

Moses when blessing Joseph and his two sons, Ephraim and Manasseh, said, “They would push the peoples,” other nations, to the ends of the earth. This has the idea of controlling or keeping within certain bounds. **Deut. 33:13-17** – About Joseph he said: “May the LORD bless his land with the precious dew from heaven above and with the deep waters that lie below; ¹⁴with the best the sun brings forth and the finest the moon can yield; ¹⁵with the choicest gifts of the ancient mountains and the fruitfulness of the everlasting hills; ¹⁶with the best gifts of the earth and its fullness and the favor of him who dwelt in the burning bush. Let all these rest on the head of Joseph, on the brow of the prince among his brothers. ¹⁷In majesty he is like a firstborn bull; his horns are the horns of a wild ox. With them he will gore the nations, even those at the ends of the earth. Such are the ten thousands of Ephraim; such are the thousands of Manasseh.” This writer believes America is Ephraim and England is Manasseh. This is reverse from what is commonly taught. Upon close examination, the evidence is substantial. A couple of points of proof will be touched upon later.

In the history of the world since 1917 it has been principally America, with support from England and her commonwealth partners, that has kept the world from going into a dark age of totalitarianism and enslavement. It has been mainly America in

the last almost 100 years that has combated and defeated or held at bay the forces of evil. Nazism and fascist idealism brought the world its second Great War. These offensive governments were defeated by a collation of Israelite nations led by America. Hitler's goal was a Third Reich of world domination.

We have seen that 1917 is a pivotal year. It is at this point the prophecies of Dan. 12:2-4 and 9-10 come into active being. **Daniel 12:2-4; 9-10** – “And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame *and* everlasting contempt. ³And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever. ⁴But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, *even* to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased.” ⁹And he said, “Go thy way, Daniel: for the words *are* closed up and sealed till the time of the end. ¹⁰Many shall be purified, and made white, and tried; but the wicked shall do wickedly; and none of the wicked shall understand; but the wise shall understand.”

The common explanation of Rev 6:2 is often described as a false religious system that has the appearance of righteousness and during most of her existence made war on God's people and others who would not accept her authority. It pictures for many the rise of the end time antichrist.

White is a symbol of cleanness and righteousness, the bow, a weapon to make war. A crown was given to Him. A crown is a symbol of royalty and authority – an invested ruler. The reference to a man is in this case Jesus Christ. He has been given power to fight and determine the outcome of battles and wars. It was earlier mentioned that in order for God to keep His plan on track for these last 90 to 100 years, He placed a means of control. Jesus Christ, since the time of WWI, has ridden at the head of His army, the armies of Ephraim and Manasseh. He insured they would be victorious at the critical battles. Jesus insured that the major wars would come to a timely end. It is Jesus who has been and is keeping God's plan exactly on schedule and on track. Since 1917, it is America that has kept the world steady and along with Britain kept the forces of evil from having their way, which if they did would have changed the course of history and thus to a very large degree circumvented God's plan. This God would not permit.

When mankind and Satan's rule are over and Christ settles as King, no one will be given the opportunity to claim all was not accomplished, there were restrictions, the plan failed or was half baked and unfair. When examined by the critical eye of true history, mankind's experiment in self-rule will be recognized as just, fair and complete, that every opportunity was given. Man's failure, which would have led to his utter destruction, will be strongly noted. No one, past, present or future, will be able to stand back and accuse God of unfairness and an unreasonably heavy hand. Mankind's history will be written in his own blood.

Consider a Few of the Messiah's Victories

The White Cavalry – The Spring of 1918

The best way to tell this story is to quote it as given to the staff captain, 1st Corps Intelligence, 1st British Army Headquarters. This officer took the statement from the German commander. This story can be found in a booklet called *We Have a Guardian*.

“ ‘...Suddenly the enemy shell fire lifted and concentrated on a slight rise beyond the town. The ground here was absolutely bare – yet enemy machine guns and shells raked it from end to end with a hail of lead.

‘As suddenly as it started, the enemy’s fire ceased, and in the complete silence there rose a lark’s trilling song of thankfulness. The dense line of German troops, which had started to move forward to victory in mass formation, halted dead. And as the British watched, they saw it break! The Germans threw down everything they had – and fled in frantic panic. And here is the statement of a senior German officer who was taken prisoner immediately afterwards: ‘The order has been given to advance in mass formation, and our troops were marching behind us singing their way to victory when Fritz, my lieutenant here, said: “Herr Kapitan, just look at that open ground behind Bethune, there is a brigade of cavalry coming up through the smoke drifting across it. They must be mad, these English, to advance against such a force as ours in the open. I suppose they must be cavalry of one of their Colonial Forces, for, see, they are all in white uniform and are mounted on which horses.”

‘ “Strange,” I said, “I have never heard of the English having any white-uniformed cavalry, whether Colonial or not. They have all been fighting on foot for several years past, and anyway they are in khaki, not white.”

‘ “Well, they are plain enough,” he replied. “See, our guns have got their range now; they will be blown to pieces in no time.”

‘We saw the shells bursting among the horses and their riders, all of whom came forward at a quiet walk-trot, in parade-ground formation, each man and horse in his exact place.

‘Shortly afterwards our machine guns opened a heavy fire, raking the advancing cavalry with a hail of lead; but on they came and not a single man or horse fell.

‘Steadily they advanced, clear in the shining sunlight; and a few paces in front of them rode their leader, a fine figure of a man, whose hair, like spun gold, shone in an aura around his head. By his side was a great sword, but his hands lay quietly holding the reins, as his huge white charger bore him proudly forward.

‘In spite of heavy shell and concentrated machine gun fire the White Cavalry advanced remorseless as fate, like the incoming tide surging over a sandy beach....

‘Then a great fear fell on me, and I turned to flee; yes, I, an officer of the Prussian Guard, fled, panic stricken, and around me were hundreds of terrified men, whimpering like children, throwing away their arms and accoutrements in order not to have their movements impeded...all running.

‘Their one desire was to get away from that advancing White Cavalry; above all from their awe-inspiring leader whose hair shone like a golden aureole.

‘That is all I have to tell you. We are beaten. The German Army is broken. There may be fighting, but we have lost the war; we are beaten – by the White Cavalry...I cannot understand...I cannot understand.’ ”

The Miracle of Dunkirk

The impossible had happened: 335,000 men were carried out of the jaws of death. Churchill recognized it as a “Miracle of Deliverance.” Due to weather, low clouds, the German Air Force was for the most part grounded. Hitler, as usual, underestimated the English. There are a multiple of stories about men who by the thousands should have died from the artillery and machine gun fire; stories of how large groups of men did not suffer a single casualty, yet the ground all around outlined their position by the pock marks of bullets. In the end, all but a very few crossed the channel safely to England. The weather was exactly as needed.

The Air Battle of Britain

This battle demonstrated that English character of determination, never give up. Although greatly out numbered, the British miraculously held the Luftwaffe at bay and upset Hitler’s invasion plans.

The Double Portions

In the early years, 1940 and 1941, when American was not yet committed and the British were having problems receiving food supplies and other essential, God provided a blessing. During these years, the English farms produced double their normal yield. Once the ship convoys were able to cross safely, the crop yield returned to normal.

The Miracle of D-Day

Hitler’s best and most capable general, Rommel, was not present at this invasion point at the most critical time. Also, Hitler refused to send up the tank divisions, as requested numerous times. General Eisenhower delayed for 24 hours the D-Day assault. In those 24 hours, the weather cleared, for up till then, it was impossible for any type of ship/boat invasion. General Eisenhower freely admitted that God was the one who worked out the favorable circumstances that led to a successful landing and with far fewer casualties than expected. Interestingly, on the appointed day of June 6, there was a great rainbow that spread over the whole area even as the invasion craft began their crossing.

The Battle of Midway

In literally a matter of a few short hours, the mighty Japanese naval force with its airplane carriers was in ruins. Four carriers and many large and smaller crafts were sunk or damaged. American losses were unbelievably light. Their plan to dominate all the Far East, from New Zealand and Australia north to all the Pacific Rim countries, to India and China, was now only a dream. With this loss the Japanese high commands hoped to isolate America and keep her out of that part of the world that was now gone. The Japanese war lords understood that America’s industrial might and ability to field huge armies would prove to be too much.

The Atomic Bomb

This weapon possibly shortened the war by one to two years and saved an estimated 300,000 American soldiers and five million or more Japanese. Japan’s surrender was unconditional. Germany had several weapons that, if given enough time, could have changed the course of the war; however, the D-Day invasion was successful.

History Continues On

The year 1917 brought the Russian revolution which overthrew the Czar and established Russia as a socialist/communist state. Soon other nations were brought into the system to form the Union of Soviet Socialist Republic (USSR).

Immediately after WWII, Stalin grabbed many bordering Eastern European countries. It was at this point America, England and others of the free world would begin to recognize Stalin's goal. Thus started the Cold War, and with it, the Iron Curtain. NATO was formed. In all this it was primarily America who provided the curtain of protection and organized a world defense system.

The Korean War was a major effort by the Soviet Union to test America's and the world's resolve. Communist China, at Stalin's bidding, was the main tool of instigation. The Korean War drew the line, and it was at this point that communist leaders realized it was not going to go as quickly or in the way originally planned. Their idea was world domination – first by taking over as many of the world's nations as possible. Isolate America and England and, at the right time, strike America with a devastating nuclear attack: then absorb the retaliation – for all practical purposes, America would cease to be.

Vietnam was a major turning point. President John Kennedy understood what the communists were doing. He saw the real threat and danger. From the very early sixties, American fighting and support units were in Vietnam. From the mid-sixties and on, America was fat and prosperous, religion was fading – “God was dead” was a popular notion. Liberalism in the form of the Great Society had taken hold. America had lost her resolve, and Vietnam proved to be a military and political defeat. The war was quite winnable, but our national character, with its principles, had eroded beyond the point of repair.

The presidency of Jimmy Carter brought new hope to the totalitarian system of evil. Following this God allowed a righteous president in the form of Ronald Reagan. Soviet communism was in serious trouble and dying. President Reagan understood this, and he knew what it would take for its eventual demise. Since the break-up of the Soviet Union, other forms of evil have come to the forefront.

From this point our motives in dealing with other nations and even our enemies is no longer righteous. Our leaders and the people as a whole do not understand the dangers. Our policies are feeble and fuel world upset and confusion. The moral fiber of America at every level, and in all institutions, is totally rotten and corrupt.

This nation, along with others, has greatly offended God with its sins and self-righteous justification. From here on to the tribulation, God will more and more pull back and lift his hand of protection. In the end, He will not only desert us, but will punish us for our ways.

This is the first seal, uniquely different from the others. The remaining three seals, horsemen, made their appearances even as the white horse began his ride. These three horsemen will, in a sense, find their finale and complete fulfillment in the Great Tribulation to befall America, England and certain Western European democracies.

The Second Seal of Revelation – The Red Horse

The Red Horse is associated with the East. **Zech. 6:2, 6** – “The first chariot had red horses, the second black... ⁶The one with the black horses is going toward the north country, the one with the white horses toward the west, and the one with the dappled horses toward the south.” Here the second seal is opened. **Rev. 6:3-4** – “When the Lamb opened the second seal, I heard the second living creature say, ‘Come!’ ⁴Then another horse came out, a fiery red one. Its rider was given power to take peace from the earth and to make men slay each other. To him was given a large sword.”

In 1917, communism rose up and set forth a plan to conquer and enslave the world. This system eventually extended from Eastern Europe to the Pacific Ocean on the West and included the whole of China. Communism is a political scheme with a dictatorial form of government. It is a repressive and cruel system that does not tolerate deviation and independent thinking and action. Its purpose is to conform and control human life.

When Stalin and Mao of China gained secure power, they proceeded to purge million of their own citizens who they perceived as disloyal, unruly or a burden in some way. Between the two of them, perhaps as many as 100 million perished, maybe more, most by the sword and deliberate starvation.

Some form/system of one world government is on the horizon. With men and their systems of governance there is always double standards and gross hypocrisy. Tyrants and evil men will take control of nations in all parts of the world. They will be merciless and numerous; however as long as these “independent” countries give their economical and military cooperation and promise to leave their neighbors alone, this will constitute “peace” and “unity” with the world.

For some years now the Red Horse has been making a steady ride in many parts of Africa. As conditions develop and a one-world government becomes a reality, the Red Horseman’s work will be plainly seen by all. Fact is this rider’s work can be seen in all the wars of the 20th century and into the new 21st century.

It is interesting to note that “Red” is the identifying color of communism. It is seen also in the red star and sickle of Russia and the Soviet Union. A common reference of identification for communists was the term “Reds.” China is identified with and by a “Red” dragon.

This apocalyptic ride of the Red Horseman does not describe specific powers that cause widespread warfare with other nations, but rather internal, regional turmoil, chaos, death and suffering within it’s own areas and often times of the same ethnic background. As often happens, this evil spills over and involves outsiders.

The Third Seal of Revelation – The Black Horseman

Rev. 6:5-6 – “When the Lamb opened the third seal, I heard the third living creature say, ‘Come!’ I looked, and there before me was a black horse! Its rider was holding a pair of scales in his hand. ⁶Then I heard what sounded like a voice among the four living creatures, saying, ‘A quart of wheat for a day's wages, and three quarts of barley for a day's wages, and do not damage the oil and the wine!’” This Black Horse identifies with countries north of Jerusalem. In ancient biblical times, this area included

ancient Assyria, Syria and Central and Eastern Europe. The ancient Assyrians migrated from the east and settled in Central/Western Europe, much of the general area known as the nation of Germany today. Today, it is reasonable to consider modern Germany, Austria, parts of France and Italy as the Empire or “Kingdom of the North.” In the few years immediate to Christ’s return, other European nations will be attached to this Empire.

For the better part of a century, Germany has dominated Europe economically. On two occasions, in an attempt to gain supreme control, Germany plunged the whole continent into war. In the years ahead, Germany will once again take not only Europe, but much of the whole world into another Great War. When this happens, many European nations will be Germany’s allies.

The traditional color of Germany and of ancient Assyria is black; the black swastika, black SS uniforms and the black German eagle.

Peace and prosperity have kept Germany in check, but WWII is long gone, and for many Europeans, very old history. Still there are some who recognize and understand the German mind and are nervously warning those who will listen, who are very few. The economy of today’s modern Germany is faltering, and unemployment is high. Foreigners are upsetting many Germans, especially the younger people. Germany is still a force in Europe, but not the powerhouse of recent years past.

Neo-Nazism is coming back in Germany. Behind the scenes the idea of a powerful Nazi political system is gaining greater credibility and new supporters. In Europe there is a strong notion of some sort of one-world government being the solution for the continuous arguments, fighting and poverty that plague so many nations. The Black Horse of the third seal has ridden across Europe and other parts of the world on several occasions. With war always comes loss and need. In the twenties and early thirties, Germany had uncontrolled inflation, with scarcity of food, high unemployment and the inability, if working, to earn enough to buy what was available. This was an after effect of WWI.

The Black Horse symbolizes the effects of war, the grief and desolation, and the want it brings. “A quart of wheat and three quarts of barley for a day’s wage” suggests food prices about 12 times higher than normal; an implication of inflation and famine-like conditions. These are conditions attached to war.

The Black Horse now seems to be riding through some African and Asian nations. But eventually this horse will run full blast through the world, and in the end America will be given special attention. Surely these will be the lean years spoken of by the ancient prophets.

The Fourth Seal of Revelations – The Pale Horse

This horseman is also connected with the south; south of Jerusalem and the country of Israel. (Zech 6:6) This is also the king of the south mentioned by Daniel. This concerns the Arab/Muslim nations, somewhat united – as they are able, in the end time. Among these nations, prophecy indicates Egypt as being a strong leader. Daniel 11 notes that Egypt is identified with the king of the south.

This king will have access to Saudi Arabia and the Gulf States billions. These nations, along with Iran, Iraq, Syria and others, will supply the men for a standing army of millions.

The Greek word translated “pale” has the meaning greenish, dun colored or verdant. Pale gives the idea of sickly. This fourth horseman has the power to kill with the sword (war), with hunger, with death and by wild animals. “With death” has the idea of pestilence and disease, as noted in many commentaries.

The nation of Iraq set precedence. It used chemical and biological agents as part of its warfare against Iran. It has also been documented that Iraq used biological and chemical weapons against the Kurds who reside within her borders. There is some evidence, although not confirmed, that some coalition troops fighting in Iraq may have been exposed to some kind of germ or chemical agent.

As times become more troubling and wars of all sorts, small and large, for whatever reason come about, the Pale Horse of the Fourth Seal will eventually roam across all of the earth. One of his primary tools for death, destruction and suffering will be “manufactured” germs and chemicals. These wars, most of which will be instigated by the king of the south, will eventually destroy one fourth of the earth’s population.

The Fifth Seal of Revelations – Great Tribulation

Rev. 6:9-11 – “When he opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of those who had been slain because of the word of God and the testimony they had maintained. ¹⁰They called out in a loud voice, ‘How long, Sovereign Lord, holy and true, until you judge the inhabitants of the earth and avenge our blood?’ ¹¹Then each of them was given a white robe, and they were told to wait a little longer, until the number of their fellow servants and brothers who were to be killed as they had been was completed.” Verses 9-11 considers the saints of all ages who died in the faith and are waiting for the resurrection. But they are informed before their promise is given; there are others who must suffer as they did. The Kingdom of God for many will come with great difficulty. Jesus, in Mat 24:3-13, gives vivid details of what this time will be like for many. Those who endure to the end will be saved. Many will die and many will suffer. These suffering faithful will be richly rewarded for not caving in.

Let us examine this matter more closely. Scripture maintains the Great Tribulation will consist of two principle parts. One part concerns a group of people who are a part of God’s true end time church. Many will suffer persecution, and numerous ones will die. The reason for all this is that even though this end time group has some truth and yielded and obeyed according to this knowledge; when opportunity to correct error made itself available, they refused to repent and accept the better understanding, which is the actual fact and truth of scripture.

In this case the complete and accurate truth is to simply believe the words of Jesus Christ, the prophets and the apostles. Rather they continued to accept certain opinions and ideas of men that had established themselves as the absolute truth and fact of God’s word. This mixture of some truth, half truths and outright error is not pleasing to God and His anointed one.

It appears that when the two witnesses bring forth their (actually God's) final warning message and call to repentance, this group of men and women will take notice and realize their error, which was not to believe and rely more on men than the simple and plain direct words of Jesus Christ.

This end time tribulation for Christians is not a matter of punishment because of a lack of belief. Rather it is a time to redeem and prove one's self: to prove, individually, that one does love truth and now that the issue is understood without question, to do and endure whatever is necessary to demonstrate their love for Christ and the truth of God He represents. These repentant children of God, who may include many with a church history and certain others, will see and desire with all their being the first and better resurrection.

Rev. 12:14-17 – “The woman was given the two wings of a great eagle, so that she might fly to the place prepared for her in the desert, where she would be taken care of for a time, times and half a time, out of the serpent's reach. ¹⁵Then from his mouth the serpent spewed water like a river, to overtake the woman and sweep her away with the torrent. ¹⁶But the earth helped the woman by opening its mouth and swallowing the river that the dragon had spewed out of his mouth. ¹⁷Then the dragon was enraged at the woman and went off to make war against the rest of her offspring—those who obey God's commandments and hold to the testimony of Jesus.” The woman, the true end time Church of God and Christ's bride, who believe and trust in him, are taken to a place of protection for 3½ years. Satan, the dragon, after his failed attempt to unseat God, is now back on earth and seeks to destroy this select group of people. No harm comes to them for they have God's full protection. The remaining Church of God, which at this point will include many others who have thoroughly repented of their stubbornness and lack of belief, will still need to face Satan's wrath.

Rev. 13:4-7 – “Men worshiped the dragon because he had given authority to the beast, and they also worshiped the beast and asked, ‘Who is like the beast? Who can make war against him?’ ⁵The beast was given a mouth to utter proud words and blasphemies and to exercise his authority for 42 months. ⁶He opened his mouth to blaspheme God, and to slander his name and his dwelling place and those who live in heaven. ⁷He was given power to make war against the saints and to conquer them. And he was given authority over every tribe, people, language and nation.’ ”

“Saints” as used in verse 7 and many other places means “separated ones” or “ones chosen for purpose.” It can mean those who have a close and unique relationship with God, or it can also mean a group, such as Ancient Israel at the time of Moses, chosen for specific reasons to have a relationship with God.

Satan through his false religious leader and the war-making beast power will bring destruction and death on God's saints, His holy ones and nations according to purpose. This will be during the final 3½ year rule of man on earth. Jacob's children, especially Ephraim, as they languish in captivity, will repent, and Satan will seek to destroy them all. But they are now protected and sealed by God. For those in a final place of protection, even though safe from Satan's direct onslaught, will never the less, because of their support for the two witnesses, bring upon themselves difficulties and grief.

The second part of the Great Tribulation has to do with the national downfall and captivity of modern day Israel.

Today, the modern descendants of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and Joseph, commonly known as the Twelve Tribes, which are often referred to as the House of Israel, are to be found in many of the democracies of Northwest Europe, Switzerland the Netherlands, parts of France and Italy and scattered throughout various nations. This includes Judah, which populates the modern day state of Israel and those Jews scattered in many nations.

The two nations which will receive the brunt of this great tragedy will be Great Britain, Manasseh, and America, Ephraim, in prophecy. These are the two sons of Joseph who were blessed and prophesied to be two great nations. So it is that America and Britain have fulfilled the promises given to them by their grandfather, Jacob. Genesis chapters 48 and 49 are foundational chapters; please read them carefully.

There are those who say that Ephraim's and Manasseh's fate is overstated and exaggerated and that things will not be all that bad. Prophetic scriptures are very clear and precise. The land and people will suffer war, drought, famine and disease, and many shall die. Then will come the captivity, and from this, only 10 percent of the original national population will survive to be delivered by Jesus at the second exodus from slavery.

At every level in our social order and structure there is an utter lack of justice, mercy, righteousness, love for truth and God that has no comparison in all of history. That is, those people who claim to be Christians and believers in God. Greed and insensitivity for one's neighbor, for the sake of profit and power, is an absolute abomination in God's sight; He will soon deal with all mankind in righteous wrath and vengeance.

Ezek. 5 – God's anger and His judgments against Israel, speaking to our peoples today, in the end time age.

Lam. 2:1-5 – Jeremiah gives a vivid detailed insight into God's anger.

Isa. 27:12-13 – God will save His people, but they will be relatively few. They will be as outcasts and slaves in other lands.

Ezek. 7:14-19 – The results of the people's sins and God's unrelenting punishment for their evil and forsaking Him and His laws.

Hosea 7:8-9 – Our condition today, one of many reasons for the coming national calamity.

Hosea 8:11-12 – God's law and words, the teaching and example Jesus Christ. God states boldly they were a strange thing to Ephraim.

Jer. 5:7-9 – God asks, "Why should I forgive you?" He then states why He will not forgive them.

Jer. 5:12-17 – The people, the whole nation, its religious leaders, political leaders and its leader at every operation are liars and deceivers. For this He will destroy and make small the nation's power.

Jer. 6:13-15 – The problem pin pointed; greed and deceit, they say peace, but there is no peace. All, the highest to the lowest, have no shame for their loathsome behavior. So God said, “I will punish them and they will fall.”

The Times of Jacob’s Trouble and Captivity

Jeremiah 9:1-11 – “Oh, that my head were a spring of water and my eyes a fountain of tears! I would weep day and night for the slain of my people. ²Oh, that I had in the desert a lodging place for travelers, so that I might leave my people and go away from them; for they are all adulterers, a crowd of unfaithful people. ³They make ready their tongue like a bow, to shoot lies; it is not by truth that they triumph in the land. They go from one sin to another; they do not acknowledge me,’ declares the LORD. ⁴‘Beware of your friends; do not trust your brothers. For every brother is a deceiver, and ever friend a slanderer. ⁵Friend deceives friend, and no one speaks the truth. They have taught their tongues to lie; they weary themselves with sinning. ⁶You live in the midst of deception; in their deceit they refuse to acknowledge me,’ declares the LORD. ⁷Therefore this is what the LORD Almighty says: ‘See, I will refine and test them, for what else can I do because of the sin of my people? ⁸Their tongue is a deadly arrow; it speaks with deceit. With his mouth each speaks cordially to his neighbor, but in his heart he sets a trap for him. ⁹Should I not punish them for this?’ declares the LORD. ‘Should I not avenge myself on such a nation as this?’ ¹⁰I will weep and wail for the mountains and take up a lament concerning the desert pastures. They are desolate and untraveled, and the lowing of cattle is not heard. The birds of the air have fled and the animals are gone. ¹¹I will make Jerusalem a heap of ruins, a haunt of jackals; and I will lay waste the towns of Judah so no one can live there.’ ”

In the first 3½ years of Daniel’s 70 week prophecy, the Four Horsemen of Revelation, more correctly, the Three Horsemen, for the white horse, by this time, will be completing his ride; will be riding over more and more of the nations of this earth. The man of sin will have consolidated his power as these first 3½ years of the seven come to an end. The temple sacrifices will be stopped. From this point, he and the false religious system will for the most part have their way with the nations. Ephraim and Manasseh will be contrary, having come to realize their national sovereignty is at extreme risk. The beast power will be striving to organize and set in place some sort of “New World Order” or some manner of “One World Government” that will promise peace and prosperity for all nations who will give cooperation and alliance. He will enjoy a great measure of success at first.

The second 3½ years of the seven has its starting point with the appearance of the two witnesses of Revelation 11. These two men will restore all the truth of God, preach repentance and explain the timeline of events that will transpire during their given period of activity. They will have the power to cause the heavens to close and withhold the blessing of rain as often as they wish. Rivers will turn to blood; they will strike the earth with plagues and bring down fire on their enemies. Also during this time, the horsemen will accelerate their ride of death and destruction. Jacob will suffer tribulation and captivity.

The Timeline of Jacob's Tribulation, Captivity and Release

The two witnesses commence God's final warning message as Jerusalem is surrounded by foreign troops. Their power continues for 1260 days. Their work begins in the fall of 2010.

As the two witnesses begin their mission, so starts the time of Jacob's troubles with rapid acceleration that climaxes in national captivity. This period of time leading to captivity will last for 1½ years. During this time famine, pestilence and disease will start to take lives by the thousands, then tens and hundreds of thousands; and finally millions will be dying. Jacob, principally Ephraim, which is America, will be so weakened that her enemies finally decide to strike. Numerous nations will invade, and the people will be taken to foreign lands; in the hardship of captivity millions more will die. Jacob's enemies have waited for this moment. This strike also has roots in the fact that Ephraim and Manasseh will strenuously oppose the beast power and false religious leader. An additional benefit from the enemy point of view is the gaining of wealth, technology and manufacturing capabilities. Destructive fire power and war machines may not be necessary or used in a limited way.

The 65 Year Prophecy of Isaiah

Chapter seven of the book of Isaiah, Verses 1-17, contain two important prophecies concerning the latter days. God, through the prophet, has taken the incident of the conflict between Judah and Ephraim to set up these prophecies.

The 65 year prophecy as given in verses 1-9 came to completion in 670 BC. This was less than 10 years after Isaiah's death. The primary fulfillment is even now taking place.

The prophecy concerning Immanuel had no fulfillment until the appearance of Jesus as the redeeming lamb. The context of Isaiah's words, in verse 14, is more to the end time nations of Judah, Ephraim and even for all Israel.

The purpose of these two prophecies is to establish background and time for the specific latter day prophecies, starting in Isa. 7:18 and continuing through Isa. 10:4.

Isaiah 7:7-8 – “Yet this is what the Sovereign LORD says: ‘It will not take place, it will not happen,⁸ for the head of Aram is Damascus, and the head of Damascus is only Rezin. Within 65 years Ephraim will be too shattered to be a people.’ ”

After Solomon's reign as king of a united Israel, there arose some disagreements. These differences caused Judah to split from the other tribes. When things settled out, Judah had the land area of the south, that is Jerusalem and extended area, and Israel, as it was then known, had the northern areas of the original inheritance. Anciently and in recent modern times Israel, primarily Ephraim, has had an on-again off-again relationship with Judah. America (Ephraim) has stood by and supported Israel, such as in 1947-48 when the nation/state of Israel was being formed. More recently American support for Israel (Judah) has waned and forced the Jews to give up land for so-called peace.

On February 2, 1947, the Attlee government declared the Belfour Declaration Mandate of 1917 concerning the Jews and the land of Palestine as unworkable. Several

months later, on April 2, 1947, Britain formally requested that the United Nations General Assembly recommend an end to the British Mandate of 1917.

The British position and that of many other nations was pro Arab, but the Holocaust was still fresh on the minds of many. Meanwhile American President Truman instructed the State Department to support UN Resolution #181, which was the instrument to formally institute the nation/state of Israel. UN Resolution #181 was passed stating that Israel (the Jews in the land of Palestine) must be formed as a state no later than August, 1948.

On May 4, 1948, Israel was declared an independent state. This official declaration was made at midnight, and eleven minutes later President Truman recognized Israel's Declaration of Independence. It was by the force of America's will that the state of Israel came into being.

With this background information, we can now examine the 65 year prophecy of Isaiah 7:7-8. The story flow begins with verse 1.

Verse 1, the kings of Syria and Israel make a pact to war against Judah. They are unable to prevail against Judah.

Verse 2, at this point Ephraim gets involved and Ahaz, King of Judea, and all the people become very afraid.

Verse 3, Isaiah is told by God to take his son, Shem Jashub (meaning a remnant shall return), and meet King Ahaz.

Verses 4-5, Isaiah tells him not to fear or be faint-hearted. He also belittles Rezin and Pekah.

Verse 6, these two kings intended to take the spoils and valuables of Judah (possibly the gold in the temple) and divide it among themselves; after which they would set a submissive vassal king over Judea.

Verse 7, God makes clear their plans will not stand.

Verse 8, this is a specific prophetic statement directed to Ephraim. 65 years from the time Ephraim became part of the plot to invade Judah to the time of complete deportations by the Assyrians would be the year 670 BC.

Verses 10-17 are a continuation of verses 1-9. God grants Ahaz and the nation an opportunity for a favorable outcome.

Verses 10-11, Isaiah once again approaches Ahaz. He tells the king that he may ask for a sign from God.

Verse 12, Ahaz refuses the invitation. His excuse is that he will not test God. But the fact is, he lacks faith and will not believe God. Also, he has a pro-Assyrian policy. He sees Assyria as an ally.

Verse 13, Isaiah expresses his anger. Isaiah explains, "My God," in effect God no longer acknowledges Ahaz and the nation, for they have refused to trust and humble themselves before Him.

Verse 14, “Therefore the Lord Himself shall give you a sign: behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call His name Immanuel.” As translated later into English, “God with us,” or “God is with us.”

The “you” in this verse is plural, the prophecy was given to the “House of David” and not simply to Ahaz.

The word “virgin,” as translated from the Hebrew word “Almah,” means a sexually matured, unmarried woman who has not known a man. In all the history of mankind, Jesus Christ is the only human being not conceived by a human father. This is a specific prophecy about Jesus Christ.

As sure as Jesus Christ fulfilled this prophecy 2000 years ago is the assurance that the prophecies concerning Judah and Ephraim will be as set forth by the prophet.

The original, ancient fulfillment for verses 16-17 concerning Pekah and Rezin came about two years after the giving of the prophecy. Judah sometime later, for her sins and lack of trust, received God’s judgment.

Verse 15 and the first half of 16 talk of a child who will eat curds and honey, so that he may know to refuse evil and choose good. But, before he shall come to this point, God will have dealt with Pekah and Rezin. Did this happen, or is this a prophecy for Christ?

I believe this was a prophecy for Ahaz and the nation, Judah. Some have speculated that Ahaz had a virgin daughter who married and bore a male child. This idea has merit, but nothing can be said for certain. As for Jesus, the gospels tell us nothing about what He ate His first two years.

God often considers a matter concluded and sealed according to an official notice of intent and purpose. The formal British request on April 2, 1947, to the United Nations recommending the end of the 1917 Mandate was in God’s sight the initial movement to establish the modern-day State of Israel, and thus the 65 year countdown began. At this date, what had been was now concluded, and what was to be now had its beginning.

From the time America determined to establish the modern Jewish State of Israel to the time America will cease to be a nation will be 65 years. Her captivity will come in the spring of the year 2012. This happens after a final and powerful warning message prophesied by Christ in Mat 24:14.

The circumstances are different but the purpose for recording this 65 year prophecy was to make clear to God’s end time, faithful elect what to expect concerning the final years for Ephraim and by extension Judah and other end time Israelite nations.

A curious thing about the wording of verse 9, “If you will not believe, surely you shall not be established.” To this point God has said nothing to anyone about repentance. Why is this? Because this message is intended for our time now and the immediate future. It is meant for God’s secret people, those who will understand, believe and obey.

When Will This Captivity End?

When will Ephraim and others begin the promised second exodus out of captivity? **Hosea 5:14-15** – “For I will be like a lion to Ephraim, like a great lion to

Judah. I will tear them to pieces and go away; I will carry them off, with no one to rescue them. ¹⁵Then I will go back to my place until they admit their guilt. And they will seek my face; in their misery they will earnestly seek me.” Here God states that He will punish Ephraim; this will lead to national captivity, and God says until they repent, He will stand back. **Hosea 6:1** – “Come, let us return to the LORD. He has torn us to pieces but He will heal us; He has injured us but He will bind up our wounds.” The people finally come to true repentance and acknowledge that it is God who has punished them for their willful transgressions. They will turn to God for they now understand, it will be He who will heal and restore them as a people and nation once again. **Hosea 6:2** – “After two days He will revive us; on the third day He will restore us, that we may live in His presence.” After two days, on the third day (a day for a year) God will rescue his people so that they may live. So it is that Israel, Ephraim and Judea at the beginning of the third year of captivity commence to be rescued from their enemies. God said that their suffering would be for a short time. It may seem a long time when in the midst of the trial, but God in His love and mercy cuts short their captivity.

It is two full years from the spring of 2012 to the spring of 2014. Sometime around the spring holy days, most likely a brief period of time close to Passover, God will begin to strengthen his repentant people, prepare them for the second great exodus to bring his children out of the many nations they were delivered into.

The readers of this presentation paper are strongly encouraged to study carefully the whole Book of Hosea. It explains and details the judgment of God against Israel for all her sins, idolatry, willful transgressions, willful refusal to repent and all her rebellious acts. But also Hosea clearly illustrates God’s righteous judgment, love and promise to Israel.

The Sixth Seal – Heavenly Signs

Rev. 6:12-17 – “I watched as he opened the sixth seal. There was a great earthquake. The sun turned black like sackcloth made of goat hair, the whole moon turned blood red, ¹³and the stars in the sky fell to earth, as late figs drop from a fig tree when shaken by a strong wind. ¹⁴The sky receded like a scroll, rolling up, and every mountain and island was removed from its place. ¹⁵Then the kings of the earth, the princes, the generals, the rich, the mighty, and every slave and every free man hid in caves and among the rocks of the mountains. ¹⁶They called to the mountains and the rocks, ‘Fall on us and hide us from the face of Him who sits on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb! ¹⁷For the great day of their wrath has come, and who can stand?’ ”

When studying the Book of Revelation one has to consider John’s style of writing, especially as he begins his discourse on the sixth seal and the events that follow. John will often make comments that tie into an earlier discussion. There is a chronological order to the Books of Revelation, but care must be taken to watch and consider inserting thoughts that go back to an earlier comment.

In Mat 24:29, Jesus states, “That after the tribulation of those days...” This comment refers directly to the sixth seal of Revelation.

Joel 2:30-31 – “I will show wonders in the heavens and on the earth, blood and fire and billows of smoke. ³¹The sun will be turned to darkness and the moon to blood

before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD.” Here Joel saliently wrote that before the day of the Lord, that specific period of time when Christ begins to intercede in man’s affairs, the activities of the sixth seal take place. Up to this point everything previous has been God’s judgment and punishment upon Israel for their national sins. The tribulation on the church is for those who God has called and given His Holy Spirit, but refuse to believe and obey. Rather they hold to notions and ideas clearly at odds with scripture and are yet unwilling to repent and change. However, because of the warning messages of the two witnesses, they will deeply and thoroughly repent. They will need to suffer in order to prove themselves to Christ. Those of Christ’s body who responded to God’s truth, that is came to see the errors in the church that need correction, before the tribulation, will be given a place of final protection.

Chapter 12 of the book of Revelation concerns specific activities associated with the sixth seal. **Rev. 12:1-6** – “A great and wondrous sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet and a crown of twelve stars on her head. ²She was pregnant and cried out in pain as she was about to give birth. ³Then another sign appeared in heaven: an enormous red dragon with seven heads and 10 horns and seven crowns on his heads. ⁴His tail swept a third of the stars out of the sky and flung them to the earth. The dragon stood in front of the woman who was about to give birth, so that he might devour her child the moment it was born. ⁵She gave birth to a son, a male child, who will rule all the nations with an iron scepter. And her child was snatched up to God and to His throne. ⁶The woman fled into the desert to a place prepared for her by God, where she might be taken care of for 1,260 days.” John recounts Satan’s attempt to kill the Christ child. In V6, the woman, an analogy for the end time Church of God, Christ’s bride, is protected and cared for 1260 days, 42 months or 3½ years.

The war in heaven. **Rev. 12:7-12** – “And there was war in heaven. Michael and his angels fought against the dragon, and the dragon and his angels fought back. ⁸But he was not strong enough, and they lost their place in heaven. ⁹The great dragon was hurled down—that ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, who leads the whole world astray. He was hurled to the earth, and his angels with him. ¹⁰Then I heard a loud voice in heaven say: ‘Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God, and the authority of His Christ. For the accuser of our brothers, who accuses them before our God day and night, has been hurled down. ¹¹They overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony; they did not love their lives so much as to shrink from death. ¹²Therefore rejoice, you heavens and you who dwell in them! But woe to the earth and the sea, because the devil has gone down to you! He is filled with fury, because he knows that his time is short.’ ” God has granted Satan the opportunity to make one more final assault, even directly against His (God’s) heavenly throne. Scripture reveals how Satan previously sought to ascend to heaven but was thrown back to earth.

Ezekiel 28:11-19 – “The word of the LORD came to me: ¹²Son of man, take up a lament concerning the king of Tyre and say to him: This is what the Sovereign LORD says: ‘You were the model of perfection, full of wisdom and perfect in beauty. ¹³You were in Eden, the garden of God; every precious stone adorned you: ruby, topaz and emerald, chrysolite, onyx and jasper, sapphire, turquoise and beryl. Your settings and mountings were made of gold; on the day you were created they were prepared. ¹⁴You were anointed as a guardian cherub, for so I ordained you. You were on the holy mount

of God; you walked among the fiery stones. ¹⁵You were blameless in your ways from the day you were created till wickedness was found in you. ¹⁶Through your widespread trade you were filled with violence, and you sinned. So I drove you in disgrace from the mount of God, and I expelled you, O guardian cherub, from among the fiery stones. ¹⁷Your heart became proud on account of your beauty, and you corrupted your wisdom because of your splendor. So I threw you to the earth; I made a spectacle of you before kings. ¹⁸By your many sins and dishonest trade you have desecrated your sanctuaries. So I made fire come out from you, and it consumed you, and I reduced you to ashes on the ground in the sight of all who were watching. ¹⁹All the nations who knew you are appalled at you; you have come to a horrible end and will be no more.’ ” **Isaiah 14:12-15** – “How you have fallen from heaven, O morning star, son of the dawn! You have been cast down to the earth, you who once laid low the nations! ¹³You said in your heart, ‘I will ascend to heaven; I will raise my throne above the stars of God; I will sit enthroned on the mount of assembly, on the utmost heights of the sacred mountain. ¹⁴I will ascend above the tops of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High.’ ¹⁵But you are brought down to the grave, to the depths of the pit.” For consideration as to Satan’s final fate, **Ezekiel 26:21** – “I will bring you to a horrible end and you will be no more. You will be sought, but you will never again be found, declares the Sovereign LORD.” This was a mighty battle, and to this day the Heavens and earth are witness. The sixth seal, in part, is Satan’s final attempt to unseat God.

The sixth seal with its earthquakes and great heavenly events is a sign to mankind that the great Creator is about to directly intervene in man’s affairs: first to render righteous and just punishment on the gentile (mainly non Israelite nations) by means of the seven trumpet plagues and then at last send his Son to save man from totally destroying himself.

Rev. 12:13-17 – “When the dragon saw that he had been hurled to the earth, he pursued the woman who had given birth to the male child. ¹⁴The woman was given the two wings of a great eagle, so that she might fly to the place prepared for her in the desert, where she would be taken care of for a time, times and half a time, out of the serpent’s reach. ¹⁵Then from his mouth the serpent spewed water like a river, to overtake the woman and sweep her away with the torrent. ¹⁶But the earth helped the woman by opening its mouth and swallowing the river that the dragon had spewed out of his mouth. ¹⁷Then the dragon was enraged at the woman and went off to make war against the rest of her offspring—those who obey God’s commandments and hold to the testimony of Jesus.” Here Satan is cast to earth and now turns his attention and wrath of destruction to the woman (church) who God is protecting. Failing in this, Satan and his demons turn their attention to those people in captivity that have truly repented and accept Christ as Savior, High Priest and Deliverer.

Revelation chapter 7, with this background, now is ready for examination. **Rev. 7:1-4** – “After this I saw four angels standing at the four corners of the earth, holding back the four winds of the earth to prevent any wind from blowing on the land or on the sea or on any tree. ²Then I saw another angel coming up from the east, having the seal of the living God. He called out in a loud voice to the four angels who had been given power to harm the land and the sea: ³‘Do not harm the land or the sea or the trees until we put a seal on the foreheads of the servants of our God.’ ⁴Then I heard the number of those

who were sealed: 144,000 from all the tribes of Israel.” For a short time, God abates the work of the angels of destruction. This is soon after the sixth seal. No damaging and life destroying activity is taking place upon the earth, but only for a very short time. 12,000 are sealed from each tribe of Israel for a total of 144,000. There are actually 13 tribes of Israel. The tribe of Dan (primarily Ireland) is not mentioned because they are so closely tied to the universal religion that repentance is very difficult. When God makes his selection, he cannot draw from the Danites because of the reluctance to acknowledge and worship God in truth. These people of the nations of Israel are living in scattered captivity and perhaps some few surviving in the desolation of their own land. These sealed servants of God are physical human beings given protection. Their lives will be saved. In the new age, these people will be the nucleus of the physical government of the world tomorrow. It is these who probably grieved from early on at the sins of the peoples and nations, even long before the beginning of Daniel’s 70-week prophecy. These, at the preaching of the two witnesses, believed and repented, and will serve Yeshua the Messiah upon his return to rule.

The great multitude – **Rev. 7:9-17** – “After this I looked and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and in front of the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰And they cried out in a loud voice: ‘Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb.’ ¹¹All the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures. They fell down on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹²saying: ‘Amen! Praise and glory and wisdom and thanks and honor and power and strength be to our God for ever and ever. Amen!’ ¹³Then one of the elders asked me, ‘These in white robes—who are they, and where did they come from?’ ¹⁴I answered, ‘Sir, you know.’ And he said, ‘These are they who have come out of the great tribulation; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. ¹⁵Therefore, they are before the throne of God and serve him day and night in his temple; and He who sits on the throne will spread His tent over them. ¹⁶Never again will they hunger; never again will they thirst. The sun will not beat upon them, nor any scorching heat. ¹⁷For the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd; He will lead them to springs of living water. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.’ ” These are all together another group of people. They are dressed in white and stand before God. They shall always be with the Lamb. Verse 14 “Come out of the Great Tribulation” is a reference for all those who through the ages have suffered for the sake of Jesus Christ. These are “The Bride” of the first resurrection.

Chapter 14, verses 1-5, is a direct tie in to chapter 7, verses 9-17. **Rev. 14:1-5** – “Then I looked, and there before me was the Lamb, standing on Mount Zion, and with him 144,000 who had his name and his Father’s name written on their foreheads. ²And I heard a sound from heaven like the roar of rushing waters and like a loud peal of thunder. The sound I heard was like that of harpists playing their harps. ³And they sang a new song before the throne and before the four living creatures and the elders. No one could learn the song except the 144,000 who had been redeemed from the earth. ⁴These are those who did not defile themselves with women, for they kept themselves pure. They follow the Lamb wherever he goes. They were purchased from among men and offered as firstfruits to God and the Lamb. ⁵No lie was found in their mouths; they are blameless.” The great multitude of all nations, tribes, peoples and tongues is now

numbered at 144,000. These are all who have lived since Adam and Eve. They are redeemed by the blood of Christ. This included peoples of all nations and of all ages, not just the people of Israel, but all “spiritual Jews in Christ” (gentiles) who received and believed on Christ and obeyed him, in many cases unto death. Among these people are found the end time bride of Christ.

In this final end time period, very possibly there will only be several thousand, perhaps at most maybe seven thousand, that God will protect and nourish for the last and final 3½ years.

The Times of the Gentiles

Luke 21:20-24 – “ ‘When you see Jerusalem being surrounded by armies, you will know that its desolation is near. ²¹Then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains, let those in the city get out, and let those in the country not enter the city. ²²For this is the time of punishment in fulfillment of all that has been written. ²³How dreadful it will be in those days for pregnant women and nursing mothers! There will be great distress in the land and wrath against this people. ²⁴They will fall by the sword and will be taken as prisoners to all the nations. Jerusalem will be trampled on by the Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled.’ ” Jesus refers to the captivity and damage of Jerusalem. He further states “It would be trampled by gentiles until the time of the gentiles is fulfilled” shortly before the 1260-day, 42-month period begins. The gentile beast power will place an army close to and surrounding Jerusalem, then very quickly, at the start of the 1260 days, he will send part of this army into the city. It will be occupied for the next 3½ years.

Ezekiel 30:1-3 – “The word of the LORD came to me: ²‘Son of man, prophesy and say: ‘This is what the Sovereign LORD says: ‘Wail and say, Alas for that day!’ ³For the day is near, the day of the LORD is near—a day of clouds, a time of doom for the nations. (Note) V3 – “It will be a day of clouds, the Times of the Gentiles.”

Rev. 11:2 – “But exclude the outer court; do not measure it, because it has been given to the Gentiles. They will trample on the Holy City for 42 months.” John tells us that this army will control a part of the temple area for 42 months.

In Matthew 24:15 Jesus speaks of the abomination of desolation. **Matthew 24:15** – “So when you see standing in the holy place ‘the abomination that causes desolation,’ spoken of through the prophet Daniel—let the reader understand...” This ties in with **Daniel 9:27** – “He will confirm a covenant with many for one ‘seven.’ In the middle of the ‘seven’ he will put an end to sacrifice and offering. And on a wing of the temple he will set up an abomination that causes desolation, until the end that is decreed is poured out on him.” This is the evil end time king who makes desolate – the abomination who causes desolation. He sets up an image, possibly of himself, then defiles the holy place. **Daniel 11:31** – “His armed forces will rise up to desecrate the temple fortress and will abolish the daily sacrifice. Then they will set up the abomination that causes desolation;” and **Daniel 12:11** – “From the time that the daily sacrifice is abolished and the abomination that causes desolation is set up, there will be 1,290 days.” So begins the period of time referred to as “the time of the gentiles.”

A brief comment on **Daniel 8:11-14** – “It set itself up to be as great as the Prince of the host; it took away the daily sacrifice from Him, and the place of His sanctuary was brought low. ¹²Because of rebellion, the host of the saints and the daily sacrifice were given over to it. It prospered in everything it did, and truth was thrown to the ground.

¹³Then I heard a holy one speaking, and another holy one said to him, “How long will it take for the vision to be fulfilled—the vision concerning the daily sacrifice, the rebellion that causes desolation, and the surrender of the sanctuary and of the host that will be trampled underfoot? ¹⁴He said to me, ‘It will take 2,300 evenings and mornings; then the sanctuary will be reconsecrated.’ ” Verse 14 – “2300 days, literally, means evenings–mornings. At the temple on a daily basis there were two sacrifices; in the morning (about 9 AM) and one in the afternoon (about 3 PM). What is meant here in verse 14 is that for 1150 days the abomination will be allowed to defile and cause defilement.

The period of time known as Jacob’s troubles leading up to his captivity and that of much of Israel will be a tremendous time of death and destruction. From the beginning of the work of the two witnesses to the captivity, as discussed, will be about 1½ years. From this point there is an additional 2-year period, which gives a total of 3½ years.

Jesus said in John 11:9, there are 12 hours in a day. Numerous scriptures such as Num 14:34 and Ezek 4:4-6 tell us a day in prophecy equals a year in being fulfilled. There are 12 months in a year. Thus, we can understand that one hour equals one month in fulfillment. One month is 30 days.

The Seventh Seal and the First Four Trumpet Plagues

In time sequence of events, the seventh seal is opened at some point shortly after the tribulation and heavenly signs. This seems to indicate that the first trumpet plague to the seventh trumpet, the seven vials of God’s wrath, to the return of Jesus Christ with his saints to fight the final battle and take up his rule on earth is about two years.

Rev. 7:1-3 – “After this I saw four angels standing at the four corners of the earth, holding back the four winds of the earth to prevent any wind from blowing on the land or on the sea or on any tree. ²Then I saw another angel coming up from the east, having the seal of the living God. He called out in a loud voice to the four angels who had been given power to harm the land and the sea: ³ ‘Do not harm the land or the sea or the trees until we put a seal on the foreheads of the servants of our God.’ ”

The first six seals have been opened, and to this point everything assigned has been completed. The four horsemen have completed their rides. Ephraim/Israel are now in captivity. Satan’s final attempt to usurp God has been smashed.

As Revelation chapter 7 begins, it is seen that four angels have been assigned to hold back, for a short time, any further destruction to the earth. In verse 2 we learn these angels will be shortly released. These four are the same as mentioned in Rev 8:2. They are counted among the seven angels given seven trumpets.

Verse 3 – “Do not harm the earth, the sea, or the trees till we (the fifth angel, possibly Jesus Christ, and others) have sealed the servants of God on their foreheads.” These now have converted minds, have repented and are in submission to God, Christ and the law. This verse ties in with Rev 8:1 – “Silence in the heaven for about one-half hour or two weeks.” God’s chosen people (Israel) are now in captivity. At this point

many have humbled themselves in true repentance, and some have been selected (sealed) by God for a future purpose.

Rev. 8:2-4 – “And I saw the seven angels who stand before God, and to them were given seven trumpets. ³Another angel, who had a golden censer, came and stood at the altar. He was given much incense to offer, with the prayers of all the saints, on the golden altar before the throne. ⁴The smoke of the incense, together with the prayers of the saints, went up before God from the angel’s hand.” I believe the “other angel” is a reference to Jesus Christ acting as high priest before God on behalf of God’s people.

The first four trumpet plagues as described are clear and for our purposes need little comment.

The First Plague, – **Rev. 8:6-7** – “Then the seven angels who had the seven trumpets prepared to sound them. ⁷The first angel sounded his trumpet, and there came hail and fire mixed with blood, and it was hurled down upon the earth. A third of the earth was burned up, a third of the trees were burned up, and all the green grass was burned up.”

The Second Plague – **Rev. 8:8-9** – “The second angel sounded his trumpet, and something like a huge mountain, all ablaze, was thrown into the sea. A third of the sea turned into blood, ⁹a third of the living creatures in the sea died, and a third of the ships were destroyed.”

The Third Plague – **Rev. 8:10-11** – “The third angel sounded his trumpet, and a great star, blazing like a torch, fell from the sky on a third of the rivers and on the springs of water– ¹¹the name of the star is Wormwood. A third of the waters turned bitter, and many people died from the waters that had become bitter.

The Fourth Plague – **Rev. 8:12-13** – “The fourth angel sounded his trumpet, 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 turned dark. A third of the day was without light, and also a third of the night. ¹³As I watched, I heard an eagle that was flying in midair call out in a loud voice: ‘Woe! Woe! Woe to the inhabitants of the earth, because of the trumpet blasts about to be sounded by the other three angels!’ ”

The Fifth Trumpet Plague – The First Woe

Rev. 9:3-11 – “And out of the smoke locusts came down upon the earth and were given power like that of scorpions of the earth. ⁴They were told not to harm the grass of the earth or any plant or tree, but only those people who did not have the seal of God on their foreheads. ⁵They were not given power to kill them, but only to torture them for five months. And the agony they suffered was like that of the sting of a scorpion when it strikes a man. ⁶During those days men will seek death, but will not find it; they will long to die, but death will elude them. ⁷The locusts looked like horses prepared for battle. On their heads they wore something like crowns of gold, and their faces resembled human faces. ⁸Their hair was like women’s hair, and their teeth were like lions’ teeth. ⁹They had breastplates like breastplates of iron, and the sound of their wings was like the thundering of many horses and chariots rushing into battle. ¹⁰They had tails and stings like scorpions, and in their tails they had power to torment people for five months. ¹¹They had as king

over them the angel of the Abyss, whose name in Hebrew is Abaddon, and in Greek, Apollyon.”

The First Woe talks of “locusts.” This probably means an army of millions of soldiers. These locusts are described as a fighting military army and their power. For five months this army will attack their enemies with chemical and biological weapons which torment but do not cause wholesale death. In warfare one of the main objectives is to obtain the wealth of the other country. This type of warfare softens up the opposition so that the will and ability to fight back an invasion is greatly reduced. Conventional bombs and nuclear devices destroy not only lives but the wealth of a nation.

The king over this army appears to be Satan ruling – influencing the beast power. The principle prizes of this war may well be gas and oil deposits. The South Muslim countries, for several reasons and in several ways, push too hard and apparently misjudge the will and intentions of the enemy and his power. These nations are so wrapped up in their cause and sense of control; they do not perceive and come to realize his willingness to fight a total and all encompassing war. These wars are part of Daniel’s prophecies of the North and South kings coming to outright raging war. **Daniel 11:36-45** – “The king will do as he pleases. He will exalt and magnify himself above every god and will say unheard-of things against the God of gods. He will be successful until the time of wrath is completed, for what has been determined must take place. ³⁷He will show no regard for the gods of his fathers or for the one desired by women, nor will he regard any god, but will exalt himself above them all. ³⁸Instead of them, he will honor a god of fortresses; a god unknown to his fathers he will honor with gold and silver, with precious stones and costly gifts. ³⁹He will attack the mightiest fortresses with the help of a foreign god and will greatly honor those who acknowledge him. He will make them rulers over many people and will distribute the land at a price. ⁴⁰At the time of the end the king of the south will engage him in battle, and the king of the north will storm out against him with chariots and cavalry and a great fleet of ships. He will invade many countries and sweep through them like a flood. ⁴¹He will also invade the beautiful land. Many countries will fall, but Edom, Moab and the leaders of Ammon will be delivered from his hand. ⁴²He will extend his power over many countries; Egypt will not escape. ⁴³He will gain control of the treasures of gold and silver and all the riches of Egypt, with the Libyans and Nubians in submission. ⁴⁴But reports from the east and the north will alarm him, and he will set out in a great rage to destroy and annihilate many. ⁴⁵He will pitch his royal tents between the seas at the beautiful holy mountain. Yet he will come to his end, and no one will help him.” All of Daniel chapter 11 will be a worthwhile study.

The Sixth Trumpet – The Second Woe

Rev. 9:13-21 – “The sixth angel sounded his trumpet, and I heard a voice coming from the horns of the golden altar that is before God. ¹⁴It said to the sixth angel who had the trumpet, ‘Release the four angels who are bound at the great river Euphrates.’ ¹⁵And the four angels who had been kept ready for this very hour and day and month and year were released to kill a third of mankind. ¹⁶The number of the mounted troops was 200,000,000. I heard their number. ¹⁷The horses and riders I saw in my vision looked like this: Their breastplates were fiery red, dark blue, and yellow as sulfur. The heads of the horses resembled the heads of lions, and out of their mouths came fire, smoke and sulfur. ¹⁸A third of mankind was killed by the three plagues of fire, smoke and sulfur that came

out of their mouths. ¹⁹The power of the horses was in their mouths and in their tails; for their tails were like snakes, having heads with which they inflicted injury. ²⁰The rest of mankind that were not killed by these plagues still did not repent of the work of their hands; they did not stop worshiping demons, and idols of gold, silver, bronze, stone and wood—idols that cannot see or hear or walk. ²¹Nor did they repent of their murders, their magic arts, their sexual immorality or their thefts.”

Dan 11:44 and Rev 9:14 indicate that the countries north and northeast of Europe and of the Far East will come together as one warring force and attack the beast power of Europe. This would include the countries of the Former Soviet Republic, China, India, Japan and other Far East nations. With Europe and the beast power controlling the oil and gas, the east may realize that there is no longer a guarantee of natural resources to maintain its prosperity. Also there may be a sense, now the Arab world first, next the east and Oriental countries.

This massive army of 200,000,000 men from beyond the Euphrates will move westward into Europe. In order to have death and destruction on this scale, atomic and hydrogen bombs will be used along with chemical and biological weapons. This total and unrestrained type of warfare will kill over two billion people, one third of the earth’s population. Suggested reading would be Isaiah Chapter 10.

Yet, in spite of the millions dead and heavy destruction, the remaining “gentile” population of mankind will not repent. For more in-depth information, a careful study of Daniel, Chapters 2, 7, 9 and 11, would be worthwhile.

The Seventh Trumpet – Third Woe – Seven Last Plagues

How great the destruction and the number of dead is something very difficult to grasp. Isaiah and Amos clearly explain how many will be left at the beginning of Christ’s reign. The remaining remnant will indeed be, in comparison to their original numbers, a pitiful few from the house of Israel and of all the gentile nations of the world.

The most difficult and also the most important thing about the seventh trumpet is placing all the final concluding activities of this trumpet in their proper order of time.

A box of understanding has been developed over the years that has the appearance of simplicity and order. It seems to give an explanation of the final end time activities that are straight forward and uncomplicated. However, to establish the truth of the seventh trumpet and sequence of events for the major activities, we will have to think outside of this box. The true understanding of the seventh trumpet and everything associated with it is amazing, fascinating and much different than what many may think and believe.

The seventh trumpet is unique in several ways. It is one continuous long blast. During the time of it’s sounding, which occurs for an uninterrupted number of days, several major activities take place. When all things are completed, then this trumpet will cease to sound. **Rev. 10:7** – “But in the days when the seventh angel is about to sound his trumpet, the mystery of God will be accomplished, just as He announced to His servants the prophets.”

It will only cease sounding as stated in Rev 11:15, “until (when) the kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of his Christ.” That is when all of

the end time prophecies have been completed and fulfilled. The last prophecy is Christ's return and the battle of Armageddon. This, along with the deposing of the beast, false prophet and Satan will signal the completion of Christ's takeover and the establishment of his reign and kingdom.

As a point of interest, Armageddon to the north of Jerusalem is the staging area for these armies. They will move into the "Valley of Jehosaphat," which is the Kidron Valley and surrounding territory, principally the city of Jerusalem. When Jesus comes to the Mount of Olives, these armies will be there to meet and fight Him. Rev 14:19-20 and Joel 3:9-14.

A couple of additional thoughts for Rev 10:7. The words, "when he is about to sound," could just as well be translated, "when he shall sound." In context, it gives a better sense to the overall thought. "In the days of" during the period of the sounding of the seventh trumpet – the final plans, the last stage of God's master plan will be completed. Thus verse 14 of Chapter 11 is clarified, the second woe is passed – the third woe, the seventh trumpet, comes quickly.

Rev 11:1-13 deals with the two witnesses. **Rev. 11:1-13** – "I was given a reed like a measuring rod and was told, go and measure the temple of God and the altar, and count the worshipers there. ²But exclude the outer court; do not measure it, because it has been given to the Gentiles. They will trample on the Holy City for 42 months. ³And I will give power to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy for 1,260 days, clothed in sackcloth. ⁴These are the two olive trees and the two lampstands that stand before the Lord of the earth. ⁵If anyone tries to harm them, fire comes from their mouths and devours their enemies. This is how anyone who wants to harm them must die. ⁶These men have power to shut up the sky so that it will not rain during the time they are prophesying; and they have power to turn the waters into blood and to strike the earth with every kind of plague as often as they want. ⁷Now when they have finished their testimony, the beast that comes up from the Abyss will attack them, and overpower and kill them. ⁸Their bodies will lie in the street of the great city, which is figuratively called Sodom and Egypt, where also their Lord was crucified. ⁹For three and a half days men from every people, tribe, language and nation will gaze on their bodies and refuse them burial. ¹⁰The inhabitants of the earth will gloat over them and will celebrate by sending each other gifts, because these two prophets had tormented those who live on the earth. ¹¹But after the three and a half days a breath of life from God entered them, and they stood on their feet, and terror struck those who saw them. ¹²Then they heard a loud voice from heaven saying to them, 'Come up here.' And they went up to heaven in a cloud, while their enemies looked on. ¹³At that very hour there was a severe earthquake and a tenth of the city collapsed. Seven thousand people were killed in the earthquake, and the survivors were terrified and gave glory to the God of heaven." Their work lasts 3½ years; that is 42 months. These two servants of God complete their work and He allows them to be killed. They lie in the streets of Jerusalem for 3½ days, verses 11-12. They are resurrected and told to "come up here." They ascend to heaven to meet and be with Christ. Their enemies, which means the world, will see this momentous event and will take it as a sign. Also as a sign there will be a tremendous earthquake changing the face of the earth, and the great city of Babylon is divided. These things and more are a part of the seventh trumpet.

Preparing for the Seven Vial Plagues

Rev. 11:15 – “The seventh angel sounded his trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven, which said: ‘The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ, and He will reign for ever and ever.’ ” At this point, God takes complete charge and prepares the seven vials of His Punishment, which is His judgment on the world. God judges righteously, and His punishment is just; even so, if He did not intervene, humanity, in very short order, would destroy all life on the face of the earth.

Rev. 11:16-17 – “And the twenty-four elders, who were seated on their thrones before God, fell on their faces and worshiped God, ¹⁷saying: ‘We give thanks to you, Lord God Almighty, the One who is and who was, because you have taken your great power and have begun to reign.’ ” These 24 elders appear to be those who have a close and most personal relationship with God and Christ. They greatly praise God as having neither beginning nor end. Also they praise God because the time has come for Him to take complete control of forthcoming events.

Rev. 11:18 – “The nations were angry; and your wrath has come. The time has come for judging the dead, and for rewarding your servants the prophets and your saints and those who reverence your name, both small and great—and for destroying those who destroy the earth.” The nations are angry, and God’s wrath has come. This period of time finds the nations in complete upheaval, and they now are about to suffer the final seven vial plagues of God’s wrath for their great sins and rebellion.

At the beginning of this time, the dead are judged. The judgment for the prophets, saints and all those who fear God’s name (true and deep respect) is the gift of everlasting life. These have all believed and obeyed. Their character is a reflection of Christ in their lives. They love mercy and justice, they are humble and repentant. The intent of heart is always seeking to please God, never giving up, no matter how difficult the struggle with sin might be. These have been judged worthy of the first and better resurrection.

Their reward is according to their works, the wise and industrious use of time, effort and talent. This demonstration in Christian maturity reflected in their day-to-day relationship with others will be some of the criteria that will help determine what position of responsibility they will have under Yeshua.

Those who destroy the earth refers to mankind in general, the present world rulers, and also to the end of time beast, false prophet and Satan with his demons. God will bring conclusion to Satan’s and man’s failed 6000 year reign and so will begin the great millennium rule of Jesus Christ and His bride.

Verse 19, the Ark of the Covenant. The sign of God’s love and commitment to Israel and to His original arrangement with them made at Sinai. Now with the return of Christ, what they could not accomplish of themselves will be done completely and correctly as agreed upon.

Special Considerations of the Seventh Trumpet

There are two considerations to keep in mind for the upcoming explanation of the seventh trumpet. God does things in an orderly, progressive and logical way. The complexity and number of events involved will require a realistic, reasonable period of time.

A fair question one may ask is, When does the seventh trumpet begin to sound and when does it cease? I believe this trumpet begins to sound during Passover season 2014. God's people, Israel and Ephraim have been through tribulation and are now still in captivity: two years of severe oppression, to the point that most are ready to die if not given immediate release. But also the people have come to really understand why God has punished them. They have truly repented and abhor their former ways. God does not intend for these people to suffer the Vial Plagues of the seventh trumpet. These final plagues of revelation compare in many ways to the plagues that befell ancient Egypt in preparation for Israel's exodus led by Moses. God will begin to lift their oppression and protect them as He prepares these survivors for the second and great exodus.

Ten percent of several hundred million people still mean tens of millions, possibly 60 plus million. A good measure of time and a large amount of preparation and materials will be necessary. They will be set free, but the exodus will take time. Some of the responsibilities of the sealed 144,000 will be to prepare, lead and represent.

Pentecost and the Omar Count

Lev. 23:10-12 – “Speak to the Israelites and say to them: ‘When you enter the land I am going to give you and you reap its harvest, bring to the priest a sheaf of the first grain you harvest. ¹¹He is to wave the sheaf before the LORD so it will be accepted on your behalf; the priest is to wave it on the day after the Sabbath. ¹²On the day you wave the sheaf, you must sacrifice as a burnt offering to the LORD a lamb a year old without defect...’ ” **Lev. 23:15-16** – “From the day after the Sabbath, the day you brought the sheaf of the wave offering, count off seven full weeks. ¹⁶Count off fifty days up to the day after the seventh Sabbath, and then present an offering of new grain to the LORD.” Here, verses 15-16 tell us how to count Pentecost. Pentecost is sometimes referred to as the Feast of Weeks or often by its Jewish name, “Shavuot.”

Pentecost is a symbol of the Messiah and His second coming. The counting of Omar, the days leading up to Pentecost, are important because it is a period of time God's church is commanded to count. It is a vital key to spiritual growth. It is a time of examination of one's walk with Christ. Counting the Omar is a part of a maturing Christian's life. It is a focused time period during which one is keenly aware of his/her struggle with sin and the necessity of smothering it to extinction and replacing it with more and Godlier thinking and righteousness.

The countdown to Pentecost begins with the wave sheaf offering the first day after Passover. The count is seven times seven for 49 days, which is seven weeks of seven days; plus one day added for 50, which is the Day of Pentecost. Thus the Day of Pentecost is not confined to any one particular day of the week.

Pentecost, this day, also pictures our union, our coming wedding with Christ our Messiah. It is in several ways a time of important preparation for a Christian.

The Eighth Day of Passover

Pentecost is the 50th day, the final day of a Jubilee Cycle of days. This 50th day represents the year of freedom, liberty and release. **Lev. 25:9-10** – “Then have the trumpet sounded everywhere on the 10th day of the seventh month; on the Day of Atonement sound the trumpet throughout your land. ¹⁰Consecrate the 50th year and

proclaim liberty throughout the land to all its inhabitants. It shall be a jubilee for you; each one of you is to return to his family property and each to his own clan.” It is interesting to note that 10 days after the day of trumpets, which signals the start of the official civil new year, is atonement, the beginning of the official release for the people. Passover and Pentecost fall within this one-year period of time. From atonement to Pentecost is the time in which the granting of freedom and the returning of possessions is to be complete.

Pentecost is the end of a cycle and is also known as “the Eighth Day,” meaning the conclusion of the Passover festival season. The number “eight” is significant. A week has “seven” days, and the first day of the next week is also referred to as the “eighth day,” Eight is a number that signifies a new beginning or the beginning of a new cycle, a new phase.

Eight in Hebrew means “to make fat,” “cover with fat” or “to super abound,” As a numeral it is the super abundant number. As seven represents the day of completion, then eight, which follows seven, means “over and above perfect completion,” or “the first of a new series,” (Reference: *Numbers in Scripture* by E.W. Billinger).

The Mount Sinai Covenant

Ancient Israel under Moses was 49 days preparing to meet God at Mount Sinai. God came down to the top of Sinai and revealed Himself to Israel. He spoke the Ten Commandments in their hearing (Ex 20:1-17). This was a unique and special revelation to eventually benefit all mankind. Israel entered into a covenant relationship with God and agreed to be obedient to Him, and in return He would protect and bless. **Ex. 24:3, 7** – “When Moses went and told the people all the LORD’S words and laws, they responded with one voice, everything the LORD has said we will do. ⁷Then he took the Book of the Covenant and read it to the people. They responded, ‘We will do everything the LORD has said; we will obey.’ ” This was followed by a feast. **Ex. 24:9-11** – “Moses and Aaron, Nadab and Abihu and the 70 elders of Israel went up ¹⁰and saw the God of Israel. Under His feet was something like a pavement made of sapphire, clear as the sky itself. ¹¹But God did not raise his hand against these leaders of the Israelites; they saw God, and they ate and drank.” This was a marriage covenant between God and Israel. Jeremiah wrote, “Turn, O backsliding children, saith the Lord; for I am married unto you.”

This first Pentecost as kept at Sinai was packed with foundational material. God set forth in a formal and complete manner what He required and how He wanted the future relationship to be with Him and Israel. The people were unable to uphold their end of the agreement.

A major event at Mount Sinai was God giving and making available in a codified form the Ten Commandments, the basic instruction of life, intended for all men and for all times. This was the first of God’s three great gifts to mankind. This gift gives foundation and direction (instruction) in one’s relationship to God and one’s neighbor. There is nothing superior to the Torah, the instruction of laws, and the witness of the prophets to the law. If kept and obeyed, it is the source of peace, happiness and prosperity for all peoples of all nations at every level of society and human relationships.

God's first great blessing was the law, judgments and statues, intended for all peoples. God's purpose and plan was for Israel to live by these words and to be an example to other peoples and nations, teaching them all Godly things. They failed in this commission. There will soon be another opportunity, and they will be successful the second time.

Pentecost and the Holy Spirit

The first Pentecost after the death and resurrection of Christ was a benchmark day. On this day, God made generally available His Holy Spirit to mankind. There are certain conditions that need to be met to receive it. In time, everyone will be given his or her opportunity, all things of God, according to His time and order.

Acts 2:1-4 – “When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. ²Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. ³They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. ⁴All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.” Each of them refers to the 120 of Acts 1:20.

In Acts 2, Peter explains the process necessary in order to receive the Holy Spirit. **Acts 2:38-39** – “Peter replied, ‘Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off – for all whom the Lord our God will call.’ ” This is Peter's final exhortation for those believers who receive the word. **Acts 2:40, 44** – “With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, ‘Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.’ ⁴⁴All the believers were together and had everything in common.”

When one receives God's Spirit, it is an earnest, a down payment or token of what is to be more fully given in the future. God's Holy Spirit is that essence of God placed within us which allows us to connect with Him and His Son Jesus Christ. This is the means that allows us individually to develop a personal one-on-one relationship with God and His Son. God's Spirit is the tool that helps us understand sin and our relationship to it. It gives us insight into our carnal human nature. Sin is not only identified and dealt with on an ongoing daily basis, but we also come to more and more appreciate the law (instructions), its benefits and necessity in our lives. We strive to put sin out and away and replace it with the righteousness of the law, Godly living and faith in Jesus Christ, which saves us. So, the second great gift of God is His Holy Spirit. Without it, there is no ability to please God and there is no hope for everlasting life. It is Jesus Christ's blood that cleans us and reconciles us to God. Thus God very favorably accepts our repentance and request for His Spirit.

As it stands now, God is selecting and allowing only a very few to access His Holy Spirit. God has given mankind 6000 years to do things his way apart from the available knowledge of His truth. Soon, without hindrance, all will have access to His Spirit. Men will see the folly of their ways and will eagerly seek God, His law and Spirit.

The law and God's Spirit were officially and publicly presented on the day of Pentecost. Part of counting the Omar is preparing one's self for this day. It is done on an

annual basis so that there is a special focus on the law (instruction) and God's Holy Spirit working in our daily lives.

There is a third reason why we should count the Omar. It is very probable that Jesus Christ will return to take control and rule on earth with his saints on this day. The third great gift of God the Father will be His kingdom on earth in the form and authority of Jesus Christ. Those with understanding will be eagerly and happily counting the days, preparing themselves, knowing that the end to man's way is soon coming and that Christ will take control. With the presence of Jesus, men will soon seek to know and understand the law and desire God's Holy Spirit dwelling within to give deep appreciation and desire for righteous living. With Jesus now readily available and teaching truth and giving encouragement, peace, happiness and true prosperity will be throughout the earth. The law, God's Holy Spirit and the presence and authority of Christ on earth is the solution to man's inability to rule himself. Unfortunately, mankind will and must take this matter to its full measure before they will humbly acknowledge these truths.

The Return of Yeshua the Messiah

Loud voices proclaim at the beginning of the sounding of the seventh trumpet that the kingdoms of this world are now given over to God and His Christ. Their rule will be without end. **Rev. 11:15** – “The seventh angel sounded his trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven, which said: ‘The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ, and he will reign for ever and ever.’ ” As mentioned earlier, the seventh trumpet begins to sound on Passover 2014 and everything is completed, that is Christ has returned to take rule of earth, Pentecost 2014. The evidence strongly suggests this is how it may happen.

Just a thought: Jesus said of that time, His second coming, no man knew exactly when. **Matt. 24:36** – “No one knows about that day or hour, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father.” Perhaps the reference Jesus is giving is, “As I speak, my Father in heaven only knows,” not necessarily that it (the day) will not be known at some future point. In verses 42-44 Jesus concludes He is coming at an hour we will not expect. What is clear is that an hour here refers to a small frame of time, a matter of days, a small, very specific period of time. In the context of His coming, as a general statement, mankind, the world, will not know when the return of Christ will be, but Christians are God's servants and will prepare themselves and know the time of His coming.

The Seven Last Bowl Plagues

Revelation chapter 15 discusses the preparation for the final seven vial (bowl) judgments upon the earth. Verse 1 tells us that with the completion of the seven last plagues, so is God's wrath satisfied. Verses 5-8 describe the dress of the seven angels. They are given the seven golden bowls, signifying God's anger, by one of the four living creatures. V8 describes the temple, God's throne, being surrounded and filled with smoke until the seven plagues of the seven angels are completed.

The 16th chapter of Revelations describes the last seven Bowl Plagues. During the 49-day period (Omar count), several all important events take place. These seven plagues of God's wrath claim a certain part of this time.

The plagues of Exodus 18 were a type and forerunner of the plagues of Revelation 16. These plagues are poured out and unto the beast power and the gentile nations of the world. God's people, who are in captivity, have repented and now await the Messiah and their complete deliverance. The first deliverance of ancient Israel was under Moses, and so it will be that the second and great physical deliverance of modern day Israel will be at the hand of Jesus Christ and Moses.

A good companion study to Revelation 16 would be Exodus chapters 8-10. The Exodus plagues did not happen in one day, but rather over a period of time, possibly 30 days or in one hour. End time Babylon will also suffer these plagues for her part with the beast power in bringing about the destruction of modern day Israel (modern day America, Great Britain, Canada, Australia and certain European democracies).

The first five bowl plagues are straight forward, and a detailed examination is not necessary at this time for our purposes. It is the sixth and seventh plagues that need additional attention. (Suggested reading: Rev. 16:1-11.)

The sixth plague, **Rev. 16:12-16** – “The sixth angel poured out his bowl on the great river Euphrates, and its water was dried up to prepare the way for the kings from the East. ¹³Then I saw three evil spirits that looked like frogs; they came out of the mouth of the dragon, out of the mouth of the beast and out of the mouth of the false prophet. ¹⁴They are spirits of demons performing miraculous signs, and they go out to the kings of the whole world, to gather them for the battle on the great day of God Almighty. ¹⁵Behold, I come like a thief! Blessed is he who stays awake and keeps his clothes with him, so that he may not go naked and be shamefully exposed.’ ¹⁶Then they gathered the kings together to the place that in Hebrew is called Armageddon.” As previously discussed, the sixth trumpet pictures a Great War involving 200 million soldiers; one third of the world's population perishes. Still the beast power and kings of the west have a large remaining army along with the Eastern Nations with which to challenge Christ at His return. A way must be made so that they can join forces.

The unclean spirits go out to the kings of the world and cause them to muster forces at Armageddon in preparation for the battle with Yeshua the Messiah, which is that great day of God when all resistance will be crushed. V15 is a direct warning to be watchful and maintain Godly righteousness, God's Church today.

Suggested readings are the books of Hosea, Joel, Micah, Zephaniah and Zechariah.

Joel 2:1-11 – “Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the alarm on my holy hill. Let all who live in the land tremble, for the day of the LORD is coming. It is close at hand— ²a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and blackness. Like dawn spreading across the mountains a large and mighty army comes, such as never was of old nor ever will be in ages to come. ³Before them fire devours, behind them a flame blazes. Before them the land is like the Garden of Eden, behind them, a desert waste—nothing escapes them. ⁴They have the appearance of horses; they gallop along like cavalry. ⁵With a noise like that of chariots they leap over the mountaintops, like a crackling fire consuming stubble, like a mighty army drawn up for battle. ⁶At the sight of them, nations are in anguish; every face turns pale. ⁷They charge like warriors; they scale walls like soldiers. They all march in line, not swerving from their course. ⁸They do not jostle each other; each

marches straight ahead. They plunge through defenses without breaking ranks. ⁹They rush upon the city; they run along the wall. They climb into the houses; like thieves they enter through the windows. ¹⁰Before them the earth shakes, the sky trembles, the sun and moon are darkened, and the stars no longer shine. ¹¹The LORD thunders at the head of his army; his forces are beyond number, and mighty are those who obey his command. The day of the LORD is great; it is dreadful. Who can endure it?"

Joel 2:20 – “I will drive the northern army far from you, pushing it into a parched and barren land, with its front columns going into the eastern sea and those in the rear into the western sea. And its stench will go up; its smell will rise. Surely he has done great things.”

Joel 3:9-17 – “Proclaim this among the nations: Prepare for war! Rouse the warriors! Let all the fighting men draw near and attack. ¹⁰Beat your plowshares into swords and your pruning hooks into spears. Let the weakling say, ‘I am strong!’ ¹¹Come quickly, all you nations from every side, and assemble there. Bring down your warriors, O LORD! ¹²Let the nations be roused; let them advance into the Valley of Jehoshaphat, for there I will sit to judge all the nations on every side. ¹³Swing the sickle, for the harvest is ripe. Come, trample the grapes, for the winepress is full and the vats overflow—so great is their wickedness!’ ¹⁴Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision! For the day of the LORD is near in the valley of decision. ¹⁵The sun and moon will be darkened, and the stars no longer shine. ¹⁶The LORD will roar from Zion and thunder from Jerusalem; the earth and the sky will tremble. But the LORD will be a refuge for his people, a stronghold for the people of Israel. ¹⁷‘Then you will know that I, the LORD your God, dwell in Zion, my holy hill. Jerusalem will be holy; never again will foreigners invade her.’ ”

The armies are gathered together at Har Megiddon, which is Armageddon. This is the gathering site for the huge army which will oppose Christ. The location of this area is north of Jerusalem in a vast plain, possibly the southern part of modern day Syria. Historically this area has been a gathering and launch point for armies. At some point shortly before the great and bloody encounter, these gentile armies will move south to Jerusalem and the Valley of Jehosaphat, the area of the Kidron Valley and surrounding areas of the city of Jerusalem.

Zechariah contains many key end time prophecies concerning the triumphant return of Christ. (Suggested reading).

The seventh bowl plague, **Rev. 16:17-21** – “The seventh angel poured out his bowl into the air, and out of the temple came a loud voice from the throne, saying, ‘It is done!’ ¹⁸Then there came flashes of lightning, rumblings, peals of thunder and a severe earthquake. No earthquake like it has ever occurred since man has been on earth, so tremendous was the quake. ¹⁹The great city split into three parts, and the cities of the nations collapsed. God remembered Babylon the Great and gave her the cup filled with the wine of the fury of his wrath. ²⁰Every island fled away and the mountains could not be found. ²¹From the sky huge hailstones of about a hundred pounds each fell upon men. And they cursed God on account of the plague of hail, because the plague was so terrible.” This seventh and final plague includes a great earthquake which will reshape the face of the earth. The land masses and seas will be different than what we now experience. Verse 19 further explains this earthquake. It appears the great city, the seat of

power for the false prophet and possibly at times shared with the beast power, will come to a total and utter destruction and desolation. Finally, as a part of this last plague, great hail stones fall upon the earth.

The seven plagues of the seventh trumpet are God's direct intervention and punishment upon the rebelling nations for their cruelty to Israel and their personal and national sins. The seven seals and the first six trumpets are the results of man's and Satan's attempts to live apart from the knowledge and worship of God. God by plan permitted this so that for a certainty mankind will know that by experience he is unable to form a government of righteous law and rule apart from the direct oversight of Jesus Christ.

Revelation Chapter Seventeen

Rev. 17:1-17 – “One of the seven angels who had the seven bowls came and said to me, ‘Come, I will show you the punishment of the great prostitute, who sits on many waters. ²With her the kings of the earth committed adultery and the inhabitants of the earth were intoxicated with the wine of her adulteries.’ ³Then the angel carried me away in the Spirit into a desert. There I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast that was covered with blasphemous names and had seven heads and 10 horns. ⁴The woman was dressed in purple and scarlet, and was glittering with gold, precious stones and pearls. She held a golden cup in her hand, filled with abominable things and the filth of her adulteries. ⁵This title was written on her forehead:

MYSTERY
BABYLON THE GREAT
THE MOTHER OF PROSTITUTES
AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH

⁶I saw that the woman was drunk with the blood of the saints, the blood of those who bore testimony to Jesus. When I saw her, I was greatly astonished. ⁷Then the angel said to me: “Why are you astonished? I will explain to you the mystery of the woman and of the beast she rides, which has the seven heads and 10 horns. ⁸The beast, which you saw, once was, now is not, and will come up out of the Abyss and go to his destruction. The inhabitants of the earth whose names have not been written in the book of life from the creation of the world will be astonished when they see the beast, because he once was, now is not, and yet will come. ⁹ ‘This calls for a mind with wisdom. The seven heads are seven hills on which the woman sits. ¹⁰They are also seven kings. Five have fallen, one is, the other has not yet come; but when he does come, he must remain for a little while. ¹¹The beast who once was, and now is not, is an eighth king. He belongs to the seven and is going to his destruction. ¹²The 10 horns you saw are 10 kings who have not yet received a kingdom, but who for one hour will receive authority as kings along with the beast. ¹³They have one purpose and will give their power and authority to the beast. ¹⁴They will make war against the Lamb, but the Lamb will overcome them because he is Lord of lords and King of kings—and with him will be his called, chosen and faithful followers.’ ¹⁵Then the angel said to me, ‘The waters you saw, where the prostitute sits, are peoples, multitudes, nations and languages. ¹⁶The beast and the 10 horns you saw will hate the prostitute. They will bring her to ruin and leave her naked; they will eat her flesh

and burn her with fire. ¹⁷For God has put it into their hearts to accomplish His purpose by agreeing to give the beast their power to rule, until God's words are fulfilled."

Verses 1-6 describe the great harlot, the controlling end time false religious system and its false teacher. It is to this whore the kings of earth give themselves. She is full of evil works and causes these kings, as influenced by the beast power, to kill many saints and people of God. Verses 7-11 give details about the harlot and her power over the gentile nations and kingdoms. Verse 12 is a key verse: 10 rulers of nations who, although they have power, are at a set time given authority and kingship.

I believe what is implied is that these 10 rulers, governors or political entities have to some large and significant degree and in certain critical matters cooperated with the beast power. Now they all realize time is running out and that some unexplained power is threatening their very existence. All agree to let the beast power be the overall ruler and make the final decisions and give all the necessary direction and orders for the perceived upcoming battle. These rulers, because of the great danger, have taken extreme national emergency action, probably imposing some sort of martial law to insure complete control. Most likely, a single individual or small group of select leadership will now have all encompassing power. This will ensure total commitment and cooperation with the beast power.

This agreement will only last 30 days. At the return of Jesus Christ it is dissolved by fact of their total defeat and destruction of their armies. Verses 15-17: at some point in time, perhaps when the bowl plagues are being poured out, the beast power and 10 kings who hate the harlot because of her power and their inability to deal with her on any basis other than weaker vessels attack her seat of authority. By nature of the relationship there have always been serious issues between them. This aggression could well be the failure of things to work out as predicted or planned. Also her many lies and manipulations have taken their toll. The united 10 kings and their ruler have had their fill.

Rev. 18:1-6 – "After this I saw another angel coming down from heaven. He had great authority, and the earth was illuminated by his splendor. ²With a mighty voice he shouted: 'Fallen! Fallen is Babylon the Great! She has become a home for demons and a haunt for every evil spirit, a haunt for every unclean and detestable bird. ³For all the nations have drunk the maddening wine of her adulteries. The kings of the earth committed adultery with her, and the merchants of the earth grew rich from her excessive luxuries.' ⁴Then I heard another voice from heaven say: 'Come out of her, my people, so that you will not share in her sins, so that you will not receive any of her plagues; ⁵for her sins are piled up to heaven, and God has remembered her crimes. ⁶Give back to her as she has given; pay her back double for what she has done. Mix her a double portion from her own cup.' " Babylon the great is destroyed. Verse 4: "come out of her my people, lest you share in her sins and receive her plagues." Who are these people God calls His own? God has given His people, modern day Israel, great tribulation and captivity. At this time, many have repented and believe. Yet there also appears to be a sizeable number who have not and still have a manner of attachment to the false system of religion. God is giving these people one final warning to repent and not suffer further hardship. Also God's people could very well be those gentiles who have repented or have at least come to the point of recognizing Jesus Christ and are willing to repent.

This religious power in her heart has said she is beautiful and powerful. She reasons nothing can hinder or harm her. This is the same kind of reasoning Satan exhibited in his attempt to overthrow God. (See Isa 47:1-9).

Verse 8: “Her plagues come in one day.” An expression to explain that what will come upon her will be quick and complete. Quick, in that her seat of power and authority will be destroyed in only a matter of days. It is possible it may be only one day since it will be an all-consuming fire that her physical assets, which magnified her, will come to their final fate. Please read verses 9-24 for the story flow.

Verses 10, 17 and 19 state that “in one hour,” this great city is made desolate. Quickly her judgment has come, and she ceases to have a central location of power and presence; all is destroyed. A question asked, does this refer to Rome and the city within Rome? Briefly, great power to organize, influence and rule over nations so that they will cooperate in such areas as open trade does not require a city to be a financial and manufacturing center. What is only necessary is the force of a personality or small group who give a sense of purpose and unity for an overall beneficial goal. With this, among all, there is a general agreement with the leadership; and so all cooperate with each other.

The Forty-Nine Days Plus One

When the heavenly voices proclaim the kingdoms of the world now belong to God and His Christ, the seventh trumpet begins to sound. From the wave sheaf offering 2014 to Pentecost 2014 is a 50-day period. On this day of Pentecost, Jesus Christ very possibly could return to planet earth. The Bowl Plagues may cover 30 days, maybe more or less; there is a 49-day period of time. Whatever the case, there has to be some time of relative calm for the beast power to consolidate his power and organize 10 kings and their armies. Also the eastern armies will need time to gather at Armageddon.

Those who know God and are expecting His coming will be counting the Omar. They will be preparing themselves spiritually and emotionally. They will be filled with great happiness, anticipating the arrival of Yeshua the Messiah, God’s anointed one. Ancient Israel under Moses looked forward to meeting God at Mount Sinai to receive his instructions and agreeing to abide in a covenant with God. Just as the apostles and faithful believers eagerly anticipated the giving of God’s Holy Spirit, so will God’s end time saints and people be longing with great desire the return of Jesus to earth to establish His just and righteous rule that will benefit all peoples in due time.

The Resurrection, the Marriage Supper and Christ’s Coming

The resurrection and return of Jesus Christ to earth are two separate events. However, most Christians who believe in the return of Christ and the resurrection are of the opinion that these two activities happen at the same time. That is, as Christ is returning to earth, the resurrected saints meet Him in the air and proceed to accompany Him to the Mount of Olives. The marriage supper is then supposed to take place at some point after Jesus has begun His rule.

Upon examination, we will see that when all the scriptures are correctly understood and placed in their proper time period, we will find an altogether different progression of events.

The resurrection, the marriage supper and Christ's return with His saints are separate and major events that fall within the 49 days of the Omar count leading to and concluding with Pentecost.

Matt. 24:23-26 – “At that time if anyone says to you, ‘Look, here is the Christ!’ or, ‘There he is!’ do not believe it. ²⁴For false Christs and false prophets will appear and perform great signs and miracles to deceive even the elect—if that were possible. ²⁵See, I have told you ahead of time. ²⁶So if anyone tells you, ‘There he is, out in the desert,’ do not go out; or, ‘Here he is, in the inner rooms,’ do not believe it.” Here Jesus warns His true end time disciples, his bride, not to believe rumors. Do not believe those who say He has returned. They may claim He is hidden in the desert or some building. Jesus further warns that rumors and pronouncements will come from those who teach a false Christ and will lead on that they have insights, understanding and knowledge. Along with their false words, they also have power to show signs and wonders to confirm their words. The elect could and may in some cases be deceived. Jesus makes several interesting comments in these verses. He says “See, I have told you beforehand” and “Do not believe it.”

A word of warning and caution: it says “false Christs and false prophets.” This could include the great false religious leader who works with the beast power. But it could also include religious organizations, groups and people we are familiar with. The book of Jude discusses in some detail false teachers, suggested defenses and the fate of deceivers. This is a helpful book worth reading.

Matt. 24:27 – “For as lightning that comes from the east is visible even in the west, so will be the coming of the Son of Man.” Jesus’ appearance will be associated with a brilliant flash of lightening that will be visible around the earth. All peoples will see His coming. Jesus will be clearly seen, recognized and expected by many. His bride, the saints, eagerly anticipate his coming. God’s chosen, Israel, understands and recognizes this as a sign of the Messiah, and there will be certain of the gentiles who will understand the sign of His coming. The warring nations will see this sign and perceive it as a threat; will unite and prepare to battle this intruder and His followers. It is very probable that the beast power, false prophet, their top leadership and a few others will recognize that this is the sign of Christ’s immediate return.

Satan is the primary power, the force working behind the scenes. Although he knows better, that God and Christ are undefeatable, his hate and anger towards God and the world cannot be contained. He will influence his two partners to fight against the Messiah.

Matt. 24:28 – “Wherever there is a carcass, there the vultures will gather.” Eagle here is better translated as vulture. Eagles do not feed on dead creatures. Over the years this has proven a difficult saying. This proverb is a colorful way of explaining that events will come to pass or come together just at the right moment. Of the many, this explanation seems the most reasonable. Verses 27-28 are lead-in commentary and not necessarily in correct time sequence. The correct sequence of events begins with verse 29.

Matt. 24:29-30 – “Immediately after the distress of those days ‘the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from the sky, and the

heavenly bodies will be shaken.’ ³⁰At that time the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, and all the nations of the earth will mourn. They will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of the sky, with power and great glory.” “Then” (no time frame is given) is the “sign of the Son of Man.” This comes as the seventh trumpet begins to sound, which is about two years after the tribulation, heavenly signs and the first six trumpet plagues. Jesus Christ comes for His saints at the beginning of the Omar count.

The “sign” is His miraculous manifestation of Himself to the whole world, to be a witness to all peoples and nations. They will all see Jesus on clouds with power and glory. Note carefully, it says “He is coming,” not that He is returning. What mankind will see at this time is Jesus Christ approaching earth, not returning, but coming close by, for what reason?

Matt. 24:31 – “And He will send his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of the heavens to the other.” He sends His angels to earth at the first sound of the seventh trumpet. They gather His resurrected saints, the elect, from all parts of the planet earth and bring them to a waiting Jesus Christ, their husband. Then all proceed to return to God the Father in Heaven.

Let us continue and gather together the scriptures that give us the facts and evidence for the just given explanation.

1 Cor. 15:51-53 – “Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed– ⁵²in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. ⁵³For the perishable must clothe itself with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality.” So it is at the last trumpet, as it begins to sound, the resurrection to everlasting life occurs. Nothing more is stated, nothing is said about a returning Savior/Messiah. The only indication of time for this great and promised event is the sounding of the seventh trumpet.

1 Thes. 4:13-17 – “Brothers, we do not want you to be ignorant about those who fall asleep, or to grieve like the rest of men, who have no hope. ¹⁴We believe that Jesus died and rose again and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in Him. ¹⁵According to the Lord’s own word, we tell you that we who are still alive, who are left till the coming of the Lord, will certainly not precede those who have fallen asleep. ¹⁶For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever.” Here Paul gives some additional information. Verse 14 states, “God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus,” God is the ultimate power which causes all things to happen. He is the one who made it possible, through Christ, for those who died in the true faith to be resurrected. It is He, the Almighty God the Father, who makes it possible for Jesus, His Anointed One, to bring with Him the saints. Paul is acknowledging that it is Almighty God, the supreme singular being and source of all life who is responsible for the tremendous promised events as recorded in verses 15-17. In V15 Paul gives the order of the resurrection. In verses 16-17, Paul says Jesus will descend from heaven. He does not say he is returning to earth. Paul notes the trumpet

sounding and comments that the coming of Christ, for his saints, will be loudly proclaimed by a mighty Archangel. Here is the resurrection, the dead in Christ first, than those who are alive. They are taken up to meet Jesus. Nothing in these verses indicates a continuation on to earth. Paul confirmed the words of Jesus. Christ is coming to claim His bride and does not at this time return to earth. The resurrection is a whole and separate event with no immediate connection to future activities.

The seventh trumpet begins to sound at the resurrection and continues to sound until Jesus returns to earth as conquering King, Lord, and Master. **Rev. 10:7** – “But in the days when the seventh angel is about to sound his trumpet, the mystery of God will be accomplished, just as he announced to his servants the prophets.” “When he is about to sound” is better translated “when he has sounded.” The mystery of God is completed. That is, all prophecies pertaining to Jesus’ return have been fulfilled, and so ends the sounding of the trumpet.

Col. 3:4 – “When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory.” Here the understood implication is the resurrection. We will appear, that is, be with Him upon our change. Nothing more can be forced from this scripture or the previously discussed verses.

Rev 1:7 needs some attention. Verse 5 talks about Jesus, the first born from the dead. It is He who loved us and cleansed us from our sins by His blood. Verse 6 goes on to say He has made us kings and priests to His God and Father; that is, this is a promise for the future considered done because God has given His word. It is at the resurrection that the fullness of His word is performed and we become kings and priests. First is the resurrection and the gift, then the reward of office and responsibility. V7, “He is coming with clouds and every eye will see Him.” These words closely match what Jesus spoke in Matt. 24:30. These two statements confirm the resurrection. Jesus comes to claim and gather His faithful saints, His bride. These verses in Matt. 24 and Rev. 1 give no indication that He continues on to the Mount of Olives. The return of Christ to earth, His second coming with His saints, is a separate matter and distinct from His earlier near earth appearance to gather His resurrected saints.

Zech. 14 contains much information concerning the Messiah’s second coming. Verse 1 states “the day of the Lord is coming.” Verse 3 tells us “then the Lord will go forth.” Verse 4, His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives. The first part of verse 5 says, “You shall flee.” Who are these “you?” They are the people living in Jerusalem and the surrounding area who have repented; they recognize Jesus as Savior, Redeemer and God’s Son who is about to return to earth. They are warned to leave a soon-to-be dangerous area. They have been patiently waiting for this moment in time. Notice the last part of verse 5, “thus the Lord will come and all the saints with you.” This is the official second coming, the return in power and glory of Jesus Christ with His faithful wife. Please read this chapter.

The resurrection of the just is a separate and complete event taking place near or on Passover, very probably on the day of the wave sheaf offering. The return to earth is another separate event happening most likely on Pentecost. Those humans on earth who now understand are counting the days with happiness and anticipation, knowing the promise of His coming is soon to be fulfilled.

Key Verses From Revelation

Rev. 7:9-10 – “After this I looked and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and in front of the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰And they cried out in a loud voice: ‘Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb.’ ” Notice the people are standing before the throne of God and before the Lamb. They are clothed with white robes, a symbolic and literal description of the resurrected saints. These are the 144,000 of Revelations 14.

Rev. 7:13-17 – “Then one of the elders asked me, ‘These in white robes—who are they, and where did they come from?’ ¹⁴I answered, ‘Sir, you know.’ And he said, ‘These are they who have come out of the great tribulation; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. ¹⁵Therefore, they are before the throne of God and serve Him day and night in his temple; and He who sits on the throne will spread His tent over them. ¹⁶Never again will they hunger; never again will they thirst. The sun will not beat upon them, nor any scorching heat. ¹⁷For the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd; He will lead them to springs of living water. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.’ ” Here additional important information is given. These people came out of the tribulation. They repented and accepted Christ’s blood, which covers all sin and makes one clean before God. The end time tribulation will produce several thousand saints. It is also good to remember the gift of everlasting life was made available to a number of named and unnamed Old Testament personalities. Most likely the bulk of the 144,000 will be those who lived at some point between the 2000 years of Jesus’ first coming and his second coming. The Great Tribulation spoken of here, for each of us, no matter whom, is our daily, week-by-week struggle to make ourselves acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For most, if not all, this journey has been most difficult, some suffering even unto death. As verse 15 tells us, part of the reward of everlasting life is being in the presence of God and His Christ.

Verse 16-17. The wording of these verses and proceeding verses seem to indicate that the saints with their formal presentation before God are now officially accepted. verse 16-17 sum up the final state of their relationship to God and Jesus Christ. Perhaps this event is a part of the heavenly marriage ceremony/supper.

Rev. 14:1-5 – “Then I looked, and there before me was the Lamb, standing on Mount Zion, and with him 144,000 who had his name and his Father’s name written on their foreheads. ²And I heard a sound from heaven like the roar of rushing waters and like a loud peal of thunder. The sound I heard was like that of harpists playing their harps. ³And they sang a new song before the throne and before the four living creatures and the elders. No one could learn the song except the 144,000 who had been redeemed from the earth. ⁴These are those who did not defile themselves with women, for they kept themselves pure. They follow the Lamb wherever He goes. They were purchased from among men and offered as firstfruits to God and the Lamb. ⁵No lie was found in their mouths; they are blameless.” Verse 1 tells us two important things. The Lamb and His 144,000 saints are standing on Mount Zion, and they have His Father’s name written on their foreheads, a sign of acceptance and ownership. Verse 2-5 fills in certain details explaining why they have this great favored relationship with God and Jesus Christ. Verse 2-3 states the harpists also sing a new song understood only by the elect 144,000. If

this is the case, then the 144,000, at some point in time, stood before God's throne. Verse 4-5 tell us these saints were redeemed, being firstfruits. They have no deceit and are without fault before the throne of God. Again we have confirmation of the resurrection: a number of days spent in heaven and some in the very presence of God Almighty; and finally, the return to earth of Jesus with His saints.

Rev. 15:1-2 – “I saw in heaven another great and marvelous sign: seven angels with the seven last plagues—last, because with them God's wrath is completed. ²And I saw what looked like a sea of glass mixed with fire and, standing beside the sea, those who had been victorious over the beast and his image and over the number of his name. They held harps given them by God.” The seven Bowl Plagues of God's judgment are prepared and are shortly to be released. John also sees the Sea of Glass. Those saints who claim victory over the beast and false religious leader are standing near this Sea of Glass and singing the Song of Moses. Deut. 32 is the Song of Moses. It is a detailed comprehensive prophecy from the time of Israel's entry into the Promised Land to the second coming of Christ. Verse 5-8 are the giving of the seven golden bowls of God's wrath and the sending forth of the seven responsible angels.

Those who have gained the victory are the resurrected saints. They have arrived at God's heavenly city and at some point they come into God's presence. At what point this takes place during the 49 days cannot be discerned. It would appear, of necessity, to be fairly early on.

It is also reasonable to understand that Jesus and His saints are making preparations for their return to earth. Part of this preparation includes rewards connected to positions of authority and responsibility.

Rev. 17 and 18 are chapters that identify and explain the sins of the beast, great harlot and the destruction of their system. With this collapse also destroyed is the social, financial and business organizations that generated riches for those who had attached themselves to it. The heavens rejoice for God has rendered fair judgment and just punishment for their sins.

In the sequence of events, we come to **Rev. 19:7-9** – “ ‘Let us rejoice and be glad and give him glory! For the wedding of the Lamb has come, and his bride has made herself ready. ⁸Fine linen, bright and clean, was given her to wear.’ (Fine linen stands for the righteous acts of the saints.) ⁹Then the angel said to me, “Write blessed are those who are invited to the wedding supper of the Lamb!’ And he added, ‘These are the true words of God.’ ” At some point before Christ's return to earth, the marriage ceremony and supper of the Lamb and His promised bride, those who have composed the true Church of God through all the ages is prepared. This official and public event formally states to everyone, without exception, that Jesus and His new wife are one and they now work as a team sharing responsibilities, ideas and exchange of opinions. However, Jesus is the acknowledged leader by fact of His superior position as King and High Priest and the great love He has for His wife demonstrated by His willingness to die for her.

The bride has qualified herself by a life of righteous living. She has acknowledged and accepted the instructions of the law, always striving for obedience and submission to God's will, demonstrating a sincere repentant attitude at all times. She is clothed in fine linen, clean and bright, symbolic not only of her righteousness by deeds, but also

cleansing by the blood of Yeshua Ha'Mashiach (Jesus the Messiah). Because of these things, she is called to the marriage supper as the bride of Christ, the Lamb. These are true sayings because God has spoken these words, and He does not lie.

Rev. 19:11-16 – “I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True. With justice he judges and makes war. ¹²His eyes are like blazing fire, and on his head are many crowns. He has a name written on him that no one knows but he himself. ¹³He is dressed in a robe dipped in blood, and his name is the Word of God. ¹⁴The armies of heaven were following him, riding on white horses and dressed in fine linen, white and clean. ¹⁵Out of his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations. ‘He will rule them with an iron scepter.’ He treads the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God Almighty. ¹⁶On his robe and on his thigh he has this name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.’ ” V11 tells about the righteous character of Jesus, and in righteousness He judges and prepares to make war. Interestingly, it was Jesus on a white horse who oversaw the righteous wars that preserved and protected freedom so that God’s plan could unfold as originally determined.

Verse 12 gives a physical description of Jesus and notes the many crowns He wears. He is given a name none know except Him. In V13, a name is revealed, “the word of God.” This possibility means that Jesus is permitted great authority and because of certain unique qualifications is able to speak for or on behalf of the one great God. As the Son of God in the flesh and our Savior, He spoke for God. It also may mean that Jesus has been given ultimate authority over mankind and earth. The robe dipped in blood is symbolic of his sacrifice each of us individually must accept. His word is the rule in a Christian’s life.

Verse 14. The armies clothed in white and on white horses is a description of the saints who follow Christ as He returns to earth. On behalf of Almighty God, He will render the final judgment, a righteous battle of punishment on rebellious mankind. All resistance is ended, it is over and the new world order, the millennium rule, will in short order begin.

Verse 16 reveals a third name for Jesus, “King of Kings and Lord of Lords.” Everyone and everything will be in subjection to Him. Verses 17-21 are a description of the final encounter and the results. **Rev. 19:17-21** – “And I saw an angel standing in the sun, who cried in a loud voice to all the birds flying in midair, ‘Come, gather together for the great supper of God, ¹⁸so that you may eat the flesh of kings, generals and mighty men, of horses and their riders, and the flesh of all people, free and slave, small and great.’ ¹⁹Then I saw the beast and the kings of the earth and their armies gathered together to make war against the rider on the horse and his army. ²⁰But the beast was captured, and with him the false prophet who had performed the miraculous signs on his behalf. With these signs he had deluded those who had received the mark of the beast and worshiped his image. The two of them were thrown alive into the fiery lake of burning sulfur. ²¹The rest of them were killed with the sword that came out of the mouth of the rider on the horse, and all the birds gorged themselves on their flesh.”

Concluding Thoughts

It is seen that from the resurrection of the just at Passover (wave sheaf offering) to the return of Christ on Pentecost will be a time of tremendous and important activity in heaven and on earth. The evidence –as given in the Jubilee Cycle and in the structure and types the holy days picture, plus God’s habit of carrying out His plans in an orderly planned manner – strongly suggest this scenario is a real possibility.

With all the scriptural evidence given, one should be able to come to certain conclusions. Time lining prophecy and even giving a date for Christ’s second coming should not be a fearful thing for a Christian. The fact is, Jesus wants us to know with a great deal of accuracy and certainty the flow and conclusion of this whole matter, including the very likely time He will return to earth. If we are His promised wife, and trust Him and have His complete confidence, then there should be no difficulty in accepting that He wants us to be well informed as to the timing of the major events preceding His return; especially to know and understand the last and supremely important 50 and final days leading to His return to earth.

On earth there is the final seven Bowl Plagues. This is God’s wrath poured out over an unrepentant sinning mankind. At this period of time the beast power is busy organizing the 10 kings into a cooperating fighting machine to face Christ at his return.

In heaven the resurrected saints are received and prepared for the marriage supper. The resurrection to everlasting life is the promised gift of God. The reward is what our Christian works have earned and prepared us for in so far as positions of service and authority under Christ and His pre-selected top leaders. At some point before Christ’s return, this matter of one’s reward will be settled.

This period also affords the saints the necessary time to adjust and become familiar with an altogether new form of existence.

The day of the Lord is a period of 10 years which He specifically calls His time. The first seven years have been given much and close attention. What of the last three years? It will take time to restore order. The second exodus of God’s people from slavery and captivity with its many millions of people, possibly 50 to 60 million plus, will require time. Making all the necessary preparations will take time. The earth will need healing. There will be numerous issues that must and will be addressed. The American and English peoples along with other Israelite nations will in all likelihood be returned to their former lands. They will repopulate the villages, towns, cities, farm lands and sea coasts.

The 50-year Jubilee Cycles is one of God’s primary time markers. When the Feast of Trumpets and Atonement arrives in the fall of 2017, then will begin officially the millennium rule of Jesus Christ, and with it freedom and restoration for the people and the earth.

In Hosea 14, God explains how Israel will be restored and blessed. **Hosea 14:4-8** – “I will heal their waywardness and love them freely, for my anger has turned away from them. ⁵I will be like the dew to Israel; he will blossom like a lily. Like a cedar of Lebanon he will send down his roots; ⁶his young shoots will grow. His splendor will be like an olive tree, his fragrance like a cedar of Lebanon. ⁷Men will dwell again in his

shade. He will flourish like the grain. He will blossom like a vine, and his fame will be like the wine from Lebanon. O Ephraim, what more have I to do with idols? ⁸I will answer him and care for him. I am like a green pine tree; your fruitfulness comes from me.” In verse 8 Ephraim will totally have repented and will in time produce much fruit for God. That is, Ephraim will have a key role of leadership in teaching and leading many peoples and nations in the millennium to know and appreciate God, truth and the instruction of the law.

Amos 9:11-15 – “ ‘In that day I will restore David's fallen tent. I will repair its broken places, restore its ruins, and build it as it used to be, ¹²so that they may possess the remnant of Edom and all the nations that bear my name,’ declares the LORD, who will do these things. ¹³The days are coming,’ declares the LORD, ‘when the reaper will be overtaken by the plowman and the planter by the one treading grapes. New wine will drip from the mountains and flow from all the hills. ¹⁴I will bring back my exiled people Israel; they will rebuild the ruined cities and live in them. They will plant vineyards and drink their wine; they will make gardens and eat their fruit. ¹⁵I will plant Israel in their own land, never again to be uprooted from the land I have given them,’ says the LORD your God.” This is the promise of restoration and blessings.

Another good read is Zech. 8. Actually the whole book gives encouragement and is devoted to the immediate future ahead of the whole world and us. Suggested conclusion reading would be Rev. 20-22.

So it will be that God will righteously judge mankind and his ways and give him his due punishment. Without God’s intervention and chastisement, mankind would totally destroy himself and the planet earth.

According to His mercies and purpose God through Jesus Christ stops man’s attempt and his folly to rule himself. He will kindly restore His chosen people and then all other nations of the world. He will heal the earth to a place beyond the beauty and productivity that was previously experienced. God will withhold nothing. It will be clear to all peoples of every nation that His instruction of the law, His Holy Spirit, His chosen and anointed Son, Jesus Christ, is sufficient for every good thing men need and desire.

A Prophetic Vision Attributed to George Washington

Note: The following was originally published by Wesley Bradshaw in the National Review, Vol. 4, No. 12, December 1880 (and handed down to me by my grandmother).

The last time I ever saw Anthony Sherman was on July 4, 1859, in Independence Square. He was then 99 years old, and becoming very feeble. But though so old, his dimming eyes rekindled as he gazed upon Independence Hall, which he came to visit once more.

“Let us go into the hall,” he said. “I want to tell you an incident of Washington’s life – one which no one alive knows except myself; and, if you live, you will before long see it verified.

“From the opening of the Revolution we experienced all phases of fortune, now good and now ill; one time victorious and another conquered. The darkest period we had, I think, was when Washington, after several reverses, retreated to Valley Forge, where he resolved to spend the winter of 1777. Ah! I have often seen our dear commander’s care-worn cheeks, as he would be conversing with a confidential officer about the condition of his poor soldiers. You have doubtless heard the story of Washington’s going to the thicket to pray. Well, it was not only true, but he used often to pray in secret for aid and comfort from God, the interposition of whose Divine Providence brought us safely through the darkest days of tribulation.

“One day, I remember well, the chilly winds whistled through the leafless trees, though the sky was cloudless and the sun shone brightly, he remained in his quarters nearly all the afternoon alone. When he came out, I noticed that his face was a shade paler than usual, and there seemed to be something on his mind of more than ordinary importance. Returning just after dusk, he dispatched an orderly to the quarters of the officer I mention who was presently in attendance. After a preliminary conversation of about half an hour, Washington, gazing upon his companion with that strange look of dignity, which he alone could command, said to the latter:

“ ‘I do not know whether it is owing to anxiety of my mind, or what, but this afternoon, as I was sitting at this table engaged in preparing a dispatch, something seemed to disturb me. Looking up, I beheld standing opposite me a singularly beautiful female. So astonished was I, for I had given strict orders not to be disturbed, that it was some moments before I found language to inquire the cause of her presence. A second, a third, and even a fourth time did I repeat my question, but received no answer from my mysterious visitor except a slight raising of her eyes.

“ ‘Presently I heard a voice saying, “Son of the Republic, look and learn,” while at the same time my visitor extended her arm eastwardly. I now beheld a heavy white vapor at some distance rising fold upon fold. This gradually dissipated, and I looked upon a strange scene. Before me lay spread out in one vast plain all the countries of the world—Europe, Asia, Africa, and America. I saw rolling and tossing between Europe and America, the billows of the Atlantic, and between Asia and America lay the Pacific.

“ ‘ “Son of the Republic,” said the same mysterious voice as before, “look and learn.” At that moment I beheld a dark, shadowy being, like an angel, standing, or rather floating, in the hollow air, between Europe and America. Dipping water out of the ocean in the hollow of each hand, he sprinkled some upon America with his right hand while with his left hand he cast some on Europe. Immediately a cloud raised from these countries and joined in mid-ocean. For a while it remained stationary, and then moved slowly westward, until it enveloped America in its murky folds. Sharp flashes of lightning gleamed through it at intervals, and I heard the smothered groans and cries of the American people.

“ ‘A second time the angel dipped water from the ocean, and sprinkled it out as before. The dark cloud was then drawn back to the ocean, in whose heaving bellows it sank from view. A third time I heard the mysterious voice saying, “Son of the Republic, look and learn.” I cast my eyes upon America and beheld villages and towns and cities springing up one after another until the whole land, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, was dotted with them. Again I heard the mysterious voice say, “Son of the Republic, the end of the century cometh, look and learn.”

“ ‘At this the dark shadowy angel turned his face southward, and from Africa I saw an ill-omened spectre approach our land. It flitted slowly over every town and city of the latter. The inhabitants presently set themselves in battle array against each other. As I continued looking, I saw a bright angel, on whose brow rested a crown of light, on which was traced the word “Union,” bearing the American flag which he placed between the divided nation, and said, “Remember ye are brethren.” Instantly, the inhabitants casting from them their weapons became friends once more, and united around the National Standard.

“ ‘And again I heard the mysterious voice saying, “Son of the Republic, look and learn.” At this, the dark, shadowy angel placed a trumpet to his mouth and blew three distinct blasts; and taking water from the ocean, he sprinkled it upon Europe, Asia, and Africa. Then my eyes behold a fearful scene. From each of these countries arose thick, black clouds that were soon joined into one. And throughout this mass, there gleamed a dark red light by which I saw hordes of armed men, who, moving with the cloud, marched by land and sailed by sea to America, which country was enveloped in the volume of cloud. And I dimly saw these vast armies devastate the whole country, and burn the villages, towns, and cities that I beheld springing up.

“ ‘As my ears listened to the thundering of the cannon, clashing of the swords, and the shouts and cries of millions in mortal combat, I again heard the mysterious voice saying, “Son of the Republic, look and learn.” When the voice had ceased, the dark shadowy angel placed his trumpet once more to his mouth, and blew a long and fearful blast.

“ ‘Instantly a light as of a thousand suns shone down from above me, and pierced and broke into fragments the dark cloud which enveloped America. At the same moment the angel upon whose head still shone the word “Union,” and who bore our national flag in one hand and a sword in the other, descended from the heavens attended by legions of white spirits. These immediately joined the inhabitants of America, who I perceived were well-nigh overcome, but who immediately taking courage again closed up their broken

ranks and renewed the battle. Again, amid the fearful noise of conflict, I heard the mysterious voice saying, "Son of the Republic, look and learn."

"As the voice ceased, the shadowy angel for the last time dipped water from the ocean and sprinkled it upon America. Instantly the dark cloud rolled back, together with the armies it had brought, leaving the inhabitants of the land victorious.

"Then once more I beheld the villages, town and cities, springing up where I had seen them before, while the bright angel, planting the azure standard he had brought in the midst of them, cried with a loud voice: "While the stars remain, and the heavens send down dew upon the earth, so long shall the Union last." And taking from his brow the crown on which was blazoned the word "Union," he placed it upon the Standard, while the people, kneeling down, said "Amen."

"The scene instantly began to fade and dissolve, and I at last saw nothing but the rising, curling vapor I at first beheld. This also disappearing, I found myself once more gazing upon the mysterious visitor, who in the same voice I had heard before, said, "Son of the Republic, what you have seen is thus interpreted. Three great perils will come upon the Republic. The most fearful is the third."

"(The comment on his word "third" is: The help against the THIRD peril comes in the shape of Divine assistance; passing which, the whole world united shall not prevail against her. Let every child of the Republic learn to live for his God, his land and Union.)"

"With these words the vision vanished, and I started from my seat and felt that I had seen a vision wherein had been shown me the birth, progress, and destiny of the UNITED STATES."

"Such, my friends," concluded the venerable narrator, "were the words I heard from Washington's own lips, and America will do well to profit by them."