

Interpreting the Chronology of the End-Times

What follows here is written primarily for Christian believers who take seriously the inerrant Word of God, and who see the Book of Revelation as a portion of that Word, which foretells what will surely happen during the latter part of the end times. A key portion of this end-time period is often referred to as the 70th week of Daniel. Scripture tells us that it will occur after the Rapture, that is after the church, the Body of Christ, is safely in heaven. Since creation, the Holy Spirit has been functioning as the Restrainer, that is He has restrained Satan, limiting him to do but a small portion of the evil he can do, and would have been doing if he were allowed. With the Church gone, the Holy Spirit will be removed as Satan's restrainer, (2Thessalonians 2:7) nevertheless Satan will yet be somewhat restrained. He will not have total freedom because God will be able to continue to limit that freedom. Within those limits, Satan, will be allowed to assert his evil power over the entire world to the point where all of humanity will be on the verge of annihilation. Before this can happen however, God will end Satan's campaign, and his freedom and banish him to the bottomless pit for a thousand years.

This study will, for the most part, seek to better understand the events that will happen between the Rapture and the beginning of the millennium, along with the order in which they will happen. Its primary focus will be on certain aspects of Matthew chapters 24 and 25 and of the three sets of judgments predicted in Chapters 6 through 16 of the Book of Revelation. These are recorded as the Seal Judgments, the Trumpet Judgments, and the Vial Judgments. This is not intended to be an in-depth or complete study of these chapters. The purpose of this study, at least for the moment, is four-fold. First, it is to verify, my premise regarding God's permitted will as compared with His directed will in the dispensing of these judgments. Second, it is to better understand the chronology and timing of events that will occur from the time of the Rapture, to the beginning of the Millennium. Third, is to attempt to determine who and how many will enter the millennium. And fourth, is to share insights where and as God leads me regarding some of the more difficult to understand end-times related verses, as well as any other

scriptural information that I am led to that may have deeper or broader meaning than seem evident.

This third purpose was not included in the initial prompting that motivated this study. However, as I delved more deeply into God's Word, several very precious insights, both directly relevant and peripheral to the subject, came to the surface. Sharing these in this study is a wonderful "bonus blessing" for me. These have made this project exceedingly rewarding beyond anything that I had imagined when I started.

Having said all of this, I must also add that it contains a number of insights and opinions that are radically different from what are generally understood and accepted. As a comparatively novice and an amateur theologian, I feel very uncomfortable presenting what in effect are interpretations considerably at variance to what many truly eminent and respected expositors have written. The Holy Bible is the only wholly infallible document ever written, because God is the Author, and every Word it contains was put there through His detailed instruction. However, I don't believe that any biblical writings, no matter how greatly the author's words appear to have been spiritually inspired, can always be entirely leaven-free. The fallen nature of even the most righteous among us, will, at least from time to time, cause some amount of leaven to infiltrate whatever we think, feel, write, or do. I have spent many hundreds of hours in prayer, study and musing as I have written what follows. I pray that nearly all, if not all of what I have written has been Spirit-led.

With all of this having been said, I'm equally certain that I have no greater immunity than anyone else from having unknowingly added some of my own leaven. As you read what follows, I pray that you will neither fully accept nor reject my assertions until you have carefully acquainted yourself with what the whole Word of God says about these things, and then use that as the basis for your determining the validity of what I have written. I am acutely aware that those who guide others in their pursuit of biblical truths, whether they be professional pastors, expositors, teachers, or amateurs Bible students like myself, God holds them all to a higher standard of accountability. If their influence on others is

detrimental to an understanding of scriptural truths, then God's judgment rendered on them will be justifiably greater. With this always in mind, I prayerfully offer what follows.

First of all, what I believe may be possible to conclude regarding the trio of 7-fold judgments is that the first one describes the activities that Satan, not Antichrist, will orchestrate through his angels and demons. These are the principalities and powers, which have in the past, and yet do, govern all nations. It is my tentative contention that the Seal Judgments will occur between the Rapture and the beginning of the seventieth week of Daniel. Here we go, right out of the starting gate, with a chronological presumption that is contrary to anything you are likely to find anywhere else. I am claiming this based on biblical verses that illustrate Jesus's description of the end times, and what Revelation 6 has to say regarding the Seal Judgements. Be assured however, that this is only one of the evidences that support this contention. For a complete discussion of why I have made this assertion, see ***Footnote#1 The Chronological Location of the Seal Judgments can be found on page #109*, I suggest that this be read before proceeding any further. Please note, that while I do at this time believe in all that I have written here, I am surely not dogmatic, or beyond correction regarding any of the seemingly wilder presumptions I've made. This is because I know there is only one place where one can, and must be dogmatic, and that is in proclaiming the inerrancy of God's Word. I pray and believe that while my efforts, are spirit-led, it may be that in moments of backsliding they may have become tainted with my fallen nature. This could cause me to produce blemished fruit, and not the unblemished results that one filled with the Holy Spirit can produce.

The second set of judgments, the Trumpet Judgments will be applied by Antichrist, a man who will be Satan's son and will be totally under Satan's control. Ultimately he will be given all of Satan's powers, so that he can continue implementing Satan's agenda for 7 years. It is in the second half of these years when he will declare himself god, and will initiate the Trumpet Judgements. Prior to that, he will be simply an extraordinary man who may not even know that he is Satan's chosen. He will be given seemingly great

beneficial powers which he will apply to arrange the great recovery from the Satan orchestrated Seal Judgements. It is because of this that the “democratic” world will “vote” for him to control the entire world. As Noted he will not disclose, if he even knows of Satan’s full agenda until the second end of the first half of the 7 years. Then he will cause blasphemy, death and destruction. These will manifest in the Trumpet Judgements. These first two sets of judgments are each to be by God’s permitted will. I am suggesting that the Trumpet Judgments will begin at the end of the first 3 ½ years of the seventieth week of Daniel, and will continue almost to the end of the Great Tribulation period. The last of the 3 great judgements, the Vial Judgments, will be God’s response by His directed will, whereby He ends Antichrist’s carnage.

If Antichrist were to be allowed to continue, he would kill all humanity. These Vial Judgements will bring an end to the man whom we call Antichrist. That God officiates over His creation in this dual manner is well recognized by those of the faith. However, it is sometimes difficult in some instances, to recognize and appreciate which manner of God’s will is occurring. The difficulty is often the result of not being able to accurately relate cause and effect. I believe that this is one of those instances where it can be definitively determined. Groping with the chronology and timing of events is one of the more difficult aspects of any study of this Book. I pray that what I present here regarding the matter will be helpful to those who seek such understanding.

The main topic of this study begins in Revelation Chapter 5, that is after the church age has ended, and the Rapture has taken the church home to heaven. John was not raptured, but was only called to heaven “in the spirit,” to witness and to later write about what would be revealed to him regarding the end times. His body did not die but was perhaps put in “suspended animation.” The first thing he sees is God on His throne holding a seven sealed scroll. We soon learn that it cannot be opened by anyone but the Lamb of God, Christ Jesus.

A scroll, was typically a roll of paper-like material made of animal skin or papyrus on which there was writing. To begin unrolling this scroll, a single seal had to be broken,

and the scroll then unrolled to where a second seal prevented further unrolling. The portion of the scroll that breaking of the first seal revealed, contained a description of what is called the first “seal” judgment. Then, another seal had to be broken in order to reveal a second message, which told about the second judgment. This was repeated until the seventh and last seal was broken. This seal revealed a second seven-fold judgment called the Trumpet Judgments, after which was revealed the third set of seven judgments called the vial judgments. This ended the information contained on the scroll, at least all that God gave him to see and to reveal. All other information found in Revelation was given to John by God, either directly, or through His angels. John was privileged to have revealed to him much of what would happen after that, to the very end of the earth, and beyond into eternity.

When we read that John “sees the Father God on His throne, we might wonder how John could see God who is pure spirit. Also, in remembering elsewhere in Exodus 33:20, God said “...for there shall no man see me and live.” We must wonder about these things. I believe that what here follows may be the explanation. John was in the spirit. Spirit can affectually “see” and communicate with other spirits. However, there is no such communication between living man and spirits. When Moses spoke “face to face” with God, he was speaking to the “Son personage of the Triune Godhead where he appeared as a Theophany. John saw the Father sitting on His throne and saw that His right hand gave the scroll to the Lamb, Jesus. “Seeing” God on His throne wasn’t unique. Isaiah saw what appears to be the flesh and bones Father God on His throne. He also identified and described the Seraphim that he saw above the throne. In Ezekiel Chapter 10 Ezekiel we find that he saw and described the cherubim. From this we can conclude that in heaven the Father God can and does manifest in ways He has chosen not to in the earthly realm. The fact that all who might see Him must die is evidence that He does not so operate on earth. As we think about it why should we ever doubt that the Father could manifest as flesh and bones. If He didn’t have the ability, He would be someone less than the Son! What a ridiculous idea. All powers and all dimensionalities are inherent in the whole of the Godhead.

Before we move on to the Trumpet Judgments, we should seriously study Matthew 24, especially verses 1-43. In verse 3 the Disciples asked Jesus what would be the signs of the end, and when would the end be. It is here where Jesus is recorded as having described several major aspects of the end times. For example, as discussed in “Footnote #1 on page 109,” if we compare Matthew 24 with the six seal judgments, we find an exceedingly close parallel. From this we can conclude that Jesus was describing to his disciples exactly what would later, in heaven, be revealed in greater detail to John. Also, a good understanding of Chapters 2, 7, 8, 9, 11, and 12 of the Book of Daniel is essential, if one is to be able to “decipher,” and understand what the Book of Revelation is revealing about the end times. Most of the other Old Testament prophets also provided valuable insights to this period of future history. We will refer to Daniel and other prophets only briefly in this study. However, anyone seeking a more complete understanding of what Revelation reveals should not neglect developing a knowledge of what has been given us in these chapters of Daniel, and in the other prophetic books which will be referenced at the appropriate times. For a verse by verse study of Daniel you might want to read my Christian Musings commentary on the Book of Daniel.

Did Jesus also answer the disciple’s questions regarding when these things would be? I believe the answer is both a tantalizing “yes”, and also a simple “no”. The no answer is based on the fact that no one but God knows the time or date when the Rapture will occur. This is the event, which removes the entire Church from earth, and is a prerequisite to the major events associated with the subject judgments. Therefore we cannot know when, in real time, the judgments will begin. However, regarding the “yes” answer, there are strong clues in Scripture that I believe “bracket” the time interval within which all of these events will occur. All these things being what happens after Rapture to the end of the Great Tribulation. I believe they reveal the date that will begin the count down to the end. Let’s first mention just a few of the fulfilled prophesies, which are end-times prerequisites to the seventieth week of Daniel and the judgments. As we will later discuss at length, there seems to be but one pre-requisite that triggers the Rapture, and that can occur at any moment that God wills it to be. However, those things that follow the Rapture are also bound in time in such a way that they will soon discuss. Scripture

seems to indicate that all of these events from the Rapture to the millennium are bound together in a reasonably well defined period of time and chronological sequence.

Scripture tells us that there are a number of pre-requisites to those end time events. Therefore they must also be pre-requisites to the Rapture as well. How dare I suggest that there is any pre-requisite to the Rapture! We all know that it could have happened at any moment during the past 1900+ years since Paul revealed its coming! I can only report to you what Scripture says. It does not negate its eminency, but it does speak of pre-requisites to its happening. Bear with me; we'll get into this quite deeply later in the study. In the meantime, let us look at the end-time events that various prophets tell us must happen before the seventieth week of Daniel and the Great Tribulation. Some of those of what we should be aware are the following:

1. The Jews would be in the land. (Ezekiel 37:9) This officially happened when the State of Israel came into existence on May 14th, 1948. (Isaiah 66:8) A nation shall be born in a day and secular history.
2. Initially, it would be a secular state, and it is. (Matthew 24:32-34 the parable of the fig tree) Also prior to the official announcement at 4PM on May 14, 1948, the Jewish National Council, in formulating the decree resolved not to even mention God in any manner instead crediting the UN for causing this most momentous event.
3. The original Hebrew language long dead, as is Latin, would become the spoken national language. Zephaniah 3:9 it is the principal language of Israel. This is the first time in recorded history that a dead language, that is one that was no longer spoken as a national language was resurrected to again be a nationally spoken language.
4. That portion of the Promised Land to which they returned would again become rich and fruitful. Much of what they came to occupy was very sparsely settled

swamp and desert, which through God's grace, they were able to turn into the most productive land in the whole region, so rich that tiny Israel today is a major exporter of fruits and other agricultural products. Because of the then uselessness of the land, these were but a paltry few nomads traversing the land. Today's so-called "Palestinians" were deliberately imported from several tribes after the Israelites had made the land fertile and productive. Their claim to ownership is that they were there first. That's not true, and all who have real Scripture knowledge know that God gave this as the Promised Land to Abram and it was occupied by Jews to one degree or another for centuries. This was all planned to provide an excuse to create a counter claim to the land. The anti-Jewish Medea has promoted this claim and convinced the world that their claim is legitimate. They have no legitimate historical claim to the lands which God gave the Jews through His covenant with Abram.

5. As we look around us we see the fulfillment of another end-time prophecy, that is the drive for a one-world government. At the same time, we see the ecumenical heresy reaching its fulfillment as Rome seeks to transform and absorb all forms of religion into a single unified world religion or confederation of religions. We also see Christians being persecuted in most parts of the world, even places like America and Europe where for centuries they were accepted without bias. These are all expressions of end times prophecies being fulfilled.
6. Even in this "euphemistically" called a "Christian Nation" of ours, real Christians, those of true faith and worship, have become a small scattered discriminated against remnant, compared to what existed early in the last century and before. Many of today's "Christian" churches have become more like Satan operated entertainment centers, than places where Jesus is truly worshipped. Jesus and the epistle writers of the New Testament, as well as the Old Testament prophets, predicted that this too would be an indication of the last days before the "day of the Lord" would come. The "day of the Lord" is the much used designation given to a period of time when God's patience would run out and His long awaited

judgment would finally come. The specifics of His end-times judgments are what the Book of Revelation has revealed.

Before we proceed to elaborate of the “yes: answer, let’s first deal with the very similarly structured Luke prophecy.

** (below is from page 11, 12)

Luke 21:29-32 is as follows:

29“And He spake to them a parable; Behold the fig tree, and all the trees; 30 when they now shoot forth, ye see and know of your own selves that summer is now nigh at hand. 31 So likewise ye, when ye see these things come to pass, know ye that the kingdom of God is nigh at hand. 32 Verily I say unto you, This generation shall not pass away, till all be fulfilled. ”

Notice here when He spoke of this generation it is evident that all, who actually heard Him were a part of the then this generation that did see the fulfillment of His prediction of the destruction of the Temple, which occurred in 70AD. Jesus used the fig tree parable to predict the timing of this in-their-generation event. Therefore it is very clear, at least to me that He used this fig tree parable to predict this near-time event which they saw happen, to give credence to His later prediction of the generational timing of the end time’s event. I believe that Jesus used that same parable for that very reason.

One of the tests of the prophets making reliable predictions of future events, was to have seen one fulfilled. This established the prophet’s credibility to accurately predict future events. He first used the parable in Luke to predict that His contemporary generation would see the temple destruction. The “bracket of time” within which this prophecy would occur was within His audience’s lifetime. Again, this fulfillment of prophecy verified and also established his credentials as a reliable prophet, the validity of the fig tree parable as a valid means of predicting the timing of a future particular event, which in the case of the prediction found in Matthew was a far distant end-times event. Notice also, and this is important, Jesus never mentioned the date, or even the year of the 70 AD events. He only bracketed the time in which it would occur as within the apostle’s

lifetime. He did the same for the end time's event, that is He bracketed the time of its occurrence as within in the lifetime of those who saw the long dormant fig tree come to life. That was when Israel became a nation.

Now back to the evidence that supports the “yes” answer to when these things will happen. I believe that there is Scriptural evidence which points to a bracket of time within which all of this will occur. I believe that this message is found in Matthew 24, verse 32-34 which reads as follows: ³²“*Now learn a parable of the fig tree; When his branch is yet tender, and putteth forth leaves, ye know that summer is nigh: ³³so likewise ye, when ye shall see all these things, know that it is near, even at the doors. ³⁴Verily I say unto you, This generation shall not pass, till all these things be fulfilled.*”

Jesus is telling us something in these verses that is important, or He wouldn't have included them. When His Words begin with “Verily”, it is extremely important!! These words were spoken immediately after He described the whole end times period from its beginning to the end of the Great Tribulation. That answered their question regarding the nature and signs of the end time. Did He ignore their question as to when? I don't think so. Note that it was after these time predictive verses that He asserted that no one can know the “day or the hour” when those things will begin. That doesn't mean that He shrugged off the question as many conclude. It is in verses 32-34 where I believe He gave us the answer from which we can derive a limited set of years within which all of this will occur. Then He continued the answer by telling us how unexpectedly it, the Rapture, will come.

It is interesting to note that this parable is also found in Mark and in Luke, and I believe it was given them before He used it as recorded in Matthew. In Mark it is relating to the same time, and same generation as referred to in Matthew. However, in Luke 21 it applies to a different time and a different generation, and also to a different set of events. The Luke version isn't an end time's prophecy. In Scripture, the fig tree typically is symbolic of Israel. When the branches are tender and put forth leaves, suggests that the growing season has just begun, which in Israel, is in the late spring, which is “nigh” unto

summer. A few commentators see this as an indication of the current state of Israel. It is nigh into summer, that is in May, when it again began forming as a nation. Just as the fig tree will lay dormant for a season before it again shows signs of life as represented by the leaves, so Israel has lain dormant after its second century dispersion by Roman Emperor Hadrian.

It now has come out of that dormancy and is again a live nation. I believe that we can rightly say that this is when it began its new “growing season,” as does the fig tree. Notice, at that time, the tree would only contain leaves, absent of any fruit. That’s how we know that the fig tree is at the beginning of its new growing season. That is also how Israel has again begun, and is yet today, like a fig tree expressing life, but it does not yet bear “fruit.” Again, Israel has sprung anew, but is yet a nation of secular people, that is it only has leaves, which indicates that it is alive, but not yet fruitful in the spiritual sense. The next verse, still part of the same sentence, tells us that when this condition is seen, all of what Jesus had just described, which deals with the end of end-times, known as the “day of the Lord,” will be very close at hand, so close that it will even be at your door. Most certainly, in my opinion, this is how Jesus began to answer the question of when. Then comes that controversial verse regarding “this generation,” which is a key part of the answer as to when.

The big question is, what does “this generation” mean? It makes no sense to see this as referring to those who heard Jesus speak. If it did, then Jesus spoke in error, because those things didn’t happen in their lifetime. Obviously, that could not be the case. The generation of which He spoke is clearly the generation that will live to see the “green leaves.” I believe it means the generation living right now, today, that was alive and saw Israel come back into the land, which, as previously noted, was May 14, 1948. So how long is a generation? In the context here applied, it could be the life span of the oldest person to die who was born prior to that date. We don’t know what that life span will be. However, for the sake of creating a reasonable “bracket” of time within which all these end times things “could” happen, that is from the Rapture all the way to the end of the tribulation, let’s call that generation 100 years in length. Then that generation will end in

2048, or thirty four years from now which is in the year 2015. The term “this generation” needn’t be related to any one persons’ life span. God has used several specifics of years as a generation. I won’t cite chapter and verse, because all biblical Christians know them. Twenty years was set as a generation as Israel wandered for 40 years in the wilderness. Seventy years is all decreed by God to be a normal lifespan. Elsewhere, 40 years is described as a generation. In this case, God may have set some other number as a generation. However, it’s unlikely that here He is speaking of hundreds of years.

If it turns out that the life span is, say 120 years, then this bracket of time will be 54 years. This is the time frame within which the entire end times events, including, the Rapture and the Great Tribulation must occur, if this interpretation is correct. Is this absurd? I find it to be very compelling as is Jesus answer to the earlier to “when” question. Again, I believe that this is a most plausible explanation of what Jesus was telling us, and from which we can at least determine an actual bracket of years within which it will all happen.

The common knee-jerk reaction to any attempt to predict when the Rapture, and all that ensues will happen, is to scoff, because of what Jesus said in Matthew 24:36, regarding not knowing the day and hour when the Rapture will occur. Also, it is natural to disregard any prediction of the event, because of how many times throughout the centuries men have made specific predictions that were wrong. Examinations of these predictions indicate that there was no real basis for them in Scripture. Every date ever set for the event, as far as I know had little more than conjecture as its basis or various serious deficiencies in their understanding Scripture. Please note, that what is offered here does not claim anything contrary to what Jesus said. All I have done is to take seriously Jesus’ words as recorded in Matthew 24:32-34 and offered a literal interpretation to them which then leads not to a date, but to a “bracket” of real time wherein He predicted these things will happen.

As noted, if it can be shown that these verses do not mean what has here been interpreted, then whoever is doing the “showing” should be obliged to say what it is that they do

mean. Jesus didn't say this just to make small talk. There has to be some valid and defensible meaning regarding what He meant in these verses. If a different, yet more scripturally solid meaning is found, I would gladly abandon any claim of the efficacy of the above interpretation. However, unless, there is such an interpretation, I believe that the above is highly compelling as to the meaning of these verses. Note that Jesus Himself said that even He didn't know the exact day or hour, but He did know, and described the circumstances that will have to exist in order for it to happen.

He revealed to us in this beautifully subtle manner, the conditions that would then prevail, and the bracket of time within which these things would happen. The more I muse over this the more I'm convinced that this is in fact a valid interpretation of Jesus' answer to the disciples. We should note that this is very consistent with how He conveyed so many other truths through His parables. Again, whenever I have presented this interpretation, the standard reaction is to reject it without further thought mainly because Jesus next said that no one knows the day. They then point out how many notables have predicted the day which then passed by and nothing happened. For those who doubt, I pray that they will look again. I cannot nor do I desire to predict a day. Scripture tells me I can't. My contribution is simply to report on a "bracket of time" which Jesus Himself established as He answered the Apostles questions. It's not my prediction. It merely expresses what I believe Jesus meant, and clearly stated.

We should also note that unlike the case cited in Luke 21, this answer did not provide the Apostles with any bracket of time that they could understand, because when "this generation" would occur, could not be known to them. This is a type of message which makes no sense to those that heard it at the time of its delivery. However, such messages are found scattered throughout Scripture. Consider the Psalms 2 and 22, Isaiah 69 and Isaiah 53, as clear examples of this. The writers and their contemporaries could not understand what they wrote, because it was only given them to record, and for later generations to understand.

Scripture is timeless, just as is He who authored it. However, some portions could not be understood until these later times. It is only in the current times that the fig tree parable can be seen with a plausible “bracket of time” attached to it, and can therefore be affectually interpreted. Likewise, only in these end times can the Book of Revelation begin to be understood in all its glory and truth. All of this is further evidence of how God has provided His Word to have relevance to all peoples of all generations in their due times. To those of us who are aware of what is now going on around us, as it relates to the end-time prophecies, this bracket of time that I have suggested may even seem too long. As we see the pre-requisites to that Rapture moment manifesting at an ever accelerating rate, it may seem hard to believe that the far end of this bracket of time isn’t quite close. It certainly could be because the Lord Himself predicted the bracket of time, and we are now within it. The only portion of His answer that we cannot know with certainty is what man’s life span will be during this generation. One born in May 1948 is now about 63 years old. How long will such a person live? If lifespans lengthen as most predict, it could be a long time. However, with the plagues, famine and other life shortening factors, that are near at hand, life spans may shorten considerably. Furthermore, the “end” is not necessarily at the end of the life of its longest living person. It can happen at any point within that time bracket. We shouldn’t assume that because Jesus spoke of this generation that it means at the end of that generation. It can happen at any time since May 17, 1948. I have only blocked the period of time when it must happen in accordance with Jesus fig tree parable.

For almost 2,000 years, Scripture has told redeemed man to be ready for this moment. Ready means, to have lived every day of our Christian lives as if we expected His arrival at any moment, so that we would not be ashamed to have Him find us as we are. Nothing has changed in that respect, except that today is closer than was yesterday to the moment when He will come. Realize please, when it comes to being ready, whether it is the Rapture that will bring him for us, or whether its death which will bring us to Him at any moment, the need for continual readiness is the same. Whether we are personally taken home by Jesus at the Rapture, or whether we are escorted to heaven by angels at an earlier date after physical death, we will all stand before the Bema Seat where Jesus will

judge our readiness and what service to Him our lives have achieved. With having said all of this, and probably confused or riled someone, let us now examine the three sets of judgments, and a few other observations, where I am sure that my interpretations are likely to do the same, or even more so.

Before we discuss the three sets of judgments, please note that as I have already claimed I believe the seal judgments have already begin in synominity with what Matthew 24 tells us. I am suggesting that they are not part of the Tribulation period, or even within the seventieth week of Daniel. I see them as already begun quite slowly at first but gaining momentum every day. The Trumpet and vial judgments both occur during the second half of the 70th week of Daniel.

A. The Seven Seals (Revelation, Chapter 6)

Verses 1 and 2

1 “And I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seals, and I heard, as it were the noise of thunder, one of the four beasts saying, Come and see. 2 And I saw, and behold a white horse: and he that sat on him had a bow; and a crown was given unto him: and he went forth conquering, and to conquer.”

The opening of the first seal revealed a white horse with someone riding it who has a “victors” crown on his head, and a bow in his hand, apparently having the power to conquer. Notice this was “given Him.” I believe that this is the man, who will later become Antichrist. A victor crown is what was used to honor victories such as in the Olympic Games. It was called a stephanos. The crown that Jesus will wear when He becomes King is a royal crown called a diadema. We see this is Revelation 19:10.

Antichrist, by God’s permitted will, is setting out to establish his dominance, that is his “victory” over the whole earth. This is something that he cannot accomplish overnight. If the bracket of time indicated above is valid, then it is likely that this man on the white horse is already living perhaps yet a boy or a young man. All that follows that is revealed by the breaking of the first six seals is what I believe God will permit Satan to orchestrate. Notice the rider is carrying a bow.

I don’t believe this is a serious weapon, even though he has set out to conquer, and eventually will do so. I suspect that the bow is symbolic of his destructive and murderous program. He will conquer mostly by diplomacy and persuasion, and not, at least at first, by his own use of war weapons. I propose that what goes on that is revealed at the opening of the six seals, is not Antichrist’s handiwork. However, this bow is symbolic of the counterfeit peace covenant that he will later ratify with Israel. In that sense, it will mimic the symbol of God’s covenant by which He promised not to again flood the earth. God sealed the covenant with a “token” which was a “bow.” (Genesis 9:13) As we read Genesis, we realize that it was the rainbow! I see here the “bow” as a mimicking symbol of the covenant Antichrist will make with Israel.

Notice that this is not an actual judgment in the sense that something awful is visibly happening on earth. John sees what we conclude to be the man, whom we have chosen to call Antichrist, who visibly will fulfill that role only during the last 3 ½ years of the 7th week of Daniel. There is no evidence that he is necessarily associated with the Seal Judgments. I believe that in his coming, in the sequence indicated, is simply indicative of the fact that he is on earth before the listed destructive judgments commence. However, there is no evidence that I see, that connects them to him or of his being responsible for them. As already noted, it is likely that the man who will become Antichrist will be born well before the advent of the Rapture. What John sees is not his birth. It is the man at some later point in his life, perhaps when he has grown into manhood and begins honing his skills so as to be ready for his calling, which will commence right after the fourth seal judgment. Even then he probably won't know that he will soon be the embodiment of Antichrist. I suspect that he will see himself as merely a very talented dedicated man, and that this is what will propel him to great power and authority. I believe Hitler, when through this same process under the influence of Satan.

Verses 3 and 4

*3 "And when he had opened the second seal, I heard the second beast say, Come and see.
4 And there went out another horse that was red: and power was given to him that sat thereon to take peace from the earth, and that they should kill one another: and there was given unto him a great sword."*

The second portion of the scroll protected by the second seal, reveal a red horse. Of course this, and the next two horses and riders are symbols of what is attributed to them. Because horses were the fastest means of transportation, I believe that their swiftness, and extent of activity that is symbolized by these horses. I suspect that what is called the rider of the red horse may be representative of demon possessed men in power and authority, who are heads of world governments that instigate the wars. Whether possessed or not, I believe that one way or another, they are controlled by Satan's "principalities and powers." who will provoke them into the wars and other disastrously

acts. I suspect that many of today's governmental leaders, including those in Washington, fall in this category. We all know that in just the first half of the 20th century, through the two world wars and numerous other atrocities, the number of people killed by governments mostly, by their own governments, was over one hundred million! What will happen during this end time will be just bigger and quicker. Whole cities destroyed almost instantly "within an hour" as was Nagasaki. I don't believe that the full extent of what these horsemen symbolize is yet happening. Surely the City of Babylon will not be destroyed until the time of Vial Judgements. However, it seems evident that the beginning of these "sorrows" is already plaguing the world.

The growth in greater destructive power since the mid-20th century is ample proof that these prophesied end time horrors are already capable of being committed as quickly and as completely as Scripture predicts. Satan's angels and demons have always been behind the "thrones" since ancient times (Daniel 1-:13, 20). This Seal Judgment, I suspect refers to numerous wars all over the world through which billions of people will be killed. No doubt that some will be wars of extermination of newly converted Christians and of Jews. Note that Scripture tells us that even after the Rapture, there will yet be vast numbers saved due to the testimony of the 144,000 (Revelation 7). We live in an age where such wars are already being waged on a much lesser scale. We know that the goal of those who control the present governments are, by Satan's prompting, the consolidation of all states into a one-world government. This has always been Satan's goal. He had attempted to do this many times over the ages through numerous of his selected agents starting with Nimrod, and more recently through Stalin, Mao, Hitler, etc.

We learn later in Revelation that at the time of the revealing of Antichrist, Satan will have arranged it so that the world under his rule will be administered by a confederation of 10 kings. Kings here is a catch all name rather than a title. President, Chancellor, Dictator, etc. will be the actual titles of these rulers. Realize that when Scripture speaks of these kings, they are not likely to be "kings" as we commonly define the word. They will probably be leaders of various forms of so called "democratic governments" with presidents and prime ministers, or will have some other labels as heads of state. The man

who will be Antichrist will have seduced or conquered all of them. The whole world will be under his yoke. By the way, the life of Hitler has many startling parallels to the life of what I believe the man elevated to Antichrist will be like. See the ***Epilogue for this comparison. (Page 70)*

Verses 5 and 6

*5 “And when he had opened the third seal, I heard the third beast say, Come and see. And I beheld, and lo a black horse; and he that sat on him had a pair of balances in his hand.
6 And I heard a voice in the midst of the four beasts say, A measure of wheat for a penny, and three measures of barley for a penny; and see thou hurt not the oil and the wine.”*

The breaking of the third seal reveals a black horse. This is symbolic of a great famine that will affect much of the world, and contribute to the death of a quarter of the world's population. Exempt however, will be some, those who are the “elite” that is the instigators, leaders and agents whom Satan has recruited for His purposes. These will do well. They will be responsible for the wars, and will be the ones who will profit from them. They will continue to enjoy the luxuries of life in their secured compounds is where they have made preparations to shield themselves from what they will inflict on the rest of humanity. We see today many of those powerful people creating many fortresses for themselves in remote regions such as Montana and neighboring states as well as in other suitable places in the world.

Famine is the natural result of war wherever wars are fought. The production and distribution of food and other necessities will be curtailed, causing inadequate supplies of food. However, the luxuries, as symbolized by the oil and wine, will be spared, because these, which are symbolic of the “the good life,” will be protected so as to keep the “elite” well supplied and comfortable. Isn't that the way it has always been? What is called the penny was a denarius, which was generally considered a working man's daily pay. This means that it will take a day's pay for those fortunate enough to have employment, to purchase what amounts to what is barely enough food for one person.

Thus there is no amount for a family or for other necessities. The message here is that of mass starvation.

Verses 7 and 8

7 “And when he had opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth beast say, Come and see. 8 And I looked, and behold a pale horse: and his name that sat on him was Death, and Hell followed with him. And power was given unto them over the fourth part of the earth, to kill with sword, and with hunger, and with death, and with the beasts of the earth.”

Breaking the fourth seal reveals the pale horse. This is symbolic of plagues, sickness and death. These are the inevitable results of war and famine. Notice the name of the horseman was “Death”. I believe that this establishes the fact that none of the horsemen are real, but each is only symbolic of the named judgment. Again, it may be that the horses in these judgments are used to symbolize how rapidly these judgments would spread. As already noted, for most of history, the horse was the fastest means of transportation. Notice as we read about the last of the four horsemen that “power was given unto them over the fourth part of the earth. Thus we learn that the horrors of death and destruction will be spread out over one fourth of the earth’s entire surface. It is the “them” the three horsemen collectively, that will cause this, keeping in mind as we read here that this power was given and was limited. Who has such power? Only God has this power. It is God’s permissive and limiting will at work here. God doesn’t instigate any of these attacks on humanity, He allows them, for his greater purposes, and places strict limits on them. This is clearly a large scale version of what happened to Job when God permitted Satan to test him through very limited and controlled afflictions. I believe that this verse, 8b, makes it clear that God’s directed will is not applied to cause what these first four seals reveal. Notice in passing that John was called each time to look to the earth by a different one of each of the living creatures previously described in Revelation Chapter 4 verses 6-9. I’ll offer a comment about this later.

Verses 9 through 11

9 “And when he had opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of them that were slain for the Word of God, and for the testimony which they held: 10 and they cried with a loud voice, saying, How long, O Lord, holy and true, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth? 11 And white robes were given unto every one of them; and it was said unto them, that they should rest yet a little season, until their fellow servants also and their brethren, that should be killed as they were, should be fulfilled.”

Removal of the fifth seal reveals what is then happening in heaven as a result of what John saw below. These wars which will affect one fourth of the earth will have produced a great many martyrs. These are the saints in heaven, whom John sees crowded under the altar like refugees who have not yet been given new heavenly homes. Remember, these are not the pre-rapture saints, because each and every one of those are the Body of Christ who have already been raptured and have access to their eternal flesh and bones bodies. These verses indicate that a major component of these wars will be of a religious nature. As the saints cry out to be avenged, I believe therefore that those are the ones who receive salvation because of the witnessing angels, and the 144,000, who will then be martyred. In this, John is not reporting in any chronological order, because the 144,000 have not yet been deployed. Apparently exterminations of post-Rapture believers will continue as it already does for believers in parts of the Muslim and Communist areas of the world. However, I suspect that it will be the apostate one world religion centered in Rome that will eventually be responsible for the death of a great many that will rather die than accept what Rome will at that time offer.

This will occur well before Antichrist reveals himself and demands to have his number taken as a badge of loyalty and submission. Members of the Roman church in medieval times, slaughtered millions who held to the true faith rather than accept the apostasy it demanded. Through the ecumenical melding of all of “Christendom” and of the other world religions, Rome will serve Satan in some ways on a much larger scale than it did even in medieval times. When the martyrs cry to be avenged, they will be given white

robes of glorification and told to be patient a while until the full measure of martyred souls be fulfilled.

We might wonder by what means will many others come to the faith after the Rapture, and before the 144,000 evangelists begin their work. I suspect that the Rapture will severely affect those who were not raptured, but had loved ones who were. In spite of Satan's deception and Rome's false spin of the facts, there will be some of these who will realize the truth and be drawn to faith. Later, those who are martyred for not taking the mark of the beast will add to the number of those souls waiting under the altar.

Question! How can a spirit who has no physical substance "wear" a white robe, or any other garment? I believe that this is a positional rather than a functional statement. We might say that the white robes are given them in order to comfort them, but they cannot be worn until later when they have their eternal bodies. By receiving the white robes, even positionally, will provide them with the assurance each wants that their martyrdom was not in vain.

Remember that John is prone to sometimes inadvertently gazing into the past as well as the present and the future, well beyond the specific events which are then passing before him. This could be one of those instances where he is seeing the altar as it will appear later when many more martyred souls will be added. Revelation 6:9 provides us with an interesting issue to dwell on for a moment. It says that John "...*saw under the altar the souls of them that were slain...*" How could John see these souls? They have no substance, not even an atom's worth. But what they do have is location, along with their pre-physical-death faculties of memory, feelings, speech, etc. Jesus' story of the rich man and Lazarus tells us much about the spirit world. The living cannot communicate with them, nor they with us. They live in a higher dimensionality than do the physical living.

The answer to how John could "see" is found in Revelation chapter 4 verse 2 where John says, "*And immediately I was in the Spirit: and, behold,...*" when we first read this verse

we tend to accept this and feel we understand its meaning. Most likely we are not wrong in our assessment of what it means. However, until I mused over Revelation 6:9 I didn't fully appreciate the subtleties of its meaning. John's presence in heaven was similar to that of these spirits. Therefore he could "see and hear" them as could God. His soul/spirit apparently was drawn out of his body in a manner similar to what happens when a person dies. However, John's body did not die. I suspect that it just lay there in John's cave home in the mountain on Patmos, supernaturally kept alive waiting for his soul/spirit to return. It is likely that the heavenly experiences of Isaiah and Ezekiel occurred in this same way.

Notice that the opening of the fifth seal does not reveal any catastrophic activity occurring on earth. This is not a judgment. It is merely describing a new structure that will develop in heaven after, or during the time that the last three "horsemen" will have perpetrated their crimes against the earth and its people. The 144, 000 are not mentioned until chapter 7, so it seems that they are not yet evangelizing or bearing "fruit." They will commence their ministry after this, at the beginning of the 70th week of Daniel. Their fruitfulness, will of course manifest largely as a steady stream of martyred souls who will add to those already under the altar. We might tend to think that this place "under the altar" must be terribly crowded as we realize that there will be millions or perhaps billions martyred. Again, however, we should remember that the soul/spirit has no mass. It only has information and locality. All of the souls/spirits that ever have, or ever will live could fit on the point of a pin, and yet there would be no substance of any kind existing on that pin. This is a strange phenomenon beyond our capacity to ever understand until we too, loose our bodies. After that peek at what new was happening in heaven, we read of what John would see after the sixth seal is broken, and the scroll opened further.

Verses 12 through 14

12 "And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood; 13 and the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casteth her

untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind. 14 And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places.”

What John saw was great earthquakes with dust and debris of such great intensity that it darkened the sky obscuring the sun and the moon. As part of the scene, he saw what looked like stars falling, the heaven parting like a scroll, and parts of the earth which seemed to move out of place. If we believe that this is what Satan’s human agents will be doing, then what John may be seeing, as falling stars, could be missiles with atomic warheads reentering the atmosphere. Their explosions would cause just what he saw when the fallout debris obscured the sky and the earth quaked so violently as to seem to move mountains. These explosions would also so rock the earth, that fault lines will be disturbed to such a degree as to cause even more severe earthquakes and volcanic activity.

As we look back at what the opening of these seals has revealed, we find that judgments 2, 3, 4, and 6 are the only ones that wreak havoc on the earth. The third and fourth, starvation and plagues, are the inevitable consequences of war. Then we see that the sixth and last judgment appears to be yet another war. I suspect that this may be a description of retaliation by the victim of the first strike, which may be represented by the second judgment. While we are given a sequence of events, we have no way of knowing how long each judgment will take, or what if any significant amount of time will lapse between them. Surely this retaliating strike, if that’s what it is, will also produce famine and pestilence in another portion of the one fourth of the world.

Verse 15-17 tells us that all of the “power broken that is the “movers and shakers” the “great men” in all arenas of power will be greatly moved and frightened. It is likely anarchy will reign for a while after the wars, and they will realize that they have carried their hates, their vengefulness and their lusts for even greater wealth and power against each other, much too far. They will see their “fortress” as inadequate to protect them. At this point, the whole world will realize more than ever before, that it needs a real dynamic

leader to restore order, and to prevent these things from continuing. What a more favorable moment could possibly occur, for the great “mister-fix-all- things” to come along.

Here will be the perfect Satan-orchestrated opportunity for the man who will be Antichrist to apply his Satan-given superior abilities to solve the worlds’ problems and bring stability and prosperity back to a suffering world. For the man who will become Antichrist, the moment will have arrived in the aftermath of the world-wide chaos and anarchy. He will surely do this, or will seem to have done it, as the world then enters into a short period of peace, or at least a semblance of peace. Other larger scale, but geographically limited confrontations may also be included in these judgments, in order to achieve the prediction that a quarter of the world’s population will be killed. Any one or more of the many countries that already have, or will have such weapons of mass destruction, could be involved. Again, the fears of the “kings” and others probably stem from the devastation that will far exceed that which they will have intended. That they will blame God proves nothing. God has always been blamed for everything inconsistent with man’s desires.

Even atheists are known to blame all that is bad in the God they don’t believe exists. There is nothing here suggestive of God’s directed will. So far, it is simply what God will permit to happen. I believe that during the above noted time this “great” man will appear to be humble, God fearing, faithful to Rome, and very religious. Here is something that fascinates me. I’ve learned that Vladimir Putin, Russia current Dictator attends religious services every Sunday. It’s probably in a Russian Orthodox Church. The last Russian leader to attend such a religious serves was Isar Nicholas II whom I understand was a true Christian believer. He was murdered in 1917 to make way for Communist governance. It seems unlikely that Putin is that “man of perdition”. However, Putin seems to have several “admirable” qualities that are inconsistent with those of the men who will become Antichrist. As I have observed the leaders of the major countries, it’s my opinion that Putin is the leader with strongest and well-developed leadership qualities. While at this time I doubt that Putin could be “the man”

there are a number of his characteristics that prevent me from totally dismissing him as a viable candidate. As far as Obama, I believe he is already too evil for this job. He might however, be a viable candidate for “John the Baptist’ position in Satan’s unholy menagerie.

Moving on, there is an interesting point here that we shouldn’t miss before we examine what is revealed when the seventh seal is broken. It is the four beasts, or living creatures, who are directing John to “come and see” what’s happening on earth after each of the first four seals are broken. These creatures are described in Revelation 4:6-8. They have their place of service around the throne of God. In Ezekiel 10 we find these creatures described more fully. There they are called the “cherubim”. In Isaiah 6:2-9 there is another somewhat different group of “living creatures” that also seem to be limited to “hovering” around the throne. These are called “seraphim” by Isaiah. On this basis, it may be safe to conclude that these particular living creatures who call John to “come and see” are most likely the cherubim. Satan was clearly identified as a cherub in Ezekiel 28:14.

However, nearly all commentators refer to all celestial beings, including, cherubim and seraphim, as simply angels, and so also consider Satan to be an angel. I believe that this is a wrong interpretation of Scripture. There seems to me, to be a considerable difference between these creatures and what we know about angels. If there wasn’t any difference why would the Author of Scripture deliberately describe their individual characteristics as well as names? Both of these seem to be few in number and are assigned essentially full-time duties in the throne room. I believe that they are both individual species of celestial beings, and that is why God revealed the “physical characteristics” of each to show us that they are not angels but in fact are a different, and special species of beings. On earth we have many species of animals such as dogs, cats, horses, etc. In heaven God has shown us that there are at least three species of celestial beings, angels, cherubim and seraphim. (See Christian Musings essay titled “Who are Angels”)

Apparently John then remains where he can see what Jesus reveals after He opens the fifth and sixth seals. What I visualize based on this, is that each of the four cherubs is allowed by God to leave the proximity of the throne where they are otherwise committed to serve. Each cherub in his turn is allowed to venture to a place where he can see the judgment activity, and then invites John to “come and see” with him. This “come and see” suggests to me that where John is, he cannot see the panorama of events, unless someone invites him to look “over the edge” of whatever the place to which he was called when he was taken in the spirit to heaven. I suspect it was the throne room which had an opaque floor where he could see nothing unless he was able to look from “outside the box”. I liken this to a box seat at a sporting event. I was once invited to one at a Red Sox game the “box” was high above, and back of home plate. When inside, one could not see what was going in the field except for a TV. Those in the box were provided with sumptuous delicacies such as caviar, shrimp cocktail, etc., along with a variety of beverages. If you wanted to see what was going on, you had to step outside of the enclosure to the balcony where the entire stadium could be seen with home plate being directly below. There, all the major activity was wonderfully close. This is how I visualize what God’s throne room might be. In that case, a cherub called to John, come out to the balcony, where he could see certain of the earthly activities past, present and future.

There seems to be no other discernable activity or involvement assigned to these cherubim after their standing guard at the pathway to the Garden of Eden. John apparently is allowed to continue seeing and hearing without any expressed invitation as the seventh seal is opened, and the trumpet judgments administered. It should be noted, as we will see later, that from here on to the end of both the trumpet and vial judgments, its only “regular” angels who perform the heavenly duties associated with the judgments. So what’s the significance of his mentioning the four cherubim? I can only guess right now, but I do know that it does have significance or it wouldn’t have been presented this way by God. What is taking place may have something to do with the fact that Satan is a cherub, just like the four who invite John to “come and see”. This tells us that they are his sinless “kinfolk”.

However, before he rebelled, he was the chief cherub. (Ezekiel 28:14) Therefore, it's evident that initially the four were subordinate to Satan, as were all of the angels and the Seraphim. They certainly will remember him for all of the turmoil he caused when he rebelled. Furthermore, he has continued over the centuries, to have access to the throne room where they serve God. Apparently he comes often for the purpose of "accusing the brethren" i.e. all the saved souls (Revelation 12:10). I suspect that the accusations are legitimate. He is reporting the sins of saved souls. All of our sins have been forgiven. I suspect in revealing this activity of Satan, is for us to be more aware of our daily sins so that we will confess them and seek forgiveness.

If Cherubim are able to possess memory and feelings, I suspect that Satan's daily presence must be continually disturbing to them. Perhaps these excursions out of the throne room, and others that we haven't been told about, were God's way of showing these Cherubim just how far down their chief had fallen because of his rebellious nature. Perhaps it is also to show them the reason that God will apply so severe a judgment on their former chief, that cherub called Satan! In as much as Satan, being the chief cherub, ruled over all other celestial beings, could it be that cherubim are a special "tribe" in which have some authority and control over the angels and seraphim?

Now back to the main theme. After the sixth seal is broken, and the judgment it contains is applied, there appears to be a time lapse ordered before the seventh seal is broken. In Chapter 7 we learn that one of the reasons for this period of peace may be for the 144,000 Jews to be sealed and commissioned, and to be spread out to evangelize across the whole earth. Please also consider the following quite carefully, because it is an important facet of what I pray was in fact a God-given insight. It is part of what originally prompted me to embark on this study. Let us continue on by reading Revelation 7:1-3 ¹ *"And after these things I saw four angels standing on the four corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth, that the wind should not blow on the earth, nor on the sea, nor on any tree. ² And I saw another angel ascending from the east, having the seal of the living God: and he cried with a loud voice to the four angels, to whom it was given to hurt the*

earth and the sea, 3 saying, Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads.”

Notice that John begins with “after these things”, that is after the earth will have suffered those horrible wars, famine and pestilence as revealed by the breaking of the 6th Seal. The first things he saw were the four angels whose duties seem to be to keep the earth’s air currents functioning properly. This function is expressed by God’s directive to use their power to prevent something, which seems to be to keep wind from blowing, that is to prevent any movement of the air. I don’t believe that this is to be taken in the context that we normally would apply to it. Of what benefit would a world-wide actual stillness of the air be to the world and to the life thereon? On the contrary, such an event would instead be extremely damaging, and an ecological disaster. Continuous air movement is essential for life to exist for many reasons too obvious to go into here. Much of air-breathing life would end in but a few hours, if air circulation were to cease.

I believe that the clue to the real meaning and purpose of verse one, can be found in Ephesians 2:2 which reads in part, “*according to the prince of the power of the air. Satan is the prince of the air!* Would you consider it too much of a stretch to conclude that the four angels are not actually directed to keep the earthly winds from moving, but instead they are to restrain the “prince of the air” for some period of time before allowing him to move forward with his destruction plans? I believe that this is what verse one is indicating. Notice that we are not told how long this delay of Satan’s program is to be. However, when his war against God and man again moves forward, it will no longer be by Satan’s direct doing. As noted I believe that he was given the power and authority to carry out the Seal Judgments that would destroy a quarter of the land and its people. From here on, it will be his spiritual son Antichrist, to whom he will give the authority to inflict the Trumpet judgments.

Next we read that God commanded “the four angels to whom it is given to hurt the earth and sea” not to do so, yet. For how long is not mentioned. These cannot be the same four angels of verse one, because these have specific authority to hurt, not to beneficially

control. I believe we only need to go to Revelation 9: 14 to discover that these are the four angels (obviously from among Satan's fallen angels) that will have been, for some reason, imprisoned in the Euphrates River. I suggest that it is he, "the prince of the air," and not the air itself that is to be restrained, because Satan will be about to give Antichrist the power to use those "Euphrates" angels, and the awesome destructive experiences and capabilities they possess. They will be released later by God's permitted will, and will participate in the sixth Trumpet Judgment, which we will discuss in its time.

However, in the meantime, in accordance with Revelation Chapter 7:3 there is a third purpose for a delay. That is to seal the 144,000 immediately so they can have the full seven years to evangelize. A fourth purpose for the delay is to give the two witnesses the whole of the first 3 ½ years to preach in Jerusalem. All of this happens before the 7th seal is broken, and the trumpet judgments begin. Again, we are not given here to know how long this deferment of Antichrist's activities will be. I believe that this "delay" will occur before the beginning of the 70th week of Daniel.

Scripture tells us that it is the peace treaty that triggers the beginning of the 70th week of Daniel! Verse 27 of Daniel, chapter 9 predicts, *And he (the antichrist) shall confirm the covenant (of peace) with many (mainly Israel) for one week: (seven years) and in the midst of the week (3 ½ years later) he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, (no more temple worship by the Jews) and for the over spreading of abominations he (the Antichrist) shall make it desolate,...*" He will contaminate the Temple by placing his own image in the holy of holies place. From this prophecy we can see that the first 3 ½ years will be a period of peace. Revelation chapter 7, verse 1-3 speaks of the prince of the air (Satan) as being held back by the four angels who control the wind, that is the prince of the air, and the four evil angels are held back from their destructive assignment until they are released later. They will not be participants in the sixth trumpet judgment (9:14)

Now let us see how we can, at this time attempt to validate this view of the end-times chronology. What I believe begins just before the Rapture, will be the beginning of seals

and the application of what they reveal, that is consistent with Matthew 24. The second, third, fourth and sixth seal judgments represent the wars, famine and pestilence spoken of by Jesus in Matthew 24:7 and also represent the “beginning of sorrows, or pain.” (Verse 8) Notice that I am suggesting that the seal judgments are neither a part of the Great Tribulation nor do they occur within the seventieth week of Daniel. As noted, I am suggesting that they, for the most part, stand alone between the Rapture and the beginning of the 70th week of Daniel. Furthermore, I suspect that they all are perpetrated by Satan, not by Antichrist, and of course, only by God’s permitted will. I haven’t read any commentaries that claim this chronology, so please study and research this yourself keeping in mind my interpretations. As noted earlier, I pray, that the commentary provided in footnote #1, as already presented in this study will show sufficient evidence to strengthen the validity of this premise. ***see footnote #1 The Chronological Location of the Seal Judgments. (Page 109)*

The first horse, the white one, is ridden by a man on his way to (eventually) conquer. (Verse 6:2) As previously noted, this puts him on earth, most likely having been born before the Rapture. He will probably reach adulthood during this period of wars, starvation and pestilence. I believe that Satan has orchestrated all of this in order to give this man the forum within which to express his great skills of diplomacy and all of his other abilities that will bring him to world prominence and power. Of course through Satan’s powers of mass deception, he will not be recognized for who he is or who he will become, or what his primary purpose will be, until the beginning of the last 3 ½ years of Daniel 70th year. (***See footnote # 2 Revealing the Antichrist, on page #133 for the basis of this statement*)

The events revealed by the opening of the second, third, fourth and sixth seals will provide the conditions under which the man we call Antichrist, after he has grown to full maturity as Satan’s “son,” will be able to express his incredible Satan-given skills of diplomacy, military strategies, economics, food production, medicine, educations, and politics. He will be credited with solving the “unsolvable” problems that will then be continuing to plaguing the world in each of these facets of secular society. We cannot

even imagine how horrible life will be. Several billion people, ¼ of the world's population will have been killed, died of plagues or starvation, freezing, suicide, etc. Due to the desperate plight of the survivors who will begin to see his superior attributes, they will gratefully submit to him. In one sense, it will be history repeating itself for the last time.

He will continue to be elevated in stature until even seven of the ten "kings", that is segments of the world's governments that will then be ruling all of the world's people will accept him, and will be willing to subordinate themselves to him. I suspect that the 10 kings will be territorial chieftains or warlocks who will have come to power in ways similar to how rulers have throughout the centuries, starting with Nimrod. The great man who will become Antichrist, will in some way seduce or conquer the other three, making himself essentially the undisputed world leader, all as predicted. (Daniel 7:7; 8 20; and Revelation 17:12, 13) Not until he has obtained that stature and power, will he be so trusted that the Jews will believe that he has the power, authority and integrity to compose and ratify a covenant guaranteeing Israel at least seven years of peace.

As noted above, this covenant will commence the seven year count down to the end of Antichrist's and Satan's rule on earth. How ironic it is that the day Antichrist signs that 7 year covenant, he will have signed and dated his own death warrant. He will have thereby limited the remainder of his life, and the False Prophet's life, as well as the freedom of Satan, to just those same seven years. We know that Satan knows Scripture; therefore we must assume that Antichrist does also. That he chooses to ignore its truths is evidence of his overwhelming arrogance and puffed up pride. He will believe that he and his spiritual father Satan will be able to prevail, even over God. Satan must believe that somehow they are sufficiently powerful, cunning and clever to overcome God's prophetic Word, and that Satan will yet achieve his five "I wills," as recorded in Isaiah 14:13, 14. There he proclaims that he will be like the most high!

How long will it be between the Rapture and the beginning of the seventieth week of Daniel? No one but God knows. However, based on my premise regarding when these

seal judgments occur, this gap will be the length of time necessary for the completion of the judgments, and for the man who will be Antichrist to have brought order and prosperity to the world, as well as for him to have obtained the authority and power to make binding covenants. No one but God can know this either. However, in my opinion, based on what Hitler, his prototype did, I speculate that it could be around 10 years or less. See (***Epilogue* page 88) for a study on Hitler as a very likely prototype of Antichrist.

Also as previously noted, the first 3 ½ years will be peaceful, at least for Israel. Antichrist will use that time to further consolidate his power, especially in the religious realm. During that time, the false prophet will be busy building up the presumed piety and “spiritual blessedness” of the “church-attending” Antichrist, while quietly setting things up for undermining the preeminence of ecclesiastical Rome. I suspect that toward the end of the first 3 ½ years this process of enhancing the spiritual eminence of Antichrist will include the masterfully choreographed “death and resurrection of the Antichrist” so as to provide the last and most compelling image of him being the true Christ. We read of this charade in Revelation 13. As it is written, many commentators view this as referring to the resurrection of the Roman Empire that “died” in the early centuries of this era and now is in the process of being “resurrected” possibly in the embodiment of the European Union. Others see this more as described above as being the “beast” Antichrist. I believe that there is validity in both views.

The Roman Empire part two as envisioned by Daniel, certainly contains the elements of a potential political resurrection, (Daniel 2:33, 40; 7:7, 8). On the other hand, Revelation 13:3 speaks of his heads as being smitten and “his death stroke was healed.” This will be all carefully orchestrated so as to prepare the world to abandon Rome and embrace Antichrist as the true Christ-God. It will have been accomplished by the end of the first 3 ½ years of the 70th week of Daniel. That is when he will break the covenant and end all traditional Hebrew worship in the temple. He will then declare himself to be God and place his own likeness in the holy of holies. This declaration will be similar to how the first and second century Roman Caesars saw themselves. This program will be so

skillfully carried out that most of the “earth dwellers” will actually believe that he is God! I believe that much of the world will worship him as the true god and will have no problem taking his mark. They will see the mark as a symbol of devotion as many today carry a crucifix or have a fish emblem on their cars. Again, there is much more to be understood in this vein, as we delve into it in the ***Epilogue*. (Page 88)

Having then become the ruler-god, he will, by God’s permitted will, wage war against Israel and the entire world as we find expressed in the Trumpet Judgments. These, I believe, will begin the Great Tribulation. His principal goal will be to eliminate all people who do not accept him as god, with a particular emphasis on eliminating all Jews. It will also be directed mostly against those who have, or who might, accept the Lordship of Jesus. These will have been converted through the witnessing by the 144,000. The saved remnant of Jews will be brought the truth by the two witnesses. To achieve his murderous goal of killing all Jews, is of paramount importance, because he knows that Jesus cannot return to the earth to claim it until the Jews acknowledge Jesus as God, and call upon Him to return (Zechariah 12:10) (Matthew 23:39)

Looking back again to chapter 7, and as already noted, we read of one heavenly reason for this period of delay and therefore of relative peace. Before the commencement of the 70th week, God will have drawn 12,000 from each of the 12 tribes of Israel to be ordained to the ministry of His Word, to be sealed with God’s protection, and to be spread out across this totally apostate world to evangelize, proclaiming Jesus as the Savior God. And they will thereby bring all who will, to the saving faith, and thus to salvation. (See Footnote #8 where there is a commentary regarding the source of the 144,000). I believe that these witnesses will begin their ministry at the beginning of the seven years and will continue it to the end of the Tribulation. Again it’s evident that the two witnesses mentioned in chapter 11 verse 3, will descend from heaven into Jerusalem and also begin their ministry at the beginning of the seven years. However, they will be killed, and will then physically ascend to heaven at the end of the first 3 ½ years. That is when Antichrist will be finally revealed, and when he begins his final onslaught against all of humanity.

This onslaught is represented by the first 6 trumpet judgments. These begin to occur as soon as Antichrist has declared himself to be god. We'll just "touch" lightly here on each of these judgments. Before we do, however, we should recognize the parallel between the "sealed" 144,000 and today's truly "born again" Christians. We too are spiritually sealed by God in a similar manner, though not physically as they will be. The seal of the 144,000 will not only assure them eternal life, but will also protect their physical lives and protection from the very worst that Satan can do. However, neither we, nor they, are made immune to hunger, thirst and other human physical needs and suffering that plague all of mankind while we remain on earth. The big difference between the rest of mankind and us, including the 144,000, is that everything that afflicts us or will afflict them is Father-filtered so as to never be worse than what we can tolerate.

B. The Seven Trumpets Revelation Chapters 8 and 9)

1. The First Trumpet - Chapter 8 verse 7

7“The first angel sounded, and there followed hail and fire mingled with blood, and they were cast upon the earth: and the third part of trees was burnt up, and all green grass was burnt up.”

The first trumpet announces what could be a series of ground level, or close to ground level atomic type bomb explosions that could send out vast amounts of debris miles into the air which would return like a huge dust storm. Hail would also fall periodically as was discovered during the early testing of atom bombs. As expressed, the fire and blood do not necessarily accompany the descending hail. These would however, accompany the aftermath of such explosions. To destroy 1/3 part of the trees suggest that at least, a 1/3 of the land mass will be severely effected. This however, will not necessarily be in a single contiguous area. Two or more opposing military actions destroying numerous enemy land areas could accumulatively amount to 1/3 of the trees.

2. The Second Trumpet – Chapter 8 verse 8 and 9

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

The second trumpet announces a similar activity occurring at sea. It is logical that those engaged in a war which was destroying the enemy's land resources would do likewise to the military and merchant ships. A great mountain “as it were” could be a huge volcano that burst forth because of the violence done to the earth's crust by the warfare. In 1883 just such a volcano exploded on Krakatau, an island in Indonesia. It was heard 3,000 miles away, shock waves reverberated seven times around the earth. Although it was in a sparsely settled region, it was reported to have killed as many as 120,000 people. Ash from it rose 50 miles and circulated the earth lowering the average world's temperature several degrees. It disrupted world-wide weather patterns for five years. Had there been

telecommunications systems at that time as there are now, these would have been destroyed across the entire globe. Another larger one of these would fit John's description of this event.

3. The Third Trumpet (Chapter 8 verses 10, 11)

10 "And the third angel sounded, and there fell a great star from heaven, burning as it were a lamp, and it fell upon the third part of the rivers, and upon the fountains of waters; 11 and the name of the star is called Wormwood: and the third part of the waters became wormwood; and many men died of the waters, because they were made bitter."

Next is this "great star from heaven" called "wormwood." Whether or not there is any prophetic connection to this, the word wormwood translated into Russian is "Chernobyl." In the Old Testament, the word can mean "cursed, accursed or poisonous," while in the New Testament it may be defined as "calamity, or bitterness." Webster's Dictionary defines it as a type of plant and also anything bitter, grievous or extremely unpleasant. We know today that Chernobyl is the place in Russia where an atomic power plant exploded killing many, and contaminating water and soil for miles around. The "star" John saw falling may have been one of the huge super neutron bombs such as Russians are known to have. Of course, a large meteor would also fit the description. However, in keeping with my contention that all of these trumpet judgments are of man's making, or causing, as orchestrated by Antichrist, I suspect that John may have seen a bomb laden missile reentering the atmosphere from somewhere far away launch site. It seems evident that when it says that a third of the waters became wormwood, it simply means that they were made bitter and probably poisonous to man and animal.

4. The Fourth Trumpet – Chapter 8 verse 12

12 "And the fourth angel sounded, and the third part of the sun was smitten, and the third part of the moon, and the third part of the stars; so as the third part of them was darkened, and the day shone not for a third part of it, and the night likewise."

This is typical of what might be expected as a secondary effect from such an explosion as is represented in the second and third judgments. The debris that would be cast many miles into the sky, and the too-light-to-fall-quickly dust would therefore obstruct the light of the sun and moon for many days, even months. A bomb such as mentioned regarding the third judgment could produce a “Kakatau” effect much larger than that volcano did. When it says that “the sun was smitten” it doesn’t mean that the sun itself was afflicted. It’s the view and the effect of the sun being diminished by the dust, or other God-induced factors.

As we study these two Trumpet Judgments, there is a troubling question, the answer to which many will wonder about and feel that it is unanswerable. If these “locusts” are demons, where did they come from, and how and when did they get into the bottomless pit? I believe that Scripture provides clues to answer this with reasonable assurance. Chapter 9 is to me one of the most intriguing, thought provoking and challenging chapters in the Book. There are two woes described in this chapter. The first is the coming locusts, which are told not to do what real locust do as a matter of survival, eat greenery. Instead they are told not to kill, but to only severely hurt for five months, all of mankind who doesn’t have God’s seal on their foreheads, that is the 144,000 Jewish Evangelists.

It is obvious that these are not real locust for several reasons. First they are not allowed to eat the only thing locust eat. Second, they have a king, but Proverbs 30:24 assures that real locust have no king. Third, they don’t even look like locust as verse 7-10 point out. I believe God inserted the Proverb as a clue to help us to determine who these “locust” really are. Fourth, they have the uniquely limited power to hurt people in the manner of scorpions. Locusts do not directly hurt people. John probably had seen or at least heard of how swarms of locust invaded lands and so chose to call them locust because of the greatness of their number and how they swarmed so rapidly out of the abyss and spread across the land.

There is much more to be gleaned from this chapter, such as who or what are the locust; why are we given the name of their king; what or who are the 200 million army; and what happens to them after they have completed their allotment of killing? I have some thoughts on these matters which can be found in the *footnote # 3. Who Are The Locust* on page 99)

The vial judgments describe the manner in which God will end all of the carnage. This will all be by God's directed will. However, before we go to these God-directed Judgments, we must complete our study of the last 3 Trumpet Judgements.

Trumpet Judgements 5 and 6 are described in Chapter 9 verses 1-21 as follows:

1 "And the fifth angel sounded, and I saw a star fall from heaven unto the earth: and to him was given the key of the bottomless pit. 2 And he opened the bottomless pit; and there arose a smoke out of the pit, as the smoke of a great furnace; and the sun and the air were darkened by reason of the smoke of the pit. 3 And there came out of the smoke locusts upon the earth: and unto them was given power, as the scorpions of the earth have power. 4 And it was commanded them that they should not hurt the grass of the earth, neither any green thing, neither any tree; but only those men which have not the seal of God in their foreheads. 5 And to them it was given that they should not kill them, but that they should be tormented five months: and their torment was as the torment of a scorpion, when he striketh a man. 6 And in those days shall men seek death, and shall not find it; and shall desire to die, and death shall flee from them. 7 And the shapes of the locusts were like unto horses prepared unto battle; and on their heads were as it were crowns like gold, and their faces were as the faces of men. 8 And they had hair as the hair of women, and their teeth were as the teeth of lions. 9 And they had breastplates, as it were breastplates of iron; and the sound of their wings was as the sound of chariots of many horses running to battle. 10 And they had tails like unto scorpions, and there were stings in their tails: and their power was to hurt men five months. 11 And they had a king over them, which is the angel of the bottomless pit, whose name in the Hebrew tongue is Abaddon, but in the Greek tongue hath his name Apollyon. 12 One woe is past; and, behold, there come two woes more hereinafter. 13 And the sixth angel sounded, and I

heard a voice from the four horns of the golden altar which is before God, 14 saying to the sixth angel which had the trumpet, Loose the four angels which are bound in the great river Euphrates. 15 And the four angels were loosed, which were prepared for an hour, and a day, and a month, and a year, for to slay the third part of men. 16 And the number of the army of the horsemen were two hundred thousand thousand: and I heard the number of them. 17 And thus I saw the horses in the vision, and them that sat on them, having breastplates of fire, and of jacinth, and brimstone: and the heads of the horses were as the heads of lions: and out of their mouths issued fire and smoke and brimstone. 18 By these three was the third part of men killed, by the fire, and by the smoke, and by the brimstone, which issued out of their mouths. 19 For their power is in their mouth, and in their tails: for their tails were like unto serpents, and had heads, and with them they do hurt. 20 And the rest of the men which were not killed by these plagues yet repented not of the works of their hands, that they should not worship devils, and idols of gold, and silver, and brass, and stone, and of wood; which neither can see, nor hear, nor walk:”21 neither repented they of their murders, nor of their sorceries, nor of their fornication, nor of their thefts.”

The 5th Judgement is the 1st Woe (verses 1-12) and the 6th Judgement is the 2nd Woe (verses 13-21). The 5th Judgement speaks of a huge army of locust released from the bottomless pit. The “star” of verse 1 is Satan who will be permanently banished from heaven. Therefore he will no longer be able to report the sins of God’s people. Satan is then the one who will be given the key to the pit. The locusts are brought out of hell. It is his intention to use them for the final onslaught against mankind. Both the fifth and sixth trumpet judgments are described in this one chapter, and I believe for a good reason. Although they are depicted as separate judgments, I see them as two parts of a single desperate stratagem by the dragon and his agent the beast to “go for broke” in their goal of eliminating all opposition to their ascension to their counterfeit position as father and son gods. The “locust” plague could have done the job if God hadn’t restrained them so as to only hurt, and not kill. I believe that the locusts are the spirits of the dead Nephilim. They were thrown into hell to be with their fathers, the “might men of old,” that is the fallen angels. (Genesis Chapter 6) Then the four angels and their 200

million army which I believe are the same demons could have finished Satan's program, except for God's second intervention whereby their killing potential was limited to only one third rather than the whole population. Thus we see that chapter 9 provides us with an insight regarding the final stand of personified evil before Jesus' return to rule during the millennium.

Here again, God is permitting Satan to bring forth these demons to help him to destroy the earth. We know that while some of the fallen angels were cast into the bottomless pit for some extraordinarily wicked thing they did, the rest of those that followed Satan are still his agents serving him on earth, many as the powers behind the thrones of the world. It at first it seems that we know nothing about these four of the fallen angels (verse 14). For some reason these had been separated from the rest, and bound in the Euphrates River.

The four must have done something especially unique to have been singled out for this strange confinement rather than the bottomless pit. Could they be the four angels that each in turn headed up the "principalities and powers" behind the respective thrones of the Babylonian Empire, the Persian / Mede Empire, the Grecian Empire and the original Roman Empire? I strongly suspect so. If they are, then they are well experienced in the fine art of orchestrating mass murder, torture and the subjugation of whole nations of people. This would make them very useful for leading Satan's armies on this final world-wide action against humanity. It makes eminent sense if you read Daniel 10:13, 20. There we are told that an angel from the Lord spoke to Daniel, about having fought for 21 days with the "prince of the kingdom of Persia", and that after he delivered his message to Daniel, he had to go back and continue his fight with him, and later go on to fight the "prince of Grecia". The "princes" were the fallen angels behind each of the 4 thrones as noted.

This was clearly spiritual warfare going on here on earth, between God's angels and Satan's angels. When Gabriel spoke of the "prince" he had to fight, it is evident that this was the spiritual power of a particular fallen angel behind a throne, not any human

prince. Note that he spoke to Daniel just after the Persians had taken over Babylon. The Grecian Empire would not come into being for yet another 200 years! Scripture gives us no other clue as to who these four might be. Therefore, it makes sense that we recognize this clue, and realize that these four are very likely the “princes” that controlled these empires under Satan’s command.

As these empires were overcome, the angels who had controlled them were put away, that is imprisoned in the Euphrates River, to prevent them from continuing their service to Satan. God so arranged it that they could rise again in due time, and to again serve Satan, but only when, and as God would permit. God in His foreknowledge placed them there, and as he had allowed Satan to use them to conquer and control his earlier empires, He will allow them to again serve Satan in his final effort against God. It will be final, because after this attack against humanity, God’s permitted will, which will have enabled Satan all of this time, will come to an end. Then, by God’s directed will, the seven vial judgments will all be dispensed so as to quickly put an end to Satan’s activities “lest there should no flesh be saved” (Matthew 24:22)

Verse 14 of chapter 9 tells us that an angel from God will be told to loose the four angels from the Euphrates. God will allow this release, in response to Satan’s request, just as He had allowed Satan to use them previously. God will permit him to use these angels for this final action. By the way, as noted earlier, when we discussed the 3 ½ years of peace, I suspect that these are the four angels that God will order to not hurt the earth at that time (Revelation 7:2) This final assault against the earth by God’s permitted will, is to be extremely devastating. At the end of this judgment one third of the entire world’s population will have been killed. This is one third of the three quarters of the population that will have survived after the devastation described upon the opening of the fourth seal in chapter 6 verse 8.

Therefore one half of the entire world population will have then been killed by the end of the Great Tribulation. Here in verse 15 we find that after the four angels will have been let go, they will take over a year to prepare the program by which they will do their

killing. This indicates that they will be released somewhat more than a year before the Vial Judgements and the end of the tribulation. When we consider that their killing spree will take some period of time, and that the vial judgments will as well, it appears that they will exit the Euphrates River sometime in the middle portion of the 3 ½ year Great Tribulation. What will go on during the thirteen months they are preparing? Will the other judgments be occurring, or will it be a period of quiet, before the last horror? We don't know, but I suspect that it may be a period of licking wounds, and low destructive activity. This again will give the 144,000 evangelists a better opportunity to complete their work. Above, I indicated that it's the same army of demons mentioned in the 5th and 6th Judgements. It may be that Antichrist was displeased with Apollyon's leadership and therefore was permitted to replace him with the highly experienced 4 Euphrates bound angels.

The 200,000,000 army also seems to present a challenge to understand correctly. Just because China, and perhaps even India could assemble that many men, many believe, as I did before I began to really study Revelations, that this is where the army will come from, which the four angels will use to do their killing. Because so much of the activity described throughout this book is centered around the "near east" region of the world with focal points such as Rome, Jerusalem and Babylon, we tend to assume that this is the region which the 200,000,000 soldier army will invade. As if to confirm this presumption, many also point to chapter 16, verse 12 where it says that the Euphrates will be dried up to make way for the "kings of the east."

That passage in chapter 16 is not in any way relevant to this two-hundred million issue, because the drying up of the river occurs some time after this sixth trumpet judgment is over! It is what constitutes the sixth vial judgment. Making way for the kings of the east has to do with the battle of Armageddon from where the battle will be staged. In this battle Jesus will defeat Antichrist and his army. There will be a huge number of real human soldiers from all over the world, but nowhere in Scripture are any number of participants in this battle mentioned. It's hard to believe that it will be anywhere close to two hundred million. Some evidence, which clearly relates to the magnitude of the army,

is found in Revelation 14:20 where we are told that the blood resulting from the battle of Armageddon will flow up to horses bridles deep for 200 miles.

By the way, this cannot be one continuous or contiguous flow, because there is no continuous valley between the valley of Jezreel and where the armies will end up. This shed blood will flow to the Mediterranean by way of Keshan Valley and by the way of the Me Jarkon Valley and other lesser stream valleys that they will have to cross before reaching Bozreth. It is also evident they won't follow the Jordan valley because Bozreth is over 20 miles south and east of the Dead Sea. Therefore the battle will not be continuous, but will be fought in various valleys along the way between Israel and Bozreth.

Comparably, the west side has much easier terrain for such a large army to navigate through than does the east side of the Jordan. The undulating nature of the topography, and lack of any significant north-south valleys, also precludes a continuous single direction of blood flow. Scripture tells us that it was 200 miles of bridle-deep blood, and so it was. My only point here is that it could not have been one continuous valley flow as we commonly visualize it to be. The terrain as well as the logistics, the limited area of assembly and battle activity, make this physically impossible.

All this having been said, I believe that the real clincher regarding the 200,000,000 invaders, are distributed across the whole world not just in the Israel region. The one third of humanity will be collectively killed in many parts of the world.

What we have here in the 6th Trumpet Judgment, I believe, is a two-hundred-million army demon-possessed men in modern war machinery. This army will be dispersed in small manageable units across every nation on earth. Also, I suspect that each unit will not only be demon-possessed but also recruited from the peoples who dwell in the same general region where they will do their killing. This will be in every region of the world, not just in the Middle East. While God will have 144,000 of His sealed evangelists, scattered throughout the same regions of the world, witnessing and leading people toward

salvation, so Satan, through his agents, Antichrist and his four angels, will have this huge strategically dispersed army fully equipped to collectively to kill all of mankind who will not submit to him. It seems like we have here 144,000 evangelists saving millions of souls for eternity while antichrist has hordes of angels and evil spirits sending them prematurely to heaven by destroying their flesh soon thereafter.

How angry and frustrated Satan must be to know that his most effective killing machine told of as the 5th Judgement, will be forbidden to kill anyone but to only hurt them. With all of this tremendous killing power at his disposal, Antichrist will have arranged everything so as to kill all Jews, and thereby “win the war” against God. Now he will be able to only hurt them for 5 months. Adding to his anger is the fact that he won’t be able to even hurt the 144,000. When we realize the magnitude of the logistics of such a world-side effort, a day, a month, and a year, to complete the preparations is not a long time. Verse 18 describing the 6th Judgement, tells us that all of this killing will be done through the application of three plagues which are referred to as, “by fire, and by smoke, and by brimstone” (sulphur). If Satan knows all of this, why will he proceed to do it anyway? Because of his pride and that he continues to believe that somehow he can out maneuver God and yet win the war.

Finally verse 19 describes the “horsemen” as having power in their mouths and in their tails. Trying to take this as literally as possible I suspect that these may be demon-possessed men riding in some kind of motorized killing machines, not yet known to us. I believe these demons will be the “locusts” that come out of the bottomless pit. They seem to be equipped with flame throwers along with spreaders of a toxic smoke-like gas, and some form of sprayer that may spew hot sulphur. Verse 20 tells us that those who survive will be hopelessly lost, and remain so spiritually. It is likely that his army will be the 200,000,000 demon-possessed persons who will have committed the “murders”. Notice this is speaking only of the incorrigible among the survivors, not all men. If it meant all men, then there wouldn’t be any “sheep” at the Sheep and Goat Judgment, or saved flesh and blood people to populate the millennium. I suspect that this last verse is

here to make it clear to us that what is left on earth of Satan's followers will be incorrigible indeed, there being absolutely no hope of their repentance.

That this attitude and behavior can follow after they have seen God's powers to limit the "locust" so as to only hurt for a short while, and never kill, ought to convince some to repent. But those referred to here will remain lost. As already noted, I believe that this will be God's final wake-up call to everyone left on earth to take heed of who the 144,000 are, and what they will have been offering for nearly seven years. How much more evident could it be when those who will have the "seal of God on their foreheads" will be the only ones on earth who will not suffer this plague?

There are several interesting insights to be found in these two judgements. The 5th Judgements interesting permits something that seems as though it could be the ultimate weapon of mass human destruction. The locusts (demons) are given *power as the scorpions of the earth have power*. The scorpion venom kills its victims. This is perhaps why Satan requests their release. If he gets these to do their "thing," and kill everyone they can find, he will have won the war against God, and there will be no need to go any further. However, God negates this potential by the limitation that is imposed. These locusts are only allowed to inflict great pain on the people, and to do so for just five months. Those with God's seal are the 144,000 evangelizing Jews of Chapter 7. I see this woe as ironic as far as Satan and Antichrist are concerned. Here they are in the midst of the Great Tribulation killing and destroying.

As noted, I believe that it will be through Satan's request that God will allow him to release the demons from the pit. But as the request is granted, God puts limits on their destructive powers. If we accept the fact that these trumpet judgments are all part of Satan's program through Antichrist, to destroy God's creation as a means of achieving his five "I wills", this limited judgment will seem to backfire on him. While it appears that all of humanity, those who have Satan's mark, as well as those who do not, will be hurt, there are to be no deaths or destruction as a result of this fifth trumpet judgment.

From Satan's viewpoint, this will not be good. However, what an opportunity it will be for the 144,000! A whole, severely hurting world of humanity will be experiencing this awful pain. It is only human nature that many will cry out for relief. To whom will they cry out? They will cry out to Antichrist or anyone else who might help. Antichrist will not be able to help them. Many will even cry out to the God they hate, or don't believe exists. It is likely that initially, they will not know of the five month limit God has placed on their suffering. However, they will soon hear, and perhaps then will listen to the evangelists who will be spreading this precious truth. These evangelists will be able to use this respite from the on-going devastation to get around more affectively, and to have more opportunity to show those not yet condemned by the mark of the beast, that God in heaven is a real and merciful God, and He will soon end their pain. Notice that in the description of the 5th judgement, no number of locusts is mentioned, only that it's evident that it's a great many. I believe that they are demon possessed locusts, because John describes them as such. His description of them as resembling locust is in terms of their shape and manner of mobility. That they have forces like men suggest to me that perhaps they are the forces of the Nephilim when they were living. Having breast plates of iron and other noted characteristics suggested that they may be operating some type of war vehicle yet to be available.

Many, knowing that the stings normally kill, may soon recognize this to be as much mercy as it is wrath. This is bound to get the attention of many who might otherwise have ignored the evangelists. During these five months, because of everyone's condition, there won't be much going on in Satan's camp or in the rest of the world. Just about the only noticeable activity will be by the 144,000. They will be planting the seeds in minds of many as they speak of the merciful God who will end their suffering and who wants them to come to Him in faith. I suspect that many of those soul/spirits who later go under the altar, or who will live to populate the millennium, will be a significant part of that harvest, which the evangelists will reap during this event. For a broader commentary on whom or what the locust are, as well as a discussion of judgements #6 and #7 see footnote #3, page 138.

If you, who have been blessed with God's truth, are in awe as to how it will be possible for such a great many to be in unison in their rejection, blaspheming and cursing God to the bitter end, keep reading. I believe that there is an insight that is most satisfactory as an explanation. If it is not the God-given insight, which I believe it is, it is at least a very plausible one, which is not inconsistent with Scripture. This idea is more fully developed near the end of the ***Epilogue*. (Page 88)

Chapter 10 is not chronological. It is parenthetical. The great angel has one foot in the sea and the other on the land. The sea is symbolic of the Gentile world, and the land is symbolic of Israel. The little book I suspect, contains much more information and details regarding the end time. The book's content will not be disclosed. Because the book was open, John may have learned some of that was in it. Therefore he was forbidden to write anything more. While he was forbidden to disclose its contents, in verse 8 the angel gave him the book and was told to eat it. I suspect that the "eating" is symbolic, meaning that he should devour it by seriously reading what it said. Apparently, the first portion was sweet, because it depicted God's ultimate resolution of the world problems. Then when he read the rest of it, the horrors of what will happen before that glorious day, that portion was very bitter. Finally he was commanded to prophesy to all whom he could reach. He could only preach what was given him excluding that which he was forbidden to utter.

For whatever reasons, which I don't believe we can ever fully understand, God will permit Antichrist to engage in all of these horrible things that will kill billions of people and more than half of all of humanity. Perhaps it is because most of humanity grows more sinful and deserving of greater punishment. This, I suspect is much like how God dealt with the Jews during the times of the Judges. In those days He punished them severely when they transgressed and rewarded them generously when they repented. These final judgments will be more painful and universal in their application. If we are redeemed Christians, we have been blessed so by our faith in Jesus' achievement on the cross. That faith in God must also be expressed in all that we do, and believe all that He has written in this Holy inerrant Scripture, whether or not we have been given to

understand it. Because His ways are seldom our ways, we must simply trust in our omnipresent omniscient God and lives reflective of things that are right and necessary, from His perfect perspective.

Yet can we, even with our unshakable faith and trust in God's perfect mercy-tempered justice, really reconcile His allowing such incredible carnage? I believe we can, at least I can. When the time of the Gentiles is full, that is when all who will accept Jesus as Savior, He will end the church age by removing it from this hopeless, sin inflicted, world. Then in His infinite mercy, He will continue seeking others in a new dispensation, who are then willing to accept Him as the Messiah. The 144, 0000, will be His assigned evangelical messengers to those who missed the Rapture. Because of His foreknowledge of everyone's heart, He knows who will choose rightly and who won't. With the world in such a horrible condition, it will be more merciful to end their misery and allow them to go to their eternal home sooner than later. For the unsaved whom He knows will never come to the faith, it will be a matter of suffering in this all but totally destroyed world, suffering in hell for a while, and finally suffering eternally in the lake of fire. Their fate will be eternal suffering under any circumstances. Just as the Rapture will end the suffering of the Body of Christ, so also will the martyring of the post-raptured souls. This, in my opinion will be a blessing because continued life under the then prevailing world will be far worse than an earthly death, even a tortured one.

The answer, as I see it, may not be palatable or satisfying to those who cannot understand this, or whose faith is capable of wavering. Perhaps this can be expressed better by going back to what God will have mercifully provided through the ministry of the 144,000. For seven years they will be preaching God's Word throughout the world. This will probably put God's offer of salvation into the ears of everyone everywhere. By their own free will, some will choose to hear and believe, while some will not. Those who will not, after so many years of exposure to the truth, must be considered incorrigible and totally committed to Antichrist as their true god. Those who hear and believe will be the redeemed. The lives of most of these will be greatly shortened through martyrdom. However, this needs not be considered a horrible thing. Again to live longer in the world

as it will be then, will not necessarily be a desirable thing. To a redeemed soul, an early death simply means getting to heaven sooner than later. It's a matter of where we consider our real life to be, here, or in the eternal realm of our Father.

The Seventh Trumpet – Chapter 11 verse 15-18

15 “And the seventh angel sounded: and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever. 16 And the four and twenty elders, which sat before God on their seats, fell upon their faces, and worshipped God, 17 saying, We give thee thanks O Lord God Almighty, which art, and wast, and art to come; because thou hast taken to thee thy great power, and hast reigned. 18 And the nations were angry, and thy wrath is come, and the time of the dead, that they should be judged, and that thou shouldest give reward unto thy servants and prophets, and to the saints, and them that fear thy name, small and great; and shouldest destroy them which destroy the earth.”

The first part of Chapter 11 deals mostly with the two witnesses. (See footnote #4 Ministry of the Two Witnesses on page #104) However, the last portion of it identifies the coming vial judgments as being the third woe. What follows in verses 15-18 describe the prelude to the vial judgments. In verse 15-17 John records what he hears going on in heaven with the announcement of what is about to happen. It is that God will finally express His divine directed will to render justice. This will be through the vial judgments. All the hosts of heaven, the martyred souls, and the 24 elders, all praise God, and what He is about to do. In verse 18 “...*the time of the dead, that they should be judged...*” is speaking of what happens a thousand years later at the end of the millennium. Apparently they will all know of the coming Great White Throne Judgment at which time all of the unsaved dead shall rise and face Jesus. There He will tell each of them why they must go into the eternal lake of fire. It then speaks of the saved souls of all of the past faithful who will be rewarded, while those who have been destroying the earth are to be themselves destroyed.

Notice that here again, is a reference to God's directed will through the vial judgments. We are here reminded that a number of events will be revealed at various times but not necessarily in the sequence biblically presented. "The time of the dead" is at the end of the millennium. Rewarding of the servants and others, I believe is referring to the last four of the five segments of the "first" resurrection, Jesus being the first of the first. We should remember that here "resurrection" is when the dead of the redeemed souls/spirits are raised from their graves, and given new eternal bodies, as was Jesus when He rose from the dead. Those who rose with Him, I believe will for a short season, (perhaps for the same 40 days) will return to their graves to rise again will as part of the Body of Christ. The living and dead in Christ will be raptured in the glorious day that is coming soon. The soul/spirits and incorruptible bodies of the saved will all ascend into the heavenly realm. The whole of the first resurrection/rapture begins with the resurrection of Jesus and those that rose with Him as the first fruits. (See ***Footnote #5* titled, Those Who Rose with Jesus on (page 156)

The Rapture of His Church, will include the entire body of Christ. At that time Jesus will call them from near the earth, that is from the atmospheric clouds. Again, this Rapture consists of two parts, first will be the resurrection and the rapture of the physically dead portion of the "Body of Christ," and second will be the rapture of the living portion of the "Body of Christ." Later, the resurrection of the Old Testament saints will occur. This will be just after the end of the Tribulation. The ascent to heaven of the Old Testament saints occurred after Jesus, while with them in Sheol, first removed what had been covering their sins. Then He cleansed their souls through His shed blood. This freed them, permitting their soul/spirits to rise unto heaven. Thus the "good side" of Sheol was emptied. They will not receive their new bodies until after the Tribulation when Jesus will bring His Bride to earth for the wedding feast. That's when the Old Testament saints will get their new bodies and participate in the feast as the friends of Jesus and His bride.

Next will be the resurrection of those martyred saints who will die between the time of the Rapture and the end of the Tribulation. Lastly, will be those saints who will have

survived to the end of the millennium. To be precise, there must be death before there can be a resurrection. However, the Rapture will take both the living and dead in Christ. Therefore there is no actual resurrection, as such, of those saints who are alive when they are called to heaven. This applies to them in the same manner as what will occur to the living church saints when they are called up by Jesus from His location in the clouds. Thus again, it will also apply to the millennium saints, because they too will be alive when called up. The case of those who are resurrected with Christ is a unique situation. They were resurrected to “normal” life as was Lazarus but for only those 40 days. Then later, I believe they were resurrected in the same manner as will occur later to all of the church body.

The second resurrection has no segments. It refers to all those unsaved souls from all the ages who have been confined to the suffering portion of Shoel otherwise known as hell. They will suffer there until their appearance at the Great White Throne, and the judgments which Jesus will pronounce on them. Resurrection means providing all of the dead with incorruptible bodies, whether it be of those saved or unsaved. This defining and sequencing of the whole resurrection / Rapture process will be new, as well as disturbing to many, especially where the Old Testament saints fit in. There is a scriptural basis for this and other aspects of the first resurrection that we will discuss later.

C. The Seven Vial Judgments – Chapter 16

The First Vial Judgment (verse 2)

2 “And the first went, and poured out his vial upon the earth; and there fell a noisome and grievous sore upon the men which had the mark of the beast, and upon them which worshipped his image.”

The inflicting of sores is reminiscent of the sores and boils which came upon the Egyptians by way of the sixth plague (Exodus 9:10) It is also similar to the effect of the fifth trumpet judgment (9:5) No doubt this will cause not only pain, but near total immobilization. The fifth trumpet plague will be of the nature of a warning regarding what is coming. This Vial Judgment, I suspect, will be an everlasting one, because they will die in pain and later go into the eternal pain. Notice this judgment, as are all of the remaining judgments, clearly expresses God’s directed will.

The Second Vial Judgment (verse 3)

And the second angel poured out his vial upon the sea: and it became as the blood of a dead man: and every living soul died in the sea”

The sea will become as blood and every living soul will die who is in the sea. Does this mean that men in ships will die? No, because it doesn’t refer to anything that’s on the sea. The fact is that every breathing creature on land or in the sea has a soul. Therefore, it could mean all breathing sea creatures that are in the sea. This need not include man, who would be mostly on the sea. All breathing creatures by definition have souls. Only man has an immortal soul because he is endowed with an eternal spirit. All other breathing creatures have souls, but without the eternal spirit they perish with their flesh. Notice that by the second trumpet judgment; a third of the ocean will have become blood. This too will have been what God in the Egyptian period permitted Satan to do.

The Third Vial Judgment (verse 4-6)

“4 And the third angel poured out of his vial upon the rivers and fountains of waters; and they became blood. 5 And I heard the angel of the waters say, Thou art righteous, O Lord,

which art, and wast, and shalt be, because thou hast judged thus. 6 For they have shed the blood of saints and prophets, and thou hast given them blood to drink; for they are worthy”

Apparently the fresh waters, the rivers, lakes and springs become blood, not as blood. By God’s directed will the fresh waters become undrinkable as was the case with what man did, as revealed in the third trumpet judgment, and what God did in Egypt by the first judgment (Exodus 7:20) Do we see a pattern here? God will be using some of the same types of plagues to inflict on what is left of the population, and largely on the ungodly disciples of Antichrist. This particular affliction is even more severe than what man will have already done to himself or what God did in Egypt. While it is not mentioned, I suspect that in His love and compassion for those remaining souls who are not disciples of Antichrist, they will be protected by some Godly provisions. I suspect that they will be protected from this, or at least their suffering and struggles will be less torturous during those final few days. Many will be the Sheep of the Sheep and Goat Judgment. I suspect that there will also be others who are not saved and didn’t take the mark of the beast who will survive to live during the millennium. I like to believe that God will somehow make the saved soul’s portion of these awful things far less painful than it will be for the totally lost people. More commentary on this blood judgment can be found elsewhere in this study.

The Fourth Vial Judgment (verses 8, 9)

“8 And the fourth angel poured out of his vial upon the sun; and power was given unto him to scorch men with fire. 9 And men were scorched with great heat, and blasphemed the name of God, which hath power over these plagues: and they repented not to give him glory.”

This fourth judgment is when God somehow removes a portion of the shield of clouds, and the ozone layer, or causes some other manner of increasing the sun’s heating of the earth. Again, I suspect that this also is somewhat selectively directed toward the unrepentant as they are here described. It’s interesting that this fourth judgment deals

with the sun as did the fourth trumpet judgment. Here the judgment is too much sun. There it spoke of not enough sun.

The Fifth Vial Judgment (verses 10, 11)

“10 And the fifth angel poured out his vial upon the seat of the beast; and his kingdom was full of darkness; and they gnawed their tongues for pain, 11 and blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores, and repented not of their deeds.”

At this time, God will focus His judgment where it really hurts the most, right at Antichrist's capital city, Babylon, and all who are there. The focus will be on the city and the region around it which will be deeply darkened, making movement difficult and dangerous. Those who will be there will already be in great torment due to the heat, and probably the very serious sun burns that will be inflicted as a result of the fourth vial. The darkness will make the pain and suffering much worse, because it will make it difficult, and perhaps impossible to get treatment or any other necessity. Notice that darkness is also characteristic of the fifth trumpet judgment, and the ninth judgment that inflicted against Egypt. (Exodus 10:21) In verse 11 we see that they will know God, and know that what they are suffering are the consequences of their rebellion, yet they will still refuse to repent, and find it better to curse and blaspheme Him. I believe, as mentioned earlier, that there is a very plausible explanation to this bizarre attitude towards God which you may not have considered. Again, we will get to that later, in the ***Epilogue. (Page 70)*

The Sixth Vial Judgment (verses 12-16)

“12 And the sixth angel poured out his vial upon the great river Euphrates; and the water thereof was dried up, that the way of the kings of the east might be prepared. 13 And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet. 14 For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty. 15 Behold, I come as a thief. Blessed is he that watcheth, and keepeth his garments, lest he walk naked, and

they see his shame. 16 And he gathered them together into a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armageddon.”

The sixth vial is different from the others in that it doesn't inflict any pain or suffering, or death. What it does is to make it less difficult for the kings of the east to bring their armies into Israel, the focal point of Satan's hatred. They, will all assemble on the great plain of Israel in an area, called Armageddon, or the plain of Jesreel which is 50-60 miles north of Jerusalem. From there they will sweep southward, destroying Jerusalem and continue on to their main objective, Bozrah, where God has protected, fed and sheltered the remnant of believing Jews for the last 3 ½ years. Satan's very last stand in his goal to be like unto God, rests on Antichrist's success in killing all of those Jews so that there would be none left to call for Jesus' return. The kings of the east are not from the Far East such as India or China. They are the regional kings from Syria, Iran, Iraq, etc.

This vial is for the purpose of permitting the setting up this final gathering of God's enemies so that He can eliminate them in one fell swoop, as we discover when we read Isaiah 63, in Jesus' own words on the subject. Again, this has nothing to do with the 200 million of chapter 9 verse 16. John likened the evil spirits that went forth out of the evil trio as "frogs". These "frogs" may be demons of the highest level of wickedness. Remember the evil spirits Jesus removed were not all extremely violent. Many seemed to be grateful to inhabit anyone and causing a limiting range of violent behavior. Some I suspect are not called by Satan to be ultra-active. I suspect he assigns some of them more placid ministries, and simply keeps them available for serious duty whenever he chooses to call on them. We might liken each of these as a Manchurian Candidate from the movie of the same name. In the movie, the North Korean's, brain washed captured US soldiers. Then they programmed one of them to be normal until he heard a certain coded signal that would activate him to carry out a carefully orchestrated series of actions that would do great harm to this country. As I see the world at this moment, it could be that many possessed men are now being called into action. I suspect that those of us who look at today's world from a Biblical perspective can name several within the world-wide power structures who seem to qualify as demon-controlled. In my opinion, most of the world's

leaders at all levels of government, along with corporate leaders are so possessed. I'm convinced that such men are now the power structure of this country.

The Seventh Vial Judgment (verses 17-21)

“17 And the seventh angel poured out his vial into the air; and there came a great voice out of the temple of heaven, from the throne, saying, It is done. 18 And there were voices, and thunders, and lightnings; and there was a great earthquake, such as was not since men were upon the earth, so mighty an earthquake, and so great. 19 And the great city was divided into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell: and great Babylon came in remembrance before God, to give unto her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of his wrath. 20 And every island fled away, and the mountains were not found. 21 And there fell upon men a great hail out of heaven, every stone about the weight of a talent: and men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail; for the plague thereof was exceeding great.”

Notice that while the Vial Judgements speak of the destruction of the City of Babylon, that is the mercantile city, and capital of Satan's empire, they do not speak of the destruction of eccleasical Babylon, which is Rome. This is because God will not choose to do it directly or through Antichrist. It will be destroyed by the 10 kings under Antichrist who while paying homage to Rome, will have silently hated the church. Their hate will be the result of Rome's power and influence over them. It may be because Rome will extract from them some modified version of "indulgences". I suspect that Antichrist, while pretending to be above such "blasphemous intrigue, will call for Rome's destruction at the appropriate time. This will be when he is ready to remove Rome's influence on the world so that he can himself replace all religions by declaring that he is God! (Revelation 17:15-18) Again we see that this will be carefully orchestrated. Rome will be highly beneficial to Antichrist in the early years. However, at the end of the first 3 ½ years of the 70th week of Daniel, Rome will become an obstacle to his claim to be the Christ and to his uninhibited proceeding with killing and destroying.

The seventh vial judgment as described is dispensed during the very last days or hours of the Great Tribulation. As is announced by the seventh angel, all that God will chose to do in order to stop the carnage will have been completed as described by the subsequent verses. God will open the giant rifts or fault zones that are even today known to exist in the region. These ruptures will divide the Mount of Olives in two, and will split the City of Jerusalem into three parts. All of the great cities of the world will be shaken until they collapse. Babylon will be singled out for an even more severe amount of judgment. This will be one of the two areas of the entire earth that Jesus will not rehabilitate when He returns to restore the earth in preparation for life during the millennium.

These will be the places where all of the demons and fallen angels who remain on earth will be confined during the millennium according to Revelation 18:12. Revelation 19:3 tells us that, Babylon will be a place of continued burning and smoke throughout the millennium. That this would be the fate of Babylon was, or could have been known by all who read and understood the Old Testament prophets. Read what God gave Isaiah to say about the final destiny of Babylon. In Isaiah 13:20-22 is where God gave this information. *“20 It shall never be inhabited, neither shall it be dwelt in from generation to generation: neither shall the Arabian pitch tent there; neither shall the shepherds make their fold there. 21 But the wild beasts of the desert shall lie there; and their houses shall be full of doleful creatures; and owls shall dwell there, and satyrs shall dance there. 22 And the wild beasts of the islands shall cry in their desolate houses, and dragons in their pleasant palaces: and her time is near to come, and her days shall not be prolonged.”*

The argument that many make regarding these verses, is that it applies to Ancient Babylon. However, the fact is that while ancient Babylon atrophied down to a heap of bricks, and was no more that great city, it did not remain uninhabited, because history makes it clear that, for centuries, it has been inhabited by nomads, and is today inhabited. It was never destroyed, and it is now in the process of being rebuilt. In Jeremiah 50:39, 40 we are told how complete will be its end-time destruction.

“39 Therefore the wild beasts of the desert with the wild beasts of the islands shall dwell there, and the owls shall dwell therein: and it shall be no more inhabited for ever; neither shall it be dwelt in from generation to generation. 40 As God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah and the neighbor cities thereof, saith the Lord; so shall no man abide there, neither shall any son of man dwell therein.”

As we read of the extent of the destruction across the whole earth, we can understand just how profound and accurate are the angel’s words when he proclaimed “It is done!” However, in terms of this study I can’t say it is “done,” while there is one more major end-time event mentioned in Scripture that has not been given a place in this chronology. In retrospect, it seems evident that this study should include an attempt to find where in the end-times chronology it is located. This event is the “Magog War” described in Ezekiel chapters 38 and 39. To locate it correctly in any study of end-time chronology is not a simple matter, if indeed it is at all possible. There are varied opinions by many reputable scholars as to where in time to place it.

Some place it at the end of the millennium, because the names Gog and Magog appear there. This is easily refuted from Scripture. Others find reason to believe that it comes at the beginning of the Great Tribulation that is 3 ½ years into the 70th week of Daniel. This has many irreconcilable problems which I believe discredit it. The only remaining choices are either before, or right after the Rapture, which would be before the 70th week of Daniel. I’m convinced that it is a pre-rapture event.

One thing is certain; it is an end time war and couldn’t have happened anytime during the past 1800 years, that is before May 14, 1948 because Scripture makes it clear that Israel is in the land before that war begins. As it is described it is certain that God will force the war to happen, and will cause the odds to be greatly against Israel so that when Gog is defeated, God will have proven that He did it. God has shown His protecting of His people several times since 1940. In each war Israel was outnumbered at least 40:1 in terms of population and military power, and in the first war they were at an even greater disadvantage. God saved them in the same manner He saved them in Gideon’s time. He

saw to it that they faced hopeless odds so then they would know that it was God who gave them victory. They still didn't and won't believe until the two witnesses convict them.

Before we continue on that vain however, let us briefly entertain the possibility that it may occur at the beginning of the last 3 ½ years of Daniel, that is at the beginning of the Great Tribulation. As I understand the primary reasoning for this stance, is that the invasion comes at a time of peace. Revelation tells us that there will be a period of peace up to the commencement of the Great Tribulation. Four times, three in Ezekiel chapter 38 and once in chapter 39, God speaks of Israel dwelling "safely" in the land (38:8, 11, 14; 39:26) However, nowhere in these chapters does the word "peace" appear. The Hebrew word for safety is "betach". The nominal form of this root word means, "security". This is not the security due to a state of peace, but a security due to a confidence in their own strength. This certainly describes Israel of today. As noted, Israel has fought four major wars since 1948, by God's grace and won each swiftly and dramatically each time even though it was outnumbered at 40 to 1.

As we read of the peace covenant that will be signed with Antichrist, it doesn't seem as though they will, at that time, have that same sense of security in their own strength, or else they would not even consider it. Nevertheless, it seems that the peace covenant offered by Antichrist will be gratefully accepted. The mid-Tribulation argument also relies on Daniel 11:40, which refers to the King of the north battling Antichrist in the land. This is not referring to Gog for several reasons. First, in the Book of Daniel there are several references to the king of the north, and it's evident in each instance that it is not Gog, but a king within a land immediate to the north, namely Syria. To assume that Daniel is speaking of a far more northerly king violates context and consistency. If there are any descriptive similarities between the Magog war and the first judgments of the Tribulation, I can't see them. We could just as well make this "similarities" argument relating to the plagues of Egypt in the Book of Exodus, as well as of the vial judgments, but they simply don't fit.

Second, the Gog invasion is most clearly by God's direct will during which His sole stated purpose is to prove that He is the Lord. He demonstrates this by totally devastating Gog and his great war machines, while protecting Israel from any significant harm. Third, why would God direct such a war that so completely protects His people, and then soon thereafter allow the massive destruction and slaughter that occurs in Israel, and many other parts of the earth during the Great Tribulation? Fourth, is the matter of the seven month cleanup and the seven years of burning of the fuel derived from the abandoned war material. Ezekiel 3:9 says, "*they shall burn them with fire for seven years.*" If this war starts in the final 3 ½ years of the 70th week, then this, "they shall burn them" claim indicates that they will use this fuel for over 3 ½ years into the millennium!

This is difficult to accept, because the world will be restored before the millennium is to commence. It is to be a near Eden-like world where people will live in peace and in comfort for 1,000 years. The one of the two places on earth that Jesus will not renovate, is the site of the destroyed Babylon. This will be the habitat of "*devils foul spirits and unclean and hateful birds*", as Jeremiah 50:39, 40 makes so clear. The other place of perpetual damnation similar to that of Babylon will be Edom, which is what today is called Southern Jordan. This is so stated in Ezekiel 35. The reason is that the descendants of Esau retained a perpetual hatred of Jews, even turning them over to Babylonia those who escaped Nebuchadnezzar. Jeremiah 49:7-13 also alludes to the same thing. These prophecies tell us that these 2 locations on earth "*...shall be no more inhabited forever neither shall it be dwell in from generation to generation*"

Back to the Magog war, it seems to me to be quite cumbersome to expect that the remaining 3 ½ years worth of fuel supply will be somehow extracted and stored for use during the millennium. With the whole world to be miraculously restored, would Jesus be likely to consider this relatively trivial resource necessary? Furthermore, with all the devastation and death occurring in Israel during the 3 ½ year Tribulation, the idea of collecting and utilizing this material also seems a bit too cumbersome and unlikely. I believe that during the Millennium, all things past will remain in the past. To have this

additional relic of the just ended painful and terrifying days, as a continual reminder of that past, does not seem contextually appropriate.

That this is an end-time war is evidenced by the fact that Scripture tells us it occurs after the Jews have been regathered in the land. This of course, would have to be after May 14, 1948. The invasion of Israel will be by a consortium of five nations led by Magog meaning Russia. They can best be indentified through the table of nations found in Genesis 10. However, it is difficult to express specific geographic limits in terms of those nations existing today. Generally speaking, however, Gomer is Germany, including part of the Slavic countries; Togarmah is part of Armenia and Turkey. Persia is Iran; Libya is roughly Somalia; and Ethiopia is Ethiopia. We should carefully note that while some of these are currently Muslim countries, none are Arab countries. I believe that this is a very important factor because of its relevance involving some post Rapture events. If the Arab states didn't participate in the war, then it seems likely that they yet remain as a threat to Israel, and a valid reason why Antichrist's covenant will be welcomed.

It's been known for decades, but never publically admitted, that for many years Russia has had plans to one day invade Israel. Russia has been supplying arms and technology to the enemies that surround Israel in an attempt to weaken her so as to make their invasion less costly. Today we cannot help but see the imminent likelihood of an attack on Israel by these neighboring enemies. The beneficial results for Israel to be caused by the Magog war, is likely to cool down these Arab enemies for a few years.

The likely immanency of the Magog invasion has increased greatly due to the numerous regime changes that have, or are beginning to occur in some of these countries. These are countries that have been restrained from attacking Israel because of the billions of dollars of bribe money that the US has paid to their corrupt dictators. The Magog invasion will temporarily cool down the radical Jew-hating Muslims typified by those who control Iran. By the way, as I am now editing this study in March 2016, there are two most disturbing events taking place. Knowing what we know from Scripture, these are clear

evidences that we are already in the end times. First a treaty has been agreed to which guarantees that Iran will soon be a nuclear power, Second, attached to a transportation bill that both parties want passed is an obscure stipulation that the US will side with Iran if Israel seeks to defend itself by trying to destroy the bomb making capabilities of Iran! In this, we can see prophecy being fulfilled which predicts that every nation will turn against Israel. The pretense of the US being a supporter of Israel is here unmasked! That prophecy has been fulfilled.

It is evident as God speaks to Gog through Ezekiel that the war will be by His directed will. No longer will Gog be able to simply fund Israel's enemies, but God will "put hooks into his jaw" and drag him into this war. Whether or not Gog is ready, God will force the invasion as He protects Israel. Gog's armies will spread like a "cloud over the mountains of Israel" where God will kill five sixth or more of the invading armies. God's stated purpose for this war is "so they will know that I am Lord". Sixty-five times in the Book of Ezekiel God uses this expression regarding what He is about to do. These hoards of men and military equipment will be many times greater than what Israel will be able to muster for its defense. As we look back in Scripture, this is the way God has always orchestrated the battles when He has intervened on behalf of His people. It has been God's way of proving that He is Lord, and that He, and no one else, produced the victory for His people. As already noted, God has shown this 4 times in recent history, yet neither the world nor Israel ever acknowledged His involvement. The six-day war in 1967 found Israel easily victorious against 40:1 odds. Again in 1973 the so-called Yom Kippur war produced even more impressive results from even a far greater advantage that the enemies had. God never got the glory for these spectacular interventions. This time the evidence of His involvement will be so impressive that the world should really believe that He is Lord! Sadly, even with this evidence they won't believe.

Until recently, there has been only one essential prerequisite that made this invasion unlikely. This was a covenant agreement between Israel and Turkey. Because of this, Russia could not affectually precede with the invasion without first dealing with the one million men Turkish army. For decades Turkey has sought to be westernized and to be

accepted into the UN. The westernization did succeed. However, the “west” would not accept Turkey as part of the European family of Nations.” Much has to do with the fact that Turkey is, according to Maybury 99.8% Muslim.

Now, I understand that this agreement has been nullified. Furthermore, Turkey has turned away from seeking any western affiliation, and has moved to have friendly relations with Russia as its most important trading partner and ally. As I understand the political scene, with this obstacle removed, all the necessary pre-requisites to a Magog invasion are essentially in place. Thus, from that perspective, it could happen at any time. The major changes in regimes in the adjacent countries is likely to produce a totally different dynamic in the region. Therefore, the present situation, which seems most favorable for the invasion would tend to make it most imminent. Of course, God could neutralize these changes leaving the window of opportunity open longer. In any event, it will be done exactly the way God has predicted it to be.

As it is described in Scripture, the invasion will be a geographically limited one. The rest of the world will merely look on, including “Sheba and Dedan,” which are now called Saudi Arabia, and probably Great Britain. Britain could also be viewed as also referring to the whole English speaking world. Based on what Scripture says, however this war will not materially involve the rest of the world. Because of its defeat, Russia may cease being a major player in world affairs. However, verse 6 of chapter 39 is very disturbing, *“And I will send a fire on Magog, and among them that dwell carelessly in the isles: and they shall know that I am the Lord.”* What country lives more carelessly than the U.S.? It could be that we may be subjected to some of that “fire”. However, I don’t find this comment by God as suggesting a world-wide conflagration. It seems to me that it will be more of a serious reminder, a “spanking” to those also, to remind them that He is Lord. As Scripture predicts, all nations will be and already are hostile to Israel. As already noted, the present administration (2015) has all but abandoned even its image of being a friend of Israel. Public sentiment as well as government policy are today anti-Israel. That all nations shall be against Israel is a most certain fulfilled aspect of the end portion of the end times.

Above, I've indicated that Russia wants to invade Israel. Yet in Ezekiel 38:4 God says that He will put hooks in Gog's jaws and force him to invade. Is it by God's force, or by Gog's will to invade? I believe they're one and the same. I suspect that the "hooks" will consist of insatiable irresistible greed, lust, hunger and envy for what Israel has in addition to their hatred of Jews. The Dead Sea has an almost inexhaustible supply of valuable minerals. Furthermore, I've read that there are oil and gas deposits under Israel and within its off-shore border limits that are larger than those that have existed in Saudi Arabia. Perhaps it's God's amplification of these which are what the is meant by the "hooks."

As we move on studying Ezekiel chapter 39, the description of the aftermath of the war, we find compelling evidence that atomic weaponry will be a part of what Gog apparently will use. As noted, after the war they will have to wait seven months before anyone can enter the battle area. That's how long it will take before the radioactivity to sufficiently diminish. The war material that they will then collect will be enough to fuel, and will fuel, all of Israel for seven years. A first century observer like John, could not possibly comprehend or articulate with any first century words, what would apply to twenty-first century weaponry. Remember also that the King James Version was translated into English in 1611, which further limited the translation to the technology of that day, when even then the bow and arrow, and sword with a horse to ride, were the primary weapons of war. Let us dwell on this point for a moment using Ezekiel 39:3 as a tool to understanding. *"and I will smite thy bow out of thy left hand, and will cause thine arrows to fall out of thy right hand."*

The Hebrew word translated "sword" is "cherub," which can mean any destroying instrument. "Arrow" is the translation of the word "khatis" which means "piercer." It is occasionally used to describe a thunderbolt. It could be translated today as a sharp missile. "Bow" is "keh-sheth" which means "launcher." Here we can see that a translation of this verse in terms of modern weaponry could say, "and I will smite thy launchers of thy left hand, and cause thy missiles to fallout of thy right hand."

Apparently this is God's way of telling Gog that his weaponry will not be used to hurt Israel, because God will take them away from him before they can be fired. This confirms the basis for there being the seven years worth of fuel. The tactical atomic weaponry won't get used, and so it will be there mostly undamaged, and will be capable of being dismantled and the radio-active fuel material reapplied to peaceful uses.

Now again back to the "when" question. As noted I have concluded that the most likely time for God's invasion is sometime before the Rapture. First, I have been prompted to believe as stated earlier, that Antichrist needs a world-wide problem of great magnitude to deal with. He needs to very impressively solve it in order to establish himself as a man of superior ability so as to garner world-wide allegiance and authority. He needs to have proven his ability, authority, trustworthiness and sincerity to the leaders of Israel. They will believe that he can make and enforce the seven year covenant. The Magog war would produce the opposite result. Please examine our comparison, in the context of a world-wide scale, with what Hitler did for Germany. This has been presented below in the Epilogue.

I don't believe the nature, the geographical limits, and the outcome of this Magog war provide the kind of conflict that could accomplish this. Second, at the end of the Magog invasion, we find Magog severely wounded, and Israel unscathed and victorious, whether or not they choose to acknowledge God's involvement. Thirdly, I see nothing in Scripture that connects Antichrist with this war. If this were to be a war that closely precedes the peace covenant, why would Israel even consider the need for such a protective covenant? Either God will have proven to them that He really is their shield, or they will consider themselves sufficiently invincible in their own right. Either way, it doesn't seem that his covenant would be considered to be of any great value to them at that time. Something most dramatic must bring about his preeminence. The Seal Judgements, as already mentioned, fulfill the requirement very well.

Now, let us look at what I believe is the most plausible and scripturally defensible alternative. It is that the Magog war is likely to happen at any moment, and sometime

before the Rapture. The big problem with this is that it seems to suggest that it is a pre-requisite to the Rapture. It seems that Scripture has always been interpreted in a way that the Rapture can come at any moment and that there is no pre-requisite event that must occur before the Rapture can happen. For many, this is a real turnoff for giving this alternative any credence. If in fact there were no pre-requisites, why has so much of God's permitted will been expressed over the last 2000 years? I am not sure where I'll end up with this, but, let's explore something more about what Scripture says on the subject, before we reject a pre-rapture place for the Magog invasion. First let's look at Romans 11:25 which says, *"For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits, that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fullness of the Gentiles be come in"*

This is seen by some as one of the most important passages in the Bible. This verse even by itself refutes the validity of replacement theology. Other verses speak of the temporary blindness of the Jews that resulted from their denial of Christ Jesus when He revealed who He was during His ministry. Here we are given a clue certain as to when their blindness will end. The, "until" in this verse is generally accepted as referring to the point in time when the "harpazo" that is the Rapture, and the entire eschatological scenario will fall into place. The word "mystery" is defined as a truth previously unrevealed (and therefore unknown) which is now revealed and publically proclaimed. There are twelve such mysteries to be found in the New Testament. We are given by this, "until," as clue as to when the Rapture will occur. It of course is not a date, but it is a point in time related to another event. It speaks of the *"...fullness of the Gentiles be come in"*.

This should not be confused with Luke 21:24 which speak of the *"time of the Gentiles"* which is a totally different message. I believe that we can safely agree with many, probably most, Bible scholars interpret the "fullness" in that manner. It means there is a specific point in time when the very last person of the church age will have been saved. Effectually it's a cut off number, a limited number of people that will enter eternity as the Body of Christ. WOW, does this mean that God is going to say "enough already" and

then close the door? Is He saying that His church, the Body of Christ is filled to capacity and therefore has to close its door to others who would come to the faith? ABSOLUTELY NOT!!! The God I worship would never do that.

The God I worship knows the end from the beginning and all things in between. By His foreknowledge, He has always known exactly how many would come to believe in His Son, and therefore be saved. He knows that at some point, keeping the door open any longer will not cause even one more soul, to enter. That number that God foreknew will eventually be reached. This will mark the end of the church age. It is then that the Father will say to His son, "*the fullness of the Gentiles has come in*, go bring your bride home. Another way to say this could be, "Son, I have searched the world and see that apostasy has reached its fullness, and so has the number who are willing to accept you as Lord and Savior during this dispensation. Therefore, there is no reason to allow the continuance of the pain and suffering of those who have come to faith. Son, go get them so that they need not suffer any longer, but instead be spared from the greater horrors that are yet to come. And while you are there, empty the graves of the rest of your Body of believers and bring them home as well." That's when Jesus will appear in the sky and call out all of those who are dead in Christ and all of those who are yet alive in Christ. He will call their eternal incorruptible bodies to be unified with their eternal soul/spirits.

Let it never be thought of for a moment that I am suggesting that anyone but God knows the time or a date certain when the Rapture will occur, for Scripture makes it clear that it could have come at any moment since Paul penned those words. In fact, there is implied evidence that Paul may have believed in its immanency within his own lifetime. Nevertheless I believe that here God has given us a precious clue regarding His coming for His church. Obviously, that fullness, that final number can, or could have been reached at any moment, had God chosen in past ages to structure an earlier end time scenario. However, we are not told to shut our eyes to any evidence that God may offer us regarding this matter. We, as biblical Christians, see clearly that we are indeed well within the actual end times, based on what we see around us, and how well it coincides with what Scripture tells us. We see the worst manner of apostasy growing everywhere,

as well as a movement away from any sound teachings that could lead to salvation. Yet we also see, on a world-wide basis, evidence that many are yet being saved, even though the remnant proportion seems to be growing smaller.

If we take seriously the idea regarding a specific number, and that this number includes the very last soul that will seek, and therefore receive salvation, we find evidence that this particular day may not be too long in coming. Any number, of unforeseen events could occur by tomorrow morning, that would dry up the pool of seekers, thereby finalizing that number, and thus triggering the Rapture. However, if we can assume that the pool will not dry up before tomorrow, but still has a way to go, then so also it might be a while longer than current events seem to suggest. As I ponder this, I see another strong possibility in what appears for several reasons to be a significant number of souls being drawn to the faith, may be largely a mirage. With the world producing large numbers of false prophets, and unsaved apostate teachers and pastors, many who follow them will only think they are saved, and have the appearance of being saved. So what we may come to believe as souls being saved, is erroneous, and so that true “fullness” day may be much closer than any of us realize.

What, may you ask, has any of this to do with the timing of the Magog invasion? Well, it is my attempt to present a case for the contention that the Magog invasion will occur before the Rapture. My contention is not without precedent, because God Himself expressed a preparation requirement when He spoke of when the fullness of the Gentiles be come in. On that basis I don't believe I have violated Scripture by claiming this to be a pre-requisite to the Rapture. God has already revealed a pre-requisite when He spoke of the fullness of the Gentiles. We certainly do not know when that will be, but in describing the characteristics of the end-times and allowing us to see the many aspects of its manifestations occurring in our time, we have been given a level of discernment regarding the matter that no previous generations could have had. As already more fully expressed above, it is on this basis that I believe that we can expect the Magog invasion to occur at anytime. The evidence, as previously presented, at least as I see it, is that all the pre-requisites to the invasion are rapidly falling in place, and may not, from Russia's

perspective, remain so if she does not take advantage of this present window of opportunity. The “window” was opened more widely as noted above when the U.S. abandoned Israel by claiming it would side with Iran against Israel if Israel attacked Iran.

Perhaps, the wisely crafty Putin known that this country is rapidly imploding and therefore may be waiting a little longer to when he sees for certain that we are no longer a threat, even if a new administration were to change its anti-Israel policy. Today both China and Russia see the U.S. as no more than a “paper tiger” who has much talk and smoke but no fire. Putin’s recent actions in Syria, I believe, are the first stage of his aggression agenda which might possibly lead to the Magog invasion. The window of opportunity is growing ever more attractive as the U.S., through our traitorous leadership deliberately destroys this nation’s willingness and ability to be effective on the world stage. In fact, it seems evident to me at least, that he seeks to destroy every vestige of its former greatness and furthermore to kill or enslave the entire white race in this country. The invasion of Israel will be an opportunity that will be absent of any resistance by the United States. It will be seen as a guaranteed success. Of course, he will not see, or will dismiss as fables, what our God told us that He has in store for him and his country. I’ve focused here on Putin, however, while he may not be the one to invade Israel, certainly one of his successors will be, for this prophecy will be fulfilled.

Having wandered all over Scripture trying to piece together a reasonably coherent Scripture-honoring interpretation of the sequence of end-time events, it seems well past time that I stop my wandering and end this study, Perhaps a summary of my interpretation of the subject chronology may be helpful. The following is a summary of the sequence of end-time events, as I currently believe they will occur.

1. In terms of the end-times sequence of events, one could pick any point in history to start with, since Jesus’ crucifixion, and resurrection. This is because Scripture indicates His rejection by the Jews as being the beginning of the end times. For those of us who see what is now happening in the world, we realize that we are now very close to the very

end of these end times. We could spend many hours listing the many evidences of this fact. Several of these have already been identified elsewhere above. However, for the purpose of this study, I have chosen to begin with the Magog invasion as an event that I believe will occur prior to Rapture. Many will claim that it occurs after the Rapture, and that it is silently woven into the Tribulation events. There is no Scriptural support for this assumption. It is my belief that it is a pre-Rapture event that stands by itself for the reasons provided above. I don't believe that Scripture has provided a place for it to occur after the Rapture. It only requires that many of the listed pre-Tribulation conditions have to have occurred before it can begin. For instance there couldn't have been an invasion of Israel before there was an Israel to invade, and that was only possible after May 14, 1948.

2. My belief is that Matthew 24 and Revelation 6, the Seal Judgements speak in part of the same event. There will be great wars and world-wide suffering for a while before the Rapture. The major portions of the Seal Judgements will occur after the Rapture, and before the seventieth week of Daniel begins. These will all be of man's doing, by God's permitted will, and all will be guided by Satan through his "principalities and powers" that are even today the influencers behind nearly every level of government across the whole world. These agents of Satan are the angels that chose to follow him when he rebelled from heaven. I am suggesting that the so-called "seal judgments" are how these events are characterized in Scripture. Antichrist will not be involved in any of this. He will simply be a man, chosen by Satan and probably nurtured from birth by demons preparing him for his unholy mission. The earthly catastrophic events will set the stage for his emergence as the "great restorer" just as the WWI devastation of Germany provided the setting Hitler to "restore" Germany's greatness.

3. The man whom we call Antichrist will be present on earth throughout these troubled times, and most likely even before the Rapture. However, at that time the world will come to know him only as an extraordinary man. After the seal judgments, through Satan's guidance, and the assistance of these "principalities and powers," he will become internationally recognized as extremely capable in all areas of leadership as was Hitler. Through those Satan-enhanced attributes, he will be able to resolve the "unsolvable" military, political, economic, educational, social and other major world-wide problems that the destruction by the seal judgments will have caused. He will be instrumental in restoring some level of peace and prosperity, and bring the world together into a single global government. We should keep in mind that the world will not yet know that he is Antichrist. The world will only know him as a man with great abilities, strengths and charismatic personality. They will at first, see him as a God-given gift to all humanity, and will feel grateful to have him as their "supernaturally" endowed leader.
4. The world, in recognizing his abilities, will provide him with ever increasing authority, until he has become the world leader having, for all practical purposes, world-wide dictatorial power.
5. With that power in hand, he will turn toward each of the remaining "hot spots" of the world where his authority and power will be able to quench them and bring about compliance. Dealing with Israel and her on-going security fears, will be his major challenge and focus of attention. With tensions yet high between Israel and its neighbors, he will negotiate an agreement which will become a covenant, or treaty whereby he will guarantee Israel peace for at least seven years. This will not be because of his love and respect of Israel. It will be to cause their gathering together so that later he will be able to kill them all.

6. This treaty signing will ‘trigger’ the beginning of the seventieth week of Daniel prophecy (Daniel 9:25-27). The end of this seven year period, that is, the end of the Great Tribulation, will mark the end of all gentile rule, which began with Nebuchadnezzar.

7. The first 3 ½ years of the seventieth week of Daniel will be a period of peace, or at least the absence of war for Israel. That is when he will allow them to rebuild the Temple. Then he will read the covenant with Israel. It will be broken at the end of that 3 ½ years when he “comes out of the closet” declaring himself to be God. Prior to that, with the help of the False Prophet, he will ever increasingly be viewed as the personification of goodness and piety even to the extent that through Satan’s great power of deception, he will appear to have been killed, and on the third day will “rise from the dead” as Jesus truly did. Collectively, these may be the evidence of his “deity” which will cause the world to worship him as THE Christ.

8. The 144,000 will begin their evangelizing careers across the entire world at the beginning of the seventieth week, and will continue their service for 7 years. By the beginning of the 70th week, the Seal Judgements will have been completed.

9. The two witnesses will also begin their testimony to the Jewish population at the beginning of the seventieth week, but they will be killed and return to heaven at the end of the first 3 ½ years. This will coincide with the “great man” declaring himself to be the true Christ. It will mark the beginning of his 3 ½ year reign as the worshipped leader of the world, the man whom we call Antichrist.

10. That most horrible period of all time is what Jesus referred to as the Great Tribulation. It will begin at the end of the first 3 ½ years. At that point in time, by God's permitted will:

- Eccleasical Rome will be destroyed by the ten puppet kings who will serve under Antichrist.
- As noted above, Antichrist will declare himself to be God.
- The Jews will no longer be able to worship in the Temple, for he will severely pollute the Temple by placing his own image in the holy of holies, and demand that it be worshipped. It may be that the Jews will never hold worship services in the Temple. It's evident that its construction cannot commence until the covenant is ratified. It is likely that it will take most, if not all of the 3 ½ years to construct it and make it ready for its purpose. One might reason that Antichrist's purpose for the covenant and for the construction of the Temple will be wholly for himself rather than for the Jews for whom for many years he will have had great hatred. The fact is that he will claim the Temple and use it by placing his, own image, in the Holy of Holies place.
- His declaration as God will trigger the mass exodus from Judea of all redeemed Jews these will flee to Bozrah, where God will protect them to the end of the Tribulation. They will have been brought to the faith through the 3 ½ years of evangelizing by the Two Witnesses.
- The mark of the beast will be either willingly taken, or forced on all throughout the world who wish to keep living. I suspect most will take it willing because they will believe that he is God.
- Antichrist will begin his war against God, and the earth, and all of humanity, especially the Jews. Before it's over

two thirds of the world's Jewish population will be killed. (Zachariah 13:8, 9), and half of the total of the world's people will have been killed.

- This tribulation wars are expressed by the seven trumpet judgments which will continue for most of that last 3 ½ years.
11. The devastation that Antichrist will cause by these judgments, will be of such magnitude that God will end His permission, lest "there should be no flesh saved."
 12. God does not stop Satan's program by some massive instantaneous thrust or, supernatural elimination. He will instead institute, by His directed and purposeful will, the seven vial judgments, which He will apply individually in rapid succession, all during the final days or months of the Tribulation period. These vial judgments will somewhat duplicate what Antichrist has been doing, but these will be directed most specifically, against Antichrist, his agents and his earthly centers of power, particularly Babylon.
 13. At the very end, by God's permitted will, as Antichrist's last act, he will amass what remains of his world-wide military powers that are yet loyal to him, for one last battle where he intends to kill off all remaining Jews. God allows them to ravage Jerusalem, as his army marches from the plains of Jezreel south to Bozrah where God has sheltered, fed and protected His faithful Jewish remnant for those last 3 ½ years.
 14. Before they can harm His people, Jesus Himself will come down from heaven and destroys Antichrist's entire army (Isaiah 63). This will end the seventieth week of Daniel as well as the Great Tribulation, and all of the activities of Antichrist and the False Prophet. It will also end Satan's

activities for a thousand years. What will cause Jesus to return to earth? He said that He wouldn't return until they acknowledged Him to have been the Messiah. This will be the result of the 3 ½ years of evangelizing to them by the 2 witnesses. The whole truth will be embedded in their hearts, and they will call him back. Scripture gives this as the only reason that would cause Him to return.

There is a 75 day period that occurs after the Great Tribulation and before the Millennium. This is according to Daniel 12:11, 12, where the 75 day gap is revealed. During that period, I believe that Jesus will accomplish at least twelve different tasks in preparation for the millennium. Because we haven't yet reported on this period, let us just jump back into Scripture and see what that "gap" is all about.

First let us see what Daniel mentioned regarding the end of the seventieth week. Throughout Revelation, and twice in Daniel, the second half of the tribulation is called out as 3 ½ years or 1260 days. However, Daniel, as he is directed reported in the last verse a period of time that is 75 days longer than 1260 days. He first adds 30 days and then 45 more, making it a total of 1335 days. Here is how he recorded this prompting from God.

Daniel 12:11-13

"11 And from the time that the daily sacrifice shall be taken away, and the abomination that maketh desolate set up, there shall be a thousand two hundred and ninety days. 12 Blessed is he that waiteth, and cometh to the thousand three hundred and five and thirty days. 13 But go thou thy way till the end be: for thou shalt rest, and stand in thy lot at the end of the days."

There is so much in these three verses to warrant a major study. What follows is but a brief summary of what I believe they reveal.

These 75 days will begin at the end of the tribulation period, that is when the vial judgments will have ended, and when Jesus will have destroyed Antichrist and his army at Bozrah. Where will Jesus be at that moment? We tend to believe that immediately after the Great Tribulation He will return with His bride to the earth and begin His thousand year reign. But Wait!! The millennium can't commence the next day! The earth is in no shape to receive this bride, and there are some major "loose ends" that have to be dealt with first. These will take some time to accomplish. In fact, they will take exactly 75 days, because that is the amount of time that God, through Daniel told us it will take. We don't find this time gap mentioned anywhere in Revelation. However, we do find implied clues, if we but think about the activities mentioned in chapters 19 and 20. By simply applying our Spirit guided common sense we can readily see that Jesus has much to accomplish after the destruction has ended and before His millennial reign can begin. It is unlikely that we can determine all that needs to be done. However, we can, with some degree of certainty, identify the major things. The following is a listing of these achievements which I believe will occur before the millennium can begin.

1. Satan must be sent into the bottomless pit (Revelation 20:3)
2. Antichrist and the False Prophet, that is the counterfeit Holy Spirit, must be cast into the lake of fire that God has prepared in the outer darkness. (Revelation 19:20) they will be there alone for one thousand years, and then have billions of people, demons and fallen angels there to share in their misery. Notice that Antichrist will be cast alive into the lake of fire. This means that he will first be resurrected, because we find in Isaiah 14:3-11 that his soul spends some time in Sheol while the world rejoices at his death. In Isaiah 14:16-21 we learn of the fate of his dead body. It appears that he will be one of the first casualties at Bozrah. We find evidence of his death also reported in 2Thesseloians 2:8. Again in Isaiah 14:16-21, we read that the world will "gaze" at his dead body in gladness and wonder. His body will never be buried but instead "trampled" by his own fleeing army.

3. Why is the 75 day interval specified to be in two segments? I believe that the 30 days are set aside as the period during which Jesus will deal with all of the destruction, necessary in His preparation for the millennium. The last 45 days will be utilized by Jesus to provide the construction of what will be need during the millennium.

4. Therefore, I believe that the Sheep and Goat Judgment will take place very soon within those first 30 days. We find this described in Matthew 25:31-46. *“³¹ When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory: ³² and before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats: ³³ and he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left. ³⁴ Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. ³⁵ for I was ahungered, and ye gave meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: ³⁶ naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me. ³⁷ Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee ahungered, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink? ³⁸ When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee? ³⁹ Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee? ⁴⁰ And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me. ⁴¹ Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels: ⁴² for I was ahungered, and ye gave me no meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me no drink: ⁴³ I was a stranger, and ye took me not in: naked, and ye clothed me not: sick, and in prison, and ye visited me not. ⁴⁴ Then shall they also answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee ahungered, or athirst, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister unto thee? ⁴⁵ Then shall he answer them, saying, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch, as ye did it not to one of*

the least of these, ye did it not to me. 46 And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal.”

The valley of Jehoshaphat is located along the route that Antichrist will have taken when he launched his “Armageddon” campaign. His march will end up at Bozrah for the purpose of destroying the remnant of Israel. In the Sheep Goat Judgements, each of the non-Jewish survivors of the Tribulation will be judged on the basis of their anti-Semitism or pro-Semitism. Salvation is not necessarily the issue here, although condemnation is.

Verses 31 and 32 seem to be puzzling unless they are carefully studied. A simple reading seems to indicate that the Sheep and Goat Judgement occurs during the Millennium when Jesus sits on His throne of glory. Sitting on the Father’s throne, as He does today, is not His throne. On this earth, the only throne that He will sit on is His Millennium throne, the throne of his human ancestral father David, as it was pronounced to Mary. If we connect these verses chronologically, as a first reading might suggest, then this judgement seems to occur during the millennium. The fact is that they are not so connected. If they were intended to be, then “and” would not be standing alone. The verse would have begun with “and then” or “after this” or some other chronologically connecting phrase. Verse 32 is another separate comment Jesus makes related to the Judgement that will occur at an earlier time as noted by other similar plural references. As I pondered this and searched for other evidences I found other clues in these verses that permit this separation view. However, because of the adequacy of what is written above, there was no need for any additional discussion.

Those of the Gentiles who were pro-Semitic, those who will be kind and helpful to the 144,000, are those who are here referred to as the sheep. The “Sheep” are among those blessed redeemed souls who will survive the 1335 days of which Daniel spoke. The anti-Semites are Gentiles who refused to aid God’s special people. These are called the “goats,” and they will be immediately killed and sent

alive into the Lake of Fire. It's evident that God has always known that none of these would ever come to the faith, given that He will, at that moment, condemn them all. The reason for concluding that this an Anti-Semitism judgment stems from the fact that Jesus calls those who were helped or not helped as "my brethren," meaning Jews. Jews are Jesus' blood brethren. There is no other category of people for which this word would apply. Christian believers are not His brethren. They are His Bride.

As, noted, I believe those who are helped are the 144,000 Jews who will have preached the Gospel to all nations during the Tribulation. As mortal humans sealed by God for protection from being killed, they will not necessarily be miraculously fed, clothed or sheltered during that time, nor will they be totally protected from pain and suffering. As we have read many times, there were numerous such humanitarian acts played out by Gentiles during the World War II Holocaust. This is when a reported six million Jews were killed by Hitler, Satan's prototype Antichrist.

5. The first constructive act by Jesus during the last 45 days will be to restore the livable quality of the whole earth so as to support a healthy and abundant life for the next thousand years. As we look back at what the Seal, Trumpet and Vial Judgments did to the earth, it is evident that a major miraculous restoration must occur, which only Jesus can do.
6. The new Temple of worship must be built (Acts 15:16, Ezekiel 40-44:3) ** *See Footnote #5 The Millennium Temple on page #156*
7. The Resurrection of the Old Testament saints. These will not rise at the time of the coming Rapture. Only those Christians living, and those "dead in Christ" will rise at that time. Isaiah 26:19 alludes to this later resurrection of the Old Testament saints at the time of the restored and converted Israel. Daniel 12:2 speaks of the resurrection of both the Old Testament saints and those who are the

eternally condemned. A more literal rendering of this verse in Daniel, according to Dr. Fruchtenbaum is as follows: “and (at that time) many (of your people) shall wake or be separated out from among the sleepers in the earth’s dust. Those who awake shall be unto everlasting life, but those (the rest of the sleepers who do not wake at this time) shall be unto shame and contempt everlasting.” These Old Testament saints, along with the resurrected Tribulation saints, will be the “friends of the Bridegroom” (John 3:29) who will be invited to the wedding feast. In the context of Daniel 12:2, Daniel is speaking of events after the Tribulation, and therefore we must conclude that this is the time that the Old Testament saints will be resurrected. I find no other place in Scripture that alludes specifically to their resurrection. Remember however, that the spirits of the Old Testament saints have been in heaven since Jesus went to Sheol and freed them. It’s their bodies that lay waiting to be resurrected. When Jesus will come to the clouds He will deliver only the living and the dead of His Church. It is just before the wedding feast that the Old Testament saints are resurrected just in time to be the Bridegroom’s guests.

8. The throne of David on which Jesus will reign must be constructed (Luke 1:32; Ezekiel 37:24; Hosea 3:5, Jeremiah 23:5, Jeremiah 30:9; Acts 15:16)
9. A home for His Bride must also be prepared. In John 14:1-3 we read that Jesus will leave the apostles to prepare a place for them in heaven. The Apostles are the “first born” of what would become the church, which is also called the Bride of Christ. (Revelation 19:7) She will have been in that place prepared for her in His Father’s house in heaven, since the Rapture. But now, Jesus must prepare another place of their own, a physical place on the restored earth, the place where He and His bride will live throughout the millennium.
10. The wedding feast will also take place during the 45 days before the millennium begins. With all things on earth having been put in order, Jesus will bring His Bride to the earth at which time they and their guests will celebrate their wedding.

Their guests will be the then resurrected Old Testament Saints, and those who will have been killed during the Tribulation. These collectively, will be the wedding guests.

11. There is another event that will take place, and that is the remarriage of Jehovah to Israel. We don't find anything in Revelation to suggest this, but it will happen, and it is evident that it is in this interval when it will occur. The evidence for this wedding is found throughout the writings of the prophets. For that evidence see ***Footnote #6 The wife of Jehovah on page # 158.*

12. The Wife of Jehovah must also have a home. However, because these Jews will be living flesh and blood mortal people, perhaps their homes will be like the "homesteader" homes when our "west" was first settled. These will be spread out across the entire land that God promised to Abraham most of which the Jews never occupied. At the peak of David's and Solomon's kingdoms, the Jews only occupied a small portion of the land God had promised them. Having always been God's special people positionally, during the millennium they will become God's special people experientially unto eternity. Scriptures identifies them as God's wife. Then they will finally occupy the entire area that God had promised to them through Abraham.

Who will do all of this work? Only Jesus can accomplish this. But remember, He is the One who fought the battle with Antichrist and his army at Bozrah! He came to the earth to do this, and nothing in Scripture tells us that He returned to heaven, because it speaks only of a second coming, and not a third coming. He will remain on the earth after the battle in order to attend to these tasks. That is what the 75 days are for. He surely will stand on the Mount of Olives, but that this is not where He will come to earth first. Note carefully Acts 1:11a. It doesn't say that He will come back directly to the Mount of Olives. It says He "shall come in like manner". Note it is in "like manner" and not necessarily to the same place. The place where we read of Jesus coming back to the Mount of Olives is in Zechariah 14:4 where it simply says that "*And his feet shall stand*

on that day upon the Mount of Olives,...” Notice its stand not land. I believe that many have wrongly inferred that He lands there directly from heaven.

However, if we examine the whole Word of God as it relates to “that day”, we must conclude differently. He will “first” come from heaven to fight Antichrist at Bozrah, after which He will perform the above listed tasks. One of these tasks will be to bring His Bride to their earthly home He has prepared for her. How will He accomplish this? I haven’t found any part of Scripture that tells us definitively. Jesus’ second coming is clearly revealed in Revelation 19:11-16, and in Isaiah 63-1, where we learn that the first thing He will do upon His return to earth will be to destroy Antichrist and his army in that final battle we call Armageddon. So how will He bring His Bride to the earth without going back to heaven to get her? If He does, then technically this would be a third coming! I don’t believe that He will bring her when He comes to destroy Antichrist and his army. Why would He bring her to the devastated, barely inhabitable world to hang around somewhere for 75 days before He is able to clean it up the world and prepare her home?

Before we move on, let’s consider a plausible answer. First recall how Jesus will initially meet His Bride. The first formal meeting will be when He descends from heaven as far as the clouds. From there He will call her to Him, and will bring her to heaven, to His Father’s house. We call this the Rapture. Now consider this, which the more I think about it, the more I’m persuaded to take seriously. Could it be, that just as Jesus will descend to the clouds to greet His Bride and take her to His Father’s house in heaven, He will later ascend from the earth to the clouds to again greet His Bride and bring her to the home He has prepared on earth? Could it be that the Father will send the Bride to Him as far as the clouds, along with an escort of that host of angels? This is a plausible and “poetic” answer to the question, and certainly in keeping with the way our loving God deals with many of the seemingly “difficult” issues. Scripture doesn’t allude to this, but it doesn’t preclude it either. If that seems to be too far “out of the box” let’s consider another possibility, that I consider less plausible.

Let's assume Jesus does go back to heaven to get His Bride. By this, am I offering the idea of a third coming, or another phase of His earthly coming? I am indicating the possibility that His coming could occur in two phases, about 75 days apart. One of several precedents for potentially viewing it this way is the resurrection story. As previously described, Scripture speaks of only two resurrections. The first resurrection consists of all of those who are redeemed and continue on with God, and the second, consists of those who are condemned. Again as previously described, the first resurrection consists of five parts. If these five diverse events can collectively be called the first resurrection, why might we not consider a similar answer here, that there are two phases of the second coming? As an off the wall conjecture, the referred to Scriptural basis is tenuous at best.

Notice that when Jesus sets foot on the Mount of Olives, Jerusalem will be split in two. I believe that before He does this, all 12 tasks listed above will have been completed. As I have mused over this matter, it seems clear that the old Jerusalem will no longer exist as a City. Its usefulness will have ended, and a New Jerusalem will be built to the north of the location. The old Jerusalem was a place of abject wickedness throughout most of its existence. For that reason it too was often been likened to Babylon. The only place I find the splitting of Jerusalem is in Zachariah 14:4. There we are told that the split will occur when Jesus' "feet shall stand on the Mount of Olives". It's stand not land! Its stand not just touch. How long will He stand there, a moment, an hour, we don't know. When will He do this? I don't know. It doesn't seem appropriate that it will occur when He brings His Bride, so it seems more likely that it will happen early within the first 30-day period as noted earlier. It is also interesting to note what Revelation 16:17-19 tells us:

17 "And the seventh angel poured out his vial into the air; and there came a great voice out of the temple of heaven, from the throne, saying, It is done. 18 And there were voices, and thunders, and lightnings; and there was a great earthquake, such as was not since men were upon the earth, so mighty an earthquake, and so great. 19 And the great city was divided into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell: and great Babylon came in

remembrance before God, to give unto her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of his wrath.”

We find that the 7th Vial Judgement, by means of a mighty earthquake divided “the great city” into 3 parts. A casual reading would lead to the conclusion that it is the Babylonian City spoken of. However, it is Jerusalem that will be divided into 3 parts. Calling it Babylon is referring to the root word *babal* which refers to its on-going state of confusion. Thus the 7th Vial Judgment will be levied on Jerusalem. It seems apparent that this will not totally destroy it, but primarily separate it into 3 parts. Its destruction comes later when Jesus stands on the Mount of Olives.

Here I’ll repeat a question I put forth earlier in this study, and try to answer it from a very logical perspective. Why this division of these seventy-five days into two segments? As already noted, I suspect that it might have to do with two sets of things that are distinctively different from one another. I believe it is to differentiate the first four items which are destructive, from the last eight items which are constructive. As a precedent, remember that Daniel presented the seventy week (490 years) prophecy the same way; He broke it up into milestone segments. He spoke first of seven weeks, (49 years) then the seven plus sixty two weeks, (483 years) and then one more, the seventieth week (7years). I believe that the first 49 years is the period of time from writings of the last prophet Malachi to the time of John the Baptist.

These are called the silent years. Malachi was the last recorded by the prophets. His book completed the Old Testament, while John the Baptist ushered in the New Testament as he announced the arrival of Jesus as the Lamb of God. A chronological study found elsewhere in the Christian musings papers explores this more completely. Artaxerxes Longamas gave the order to complete construction of the walls and streets. That is also when the Old Testament was completed. To single out those years was a way of memorializing that event. See my commentary of the “Book of Daniel” for a detailed analysis of this. A total of sixty-nine weeks, or four hundred and eighty three years went

by to the first coming of Jesus. Of course after the present two thousands plus years delay, he will come again.

Verses 12 and 13 of Daniel address those blessed souls described above who have lived through the Tribulation and will continue to live into the millennium. Here the word “blessed” is a translation of the Hebrew word “*esher*” and means “happiness, blessed happiness”. Therefore, where it here speaks of “blessed” it does not mean blessed in the sense of being spiritually redeemed. It simply means that they will be blessed in their happiness to have survived, regardless of their spiritual condition. This is very important to understand from the perspective of this study. Of all of the words that God could have used that would have included a spiritual element, He chose the one and only word “*esher*” which only expresses physical happiness. To me, this clearly tells us that unsaved people can enter the millennium. Those not yet redeemed at that time, will have up to 100 years to come to faith, and thereby, to live all the way through, the millennium to what is called “at the end of the days.” Those who fail to accept Jesus will not be allowed to live past the age of one hundred years.

There is an interesting situation to ponder here. Isaiah 65:17-25 provides us with a great vision of what will go on during the millennium. It begins with God saying “...*I create new heavens and a new earth...*” We must not confuse this with the eternal heaven and earth of Revelation 21 and 22. Here it is the renewal or restoration of the earth that exists today. It is part of what Jesus will do during the 75 days. The word “new” as used here is from the Hebrew word “*chadash*” which can be translated as “new-fresh, new thing” and from its prime root as “to be new; to rebuild; renew.” From the time context as used here, this means that the present earth will be renewed, or made like new. From Isaiah 65, we can conclude that people living during the millennium will have children, and that a hundred year old will be considered a child. He will have had a hundred years to become a true believer. If by that time he hasn’t come to faith, he will be “accursed”*. Thus unbelievers will not live past one hundred years. Those who will live out the 1000 years, will then be raptured. There will be no Jewish unbelievers in the millennium kingdom, because all Jews will have accepted the Messiah prior to the beginning of the

millennium. Unbelief will only happen to Gentiles, and therefore death will only exist among the Gentiles. (** See Footnote #7 Israel's Total Salvation on page #165)

What we have here at the end of the millennium is the last rebellion by Satan and his army of whom all will have to have been born sometime during the 900th year of the millennium and who refused the offer of salvation. This will also be a world full of saved souls all in their natural flesh and blood bodies. Because they are living, they have no need of resurrection. Yet their corruptible bodies must be rendered incorruptible so that they can leave here and go to the new heaven and earth (Revelation 21:1) Therefore they will be raptured. It will be a rapture similar to the one the living saints in Christ here on earth will soon experience. It will be an instantaneous conversion of the living corruptible bodies into the eternal living incorruptible bodies as they are taken from this earth to the totally new and vastly new and different earth. Collectively, this is all part of the first resurrection. (Revelation 20:5, 6) The second resurrection brings the unsaved to the White Throne Judgment where Jesus tells them why they are eternally condemned.

Is all of this the final word on the matters here addressed? Obviously not! I pray, as I believe, that all of the assertions made herein are basically accurate, are nowhere contrary to Scripture, and have been made convincingly defensible from a Scriptural perspective. I pray that this will bring some measure of increased understanding of what God has given us to know. If, this effort stimulates anyone to pursue God's truth more seriously than before, I will feel additionally blessed. This ends the basic text of this study. The Epilogue and Footnotes that follow each go into greater detail regarding the items of study where each is referenced in the main text.

* Dr. Arnold Fruchtenbaum translation of "accursed" to mean, being caused to die as unsaved souls. I believe this also, because of the context of that point in time.

****Epilogue**

I have felt prompted to sketch a possible word profile of the man we call Antichrist. For those of us who study the Bible seriously, and have studied the Book of Revelation to any extent, we know him as the epitome of evil, and the final world dictator who will rise to unprecedented heights of ability and popularity, and even falsely express holy worship. But will he be born more wicked than anyone else? Will his destiny be evident by his character from an early age? I don't think so. He will, I believe grow into manhood with characteristics well within the range of "old fashion" normalcy. I believe that even then he will have some very admirable talents, from the world's perspective. When Satan finds and chooses him, and considers the time right, he will groom him and eventually provide him with the full measure of his supernatural powers.

Thus through Satan's involvement, his powers will grow until they fulfill Satan's requirements to be his Antichrist. These will send him to great heights of world class achievements beyond where any other man has ever risen. At first the evil in him will be carefully cloaked so as to not be apparent, perhaps even to himself. Recall what Jesus said about Judas. He told his disciples that "Satan entered him." This suggests to me that he was not abnormally wicked until Satan got involved. It is likely that Satan had his eye on Judas for some time, slowly breaking down his integrity and beliefs. Satan had but one use for him after which he tossed him out to deal with his badly damaged conscience. Satan struck when he felt the time was right. So it may be with the man who will become the final antichrist. For further insights regarding Judas see the "Christian Musings" study called "What Do We Know About the Apostles."

We think of the word antichrist in two different ways. We consider the man in Revelation as the Antichrist in the sense that he will be a false, or pseudo, or counterfeit Christ. We correctly see him as declaring himself to be Christ-God. That is why the title anti, or false Christ, fits so well. There have been, and will continue to be, many antichrists of the other kind. They are antichrists in the sense that they are men who hate or simply deny Christ. They are anti, that is, against Christ. We see them everywhere today, and they will keep growing rapidly in number during these end times. Many of

these, I believe will become ardent followers and disciples of the man, who will take on the role of the Antichrist.

As we study Revelation, we speak often of Antichrist as that particular man whom Satan will groom into his own image, knowledge and strength, and who will declare himself to be the real Christ. Yet no where in Revelation is he referred to by that name! In fact in all of Scripture he is so referred to by this name only once, and that is in 1John2:18. There it says, "*Little children, it is the last time: and as ye have heard that antichrist shall come, even now are there many antichrists; whereby we know that it is the last time.*" John was given to understand that the "last time" is the end times that had come. These commenced when the Jewish leadership refused to believe that Jesus was the Messiah. Here John spoke of the many antichrists, those hating Jesus who would continue to proliferate even unto when Antichrist would come. Seeing now the many antichrists is one of the evidences that these are indeed the last few years of the end times.

As noted, in reading this in the context in which it occurs, it seems clear to me that John is actually aware of the coming of the Antichrist. The word antichrist in its other meaning appears in Scripture only three times. All of them are referred to by John. They are found twice in 1John, and once in 2John. Even in Revelation, except for the extremely subtle mention of this man on a white horse carrying a bow, in 6:2, we read nothing at all about him until chapter 13:1. There he is referred to as "...*saw a beast rise up out of the sea...*" that is out of the world's Gentile population. From there through chapter 20, he is called the "beast" 36 times. In the sequence of these revelations, he is not mentioned again until after the sixth trumpet judgment. In Revelation 16:13, 17:9, 19:19, 20, Antichrist is still called the beast while Satan is called the dragon. Daniel speaks of the one we call Antichrist as the "*little horn*" (Daniel 7:8) "...*a king of fierce countenance, and understanding dark sentences...*" Daniel 8:23) "...*the prince that shall come...*" (Daniel 9:26). Some of these can be considered as two-fold prophecies. Antiochus Epiphanes was the first such a being. He committed the first desecration of the Temple, known as the "abomination of desolation." Thus he and his activities served as

the prototype for the coming antichrist. Next we will discuss a much recent antichrist which I believe that Satan was certain was his final antichrist.

None of this negates the fact that this man of perdition whom we call Antichrist, will come at his God appointed time. This is merely to point out that the label by which we refer to him is mostly of our own making and only once predicted and identified in Scripture by that name. It is evident that the reason that we have chosen to refer this beast as the Antichrist, is because of the fact that he will claim to be the true Christ-God and will back up his claim through deceits and great wonders. It is the later satanic nature of his being, and his terrible works that earn him the “official” scriptural title of the “beast.” It also seems to imply that both he and the False Prophet emerge from the crowds of their own kind, initially not as “beasts,” but as mature men, chosen by Satan to be molded for their respective callings.

Has there ever been a man in modern times who we might recognize as having been a sort of mini, or prototype Antichrist? Was there ever a man whose background and life were, on a lesser scale, similar to what we understand will characterize the life of Antichrist? I believe there was. While many leaders of cults, and other false teachers have claimed to be God, and even to be the resurrected Christ, only one historic figure, one who never claimed to be either of these, seems to be a fitting proto-type for the coming Antichrist. Today, he probably is the most vilified man in all of modern history. Others were just as wicked and killed far more people, but only this man’s life seems to typify a great deal of what I believe Antichrist’s brief hour on the world stage will be like.

Obviously this man was Adolph Hitler. To relate him to Antichrist is nothing new, in fact, at the time, many were convinced that he was the Antichrist, but not the last one. The world only recalls his evil deeds, and knows little and cares less about who he was before he became the epitome of evil. However, I believe that it is the “rest of the story” about his early life and rise to prominence that best identifies him as a very plausible Antichrist. By examining this, I believe that we can find some valuable insights

regarding what the man, Antichrist will be like “before Satan enters him.” I believe that Hitler was much more than a simple prototype. I believe that Satan was convinced that in Hitler, he had found his final Antichrist. The more I have studied and mused about this, and examined his life and his achievements, the stronger I believe that this was Satan’s Antichrist through whom he believed he could bring the entire world under his control, as has been his plan from the beginning.

I believe that John 13:27 is an important clue regarding this point. Recall that Judas was Jesus’ disciple for 3 ½ years and during that time no one but Jesus knew what he would do. Was it in His heart from the beginning? I don’t believe so. In fact, even after Jesus identified him as a traitor at the last supper, the other disciples still didn’t get it. They realized who he was only after the betrayal. It was then, looking back, that some of his evil qualities were recognized. But these I believe, were nothing more than the activities of a “normally” sinful man. We are all sinful. I believe that it was only when Satan “came into him that the extra-ordinary evil infected him. Scripture says “*And after the sop Satan entered him...*” If I’m interpreting this verse correctly, it seems that Satan may have had his eye on Judas for a long time, but it was at that moment of which Jesus spoke, that he succumbed to Satan and to his eternal destruction. Might this have been the case with Hitler, and could it also occur similarly in the man who will soon become the final Antichrist? Let’s see if we can make a credible comparison.

Before we do however, we should realize that there is rarely any real objectivity expressed by those who write the history books, especially by those who have written during the 20th century and beyond. The only history we read is that written by, and from the perspective of the “winning side,” and the power that control it. Bias prevails, and it is always in favor of that side from which the history is written. If that is the only information available, then it is evident that the whole truth is never known. The winning side that writes history is depicted as being the “good guys” and the losers are the “villains.” As if that isn’t sufficiently deceptive, Satan has put in the minds of many, a hidden evil agenda that further denigrates whatever truth may have been written from the perspective of either side. It is not my purpose or desire to characterize Germany and

Hitler as the good guys. It is only to point out the many aspects of Hitler's rise and fall that are compellingly similar to what the life of the coming Antichrist might be like. It may surprise us to discover how very similar they appear to be.

After all, Satan, the prince of this earth, is well known to have used numerous world leaders to try to wipe out the Jewish race. God has allowed him much leeway, but never enough to satisfy his goal. For comparison regarding this one particular item, Hitler apparently officiated in the killing a large portion of one third of the total world Jewish population. Communist Russia also contributed considerably to that end. However, official history has greatly minimized the Russian murders. Antichrist will be responsible for the death of two thirds of the world's Jewish population. Had he not been stopped, Hitler would have continued his program until all Jews were exterminated. (*"...except those days should be shortened, there shall no flesh be saved"*) Scripture reveals that Antichrist will double the previous genocidal score until he too is stopped.

The following is a truncated biography of Hitler that will focus primarily on those portions of his rise and fall that seem to me offer some of the ways that may point to the likelihood that he actually was Satan's chosen Antichrist, and the one through whom he believed he would finally achieve his goal. When he analyzed the cause of his failure, Satan realized that it was America's great resources and production capability that was the primary cause of his problem. Since then he has successfully accelerated his actions to render our nation not only ineffectual, but also mightily punished as he proceeds to his next and final siege for world dominance. This has finally been accomplished through the moral, physical, educational, economical political and military degradation of this nation. It seems that only a very few see this as already having been very nearly achieved.

Yet even so, we see day by day more and more degradation of these national qualities to the extent unimaginable even 5 years ago. It seems as though the nation has been affectively emasculated beyond repair, Satan's "in government-house" agents are not satisfied with their achievements. The insatiable hatred will never be satisfied until they

have obliterated it. Scripture tell us that Satan will suffer the same fate during the battle called Armageddon.

The universal recognition of our nation's demise is imminent. This collapse of the nation could happen overnight when the many facets of Satan's preparation are complete. All things considered, this also makes Hitler and his life an excellent prototype of the coming "man of evil."

Hitler was born in 1889 of German parents in Austria near the border of Germany. His parents both died by the time he was 18 years old. He loved art and architecture, and tried to get into the Art academy, but couldn't. For the next several years he earned a living as an itinerant painter of postcards and advertisements. From what I have seen of his art, he was a very talented architectural artist. When WW 1 broke out in 1914, Hitler at the age of 25, immediately enlisted and survived four years of trench warfare. For those four years he was a battlefield courier, bravely and repeatedly exposing himself to the line of fire. He was credited with volunteering for special duty when others were too frightened or worn out to make the most dangerous runs.

Hitler was wounded several times and returned to the front after each time as soon as he was able. For his valor he was twice awarded the much coveted Iron Cross. The second time it was the Iron Cross first class, an honor almost exclusively reserved for officers. It was a very rare decoration for a mere corporal. Hitler was remembered by his superiors for his "iron constitution" and "unreserved courage" on the battlefield. He was hailed for his "outstanding bravery in front line action." Near the end of the war in October 1918, he was blinded in a British poison gas attack. After recovering his sight in an army hospital, he returned to Munich where he finally saw what the war had done to his country. So far, there seems to be no evidence of Satan's involvement. He was nothing more than a regular man, who excelled in bravery and artistic skill. As noted elsewhere above, I suspect that Antichrist will also be such a man until "Satan entered him," as he did Judas and Hitler.

The cost of the war for Germany was devastating. The peace treaty took all of Germany's gold reserve, and levied an exorbitant amount in reparations that could never be paid. Along with many parts of the country having been reduced to heaps of rubble, the French, Russians, and British disassembled nearly all of Germany's surviving industrial machinery and took it away. France then annexed the mineral rich and highly industrialized Saar and Ruhr regions which contain Germany's only significant natural resources. An example of how complete was the dismantling of Germany and its potential to recover from all the destruction and theft, was the very formidable task of carrying away of a 10,000 ton forge, the largest in the world.

As he wandered around Munich, what he saw, apart from the massive unemployment and starvation, was that the Jewish population seemed to have prospered, and was deeply rooted in all levels of government. They seemed to be in control of what little of the economy that remained, and were strongly inclined toward Communism. As far as I have been able to determine this was the beginning of his severe resentment of the Jews. One night in 1919 he attended a meeting of a small Nationalist Workers Party in a Munich restaurant. There Hitler made an impressive speech, and was invited to become a member. In 1921 he was overwhelmingly elected to be its leader. In the interim, the party had grown into a formidable political force. Germany however, was still floundering and suffering the aftermath of the First World War. There is much evidence that Hitler was a well versed student of history. He seems to have also learned much about the history of the Jewish people, and their age old influence on European society.

It appears that the result of this, and what he saw as the Jews involvement in the country's movement toward communism, was the beginning of his fanatical anti-semitism. At the risk of making more of this than is warranted, Hitler's entry into politics, began when he was 30 years old. "Coincidentally" this was the age a rabbi had to reach before he could take up his ministry. It was therefore also the age that our Lord began His ministry. Is this coincidental or could it be that Satan, that great deceiver and imitator might have had a hand in this timing? As the leader of this Populist Party, it wasn't long before he was greeted everywhere by admiring crowds. Here is a quote from

a man named Hans Frank as he sat in a cell in Nuremberg awaiting trial. Speaking of those early days as Hitler was beginning to rise in the political arena, he said “Above everything there was, sunshine, happiness, rejoicing---Above everything smiled the great magician, Hitler, blessing, bewitching, touching their hearts---wedding with the German people.” Isn’t “wedding” to his people, a fitting statement regarding Jesus and the Bride of Christ?

Even so, the plight of the German people did not improve significantly during those years after the war under the Weimar Republic. Although Hitler’s popularity grew because of what he sought to do, his organization had little power. Finally, in 1933 the aging and ineffectual President and Chancellor of the German Republic, Paul Von Hindenburg appointed Hitler to replace him. A short time later, through an Enabling Act passed by the German Parliament, Hitler was given unrestricted legislative power. Thus, by 1934 he had established a centralized totalitarian state. This began the revitalization and recovering of Germany’s industrial, economic and military powers. It was what many all over the world called a miracle, with Hitler being credited as the miracle man. In just four years of his undisputed leadership, he transformed the nation into the most powerful, prosperous, well-educated people to be found anywhere. Whether or not there was manipulation, everything Hitler did was in accordance with the law, contrary to the spiteful words of the winning side.

Heads of state, planners, educators, and economist from all over the world came to see, and were amazed at what they saw. The whole nation was unified behind him and saw him as their savior. The ambassador / interpretator, Peter Schmidt, who was commissioned to escort the rich and famous who came to see for themselves, expressed these observations. “Once again I noted with what an expression of devotion, with what biblical trust, the people gazed on Hitler, seeming to be under a magic spell. Thousands and thousands of spectators all along the route were as though seized by a collective rapture at the sight of him.” This comment was made regarding what occurred during one of the motorcades of the rich, famous, and influential as they traveled through Berlin behind Hitler’s open car. I suspect that when Satan uses the last Antichrist in the same

manner, that is as the miracle man responsible for the amazing post-war recovery. After the Rapture and the Scroll Judgements, the whole world will idolize him as Germany did Hitler.

Our history books characterize Hitler as a notorious villain, and indeed he was during the later years of his life. They give at best, only begrudging credit to him for his genius and his dedication to his country. Again, I believe that perhaps the most important observation we should take from this as we examine the parallels between Hitler and Antichrist is that great gratitude, adoration, allegiance and near worship that the major portion of the German population had for him, even to the very end. Whether any of this was at all deserved is not the issue. Of course, we all know that late in the war when defeat became evident, there were Germans who sought to kill him, but this was a very small minority.

As noted, at the beginning of this “epilogue” I believe that we can learn much about the nature of the coming of this great satanic leader we call Antichrist, from examining Hitler’s life, because I believe that the pattern will be essentially the same. In Hitler, I suspect that Satan yet believed that he did have the right formula because of how close he came to achieving his goal. I suspect that he learned many lessons from this attempt, and now is convinced that he has finally ironed out the wrinkles, that prevented his success. Thus he believes that his next try will surely succeed. As described in this text, he will even arrange for Antichrist’s “death and resurrection” as one step in his program to deceive the world into believing Antichrist’s claim to be the Christ. First he will find a man having the basic characteristics necessary for his purpose. As noted, this will be a normal man having been raised from birth much like everyone else, as was Hitler. Also, he will be exceptional in intelligence and natural abilities apart from those that Satan will later provide him.

I believe that Satan continually searches the world for those that he can easily recruit and mold in the way he wants them to serve his purpose, as he did with Judas, Hitler, the Old Testament tyrants, and many others. It is likely that he is keeping his eyes open for that

one very special man, whom he may have already found to be his final spiritual son. Most likely the man whom he will, or has already chosen, will not even be aware of it for a long time. However, once chosen, Satan will lay out his path, guide him, and slowly instill in him all of his own powers and goals. We should never for a moment lose sight of the fact that God is in charge. Just as He allowed Satan to use Judas when it was God's appointed time, so also did He allow Satan to use Hitler. At the point in time that He has determined, He will allow Satan to bring on the final Antichrist.

In the aftermath of what I believe will be the Satan-inflicted "seal" judgments, his man will arise out of the rubble in a position of ever increasing power and prominence. Perhaps like Hitler he will have distinguished himself during the war as a man of valor, a war hero. At war's end he will see the devastation that has taken place, where chaos and anarchy will reign. There he will be conditioned by Satan as was Hitler, to believe that the Jews were to blame, not only for causing wars but also for lengthening them for their own personal profit. This man will distinguish himself in many ways through his genius at dealing incredibly well with seemingly unsolvable problems that will be afflicting the world by the end of the Seal Judgments. Satan will amplify the man's genius by instilling in him Satan's own powers. I suspect that these had been given to Hitler. In order to move things more rapidly, Satan's "principalities and powers" behind-the-thrones consortium of the then ten operating governments, will influence these "kings" to yield their authority to this superior man.

Hitler rose the same way initially, in the much smaller sphere of Germany. Once the man has obtained that absolute control, as did Hitler, and his Satan-given genius will have fully manifested itself, he will have seemingly miraculous abilities and will rapidly restore the world. He will bring for a season, greater peace, prosperity, comfort, technological abundance, and comfort to the world than had ever existed. This is exactly what Hitler achieved in Germany, in just four years. I suspect that even with the incredible world-wide recovery, some sensitive spots will remain. One of these is likely to be the chronically continuing issues between the Arabs and the Jews. There, the great "peace maker" will also apply his magic in some way that will influence the Arabs to

leave the Jews alone. This will not be due to his love of the Jews, but because he will have for them a more certain “final” solution. Satan will know that if he leaves it to the Arabs they will “mess it up” because their various factions hate each other almost as much as they hate the Jews, and the United States.

As a means of comforting the Jews, he will ratify the covenant guaranteeing Israel peace for seven years. Hitler also negotiated similar treaties with neighboring countries such as Russia and Poland, and broke them when they were no longer to his benefit.

Let us examine what ended Satan’s plan as he used Hitler as his agent. I believe that Satan could have actually achieved his goal through Hitler except for a few events that were beyond his control, and that he couldn’t have anticipated. Perhaps these may be compared to what the Vial Judgments will later accomplish against Antichrist. That of course will be the end of Satan and his grand plan. This is worthy of a study unto itself. However, to be as brief as I feel I can be, I may not make the case as compelling as it could be. I don’t believe it was the failure through any significant mistakes by Hitler that brought Satan’s plan to an end, even though winning side interpretations of history have convinced us that Hitler was incompetent in his later years. Certainly he did appear to miscalculate a few times. We’ll get back to this a little later. From what I see, it was God’s very subtle intervention in several accumulative ways that brought about the end as we know it to have been. Below are listed a few of these interventions which, for the sake of comparison, I’ll refer to as the “Vial Judgments,” because they seem to resemble the manner in which Satan’s plan for Hitler was thwarted. Their order is simply as I happen to remember off hand.

- In the early part of the war, Hitler’s forces literally romped almost unopposed through much of western Europe conquering Poland, France, Belgium, Netherlands and other adjacent countries, all in the matter of days or a few weeks. Germany had the best generals, and best trained and equipped army in the world at that time. Both their industrial and military technology were years, and event decades or more advanced than those of the rest of the world,

including the US. Initially, the Germans were also victorious in North Africa, Russia, and everywhere they chose to go. They easily won every battle against the British and the Americans in North Africa.

All governments have secret communication codes. The Germans' had a code machine called "enigma" through which they communicated in secret. After the Americans broke the code, and could know in advance what the German's would do, the Germans never won another battle in North Africa, and were severely compromised in all of their other ventures. From the German perspective, this prolonged those parts of the war, and caused a severe drain on men and materials needed to fight affectually elsewhere. Until they finally realized what happened, it continued to cripple many of their military operations. With such a handicap, it's amazing what they did continue to accomplish. This was the "the First Vial".

The winners history credits British General Montgomery with the North African victories, never mentioning that he won battles only because he knew the German battle plans. As his later bumbling's and incompetency bore out, he was more of a hindrance than an asset whenever he was in charge. The most reliable way to assess ability of a General is to determine what their contemporary enemies' generals say about them. The Germans assessed only two American and no British Generals as worthy of their respect. These were Patton and McArthur. All of the others, including Eisenhower, were in the minor league by comparison.

- Italy was Germany's ally along its southern border. Thus Germany needed no military along its southern border. However, the Communist's takeover of Yugoslavia, and Italy's inability to control it, along with Italy's failure to occupy Greece, caused Hitler to send several divisions south for a protracted period to fight in Yugoslavia, and to take over and occupy Greece. In order to secure Greece, he also found it necessary to invade and occupy Cyprus. He

invaded with ten thousand of his most elite paratroopers, losing nearly a third of them. This of course, had major negative ramifications for his ability to fight successfully what then were both the eastern and western fronts. This unplanned reassignment of so much of his military strength delayed Hitler's plan for the invasion of Russia by four months. The march toward Stalingrad was a brilliant military success. Nevertheless, the problem was that the four months delay caused them to fail to reach their campaign objective where they could consolidate their gains before the winter set in.

It was a very harsh winter, for which they were ill prepared. Had they had those four months of good weather, they would have pushed on and taken the whole region along with the massive oil fields and grain stores that lay beyond, in the Ukraine. Because Germany had no natural oil, those oil fields were an essential goal in their campaign into Russia. It was only through the genius of German scientists who had developed a way to extract oil from coal was it possible to provide the fuel they had for both the industrial and military operations. The following spring saw the Russians army greatly enlarged and equipped with much of the equipment having come from America. The defeat that followed was devastating. If I recall correctly around a million Germans soldiers were killed or captured. Being captured by Russians was equivalent to being killed, only worse. Had they not lost those four months, it would have been a very different story. This was what we might call the "Second Vial".

- In the meantime, the allied forces had penetrated deep into German occupied territory. In spite of their severely depleted forces and equipment, the German's made the allied advances very slow and costly. Then came the famous "Battle of the Bulge" where the German's counterattacked, intending to force the allies back toward, and into the English Channel. At first, the counterattack was very successful, driving the allies back a considerable distance. However, it failed in its mission simply because of a lack of fuel oil. Had they been able to push the allies back a little further, they would have taken a huge fuel deposit. This

might have been enough to actually push the allies off the continent just as they did earlier at Dunkirk. Although the German forces were greatly outnumbered in all respects, their proven superior military leadership, tactics and weaponry would likely have, at that time, achieved this goal, had they had the fuel with which to continue. I believe that had they not delayed the invasion of Russia those four months, the availability of that Ukrainian oil would have allowed them to have re-taken all of the territory that the allied forces had liberated. This was the “Third Vial”.

- The science of sophisticated weaponry was far more advanced in Germany than anywhere else, even in America. The Germans were ahead of the U.S. even in the development of the atomic bomb, although many sources tend to deny it. Had it not been for the successful bombing of a “heavy water” plant in Norway, it appears very likely that Germany would have been able to make such a bomb before the United States did. Heavy water is what deuterium was called. Heavy water is $2H_2O$. Regular water is H_2O . The German choice for their bomb development was simpler, quick and less costly. Using heavy water instead of the more costly and difficult to make graphite rods as the modulator that would control the radioactivity. Another advantage was that they could use natural uranium rather than enriched uranium, making the bomb cheaper and apparently quicker and easier to build.

Some sources claim that had not the heavy water plant been destroyed thereby depriving them of much of this substance, they would have been able to deploy the bomb considerably earlier than did the Americans. I have read that those who were developing the atomic bomb, named it the “Amerika bomb”. Hitler’s strategy and intent was to build an airplane which would drop the atom bomb on New York and then be able to fly back to Germany. Also they had already developed and deployed bomb-laden rockets, which they used on Britain. These also could easily have been equipped with atomic warheads. I have read that the first of these transatlantic airplanes was already built waiting for the bomb.

No other nation had any missiles that were even close to having rocket propulsion. The Germans had squadrons of jet planes, as did the Japanese before we had any. Later in the war, they even had developed a new generation of submarines called the type 21 which was larger and decades more advanced than anything U.S., Britain or Russia had. It could stay under water for weeks rather than a day or so, as was the case with the best of any other subs. It was undetectable by any technology the allies had, and could cross the Atlantic never once needing to surface. This too could have carried a rocket bomb to New York. These submarines were never deployed, but would have been had the war lasted another 6 months. This submarine was so advanced that the 26 of them that survived the war were divided up among the allies and added to their navies. I understand that for many post war years, these, and copies of them, were yet the most advanced submarines in the world until the first generation of atomic subs was developed. Even these utilized the technology developed by Germany and incorporated in the type 21. Preventing their deployment was the “fourth Vial”.

Among the most spectacular weapons developed in Germany was, I believe, the “flying wing,” a design so advanced that we had nothing like it until around 30 years later. The first prototype was a fighter bomber called the Ho229. It was designed by two brothers Reimer and Walter Horten. It was jet propelled and provided a 37% reduction of detection by the radar of that day. Many claim it to have been the first “stealth airplane.” We had nothing like it until generations later, after one of the three that had been built was brought back here and placed in the Smithsonian. Forty years later in the 1980’s, a team from the Northrup Company studied the plans and utilized its design to create an American version.

After designing the Ho229, the Horten brothers went on to develop a turbo-jet powered airplane. This was the “Amerika Bomber” that would have carried the

atom bomb to New York. Back then, the Lord was still blessing our country. This bomber however, was under construction in early 1945, but was never deployed because the war ended in April 1945. Had the end of the war been delayed even for six months, the deployment of these super weapons might have caused a drastically different outcome of the war. Again, these, as well as several other highly advanced weapons might have changed the course of the war, had it continued a little longer, provided that sufficient fuel had been available. Their “tiger tank” was far superior to any that the allies had, and had there not been a fuel shortage, it alone may have well turned the tide of war, or at least delayed its ending, long enough for these super weapons to have been deployed. Collectively, this was the “Fifth Vial”.

A few pages back in this study, I seemed to have been defending Hitler’s sanity and his competence in making wise decisions. Why I felt obligated to do this is because I knew that Hitler knew of these super weapons. He chose to continue the war against all odds and growing evidence that the forces against him were overwhelming and total defeat was inevitable. Why? Many claim that he was crazy. However, it was because he believed that if he could hold on long enough to get these weapons deployed, he could yet win. An atomic bomb dropped on New York, London and Moscow would surely have changed the focused attention of his enemies very quickly. The writers of History Books prefer to simply call him a mad man. In one sense, all who are under Satan’s control are mad.

- The ineptness of Germany’s only European ally, Mussolini contributed significantly more to Hitler’s troubles than the earlier mentioned Yugoslavian and Greek problems. Italy’s early surrender exposed the entire southern front of Germany, again requiring forces to be sent there. This caused further fatal reductions of strength along the Russian and British/American fronts. This was the Sixth Vial”.

- By late 1944 and into 1945 the American and Russian war machines had grown so greatly, that absent the significant deployment of the super weapons described above, including the atom bombing of New York, nothing could have stopped them. Even Germany's superior military leadership and the most disciplined and best trained soldiers in the world could not prevent the Russian hordes, and American air bombings from overwhelming the country and nearly eliminating all manufacturing facilities both military and civilian. The bombings literally reduced almost every city to heaps of rubble, destroying Germany's industrial capacity, and thus ending Hitler's plans for a new world order. Scripture tells us that the next time it will be very much the same way. This was God's "seventh" Vial.

- There is one more "vial judgment" that the Lord layed on Hitler as Satan's Antichrist who was to conquer the world for him. This occurred as early as 1940. Hitler, very early in the war, had a truly brilliant strategic plan which could very well have ended the war in favor of Germany before it even got serious. In October of 1940 Hitler met with the Spanish Dictator Franco. The purpose was to get him to agree to let German troops cross Spain to where they could easily capture Gibraltar. If the Germans seizure of the Straits of Gibraltar had happened at that time, in the opinion of many informed strategists it would have very likely caused the British and her allies to immediately sue for peace on Hitler's terms.

Controlling the straits would have denied the British and Americans, as well as all others hostile to Germany, from accessing the Mediterranean. This would have assured German victory in North Africa, and over Egypt, the Suez Canal, Palestine and the whole Middle East. Italy and Germany would not have suffered the vast commitments of men and military equipment along with the very damaging time delay that denied Germany victory over Russia. We must remember that at that time, the great American military supply machine that saved both Britain and Russia was totally inadequate to resist the power of

Germany. God used a double agent trusted by Hitler as the one who was to negotiate with Franco. Instead he spoke to Franco against the request and so Franco refused Hitler's request. Spain, under Franco, was a relatively strong power. To force the issue, would have diverted too much of Hitler's military strength which was needed elsewhere. Here I believe was God's "eighth vial", which is two more than He will use on the final Antichrist. Notice that these "Vials" are not presented here in "chronological" order. They are in the order as I remembered each item. I've expressed them as "Vials" in order to illustrate them as setbacks which God orchestrated so as to thwart what otherwise would have been Satan's victory. Just as Jesus spoke of His time not being yet, so it was that the time for the Antichrist was then, not yet.

Do these eight "setbacks" to Hitler's plan, bear any resemblance to the seven vial judgments predicted in Revelation chapter 16? Perhaps very little, although the results were similar. Might these have been by God's directed will as a way to end Satan's program earlier in its progress than He will the next time? I don't believe that Hitler ever knew that he was operating as an antichrist, and was therefore ignorant of the fact that he was a mere pawn doing Satan's bidding. Contrary to the winning sides writing of history, I believe that Hitler was a genius in the political economic and military areas of leadership as he well demonstrated. I suspect that, as will be the case with Antichrist, was of that genius was provided by Satan. His dealing with the Jews was most certainly by Satan's guidance. It seems to me that it would have taken Satan's involvement to generate such a hate towards the Jews, and also to provide for Hitler the rationale which justified their removal from Germany. In his perverted way, he saw this as the only way to prevent the degradation of the "purity and superiority of the German race." Antichrist will have an even broader, more nefarious plan for his genocidal attempt. I've read the writings of several persons who were actually there during the period of when the claimed genocide of 6 million Jews was supposed to have occurred. The claims from this other side of history who were trying to tell the world that it didn't happen are very persuasive. In even thinking such a thing I have perpetrated a secular blasphemy even greater than questioning evolution. Among the most knowledgeable and persuasive of

these was General Leon Degrelle a citizen of Belgium who fought for Germany. His book: “My Revolutionary Life” is one of the most compelling. It was to then Pope John Paul II who was to celebrate mass at the site of the most notorious of the alleged “death camps” at Auschwitz. He wrote that he too was, and had been all his life, a devote Catholic. In that letter he summarized the evidence that was contrary to the “decreed facts”. He hoped that this would give pause to the Pope to consider this contrary evidence before he spoke. The Pope neither answered the letter, nor did it deter him from speaking of the genocidal horrors said to have taken place there.

Both sides of this issue had exactly the same evidence. Only their application of it differed. This is not without precedent. Both creationist and evolutionist have exactly the same evidence, yet one side says that it proves evolution, while the other sees it proving creation. Please be assured that I do not claim for myself either side of the Holocaust issue. What I have tried to do is to merely inform those who read this, that there is an alternate view and what it is.

What will be the coming man-of-sin’s wakeup call through which Satan’s prompting will cause him to also believe in his invulnerability and god-like qualities? His ego will surely be enhanced by his early incredible successes and the great adoration, loyalty, and god-like ways that the whole world will see in him, just as Germany saw them in Hitler. It’s not difficult to see how all of this initial success could so influence almost any man. Recall that several of the Caesars, some because of their accomplishment, and others simply because of their positions, declared themselves to be gods, and demanded that they be worshipped. Antichrist will have far more reason to believe in his godhood than any of them did. It may be too far fetched to consider that all of this could occur, at least initially, without the man ever realizing where his great power is coming from, and who his spiritual “father” really is. Whether or not Hitler did become aware of Satan’s leading, he certainly accepted very willingly what was given him, and carried out his plan with great resolve to the very end.

As we recall how extremely dedicated the majority of Germans were to Hitler to the very end, and beyond, I believe we have an important parallel to help us answer a very difficult question for which I have found no reasonable answer until now. I touched on this earlier, but now it seems more convincing, to me at least, based on the Hitler experience. The question is, how will such a large segment of the world population resist God and all His attempts to save them? How, in spite of everything, will they hold on so passionately, and have absolutely to-the-death-allegiance to Antichrist, and to curse God so unrelentingly? Germany was basically a pagan nation as will be most the world during the Tribulation. In such a spiritual atmosphere it is easy to see how idol worship can take root. Our Country is already largely an idol worshipping country and a far cry from anything remotely like a Christian nation, even though there are yet many real Christians here.

Through Satan's guidance, and the powers of the False Prophet, and given what this man will have done for the people, they will convince the world to believe that he is the true Christ, and that from the beginning of the great manifesting of these horrible judgements, it was the God of heaven who caused them. They will become convinced that the God in heaven is not really the true God, but is in fact the evil one. If that sounds ridiculous, please consider that today there is a large and influential pseudo Christian sect that believes that Jesus is not God, and that He and Satan are brothers! How big a leap of faith will it be for a variation of this belief to be instilled in the vast majority of dumbed-down drugged human minds who lack any true biblical foundation? If the world could be, as it has been, convinced of the absurdity called "evolution", and the merits of freedom-and-economy-destroying slow motion Marxism, called "socialism", it can be convinced of any lie. With the great convincing powers of the false prophet as Antichrist's propaganda minister, this will be a readily obtainable world-wide belief.

I suspect that a great many will believe that Antichrist is the real god, because of all of the "good" wonders he will have provided. They will stick with him to the very end, believing that they are on the "right" side. How else can we explain the incredible loyalty they will have toward him? We see this as a gross absurdity as we view it from

the biblical Christian's perspective. However, we must look at it from the earthly apostate perspective, in order to understand it. We must try to view it in terms of what the world will be deceived into believing. Those who will worship him will gladly take his mark, and will see those who refuse, as the "bad guys." Seeing them killed will seem to them to be justice. We call them faithful martyrs and redeemed souls. They will call them traitors to the "true god!"

I could go on ad nauseum along this line. However, I pray I've made sufficiently plausible arguments regarding this matter. In writing this epilogue, I did very little research. Most of what I've written about Hitler and the war are from memories of many-years-ago studies and observations, some of which came from the three years I spent in Germany immediately after the war. Therefore a strict detailed examination of what I have written could probably find some flaws in the details. However, I believe the basic facts and the general theme will survive such scrutiny. All of this has been to provide a student of the Book of Revelation with a different, and I pray a better perspective on this period of soon-to-arrive horribly crushing world-wide events.

****Footnote #1 – The Chronological Location of the Seal Judgments**

The idea that the Seal Judgments will begin before the Rapture, and therefore before the beginning of the seventieth week of Daniel, may be unique to this study. While it must therefore be rightly subject to challenge, I can only offer the following as the basis for my belief, and pray that the merits, if so recognized, will speak for themselves.

In Matthew 24, Jesus identified the Great Tribulation as beginning when Antichrist reveals himself. This will be at the beginning of the second half of the seventieth week of Daniel, when Antichrist declares himself to be God. I find nothing in the Book of Revelation, or elsewhere in Scripture that links the Seal Judgments with that period of time. We simply conclude that the Seal Judgments are part of the Great Tribulation without any expressed evidence that it is so. What follows is the evidence that I believe justifies my belief that the Seal Judgments precede the 70th week of Daniel, and have in fact already begun. Therefore the Great Tribulation will consist of only the Trumpet and Vial Judgements.

In the Olivet Discourse (Matthew 24:3) the apostles ask Jesus to tell them what will be the sign of the end times. It's interesting that the very first response was to be sure that "no man deceive you". Therefore, any commentary, such as this one, should be examined with great care, to be certain that it is on a sound biblical basis. Deception needn't be deliberate. It can be by misinterpretation of Scripture, sloppy exegesis, or rash, faulty presumptions, none of which I pray this study will be guilty. In Matthew 24:4-14 Jesus describes the signs of the end times. *"4 And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you. 5 For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many. 6 And ye shall hear of wars and rumors of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. 7 For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places. 8 All these are the beginning of sorrows. 9 Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake. 10 And then shall many be offended, and shall*

betray one another, and shall hate one another. 11 And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many. 12 And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold. 13 But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved. 14 And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.”

In reading these versus, and comparing them to the early portions Revelation 6, we find that what they both describe as end times events seem to be identical. I believe that these verses in both cases, describe in part, what is happening at this very moment in various places and spreading like a wild fire across the entire globe to where we here, will at any moment be similarly engulfed. The world is now, at this moment in a period of sorrows, all prior to the Rapture. It is evident that there are many wars and rumors of wars, just about everywhere including the U.S. The word “wars” is a translation of a Greek word which also means “a single encounter, or a series, battle, fight.” Therefore the riots, uprisings, violent protests, and various levels of warfare are all parts of the “sorrows” that we too are experiencing.

Aren't we hearing of “wars and rumors of wars” breaking out all over the world? These are real wars happening now! This was not?? From the U.S. perspective, but from a whole world perspective that includes the U.S. Wars are already here if we'll but look around. They don't have to be trench wars or bombing wars to be real. The wars here are growing larger and will soon be evident to even the deepest sleeper at the gate.

The U.S. is positioning itself through its satanic leadership to do little with China's rising and threatening power. Russia is expanding into the Ukraine, positioning itself to retake the Balkans. It is asserting itself in Syria and effectually supporting the Syrian government while the U.S. feebly supports the rebels. Thus Russia and U.S. are fighting again each other. Does anyone doubt who will be the winner? The Muslims and Arab nations are fighting one another. Turks and Kurds are battling one another. Many of the Central and South African peoples are butchering one another. While, most of South America is in deep economic trouble. The likely solution for some will be to pick a fight

their neighbors. And now since the current 2015 leaders is admitting to this, Israel is now despised by all nations, as are Christians throughout the world. Finally, the true Gospel will be preached “in all the world” by the 144,000. The end of their preaching will coincide with the end of the Great Tribulation and the end of this world which will then have a new beginning known as the Millennium.

Again, are we not already seeing nations rising against nations, famine in many places, more frequent and violent earthquakes, etc.? Isn't the world increasing its affliction of redeemed Christians and even pseudo-Christians most alarming by even in the formerly strong Christian Europe, as well as here, this former citadel of unpunished Christianity? Look at how many Satan-controlled cults, and pseudo-Christian churches there are in this country who attack our faith, stirring up hatred and enmity. Note how government and the people have aggressively mocked the Holy Bible, and in less than 40 years have legislated, what it speaks of as an abomination, into not only a praise worthy “lifestyle” but also legally protected to the point of their being legal punishments for those who express disagreement.

Given all of the dedicated missionaries, I believe that the true Gospel has, and is being preached in many, but not all parts of the world. Sadly it seems that much, or perhaps most of the missionaries' teachings throughout the world are not biblical Christians, but instead teachers of false doctrine such as Catholics, Mormons, and Jehovah witnesses as well as other cults.

“Then shall the end come” “the end” as here used is just as relevant to the pre-rapture period as it is when it signifies the end of the Great Tribulation, or the end of this world. The Rapture itself will signify an end. The Greek word from which “end” is translated has a broad set of meanings. It can mean, “to set out for a definite point or goal, a point aimed at as a limit or conclusion, etc.” Therefore it can, in the context of our discussion, apply to any “end.” Biblically, the Rapture is the end of the earthly existence of the Bride of Christ. The end of the Great Tribulation is when the judgement ceases, etc. Revelation and other biblical references describing this series of events are also fully

applicable to the post-rapture tribulation period. What's the point of all this? Each of these "sorrows" will bring about a large number of deaths well beyond the 50% of the population specifically noted. Therefore, they are of relevance to our topic. How significant will be assessed later.

As stated earlier, it seems compelling to me that some great world-wide crisis or calamity such as the horrible events described by the Seal Judgments are needed prior the three and half years of peace that will begin during the first half of the seventieth week of Daniel. History has proven many times that the surest and quickest way for a tyrant to obtain power is by finding or creating a crisis, and convincing the people to trust him to provide the solution. They will gladly give up their freedom in exchange for the protection he will offer. We see this in the process of happening here today. Isn't this the most expedient way that the man who will be Antichrist can obtain the notoriety, prestige and power to be so completely trusted so as to be able to negotiate what the Jews will believe to be a reliable peace covenant? Throughout history one of Satan's most effective means of fulfilling his goal of world domination has been to cause fear by creating a national crisis. Then He provides one of His own to solve the crisis and take control of the nation. It's evident that Jesus predicted that some of these crisis's will be reflective of the beginning of an early form of "Jacob's trouble". They will apply to all mankind and will take place before the Rapture.

I am suggesting that what is now happening is what is predicted in Matthew 24 which is the beginnings of sorrows as well as what the first 4 Seals reveal will happen.

Let's now look into the Seal Judgements and see if we can find some significant basis for accepting or refuting my contention.

The Seal Judgements: Let's first read what is recorded about these judgments in Revelation 6:1-8 "*1 And I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seals, and I heard, as it were the noise of thunder, one of the four beasts saying, Come and see. 2 And I saw, and behold a white horse: and he that sat on him had a bow; and a crown was given unto*

him: and he went fourth conquering, and to conquer. 3 And when he had opened the second seal, I heard the second beast say, Come and see. 4 And there went out another horse that was red: and power was given to him that sat thereon to take peace from the earth, and that they should kill one another: and there was given unto him a great sword. 5 And when he had opened the third seal, I heard the third beast say, Come and see. And I beheld, and lo a black horse; and he that sat on him had a pair of balances in his hand. 6 And I heard a voice in the midst of the four beasts say, A measure of wheat for a penny, and three measures of barley for a penny; and see thou hurt not the oil and the wine. 7 And when he had opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth beast say, Come and see. 8 And I looked, and behold a pale horse: and his name that sat on him was Death, and Hell followed with him. And power was given unto them over the fourth part of the earth, to kill with sword, and with hunger, and with death, and with the beasts of the earth.”

The 5th Seal reveal what is going on in heaven regarding the martyred saints. No wrath is mentioned. It's in the breaking of the 6th Seal when world-wide anarchy is revealed.

Revelation 6:12-17 tells us:

“12 And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and, lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood; 13 and the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind. 14 And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places. 15 And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains; 16 and said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb: 17 for the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?”

The first four of the Seal Judgments are often called the 4 horsemen of the Apocalypse, because of all of the activity directly associated with destruction and death are given them to perform. Then, when we read about the sixth seal, we find that it describes the results

of the activities of the 4 horsemen. Let's make a comparison chart of the relevant portions of Revelation Chapter 6 with what Jesus predicted in Matthew 24.

Item	Matthew 24 (Jesus Predictions)	Revelation 6 (the Seal Judgements)
Deception	Verse 4, 5, 11	Verse 2- The authentic white horse and bow speak of righteousness and of Jesus as written in Rev. 19:11 In this verse 2, they are clearly Satan's attempt to emulate Jesus and His white horse analogy. Therefore he equips his son Antichrist as a counterfeit Jesus.* This most surely qualifies as deception.
Wars	Verses 6, 7a	Verses 2b, 4
Famine	Verse 7b	Verses 5, 6
Pestilence	Verse 7b	Verses 8b
Earthquakes	Verse 7b	Verse 12

**Jesus is depicted as on a white horse with a rainbow signifying peace. Antichrist, on his white horse will carry a shooting bow signifying his war against God and all of humanity.*

As the chart indicates, there are striking parallels between what Matthew 24 and Revelation 6 describe. In Matthew 24:8, Jesus calls this 'the beginning of sorrows.' It is evident from previous chapters that most of the things spoken of in Revelation 6 occur after the Rapture, and are all generally believed to take place during the 1260 days of the last half of the 70th week of Daniel. Again, however as absurd as it may be in terms of well-established exegesis, I am strongly persuaded that Matthew 24 and Revelation 6 speak of the same events. Matthew 24 speaks only of the earlier portion of the Seal Judgements. It reveals the fact that redeemed Christians will suffer these things for a while until Jesus comes in the clouds to remove His bride, that is the Church, by means of Rapture. Thus, they will be delivered from the end portion of the Seal Judgements. Revelation 8 goes on, and tells us that ¼ of the world's population will be killed as a

result of the Seal Judgements. In keeping with my premise, this will all occur before the beginning of the 70th week of Daniel.

In Revelation 7 we learn that before the second round of judgments, that is the Trumpet Judgements, there will be a delay until 144,000 Jewish evangelists are trained, ordained, sealed and placed at their individually assigned worldwide locations. No further activity is mentioned in this chapter. After the wrath, represented by the 6th seal has abated, John begins to describe his next vision by saying “After these things” as he tells of the 144,000 Jews who will be ordained to evangelize throughout the whole world. If this is to be taken literally, and I believe it must, then John was then seeing and recording an accurate chronological sequence of events. Therefore, I believe that we must conclude that the 144,000 won’t begin their services until after the Seal Judgements are completed! The “after this” is most clearly stated as being what chronologically follows the Seal Judgements!

It’s a common belief among many Bible Scholars that John’s writings cannot be relied on to have any chronological reliability. After studying this matter most carefully, I here submit the evidence which I believe supports the fact that certain of John’s recorded vision do indicate accurate chronological occurrences. At least 50 times John precedes his observations with such phrases as “ I saw” Revelation 10:5 “I looked”, Revelation 8:2 “I heard”, Revelation 4:2 “I beheld”, Revelation 6:12, etc. None of these give much reason to feel assured that they are expressing a chronological sequence. They are sequenced only in the way John happened to observe them. Because of this, Bible Scholars assume that none of John’s observations are chronologically reliable.

However, let’s look at 4 of his statements that are not of the 50 mentioned above. These are Revelation 4:1, 7:1, 18:1, and 9:1. Revelation 4:1 begins with “after this”, while the other 3 begin with “and after these things”. While Revelation 4:1 simply says “after this” it is fully the equivalent in its chronological meaning. In each of these, and only in these, does John deliberately and most specifically speak in a way that portrays a chronological order. That is, that each mentioned event is indicated to be the one that immediately

precedes what he says will follow. I find this to be of major significance, especially in terms of confirming my belief regarding Matthew 24 and Revelation 6. What happens is a very convincing part of what has led me to believe that Matthew 24 and Revelation 6 speak of the same events. It's because Revelation chapter 7 begins with "after this." After what? After the 6 Seal Judgements! What happened after the Seal Judgements? The 144,000 are chosen and sent on their world-wide evangelical missions! The only possible conclusion one can reach is that the Seal Judgements all came before the 144,000 were activated. If this is so, and I'm sure that it is what Scripture is telling us, then the Seal Judgements will have occurred before the Great Tribulation and will not be included in it. Based on Revelation 7:1 alone, I believe that the case is closed. The Seal Judgements will precede the beginning of the 70th Week of Daniel!

It is evident, to me at least, that the events describe in the beginning of Matthew 24 are already taking place in this pre-rapture end time period. In this context they are not yet recognized as such, because we find it difficult to harmonize occurring events with Scriptural prophecy. Therefore, we fail to appreciate the evidence God has provided.

As a side note, it is evident that persecutions of Christians has occurred almost continuously since at least the time of the church of Smyrna when the Roman Emperor Diocletian, (303-313 AD) by decree, officially, and actually begin the persecutions throughout the Empire. To the church of Smyrna, during which time the Roman persecutions began, Jesus tells the Church that "ye shall have tribulations ten days". Here the word "days" indicates periods of time. The fact is that these 10 periods of time were the periods of rule by 10 Roman emperors. The last of the ten was Nero (54-68 AD) roughly 250 years later.

We can also see the increasing, intensity and frequency of earthquakes, devastating atmospheric conditions, wars, starvation, diseases, sicknesses and pestilence. In the context of Matthew 24 and Revelation 6, it is difficult, for me at least, to not conclude that what we see as anything other than a fulfillment of these prophecies. However, of us here, most seem to believe that these things are way future events. This is only because

they have not yet sufficiently manifested in our own region so as to disturb our daily sensibilities. Therefore it seems far less real and potentially traumatic than it really is. Will the Matthew 24 “troubles” end with the Rapture? What will end them? Will they end shortly after Rapture, and then be repeated in only a few years later by the Seal Judgements?

Are the Revelation 6 Seal Judgements part of the Great Tribulation? I don’t think so. Absent any Scriptural evidence to the contrary, isn’t it possible that Matthew 24 and Revelation much of 6 are one and the same series of judgements rather than two distinct, but identical time-separated events? By being the one and the same, we find from Matthew 24, and the first part of Revelation 6 how it will begin, and from the rest of Revelation 6, how it will end. Of course, again this by itself does not prove synonymity. I believe that it’s already been proven by Revelation chapter 7.

As we read Revelation 6, we see that the Seal Judgements end with anarchy. This condition is most fortuitous for the coming of the man of sin who will be the final and ultimate antichrist. What better circumstance could there be for him, the son of Satan, having been given all of his father’s powers, than to have this opportunity to solve the world’s problems, and thus establish himself as the man they need and want to govern the entire world with dictatorial power? Anything less than such absolute authority and the seriousness of the threat posed by the surrounding hostile neighbor countries, would make it very unlikely that Israel would be willing to agree to the covenant that promises to protect them for 7 years. What other way could there be for Antichrist to amass such universal acceptance and trust, than to have demonstrated his abilities in this manner? I find nothing else in Scripture that provides him with such an opportunity, an opportunity that he must have in order to have proven his authority that can be believed, and thus to be able to seal and enforce the covenant with Israel.

Therefore, once again, I am suggesting that Matthew 24 and Revelation 6 are expressions of a single judgment that has already begun, and will continue after the Rapture until it ends in the predicted anarchy that will be used to provide the “man of perdition” with that

power and opportunity. The ratifying of the covenant will then take place, and will trigger the 70th week of Daniel. The Great Tribulation will therefore consist of only of the 2 of the 3 predicted judgments, that is the Trumpet and Vial Judgements. The above is such a huge departure from what I understand is universally believed among biblical scholars, that I hear present it with much trepidation. This is because I share these thoughts through my writings and also as a teacher. The previous repetitions and those that follow are mostly deliberate as I try various ways to articulate the evidence from whence come my beliefs about these matters. I suspect that many will initially think my interpretations are absurd. This, I pray will become less so as the fullness of my efforts become understood.

Let's look again at the very carefully structured parallels between Matthew 24 and Revelation 6. The parallels as presented in the chart provided hereinabove are part of what drew me strongly toward synonomoity. As I see the whole world galloping into the end portion of the end times at an ever increasing pace, I also see taking place that which has all of the characteristics described in Matthew 24 as well as in Revelation 6. This merely confirms what we all should know, that is that we are very near the very end of the prophesied end times. What end time? First, the end of the earthly presence of the Body of Christ, which will be punctuated by the Rapture. Second, the end of the Great Tribulation.

In Matthew 24, Jesus spoke to His disciples in the context of representing the church, that is the Body of Christ. Today's redeemed Christians are that Body of Christ. We are the ones who will, and/or are suffering in the ways He predicted. When I say we, it is not so much yet us in this country, doing much of the serious suffering, but is very much relevant our to brethren in other parts of the world. It's beginning here quite subtly. The first part of Satan's program has been to marginalize biblical faith. Then to declare Christianity to be dangerous, branding it as a radical fundamentalist cult spreading hate against certain groups of people. Our governmental leaders are already condemning biblical Christianity for that reason. It stems from our belief in the inerrancy of the Bible which speaks condemningly of what the world has come to embrace. Among those who

seek to destroy it, fundamental Christianity is seen as no less evil than fundamental Islam which advocates the killing of Christians, Jews and all who refuse to submit and commit to Islam. The stage is set here, as it is in other countries, to eliminate Christianity. The result will be to force into hiding any who survive prior to the Rapture. This will be as in the early days when believers found the catacombs as their sanctuary.

Scripture makes it clear that the Body of Christ will not suffer the Great Tribulation, but will be raptured before it occurs. Yet Matthew 24 speaks of the Body of Christ greatly suffering for some period of time before the Rapture. What has all the characteristics this judgement? It's the Scroll Judgements. In Matthew 24 Jesus speaks of the first 4 of these judgements. What happens after the Rapture obviously will not affect the Body of Christ. It's information relevant only to those who are left behind.

Again, regarding the sequence or chronology of the end time's events, we need only to go to John's description of events as found in Revelation 7. It's generally accepted that John's recorded revelations are not chronologically reliable. This is because he saw too many past, present and future things all at once, and simply recorded them in the order he saw them, and not necessarily in the sequence in which future things will occur. Therefore it's logical to conclude that the evidence attest to the fact that none of his predictions are chronologically reliable. In chapter 7, which follows the 6th Seal Judgement, John speaks of "after this" and goes on to introduce us to the 144,000 Jews who will evangelize the world. Can we possibly take that Chapter 7 sequence of things to be chronologically accurate? I'm convinced we should, that is if we are willing to put aside our preconceived conclusions long enough to examine the evidence. As John reports on most of what he sees, he uses such phrases "and I saw" (Revelation 6); "and I looked and beheld" (Revelation 6:8); "After this I beheld" Revelation 7:9; "and I saw" (Revelation 8:2). Notice that none of these, as well as many others are not written in ways that comfort us as portraying a reliable chronological order. Only here, in Revelation Chapter 7:1, 4:1, 18:1 and 19:1 is there an unmistakably clear chronological order being expressed by John.

In Revelation 7:1 John speaks of “after this”. What he then sees is what will follow the completion of the Seal Judgements! What does he see? He sees the 144,000 chosen, ordained and prepared to evangelize across the entire world. In this statement, John is not simply describing things he saw, heard, and beheld, etc. with little if anything other than the sequence of the observations. When he prefaces his observations with “after tis” or “after these things”, he is speaking specifically of what surely will chronologically happen next. This phrase clearly, at least to me, is John’s way of expressing most assuredly the accurate chronological of events. If this be fact, and I’m convinced that it is, then the 144,000 won’t begin their evangelizing until after the Seal Judgements. This indicates that the Seal Judgements will not be part of the Great Tribulation but will precede the 70th week of Daniel! If all that be so, and again I believe that it is, then the case for the synonymity of Matthew 24 and Revelation 6 is confirmed.

In Revelation 18:1 John again uses the chronological expression “after these things” that is after some specific event he informs us of what will actually happen next. Here it is the destruction of Rome the Ecclesiastical Babylon, the citadel of apostate Christianity. Finally John describes a certain sequence of events, again using this specific chronologically connecting phrase in Revelation 19:1. What followed the destruction of Antichrist power and authority is depicted as great rejoicing, in heaven. Both of these are logical, uncontested conditions following the ending of these great evils.

What is it that will be next, that is after this event? With his “after these things” preface John then reveals in Revelation 19:1 that the next event will be the destruction of the Babylon on the Euphrates, the center of Antichrist power structure. In both of these verses we have no problem believing in the validity of the chronological order, because they’re both plausible and so understood from other biblical testimonies. They are plausible because there is nothing else relevant in Scripture that could precede or follow that of which they inform us. John is even there denied credit by many scholars for having providing this information chronologically.

If we see these last two statements as chronologically logical and reliable, why can we not consider Revelation 7:1 the same way? It's because that is so contrary to our long held beliefs that many feel it doesn't even deserve consideration, and therefore must be rejected no matter how convincing another view may be. For further evidence, a quick look at Revelation 4:1 should add to the credibility of the above. In Revelation 4:1 John begins the chapter with "after this" which connotes a clear chronological meaning. We don't have a problem accepting this as chronological. The "this" that proceeds the "after" was Jesus' message to the 7 churches which also describes the 7 ages that will follow from then unto the Rapture. John's "after this" vision is most logical and appropriate, for what else could there be but a revealing of the things that will occur during the rest of the end times!

What is first revealed after the events resulting from the breaking of the sixth seal is that there will be some period of time between when the Seal Judgments have ended, and the Trumpet Judgments begin. This period of no judgment, after the sixth judgment, is apparently a time of relative peace, which takes up the first half of the seventieth week of Daniel before the trumpet judgments begin. Again, my premise here is that it will be the Trumpet Judgments which will initiate the Great Tribulation. This is indicated by the command to the four angels commissioned to hurt the land and sea, but to not yet commence their work of destruction. (Revelation 7:2, 3) Notice this occurs after the sixth seal judgment. Just prior to the beginning of the 7 years, when God will disperse the 144,000 who will evangelize the world for that full 7 years. If this event were to take place after the seal judgments, and these would be part of the Great Tribulation, which begins 3 ½ years into the seven years, then they could effectually only evangelize for 3 ½ years not 7 years! This period of non-judgments after the sixth judgment is in my opinion the 3 ½ years of peace when the third Temple will be built. The Jews won't be able to worship in it very long, if at all before the "man", declares himself to be God, whom we call Antichrist and proceeds to desecrate the Temple. That is what will call forth the Trumpet Judgments.

Daniel 9:27 also implies that there will be a time of peace that will characterize the first half of the seven years, after the covenant with Israel will have been made. Daniel 9:27 says in part *“And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease...”* The covenant will be confirmed for seven years, but the covenant will be broken at the end of the first 3 ½ years. It seems evident that the first 3 ½ years will be a period of peace. During this period, the temple will be rebuilt to become the place for Jewish worship. Obviously this will cease when Antichrist desecrates it. I find no Scriptural evidence that negates this interpretation of the sequence of events that will occur during this period of seven years.

Second, we know that the Restrainer, that is the Holy Spirit, is removed immediately after the Rapture. This will immediately create a far less encumbered opportunity for Satan to get on with his plan for world dominance. The great turmoil that the Rapture will cause may be of benefit to him. It's conceivable that with the right “spin”, his propaganda minister, the false prophet, will manage to somehow portray the disappearance of so many as “God's” way of punishing those who caused the great wars, that is, the Seal Judgments. I believe that he, Satan, not Antichrist, will instigate the great conflagration of war, starvation, pestilence, chaos, death and anarchy described as the Seal Judgments. All of this will be for the purpose of providing his spiritual son Antichrist, with his great opportunity to raise himself to the highest earthly position.

Regarding the Christian suffering prior to Rapture, we should note that Satan remains quite restricted until after the Rapture. Therefore, even though the Seal judgements are already causing the described afflictions noted in Matthew 24, a fuller measure of Satan's venom is not released until after the Rapture when the Restrainer is removed.

As we look around us today, the whole world is already primed for such a war. Almost every nation is “armed to the teeth” or seeking to be so. The atomic-type weaponry, and other advanced military technology necessary to conduct a war, such as the breaking of the seals reveal, are already available and ready for deployment. In this context, if the Rapture were to occur today, such a war could be waging by tomorrow morning. I don't

believe Satan was permitted to develop and stockpile this weaponry just to let it rot in silos and bunkers and hangers, or so that it could grow obsolete and wasted. I say this with one exception, that is the US arsenal. Because it could have a force to prevent the others, it had to be eliminated, and it has due to deliberate lack of maintenance, even though most don't know that.

Finally, and most importantly, let us carefully examine again most of Jesus' predictions as expressed in Matthew 24:4-21. *"4 And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you. 5 For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ: and shall deceive many. 6 And ye shall hear of wars and rumors of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. 7 For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places. 8 All these are the beginning of sorrows. 9 Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake. 10 And then shall many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another. 11 And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many. 12 And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold. 13 But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved. 14 And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come. 15 When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand,) 16 then let them which be in Judea flee into the mountains: 17 let him which is on the housetop not come down to take any thing out of his house: 18 neither let him which is in the field return back to take his clothes. 19 And woe unto them that are with child, and to them that give suck in those days! 20 But pray ye that your flight be not in the winter, neither on the sabbath day: 21 for then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be."* Notice how well His description of the post-Rapture violence describes the Seal Judgments.

As we study these verses we see that Jesus is speaking at first directly to the disciples as He sat with them privately on the Mt. of Olives. However, as He continued His message

it is obvious that it He was speaking not only to His then living disciples but also to all believers from then on to the Rapture. Collectively these are “you” and “ye” that would be living long after the lifetimes of those who then were actually hearing His words. He was speaking to those of all future ages, at their appointed times, throughout the centuries. He was speaking to us His church. We are the “you” and the “ye” to whom the relevant portions of His words apply during this current pre-Rapture segment of the end-times! It will be so to the very end. Where is the Rapture within this expanse of time that Jesus has described? Most certainly it’s there, because His discourse spans from the time He actually spoke to His Disciples all the way to the Great Tribulation. My conclusion regarding this has already been presented hereinabove. Nevertheless let’s revisit this and put it more in the context of today.

Comparing Matthew 24:3-9 with Revelation 6:1-8

Matthew 24:3-9

“³ And as he sat upon the mount of Olives, the disciples came unto him privately, saying, Tell us, when shall these things be? and what shall be the sign of thy coming, and the end of the world? ⁴ And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you, ⁵ For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many. ⁶ And ye shall hear of wars and rumors of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. ⁷ For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places. ⁸ All these are the beginning of sorrows, ⁹ Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name’s sake.”

Revelation 6:1-8

“¹ And I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seals, and I heard, as it were the noise of thunder, one of the four beasts saying, Come and see. ² And I saw, and behold a white horse: and he that sat on him had a bow; and a crown was given unto him: and he went forth conquering, and to conquer. ³ “And when he had opened the second seal, I heard the second beast say, Come and see. ⁴ And there went out another horse that was red: and

power was given to him that sat thereon to take peace from the earth, and that they should kill one another: and there was given unto him a great sword. 5 "And when he had opened the third seal, I heard the third beast say, Come and see. And I beheld, and lo a black horse; and he that sat on him had a pair of balances in his hand. 6 And I heard a voice in the midst of the four beasts say, A measure of wheat for a penny, and three measures of barley for a penny; and see thou hurt not the oil and the wine. 7 And when he had opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth beast say, Come and see. 8 And I looked, and behold a pale horse: and his name that sat on him was Death, and Hell followed with him. And power was given unto them over the fourth part of the earth, to kill with sword, and with hunger, and with death, and with the beasts of the earth."

I have concluded that in the Matthew passages, Jesus is predicting what will happen as described in these Revelation verses. It seems most likely as we see what is now happening in the spring of 2016, that a huge unprecedented catastrophe will happen at any moment. This nation is rapidly sinking into a carefully planned and satanically implemented decay. It is rapidly becoming irrelevant as a world power. While this is not as yet not been fully accomplished, the trend is unmistakably and irreversible. The visible agents of Satan are criminal traitors of the highest kind who continue to control this nation.

There is an old and very true adage: There are 3 classes of people. There are those who make things happen; those who see what is happening; and those who wonder what happened. The first group, for well over a century, has been working most diligently, and with ever increasing success to bring this nation down. A vital part of this strategy is to dumb down and engender apathy of the masses. The evidence of their success in this respect is evident to anyone who will seek this awful truth. One evidential statistic is the ranking of nations regarding the quality of educational achievement. On a scale of educational success, the U.S. ranks around 47th of the world nations, while spending more on education (Read indoctrination) this does all of the rest of the world combined.) It's also evident by the uncontrolled spending has brought us into a hopelessly unrepayable debt that can only lead to national bankruptcy. This is simply another plank in their

manifesto of national death. We could so on with volumes of similar information. However, the above should be sufficient within the context of our study.

As this nation collapses' into irrelevance, the void created by our withdrawal from the many places in the world where it has imposed its strength and position of power, the resulting voids area already are already being filled by many other power seekers. In particular, Russia, in the Middle East, and by China in the Far East. Like vultures circulating over a dying body, much of the world is preparing for the devouring of the corpse. Our ever diminishing power is a necessary pre-requisite to the Magog invasion of Israel (Ezekiel 38, 39) and for the commencement of what we learn in Revelation 6. It is my opinion that what Jesus told His disciples in Matthew 24 regarding the end times is also to be found in the first nine verses of Revelation 6. As expressed elsewhere in this study, I believe that the 4 Seal Judgements up to verse 9 occur before the Rapture, and what is recorded in verse 10 and beyond occurs after the Rapture.

Therefore, I am of the persuasion, based on these portions of Scripture, that a vast amount of destruction, disease, pestilence, suffering and death will occur before Rapture. What portion of the one third of the world's population will die prior to the Rapture is not evident. Read Matthew 24:3-9 again to see the full measure of what Jesus tells us about the pre-Rapture conditions and events as compared with Revelation 6:1-8. As we read of the post-Rapture events as described by Jesus in Matthew 24:10-14, we learn of the world's hatred for Jesus and His people. (Jews and Christians) Certainly, this hatred, betrayal, deceit and lack of love are conditions that are already well advanced in the world. This will grow with even greater intensity after the Rapture.

While the deaths of 100's of million will occur as a result of the first 4 Seal Judgements, I suspect that the 6th Judgement will be the one that causes by far the most of the one-fourth of the world's population deaths.

I conclude this because of what happens at that point in time. I believe that the "stars that fall from heaven are the atomic missiles launched from distant places returning in huge

number, like figs falling from a fig tree during a strong wind. These great explosions will destroy whole cities in but a moment, and will kill even more through radio-active fall-out and debris that will follow. Inevitably, the sudden elimination of power centers will lead to world-wide anarchy. This will be the perfect situation of the man who will be Antichrist to use His Satan provided powers to bring order by filling the leadership vacuum, and obtain world-wide leadership, authority and power. Of course along the way to this goal there will be many others who will for a while fill many of the regions leadership voids. Jesus finished the pre-Great Tribulation prophecy as given to Matthew in 24:14. That is the “end”, of which He spoke. However, before the Great Tribulation, that is the Trumpet and Vial Judgments begin, the whole world will have heard the Gospel message that brings us to the 144,000 who will spread the Word to every corner of the earth in accordance with Revelation 7, as already discussed.

We should keep in mind as we study these verses, that He is speaking to and about saved souls, souls who will have been redeemed by the time His message is relevant to them. I believe that it is only to saved souls, because who else would understand these things? There is no understanding of Scripture unless it is given to be understood through the Holy Spirit. I believe that we can safely conclude that all segments of the Olivet Discourse are applicable only to the church until the Rapture, and that the portions of them that speak of post Rapture events are spoken primarily to the yet unsaved Jews and Gentiles. Certainly the message to flee Jerusalem (verse 15-21) is all about Jews who will come to the faith through the 3 ½ years of teachings by the 2 witnesses.

In verses 4 through 9, Jesus describes many great difficulties that will plague His people. This is evidenced by verse 3 where we learn that He is speaking privately to His apostles and disciples. Again, note that in these verses, He speaks to them as “ye” and “you” as He describes the many trials that await them in the coming “end times.” The “ye” and “you” tells us His predictions are directed toward those disciples (saved souls) living during those end times. “The end” is generally, but not necessarily understood as being the end of the Tribulation. He describes devastating wars where nations rise against nations, and there is famine, pestilence and earthquakes. Notice how well this describes

the early portion of the Seal Judgments. Verse 8 tells us that these are the beginning of sorrows. (World-wide pain similar to a mother's pain in child birth) However, this is not the end either.

Now let's turn to Revelation 3:10. Here Jesus promises those of the Church of Philadelphia (applicable to all who are redeemed) that He will keep them from this hour of temptation, or trial. This trial is commonly assumed to be the Great Tribulation, and that the Church will be raptured before that period of trial begins. However, Jesus tells us that His people will nevertheless suffer these things although to some lesser degree.

While not noted there specifically, wide spread death is obviously the end result of any such war. Notice that these terrible war conditions, as described in verses 7, 8 and 9 are not part of the Great Tribulation mentioned in verse 21. These verses speak of what the redeemed souls must expect prior to Rapture. It seems to me that these verses depict events that are bad enough to qualify them to be called the "hour of trial" that the redeemed will go through before being raptured. Again, while Jesus didn't describe the Rapture here, I believe that he revealed its sequential location when He changed from speaking in the 2nd person "ye" and "you" in verse 9 to the 3rd person in verse 10. There He spoke of many being offended, betraying one another, hating one another, etc. This is not Christian like behavior! Therefore, He must have been speaking of the post-rapture unsaved. The "then" that begins verse 10 indicates a subsequent group of people, those living on earth after the rapture. As I look back at what I have been here written, I gather that it will quite likely will cause as much confusion as information. Therefore, what follows hopefully will reduce the confusion and simplify the message:

1. This whole "side effort" is an attempt to find the chronological location of the Rapture in Matthew 24. Jesus' Sermon on the Mt. was where He spoke privately to His disciples. My quest is motivated by my belief that Jesus would not have failed to somehow allude to such a momentous event as the Rapture. It's unlikely that those disciples, to whom He spoke directly, knew anything about the coming Rapture. Jesus kept it a secret until He revealed it to Paul as one of the "mysteries"

(1Thessalonians 4:16, 17) Obviously, Jesus delivery of the Sermon on the Mt. was neither the time nor the place for it to be revealed. The nature of the disciple's questions did not require such an answer. However, Jesus did respond to their specific questions as He described the events leading to that point in time, and then what would go on after the Rapture. Its verse 10 which begins with "and then", where Jesus spoke of the attitudes of people, and events that will follow after the Rapture. How can I claim this to be a valid interpretation? It's because up through verse 9, Jesus is speaking directly to His disciples then present, as well as all future generations up to the Rapture. By definition, He is speaking only to saved souls. These are redeemed souls who are the Body of Christ, those and only those who will be removed by the Rapture. Those are spoken of in second person, plural as "ye and you."

2. Starting with verse 10 of Matthew 24 Jesus begins speaking in the third person plural. His description of those begins with "and then". I believe that this can be interpreted rightly as those who come after the "ye and you" have been raptured. Those He describes in verse 10 certainly are not part of the Body of Christ.
3. Starting with verse 10, He speaks in the 3rd person plural. This portion of His message has nothing to do with His disciples, during any age, for they are the redeemed souls who have the indwelling Holy Spirit. In verse 10 Jesus is speaking of the mass of humanity that remains after the Rapture. These fit the description of unsaved souls. He describes these as betrayers, and haters. They will also fall victim to deceiving false prophets. Finally because of all of the iniquity that will abound, what little love there is left will become very rare if there is any.
4. I suspect that many reading this will claim that verse 10 is just a description of the world as it is today, and as it has been throughout most of history. That's true. However, the Sermon isn't addressing the past. It's describing the world's people after the restraining power of the Holy Spirit is removed. This fact revealed in 2Thessalanoians 2:7 where it speaks of he who now letteth, will let, until he be taken out of the way. This one who letteth is the Holy Spirit, who has, and is yet restraining Satan. With Satan in greater control, those things described in verse 10 will be

greatly amplified. Based on the above I believe that Jesus did most subtly identify where in this brief end-times prophecy that the timing of the Rapture is to be found.

One more point to consider in this Rapture portion of chronology. Notice that in Matthew 24:14 Jesus speaks of the Gospel being preached in all the world, for a witness unto all nations, then shall the end come.” The “then shall the end come” can hardly be speaking of any pre-Rapture time. I interpret this preaching to all the world to mean as most seem to interpret it as being the seven years during which the 144,000 will witness, and that will be right to the end. This “end” will be the end that shall come, that is the end of the Great Tribulation.

Once again, before you dismiss most of this as too absurd and contrary to all we have come to believe regarding these matters, let’s look at what we really do know regarding the Rapture. The clearest evidence we have that there will be such a thing, is found in 1Corinthians 15: 52, 53, and in 1Thessalonians 4:16, 17. The 1Corinthians passage only describes what happens to the corrupt bodies. It’s only the Thessalonians verses that speak of the actual Rapture, that will be the carrying away to heaven of the resurrected saints. This is one of the mysteries that Jesus revealed only to Paul. However, Paul makes no reference as to when this event will occur. In fact, we all know that no one knows the day that it will occur. One of the reasons we know that it will happen before the Great Tribulation begins, is because John speaks of seeing twenty-four elders sitting in the throne room of God before Jesus breaks the seal. We therefore conclude that the Rapture must have already happened because the Elders are Church saints. We conclude this because in Revelation 5:10 we learn that they have been made kings and priests. Only the church at that time had been given that assignment.

While there are many places in Scripture that speak of resurrection and eternal life, I don’t believe that there is any other place but 1 Thessalonians that speaks of the Rapture as the vehicle and manner by which ascension to heaven is revealed. Notice also, that based on what John wrote, that is the first item on the heavenly agenda, after they determined that only Jesus could open the seals. Then He commenced His breaking them

and thereby permitting the revealing of what all the Seal Judgments will address. There isn't even a hint of any gap in time, like 3 ½ years, before the Seal Judgments begin. If they are part of the first phase of the Great Tribulation as most believe, then what do we do with the 70th week of Daniel and several related verses that claim that there will be 3 ½ years of peace before the Great Tribulation begins? The more I have mused on this the more I'm convinced of the above stated position of the Seal Judgments in the end-time chronology.

Since, composing this commentary several years ago, and having observed the rapidly changing events, there is another possibility to consider regarding Antichrist. We have presently in the leadership of this country a policy of dismantling every aspect of what was once a great and God-fearing country. Augmenting this is the greatest satanic deception that the world has ever experienced. The so-called media are the only means by which the majority learns anything. However it too has sold out to Satan, (socialism / Marxism) and therefore subtly supports this destructive agenda. So who can know the truth? Only those few, both saved and unsaved, who have been given a measure of God's wisdom and discernment, can see it taking place. The unsaved see it but cannot or refuse to relate it to Scripture. The saved see it as the on-going fulfillment of prophecy.

The real goal of the "powers that be" is to totally destroy this nation, and all nations reducing them to a wholly dependent serfdom ruled by a small elite, as were the ways of the past. Because the world has been largely conditioned to hate America, the one who will be credited with accomplishing this feat will be greatly lauded. One can count on Communist Russia and China, along with the Arab/Muslim nations to be delighted with this outcome. Will they come here as Vultures to pick at the bones of what remains? Most likely. They, along with many other Satan controlled people represent a very high percentage of the total world population.

I believe that this man chosen by Satan for his current assignment as Antichrist will be given the full spectrum of Satan's powers to further his world-wide prestige, and to then become the one who provides peace, prosperity and beneficence to the world. He will be

the one to whom the world will gladly pay great homage and offer total political power. Is he the one who will then make the peace covenant with Israel, and later announce himself to be the true christ? I believe the answer to each of these questions is a resounding yes! Again however, as I have mused over the current end-time events that are so rapidly proceeding, and observed the nature of the one who is formulating and leading the final destruction of our once great nation, I see this premise as quite defensible, and worthy of sharing.

Many saved souls may reason that it makes no difference because they will not be here. To me, it does make a great difference, because many of our loved ones may not have been saved when the Rapture comes, and so will continue to suffer all of this. Might it be that our attempts to prayerfully probe into the future will lead to some spiritually beneficial legacy that we might not otherwise be able to provide for them? If God leads them to this, it might lead them to repentance. I don't know what, or if anything will be revealed this way, but I feel prompted to at least try.

****Foot Note #2 – Revealing of the Antichrist**

It is generally believed by most Bible scholars that Antichrist will not be revealed until after the Rapture. This belief is correctly determined from a careful study of 2Thessalonians 2:1-10. *“¹ Now we beseech you, brethren, by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by our gathering together unto him, ² that ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that the day of Christ is at hand. ³ Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; ⁴ who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God. ⁵ Remember ye not, that, when I was yet with you, I told you these things? ⁶ And now ye know what withholdeth that he might be revealed in his time. ⁷ For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth will let, until he be taken out of the way. ⁸ And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming: ⁹ even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, ¹⁰ and with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved.”*

The first difficulty encountered in studying these verses in the King James Version is the term “day of Christ.” It is commonly believed that this is a mistranslation and should have been translated the “day of the Lord.” However, the Greek word used here is *Christos* which accurately translates as “Christ.” The day of the Lord is a technical term used most often to identify the time of the Great Tribulation. Throughout both the Old and New Testament, the “day of the Lord” refers to that period of time when the patience and forbearance of the Lord is at an end. It is when He will apply the full measure of wrath on the earth and on the evil trio. It will end with Jesus’ second coming. It is not a reference to the Rapture. H. H. Ironsides commented that “the day of the Christ has to do with the Rapture, but it is not the Rapture that Paul is speaking of in these verses.”

This becomes evident in verse seven. Here we find the Holy Spirit referred to as “he who now letteth will let until He be taken out of the way.” As we can see, Ironside did not comment on the difference between the term “day of Christ” and the “day of the Lord.” These are two different terms, each relating to a different time and activity. Furthermore, I believe that the “day of Christ” refers to two different and blessed involvements with the earth by Jesus. The first is the Rapture when He only appears in the clouds. The second is of course, His second coming, when He ends the Tribulation, that is the “day of the Lord”. This is when He rids the world of Antichrist and his armies, and temporarily puts Satan in the bottomless pit along with his fallen angels and demon.

The context of verse 2 involves what Paul taught in 1Thessolians 4:15-18. The people had been deceived by some false letter written in Paul’s name that had caused them to believe that they missed the Rapture because the letter said that the Rapture had already occurred. This is because they were already being persecuted in a manner that had the characteristics of the Great Tribulation. From verse 3 on, Paul is addressing this deceit by reminding them that what was happening was not the great Tribulation as evidenced by the fact that the son of perdition had not been yet revealed, something that he had already taught them. (For more detail, see the Christian Musings study: “Commentary on Thessalonians 2:2, 3)

As this message continues, we are told in verses 7 and 8 that the Holy Spirit, as the Restrainer will be “taken out of the way.” That doesn’t happen until after the Rapture, that is after the church is removed. It’s the end of verse eight that sets the time, and the event that causes the Antichrist to be revealed. It is sometime after the Holy Spirit is out of the way that Antichrist is revealed. Here he is called “*Wicked*” in verse eight and in verse nine he is called “...*him whose coming is after the workings of Satan...*” As noted in verse three, “*that day*” the “day of the Lord,” won’t come until there is “...*a falling away first...*” and Antichrist is revealed. The Greek word for falling away is “apostasia” from the root word meaning “departure” or “removed from.”

Many souls will be saved after the Rapture during the first 3 ½ years before the Great Tribulation, and even during the Great Tribulation. This will be the results of various opportunities God will provide, especially through the ministries of the 144,000. However, by the time the Lord comes, total apostasy will prevail. In Luke 18:8 the Lord asked “...when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?” When He says, “faith”, He means that body of truth which He left here. The answer is no. Jesus knew that there would be none. This was a rhetorical question, a way of acknowledging the fact that He knew there would be none. It is likely that this Luke passage refers to Jesus’ coming in the clouds to activate the Rapture. As we know, this day will come when the “fullness of the Gentiles be come in.” (Romans 11:25) That is when there will be no one left who will accept Jesus and thus be saved under the present dispensation. The moment after the Rapture, there will not be a single saved soul on earth.

There is, I believe, another important observation which we should take from this as has already been claimed several time hereinabove. Paul is telling us is that the point at which the man will first become known as the Antichrist doesn’t occur until the beginning of the Great Tribulation. This is because it will be then when he declares himself to be god, that is he will claim to be the true Christ. In verse 3 it simply says that “he will be revealed”. But who will be revealed and when? Verse 4 tells us he will be the one “...who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God....” “...so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God,showing himself that he is God”. When does he do that? It is at the beginning of the Great Tribulation, 3 ½ years after he made the covenant with Israel! Does that mean that he won’t be revealed as the Antichrist until then? Yes, because that is what it says. How do we reconcile this with his obvious great power and leadership that will have already manifested 3 ½ years earlier? Easy, once we have studied the 10 verses, presented above, and realize that we have two totally different and consecutive images portrayed by him during the 7 year period. As we have already read, within this text, first he will be a superbly intelligent, capable leader, a man who climbs the ladder to power and prominence in a suffering world that will be in great need and will be “praying” and begging for such a leader.

The man will even put forth an image of humility and most certainly piety and other traits of a godly man. Initially he will no doubt embrace the then universal religion of Rome. This is evidenced by the allusion of the woman riding the beast in Revelation 17:7. It will be through the power, perseverance and P.R., provided by the False Prophet operating in Rome that will very effectively enhance that image. By the end of the first 3 ½ years that image of both power and godliness will be so entrenched that the leap to an assertion of his “godhood” will, in the eyes of the deceived world, be quite believable and will not be as big a shock, or as offensive as we may think. This, helps explain the unshakable loyalty to him that much of the world will retain throughout all manners of Godly persuasion provided by the 144,000, the two witnesses, and certain angels. Even God’s vial judgments and His merciful interludes will not shatter their loyalty to Antichrist. We find this evidenced typically in Revelation 16:11 where it says, “*and blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pain and sores, and repented not of their deeds.*” Believing that Antichrist is the real god, it’s natural that they will see that God above is the real Antichrist who is causing them this great suffering.

We find it also in the fact that after all that has happened he is yet able to assemble a huge army to actually fight against the true God. Again I believe that the only reason that this is possible is because, through Satan and his great powers of deception given to the Antichrist and the False Prophet, he will have thoroughly convinced many that the power in heaven is the evil power, and that he is the true and righteous one.

And also, in order to press home the merits of this point, one of the major modern apostate religions already hold the doctrine that Jesus and Satan are brothers. There are several other apostate religions that speak of Jesus, but do not consider Him as God. Thus they will believe based on his “saintly” life, and his past noble and miraculous deeds, that the one we call Antichrist, will be the one who is a living embodiment of the real God. He is the one who is “the son of the morning,” the “prince of the earth,” and the one who has accomplished so much “good” on the earth. It is he who must be the better of the two, especially when the other One (Jesus) was so hated that He had to be killed. They will probably be told that He, the real Christ Jesus, is the evil one who now seeks revenge

by attacking this world from some outer place to which He has been banished. Remember, genuine Holy Bibles will be very scarce or practically non-existent, as when Manasseh was king, and when all but one supernaturally hidden copy of the Bible had been destroyed. Then almost the only sources of spiritual information will be what the false prophet will preach.

Again, the big point here, to me at least, is the realization that he is not revealed as Antichrist until he declares himself to be god. Most of the world will accept this lie, and so He will be considered the real Christ and not Antichrist. Prior to that he will have been revealed only as an extraordinary man who will become world famous and all powerful prior to the beginning of the 70 weeks of Daniel, and will remain so during the 3 ½ years that follow.

****Foot Note # 3– Who Are The Locust?**

Revelation Chapter 9 verse 2 and 3 tell us that the bottomless pit was opened and locust came out upon the earth. To be likened to swarming locust, their number must have been many million. What could possibly be in the bottomless pit in so great a number? Up to this point, all that Scripture has revealed is found in Jude 6 where it says: *“And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day.”*

Therefore, these locusts cannot be those angels because Jude tells us that they are in chains and can't leave until the “judgment of the great day.” I believe, as do most biblical scholars, that this “great day” occurs at the end of the millennium. It is the White Throne Judgement when Satan and his legions of followers will be cast into the lake of fire. (Revelation 20:10) So who or what are these beings that John likened to locusts? I believe that they are the soul/spirits of the decedents of the offsprings that were produced by the mating of fallen angels with human women, as made clear in Genesis 6.

Jude 6 also speaks of the judgment of these angels to occur on “the great day.” Schofield claims, and I agree, that the Great Day, as it relates to the fallen angels is when Satan and all of his angels and demons are cast into the lake of fire at the end of the millennium. He wrote “As the final judgment upon Satan occurs after the 1000 years, and preceding the final judgment (the Great White Throne Judgments.), it is congruent to conclude as to the time, that other fallen angels are judged with him.” There is no mention in Scripture, that I have found, that specifically states when the fallen angels are cast out. Notice Schofield spoke of “other” fallen angels. I suspect that this may be in part because he considered Satan as simply one of the fallen angels rather than the Cherub Scripture tells us he is.

Is this locust issue “just one of those things” that we are not given to understand, so we shouldn't bother to try? Perhaps, but that doesn't negate the fact that millions of “some things” came out of the pit. I believe that if we really want to know what they are,

Scripture has given us clues that at the very least provide us a basis for a very logical Scripture honoring conclusion. As I have thought about this, I am convinced that what follows is much more fact than fiction. To get at this we must argue our way through an army of biblical scholars who refuse to accept the literal interpretation of Genesis Chapter 6. However it is here that I believe our journey to understanding begins.

The angels in the bottomless pit obviously did something even more wicked than all the rest of the fallen angels. What they did was to procreate with women and sired the beings first called the Nephelim before the flood, and then called the Repheim after the flood. Verse 4 of Genesis 6 refers to their offsprings as the *“mighty men which were of old, men of renown.”* Who or what else could they be? The context makes it quite clear.

The angels that “begot” these mighty men of renown are the ones spoken of in Jude. They are the fathers of the Nephelim. They are the ones who are now in the bottomless pit. These angels will remain there until the day of the White Throne Judgment. The “after this” speaks of the Repheim. These are the offsprings of a second group of the fallen angels that also procreated with human women. It appears that these after-the-flood offsprings of the second group of fallen angels were included in their description as being the “mighty men of renown”. Just as Satan’s angels were given the task of contaminating the pre-flood population by producing the Nephelim, so also were these post-flood angels given the same task through their sons and daughters, the Repheim.

I believe that we can accurately conclude that the flood killed all of the Nephelim. Therefore their soul/ spirits, descended into the bottomless pit and are now with their angel “parents.” These descendants of the angels, as well as the descendants of the Nephelim offsprings are the evil spirits that will emerge from the pit in such vast numbers that John liken them to locusts.

There was no flood to kill the Repheim. We see some being killed by men at the time of Abram and later in the time of Moses and Joshua. Did their soul / spirits descend into the pit? It doesn’t appear so. They remain wandering the earth seeking to dwell in man

wherever they can. This is made very evident when we read of Jesus removing them from several people as He revealed much about them and their continued existence. In Matthew 8:29, when Jesus removed the 2000 demons from Legion it is evident that they knew Him to be the Son of God. Then they cried out asking Him why He came to torment them before their time. From this we can conclude that they also knew that there was a later judgement coming after which their eternal torment would come.

A question we may ask is what became of these Repheim “giants,” these “men of renown,” when their fathers, which were a post-flood group of fallen angels, began their Satan-led contamination of the world. I believe that Scripture does give us some clues to their identity and the unique cultures they developed in Greece and other parts of the world. However, it’s in secular literature where God caused it to be written. Today it is called Greek Mythology. The assignment was given to Homer and Hesiod’s to write about their cultures and history and probably other Greek writers. Hesiod’s “Theogony” (The Origin of the Gods) is the fullest account of Greek Mythology. It starts with creation, and on to the origin of gods (fallen angels). It speaks of these gods who mated with women and with the progeny that they produced. It was a magnificent culture of superior beings. The connection with Genesis 6 is compellingly evident.

An obvious question here is how come such a vast number of evil spirits are now in the bottomless pit? If that’s what the “locust” are, why was the first batch of these demon spirits relegated to the pit, while the second batch were allowed to roam the earth? Again, I believe that those in the pit are spirits of the first group, the Nephilem, those hybrids who contaminated the earth so badly that God flooded it, killing them all, sending their soul/spirits to join their angel fathers in the bottomless pit. If they began procreating with women soon after creation, than there were over 1600 years for them to accumulate in the 100’s of millions, or even billions before the flood killed them sending their spirits into the bottomless pit from where they will come out as thick as locust at the appropriate time be released for a short season.

To me, this name change, of itself, suggests that there was something different about them as compared with the Nephilem. Scripture refers to them numerous times during the days of Abraham as well as when Moses, and later Joshua, served as God's anointed. They are recorded as having conquered several of the Repheim settlements and killed many of them. At that time, those in some of their settlements were called Amorites. (Numbers 13:33) Later they were called the Anakins (Deuteronomy 2:11) In Deuteronomy 2:20 we read that the Moabites call the giants Emims Zamrims. They were surely giants, as evidenced by King Og's iron bed that was 13.5 feet long and 6 feet wide (Deuteronomy 3:11)

However, as they were described at that time, they don't compare well with an image of the "mighty men of old". I suspect that they had long ago ended their procreating with human women. This is what appears to have made them mighty and great. It appears to me that by the time of Abram to Moses they, through incestuous breeding had degenerated considerably to a state of relative mental and physical weakness. While originally there were angels procreating with women who produced the first Repheim, those angels appear to have also been cast into the pit leaving only those Repheim descendants to procreate with their own kind. There is no evidence that any of the later Repheim got involved with human females. Deuteronomy 29:7 records how Moses "smote" them and took their land. Also, we learn that Caleb had little difficulty destroying the Repheim killing or driving them out the mountain top city of Hebron. Thus God in His way and in His time finally removed these abominations from earthly existence.

Again, much is recorded about them as contemporaries of Abram and Moses. When they died, it was their soul/spirits indwelling of humans of which Jesus spoke when He called them evil spirits. We call them the demons. They roam the earth seeking to enter human bodies as Jesus told us. When a Christian is born again, the Holy Spirit comes to indwell in him. Could it be that in Satan's quest to be like God, he has orchestrated the indwelling of his evil spirits to be his counterfeit "holy spirits"? When they establish themselves in humans, we call those persons possessed. Others serve Satan, as he gives

them power, to serve as ministering spirits behind all pagan idols, making these idols seem worthy of worship. If all of this seems crazy, show me a better answer and I'll be glad to embrace it. Nowhere are we told directly what demons are or how they came to be. In fact the word demon doesn't even appear in Scripture. They are called "evil" or "unclean" spirits, and 115 times they are called devils. The word demon comes from the Greek word for devil which is "daimopion" or demonic being. Scripture makes no allowance for angels inhabiting man. Only demons can and often do inhabit and control man, as Jesus personally alluded to several times.

Scripture says that the locust have a ruler, the demon king named Apollyon. As described in Greek Mythology Apollo was the son of Zeus, one of the fallen angels, and his mother was a female Repheim. If only the Nephelim were relegated to the bottomless pit, how did Apollo, a Repheim become their ruler? Notice Revelation 9:11 doesn't say that Apollyon came out of the pit, but merely that he was their king. Being called an angel is incorrect. His father Zeus was an angel. Scripture allows for several uses for the word angel. In Revelation Chapters, 2, 3 Jesus refers to the "angels" of the seven churches. What He is actually referring is the positions of teachers or messengers. Satan, who is a Cherub, and not an angel, is referred to as the "angel of light" In this case the context is found in the adjacent verse. Paul is speaking of false deceiving apostles transforming themselves as apostles of Christ. Obviously these are self-appointed, and are not true apostles of Christ. Satan himself chose the title of angel of light, that is the chief messenger of false doctrines claiming them to be true righteousness or Godly light. (2Corinthians 11:14). Paul (2Corinthians 7) speaks of the "messengers of Satan" as the ones who gave him the "thorn in the flesh."

To conclude that Apollyon and Apollo are the same person is not without some difficulty. Apollyon simply means among several other things, a destroyer in the Greek. In Greek Mythology Apollo is said to have been the destroyer of evil as well as an Oracle of Delphi where He spoke through a priestess. He was also the bringer of doom, and he had been recognized as the god of music, truth, light, prophesy, healing, and other attributes.

Some scholars see Apollo and Apollyon as the same entity. Horn, for one, ties Nimrod to the Greek God Apollo. He suggests that Apollo and Apollyon are one! This connection with Nimrod fits well with my contention that the post-flood angels began their siring Repheim almost immediately. This then provided plenty of time for the great Greek “mythological” societies to grow, flourish and subsequently self-destruct, and disappear leaving the weakened degenerate Repheim great in size, but lacking the strength, powers and intelligence that had characterized their ancestors.

There was a period of over 400 years after the flood, before they are mentioned at the time of Abram. This was ample time for this impressive “Mythological” society to have grown, matured degenerated, and disappeared. Perhaps it was due to the incestuous relations between the Repheim that caused their weakening and societal demise.

I suggest that it is this Apollo who is the king of the “locust”. As noted, it is my belief is that the Repheim soul/spirits were not sent into hell. Was there this one exception? Was Apollo sent to the pit as an exception for this purpose. Or, as an earth bound evil spirit, did God allow Satan to recruit him for this purpose? We don’t know. At this time, I lean toward the second premise. There is a relevant example, of fallen angels having been separated from the others. Four of them are presently confined at the bottom of the Euphrates where they wait to be released to become Satan’s chief officers’ in seeking to destroy all of humanity.

For reasons that seem evident the “locust” are these Nephilem demons, and while not specifically numbered, in the description of the 5th Trumpet Judgment, I suspect that they are also may be the 200 million spoken of in the Sixth Trumpet Judgment. In the interest of providing some measure of clarity in the midst of this confusing portion of my commentary, the following is what I believe regarding fallen angels, Satan and demons.

Scripture identifies three categories of celestial beings, Angels, Cherubim and Seraphim. The way each is very specifically described, makes it clear that these are distinctly different classifications of celestial beings. If not, why would God have so specifically

labeled them? It is my observation that most biblical scholars lump these all together simply calling them all angels. Given the vastly different descriptions Scripture so specifically provides, I don't believe that this is scripturally defensible.

- Satan is celestial being called a cherub, not what Scripture characterizes as an angel.
- Satan - the Prince of the air is a spirit apparently incapable of physical manifestation. Neither is he capable of entering a person as can demons. In Luke 22:3 it says, *then entered into Judas...* The Greek word for "entered" as used here is "eiscerchomel" which means "enter either literally or figuratively, depending on context. Given that nowhere else in Scripture is a celestial being mentioned as inhabiting a person, it seems evident that we must conclude this was meant figuratively. A similar figurative statement was made by Jesus to Peter where He said "Get thee behind me Satan." (Mark 8:39, Luke 4:8)
- Demons – Devils or demons of the Nephilem variety apparently can and will take the physical forms of "locust."
- Devils or demons spirits of the Reheim genesis are capable of entering the bodies of those who intentionally or unintentionally allow them access. This is the only class of being capable of such actions. They cannot manifest as flesh. John saw them because he too was soul / spirit while in heaven.
- All who are Repheim demons do not always express the control of their hosts in violent ways. Yet as Satan's agents, under his control, are always available to facilitate evil when called upon. They often do this in very subtle ways not readily recognizable to their hosts or their host's neighbors, or their friends. I suspect that many of the great and terrible men of the past, as well as most of today's leaders are demon possessed. Like the "Manchurian Candidate" I suspect many may be quite inactive, simply waiting for Satan's call to activate their inherent evil powers to effectually serve him.
- Demons can sometimes be dislodged from their hosts as Jesus demonstrated several time. It is called exorcism.

- Demons are not the fallen angels. They are soul/spirits of the offsprings of those angels who procreated with human women, as well as with females of their own kind.
- All fallen angels, except those in the pit, are part of Satan's loyal and available army. Those in the pit are of no use to him, because they are chained there. Angels cannot enter or dwell in persons or animals. There are two basic categories of fallen angels. Those who did such heinous acts that they are in chains in the bottomless pit. (Jude 6, 7) The others roam the earth serving Satan as what Scripture calls the "principalities and powers." As a sub-category, of those not in the pit are the four angels held captive under the Euphrates River (Revelation 9:14).

I believe that Jude gives a very telling statement when, in verse 6 he speaks of the "*...angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgement of the great day.*" I believe "kept not their first estate" is identifying those angels who not only chose to rebel with Satan, but also to leave their normal functions as angels, and instead chose to procreate with women. To God, these were even more despicable than the rest of the angels who simply cast their lots with Satan. It's evident that the angels of whom Jude spoke are a separate group of angels that rebelled. They did something far worse, in God's eyes than any of the other angels who rebelled. This particular group, were cast into hell while the four fallen angels remain on earth to serve Satan. What was their most heinous crime that God should so severely punish them? To me, it's clear that they were the ones who procreated with women as noted in Genesis 6.

Because of its importance, I repeat what has already been mentioned. Why did God choose to tell us the name of the locust king? There is nothing trivial about anything God has written. He provided this name for a purpose. Obviously, as with all Scripture, it is given for our learning (Romans 15:4). So what is it that we can learn? Could it be that this king, who has the Greek name Apollyon, which can be translated into English is Apollo, is the same being who was one of the most important of the Greek not-so-

“mythological” sons of angels? Apollo was the titan god of many situations, as previously noted. According to mythology, Apollo was the son of the “chief angel-god”, Zeus. Apollo’s mother was Lebo who was the daughter of the titans Coesan & Phelele. The more one studies Greek Mythology, in the context of this portion of the Bible, the more convincing does this seem to be the God-given extra -biblical explanation of the existence of demons.

Again, was this name Apollo given to us to provide the linkage we need between the Genesis 6 “mighty men of old, men of renown,” with the angels and the demon / locust of the pit? I believe it was! I believe that the more one studies Greek mythology, and at the same time takes Genesis literally, one cannot help but see this connection as a compelling likelihood. Notice that in Genesis 6, God makes a simple statement of fact, absent any further comment or context. The same is true regarding His seemingly casual mentioning of the name of the locust’s king. To me, the two beg to have a context. This is most readily found by realizing that they are connected. I believe that God intended for us to make the connection. For what other reason are these seemingly random utterances there?

There is no such thing as randomness, because God is involved in all things. Where else is the context of Genesis 6? We can’t just leave it hanging there. The clue to its context is the name Apollyon, and thus the so-called Titans and the “mighty men of old, men of renown.” This connection reaches its fulfillment as we realize who the Nephelim, as well as the Repheim were. They were unique half humans, half angelic beings, with soul/spirits that were therefore intrinsically evil perversions. With the passage of time they mated with their own kind, their human aspect became more and more diluted. Again, the compelling conclusion, at least to me, is that the eternal fate of the Nephelim was the same as their fathers, the fallen angels. Upon death, their soul/spirits were sent into the bottomless pit where they are now awaiting to have their brief moment of service to Antichrist before again returning to the pit to await their eternal destiny in the Lake of Fire.

If what I have written here regarding the connection between Genesis 6 and Greek Mythology has any validity, we must determine where and when the Greek titans lived. Because the Genesis 6 information is given us prior to the flood, at first it may seem logical to say that the Greek saga took place before the flood. It appears that it was then that the Nephelim flourished and procreated with women, which indeed they did. It was this that so contaminated the earth that God destroyed it, and all who breathed air, including the Nephelim and their offspring. It may also be true that they had their own Greek Mythological type societies spread across the world as did the post-flood fallen angels. If this is true the knowledge of it doesn't appear to have been carried to this side of the flood.

The evidence that there was a post flood society in Greece, from which the Repheim came, is to me a valid reason to look historically at the so-called Greek Mythology. If this was scripturally significant, why wasn't it mentioned anywhere in Scripture? Again, I believe that God simply gave us clues about this, leaving them for us to decipher and understand if we choose to. Remember, the focus of all Scripture is on Jesus and it therefore limits itself to a relatively small portion of peripheral world activity. For Him to have even mentioned this Greek society in Scripture would have only served to confuse and to diminish the primary purpose of it. The whole thing in far away Greece had no direct relevance, any more than what went on in Europe or China the Americas.

Based on local folklore and traditions, one can find indications that similar societies existed in many other parts of the world. Their "folklore" also speaks of giants and gods. Once this is understood, so also can we understand who the giants were in the Promised Land and also how the demons or evil spirits came to be, as well as where and why some of them are in the bottomless pit.

Note that it was in 490 BC, or 1166 years after the flood when Esther's father-in-law, Darius the Great fought against the Greeks at Marathon. By this time the whole of the Greek Mythological civilization was gone leaving only this remembrance of their glorious past. When I say gone, I'm suggesting that they must have dispersed to other

regions such as to the Promise Land where they, the Repheim, are first mentioned by Abram.

As noted, by the time of Abraham, the Repheim, that is the degenerate remnant of the giants, who earlier had been the *“mighty men which were of old, men of renown”*, were scattered all over Canaan and probably all over the world. As noted earlier, these were not the offspring of angels mating with women. That, most likely had long ended. These were the offspring of giant males mating with their female counterparts. As noted, perhaps this incestuous mating was the cause of their degeneration.

Revelation chapter 9 is where these demons are recorded as fulfilling the prophetic purposes. It is through the 4th Trumpet Judgement where there is a warning of what will happen before the locusts arrival. Revelation 8:12 speaks of 1/3 of the world being severely devastated in several ways. Then in verse 8:13 there is a warning of three woes yet to come. Two are described by Trumpet Judgments 5 and 6. They are called woes because they will be extremely severe to all mankind. As we read Revelation 9:12 *“One woe is past; and, behold, there come two woes more thereafter.”* We learn that the first 2 are closely related demonic invasions. Judgment #5 speaks of locusts appearing out of smoke rising from out of the earth. These are given the power of scorpions. They are not to feed on the green vegetation as do normal locust, but to horribly hurt although, not kill, all of mankind except the sealed, which are the 144,000. Those afflicted will seek to die, but will not be able to. They will suffer in this manner for 5 months. As John observed them, these locusts appeared to have man-like faces and breastplates of iron. Notice he likens them to horses, not things on horses. These locusts have a king, which Proverbs 30:27 tells is the locust have no king. The issue of them having a king is discussed elsewhere above. Locust are mentioned 28 times in Scripture. Only here in Revelation 9 do they differ from regular locust. I suspect that the nature and appearance of locust were well known to most people throughout the ages.

I experienced an invasion of locust about 50 years ago while living in Connecticut. Some aspects of the image of them is yet vivid in my mind. At one point they seemed to be as

dense as a cloud, and were everywhere attacking and eating all forms of vegetation, such as vegetable, tree leaves, grass, etc. My most vivid memory was that of driving down a street covered with them and hearing swishing, popping, crunching as my vehicle drove over them. Putting on the breaks produces the same results as doing so on smooth ice. The vehicle would skid, and even slide off the pavement if one did not release the brakes. I didn't pick one up to examine it carefully because had I done so I believed that they would have swarmed on me. As I recall, they were green, perhaps 4 inches long, and looked and behaved like exceptionally large grasshoppers.

With their long legs they could hop several yards at a time, and with their whirling wings, they could fly rapidly. I can see why John might have, from a distance, saw them as horse-like in some of their movements. The manner in which John speaks of their breastplates of iron does not connote a certainty that they were iron, but perhaps resembled iron. The sound he said they made depicts what I remember hearing.

Again, this scripturally mentioned infestations of locust were forbidden to kill, but only to hurt. From revelation 9:12 we learn that this was the 1st of 3 woes, and that the 2nd would immediately follow the first woe. This is described by 6th Trumpet Judgement. Instead of having a king, the 200 million "something's" they are indicated to be directed by the 4 angels who have been bound under the Euphrates River. Who these are is also discussed elsewhere hereinabove. While this army of 200 million are not identified as locust, the number, description and context of their mention, I believe, makes it evident some or all are the same locusts referred to in Judgement #5, except that their warrior equipment has been modified. God limited the first invasion of locust to only hurt mankind. With the second woe recorded as the 6th Judgment, God permits massive numbers of mankind to be killed such at the end of this Judgement, a total of 50% of the original population will be dead.

Now, let's break the continuity of our primary topic in order to continue the continuity and completion of the 3 woes. We find the 3rd woe introduced through the 7th Trumpet Judgment (Revelation 16:1). As I see it, the 3rd woe embraces the 7 Vial Judgement and

all that occurs on through the Sheep and Goat Judgment. We might liken the woe to a minutely orchestrated symphony having as its theme, universal, unrivaled, wanton, destruction, pain, and death. It begins by revealing the first Vial Judgment, which inflicts grievous pains to a select portion of mankind. Then follows additional devastating judgments. The symphony continues in like manner to the 6th Vial Judgment. This is the “high point”, a momentous crescendo known as Armageddon, soon followed by the grand finale, called the Sheep and Goats Judgment. The end of the symphony marks the end of all societal manners of life as have previously existed anywhere on earth. The Millennial society will be strikingly different than any that previously existed on earth. There will be a governmental structure as evidenced by Revelation 1:6 and 5:10 where some of the Body of Christ will be kings. These verses also tell us that the remainder will be priests. Thus, during the millennium there will be a need for providing and maintaining social order. The “kings” most likely will consist of a hierarchy of leadership from the highest of kings, presidents, prime minister, or whatever that may be called, on down through governors, town mayors, etc. Those who are priests, will have functions in the temple, or in local places of worship. Witnessing and teaching the unsaved will be the assignments of others.

****Foot Note # 4– Ministry of the Two Witnesses**

In chapter eleven of Revelation we are introduced to two witnesses whom God will send down from heaven to Jerusalem to preach God's Word to the Jews for 3 ½ years. There is considerable division of thought as to who they are, and in which half of the seven years they will preach. In this study of chronology, we seek only to determine in what 3 ½ year period they will be serving. If we consider the place in John's narrative where they are mentioned, we find that it is between the sixth and seven trumpet judgments, or at the end of the final 3 ½ years. Therefore, it is evident that when they are introduced by John, cannot be the beginning of their ministry, because there are not 3 ½ years left in which they can do anything before the beginning of the Millennium. However, this has led some to assume that it means that they will witness during the whole of the last 3 ½ years of the 70th week of Daniel. Otherwise, why didn't John mention them earlier, say along with the 144,000 who will begin their ministry at the beginning of the seven years, if that were the case? Another argument for the latter period is that they need divine protection, which some have reasoned to believe would not be necessary during the 3 ½ years period of peace. Those who choose the latter 3 ½ years also observe that the punishments and judgments that the witnesses inflict on anyone who tries to hurt them, seem to fit better in the Great Tribulation period, that is the second half of the seven years.

In examining the alternative view, which is that they and the 144,000 will begin their ministry at the very beginning of the seven years, I find the evidence for this far more compelling. To me it makes absolutely no sense for their ministry to be during the second 3 ½ years. The moment the first half of the 7 years ends, the Jews all flee to the mountains (Bozrah) to escape the Great Tribulation. How would they know to do this unless they had the 2 witnesses preaching the truth to them for the 3 ½ years before the Great Tribulation? Matthew 24:15-21 makes it crystal clear that when they first see the abominations of desolation as predicted by Daniel, they are to drop everything and get out of sin city as quickly as possible. Why would they obey if they were not already educated by the 2 witnesses? It's because of this 3 ½ years of witnessing that they will

know to run before Antichrist seeks to have them all killed. To me, the evidence and logic as to their witnessing for the first 3 ½ years is over whelming. The belief, that they will witness during the last 3 ½ years is totally without merit, either from a Scriptural or a God-given common sense perspective.

The ministry of the 144,000 will be worldwide. It will be to the Gentile Nation. Each contingent of these disciples will be assigned a particular jurisdiction where they will seek to reach everyone that is willing to listen to them. To be relevant and persuasive in their witnessing, they will each speak in the language appropriate to their assigned location. The world's Atlas indicates the collective total land mass of the earth. Dividing that by the 144,000 indicates that on average, each of the 144,000 will have about 400 square miles within which to evangelize. This, of course is merely a crude estimate for giving us a sense of magnitude. Obviously, there are vast areas of essentially no population at the earth's northern and southern extremities. Naturally the more densely populated area is where most of the evangelists will be placed.

The two witnesses are assigned to a specific locality, which will be somewhere in the center of Jerusalem. Their ministry will be exclusively to the Jews. They will be heard by all Jews having come together and are living in Jerusalem and its suburbs. The whole Gentile world may be allowed to see, or hear them on TV or radio. The controlled media through which this may occur, will do all it can to characterize them in a bad way. The universal church in Rome will strongly condemn them, thus causing its "believers" to view them as vicious false prophets, and agents from hell. Given to whom it is that they will be witnessing, they will very likely be speaking only in Hebrew.

Therefore, while all the Gentile world will be conditioned to be aggravated by them, only a few outside of Judea are likely to understand their message. Through the powers of the media, the Roman "church" will continue to characterize them as evil. There is every reason to believe that by then, anti-Semitism will be much much more vicious than it is even today. Because they will be Jews, speaking Jewish to Jews, the world will have an even greater disgust and hatred of them. However, it's evident that the Jews who will

hear their message day after day for the first 3 ½ years will all “get it” in time, as has been predicted.

The “fruit” of their ministry will be the entire remnant of Jews that Jesus spoke of that would know to run to the hills when they see the abomination of desolation, that is, Antichrist asserting himself to be god (Matthew 24:16) For by what other means does Scripture provide for this “sudden” existence of saved Jews in the currently secular Judea? This believing remnant will run to Bozrah. A study of a map of the area indicates that the distance to be traveled will be over 100 miles through hostile terrain and hate-filled Gentiles seeking to kill them. Because of this, I suspect that they will be transported supernaturally. The precedent for this possibility is in the story of Philip and the Ethiopian eunuch.

I believe, because Micha 2:12 tells us that all will be saved, that these two witnesses, who after 3 ½ years of powerful Spirit-led teaching of the Word, will have pierced the hearts of all of them thereby becoming saved souls. With two thirds of the world’s Jewish population killed during the tribulation, they will be the remaining one third.

How will they know to do this, unless some trusted authority will have conveyed Jesus’ Words to them? I find nothing in Scripture to indicate how they will know these things, except for this one compelling bit of evidence, and that is the ministry of the two witnesses, and their 3 ½ years of preaching and winning their souls to Christ before the Great Tribulation, that is during the first 3 ½ years of the 7 years spoken of by Daniel. Remember the two witnesses will be sent down from heaven, and I believe for no reason other than for this specific purpose of saving Jews. This remnant of Jews will be ones who will populate the millennium. Of what possible benefit to the Jews could be if the 2 witnesses preached for the last 3 ½ years, that is throughout the Great Tribulation? It makes no sense. Again, what caused the great exodus from Jerusalem to the hills (Bozrah) as Jesus warned them to do? It was when they would “see” the abomination of desolation” spoken of by Daniel (Mark 13:14). How else would all the Jews know when and where to run if the 2 witnesses had not already preached to them for the first 3 ½

years? There is more that could be said about this matter, but this one bit of common sense which is consistent with Scripture, should be enough to prove the point.

Another point to consider is that because Antichrist doesn't reveal who he is until the end of the first 3 ½ years, his powers in the religious realm are deliberately limited. His goal is best served, if during the period of peace, he portrays himself as religiously subservient to Rome, which, until he declares his godhood, will dominate all of the world's religiosity. During that early period we can see how graphically accurate is the image of the woman (the Catholic Church) riding the beast. (the Antichrist) (Revelation 17:3) From the religious perspective, she is seen to be in control, as she rides the beast until He, the Antichrist, through his subordinates, destroys her to make way for his self-centered new religious order. The point here is that it would not serve his interests to be the one who should deal with the two witnesses during their ministry. Because it will be a religious matter, it will be Rome's responsibility. It is likely that the Church of Rome will attack them numerous times but will not be able to kill them, because of the powers which God has given them. Of course it is God who will protect them until they will have completed His purpose.

This will be when Antichrist declares himself to be God, and when the horrors of the Trumpet Judgments commence. That will be when God allows the two witnesses to be killed. The world will believe that Antichrist could easily kill them but didn't. This will be seen as further evidence of his supreme godly power, mercy and righteousness. They will believe that it is by his divine mercy that he let them live and preach against him for those 3 ½ years. Then because of the Gentiles reverence to him, or by his secret decree, the 10 kings will kill them. Thus this "thorn in his side" will be removed. The people will rejoice in not hearing anymore of their "blaspheming message."

Of course their Rapture will be another matter that will be for his propaganda minister to deal with. Just as our Lord will save the "Bride of Christ" from any of the judgments by means of the Rapture, so also will God save all Jews. That is the repentant "Wife of Jehovah" who will be protected from the Trumpet and Vial Judgments as they continue to

be protected in Bozrah during those last 3 ½ years! These Jewish survivors will be given food (perhaps manna) and water along with God's protection just as His people were provided for during the 40 years in the wilderness. The Old Testament speaks of this end time remnant in a number of places, such as Isaiah 4:2,3, 10:20, 37:31-37; Joel 2:32. Each of these speaks in the context of early Israel, when they were oppressed by the Assyrians and the Babylonians. Many scholars consider these as two-fold prophecies, applying also to the end times.

That this remnant in Bozrah will consist of all of the surviving Jews on earth is evidenced in Micah 2:12, 13. The Micah prophecy says: *"¹² I will surely assemble, O Jacob, all of thee, I will surely gather the remnant of Israel: I will put them together as the sheep of Bozrah, as the flock in the midst of their fold: they shall make great noise by reason of the multitude of men. ¹³ The breaker is come up before them: they have broken up, and have passed through the gate, and are gone out by it: and their king shall pass before them, and the Lord on the head of them."* Notice it says that God will surely assemble all of them and put them together in Bozrah. Then it announces that there will be a multitude of men. That multitude amounts to 1/3 of the pre-tribulation world's population of Jews. I must conclude that all means all. Obviously, then there will be no Jew left out no matter where he may have previously dwelled. Again, I suspect that God may transport them supernaturally as was Philip after he converted the eunuch. (Acts 8:27-39)

****Footnote#5 – Those Who Rose with Jesus**

As we list the several components of the first resurrection, we find in Matthew 27 verses 52 and 53 a very provocative revelation. *“52 and the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints which slept arose, 53 and came out of the graves after his resurrection, and went into the holy city, and appeared unto many.”* These verses follow those that speak of the earthquakes, and the temple veil having been ripped apart, just as the Man Jesus was dying on the cross. Apparently however, the bodies didn’t rise out of the graves until three days later, when Jesus rose. This is a very strange event that very few choose to comment on, because it’s so strange and difficult to accept literally, and because there isn’t much information to draw from.

Nevertheless, it is there for our learning, and to try to understand its significance. I mention it here because it speaks of a group of saints that seem to have had a very unique experience having to do with resurrection. If we go back to Leviticus 23:10-12 we may find something tangible to grab onto in this regard. *“10 Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, When ye be come into the land which I give unto you, and shall reap the harvest thereof, then ye shall bring a sheaf of the firstfruits of your harvest unto the priest: 11 and he shall wave the sheaf before the Lord, to be accepted for you: on the morrow after the sabbath the priest shall wave it. 12 And ye shall offer that day when ye wave the sheaf a he lamb without blemish of the first year for a burnt offering unto the Lord.”*

These verses are part of the detailed description of how the Passover feast was to be observed. Of course, this feast, from the beginning, was all anticipatory of the Passover when Jesus would be that “the lamb without blemish.” What we also find here in these verses may be just what we need to help explain this additional phenomenon that occurred when Jesus was resurrected. It speaks of a “sheaf of first fruits”. What’s that all about? Usually, a sheaf was a bundle of wheat or barley cuttings bound for subsequent reaping, that is the separation of the grain kernels from the stems and from the chaff. Because of the time of year that the Passover occurs, it most likely was barley. Technically, it could be any other container of the first-of-the-harvest food item. These

were to accompany, and be a part of the Passover ritual. The priest was to “wave” this sheaf offering, that is the celebratory waving of it over his head as a traditional way of paying homage to God. This was called a “wave sheaf” offering. Of course the Lamb without blemish was symbolic of Jesus who would die and be resurrected as the first fruits.

However, the waving of sheaf as part of this symbolism expressed a plurality of resurrections! Do you see where we are going with this? We could say that there was a single grain of wheat that fell in to the ground in the atonement of Christ, and it was a sheaf which came forth in the resurrection! Those, whom we are told rose from their graves, were the sheaf, the glorious accompaniment to the Savior’s resurrection! I can picture Jesus answering the question posed at that time regarding those that rose from the dead. Might He not have said, “have you not read where Moses spoke of the sheaf that would be raised with the Son of Man”? If we continue a little further, it also speaks of the feast at Pentecost which took place fifty days later, when the church came into being. There, instead of a wave-sheaf offering, it was a “wave-loaves” offering of leavened bread. (Leviticus 23:17) Why leavened bread? Because there was, and is yet evil in the church (Matthew 13:33)

From all of this I believe that we can see if we look carefully, that every aspect of the rituals of the various Old Testament feasts of Israel appear to have had a symbolic significance related to Jesus and to the Church Body that He would assemble. These saints who rose from their graves had been anticipated and predicted in the Passover procedure. What happened to them later? I doubt that they lived normal lives and then died again. We all know the rarely broken rule, that it is appointed to mortal physical man to live only once. I suspect that they lived the same 40 days as did Jesus, and then were quietly raptured to heaven thereby being part of the “first fruits” of the first resurrection. I suspect that they were people who had recently died, perhaps as short as a few weeks earlier. Thus they would have been recognized in Jerusalem, further enhancing the creditability of the incredible, and that is the resurrection of our Lord and Savior

****Footnote # 6 – The Millennium Temple**

Were it not for Acts 15:16, it's unlikely that most of us would realize that there will be a worship temple during the millennium. It would have been my reasoning, that just like on the new heaven and earth, there wouldn't be a need for a temple, given that Jesus will be there on the throne of David providing all of the spiritual sustenance that will be needed. That indeed is true. However, not only does Acts 15:16 reveal that a Temple will exist, but Ezekiel 40 to 44:3 provides a very detailed description of the temple and the complex that will surround it. Dr. Misler and his wife Nancy, in their book called "the Kingdom's Power and Glory provide a very insightful study of Ezekiel's revelation regarding the Temple. I highly recommend it for any extra biblical reading you may want to do regarding this matter. A copy of the plan of the Temple, as interpreted from Ezekiel's description is included in many study Bibles.

It appears that the primary purpose of the Temple will be to provide a throne room for our Lord Christ Jesus, and a place of Temple worship. This room will be in the same relative place where the Holy of Holies was in the earlier Temples. This Holy of Holies place will be where the new "throne of David" that God promised Mary will be located. (Luke 1:32) The purpose is also to demonstrate Christ's holiness and purity. (Ezekiel 43:12) The entire worship service will be designed to emphasize holiness. (Psalms 93:5).

The differences between the Millennium Temple and the earlier Temples are considerable. A quick summary of these and some other basic characteristics of the Temple are as follows:

1. Much of the old Temple furniture will be missing, such as:
 - a. No brazen laver. (Ezekiel 36:24-27) Jesus replaced the laver by the cleansing power of His shed blood. (1John 15:3)
 - b. No lamp stand. (Isaiah 49:6) Jesus is the light, (John 8:12)
 - c. No table of shewbread. (Micah 5:4) Jesus is the Bread of Life (John 6:35)

- d. No altar of incense. (Zechariah 8:20-23) No need for this because we will have direct intimacy with Him as He answers our prayers personally (John 14:6)
 - e. No gold embellishments because He is the gold (purity) in the Temple.
 - f. No courts of separation between Jew and Gentile or between men and women.
 - g. No curtain between the Holy of Holies where Jesus will sit in the Holy Place. He will be continually accessible. *“For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us.”* (Ephesians 2:14)
2. There will be only two pieces of furniture in the Temple. There will be the throne, (perhaps the original mercy seat) and the altar of sacrifice in the middle of the Inner Court. Notice this is not a reinstatement of the Mosaic covering-of-sins sacrificial system, but a brand new system of worship in remembrance of what Christ has done.
 3. Apparently this temple will not be built at the same site as where the earlier Temples were. This Temple and its surrounding compound will be much too big, to fit on the Temple Mount. Remember also, that Jerusalem will be split into three pieces, by an earthquake at the end of the Tribulation, making the topography quite hostile for such a purpose, unless of course, Jesus would choose to heal and regrade the site. The temple grounds will cover over 17 ½ acres and the entire compound about 50 square miles. (Ezekiel 48:8-20). Some Hebrew authorities believe that it will be built a little to the north and west of Jerusalem.
 4. The Millennial temple will have a designated “profane place” which will be part of the Temple Structure. It will be on the west side of the Temple directly behind the Holy of Holies. (Ezekiel 42:20) Seven times Ezekiel refers to this place. (Ezekiel 41:12, 13, 14, 15; 42:13, 20) Six of these refer to it as a separate place, while 42:20 calls it the “profane place.” A profane place in the Temple of God?

As here used, the word comes from the Hebrew word “chol.” According to Strong’s (2455) this can mean “exposed, common, profane, and unholy.” The word “separate”, used here and only here, according to Strong’s (1508) is “Gizrah,” or “gezzerah.” It means “a portion cut off”. It is also called a place for “polishing or making something smooth by friction.” This goes well with what the above mentioned meaning of “profane” might be. In the context here used, it seems that it might be a place where certain people will need and experience some sort of spiritually corrective activity. We might liken this to the sanctification process used in this present dispensation, which is what all new-to-the-faith Christians go through in order to “polish” their lives and their God-given ministries.

From what we read, the “separate place” appears to be a mysterious, and yet very likely, a beneficial place. Perhaps “polishing” is an appropriate metaphor that describes what some will need before they can enter into the presence of the Holy Light of our Lord. As we read ***Footnote #6 and #7* which describe the wife of Jehovah and Israel’s total salvation, we might reason that there could be a need for such a place in this Millennial period. There will be unsaved souls coming out of the Tribulation and others being born during the millennium. Everyone will have until the age of one hundred, to accept Jesus as Savior. Those who do will live out the 1000 years. Those who don’t will be removed and cast into the lake of fire.

In our present dispensation we have the indwelling Holy Spirit to facilitate a progressive sanctifying process that all redeemed souls go through for the rest of their lives. It is during this process, based on how we apply ourselves through our faith and works, that we serve our Lord here, and also how we become prepared for eternal service. Might it be that in the millennium, sanctification as we now know it will not be practiced? Can it be that its equivalent will be some other manner of preparation, perhaps involving the Gizrah? As noted, the millennium will be a vastly different period than has ever existing previously. It will be a

totally different dispensation. The earth will be far more pristine than it ever has been since Eden.

The Body of Christ, that is the redeemed in Christ from this present dispensation, will be there as kings and priests in their incorruptible bodies, functioning in additional dimensionalities that we, as yet cannot even comprehend. Jesus will be there on His Davidic throne as our Lord and Master. The remnant who dwelled in Bozrah fully sanctified and glorified living flesh and blood people. However, there will be sin in the hearts of some of those Gentiles who have not yet reached the age of 100 years. Therefore there will likely be some method of drawing these to the faith before they reach that age and it becomes too late. Because of all of these differences that characterize the Millennial dispensation from our own, it seems likely that the method of sanctifying in those times might be considerably different than what goes on today. I suspect that the Gizrah will serve in some capacity related to that process.

Perhaps an analogy may be useful in picturing how the Gizrah might work. Due to our lifestyles and poor diets, we all consume large quantities of toxic substances. Depending on a variety of factors, the body eventually becomes unable to expel these as fast as we ingest them. As a result, it simply stores them in various places. When the “storage places” are full, the toxic overload begins to cause or facilitate a variety of diseases. One way the body rids itself of toxins is through perspiration. However, under normal conditions during our daily lives, our rate of perspiration is inadequate.

For those who are ill due to an overload of toxins, and perhaps even too ill to increase this particular manner of toxic removal through exercise, is to find an effective alternative way to induce perspiration. A very efficient and effective way to induce a high rate of perspiration reasonably comfortably is to sit, in what is called a far infrared sauna. The one I have is a wooden chamber about the size of a “two-hole, low ceiling outhouse”. Its major benefits are that it produces heat

of the same frequency of heat as does the human body. It has been discovered that this type of heat, properly applied is able to penetrate 2-3 inches beneath the skin to facilitate toxin removal very efficiently and without needing a high temperature. The temperature needed for full spectrum heat to achieve the same result, would kill a patient. It is amazing how much perspiration will occur in just 30 to 45 minutes in this type of sauna. This was one of the major modalities of treatment the Lord led me to over 20 years ago. It was during 18 months of this and dozens of other “alternative” modalities that the Lord led me through that finally removed my 6-months-to-live stage 4 metastasized “terminal cancer.”

Please excuse this short excursion outside of the principal theme, but as I believe you will agree in the end, that it is too precious for me not to share it. First a short explanation of thermal frequencies. All kinetic energy can be expressed in terms of waves of various lengths and frequencies. Depending on the electronic wave length or pulsation of the energy that is radiated on a substance, some waves of energy will pass through while the energy of other wave lengths will be absorbed. Still others will be reflected away. The wave length of visible light, which is from 0.4 to 0.7 microns is mostly reflected away. Radio waves are very long waves and can pass right through a substance. The wave length of microwave ovens and microwave radars is very long at around 30mm. The human body radiates energy waves having a frequency of 9.36 microns. The far infrared frequencies that radiate from a therapeutic sauna range between 5 and 15 microns, which of course closely simulate the body’s radiating frequency. Therefore this form of heat can penetrate up to 3 inches beneath the skin, without producing skin temperatures above 108° F. From this it is evident how effective they can be in activating the flow of perspiration and the resulting removal of toxins from those portions of the body.

Recent studies have concluded that married couples who sleep together tend to live longer. Some have attributed this to the therapeutic effect of “bathing” each other with their 9.36 micron energy waves! While modern “science” is proud of

its discovery, history reveals that the second century Greek physician named Galen recognized the therapeutic benefit of the prolonged closeness of two bodies. Furthermore, Josephus the first century historian also alluded to it. Now comes the precious part! Turn to 1Kings 1:1-4. There we find that King David was, at the time, “old and stricken in years”. Apparently, the physicians had no effective medicinal means by which to help or comfort him. They finally resorted to bringing in the prettiest maiden they could find in all the land to snuggle up to him to provide him with that only “heat frequency” that would be beneficial.

This was not a sexual matter, for she remained a virgin. Why young and beautiful if no sex was involved? It was all about providing the very best “high potency” 9.36 microns heat source! This suggests to me that our biblical ancestors knew about such therapeutic benefits over 3,000 years ago! By the way the maiden’s name was Abishag, a Shunammite. In the Song of Solomon, we find a young king Solomon in love with an unnamed and most beautiful Shunamitte maiden. It is very likely that it was the same girl. The Book is an exquisite love story between these two. She was probably his first love and his first of 300 wives. What a wonderful beginning Solomon had, and how badly he ended.

We might rightly say that the sauna is a fast track toxin removal chamber. Could the Gizrah be a “fast track sanctification” chamber that God has attached to the Temple? The essential common thread leading to redemption that runs through every dispensation period since creation, is faith. Again, as already mentioned, during our present dispensation we have, when we become redeemed, the indwelling Holy Spirit, and the life long progressive sanctification process as the means through which we become prepared to serve God in eternity. The final earthly dispensation will be the Millennium period. Perhaps the Gizrah will be the “sauna,” that “fast track” place of sanctification by which the residual spiritual toxins of the to-be-redeemed will be removed so they can take their rightful places in the Millennial assembly of the redeemed. Of course, this has all been theory, because as yet, I find no clear explanation of what the “Gizrah” will be

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used for. Nevertheless, it will have some significant function, or it wouldn't have received so much scriptural attention. By means of these clues that we have been given, I suspect that what we have surmised may be close, or in at least in some way related to what its purpose will be.

****Foot Note #7 – The Wife of Jehovah**

If we choose to express them this way, there will yet be an eleventh and twelfth event that will take place just before the Millennium begins. It isn't anything that Jesus will need to do during those 75 days but it nevertheless will be a great event comparable to the Wedding Feast of the Lamb. It will be the wedding of Jehovah the Father God as He remarries His former wife, Israel, and provides a home for her. Does that sound absurd? If so, it's only because the evidence of it is only found in the Old Testament and reported in some quite subtle ways scattered around in the writings of the prophets. Let's see if we can make a convincing case for these eleventh and twelfth pre-millennium event. I give credit to Dr, Fruchtenbaum for his Spirit-led scholarship on compiling these references. They form a major study in themselves. Here I have only touched on a few of the verses just to provide sufficient evidence to authenticate the reality of the event.

First we must recognize that there is a very clear distinction between Israel and the Church, and therefore also between the Bride of Christ and the Wife of Jehovah. The wife of Jehovah is 100% Jewish and includes every living Jew. As already noted, at the end of the Tribulation, only one third of the world's Jews will have survived. At that time, there will be no non-believers among them. They will all be saved and they will all be the wife of Jehovah. Much of so-called Christianity is convinced that when the Jews rejected Jesus as Messiah, they lost all of their status as God's people, and were completely replaced by the Church.

This is called "replacement theology". It is a major false doctrine of the Catholic Church as well as of most of the spin-off Protestant denominations. The Book of Hebrews and the writings of most of the Old Testament prophets tell a far different story. In terms of Israel being the "wife" of Jehovah, let's start with Deuteronomy. This Book is mostly a recap of the preceding three books. Its very name means "second law" or "repetitions of the law" Yet it is more than that because Moses repackaged those Books in a form that resembles an ancient marriage contract. It effectually contained a signed marriage agreement between Israel and the Father God, where Israel became the wife of Jehovah.

This is far from evident in Deuteronomy itself, but it becomes evident later in the writings of many Old Testament Prophets. Now let's look at some of the evidence.

It begins in Deuteronomy 5:1-3 which declares that God entered into a covenant with His people. The prophets viewed this as a marriage contract as we will see later. In Deuteronomy 6:10-15 God revealed His jealousy over His wife Israel. Israel is warned against adultery, that is not to "play around" with pagan gods. In Deuteronomy 7:6-11 we are told why God chose Israel to be His wife. It was not because of her size, because she was very small in number among nations. He chose to love her, in a special way, because He chose that from her womb would come the Messiah. Therefore from His perspective, it was necessary that He marry her for the sake of providing legitimacy of His yet to be born Son, Christ Jesus. Again, we see that this marriage would produce, in the fullness of time, a Son that is our Lord and Savior Christ Jesus. For a comprehensive study of Israel's role in God's plan to provide salvation for those who choose Jesus to be their Savior, see the Christian Musings study called "The Chronology of Jesus from Adam to David"

We know from Genesis 2:24 how God views and values marriage. In keeping with His nature, and with the sacredness of marriage, in His righteousness He would need to conform to the covenant of marriage, and therefore the legitimacy of having a Son. He is then imploring her to be faithful by being obedient. If you choose to study these references in Deuteronomy you will be hard pressed to be convinced of this covenant as being a marriage contract. However, as noted, the prophets understood it this way and believed that Israel was, from the beginning at Sinai, Jehovah's wife. All 62 verses of Ezekiel 16 speak of the covenant at Sinai as having been such a covenant, and how she broke it over and over again as the unfaithful wife. In Jeremiah 3:1 the prophet speaks not only of adultery, but of her having become a harlot. Then in verse 20 he speaks of her as a wife turned from her husband.

It is in Ezekiel 16:15-34, where the prophet expands on the analogy of her status as an adulteress and a prostitute. Here God speaks of her as having borne sons and daughters

unto Him, and describes her as a wife who committed adultery against her husband, and instead of claiming pay from her lovers, she bribed them to commit adultery! She paid them with the very things her true Husband God, had given her as His wife. She even sacrificed their children to those lovers which were the pagan gods. This reference is to Baal worship, which was consecrated by the offering up their babies to be burned. When we get to Hosea, we see with growing clarity how God is expressing His relationship between Himself and Israel as being one of marriage.

In Isaiah 50:1 we see that a separation between husband and wife took place. It is because by then, God had taken away many of the blessings He had given to Israel. This caused many in Israel to believe that God had divorced His wife. In rebuttals that is why God asks “Where is the bill of your mother’s divorcement wherewith I have put her away.” There was no divorce at that time. It was merely a separation. Here we have a most clear statement regarding this marriage relationship between God and Israel. This “bill of divorcement” procedure comes from Deuteronomy 24:1. If a husband wished to divorce his wife he had merely to write out a “bill of divorcement” which he gave to his wife. This made it final. God had not as yet done that. However, the fact that He asked them to produce the bill of divorcement, which didn’t exist, is concrete evidence that Israel was yet His wife.

Even after a hundred years of separation during which the blessings spoken of in Deuteronomy had been withheld, Israel had not returned to her Husband. At the time of Jeremiah, Israel had been split into two kingdoms. There was then the Northern Kingdom and the Southern Kingdom. The Northern Kingdom was at that time called Israel and the Southern Kingdom was Judah. We find in Jeremiah 3:6-10 that because of her adultery, God had given the Northern Kingdom, Israel, a bill of divorcement. It is also in the Book of Hosea where this is indicated to have been given to Israel. In the Jeremiah reference, such a bill of divorcement is implied as including Judah as well. In both cases they committed adultery with the gods of Egypt, Assyria and Babylon. With these bills of divorcement, we find God used the people of these gods to punish her. This

observation is found in Ezekiel 16:35-43. The punishment was intended to cause her to stop her adulteries. The program of punishment is further described in Hosea 2:6-13.

Then in Jeremiah 3:11-18, God is described as continually calling Israel to repent and come back to Him (verse 11-13). God declares that Israel was His wife and that He will again be her husband and to provide for her like a husband. (Verse 14) In Jeremiah 31:31-34 it speaks of a day when Israel will be again restored as His Wife. This requires a brand new marriage contract which is here mentioned. We also see here revealed that God will put His law into “their inward parts” so that they will no longer need to teach or be taught by one another. They will be filled with knowledge and eternal obedience. All of their pasts will be forgotten. This new marriage contract is also described in Ezekiel 16:60-63. There will be an everlasting covenant on which the remarriage will be based. Here we can clearly see that a remarriage between God and Israel will happen.

The restoration of Israel as Jehovah’s wife is described in Isaiah 54:1-8 and also in 62:4, 5. All of the land originally given to Israel, which she never occupied, and that which she lost because of her adultery, will be restored. Even Hosea has much to say about their reunion in Hosea 2:14-23. Notice that Israel will no longer address God as Baali but as Ishi. Both words in Hebrew mean “my husband.” There is however, a slight difference in emphasis of their meanings, Baali means my husband in the sense of “my master” while Ishi is in the sense of “my man,” which speaks of a closer more comfortable relationship. Verse 19 and 20 speak of a new betrothal. This word betroth is used three times. There are three elements of it mentioned. First is a time which is forever. Second it is in a context such as righteousness, justice, loving-kindness and mercy. The third is quality, that is faithfulness. The event of the remarriage will be at a time after her national regeneration. This, I believe will be sometime during the last 45 days of the 75 day interval between the end of the Tribulation and the beginning of the millennium, as listed in the text as item twelve.

****Foot Note #8 – Israel’s Total Salvation**

The wife of Jehovah (the Father God) at the time of her remarriage must be pure and free of any sin nature. The one third of the Jews who survive to become Jehovah’s wife will all have been sanctified into a condition that, as far as I can see, had never before existed on earth since Adam and Eve. This will result from the “new covenant” that God will make with every one of this “full measure” of these Jewish survivors. Jeremiah 31:28-34 alludes to this most clearly. What an incredible passage this is! God will “put the law on their inward parts and write on their hearts.” There will never again be a need for teaching, or to be taught, for they will all know in their hearts, and do with their lives all that God requires. This I believe is an extremely important portion of Scripture if we are to really understand what is in the future for God’s special people. Let us look closely at these verses.

“28 And it shall come to pass, that like as I have watched over them, to pluck up, and to break down, and to throw down, and to destroy, and to afflict; so will I watch over them, to build, and to plant, saith the Lord. 29 In those days they shall say no more, The fathers have eaten a sour grape, and the children’s teeth are set on edge. 30 But every one shall die for his own iniquity: every man that eateth the sour grape, his teeth shall be set on edge. 31 Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah: 32 not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers, in the day that I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt; which my covenant they brake, although I was a husband unto them, saith the Lord: 33 but this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the Lord, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people. 34 And they shall teach no more every man his neighbor, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for they shall all know me, from the least of them unto the greatest of them, saith the Lord: for I forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.”

Notice here that God speaks of seven “I wills” having to do with how God will bless Israel. We see from these the extraordinary perfections of what He will instill in His

chosen people, Israel, that is His Wife. As His eternal wife, it is most certain that she (Israel) will be as clean and perfected as must also be Jesus' bride. She must be without spot or blemish. There is however, a big difference between the Bride of Christ and the Wife of Jehovah. Christ's Bride will consist of all believers who lived from the day of Pentecost to the time of Rapture. They will be in their eternal incorruptible bodies. The Wife of Jehovah will consist entirely of all of Jews who survived the Tribulation. These will be of flesh and blood, not having yet died or having been given their eternal bodies.

It appears that they will live mortal, although totally sinless lives, and then be raptured to receive their eternal bodies at the end of the millennium. While there will be many non-believing Gentiles living during the early part of the millennium, there will be no unsaved or unglorified Jewish persons. The bride of Christ is the summation of all who were saved as a result of their faith in Jesus' work on the cross. They are perfected through the sanctification that continues until physical death. However, that perfecting process, does not render them sinless. It's the glorification that occurs at the moment of physical death that thoroughly cleanses them making them qualified for entry into heaven. No Bride of Christ, while living in the flesh, will ever be able to be fully obedient to all of God's laws. However, Israel, God's Wife will become totally obedient to all of God's laws while yet in the flesh. This is because, as written, He will put His law in their inner parts and write it in their hearts so that they will be incapable of any form of disobedience i.e. sin. They will all live in the corruptible flesh for the 1000 years and then they will be given incorruptible bodies as they are transported to the new earth.

The complete regeneration of Israel is predicted through several of the prophets. In Jeremiah 24:7 God speaks of this end time regeneration. In Jeremiah 50:19-20 we find that in that day there will be no iniquity. That is no sin to be found in Israel. Ezekiel 11:19-20 speaks of Israel as being given "one heart" and a "new spirit." God will remove their "stony hearts" and give them each a heart of flesh. Thus will they "*...walk in my statutes, and keep mine ordinances, and do them: and they shall be my people, and I will be their God.*" What else can this mean other than that they will be a people who will

keep every aspect of the law, and will therefore be as totally free of sin as were Adam and Eve before the fall? Later in Ezekiel 36:25-27 we read more about this regeneration.

Here, we are again told that God will put His spirit within them. That section of Jeremiah 31: 31-40 is truly awesome! When we come to the full realization of what it says, it should leave us spell bound! As noted above, it is worthy of repeating. This wife of Jehovah will be living flesh and blood people as we are today. However, they will be very much different spiritually than born-again Christians who yet retain our old sinful natures, which they must spend their lives fighting, as they are being sanctified. We, who are redeemed by the blood of Christ, must continue the struggle against sin for the rest of our lives, because it is impossible for us to ever become totally immune to sins and backsliding. We must study the Word and stay in it, if we are to avoid serious backsliding. We remain sinners, but we have been blessed with the power of the Holy Spirit to be able to resist sin, and when we fail, to be forgiven through confession and renewed resolve. Our glorification, that is the complete and eternal elimination of sins, can only occur after we leave our mortal bodies. What Scripture tells us about the wife of Jehovah, is that they are glorified while yet living and will live in that manner for the 1000 years, and then be Raptured into incorruptible bodies.

It sounds unbelievable, yet it says that the entire law will be in their hearts, and none will need to teach or to be taught!! We in the present dispensation have been taught that the law could never be fully obeyed, that it was given to show us that we need a Savior. These people, because of God's special and unique grace, will not only live by faith, but they will also live lives by the letter of the whole law. Paul expressed the final assertion regarding this in Romans 11:25-27

"25 For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits, that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fullness of the Gentiles be come in. 26 And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Zion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob: 27 for this is my covenant unto them, when I shall take away their sins."

Notice again “and so all of Israel be saved, as it is written.” Paul is referring to Jeremiah 31. It can’t get clearer than that. All of Israel means all Jews. Before, or very soon after the 70th week of Daniel, all Jews will return to Israel to receive the message of the 2 witnesses, they will then dwell in unity under Christ Jesus, the King who will sit on David’s restored throne for one thousand years. Paul’s prediction that the Deliver will turn away ungodliness and take away their sins, is consistent with the words of the Old Testament prophets, although they don’t effectually convey the totality of their prediction, as much as does the Jeremiah 31 message. If I have interpreted all of this correctly, this appears to violate all of what we have believed about the Law, that is, that no human could possibly keep it. We need to recognize that these end time Jews are the final remnant of God’s particular (treasured) people, people that He loves in a very special way.

We should also know that throughout the ages they have been most miserably mistreated, well beyond any directed punishment, which God may have chosen to inflict. It seems to me at least, that God has allowed them to be refined through the fires of “hell” so as to totally remove their dross and thereby bring them to this state of perfection. This is the very special blessing which will be given them as they finally return to Him. The Law was given to the Jews at Sinai with the understanding that they would obey it, and they committed to do so. Of course they didn’t obey, and no one else has ever been able to obey and keep the whole law. But here Scripture tells us that God will put the Law (all of it) in their hearts. There is nothing in Scripture that indicates that He ever did this to anyone else, except Jesus. When the Law is put in their hearts they will be far different personages than have ever before been born on earth, in that they will permanently keep every aspect of the Law.

****Footnote #9 – What Portion of the World’s Population will Enter the Millennium?**

For those who are the Bride of Christ, the answer can be of considerable significance. Because Scripture tells us that the redeemed in Christ will be kings and priests during the millennium, it would be good to know what we can expect regarding who and how many will be in need of our services. This may tend to benefit those of us who choose to prepare now for our eternal duties. We may want to become ever more studious and knowledgeable about God, His ways and how to live our lives to be better qualified to serve His eternal purpose.

While there is little we can know with certainty, Scripture does give some clues from which we can try to approximate certain things. Scripture reveals that several facets of the Tribulation, along with other judgements, will collectively result in billions of deaths, yet any attempt to quantify how many will die from what Scripture reveals, and how many will live on into the millennium can only be guessed at, or at best reasonably approximated. In some instances it may be possible to bracket a reasonable range within which each judgment may be limited, and these then added up to form a plausible estimate. That is my premise as I begin this study. Also of considerable interest is whether or not unsaved souls will pass on into the millennium. The overwhelming opinion of Bible scholars seem to be that only saved souls will so qualify. As I delve into this study I feel persuaded that some unsaved souls will also survive and enter the millennium. As I began this effort it’s only a “feeling”, or persuasion. Part of this study will include a search for compelling evidence from which to make a biblically sound, one way or the other conclusion. As I see it now, the study may have to go down several seemingly irrelevant paths in order to establish relevant contexts and foundations for assessing each of these end-times human tragedies. First, it seems sensible to try to construct a chronological list of end time’s events that are of relevance.

In Matthew 24:22 Jesus tells us *“And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect’s sake those days shall be shortened.”* This is

speaking of the Seal Judgments, the 3 ½ year Great Tribulation and all of the judgements that collectively cause such a great slaughter of flesh. God ends the Satan / Antichrist induced slaughter when He, by His deliberate will, applies the Vial Judgments which will be used to destroy Satan's control centers, and those who are loyal to them. This therefore, is another major item of population dimishment we must consider as part of our subject. God does this for the sake of His elect, that is the living redeemed. Because of His foreknowledge of all things, He knows who will or will not come to the faith, and live through into the millennium.

As noted, because He does this for their sake, I don't believe it necessarily excludes all non-saved. As written, the collateral effect of these blessings, also protect some of the unsaved from the physical ravages of the Tribulation. Because God provides this grace for the sake of the saved, I don't believe that the statement by itself, excludes the non-saved from surviving into the millennium. Daniel 12:12 speaks of this where it tells us "*Blessed is he that waiteth, and cometh to the thousand three hundred and five and thirty days*". He refers to them, whoever they are, as blessed with continued physical life. This clearly is in reference to their physical circumstances, and not their spiritual position. The evidence of this is that the Hebrew word used here for blessed is "esher" which according to Strong's means "happiness, happy, blessed." The use of the word "esher" was used instead of other definitions of "blessed" that do express spiritual blessings. Why was this word so specifically selected from all others? This was so that we might know that those who received this particular blessing were not only saved souls. It is telling us that any and all who escaped death were happy to be alive and live on during those 75 days and then on into the millennium! In fact, I believe that it very clearly tells us that unsaved souls are not excluded from entering the Millennium period.

Daniel is speaking of the 75 days that will pass after the end of the Tribulation to when the millennium will commence. Even though the great period of death and destruction is finished, that 75 days will be a very difficult period to continue to live through. The earth will yet, for the first 30 days at least, be in a miserable devastated condition. Hanging on physically will be difficult. That is why Daniel says that those who do will be considered

blessed. Again, here the Hebrew word for “blessed” carries no sense of spiritual blessedness. It has to do with the physical, and can also be translated as simply happy. (Happy to be alive) Thus, absent any other evidence, I believe that we can see in this verse the potential that many of the unsaved will also live on to enter the millennium. Except for God’s intervention, no flesh would remain alive, indicates that He must stop the slaughter but it does not necessarily mean that such a total end of life is anywhere near that point in time.

In Revelation we learn of the three major death-dealing judgements. These are:

- a. The Seal Judgments
- b. The Trumpets Judgments
- c. The Vial Judgments

Footnote#1 explored the Seal Judgments in detail. Therefore there is very little more to be said about them, except the number of deaths that they contribute to our quest. This amounts to $\frac{1}{4}$ of the world’s population.

Next come the Trumpet judgments. These will be implemented by Antichrist through the powers provided him by Satan through the permissive will of God. The first 4 Judgements severely inflict the earth, but there is no direct mention of any deaths. The 5th Judgement describes the ascension of locusts from the bottomless pit. They were equipped to be killers. However, God forbid them to kill but only to severely torment for 5 months, all of mankind except the 144,000. The 6th Judgment speaks of 200 million of these same killer demons, now outfitted with a different kind of military ordinance with what seems to be more affective killing powers. These are the demon controlled locust-like insects that will kill $\frac{1}{3}$ of then existing population. Thus the stated percentage of the world’s population that will be cause death by these 2 judgments is 50%. Read carefully Revelation 9:20, 21. *“20 And the rest of the men which were not killed by these plagues yet repented not of the works of their hands, that they should not worship devils, and idols of gold, and silver, and brass, and stone, and of wood; which neither can see, nor hear, nor walk: 21 neither repented they of their murders, nor of their sorceries, nor of*

their fornication, nor of their thefts.” It speaks of the rest of the men who didn’t repent of those specific sins. It appears this was written not to be all inclusive, for instance what about the Atheist who will not participate in any form of belief? They surely will be among the condemned, but I don’t see them anywhere in this specific list of condemning sins.

Again, as I study these verses, I see that they are very carefully worded in such a way that avoids clear identification of the spiritual condition of those who survive the Trumpet Judgements. It speaks instead of the rest of the men who won’t repent of a specified list of evil doings! Again, couldn’t there be others whose evil ways will not include or be implied in this particular list? Couldn’t they be just plain ordinary sinners like we all are? As noted, the list of evils that will condemn this group is not a complete list of all things that man can do contrary to God’s will. Therefore, by limiting the condemning list, I believe that God has allowed for some unsaved people to enter into the millennium. I believe that if God had meant all unsaved, He would have simply said so, and not taken the trouble to provide this specific and limited criteria. As I see it, the likelihood that some portion of the unrepentant, those not guilty of the specified offenses, will continue to live. From this I believe that we can conclude that both repentant and some of unrepentant of mankind will survive to experience the Vial Judgments, and live on into the Millennium.

The last judgments are the Vial Judgements. (Revelation 16:1:12) *“¹ And I heard a great voice out of the temple saying to the seven angels, Go your ways, and pour out the vials of the wrath of God upon the earth. ² And the first went, and poured out his vial upon the earth; and there fell a noisome and grievous sore upon the men which had the mark of the beast, and upon them which worshipped him image. ³ And the second angel poured out his vial upon the sea; and it became as the blood of a dead man: and every living soul died in the sea. ⁴ And the third angel poured out his vial upon the rivers and fountains of waters; and they became blood. ⁵ And I heard the angel of the waters say, Thou art righteous, O Lord, which art, and wast, and shalt be, because thou hast judged thus.*

6 For they have shed the blood of saints and prophets, and thou hast given them blood to drink; for they are worthy. 7 And I heard another out of the altar say, Even so, Lord God Almighty, true and righteous are thy judgements. 8 And the fourth angel poured out his vial upon the sun; and power was given unto him to scorch men with fire. 9 And men were scorched with great heat, and blasphemed the name of God, which hath power over these plagues: and they repented not to give him glory. 10 And the fifth angel poured out his vial upon the seat of the beast; and his kingdom was full of darkness; and they gnawed their tongues for pain. 11 and blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores, and repented not of their deeds. 12 And the sixth angel poured out his vial upon the great river Euphrates; and the water thereof was dried up, that the way of the kings of the east might be prepared.” These are by Gods directed will. As I believe we can see, all or both the saved and the unsaved, will experience these judgments.

The #1 Vial Judgements as described won't kill anyone. It will only make it extremely painful for those who have accepted the mark of the beast. It lasted 5 months. Notice that this Vial is directed only to those who will have taken the mark. We cannot make a case here either, that all who don't take the mark will be saved. It's very likely that there will be many non-believers as well as believers who will escape this judgement. I suggest this because it's likely that not everyone who hears the 144,000 will accept their teachings, yet will not be among the goats. Again this is clearly implied by the carefully worded criteria of who are sheep and who are goats.

The #2 Vial will turn the sea as blood of a dead man and all living souls in the sea will die. This does not seem to apply to many, if any, humans, but to all air breathing creatures in the sea. All breathing creatures have souls. They are not immortal because they do not have spirits. Only mankind is so endowed.

The #3 Vial will cause the rivers and fountains to become blood. Here again, it seems that all air breathing life in these waters will die. Apparently, so will all of mankind who will drink the blood. However, the Greek word here for rivers is “potapo” which can

mean “a current, brook or freshet (as drinkable) i.e. running water, flood, river, stream, water.” The Greek word for “fountain” is “pege” which can mean “quenching, plumply, a fount i.e. “source of supply of (water, blood, engagement) (not necessarily the original spring: fountain well).” This all seems confusing. However, what we can get from this is that there may remain several types of available sources of potable water. This makes no reference to underground water. The aquifer that supplies water to springs and wells apparently will not be affected. Therefore well water and the continuous supply from springs will provide clean water very soon after the poisonous external supply will have been contaminated. It’s obvious that it would be that way, or else it would be at that time that all of mankind would cease to exist.

Which groups, and how many would die by this vial is not mentioned. Because certain water sources seem to be exempt, it’s likely as noted, that blood waters will dilute and disappear over some relatively short period of time. Verse 5, 6 seem to say that the focus of this judgement will be against those who shed the blood of prophets, and saints, suggesting that these will suffer the greatest loss. I believe that these will all be Jews, because they are the ones Jesus accused of this crime. It will likely be those in cities, absent springs or wells, who draw water for themselves and their cattle from the then blood rivers who will get sick or die. These will suffer the most. Also fishermen and all who gather food from the rivers will suffer greatly, because a large portion of fish will die as well as some river and wetland vegetation.

The #4 Vial speaks of the increase of heat from the sun to where it will scorch and cause serious sunburn. The effect seems to be limited to those who reject God and curse Him. Will those who don’t blaspheme also get scorched, or will God somehow selectively protect them as He will the 144,000? We don’t know. There is no indication that anyone will die of this judgement.

The #5 Vial will cause a full darkness that will come over the “seat of the beast” i.e. Antichrist. Because they will gnaw their tongues for pain indicates that they are those who will suffer the pain inflicted by #4 Vail. This darkness will compound the suffering

of those afflicted by the Vial #4 Judgement. It's because they will be able to do even less to deal with their pain. The risk of getting lost or falling and thereby impede their ability to deal with their problem, will increase the likelihood of acquiring additional afflictions. This will only increase their blaspheming God whom they will blame.

We should again note that throughout the Tribulation, through the False Prophet's teachings, most of the world will be convinced that Antichrist is the real true god whom they should worship, and He is who is in heaven is the bad guy Antichrist, the one responsible for all of their suffering. There appears to be no evidence that there is any notable number of deaths resulting from this vial, although I suspect that many thousands will die. Verse 10 tells us that of the 5th Vial Judgment which will be poured out on the "seat of the beast", that is Babylon as well as all of his kingdom. As noted, this will consist of a total darkness which will greatly intensify the effects of the 4th Vial Judgment, because they will have essential zero ability to treat their sores, to find food, or deal with their cattle, or anything else.

The #6 Vial will dry up the Euphrates thus allowing easier access for the kings of the east and their armies to invade the land. These will not be from China or India! They will be the kings of near east that is the armies of Syria, Iran, Mesopotamia, etc. This is not a 200 hundred million man army. This gathering will for the purpose expressed as the Armageddon campaign. Next John (being in the spirit) saw three demons, (probably making blasphemous utterings) coming out of the mouths of Satan Antichrist and the False Prophet. These three persons are the evil triune godhead. They have been applying their powers since the event described in Genesis 6 which brought them into existence. Pagan worship has been to figurine idols. Behind each has been a demon using his powers to give credence to the value in praying to the figurines. All demons are immortal. Today, and throughout the ages, a great many have taken possession of the movers and shakers of the world, such as the world leaders in governments as well as corporate leaders and even the clergy of every faith except truly Bible / Jesus centered persons and churches. These are the ones verse 15 is describing.

Again, verse 16 describes the final event that this Vial Judgment will accomplish, which is the gathering of Satan's armies on to the plain of Armageddon. No deaths are mentioned as the direct result of this gathering. These armies will consist of possessed men gathered from the Near East and not from any extended geographical area. This is to Satan's "last hurrah" for the next 1,000 years. Of course a great many deaths will follow the gathering. What happens is described elsewhere. This event is likely to cause a large number of deaths. Given the logistics, the geographic limits of the land area involved and the recorded amount of shed blood, I suspect that the number to be no more than a million. However, assigning 10 million as the outer limit should satisfy even the most conservative critic.

The #7 Vial The voice from the throne proclaims "it is done". This means that the 7th Vial will end the tribulation. There seems to be no other God-directed major causes of death until the Sheep and Goat Judgement. What follows is a description of what this Vial will cause. When applied, great violence to the earth itself will be unleashed. This Vial will cause the greatest ever of earthquakes. Verse 19, tells us that Jerusalem will be split into 3 parts, thereby destroying much of the city. Here Jerusalem is symbolically called Babylon, that is the place of sin and confusion, because confusion and evil will reign there as it did in ancient Babel.

It's likely that 10's of thousands will die. Next, will come the great 100+ pound hailstorm, which will fall across the land. What land? I suspect, it is limited to greater Israel and the nearby surrounding region. This probably will also kill several 10's of thousands. It says "men" will blaspheme. Notice it doesn't say all men will blaspheme. It seems evident that this is limited to those who yet trust in Antichrist. The way this is worded suggests to me that there may be many living souls who won't blaspheme, and yet are unsaved.

Whenever the New Testament speaks of "island", according to Strong's, the context indicates relative small bodies of land surrounded by water. To suggest that it could include the American continents, or Australia, or even Great Britain would be to stretch

the meaning well- beyond what appears to be intended. My interpretation of verse 20 is that these islands are in the Mediterranean. They support Rome, and commercial Babylon. These will be military and merchant trading centers. Three times we are told that the great city will be destroyed in one hour. All of this is worthy of much analysis and discussion. However, it is not part of the purpose of this study. How many deaths will this destruction cause? There is no way to know. Nevertheless, we can reasonable conclude that it will total several million. The affected regions are simply too small to collectively have population deaths greater than several million. I believe that it is reasonable to include these 10's of 1,000's in the over stated 100,000,000 assessed for the 7th Trumpet Judgment.

The final large death causing event mentioned in Scripture is the Sheep and Goats Judgement. We find it described in Matthew 25:31-46.

“31 When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angles with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory: 32 and before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats: 33 and he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left. 34 Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: 35 for I was ahungered, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: 36 naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me. 37 Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee ahungered, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink? 38 When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee? 39 Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee? 40 And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me. 41 Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels: 42 for I was ahungered, and ye gave me no meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me no drink: 43 I was a stranger, and ye took me not in: naked, and ye clothed me not: sick, and in prison, and ye visited me not. 44 Then shall they also answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee

ahungered, or athirst, or a stranger, or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister unto thee? 45 Then shall he answer them, saying, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to me.”⁴⁶ And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal.”

Verse 31, 32 together provide a disturbing message to the casual reader. They seem to indicate that Jesus will sit on the Throne of Glory, that is His millennial throne from where this judgment will take place. That would mean that the “sheep and goats” enter the millennial kingdom to face the judgment, I believe that most Bible scholars claim that the judgment occurs before the Millennium. I do also. The basis for my belief begins with how the two verses are connected. It is by a simple “and”. If our Lord had intended for verse 32 to be chronologically occurring after verse 31, He would have told us so. He would have connected the verses with such words and phrases that would make it clear, such as “then” or “next” or “after this”. Therefore, I believe that the “and” tends to disconnect rather than connect the two verses, regarding their chronological order.

If not within the millennial period, then when will it occur? It most certainly cannot occur before or during the Great Tribulation for obvious reasons. Therefore it must occur after that and before the millennium. That would be within the 75 day gap between the two great events which Daniel 12 told us about.

The Sheep and Goats Judgment is the last of the pre-, millennial judgements. Now is probably the time to recapitulate and summarize what we have learned regarding our subject quest, which is who and how many of mankind will enter the Millennium era. The who question deals only with whether they are saved, or not. The how many question has to do with what portion of the then current world population will survive based on the number of people living at the time when the first judgment begins. As noted elsewhere, I believe that the Seal Judgements have already commenced, although no vast number of deaths have yet occurred, that is in 2015. According to the UN, the world population as of July 2015 was 7.3 billion. For the purpose of this study, and to

simplify the arithmetic, let's assume it is 7.0 billion. The list of judgments that we have gleaned from Scripture can be summarized as follows:

1. The Magog Invasion. The first of the death dealing judgments, as noted in the main text of this study will be the Magog invasion as predicted in Ezekiel 38 and 39. I believe this war is imminent. Scripture tells us that 5/6th of the invaders will be killed. That army will be a confederation of several nations led by Russia. Obviously, we cannot know the number. However, we might bracket the number into a reasonable estimate. The logistics and the limited area and purpose involved, suggest that it can't be more than a million, including collateral deaths within the participating countries. These generally occur to the losers due to depletion of needed resources, including not only goods, but the sudden loss of the best "bread winner" men.
2. The Seal Judgments There is no need of any estimate here, Scripture tells us that these will kill 1/4th of the world population, that is 1,750 billion people. I've listed the Magog invasion as being the first and being historically unique. While I have also stated that the Seal Judgments have already commenced. This may seem confusing. However, I see the Magog invasion as sort of a subset of events that, while occurring concurrently, is nevertheless a separate event, and not part of the Seal Judgements. Is this nonsensical rationalization? I don't think so. This type of situation is not without historical / biblical precedent. Consider the story of Esther. When we understand the fullness of the dynamics of what was occurring between the Persians and the Greeks, we can see that the story of Esther is interposed as a subset of event within the great epic. When we study the result of the division of Alexander' empire, we see a decades long struggle between the northern and the southern kingdoms where Israel was in the middle. The event related to Antiochus Epiphanes treatment Israel can easily be viewed as a subset of events occurring within continuing war between the 2 kingdoms and their successive rulers. There are other examples that could be cited. However, this should be sufficient to establish a biblical / historical precedent to support my claim.

Now let's go back to the Sheep and Goat Judgements and examine in detail, not for numerical reason, but for whether or not it may allow for unsaved people to pass into the millennium. I believe this to be the last major death inflicting judgement. (Matthew 25:31-46)

“³¹ When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory: ³² and before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats: ³³ and he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left. ³⁴ Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: ³⁵ for I was ahungered, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: ³⁶ naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me. ³⁷ Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee ahungered, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink? ³⁸ When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee? Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison and came unto thee? ⁴⁰ And the King then shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it into one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me. ⁴¹ Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels: ⁴² for I was ahungered, and ye gave me no meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me no drink: ⁴³ I was a stranger, and ye took me not in: naked, and ye clothed me not: sick, and in prison, and ye visited me not. ⁴⁴ Then shall they also answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee ahungered, or athirst, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister unto thee? ⁴⁵ Then shall he answer them, saying, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to me. ⁴⁶ And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal.”

There is much to be learned from this. However, I will try to limit it to that which is relevant to the focus of this study. That Jesus will gather all nations can mean “races (as of some habit) ie: tribes, foreigners as not Jewish, pagans, Gentile heathen nation’s people”. (Coming from the Greek word “ethnos”) From this, it is clear that none are Jews. As Jesus speaks, He is heard by all of the world’s Gentiles. However His focus is only on those who either aided, or refused to aide “His brethren”. I conclude from this, that He is speaking of the 144,000 who will be the only Jews outside of Bozrah, as we learned earlier. These are the “brethren” Jews of which He speaks and none others. Regardless of what category of people we choose to define as nations, the fact remains that Jesus will, for the purpose of judgement, divide them into 2 participating categories, that is the sheep and the goats.

The particular sheep of which Jesus speaks are those who will actually aide His brethren, the 144,000. This then is a particular sub-portion of the world’s people who will be the redeemed sheep. There may be other sheep who won’t see the brethren and therefore have no involvement in the matter. It is not a given fact that they would not be willing to help if they were to have the opportunity. Father God, knowing their hearts, will choose to impute righteousness for this act of love and wiling sacrifice. Remember, righteousness to them who are not apart from the “sheep” was imputed to Abraham because he believed God (Romans 4:3).

Regarding the goats, these too are a particular group who will see the brethren’s needs and will do nothing to help them. Notice that Jesus limits His condemnation only to those who will actually see their needs and refuse to help them. The others, I suspect will continue to live through the 75 days and will enter the millennium. By definition, because they won’t be within the Judgment category of goats, they will be no different than any other unsaved souls. Therefore God again will have no reason to kill them. They will die their natural lives in the millennial period unless they come to the faith as a result of the Christian saints who will be the millennial priests.

Again, there is nothing either stated or implied that indicates that the entire world population of people will participate in the aiding or not aiding His brethren. Based on the fact that the whole Jewish population that will survive the Seal Judgements and will be safe and protected in Bozrah, there are no other “Jews” involved. It is only the 144,000 sealed brethren about whom He is referring as the ones who will be helped or not helped. These are the ones who will need help such as food, clothing and shelter. They will be the ones either given or denied assistance. To repeat, there is nothing in Jesus’ dissertation on the subject that precludes unsaved, living human beings from entering the millennial period.

With the “who” will enter the Millennium reasonable settled, let’s now try to at least bracket a reasonable estimate of how many. What follows is a list of the death dealing events, that when subtracted from the 7 billion, is the number of those who are likely to enter into the Millennium. In compiling this list, the idea has been to be generous in assessing the number of deaths so as not to overstate the remnant that continues to live.

1. The Magog Invasion: Scripture tells us that 80% or more of the invading forces will be killed. How large will the invading forces be? With modern transportation and weaponry, the number of soldiers needed not be huge. It is likely to be no more than say 100 to 200 thousand. However, this is likely to be some collateral loss of life when we consider the chaos and suffering within the economies of Russia and its allies due to this misallocation of food and other necessities, as well as the most productive of their population. On this basis a loss of say, 1 million lives should be more than enough to fully assess the deaths.
2. The Seal Judgements: Scripture clearly gives the proportions as being $\frac{1}{4}$ of the world’s population. If we are, as I believe we are, already in the earlier portion of these Judgments, is there or will there be major numbers of deaths caused by other subsets of events? Is the metastasized cancer called “Radical Islam” a subset, or a part of the Seal Judgement? I don’t believe the name given it is at all appropriate. It is instead, that portion of those who take seriously and adhere to

the laws of the Koran who are spreading death across most of the world. Just as there are large numbers of Christians, who, by choice or by ignorance follow the laws of Jesus, so also are the many who fail to follow Sharia Law, that is the Koran. The difference is that the Satan-inspired man-authored Koran glorifies hate and murder, God's law teaches love and compassion. Again, it's the current spread of hate, rape and torture and killing that is a part of the Seal Judgements, or is it a subset event? I don't believe that this can rightly be known as of this year 2015. For the purpose of this study let's assume that it is a subset, and that the number of deaths from the "cancer" will be say, 200 million.

3. The Third Judgment: This has been discussed elsewhere in this study, and our Lord has already told us the numerical percentage of deaths that those judgements will cost. Scripture tells us that 1/3 of the then remaining population will die. Therefore the total population will be reduced by 50%. However, if we consider, the above noted subset of death-causing events, as reasonably valid, then these must be added to the 50%. The calculation needed to determine the total number of deaths is as follows:
 - a. The Seal Judgment: 50% of the 7 billion or 3.75 billion. Including the subset number produces such a very tiny increase that it need be considered negligible.
4. The Battle of Armageddon: These have also been discussed in the main text. Therefore little more comment is necessary.

I believe that I have completed reporting all of the evidences regarding our objective, as it has been given to me. Therefore, it's time to collect the assessments of how many will die, and how many will live on into the Millennium. Based on a starting population of 7 billion, the following is what I believe to be a chronological list of all of the significant death-causing events that will reduce the number of souls who will enter the Millennium.

EVENT

ESTIMATED NUMBER OF DEATHS

<p>1. The number of deaths that Scripture tells us will result from the Seal and Trumpet Judgments will be half of the world's population.</p>	<p>3.75 Billion</p>
<p>2. The Magog Invasion. The logistics of the area, its size and terrain will limit it to well under one million.</p>	<p>1,000,000</p>
<p>3. The 7th Trumpet ushers in the 7th Vial which are the 3 Woes and also collectively, are the final judgments with which God will afflict the pre-millennial earth. While the first 5 Vial Judgments speak of severe suffering that is no specific mention of any deaths. However, I believe that we can reasonably infer that as described, Vial 1, 2,3,4,5, and 7 will cause large numbers of death. Absent is any biblical basis from which to claim a number. However, in order to be generous in an assessment of the number of deaths, I will assume:</p>	<p>50,000,000</p>
<p>Vial Judgment #6 which is the Armageddon event is indicated to kill a large number. Because of the previously mention logistics, I estimate that number will be quiet limited and will not exceed:</p>	<p>25,000,000</p>
<p>4. The next, and last of the pre-millennium judgments will be the Sheep and Goat Judgement. This is clearly a major cause of deaths. As we examine the nature of judgment and its world-wide application,</p>	

assigning to it what to me, is a most conservative number would be:	100,000,000
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Adding these up, subtracting from the 7 billion we may conclude that the number that will not enter the Millennium could be: 7 billion minus 3.75 billion, minus 1.76 billion, or 5.21 billion. This indicates that of the initial 7 billion only 1.49 billion will enter the millennium.

These will be flesh and blood mankind both saved and unsaved. What their proportion will be cannot be known.

Critics of this assessment and how it was derived will probably be everyone who reads this. I accept this absent any defense or offense. I only ask that they seek to justify their alternative conclusion with some better rational, rather than simply shooting it down and then walking away without offering anything more plausible.

	<i>Epilogue</i>	<i>Page 88</i>
<i>Footnote #1</i>	<i>Seal Judgments</i>	<i>Page 109</i>
<i>Footnote # 2</i>	<i>Revealing of Antichrist</i>	<i>Page 133</i>
<i>Footnote # 3</i>	<i>Who Are the Locusts?</i>	<i>Page 138</i>
<i>Footnote #4</i>	<i>The Ministry of the Two Witnesses</i>	<i>Page 151</i>
<i>Footnote # 5</i>	<i>Those Who Rose with Jesus</i>	<i>Page 156</i>
<i>Footnote # 6</i>	<i>The Millennium Temple</i>	<i>Page 158</i>
<i>Footnote # 7</i>	<i>The Wife of Jehovah</i>	<i>Page 165</i>
<i>Footnote # 8</i>	<i>Israel's Total Salvation</i>	<i>Page 169</i>
<i>Footnote #9</i>	<i>What Portion Population that will enter the Millennium?</i>	<i>Page 173</i>