

Unveiled
The Last Days and Beyond

Bible Prophecy
7 Years Plus 83 Days Time Line

By
Allan N. Sherwood Jr.
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*Page layout has been reformatted to read on line.

*To the LORD and also to my wife, Lucy
...My love.*

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The New American Standard Bible (NASB) is recommended when reading the noted Scripture addresses. All 124 quotes were taken from the NASB. The NASB is available on the Internet as a free reference.

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The Last Days and Beyond

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Technology for the mark of the beast (a universal security identification code) is currently available; its law only needs to be enacted and enforced. The New American Standard Bible (NASB) is recommended when reading the noted Scripture addresses.

The three time line days with an asterisk (*) are exact-day prophecies stated in Daniel 9:27, Daniel 12:11,12. My recommendation is to track the number of days beginning from the very day when the Jewish temple sacrifice is stopped.

Introduction

This book has not been written for the purpose to judge or condemn, but to encourage and proclaim God's truth to anyone willing to accept it so that God's gift of eternal security is received. Each person has the free will to decide whether to believe or reject that mankind has a Sovereign Creator, Jesus is His Son, the biblical prophecies within this book *will* occur, and, lastly, each person will be justified or condemned at the Judgment by his or her words (Matthew 12:37). If the prophecies in this book are rejected, it will have no effect on their fulfillment.

Actions that would have a positive effect are: if all people, by their free will, were to repent of their sins to their Creator; by faith accept His Son Jesus as their Savior; earnestly desire to live holy lives according to the full Word of God; and also, loathe their own evil ways. (Commitment of faith, at the end of the last chapter, also read Ezekiel 20:43.) If the nations were to do this, God would relent and delay the prophecies of the last days as He did with Nineveh (Jonah 3:5-10). Only through man's Creator and His Son do all people have hope (2Chronicles 7:14).

NASB

The New American Standard Bible was used to call out verses. Among scholars, the NASB is considered to be an exemplary translation of the ancient Hebrew, Greek, and Aramaic manuscripts. The use of the NASB is recommended when studying end-time prophecy and also for reading the Scripture references within this book. Please realize the Bible is a book of revealing, and it is important to take time to look up the Scripture references. They serve, not only to support the point being made, but also give additional information. For convenience, the NASB is electronically available on the Internet.

Bible Prophecy

In God, the Creator of Light and Life, we place our hope and trust. (The devil is the god of the dead and of darkness; Matthew 22:32.) Truly, only mankind's Creator could orchestrate all of the prophetic events to be revealed. It is impossible for man to invent them or for man alone to cause them to occur; but to His glory, God Almighty has spoken, and continues to speak through His Holy Spirit, to all people. His prophetic Word will unfold just as He has said (Isaiah 48:5-11).

Unlike a manmade idol, many people have heard the voice of mankind's Creator, including the prophets and apostles (Jeremiah 10:2-5,14; Deuteronomy 5:22-24; Matthew 17:5,6; 2Peter 3:2). When people heard and saw Jesus, most did not realize they were hearing and seeing God in the Son (John 15:15; John 10:30; John 8:45). Even today, people who seek God through Jesus have His Holy Spirit teaching the truth of the Holy Scripture (Deuteronomy

4:29). Anyone saying he or she has heard something other than God's truth in the Scripture listens to the whisperer, the devil. The book of Job illustrates examples of Satan putting doubt into the heart of man by questioning God's grace (Job 4:12-21; Isaiah 8:19).

Recorded in the book of Isaiah, mankind's Creator has frankly declared to all people that His word will not return empty (Isaiah 55:11). Every prophecy within the Bible, if it hasn't already been fulfilled, *will* be fulfilled to the smallest detail. Further, some prophecies can be repeated, though they have already been fulfilled or partially fulfilled (Matthew 5:18; Luke 24:44).

When people are forewarned about something, and they listen earnestly, the likelihood for them to make correct decisions is increased (Hosea 14:9). The Apostle Paul explained, "For whatever was written in earlier times was written for our instruction, so that through perseverance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope" Romans 15:4.

When a particular prophecy does become reality, the followers of Jesus, at that time, will have conclusive evidence of God's love for His people and their faith will be strengthened. If they heed His Word, many will understand that their Father in heaven has warned His children so that they *will* be kept eternally safe (Romans 11:22).

Also, when prophecy *is* proclaimed to skeptics or unbelieving people and *they* see the events unfold, that knowledge will become a powerful witness. Many will take the *wait-and-see* approach and not trust until they see or hear about the unfolding prophecies. Nevertheless, the prophet Daniel stated that many *will* believe during those evil days (Daniel 11:33; Luke 21:13-17). Unfortunately, most unbelieving people will never believe, and their hearts will be hardened even as they see prophecies come true (Revelation 9:20).

Consider this metaphor: between 4,000 years ago to 2,000 years ago, God was tossing a 3,000-piece puzzle into the air. Since the days that the Apostles wrote the New (Second) Testament, the pieces have continued to fall. Each puzzle piece has a specific prophecy or supporting evidence about the last 7 plus years. While the pieces fall, God decides to reveal, in varying degrees, the meaning of the pieces to whomever He chooses, a little here and a little there (Isaiah 28:10,11; Matthew 11:27; John 14:26). Only He knows what the picture looks like, but with prayer, the help of His Holy Spirit, and study of His Word, many things can be and have been learned. Although incomplete, the numerous identified puzzle pieces described within this book begin to provide a picture of truth and clarity.

The arranged information on this time line represents hundreds of prophecies and supporting evidences gained from more than 21 years of intensive study. Placing the events in a more precise order, however, will be a task for future historians during the 1,000 years of God's peace on earth. Know for certain, the hand of God through Jesus will correctly assemble all the puzzle pieces; then the nations will begin to have understanding (Proverbs 1:2-7; Joel 3:17).

In 1Thessalonians 5:3-6 God, through the Apostle Paul, clearly states that destruction will come suddenly during the time peace and safety are being proclaimed. (Many followers of Jesus will place their trust only in God; they also understand that any the peace agreement in Israel won't last unless God Himself establishes it.)

A Seaport's Complete Destruction

Revelation 18:9-19 is a prophecy about the complete destruction of a world-renowned seaport, symbolically named Babylon. (Verses 10,18) The prophecy is limited to the above verses; however, the verses directly before and after (Verses 1-8 and 20-24) are prophetic for the last 11 days, including the great wrath of the LORD.

Verse 17 reveals the seaport disaster will occur in an hour's time. Its destruction could occur at any time and will likely cause the unfolding of other prophecies to be revealed more rapidly.

Many kings, princes, and merchants from around the world will have visited and conducted business at this seaport. God describes them as getting rich from the immorality within the city (Verses 9,15). In addition to sexual acts, immorality also includes every kind of self-pride, greed, power, deceit, boasting, the death of innocents, drugs, and all forms of corruption and exploitation of people (Luke 12:15; Mark 7:21-23).

The prophecy reveals that the people, going about their daily routines, will be caught completely off guard when the destruction occurs. Apparently, it will occur during daylight. The entire city seaport will be leveled; and the witnesses will fear the method that was used to destroy it (Verse 10). The merchants and shipmasters will weep due to the loss, which means they will be more concerned with worldly things, at that time, than worrying about their own safety during the latter times of wickedness. (Verses 11,15,16)

Evidence The Days Are Close

When many of the prophetic details within the Scripture are compared to today's world, a person of discernment could easily see the time of the difficult last days are close, perhaps within a few years, but very likely before the end of this 21st century. Here are a few prophetic insights.

One prophecy, through Ezekiel, is that the nation of Israel would be reformed in the latter years (Ezekiel 38:8). Today's Israel is the fulfillment of that prophecy. Since February 1947 the *speed* of the prophetic clock has quickened.

Another evidence mankind is nearing those wicked days is the prophecy that no flesh would survive the tribulation period if it were allowed to continue (Mark 13:20). Since the late 1950's, man has invented and stockpiled a variety of weapons that, if they were used, could fulfill the prophecy.

There is also the evidence, found in the book of Revelation, of man's ability to instantly communicate around the world. There will be two followers of Jesus called to be God's witnesses. They

will be murdered and lie on a street in Jerusalem and the peoples and nations around the world will look at their dead bodies; meaning there will be some form of visual communication, like television or the Internet, at the time when this event occurs (Revelation 11:9).

The next prophetic evidence is that there will be famines and earthquakes in the last days (Matthew 24:7). Radio, television, and the Internet enable people to learn about famines and earthquakes wherever and whenever they occur, which may provide a false indicator that the last days are nearing. On the other hand, the population of the world is growing annually, by the millions, causing the food supply to be divided more thinly than ever before. According to reports, many places, such as Africa, are experiencing less rain than normal. During the final several years of wickedness, there will be terrible droughts, especially in the Middle East (Revelation 11:6).

Another kind of famine within the world is of the spirit, meaning people do not want to hear the Word of God (Jeremiah 6:10; Mark 4:15-19; 2Timothy 4:3,4). Truly Satan, the ruler of the world, is influencing mankind to become even more preoccupied with self, power, greed, and corruption (John 14:30; 1Corinthians 6:9,10).

The prophet Daniel provides another evidence that the 7 years, plus 83 days, are nearing. The last four words of Daniel 12:4 state, "...and knowledge will increase." During the previous 100 years or so, knowledge has increased exponentially among the general population, primarily for the sake of gaining knowledge, rather than to praise and glorify the works of God (Psalm 67:3-5). Almost universally, learning has become secular and devoid of God. The Apostle Paul rightly prophesied about today's world saying in 2Timothy 3:7, "...always learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth."

Two significant evidences indicate the time period for the last days is close, even at the threshold. The first has to do with peace in the Middle East. Ever since Israel became recognized as a nation in 1948, peace negotiations between Israel and other interests have been ongoing and they will continue until a so-called universal agreement has been reached. The second evidence is that the religious Jews of Israel want to construct the temple (Isaiah 59:7,8; Daniel 9:27; Ezekiel 43:8). When the universal agreement and the Jewish temple are both functioning at the same time, the prophecies will begin to quickly unfold.

The Jewish Temple

There are only three Jewish temples mentioned in the Scripture. The first temple was constructed in Solomon's time, and the second temple was built over a period of 46 years after the Babylonian dispersion (John 2:20), but then it was desecrated and later restored. The Feast of the Dedication mentioned in John 10:22, also named the Festival of Lights, or Chanukah, resulted from the restoration. The second temple was in operation during Jesus' time. The third, and last Jewish temple will be constructed prior to the wicked days (Revelation 11:1,2).

When the temple is constructed, every wise and discerning person should take note. The fact that the temple is operational will be a major wakeup call from God (Daniel 9:27). Reports to construct the temple (on television and on the Internet) state that Jews already have the materials on hand; and further, the priesthood involved with its operation is currently being trained. Without too much difficulty, a person could access websites and learn up-to-date temple information.

Prophecy recorded in Ezekiel 40:47 states the temple wall will be about 150 feet square (100 cubits), which is significantly smaller than the temple in Solomon's day. The wall will separate the holy from the profane, or as stated in Revelation 11:2 "...given over to the nations." The size of this third temple would allow it, if necessary, to share the top of Mount Zion.

When the Jewish temple is constructed, Israel will also be proclaiming to the world of her national unbelief in Jesus, their Messiah Christ. Of all the nations, Israel should understand the Scripture and see that Jesus is their Redeemer, of which the following Scriptures provide insight: Isaiah 7:14; Isaiah 9:6,7; Isaiah 53; Isaiah 54:5; Luke 1:26-35; John 8:28,29; John 9:4,5; John 19:18-35; John 20:17.

In Hosea 5:4,6 and Malachi 2:10,13 God has said to Israel that He will not listen, though they cry with tears and groaning. Know for certain, all unbelieving nations in the world today also condemn themselves, due to the fact that they are unwilling to listen and believe the gospel message about Jesus (John 1:5).

The Scripture is silent as to how long the temple will be in operation before the sacrifices and gain offerings are stopped (Daniel 9:27; Daniel 11:31; Daniel 8:11,12). The likelihood is that it will function for a short time, perhaps only a few years. God has said that once it is desecrated, Israel will never again defile His holy name (Ezekiel 38:7). Beginning at Chapter 41 and continuing to the end of the book of Ezekiel, there is information about a Spiritual temple during Jesus' reign on earth as King of kings. Like the book of Revelation, stones, sacrifices, and duties of priests represent Spiritual concepts of living holy lives. Since the time of Abel, through the ages including the followers of Jesus today, all of God's faithful people serve(d) Him in His way (Matthew 5:3-12; Matthew 9:13; John 14:6; 1Corinthians 3:16; 1Peter 2:5; Romans 12:1,2, 6-21).

Chapter 2

Important Concepts

Parables of History

A definition of a simple parable would be a story that has a hidden, heavenly righteous purpose (Matthew 13:10,11,16). There is another type of parable called a *prophetic parable of history*. It is an actual historical account within the Bible that God uses to support His prophecy. It is one of the great sources of information to aid a person's understanding of prophecy.

In God's design to bring about everything for His good purpose, He orchestrated entire events so that His people, at a later time, might make the connection between history and prophecy (2Timothy 3:16; 2Peter 1:19). God is unchanging, meaning if a prophecy is still in the future and there is a similar event recorded in the Bible, a faithful person could gain insight by studying and comparing the two with each other to see a common pattern. When that person understands the connection between a prophecy and a prophetic parable of history, he or she has received a blessing, like a hug, from God (Matthew 13:11). The insight is glorious but also sobering (Matthew 11:27; Revelation 10:10). A classic example of a prophetic parable of history, with regard to Jesus' crucifixion, is Abraham taking Isaac to sacrifice him (Genesis 22). Literally, there are hundreds of prophetic parables of history in the Bible. The entire record of the Israelites leaving Egypt provides glorious insight. In fact, the entire account of Israel recorded in the Bible may contain a few thousand common points with prophecies.

The Last Days Generation

The use of the words *last days* specifically refer to the end of the *generation* of man's rebellion against God. The word *generation*, in this case, means the family of people whose god is Satan—even if individual family members do not realize Satan is their father (John 8:44).

Jesus spoke against this generation as cited in Matthew 11:16, Matthew 12:39, Matthew 17:17, Luke 11:50,51, and Luke 17:25, as well as other verses. Throughout the history of mankind, all the people who have *not* remained faithful to their Creator are among that generation (Deuteronomy 32:20). Know for certain, during the many years prior to the prophetic last days, certain personality characteristics will make up the majority of people. Through the Apostle Paul, God describes some of the personality characteristics of the people in that generation. "But realize this, that in the last days difficult times will come. For men [*people] will be lovers of self, lovers of money, boastful, arrogant, revilers, disobedient to parents, ungrateful, unholy, unloving, irreconcilable, malicious gossips, without self-control, brutal, haters of good, treacherous, reckless, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, holding to a form of godliness, although they have denied its power; avoid such men [people] as these" 2Timothy 3:1-5. For several decades, discerning followers of Jesus

understand many (perhaps most) people display these characteristics of self-righteousness. Note: * For the purpose to clarify, I have added the [bracketed words] within quoted verses.

Many people think that the term *the last days* began from the time of Jesus' resurrection; but the generation of man's rebellion started when Adam and Eve sinned (Hebrews 1:1,2). With regard to this book, the *last days* are referring to a short period of time of a little more than 7 years, when some of the *generation* of Satan's family members will cause ghastly evil upon this earth. At the very end of those days, man's wickedness would destroy all flesh if they were allowed to continue, but God will arise to make His enemies a footstool for the feet of Jesus on the *great day of the wrath, preserving a remnant (Luke 20:41-43; Zephaniah 3:13). Following that single great day, there will be peace on earth for 1,000 years. Then, after the time of peace has been completed, Satan will be released to initiate the final *last days* of the rebellious *generation* (Revelation 20:7). Jesus spoke of this truth in Matthew 13:49,50 and Luke 21:32,33. (*Literally, a single day.)

Tribulation and Philosophy

The general definition of the word *tribulation* means people experience distress, sorrow, and sometimes death, caused by severe circumstances; however, the *tribulation and great tribulation*, of which Jesus spoke, are referring to atrocities that will occur over a period of about 6 weeks just prior to God establishing His peace. (Matthew 24:9,10,21,22; See Chapter 11.) With regard to commonly held concepts, the word *tribulation* is understood as being caused by a society's *philosophy* of "*might-makes-right*," which embraces hatred without cause. Power, under the guise of a religion or social-political creed, is used to incite *tribulation* by willfully mistreating and persecuting another people; as many peoples are experiencing around the world today (Psalm 25:3).

Important to understand is that any *philosophy* is an invention of man. Throughout history, philosophies have been the prime mover within societies, meaning the way people live is according to the thoughts of men. Philosophies are developed like a manufactured product because people attempt to provide answers to the unknown. They enjoy power and honor from men, and they will do whatever it takes to satisfy those things they *deem* important (Judges 17:6; Matthew 23:6).

People also have a sense of eternity and of right and wrong built inside, often called the *moral law*; and they inherently desire to be known and loved, live at peace, and have a keen sense of man's untrustworthy nature. Putting all-of-the-above together, people collectively desire to have a leadership develop and impose a *philosophical standard* so that they can enjoy a little peace, safety, and public order during the years of their stay on earth (1Samuel 8:5). Every philosophical system necessitates that people judge people according to a set of standard rules of right and wrong for their society; and also, to have consequences when

people do not abide by the standard, which causes the people to fear (1Samuel 8:11-20).

Inherent with every philosophy are major flaws; Though everyone is affected by selfish pride, there are many people who boast in their pride, seek power and honor among men, embrace philosophies designed to oppress, and they reject the moral law unless it can be used to achieve their agenda (Psalm 55:20,21). Within the philosophy are barkers who convey a message using a code language to promote their agenda, which is understood by the inner circles. In essence, they speak in parables for the purpose of unrighteousness; but the masses of people outside know only the surface meanings of the words. As life's circumstances unfold, more rules or laws are usually imposed upon the people, causing the philosophy to change from within. That process of change often involves justice being perverted (Habakkuk 1:4).

Unless a society remains vigilant to maintain its original doctrine, the latter philosophy will not resemble anything like the original (Matthew 23:15,23). Every philosophy is a false light and guide; it either denies the existence of the Creator or at least minimizes Him to be something equal to man's capricious and unreliable nature (Isaiah 3:4; Matthew 6:23,24; Matthew 15:14). Though it may shine and people believe in its purpose, eventually it will fail leading to conflict (Matthew 7:13; Jeremiah 18:11,12). Two societies with differing philosophies will inherently be in opposition with each other causing them to place their trust in a strong defensive system (Mark 3:24; Psalm 33:17).

People do not realize their Creator, who is not man and does not think like man, has provided His unchanging standard, through Jesus (1Samuel 15:29; Isaiah 55:8; Isaiah 49:22; Matthew 22:37-40; John 14:6). Unlike imposed philosophies, all peoples have the free will to believe in Jesus, to follow God's standard in the Bible, and to allow Him to control their lives; all without being under compulsion. Unfortunately, most people, filled with me-ism pride, choose to not follow (Matthew 8:22; 2Corinthian 9:7). Even if the nations of the world did follow God through Jesus, there will always be the need for procedures of operation necessary to protect and guide people, but they will not be imposed rules, laws, and edicts enacted through unrighteousness (Luke 16:8). God has warned everyone not to be taken captive through philosophy (Colossians 2:8).

Jesus and the Apostle Paul revealed that the evidence of God is placed within every person (Luke 18:16,17; Romans 1:19; Romans 2:14,15). People are to be like children, drawn to light but afraid of darkness. Jesus is the light of the world, meaning through Him all people can live in peace and security (John 8:12). Darkness is when people trust in their own devices (John 3:19).

If given the opportunity, an infant will stare at a lighted candle, and a toddler will grab an adult's hand for security to go into a dark room. They have a keen sense of knowing that being in the light is more secure than being in the dark. They also have a good sense of the law of right and wrong built inside (so-called *moral law*); however, as they get older, if that sense is not nurtured, it will starve (even die) and they will be less afraid of the darkness and their vision of understanding and compassion will fail.

Instead of teasing children for being afraid of the dark, people should praise them for their fear, and direct them to continue to seek Jesus, the Light of the world, and to also become a light in the world (Matthew 19:14; John 8:12; Matthew 5:14). Truly, Jesus lights the path of understanding and His righteousness guides the hearts of His followers as they study and put His Word into practice (Psalm 5:8; Psalm 119:11; John 17:17).

Nevertheless, children also demonstrate selfishness more than they display the evidence of God. They quickly believe the world revolves around them; though they are acutely aware of the battle of right and wrong; or, at least, what they believe to be fair and unfair, and true and untrue. If children are left to their own education, or if they live with people not knowing how to live holy lives according to their Creator, most will become adults absorbed in self-gratification activities. Know for certain, the prophecy stated in 2Timothy 3:1-5 will be (is being) fulfilled.

The statement is true: “Unless the LORD builds the house, they labor in vain who build it...” Psalm 127:1.

7 Years Plus 83 Days Time Line

Hope

“As to this salvation, the prophets who prophesied of the grace that *would come* to you made careful searches and inquiries, seeking to know... It was revealed to them that they were not serving themselves, but you, in these things which now have been announced... Therefore, prepare your minds for action, keep sober in spirit, fix your hope completely on the grace to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ” 1Peter 1:10-13.

The Time Line

The purpose of the copyrighted time line on page 3 and also the 2-page printable PDF copy located on the internet, is three-fold: To proclaim there is hope; to provide insight about a sequential process that will occur during the difficult days that will lead to God’s peace; and to provide an overview of major prophesies on a single page.

Individual events on the time line, for the most part, have been arranged in the order of proceeding from bad to worse (2Timothy 3:13). The presented information is by no means comprehensive or perfect, but the overall accuracy is close (1Corinthians 13:12). A person involved in a comprehensive study would eventually realize there is enough information, about prophecy and supporting evidences in the Bible, to keep him busy for a lifetime.

The Time Line Length

There are four primary parts to the time line: 0 to the midpoint, which is 3.5 years of 7 years; then 1,290 days after the midpoint; then 1,335 days after the midpoint; and then another 8 days beyond the 1,335 days.

0 to 3.5 Years

Within the verse of Daniel 9:27, a special prophetic week of time is noted. Scholars have determined the week to mean 7 years. Based upon the number of days and months recorded in the books of Genesis during the flood, Esther during her purification, and several verses in the book of Revelation, one prophetic year consists of 12 months or 360 days. The prophetic 7 years would have 84 months or 2,520 days; and half of that time would have 42 months or 1,260 days.

The prophecy of Daniel 9:27 also states that in the middle of the week the temple sacrifice and grain offering will be stopped, meaning there will be another 1,260 days to finish the 7th year. Beginning with the day the sacrifice is stopped, the time line events are arranged according to the *combined* evidences of the *Law, prophetic parables of history, and prophecy working together.

*Throughout this book, the word *Law* is used to represent God's requirements for Israel and the priesthood, with regard to the duties, sacrifices, and offerings associated with the operation of the temple and worshipping God. If the people love their Creator then they will abide in Him and live according to His Standard.

1,290 Days

In Daniel 12:11, Daniel prophesied: "From the time that the regular sacrifice is abolished and the abomination of desolation is set up *there will be* 1,290 days." The 1,290th day would be 30 days after the 7th year (Daniel 11:31). The words "set up," mean that the world's troops will have gathered so that an unparalleled war against mankind and God can begin. (See Chapter 11.) Jesus has warned His followers about that tribulation period (Luke 21:20; Revelation 9:16; Revelation 16:14).

The word *abomination* means that the particular sin (thought, word, or action) described by mankind's Creator in the Bible is utterly evil. The word *desolation* means something without life. In other words, Daniel prophesied that a massive number of troops would destroy all life (desolation), which is utterly evil (abomination), if they were allowed to continue. Know for certain, the combined devastation of all prior wars in history will be exceeded during that short tribulation period (Daniel 12:1).

1,335 Days

Daniel also prophesied in the next verse that there will be a blessing for those who have waited 1,335 days from the day the sacrifice was stopped (Daniel 12:12). The 1,335th day would be 45 days after the 1290th day or 75 days after the 7th year. (See Chapter 12.)

8 Days

There is no specific verse prophesying the 1,343rd day on the time line, which is 8 days after the 1,335th day, or 83 days after the 7th year. There are evidences in harmony with each other, however, which provide support for the additional 8 days, including the last 5 appointed times of the Law, prophecy, and historic accounts (Leviticus 23:2,22-42; Leviticus 25:8-10; Psalm 75:2,3; Luke 24:44). More details about the 8 days are given in Chapters 14 and 15 of this book.

70 years

There is also a prophecy about an unknown point in history that would initiate the final 70 years (360 days/year). In Jeremiah 29:10-14, the LORD said that when 70 years are completed, "...I will bring you [Jews] back to this place... from all the nations I have driven you..." The Dead Sea Scroll of the entire book of Isaiah was found in February of 1947 and in November 1948 the state of Israel was officially recognized. In 2016 or 2017, the 70-

year prophecy would be completed if God Almighty has used either date.

☠ **Do not take the mark of the beast!**

Hope

The followers of Jesus have been encouraged by Jesus' example to overcome evil. The person who overcomes and remains faithful to the end will not have his name removed from the book of life. "These things I have spoken to you, so that in Me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation, but take courage; I have overcome the world" John 16:33. "He who overcomes will thus be clothed in white garments; and I will not erase his name from the book of life, and I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels. 'He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches'" Revelation 3:5,6.

The mark of the beast

The mark will have a neutral name such as: the *Universal Security Identification Code* or U-SIC (Revelation 13:16,17; Revelation 14:9-11). It will be required for the purpose to control the activities of multitudes of people. The beast antichrist will demand the mark because other identification methods will have been less secure. The desire for national and financial security conditions will likely cause governments, businesses, and society, in general, to accept any action that will improve their personal and economic safety concerns. The mark will be proclaimed to be the so-called answer to promote stability, but this is a lie.

The beast antichrist will use every form of deception to achieve his agenda to control all people; though, he will NEVER fully achieve his evil desires. There will be governments, which may feign allegiance, but will also practice their own deceptions. None of them will have understanding to perceive that all of their kingdoms will fall (Luke 11:17,18).

The mark will have a name such as the Universal Security Identification Code, or U. – S.I.C. for short. When the mark of the beast is imposed upon the people, it *will* be given a more tasteful name other than the mark of the beast. The acronym U-SIC was created only to serve as an example to warn everyone, that by placing the mark on the body, each person also receives an incurable wound, which is eternal death. Read this Scripture Revelation 14:9-11. Remember, God has named it the *mark* of the *beast*.

The man, who is the false prophet, will require and enforce that the mark be placed either on the right hand or on the person's forehead (Revelation 13:16). The mark may be in the form of a tiny electronic chip, already available today, which would be placed just under the skin's surface. The normal bio-chemical process of the body will give the device a lifetime supply of electricity to emit the person's identification code. The number 666 apparently would be part of the code, which has been used approximately since the 1970's. A number 6 would be placed electronically at the start, middle, and end of a person's

identification number. An example of this is found in many UPC product bar codes.



This is a fictional UPC bar code; any match of an actual UPC code is strictly unintentional.

For technically non-advanced nations, the mark may also be a tattoo with the name of the beast (Revelation 13:17). Please read Leviticus 19:28.

Because the mark will be advertised as being patriotic to help solve national security issues, anyone not taking the identification mark will be considered radical, untrustworthy, and eventually an enemy. The first two verses of Romans 13 will likely be taken out of context and used against the followers of Jesus. Romans 13:4, however, clearly states that God will bring wrath on the one who practices evil. All people and authorities are subject to following the principals of righteousness and justice according to the Word of God through Jesus. Enacted laws, which are contrary to the Word of God, are evil. The followers of Jesus must abide in God's Word and also pray for those who persecute them (1Peter 2:13-17; Matthew 5:44).

By willfully taking the mark, each person's soul will be struck with an incurable wound leading to eternal death. **Do not to take the mark!** The correct action for a person is to suffer temporarily and receive abundant blessings of eternal life, rather than to have taken the mark for temporary relief, only to be in agony in hell forever. If a person willfully takes the mark, eternal death is the result, whether or not he or she proclaims Jesus as Savior. There is no forgiveness! Do not take these words lightly or minimize the agony a person will experience forever in hell (Matthew 13:42; Revelation 14:9-11).

Once the mark becomes law only people with the mark will be able to buy, sell, get medical help, and pay bills. People not taking the mark will be hard pressed, especially mothers with young children. **Do not take the mark!** Those days, months, and years are the times that many believers will fall away from their faith and take the mark (Matthew 24:9,10; John 6:66). Know also, the people who take the mark will experience malignant sores before the end of the reign of the beast antichrist (Revelation 16:2). Then, during the very last days, the mark will be useless because the world economy will collapse (Revelation 6:6).

Do not take the mark of the beast!!

There will be multitudes of the followers of Jesus who will not take the mark (Luke 21:16-20; Revelation 2:11). In order to remain faithful to Jesus, the followers of Jesus must understand, that though they may now have comfortable living conditions, they will leave everything during the days the mark is enforced (Matthew 24:17-20). Though they will likely become destitute, they will be rich (2Corinthians 8:9).

Jesus said, “Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves; so be shrewd as serpents and innocent as doves. But beware of men, for they will hand you over to *the* courts and scourge you in their synagogues; and you will even be brought before governors and kings for My sake, as a testimony to them and to the Gentiles. But when they hand you over, do not worry about how or what you are to say; for it will be given you in that hour what you are to say. For it is not you who speaks, but *it is* the Spirit of your Father who speaks in you. Brother will betray brother to death, and a father *his* child; and children will rise up against parents and cause them to be put to death. You will be hated by all because of My name, but it is the one who has endured to the end who will be saved. But whenever they persecute you in one city [His followers around the world], flee to the next; for truly I say to you [His followers in Israel], you will not finish *going through* the cities of Israel until the Son of Man comes.” Matthew 10:16-23

Chapter 5

The beast antichrist and the false prophet

Chapter Overview

☠ The man (beast antichrist) will die, but then, he will amaze the world with his recovery. As a result of the act of violence, his right eye will be blind and he will have a withered arm (Revelation 13:3; Zechariah 11:16,17; Daniel 8:11; Daniel 11:38; Revelation 19:20).

☠ The false prophet will be a man who has ideas of greatness and also the political and military power to enforce the edicts of the beast antichrist (Revelation 13:12-18; Jeremiah 45:5).

Hope

Our hope is God through Jesus: our mighty defense. “The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the defense of my life; whom shall I dread? Psalm 27:1 “The LORD is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in Him, and I am helped; therefore my heart exults, and with my song I shall thank Him. The LORD is their strength, and He is a saving defense to His anointed” Psalm 28:7,8.

“Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you at the proper time, casting all your anxiety on Him, because He cares for you. Be of sober *spirit*, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. But resist him, firm in *your* faith, knowing that the same experiences of suffering are being accomplished by your brethren who are in the world. After you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who called you to His eternal glory in Christ, will Himself perfect, confirm, strengthen *and* establish you. To Him *be* dominion forever and ever. Amen.” 1Peter 5:6-11

In God through Jesus we have put our confidence. The word confidence means to place one’s trust and security in our Maker. “For You are my hope; O Lord GOD, *You are* my confidence from my youth Psalm 71:5. “Such confidence we have through Christ toward God. Not that we are adequate in ourselves to consider anything as *coming* from ourselves, but our adequacy is from God, who also made us adequate *as* servants of a new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.” 2Corinthians 3:4-6

“*Let love be* without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil; cling to what is good. 10 *Be* devoted to one another in brotherly love; give preference to one another in honor; 11 not lagging behind in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord; 12 rejoicing in hope, persevering in tribulation, devoted to prayer, 13 contributing to the needs of the saints, practicing hospitality. 14 Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. 15 Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep. 16 Be of the same mind toward one another; do not be haughty in mind, but associate with the lowly. Do not be wise in your own estimation. 17 Never pay

back evil for evil to anyone. Respect what is right in the sight of all men. 18 If possible, so far as it depends on you, be at peace with all men. 19 Never take your own revenge, beloved, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, "VENGEANCE IS MINE, I WILL REPAY," says the Lord. 20 "BUT IF YOUR ENEMY IS HUNGRY, FEED HIM, AND IF HE IS THIRSTY, GIVE HIM A DRINK; FOR IN SO DOING YOU WILL HEAP BURNING COALS ON HIS HEAD." 21 Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good." Romans 12:9-21

The beast antichrist

There will be a man of Jewish descent who will become the beast antichrist. In Genesis 49:16,17, Jacob prophesied that a man will judge his people and will be a serpent in the way. This person will be from the tribe of Dan, though he may not know his lineage. He will be a secular Jew on the international stage. He may or may not be the person who establishes the *firm covenant* between Israel and the nations. The way Daniel 9:27 is written, it may mean two different men are involved. Another possibility is that the man who makes the firm covenant will do so *before* Satan gives him his authority. The second half of Daniel 9:27 reads: "...on the wing of abominations will come one who makes desolate..." referring to the man commonly called the *antichrist* by God's faithful people; however, God has named him the *beast*. The two names *beast* and *antichrist* have been combined to identify him (Revelation 13:3; 1John 2:22).

The metaphorical account in Daniel 8:5,8,9 provides the process of how the beast antichrist will come to power. Symbols include a goat, horns and a ram. The goat's horn(s) represent a Jewish leader(s) and the goat represents Israel's sin. The sin is that the nation of Israel, as a whole, does not believe Jesus is their Messiah, even though both testaments of the Bible wonderfully detail the evidence and harmony of this truth.

In the prophecy of Daniel 8, the goat neutralizes a ram, which is a rogue nation. The horn of the goat represents one Jewish leader who orchestrates the offensive move against the ram. His leadership will suddenly end, symbolically represented by the horn being broken off. Then out of the goat (Israel), 4 smaller horns (leaders) grow. Apparently, their authority will grow at the same time. One of those four leaders may be involved in establishing the firm covenant of Daniel 9:27, then out of the four, one of them will become the beast antichrist.

At some point during his climb to power, he (the beast antichrist) will be mortally wounded and die, but he will be brought back to life. His death and recovery mocks Jesus' resurrection and it will also amaze the world causing the nations to seek after him as a god. Because of his injuries, his right eye will be blind and he will have a withered hand. Zechariah 11:16,17 states he will be a false worthless shepherd, meaning he will lead the Jews as well as many followers of Jesus astray (Matthew 24:10).

The prophecy in Revelation 13:1-3, states he will come up out of the sea and Satan will be on the shore waiting to give him his authority. People will not be able to see Satan.

Some people have used this idea of coming up out of the sea to symbolically represent the sea of humanity because of verse 1 referencing the ten horns and seven heads; but Jesus has said the account of Jonah provides a sign (Matthew 12:39,40). Jonah was a devoted Jew and he is not to be thought of as a kind of beast antichrist. However, he was vomited upon the shore (Jonah 2:10). The pile of vomit is the image of death and stench the beast antichrist will cause.

The fact that Jonah was in the belly of a fish may also mean that the beast antichrist will travel under the sea for security purposes. This would fulfill the words, "...coming up out of the sea..." in Revelation 13:1. On the other hand, Jews and the followers of Jesus will be as though they are in the belly of a whale during the reign of the beast antichrist; but because the account of Jonah is a prophetic parable of history, it increases the likelihood that the beast antichrist will literally come up out of the sea.

The reign of the beast antichrist will be 42 months (Revelation 13:5,6). After the temple sacrifice is stopped by the military, the beast antichrist, also called the apostasy, will take his seat in the desecrated temple to publicly curse God, declare to be God—and even be higher than his Creator (Daniel 11:31; 2Thessalonians 2:3,4; Daniel 8:11). A speaking image of him will be made and the people will be forced to worship and give allegiance to him. Allegiance means people submit to him. Anyone who does not worship (submit to) the image will be killed (Revelation 13:15). Jesus' parable of giving to Caesar may be profaned and used against the followers of Jesus (Matthew 22:21).

The false prophet

The god of the false prophet is the power of enforcement. He will be intelligent, articulate, and he will cause nations to fear his power. He is another beast having two horns like a lamb, which may represent his awareness of Jesus, and also, his drive to destroy the followers of Jesus (Revelation 13:11; Revelation 12:17; Revelation 17:17).

In addition, there is the prophecy in Genesis 16:12 indicating the false prophet will be a descendant of Ishmael and likened to that of a wild donkey. In Job 11:12, it is revealed that he will be intelligent; and in Isaiah 18:1-3, prophecy reveals there will a powerful and oppressive nation, in which rivers divide the land. The military of that nation will be feared far and wide. Some of the people of that powerful nation, including the false prophet, will have their roots from the ancient nation of Cush in Africa. The word Cush means *black*.

A brief history of Cush is as follows: Noah's son Ham populated Africa (Psalm 78:51). According to biblical scholars, the ancient nation of Cush, named after the son of Ham, is located south of Egypt, and covered a great expanse of territory, including today's nations of Sudan, Ethiopia, Somalia, and Kenya. The

connection between Ishmael and Cush is Hagar, the African woman who bore Ishmael. She was a servant of Pharaoh and was then given to Abraham to be Sarah's maid (Genesis 16:1). The prophecy of Isaiah 18:3-6 about Cush continues and metaphorically reveals the day Jesus returns on the great day of wrath (Isaiah 11:1-5; Revelation 19:14-16). In addition, there is the prophecy about the false prophet in the five verses of Jeremiah 45, with verses 4 and 5 describing the character of a person seeking great things before the day of wrath of the LORD (Isaiah 24:18-20).

One characteristic of both the false prophet and the beast antichrist is that they are *people persons*. They will not be grotesque monsters, but they will be very good at persuasion through lies and deception and will cause people to give allegiance (worship) to the ruler of the earth (John 14:30; Revelation 12:9; Revelation 13:4,8; John 8:44).

Both reigns of the beast antichrist and the false prophet will end about 1,260 days or 42 months after they begin their mission of death and destruction (Revelation 13:5). On the great and terrible day of the LORD, the warning of Exodus 19:13 will be fulfilled. For disobedience, *God Jesus will shoot His arrow with a bow of bronze; and every proud person on earth will die in his or her sin (Psalm 18:34; Job 20:24; Isaiah 49:2; Zechariah 9:14; Hebrews 12:20; John 8:21). Jesus will seize and throw the beast antichrist and the false prophet alive into the lake of fire (hell), where there is no light (Revelation 19:20; Matthew 8:12). *Note: Many times the names of Jesus, God, God Almighty, etc., are combined to form a single name. This is done to emphasize the trinity and equality of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit working together to bring about the fulfillment of the Word of God, which is also a thing, at times, difficult to be grasped (Matthew 28:18; John 5:26,27; John 17:1,2; Revelation 21:7; Philippians 2:5-7).

The Unknown Start Date

Chapter Overview

The firm covenant and the Jewish Temple must be operational at the same time during the first part of the 7 prophetic years (Daniel 9:27). The 1st of the 7 seals will likely have been broken about the time of the firm covenant (Revelation 6:2).

Hope

Mankind's only salvation is to have trust and hope in God through Jesus. "I hope for Your salvation, O LORD, and do Your commandments." Psalm 119:166

"Thus says the LORD, "Cursed is the man who trusts in mankind and makes flesh his strength, and whose heart turns away from the LORD." Jeremiah 17:5

The Sacrifice is Stopped

The number of months or years the temple will operate is unknown, and could very well be operational before the firm covenant is made or vice versa. Nevertheless, the prophecy in Daniel 11:31 states that forces from "...him..." will do away with the regular sacrifice and desecrate the Jewish temple. The prophetic meaning of the word "...him..." is that when the firm covenant is signed (many of the followers of Jesus may not recognize him to be the future beast antichrist). He may be like a chameleon and not stand out among the participants. Also, he may receive his authority from Satan and be mortally injured after the time of the firm covenant. The very day the sacrifice is stopped will mark the middle of the 7 years of the prophecy stated in Daniel 9:27. Beginning with the day the temple sacrifice is stopped, the days leading to the blessing of 1,335 days should be tracked (Daniel 12:12).

Seals Trumpet Bowls

There are several prophecies revealed through the 7 seals, 7 trumpets, and 7 bowls in the book of Revelation. God's heavenly host has been waiting for Jesus to break the 1st seal since the beginning of creation (Revelation 5:7-9). They know once it is broken, all the related prophecies will cause the followers of Jesus to be separated from those who are spiritually lost. Those prophecies will also lead to the establishment of His kingdom of peace on the earth (Matthew 25:32; Daniel 11:35; Isaiah 10:17; Isaiah 9:7). Individually, the seals, trumpets, and bowls will unfold in sequential order, *i.e.*, seals 1, 2, 3 *etc.*; however, the order of the seals, trumpets, and bowls will be mixed together. Example: The 2nd seal may be broken before the 1st trumpet, and the 3rd trumpet will likely sound before the 1st bowl is poured.

The 1st seal will initiate the pretense of a peace accord, represented by the white horse, but the man riding on the horse, the beast antichrist, will set out to conquer (Revelation 6:1,2).

Much information can be learned from each prophecy of the seals, trumpets, and bowls without knowing precisely what the metaphors mean. The first 4 seals and trumpets involve acts of man. The 6th trumpet sounds the warning that the tribulation period will begin. Seals 5, 6, and 7, trumpets 5 and 7, and the 7 bowls describe actions taken by God Almighty. God's two witnesses may initiate some of the bowls of plagues, just as Moses and Aaron announced the plagues to Pharaoh and Egypt (Revelation 11:3,6). The 7th seal, the 7th trumpet, and the 7th bowl will occur on the great day of the wrath of the LORD.

The prophetic events connected to the first 4 seals and trumpets will continue throughout the remaining years until God establishes His peace. As the prophecy of each of the 4 seals and trumpets is revealed, the number of people who will indiscriminately experience hardships and death will progressively increase.

The trumpet, in the book of Revelation, is used to sound an alarm. Many of the followers of Jesus will recognize unfolding prophecies and will also become a voice, like a trumpet, warning the people and declaring the process for salvation. The inhabitants on earth will likely hear only the last trumpet sounded from heaven (Isaiah 27:13). The poured bowls of plagues will involve *only* the unsaved people, meaning the followers of Jesus will not be harmed by the bowls of plagues, in the same way as Israel was not adversely affected by the plagues (Exodus 8:22,23; Exodus 9:4,26,32; Exodus 10:23; Exodus 11:5-7).

Israel is Invaded
and the
Jewish Temple Sacrifice is Stopped

Chapter Overview

Israel will be invaded and the false peace ends (Habakkuk 3:16; Ezekiel 38:8-12). The conditions for Jews in Israel will be difficult (Isaiah 5:6,7; Jeremiah 30:7). Likely, the 2nd seal will be broken and 1st trumpet sounded (Revelation 6:3,4; Revelation 8:7).

Many nations will align against Israel (Ezekiel 16:37). Jews will experience persecution worldwide (Zechariah 13:8). The followers of Jesus are more outspoken (Daniel 11:33). Wars, unrest, and famine will increase (Matthew 24:6,7). The 3rd and 4th seals will be broken (Revelation 6:5-8). The Jewish temple sacrifice and grain offering will be stopped (Daniel 9:27).

Hope

The followers of Jesus are not to fear man, and they are to fear God Jesus, not only because our hope is in His hands, but also, because He offers the gift of forgiveness to us (1Peter 3:14; John 10:27-30; Mark 2:10). In Him we place our hope, as David said, “For the needy will not always be forgotten, nor the hope of the afflicted perish forever” Psalm 9:18 (Job 4:6; Psalm 118:6; Matthew 10:28). To all the people who hope in the LORD, David said to take courage (Psalm 31:24). In the book of Psalms, an old man goes on to say that he will tell of God’s righteousness and salvation (Psalm 71:15). The writer of the book of Hebrews encourages the followers of Jesus, saying, “But Christ was faithful as a Son over His house—whose house we are, if we hold fast our confidence [in God] and boast of our hope [in Jesus] firm until the end.” Hebrews 3:6

“But since we are of *the* day [meaning of the Light of Jesus], let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and as a helmet, the hope of salvation.” 1Thessalonians 5:8

“...we ourselves, having the first fruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within, waiting eagerly for... the redemption of our body. For in hope we have been saved...” Romans 8:23,24

“Therefore my heart was glad and my tongue exulted; moreover my flesh also will live in hope.” Acts 2:26 (Psalm 16:8-11)

False Peace

In the book of Daniel, there is the prophecy stating at the end 2,300 days, Jerusalem and the Holy Mountain of God (the holy place; Psalm 24:3-6) will properly be restored (Daniel 8:14,26; Daniel 9:27). The evening time of the great day of the LORD would be the very last day of this prophecy (Isaiah 11:9,10; Ecclesiastes 8:10; Isaiah 66:20). The total number of days on the time line, from the beginning of the 7 years to the great day of wrath, is 2,601. Subtracting 2,300 days from 2,601 days would

make the false peace 301 days; however, as stated in the previous chapter, except for God, the start date for the 7 years is unknown, and no one knows how long the firm covenant or the temple will be functioning before Israel is invaded, so this prophecy has more value after the fact for future historians.

Israel Alone

Ezekiel 38:8-18 describes several prophecies about today's Israel, her enemies, and God Almighty.

Verse 8 of Ezekiel 38 prophesied the reestablishment of the nation of Israel. Verses 9 through 12 describe the wickedness of the people who desire to eradicate Israel (Psalm 83:4). Since 1948, the voices of enemies continue to chant words of annihilation against Israel. Verses 10 and 11 clearly state that non-Jewish people will devise an evil plan to invade Israel. The small towns and cities of today's Israel no longer have walls for protection like the people had during the days of ancient Israel, and even if some do, they are ineffective with the weapons of today. In addition, there is no prophecy revealing the beast antichrist will be directly or indirectly involved with making the decision to invade Israel.

God, through Isaiah, has warned Israel that He will allow His *vineyard* to be consumed (Isaiah 5:5-7). Invaders will come suddenly, like a storm, to capture and seize plunder. There is a word picture of this invasion given in Jeremiah 47:3. The enemies will invade so swiftly, like the thunder of galloping stallions, some parents will not return to get their children. Though Israel will be crushed, God will not allow her to be eradicated (Leviticus 26:44; Isaiah 28:28,29). Perhaps Jesus' warning, that the people are to flee when they see the beast antichrist (the abomination), is pertaining to this time (Matthew 24:15-20; Daniel 8:11; Daniel 11:31).

Know for certain, Jesus wants His followers to discern the times (Matthew 16:3; Luke 21:34; 1Thessalonians 5:6).

Persecution of Jews

The prophecy of the 2nd seal states the beast antichrist will use military force to steadily take peace away throughout the remaining years affecting all nations (Revelation 6:3,4). The 1st trumpet will likely be sounded in heaven and hail and fire will be mixed with blood, meaning man's weapons will kill many people (Revelation 8:7).

There will be much distress in the world, and nations of people will look to the city of Jerusalem with hatred (Ezekiel 23:29,30). In Ezekiel 16:37, God has warned that many nations, including former allies, will be gathered against Israel; and God through Zechariah has said He will make Jerusalem a heavy stone around the necks of the nations (Zechariah 12:3). At first, some allies may protest the invasion, but later they, too, will wrongly hate Israel.

Like the spreading of cancer, beginning first in Israel, and then during the next several years, Jews around the world will be greatly persecuted. This will be the time of *Jacob's trouble* (Jeremiah 30:7). Also, the prophecy of Isaiah 5:7, states that there

will be no justice, only bloodshed. Just one-third of all the Jews alive at the beginning of those years will survive (Zechariah 13:8). Many, however, may believe in Jesus and will be raised up.

In Revelation 12:14 the prophecy reveals that Jews will *fly into the wilderness*, meaning for three and a half years they will go into hiding around the world. Many Jews will likely find safe haven with the nation of the followers of Jesus, meaning, as heirs of God, they form the nation having no earthly borders (Romans 8:17; Exodus 19:6). The words, *time, times, and a half a time*, stand for 1 year, then 2 more years, then half a year. The prophecy also describes a great war in heaven when Satan and his demons will be thrown down to earth, and will initiate the greatest evil to occur in history (Revelation 12:7-11). Then, toward the end of those wicked days, stated in Ezekiel 38:18, God boldly proclaims: "...that My fury will mount up in My anger" referring to the great day of His wrath (Isaiah 37:28-32).

Violence, War, Famine, Injustice

Methodically, men will remove almost every form of God's justice and righteousness from the earth. For the sake of their philosophy, people, resolved in justifying their actions, will climb the pyramid of humanity unconcerned for the God-given rights of the huddled human masses below—placing God's faithful people at the bottom; power is their god, but those who eat will be eaten (Joel 1:4; Psalm 44:11; Ezekiel 34:8-10; Isaiah 18:6; Isaiah 66:24). Through Isaiah, God said, "Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; who substitute darkness for light and light for darkness; who substitute bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter! Woe to those who are wise in their own eyes and clever in their own sight! Woe to those who are heroes in drinking wine and valiant men in mixing strong drink, who justify the wicked for a bribe, and take away the rights of the ones who are in the right! Therefore, as a tongue of fire consumes stubble and dry grass collapses into the flame, so their root will become like rot and their blossom blow away as dust; for they have rejected the law of the LORD of hosts and despised the word of the Holy One of Israel." Isaiah 5:20-24

Ezekiel 30:5 and Daniel 11:42,43 reveal the beast antichrist will war against some nations of northern Africa, such as Egypt, Ethiopia, and Libya, as well as Arabia. This prophecy was also fulfilled during the days of the Babylonian Empire.

When the 3rd seal is broken, famine will increase in the general area of Israel, and likely in other places as well, many will starve. The cost of food will increase because of its scarcity and because of economic inflation. The prophecy stated in Revelation 6:5,6 means that some people will spend a sum of money for bread (equivalent to a day's wages of a soldier).

Until the LORD returns, at no point in man's history will violence and acts of war cease to occur (Matthew 24:6,7). Nevertheless, a nation, where the people repent and desire to live holy lives according to God through Jesus, will be blessed (John 1:1; Matthew 4:17; 2Thessalonians 1:6,7).

The Jewish Temple Sacrifice Stopped

Exactly in the middle of the 7 years, the Jewish temple sacrifice and grain offering will be stopped. Forces will then desecrate it. The Scripture is written in such a way that may lead a person to think that two men are involved with the removal of the temple sacrifice, when it is possible that there is only one man. (See Chapter 5.) The prophecy in Daniel 9:27 seems to indicate the man who initially helped with the firm covenant will stop the temple sacrifice and is different from the man who will make a complete destruction; though, Daniel 8:11 and Daniel 11:31 reveal the beast antichrist will stop the temple sacrifice. Possibly the man, who was involved in making the firm covenant, will later become the beast antichrist. At about the same time the temple sacrifice is stopped, the 4th seal will likely be broken. Death and Hades will follow the beast antichrist, meaning over the next several years many will die (Revelation 6:8).

Opportunity For Testimony

The followers of Jesus will witness the terrible events in Israel and around the world; and they will remain faithful to God through Jesus, and not go along with the masses (Exodus 23:2). Their voices will be like a trumpet heard by many peoples (Isaiah 58:1,2). The majority of witnessing will be from person to person and in small groups. A few will become a voice to the nations proclaiming the truth about God, Jesus, prophecy, and salvation (Luke 21:13; Matthew 5:15). God, through the prophet Daniel, reveals that the followers of Jesus will help many people come to the truth and knowledge of salvation (Daniel 11:33). In support of Daniel's prophecy, there is a word picture in Revelation 7:9,14, of multitudes of people coming out of the great tribulation, meaning they will have heard about and believed in Jesus (Mark 13:33).

Do Not Gloat

God has warned that anyone who curses Abraham, meaning his descendants, will be cursed (Genesis 12:3). The followers of Jesus are not to gloat (laugh, be amused) when they see misfortune fall upon any unsuspecting person, which includes Jews or anyone being wrongly bullied or persecuted (Obadiah 12,13,14; Judges 16:25).

Faithful Jews

Someone may ask how a Jew can be faithful to God but does not believe in Jesus. If a Jew has not been taught about Jesus, but with sincerity and to the best of his or her understanding, continues to abide by the Law, then that Jew is living by faith and is also unenlightened (Habakkuk 2:4; Ephesians 1:18-21). Likewise, if a non-Jew instinctively does the things of the law that God has written upon his heart he will be defended at Judgment (Romans 2:9-16).

Anyone, Jew or non-Jew, who hears the gospel of Jesus and rejects Him, has sinned. However, Jews have been commanded to make a thorough search in all matters, to determine truth (Deuteronomy 13:14; Ecclesiastes 7:25). This practice includes searching the New (Second) Testament for the evidence to determine there are more than two witnesses testifying that Jesus is their Christ Messiah for whom they have waited (Deuteronomy 17:6; Matthew 18:16; 2Corinthians 13:1). A Jew knows, by not doing what God has required, it will become a curse against him or her (Deuteronomy 28:15). That same principle also applies to the follower of Jesus (Hebrews 10:29).

Chapter 8

Two Witnesses and the Persecution of the Jews and the Followers of Jesus

Chapter Overview

God's 2 witnesses will become known worldwide (Revelation 11:3-11). The man-beast antichrist-abomination will blaspheme God from within the desecrated temple (Matthew 24:15; Daniel 8:11). All nations will be against Israel/Jerusalem (Zechariah 12:3).

Jews and the followers of Jesus will be persecuted (Revelation 12:17; Daniel 11:35; John 15:18; John 16:2). There will be famine of the land and of the heart (Amos 8:11). Brother will hate brother (Matthew 24:10,12). Two hundred million troops will gather in the Middle East (Revelation 16:14).

Hope

“My soul, wait in silence for God only, for my hope is from Him. He only is my rock and my salvation, my stronghold; I shall not be shaken.” Psalm 62:5

“And not only this, but we also exult in our tribulations, knowing that tribulation brings about perseverance; and perseverance, proven character; and proven character, hope; and hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.” Romans 5:3-5

God's Lampstands

This chapter covers prophetic information on the time line from the 1st day to about the 900th day after the temple sacrifice has been stopped.

Like Moses and Aaron, there will be two men God has named His olive branches and lampstands (Revelation 11:4; Zechariah 4:11). The olive branch symbolizes the anointing oil of the Holy Spirit, through Jesus, resulting in eternal life, while the lampstand symbolizes the testimony of the truth of God in Jesus (Psalm 52:8; Psalm 133:1,2; John 5:36; John 14:6; Romans 11:17).

They will be followers of Jesus, prophets, and serve God for 1,260 days (Revelation 11:3). They will likely become widely known shortly after the temple sacrifice is stopped, but there is no supporting prophecy to this thought. Through them, all the nations (“...those who dwell on earth...” Revelation 11:10) will have heard the gospel of Jesus Christ and none will have an excuse (John 15:22). Like Moses and Aaron, their prophesying will be in the form of announcements of impending plagues, as well as calling for all people to repent. No one will be able to hurt them until their mission is finished. They will likely prophesy in or near Jerusalem because they will be murdered there; and at the end of

their 42 months, those who dwell on earth will hate them (Revelation 11:6,10).

During the days of their testimony they will cause no rain to fall. The Euphrates River and a sea will dry, indicating the drought will be widespread (Revelation 16:12; Isaiah 50:2,3). The primary region of that famine will most likely be Israel and the Middle East, but the Scripture also says, "...to strike the earth with every plague..." (Revelation 11:6). Very possibly, the two witnesses may prophesy for droughts to occur in other parts of the world. In the days of Elijah, no rain fell for three and a half years (James 5:17; 1Kings 17:1). Lack of water for drinking and cultivation will further exasperate the severe political, military, and social conditions around the world. God has also revealed there will be a famine for hearing the words of the LORD (Amos 8:11).

Beast Antichrist in the Temple

Once the sacrifice is stopped, then the beast antichrist will turn to godlessness, more so than he has been all his life, and he will make the land desolate, even a complete destruction (Daniel 9:27; Daniel 11:32; Revelation 17:17). Because the beast antichrist will be alive on the great day of wrath, he will likely enter the temple about 3 months after it is desecrated. At that time, his authority will greatly increase (Revelation 19:20; Revelation 13:5; Matthew 24:15). A wicked person remains committed to the agenda, constantly willing to take chances and push the limits. If no one stops the agenda, then that false sense of strength (arrogance) will be increased, bringing with it even greater wickedness (Ezekiel 7:10; Isaiah 37:29; Jeremiah 49:16; Isaiah 13:11).

There are several references in Scripture describing the words and actions of the beast antichrist when he enters the holy place. Jesus has warned to flee when discerning people see the beast antichrist standing in the holy place (Matthew 24:15). The warning also applies to all the followers of Jesus, everywhere. Many people, at that time, will become intolerant towards God's faithful people.

The beast antichrist will be an apostate, meaning he will have understanding of the Law and Jesus, but will reject them (Micah 2:4; 2Thessalonians 2:3,4). He will be arrogant and speak blasphemes against his Creator (Revelation 13:5,6). The beast antichrist will attempt to change the times and law, fling truth to the ground, and say monstrous things (Daniel 7:25; Daniel 8:11,12; Daniel 11:36,37). The mark may be required at this time as well (Revelation 13:16).

The prophecy does not explain what *changing the times* means, but perhaps he will attempt to alter the standard calendar. A follower of Jesus would be wise to maintain a daily count beginning with the day the temple sacrifice is stopped and continuing to the 1,335th day.

2nd and 3rd Trumpets

The prophecy for the 2nd trumpet declares that a third of a sea's creatures will die and a third of the ships will be destroyed (Revelation 8:9).

The 3rd trumpet prophecy states that a star, which is likely to be a manmade device, will fall from the sky causing a third of the waters to be poisoned. Many men will die (Revelation 8:10,11). The name of the star is Wormwood, representing sin, which is symbolic to mean there is no life in it or in the people who created it. The sole purpose of that manmade device is to indiscriminately destroy people. An example of wormwood is like a person picking up a large piece of split wood to be used for fire; but upon lifting it, the wood is light in weight caused by worms eating the goodness out of it.

When Jesus was resurrected, Satan's power was greatly diminished (Luke 10:18; Romans 8:37-39; 1Corinthians 15:55-57). Up until that time, the message of salvation primarily stayed within Israel, but since Jesus' ascension, the gospel has been taken to all parts of the world. Nevertheless, some people say Satan will use his supernatural powers to cause the phenomena revealed in Revelation 13:13 and the 2nd and 3rd trumpets. Though Satan may have the power to cause the symbolic events, the Scripture clearly warns that demons will go out to influence all the leaders of the world. The leaders will most likely do the devil's bidding through conventional, biological, chemical, and nuclear weapons of war to fulfill the prophecies connected with the first four seals and trumpets. Obviously, if those wretched years delay, today's weapons could change (Revelation 16:13,14).

Persecution

Contrary to commonly held presumptions, the Scripture only records salvation has occurred *after* difficulties and tribulation have been experienced. Here are the Scripture addresses of a few examples: Exodus 14:13; 1Samuel 1:6,7,10,20; 2:1; 1Samuel 17:1,11,24,45,46; 2Samuel 22:1-4; 2Chronicles 20:2,3,17.

Jesus said that if the world hated Him, the world will hate His followers (John 15:18). Jesus came to save the world, but the world was/is unwilling (John 5:39,40). By just saying His name, a division will be caused between the people (the sheep and goats, John 7:43; Matthew 25:33). In His incarnate life Jesus did not come to bring peace, and He often warned His followers would experience persecution (Matthew 10:34-38).

God does not change; His children will go through the furnace of affliction. (Jeremiah 4:28; Daniel 11:35; Matthew 5:11; John 16:1). Remember, God did not spare His own Son, not to refine Him, but to offer salvation to us through His death and resurrection (Romans 8:32). Likewise, being His faithful children, they are to offer His salvation to others as well, while being refined (Matthew 28:19,20; Matthew 5:44).

The parable of the wheat and tares clearly describes that both the followers of Jesus (wheat) and the wicked people (tares) will

co-exist up to the time of the fall harvest (Matthew 13:29,30). Know for certain, persecution of the followers of Jesus will eventually be the same as for the Jews (Revelation 12:13-17). There are many verses in the New (Second) Testament warning the followers of Jesus that they will be persecuted; but also, that *if* they remained faithful to Him they would receive life forever (1Corinthians 4:11-13; 2Corinthians 4:7-11; 2Timothy 3:12,13; Revelation 3:5).

Though Jews will be greatly persecuted, from the literal day of entering the holy place, the beast antichrist will ruthlessly pursue the followers of Jesus (Matthew 24:9; Revelation 13:7,10). Jesus said, “These things I have spoken to you so that you may be kept from stumbling [falling away, making incorrect decisions, sinning]. They will make you outcasts from the synagogue [of Satan], but an hour [figurative] is coming for everyone who kills you to think that he is offering service to God.” John 16:1,2

Satan’s synagogue has nothing to do with a Jewish synagogue, but is referencing the entire world (John 12:31). The synagogue of Satan is a direct reference to anyone who hears and rejects the gospel message of Jesus (Revelation 2:9). When people reject Jesus, they give allegiance to the devil, whether or not they agree, understand, or even know about this truth (John 8:44; Revelation 3:9).

A follower of Jesus, if necessary, willingly desires to give up everything—to seek after God through Jesus (Matthew 16:24; Luke 18:22; Matthew 10:39). Do not look back (Genesis 19:26; Matthew 19:22). If a follower of Jesus does not experience persecution, then he or she is to be mindful of other followers being persecuted in Jesus’ name. They are to give aid in the form of prayers and material support (1Peter 1:6,7).

Affected Multitudes

About 400 days to 900 days after the temple sacrifice is stopped, the 4th trumpet will likely be sounded (Revelation 8:12). A third of the sun and moon will be smitten (darkened); meaning two-thirds of the world will have the sun and see the moon. This act of war will be regional and not part of the final tribulation period. A similar example of this prophecy occurred in the 1990’s when the oil wells were sabotaged and the sky was blackened.

Also at the time of the 4th trumpet, the agricultural famine in the Middle East, and likely elsewhere, will be causing major hardships for the people. The mark of the beast and great philosophical divisions will cause people to hate each other, even within families. Jesus warned that the love people have for other people will grow cold and will remain that way until the end of the great tribulation (Matthew 24:10,12).

By the 900th day, all the nations will likely be against Jerusalem, Jews, and the followers of Jesus (Zechariah 12:3; Revelation 12:15,17). Most nations of the world will desire to raze Jerusalem (Psalm 137:7). There will be some 17 nations that will form another *beast* involved in sending troops to the Middle East (Revelation 13:1; Revelation 17:3,16). They will later initiate the tribulation period including the great tribulation, also named the

abomination of desolation (Revelation 6:8; Matthew 24:21). By the time the prophecies of the first four seals and trumpets are fulfilled, at the end of the tribulation period, one-third of the world will be burned up.

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Chapter 9

Bowls of Plagues

Chapter Overview

The 5th trumpet will be sounded and six angels will pour six individual bowls of plagues (Revelation 9:1,5,10; Revelation 15:1; Revelation 16:1-12).

Hope

“For in hope we have been saved, but hope that is seen is not hope; for who hopes for what he *already* sees? But if we hope for what we do not see, with perseverance we wait eagerly for it.”
Romans 8:24,25

Countermeasures of God

An angel of God will call out with a loud voice, “Woe, woe, woe to those who dwell on earth...” Revelation 8:13 The angel’s voice most likely will be heard only in the realm of heaven. Mankind’s Creator will initiate countermeasures against man’s wickedness with seals 5, 6, and 7, trumpets 5 and 7, and bowls 1 through 7 (Revelation 15:1). The plagues of God will not harm the followers of Jesus, just as the Israelites did not suffer from the plagues experienced by Pharaoh and Egypt. (See Chapter 6.) The fact that these prophecies are in Scripture is a warning from mankind’s Creator to mankind.

The prophecy of the 5th trumpet states that the people not having the seal of God on their forehead will be tormented for five months (Revelation 9:1-5,10). The invisible seal of salvation on the foreheads of God’s faithful people will protect them from the plague of sores that will be on the skin of those *not* having His seal. Unlike manmade weapons, which are indiscriminant, God’s plagues will be precise. Though the prophecy is clad with much symbolism, know for certain, the angel of the prophecy is in the service of God.

The 1st Bowl

The 1st bowl may be poured between the 180th day and the 540th day, but most likely after the 3rd trumpet. Unlike the sores of the 5th trumpet, the plague will cause malignant sores on the people who worship the beast and have received the mark (Revelation 16:2).

Bowls 2 Through 6

Perhaps from the 540th day on the time line, the 2nd bowl will be poured. The plague will cause a sea to turn red like blood and everything in it will die (Revelation 16:3).

Then, rivers and springs will also turn to blood when the 3rd bowl is poured (Revelation 16:4).

Following this, unrighteous people will be scorched by intense heat from the sun caused by the plague of the 4th bowl. People will greatly curse God (Revelation 16:8).

The pouring of the 5th bowl signals the time of the beast antichrist's kingdom to become especially evil (Revelation 16:10,11). Because of pain, people who worship the beast will be tormented and gnaw at their tongues. During the time of these days, the demons will likely go out from Satan, the beast antichrist, and the false prophet to all the leaders of the world (Revelation 16:13,14).

The plague of the 6th bowl will likely have been poured a few months before the 900th day (Revelation 16:12). It will cause the Euphrates River to dry, preparing the way for the nations of the east to send troops to Iraq, Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, and all though Israel. The following verses include these nations and they also involve the great day of wrath, meaning they are still in the future: Babylon is Iraq, Isaiah 13:1-4; Assyria includes Lebanon and Syria, Isaiah 7:17,18, Isaiah 2:13-20; Jordan includes Edom and Moab in Isaiah 11:14,15; Arabia in Isaiah 21:13,17 and Israel in Isaiah 22:1-5,17-22.

With a Spiritual hook, God will gather the armies of nations together, readying them for the great day of His wrath (Isaiah 37:29). The way the prophecy is written in Revelation 16:12 and Isaiah 11:15, many troops will walk dry-shod to their final destination. The logistics of moving and supplying 200 million troops will necessitate they begin to mobilize near the 900th day.

The Two Witnesses Murdered

Chapter Overview

The two witnesses will be raised to life. Then, God's faithful people in heaven will be given white robes (Revelation 11:7-11; Revelation 6:6,9-11).

Hope

"...rejoicing in hope, persevering in tribulation, devoted to prayer, contributing to the needs of the saints, practicing hospitality. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse." Romans 12:12-14

"Again Isaiah says, 'THERE SHALL COME THE ROOT OF JESSE, AND HE WHO ARISES TO RULE OVER THE GENTILES [nations] IN HIM SHALL THE GENTILES HAVE HOPE.' Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you will abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit." Romans 15:12,13

The Miracle

When the testimony of two witnesses is finished at the end of 1,260 days, the beast will overcome them and they will be murdered. Their dead bodies will lie on a Jerusalem street for the world to see (Revelation 11:3,9). No one will be allowed to move them, perhaps because people may have heard about this prophecy and they will not want anyone to concoct a myth saying that the two witnesses were resurrected. In their effort to prove there is no God, they will put God to the test and also become terrified (Deuteronomy 6:16; Matthew 28:11-13).

After they are murdered, many inhabitants on earth will rejoice and send gifts to one another, even though the world will be in turmoil (Revelation 11:10). At that time, leaders will still be interested in material things, trusting in their own strength, and collaborating with other leaders who share similar philosophies.

Then, after three and a half days, God will cause a miracle and breathe life into their bodies, stunning unbelieving eyes. The two witnesses will stand on their feet for the world to see and then they will ascend into a cloud. Some people will actually hear a voice from heaven call for them (Revelation 11:11,12). A short while after they are raised, there will be an earthquake in Jerusalem and 7,000 will die. Millions of people will be terrified (Revelation 11:13). The raising of the two witnesses will likely occur after the 7th year and before the tribulation period begins, and also, before the world economy collapses (Revelation 6:6).

At about the same time the two witnesses are raised, Jesus will break the 5th seal (Revelation 6:9). God's faithful ones in heaven, since the time of Abel up to that present time, will be given white robes. They will be told to wait a while longer while until the

number of their fellow servants are killed, as they had been killed (Revelation 6:11).

Evidence for the 1,275th Day

There is no prophecy stating the specific day the two witnesses will be murdered; however, there is an example in the Scripture, which may provide a clue.

From the day the Israelites departed from Rameses, to the day Moses and Joshua first went up to the Mountain of God, was a total of 60 days (Exodus 19:1-3,9-17; Exodus 24:13-18). Immediately, God gave Moses instructions for the people. Mount Sinai was covered with a cloud for 6 days (Exodus 24:16). The people washed and consecrated themselves by the third day (Exodus 19:10,11). Apparently, on the third day, the cloud changed and the Israelites saw the glory of God as a consuming fire when He came down, causing them to tremble (Exodus 19:16). Then on the 7th day, God called, and Moses entered the cloud (Exodus 24:17,18).

The 60 days are likely connected to the prophecy in Daniel 12:12, which states there will be a blessing for those who have waited to 1,335 days. The blessing of the 1,335th day is eternal life for all those who have waited. (See Chapter 13. 1Thessalonians 4:15; 1Corinthians 15:51,52)

Subtracting 60 days from 1,335 days would place the murder of the two witnesses at 1,275 days after the temple sacrifice is stopped. The washing of garments by the 3rd day represents God's faithful people in heaven, as well as the time the bodies of God's two witnesses lay on the street. Then God came down in His glory on Mount Sinai, representing the raising up of the two witnesses and also the giving of the robes upon the breaking of the 5th seal (Exodus 19:10,11).

However, there is more information to be gleaned from this prophetic parable of history. The name of Moses means *drawn from water* representing every faithful believer draws his or her eternal life from the river of flowing water of God's Holy Spirit; and Joshua's name means Savior, representing Jesus (John 4:14). The 6 days that the mountain was covered and Moses and Joshua waited represent the next 6 days beginning with the 1,335th day. During those days, the entire earth will be covered with dark clouds. (Joel 2:2) Apparently, during the third day (the 1,338th day) there will be a major change in the clouds. Prophecy states that there will be thick darkness, lightning will flash, and the inhabitants will be terrified (Isaiah 13:6-11).

At Sinai on the 7th day, Moses went up to God representing the great day of wrath (the 1,341st day). Moses, going up into the cloud on Mount Sinai, represents the Law being made fully obsolete on the great day of wrath. (Exodus 19:20; Leviticus 23:36; Revelation 19:14,15; Hebrews 8:13) From that day, Jews will no longer follow Law (Deuteronomy 31:9). Please understand, the Law, which identifies sin, godliness, life, and death will never be obsolete; but only the requirements for the service of the tabernacle-temple will be obsolete (Hebrews 10:26-

31; Matthew 12:41,42). During the 1,000 years of peace, Jews will actually forget about the Ark of the Covenant (Jeremiah 3:15-17).

The Testimony Continues

Know also, the followers of Jesus will have proclaimed to people the prophecy of the raising up of the two witnesses. When the event unfolds and the two witnesses are raised, many will come to believe in Jesus, just as they did when Lazarus was raised (John 11:45). The fact that the two witnesses *will be* raised will also provide great hope and encouragement to the followers of Jesus. Though many will know that the immediate days ahead will be most difficult, they will also know the day of their redemption draws nearer. During those same days, the people without hope, whose minds and hearts are seared, will have terror as a companion (Isaiah 24:16,17; 1Timothy 4:1,2).

40-day Tribulation Period

Chapter Overview

By the *1,290th day after the temple sacrifice is stopped, 200 million troops will have gathered in the Middle East (Daniel 12:11; Revelation 9:16; Revelation 12:4,12).

Beginning on the 1,291st day, the next 40 days, which includes the 10-day great tribulation, the armies will engage the world (Matthew 24:21; Revelation 2:10; Revelation 9:15).

Hope

“and our hope for you is firmly grounded, knowing that as you are sharers of our sufferings, so also you are *sharers* of our comfort. For we do not want you to be unaware, brethren, of our affliction which came *to us* in Asia, that we were burdened excessively, beyond our strength, so that we despaired even of life; indeed, we had the sentence of death within ourselves so that we would not trust in ourselves, but in God who raises the dead; who delivered us from so great a peril of death, and will deliver us, He on whom we have set our hope. And He will yet deliver us,”
2Corinthians 1:7-10

The 1,290th Day

God has spoken to the world, if only the world would listen (Isaiah 28:12). By the 1,290th day two hundred million troops will have gathered in the confined area of the Middle East (Daniel 12:11; Revelation 9:16). Everything will be ready (Ezekiel 7:14; Revelation 16:14). On the very next day, the world armies and civilization will engage each other and begin a short period of history that will never again be repeated (Daniel 12:1; Matthew 24:21).

Prophetic Parables of History

God is unchanging (Micah 7:18). If a prophecy is still in the future and there is a similar event of history recorded in the Bible, a person could gain insight by studying both to learn of their common properties. (See Chapter 1.) When a person understands the connection between a prophecy and a prophetic parable of history, like a hug, he or she has received a blessing from God (Matthew 13:11,16). The insight is glorious, but also sobering (Matthew 11:27; Revelation 10:10).

There are two prophetic parables of history that indicate God will have firmly established peace on earth at the end of 52 days, *i.e.*, from the 1,291st day to the 1,342nd day. Prophecy and the Law will unfold at the same time during those 52 days; there is no wiggle room for error. Individual appointed times of prophecy and the last 5 appointed times of the Law will unfold in real time (Psalm 75:2; Psalm 102:3; Leviticus 23:2). Only God is able to

orchestrate this complex and highly organized 52-day process, which will involve billions of people and hundreds of events. His peace on earth *will* be firmly established and everything *will* fit properly together, like 3,000 pieces of a tossed puzzle, landing at their proper time and position, assembling perfectly together.

52 Days

The first prophetic parable of history occurred when the wall around the city of Jerusalem was rebuilt in 52 days (Nehemiah 6:15). Just as Babylon had laid siege against Jerusalem, Satan will cause the nations to surround Jerusalem to raze it during the tribulation period. The prophecy is that once the great day of wrath is finished, no unfaithful person will ever enter Jerusalem. At the end of 52 days (40-day tribulation period + 12 more days), God will have built a Spiritual wall around Jerusalem and He will also maintain its security until the end of the age (Isaiah 52:1,2; Matthew 13:49; Psalm 125:2,3). No longer will there be a breach (Isaiah 58:11,12). The prophecy in Isaiah 52:1,2 also means that no unforgiven person will enter the city of life in heaven (Revelation 22:15). Saying that there *will* be a Spirit wall protecting Jerusalem is not to test God, but establishes a reference of history that parallels prophecy. Nevertheless, there is no prophecy specifically stating peace will be established by the 52nd day; but there is another prophetic parable that greatly supports this idea.

The second 52-day prophetic parable of history involves Jesus. Because Jesus is involved and because God does not change, this account provides substantial evidence, that on the 52nd day, the last 5 appointed times of the Law will have been fulfilled or initiated; then God, through Jesus, will send the Spirit of the fear of Him to the people (Jeremiah 32:39,40).

The second prophetic parable of history begins from the day Jesus was crucified and ends the day the Holy Spirit was sent on the Day of Pentecost; a total of 52 days real time. The New (Second) Testament has recorded that many prophecies were fulfilled or initiated, as well as the first 5 appointed times of the Law. Jesus is the Lord of the Sabbath; He is the Passover Lamb, the Unleavened Bread of Life, and the first of the First Fruits; and through Him on the Day of Pentecost, God sent His Holy Spirit to the disciples of Jesus; a process that will continue until the end of the age. (John 8:31) By faith, His followers become the new grain offering of the new covenant. (Matthew 12:8; John 1:29; 1Corinthians 5:7; John 6:35; Hebrews 4:15; 1Corinthians 15:23; John 15:26; Acts 2:1-4; Jeremiah 31:31; Luke 22:20; Matthew 28:20; Matthew 13:49)

Because God is unchanging, these two 52-day prophetic parables of history, provide the foundation that all the related prophecies and the *last* 5 appointed times of the Law will be fulfilled or initiated in 52 days real time, beginning with the 40-day tribulation period.

40-Day Tribulation Period

Even though people will have endured pain caused by plagues and having just seen the raising of the two witnesses, they will continue to blaspheme God instead of repenting (1Samuel 6:6; Revelation 16:11; Psalm 42:3).

By the 1,290th day after the temple sacrifice is stopped, two hundred million troops will have gathered in the Middle East (Daniel 12:11; Revelation 9:16; Revelation 16:14). They will have set up their principal battle stations in and around Israel, Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, Iraq, and Saudi Arabia (See Chapter 9.). At that time, the 6th trumpet will sound and 4 demons (angels) will be released to cause the deaths of one-third of mankind (Revelation 9:13-15).

As a sign of the events of the last days, Jesus specifically mentioned Jonah's warning to the people of Nineveh. They would be overthrown in 40 days unless they repented (Luke 11:29,30; Jonah 3:4,5). The sign of Jonah means that there will be a 40-day period of time when any unbelieving person, not having taken the mark of the beast, by their free will and faith could repent and be saved (Joel 2:32). But knowing this comes with an additional warning: Do not test God! The people who know about this time and continue to sin are testing God. Do not delay one's decision to earnestly believe; now is the time. Tomorrow may be too late. (See the end of Chapter 15.)

The 1,291st Day

The length of the *tribulation* period is 40 days, of which the last 10 days is the *great tribulation*. This 40-day tribulation period will be in addition to all the tribulation the people have already experienced the prior 7 years, as well as throughout history. The underlined word is, in the above sentence, was used instead of the word *may*, because there are many evidences indicating the 40-day time period is correct, such as the example of Jonah. However, like the 52 days, there are no prophecies specifically stating there will be a 40-day tribulation period.

On the other hand, every 40-day period in the Scripture was connected with a person or people who either caused great sin, or they experienced great sorrow, conflict, or temptation resulting in some form of individual or corporate *tribulation*, including the fear of man's wrath and God's wrath. Here is a list of the 40-day events in the Bible.

- Genesis 7:12,15,23;
- Genesis 49:33 and Genesis 50:1,3;
- Exodus 24:18 and Exodus 32:1,30;
- Exodus 32:31-35; Exodus 34:1,28; Deuteronomy 9:25 and Deuteronomy 10:10
- Numbers 13:25 and Numbers 14:11
- 1Samuel 17:16,24
- 1Kings 19:4,8
- Ezekiel 4:6
- Jonah 3:4 Jonah 4:3

- Matthew 4:2,3; Mark 1:12,13
- John 20:19 and Acts 1:3

The 40-day tribulation period will begin the 1,291st day and proceed to the 1,330th day. During this time, the militaries will engage, as they have never done before in history (Matthew 24:21). The prophecies in Revelation 9:17-19 symbolically describe the weapons that will be used during those wicked days. Most people can relate to what those symbols mean because of today's weapons. People not having the mark will see the hope of the followers of Jesus, but they must call out and seek God through Jesus before the 1,330th day to be delivered (Joel 2:32). The followers of Jesus are not to fear, though they may die at the hands of men. They are to know their reward will be great for their faithfulness (Matthew 5:10,11; Matthew 10:28; Revelation 11:18). They must continue to look to His appearing, trust in His word, and know that the day of their redemption will be very soon.

“Here is the perseverance of the saints who keep the commandments of God and their faith in Jesus. And I heard a voice from heaven, saying, “Write, ‘Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on!’” “Yes,” says the Spirit, “so that they may rest from their labors, for their deeds follow with them.” Revelation 14:12,13

The Great Tribulation

During the last 10 days of the 40 days (the 1,321st day to the 1,330th day) all-out war will engulf the world. Except for individual people, mankind will not repent (Revelation 9:20,21).

There are three evidences in Scripture indicating the great tribulation will be during the last 10 days of the 40-day tribulation period. The first two are parallel to each other and are relatively easy to explain, but the third is more involved. Another name for the great tribulation is also the *abomination of desolation*—the time of Satan's wrath (Daniel 11:44; Daniel 12:1; Revelation 12:12).

Jesus said in Revelation 2:10, that Satan is going to cast some of His followers in prison for 10 days, where they will be tested. Do not curse God. During the 10-day great tribulation period most people, around the world, will take cover in temporary shelters for protection. At that time, the earth and its inhabitants will resemble the agony associated with hell. The followers of Jesus are to hug each other, pray, sing hymns, and read the Bible, if possible. Everyone will be confined to the place where they are and will live as though they are in prison.

The second evidence is in the first chapter of the book of Daniel. It is a prophetic parable of history. Daniel and his friends were allowed to eat the food permitted in their Law, so as not to profane their bodies by eating the king's rich food. At the end of the 10 days, Daniel and his friend's appearances were better than the other youths (Daniel 1:15). The food they ate represents the Word of God (Matthew 4:4; John 6:48-51). The prophetic parallel is that the followers of Jesus, who live through the 10 days of the great tribulation, will be caught up to heaven in a few days; and

their appearance will be brilliant, exceeding anything on earth (Isaiah 1:18,19; Matthew 28:3; Revelation 22:5).

The Law

The third evidence involves the *overlap* of prophecy and the last 5 appointed times for the Law; meaning some prophecies having nothing to do with the Law will be revealed at the same time the last 5 appointed times are being fulfilled or initiated. Just as the symbols of the first 5 appointed times were fulfilled through Jesus and the sending of the Holy Spirit, the symbols of the last 5 appointed times will also be played out in real time, along with the sending of the Spirit of fear of the LORD. The 5 are as follows: The Blowing of Trumpets, the Day of Atonement, the Ingathering Harvest, the Feast of Booths, and the Jubilee.

The Blowing of Trumpets

According to the Law, the 1st and 7th months are determined by the new moons. The first month begins the religious year in the spring with the celebration of the Passover at the full moon (Exodus 12:2). Pharaoh's army was drowned 7 days later (Exodus 14:28). The Blowing of Trumpets begins the first day of the 7th month at the fall new moon, Jerusalem time, which usually is during the month of September (Numbers 10:2,5,10; Leviticus 23:24,25; Numbers 29:1,6). The Jewish priests would sound the trumpets throughout the land of Israel to announce a holy convocation. The priests were required to make by fire and smoke a continual burnt offering to God; and also, they were to sound the trumpets over the sacrifice.

The prophetic overlap between the Law and prophecy affecting the world is that during the great tribulation, Satan will mock God, having the armies of the nations (his priests), blow the trumpets to engage in all-out war during the great tribulation to offer him the lives of millions of people. Jesus said that no flesh would survive if it were allowed to continue. The prophet Daniel writes: "...And there will be a time of distress such as never occurred since there was a nation until that time..." Daniel 12:1 These will be the days Satan tries to prevent God from keeping His covenants by trying to destroy all people (Revelation 12:4,12,17). The psalmist reveals the feelings of the followers of Jesus during those days: "Give heed to my cry, for I am brought very low; deliver me from my persecutors, for they are too strong for me" Psalm 142:6. Near the end of the 10th day (the 1,330th day) God will intervene and then the world will mourn (Isaiah 60:1-3; Matthew 24:21,22). The last four appointed times are presented in the following chapters

Chapter 12

Dark Clouds

Chapter Overview

Near or on the 1,330th day, God will cause dark clouds to begin cover earth (Isaiah 13:13; Isaiah 60:2; Matthew 24:29; Revelation 6:12). The 1,330th day will mark the end of the 10-day great tribulation and the 40-day tribulation period.

Hope

“For we write nothing else to you than what you read and understand, and I hope you will understand until the end;”

2Corinthians 1:13

“Therefore having such a hope, we use great boldness in *our* speech,” 2Corinthians 3:12

“For we through the Spirit, by faith, are waiting for the hope of righteousness.” Galatians 5:5

“For who is our hope or joy or crown of exultation? Is it not even you, in the presence of the Lord Jesus at His coming?”

1Thessalonians 2:19

Prophecy

The 10 days of the great tribulation will involve most every nation. As the prophecy states, one third of the world’s population will die (Revelation 9:15). Then Jesus will break the 6th seal (Revelation 6:12). Though man will have been set on causing great fear upon mankind, the Almighty will fill the inhabitants with terror (Isaiah 2:10,11). Near the 1,330th day—the 10th day of the great tribulation—God will likely shake the heavenly bodies in outer space and the inhabitants on earth will look up (Isaiah 8:21,22). “Therefore I will make the heavens tremble, and the earth will be shaken from its place at the fury of the LORD of hosts in the day of His burning anger.” Isaiah 13:13

Jesus said that immediately following the tribulation the sun will be darkened, the moon will not give its light, and the stars will fall from the sky. The nations will mourn when they see the glory of the LORD; and then He will send forth His angels to gather His followers into the clouds (Matthew 24:29-31; Revelation 6:12,13; Isaiah 8:22; Haggai 2:6). The prophet Daniel says, “...and at that time your people, everyone who is found written in the book [of life], will be rescued.” Daniel 12:1 The Word of God is clear, the great tribulation occurs first and then the followers of Jesus are rescued (Mark 13:24-27). Though this may be a difficult statement for some, do not stumble over this truth (John 6:63,64).

Day of Atonement

Of all the required appointed times of the Law, the Day of Atonement is the highest holy day. The 10th day of the great

tribulation (the 1,330th day) will also be the last Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur). It is the 2nd of the last 5 appointed times.

God commanded all Israel to humble their souls and to present an offering by fire to the LORD. This worship observance was the only one in which all of the sacrifices were completely burned and none of the meat was eaten by the priesthood. Jews commonly call it the *fast* (Acts 27:9). God warns that anyone who does not humble himself before Him will be cut off from his people (Leviticus 23:27-29). Do not put God to the test! (Matthew 4:7) Believe in Jesus before that day, and be fruitful (Matthew 7:20).

As the LORD has spoken, His word will be done; prophecy and the Law will occur at the same time. God will shake the heavens and the proud secular Jews and non-Jews (Gentiles) will be abased (Psalm 18:27). Soon they will die in their sins and be eternally separated from their Creator (Isaiah 2:9; John 8:21,24).

“Bow Your heavens, O LORD, and come down; touch the mountains, that they may smoke. Flash forth lightning and scatter them; send out Your arrows and confuse them. Stretch forth Your hand from on high; rescue me and deliver me out of great waters, out of the hand of aliens” Psalm 144:5-7

The psalmist clearly understood that the heavens will be bowed before the LORD would rescue His faithful people. As long as there is a blue sky somewhere, God is waiting so that all may repent and come to His saving grace through Jesus (2Peter 3:9).

Faith and the Supernatural

Through the teachings of science, people understand that dust and asteroids from space could engulf the earth and cause deep darkness while meteors flash through the atmosphere at the same time; but the hardness of their hearts causes them to lack faith, when they learn from God, that the heavens will be shaken at the precise time when man is attempting to annihilate mankind.

Though most people will not believe the prophecies of Jesus, David, Daniel, Haggai, and Isaiah, they will be fulfilled. Within about 11 more days, Jesus will return as a thief in the night (Revelation 3:3).

Chapter 13

Caught Up

Chapter Overview

The *1,335th day: those who have waited will be blessed (Daniel 12:12; Psalm 133:3; Matthew 24:31).

Hope

“...He has now reconciled you in His fleshly body through death, in order to present you before Him holy and blameless and beyond reproach—if indeed you continue in the faith firmly established and steadfast, and not moved away from the hope of the gospel that you have heard...” Colossians 1:22,23

“Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth. For you have died and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, who is our life, is revealed, then you also will be revealed with Him in glory.” Colossians 3:2-4

“Bring my soul out of prison, so that I may give thanks to Your name; the righteous will surround me, for You will deal bountifully with me.” Psalm 142:7

Redemption has Drawn Near

When God shakes the heavens, terror will seize the inhabitants of the world, but the followers of Jesus on earth will realize something holy and awesome is occurring. No longer will they feel imprisoned. When the sky and sun darken, and the moon blushes, the followers of Jesus will also look up and many will know the time has drawn near for the Lord to return; they will be like the five virgins who had oil and trimmed their lamps (Isaiah 24:23; Joel 2:31; Matthew 25:6,7).

Supporting Evidence

There is no prophecy specifically stating that sometime between the 1,331st day and *before* the start of the 1,335th day (4 days) the followers of Jesus will be caught up and meet Jesus in the clouds. Truly, only the Father knows the literal day or hour; however, there are wonderful evidences indicating this span of days is correct. After Jesus said that only the Father knows the day or hour, He commanded His followers to take heed and keep on the alert (Mark 13:32,33). In the book of Luke, Jesus said when you see all of these *things* you will know your redemption draws near (Luke 21:28). The word “*things*” includes all the previous events highlighted in this book. They also include prophecy, the appointed times, the Law, psalms, and prophetic parables of history recorded in the Bible that are related and support this 4-day span of time. The Scripture even provides several evidences that suggest during the normal daytime hours in Jerusalem, on near or on the 3rd day (the 1,333rd day), God will say to the followers of Jesus “Come out...” (Revelation 18:4).

The first evidence is that Jesus fulfilled His own prophecy of His resurrection on the third day (Luke 24:7,8).

There is also the evidence in the 2nd verse in the book of Hosea, Chapter 6: “He will revive us after two days; He will raise us up on the third day, that we may live before Him.”

There are three separate parts in this prophecy: The number of days for Jesus’ resurrection; the time Jesus will send His angels to gather His followers; and the time unenlightened Jews will then unconditionally believe their Messiah has appeared. The first two parts of the prophecy are explained now, while the third part about the Jews is explained in Chapter 15.

Jesus is the fulfillment of Hosea’s prophecy of being raised on the third day. The first part of Hosea’s prophecy was also fulfilled because the disciples were revived *after* two days when they saw Jesus on the third day (Luke 24:32; John 20:19). In addition, many followers of Jesus understand that they are resurrected in Him (revived), even while they are still alive on earth as long as they live before Him; which gives them hope (John 15:10; Romans 8:11; Hebrews 10:26,27). Once they are raised, they will no longer have the need for hope (Hebrews 11:1; Romans 8:25).

Hosea saying, “He will revive us after two days...” also means that the followers of Jesus will know their redemption is at hand and their spirit will be revived during the second day the clouds cover the earth. Instead of being full of terror, as the inhabitants of the world will experience, they will be rejoicing within their hearts, if not openly.

Hosea saying, “...He will raise us up on the third day...” likely means that the followers of Jesus will be raised the third day Jerusalem time (the 1,333rd day), which would be the 4th day for those on the other side of the International Date Line. The fact that Lazarus was raised the fourth day and the two witnesses will be raised during the fourth day could indicate all the followers of Jesus will also be raised by the fourth day. Then Isaiah’s prophecy will be fulfilled: “...gather the dispersed of Judah [followers of Jesus] from the four corners of the earth” Isaiah 11:12.

The Ingathering Harvest

In addition, there is the evidence of the 3rd and 4th appointed times of the Feast of the Ingathering and the Feast of Booths (Exodus 23:16; Exodus 34:22; Leviticus 23:39; Hebrews 8:13). The fall Ingathering Harvest *had* to be completed *before* the appointed time of the Feast of Booths (Sukkot), which occurs 5 days after the Day of Atonement, which would also be the 1,335th day aligning with the prophecy in Daniel 12:12.

The fall Ingathering Harvest represents Jesus’ prophesy of the angels gathering His faithful people (Matthew 24:31). Instead of the word *Ingathering*, there are several prophecies using the word *gather*, referring to God’s faithful people being associated with the harvest of wheat and grapes. (Deuteronomy 8:7,8; Psalm 107:37-41; Matthew 13:30; Mark 13:31; Psalm 50:5; Psalm 106:47; Matthew 7:16,17; Luke 3:8) Truly, Jesus will gather His good fruit (Romans 8:23; Revelation 14:14-16). The 11th verse in Hosea 6 is also prophecy for the followers of Jesus which states: “Also, O

Judah, there is a harvest appointed for you, when I restore the fortunes of My people.” Like the wheat in the field ready for the harvest, the followers of Jesus, who keep waiting and attain the 1,335th day, are blessed (John 4:35; John 12:24,25). The important concept is that the evidence in Scripture places the time of Jesus sending the angels to gather His followers after the clouds begin to darken the earth, but before the 1,335th day (Isaiah 40:10,11; Malachi 3:10-12; Matthew 3:12).

Of all of the above information, perhaps the most significant evidence of being caught up on the 1,333rd day, Jerusalem time, is Jesus’ confirmation of the blessing of David’s prophetic Psalm 133:3 and Hosea’s prophecy of the 3rd day. Verse three of David’s psalm states: “...for there the LORD commanded the blessing—life forever” Then, Jesus confirmed and said, “I know that His commandment is eternal life; therefore the things I speak, I speak just as the Father has told Me.” John 12:50

Daniel’s prophecy states: “How blessed is he who keeps waiting and attains to the 1,335 days!” Daniel’s prophecy does not say they will be blessed on the 1,335th day; only that people who have waited will be very blessed attaining the 1,335th day (Luke 6:38). Know for certain, every faithful person, from antiquity, will have waited for the 1,335th day to arrive (Mark 10:29,30).

Time Zones

Already mentioned, with regard to the International Date Line, is the fact that all the followers of Jesus will be raised at the same moment from all directions on earth, meaning they be in different time zones. Jesus gave His followers the examples that two will be in the field and one will be taken, two will be grinding and one will be taken (Matthew 24:40,41). In another passage, it will be night and two will be asleep and one will be taken (Luke 17:34). Know for certain, that all of His followers will be raised up into the clouds at the same time. Having time zones means that some will be awake and others will be asleep at the moment just before each is caught up.

Raised

The broken and/or aged bodies of all of God’s faithful people, beginning from the time after Adam and Eve were banished from the garden, will have been healed prior to the day the followers of Jesus are caught up into the clouds (Revelation 6:11). Then, God will raise His followers from earth out of the great tribulation, and He will heal them all at once (Matthew 19:26; 1Thessalonians 4:17,18; 1Corinthians 15:51,52; Revelation 7:14).

David’s Psalm 133 also provides a slow motion picture of the followers of Jesus being raised from the perishable to the eternal imperishable. Though the process of being changed will occur in a twinkling of an eye, God has slowed it down in David’s psalm so that His faithful people on earth can marvel in His glory by imagining their transfiguration.

Verse 1, of Psalm 133, clearly reads God's faithful people will feel the goodness as they dwell eternally together in Unity, meaning Jesus.

Verse 2 explains that they will actually feel the precious oil of God's anointing Holy Spirit start from their heads and flow through their earthly bodies changing them into their heavenly bodies.

With regard to verse 3, scholars believe Mount Herman is the likely place where Jesus was transfigured when He met Moses and Elijah (Matthew 17:2,3). The dew of Herman, in Verse 3 is likened to Jesus and the Spirit of God coming down, not only to raise up the followers of Jesus, "God commanded the blessing—life eternal," but also, it provides a picture of Jesus returning to redeem Zion (Psalm 89:12,13; Isaiah 48:17).

Truly, there will be a shout and all of His faithful people, heirs of salvation, will say: "BLESSED IS THE KING WHO COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD; Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!" Luke 19:38 (Ephesians 1:9-12)

Chapter 14

The Great Day of Wrath

Chapter Overview

The 1,341st day will be God's great day of wrath (Isaiah 24:3; Zephaniah 1:14,15). Moments before Jesus died on the cross for you and me, He said, "It is finished." On the great day of the wrath of the LORD, a few moments before the earth and the people are changed, an angel will say, "It is done" (John 19:30; Revelation 8:1; Revelation 11:15,18; Revelation 16:17-21).

Hope

"And the armies which are in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white *and* clean, were following Him on white horses. From His mouth comes a sharp sword, so that with it He may strike down the nations, and He will rule them with a rod of iron; and He treads the wine press of the fierce wrath of God, the Almighty." Revelation 19:14,15 Zechariah 2:8

His Word and More

While studying God's Word, there are several insights that are at least *curious*, and otherwise should not be considered more than that; kind of a "huh" sort of thing, but still worth pointing out like the beauty of a sunset. Many followers of Jesus understand not only is God aware of everything, He is also involved in everything according to His righteousness and justice (Mark 4:22; Psalm 33:4,5; Psalm 139:12). There are a few verses similar to this one, that illustrate God's involvement, as Proverbs 16:9 reveals that a man plans his way, but God directs his steps. As this explanation is studied, first read and understand the explanation, and then look up supporting references. Rejoice when God reveals hidden things (Daniel 2:22; Matthew 13:16,17).

The verse is Matthew 21:12. The passage is about Jesus overturning the tables and clearing the temple of the moneychangers (John 2:16,17). His actions partially fulfilled the prophecies in Psalm 69:9, Isaiah 56:7, and Jeremiah 7:11, but on the great day of wrath they will be completely fulfilled.

Here is the explanation. The first gospel is the book of Matthew named for the disciple who wrote it. His name, which Jesus gave to him, is translated *gift*; meaning Jesus is mankind's Gift from God our Father (Psalm 127:3; John 4:10). Everyone who survives that great day will be given the Gift (Jesus) of God's grace. (Isaiah 13:12; Revelation 14:7,8; Revelation 20:6; Romans 3:23; Romans 6:23)

The great day of wrath will be the 7th day of the Feast of Booths, on the 21st day of the 7th month of the Jewish calendar, which is the same day as chapter number of Matthew 21.

The day of wrath will begin at noon, Jerusalem time, which matches the 12th verse in Matthew 21 (Amos 8:9).

There is no coincidence with God, His Word is seamless and will never be torn; in the same way as Jesus' kingdom will never be breached (John 19:23,24; Luke 1:33; Isaiah 9:7). Jesus said, "...do not be unbelieving, but believing" John 20:27.

The Law and Prophecy

The Feast of Booths (Sukkot), beginning on the 1,335th day, is the 4th of the last 5 appointed times of the Law. The eight-day worship observance will coincide with prophecies for the great day of the wrath of the LORD. The Feast of Booths begins during the full moon, late in September or early in October, on the 15th day of the 7th month of the Jewish calendar. The 1st and 8th days are Sabbath days of rest. On the 1st day (the 1,335th day), the raised followers of Jesus will rest from their labors (Matthew 11:28). With regard to the Law during the Feast of Booths, all Israel was commanded to build temporary booths (Sukkot), celebrate the harvest, eat meals in the booths the first 7 days, read the Scripture, and remember how God had delivered them from Pharaoh.

During the first 7 days of the Feast of Booths, the inhabitants on earth will be experiencing utmost terror. Displays of massive lightning and meteors will cause people to find any kind of temporary shelter other than staying inside of manmade buildings; some will become like moles (Isaiah 2:20,21). Near the final 3 days (the 1,338th to the 1341st day) a strange darkness will envelop the earth so that no one moves (Psalm 18:9-11). It will be like the plague of darkness in Egypt (Exodus 10:21,22). Think of darkness being so thick, it will be like fog near the ground; nevertheless, people will still see flashing lightning and meteors (Psalm 144:6; Mark 13:25).

At the same time, God's raised people will look upon the nations from their dwelling place. This next prophecy is specifically referring to Jesus, but will also apply to God's raised faithful ones with Him. "For thus the LORD has told me, 'I will look from my dwelling place quietly like dazzling heat in the sunshine, like a cloud of dew in the heat of harvest.'" Isaiah 18:4 (Revelation 1:13-16; Revelation 19:8,9) This time the harvest will be the grapes of wrath (Revelation 14:18).

Almighty God Jesus has no need to use man's strength or his weapons, for the battle is His. (Exodus 14:13; Psalm 147:10; 1Samuel 17:47; Isaiah 63:3) Though there is no specific prophetic statement, there are other evidences that the great and terrible day of the wrath of the Lord will occur on the 7th day of the Feast of Booths (the 1,341st day, Zephaniah 1:14,15). One of the primary evidences supporting this premise is that Pharaoh's army was drowned on the 7th day of the Feast of the Unleavened Bread (Exodus 12:38; Exodus 14:28). Another major evidence is that Jesus was crucified the 7th day from the day He was anointed (John 12:1,3,7). One connection between Jesus and Pharaoh is their kingship; another is that both died on the 7th day; and also, Jesus removes sin from those who believe in Him, while the destruction of Pharaoh and his army was God's way to remove sin (leavening) from the house of Israel (Exodus 12:15).

On the great day of wrath, God Jesus will once again remove sin, not only from the house of Israel, but also from all the earth (Isaiah 42:13; Isaiah 59:18; Jeremiah 25:12; Jeremiah 33:8,9; Zechariah 3:9; Micah 7:19,20). Of the many prophecies about the great day of wrath in Scripture, only a few prophecies are provided at this time. These prophecies are sobering if a person would believe and ponder their message (Psalm 14:2; Isaiah 6:10).

People must always remember God will take this action only because man would have otherwise annihilated mankind. People must understand man's weapons of war are indiscriminant causing suffering and death to anyone in range of their deadly action; but God Almighty will judge with absolute perfection and equity. Mankind's Creator has said: "When I select an appointed time, it is I who judge with equity. The earth and all who dwell in it melt; it is I who have firmly set its pillars. But God is the Judge; He puts down one and exalts another. For a cup is in the hand of the LORD, and the wine foams; it is well mixed and He pours out of this; surely all the wicked of the earth must drain *and* drink down its dregs." Psalm 75:2,3,7,8 (Revelation 14:19)

This is how the great day of wrath will begin: The 7th seal will be broken and there will be silence in heaven and on earth for about 30 minutes (Revelation 8:1). Even the wind will stop. Then, the 7th trumpet will be sounded and the inhabitants on earth will hear it (Revelation 11:15,18; Isaiah 27:13). Finally, the 7th bowl will be poured (Revelation 16:17-21).

The Great Day of Wrath Prophecy

People know science is correct when they learn there is the possibility of a huge asteroid in space that could impact the earth; but by faith in God through Jesus, know that event *will* occur at the precise time and place the prophets have said. Somewhere in outer space is a mountain God has named His war-club, and He will use it to completely despoil the earth (Isaiah 10:23; Isaiah 24:3; Jeremiah 51:20,25,26). It is a cursed mountain, because of all the death it will cause. On the 21st day of the 7th month of the Jewish calendar, perhaps during this 21st century, that mountain will fulfill Jesus' prophecy of being tossed into the sea recorded in Matthew 21:21.

It will appear through the dark clouds east of Jerusalem; striking the earth at about the same place where the Israelites were as God parted the waters in the Red Sea. The earth will be cleaved as the mountain-meteorite sinks below the earth's crust never to be found (Habakkuk 3:9; Jeremiah 49:21; Isaiah 10:26; Psalm 68:7,8,17; Exodus 14:22,28).

At impact the earth will totter. The sun, if it could be seen through the darkness in Jerusalem, will instantly set and then come back (Amos 8:9). Prophecy states that the earth will continue to wobble for some time, perhaps a few years, but God has said it will eventually become stable (Job 9:6; Isaiah 24:20; Psalm 104:5).

The entire region surrounding the point of impact will be utterly destroyed. Starting from the Sinai Peninsula, called the tongue of Egypt, and stretching southwest through Egypt into the

ancient nations of Cush and Ethiopia (Seba), the land will be violently changed; perhaps even to Ethiopia's southern border (Isaiah 11:15a; Isaiah 43:3; Ezekiel 29:10; Zephaniah 2:12).

Due to the massive earthquake created at the impact, all the land on earth will become like liquid (Amos 9:5). Every island will be moved out of place and many will go under (Revelation 6:14). The seas will roar and the coastlands will flood (Zephaniah 2:11; Psalm 96:11; Isaiah 59:18). Plains and valleys will be lifted up, and mountains will become plains (Isaiah 42:16; Isaiah 40:4). The temple mount, Mount Zion, will be thrust upward and become the chief mountain in the area (Isaiah 2:2). Every manmade wall on earth will fall (Ezekiel 38:20). As the cohort fell when the people came to arrest Jesus, every standing person on earth will be knocked to the ground (John 18:6).

In Israel, the blood will run as deep as a horse's bridle and flow for 200 miles (Revelation 14:20). There will be some places in the world no people will survive. (Jeremiah 25:33) Few military troops, on land, on or in the sea, or in the sky will survive (Amos 9:2,3).

The bodies of the wicked and the unbelieving people will have been prepared as a great sacrifice for the birds and beasts (Isaiah 18:6; Ezekiel 39:17-21). The beast and the false prophet will not stand at the Judgment, but will be taken alive and thrown into hell, where God is not mentioned (Revelation 19:20; Psalm 6:5; Psalm 1:5). Within a few days, the stench of death will fill the air throughout the world (Isaiah 34:3; Joel 2:20). Never again will man learn war (Isaiah 2:4; Revelation 11:15).

Similar to the real time it took Jesus to turn over the tables, the great day of wrath will move every stone out of place on the temple mount as well as throughout the earth (Matthew 24:2). The great day of wrath will take no more than an hour of time, but its effects will last more than 1,000 years. Noon is the 6th hour and by the 7th hour the earth will be changed (Isaiah 13:8; Isaiah 26:17; Isaiah 42:13-15; John 16:21; Revelation 14:7).

The Prince of Peace and the Jubilee

Chapter Overview

On the 1,342nd day God's peace will be firmly established on earth. Jesus is King (Zephaniah 3:9; Revelation 17:14; Isaiah 9:6,7). Then, on the 1,343rd day Jews will begin to celebrate the year of the Jubilee (Leviticus 25:10; Isaiah 49:8,22; Ezekiel 39:9,10).

Hope

“Then all men will fear, and they will declare the work of God, and will consider what He has done. The righteous man will be glad in the LORD and will take refuge in Him; and all the upright in heart will glory.” Psalm 64:9

Peace

The next day is the 52nd day after Daniel's prophecy (Daniel 12:11). It will be the 8th day of the Feast of Booths and a day of rest (the 1,342nd day after the sacrifice was stopped). It will officially begin at the end of the great day of wrath in the evening (Isaiah 52:7).

There is an amazing prophecy illustrating God's love that will occur that evening. Though the entire earth will have been covered in thick clouds for about 11 days, in Jerusalem there will be light. The light will signify that Jesus is the Light of the world, and the Light of His truth will again go out from Jerusalem. The last days of the darkness of evil will have ended and the mystery of God will be finished (Isaiah 37:31,32; Zechariah 14:7-9; Isaiah 17:14; Revelation 17:14; Revelation 10:7). People in all nations will know the LORD (Ezekiel 36:23).

Jesus will rule the nations and God will have firmly established His peace (Isaiah 9:6,7). Just as God sent His Holy Spirit through Jesus on the 52nd day after He was crucified, God will send His Spirit of fear of the LORD on the 52nd day to the Jew (John 14:26; Acts 2:2-4; Isaiah 11:2; Jeremiah 32:40). The people of the nations will also fear the LORD through Jesus because of all the good He will do for Israel (Jeremiah 33:9). Then all the people will have purified words and the knowledge of God (Psalm 85:8; Zephaniah 3:9; Proverbs 1:7). Having *fear* of the LORD means a person is to be humble before God because He *is* all-powerful; and also, because He alone has the ultimate gift of forgiveness necessary for eternal life (Romans 3:23; Romans 6:23).

Israel

God's Holy Mountain (Mount Zion) will be the one altar of worship on earth, having been made without human hands (Exodus 20:25). It will be the chief of mountains in the region, and may be volcanic because smoke and fire will rise from it (Micah 4:1; Isaiah 4:5). There will be no steps on His Holy Mountain and

one day it will be forested (Exodus 20:26; Micah 3:12). People will be able to sojourn there any time of the year. No unholy person will set foot on His Holy Mountain or in Jerusalem (Isaiah 52:1,2). The nations will recognize Jerusalem as the center of the world and Jesus Christ as the center of their lives. (Ezekiel 5:5; Ephesians 4:15,16). Eventually, with their staffs in hand, old men and women will sit and rejoice in their Lord while children play in the streets (Zechariah 8:4,5).

The final part of the prophecy of Hosea 6:2: “He will revive us after two days...that we may live before Him,” will apply to the surviving Jews. Israel will forever live before God through Jesus and no longer will Jews be afraid (Isaiah 10:20; Ezekiel 39:26,27).

The Jubilee

The 3rd day from the great day of wrath (the 1,343rd day after the temple sacrifice is stopped), the year of the Jubilee will begin. The Jubilee is the 5th appointed time. According to the Law, the priesthood was to blow a ram’s horn throughout the land on the 10th day of the 7th month (the Day of Atonement) to announce the advent of the Jubilee (Leviticus 25:8-10). There is no historic record in the Scripture indicating that the nation of Israel ever observed the Jubilee, so God will bring about its fulfillment. Truly, the trumpet will be blown throughout the land. Then it *will* be the favorable year of the LORD (Isaiah 27:13; Isaiah 49:8,22; Isaiah 61:2,3).

From around the world, Jews will begin to return to the land God promised (Genesis 12:2; Genesis 15:18; Leviticus 25:10,13,41; Isaiah 43:5,6). The land of Israel will stretch from the Nile River to the Euphrates River and it will be watered, full of vegetation, livestock, and likened to that of Eden (Isaiah 26:15; Isaiah 30:23; Ezekiel 36:35). During the 1,000 years of peace, God will bless the nation of Israel with most excellent blessings (Jeremiah 23:4-8).

In time, Jesus—Israel’s Messiah will appear in Jerusalem. The people will see His pierced hands and they will shout, “Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.” The eyes of Jews will be full of bitter tears caused by the knowledge that they, as a nation, did not believe in His incarnate appearance; nevertheless, their tears will also be of great joy (Psalm 118:26; Luke 13:35; Isaiah 49:16; Zechariah 12:10; Isaiah 51:11). From Jerusalem, Jesus will send the *144,000 out to teach the world (Isaiah 37:32; Revelation 14:3). The world will not have to be taught to know the LORD, but only how to live holy lives according to the LORD (Jeremiah 31:34; Romans 12:1,2). Note: *Much information about the 144,000 Jews has not been presented in this book.

Many people will take hold of the garment of a Jew to learn about God, Jesus, and living holy lives (Isaiah 2:3; Zechariah 8:23). In this way Israel will bless the nations, and for the first time, exuberantly proclaim His glorious Name to them (Genesis 12:3; Genesis 17:16). Eventually, non-Jews will be sent to teach (Isaiah 66:21).

Micah 4:4 states: “Each of them will sit under his vine and under his fig tree...” The vine is Jesus and the fig tree represents

Israel. The nations will look to Israel to teach them the way of the Lord and all peoples will worship the Father through Jesus (John 15:1; Joel 2:22-24). Micah's prophecy ends with: "...no one to make *them* [Jews] afraid, for the mouth of the Lord of hosts has spoken." Amen (Ezekiel 14:22,23).

Though the great day of wrath will have changed the geography of the world, people will have some equipment and machinery available. For seven years, Israel will use the tools of war to build cooking fires (Ezekiel 39:9,10). For many years, even as much as 40 years, the conditions around the world will not be easy, of which today's reports on television about earthquake aftermaths give insight (Ezekiel 29:11-16). The entire infrastructure of civilization will have to be rebuilt. At that time many non-Jews will hurry to rebuild Israel (Isaiah 49:8,17,21,22; Isaiah 61:4; Isaiah 58:12).

Holy Living

Though the followers of Jesus are now practicing the prophecies of holy living, during the 1,000 years all nations and peoples will apply God's standard of righteousness and justice within every phase of life (Psalm 33:5; Psalm 89:14). For the first time, God's commandment to love your neighbor will be universally practiced (Matthew 19:19). Survivors, though dazed, will brush the dust off and help other people (Isaiah 52:2). People will be gentle in spirit, demonstrate their appreciation to others and to God (Matthew 5:5; Galatians 5:22-26; 1Thessalonians 5:18; Matthew 25:40). The Word of God in the Holy Bible will be the primary book of all the books studied (Psalm 1:2; Proverbs 2:9-11; John 8:31; Revelation 3:8). Everything will be measured by it (Matthew 7:2). When they study the marvels of nature they will glorify God (Psalm 8:3; Psalm 33:8; Psalm 136:4-9; Psalm 148:1-5; Psalm 65:8-13).

People will also understand that everyone falls short of the glory of God (Jeremiah 4:2; Romans 3:23). Though man's sin nature will continue, each person will wage the battle against self-pride (Job 33:16,17; Proverbs 8:13). Until Satan is released at the end of the 1,000 years, the devil's influence will not be a factor (Revelation 20:2,7).

The sanctity of marriage will be restored. Husbands will love their wives as Christ loves His bride; and wives will honor their husbands as the bride is adorned for her Bridegroom (Hebrews 13:4; Ephesians 5:25-28,22-24; Job 40:10; Isaiah 61:10). Children will honor their parents and parents will teach them to live in the way of the LORD (Exodus 20:12; Psalm 34:11; Ephesians 6:1-4).

People will have regard for the LORD and not for the work of his hands (Isaiah 17:7,8). They will work with diligence and integrity for others as for the LORD (Colossian 3:23). They will learn that money is a tool (not a god) and they will be content with their wages (Luke 3:14; John 4:36; Leviticus 19:13-16).

People given authority in government, private businesses, education, and organizations will know their authority is a gift from God, and they will minister with truth, compassion, and

righteousness for the people in accordance with Jesus (Leviticus 19:15; Deuteronomy 1:16,17; Zechariah 8:17; Acts 20:28; John 19:11). Governments will be set up according to the righteousness and justice of God Almighty, fully unified in Christ Jesus. For 1,000 years no one will willfully wrong another person or be subject to philosophy (Leviticus 19:18,35; Matthew 22:37-40; Colossians 2:8).

They will begin to practice God's words stated in the book of Isaiah. "And the work of righteousness will be peace, and the service of righteousness, quietness, and confidence forever. Then my people will live in a peaceful habitation, and in secure dwellings and in undisturbed resting places." Isaiah 32:17,18

Beginning the very next year, during the appointed time of the Feast of Booths, nations will worship and praise God through Jesus (Zechariah 14:16-19). Most likely they will send representatives to Jerusalem, just as the tribes sent elders with gifts for the dedication of the altar (Numbers 7:10). During the 8 days, people on earth will stop whatever it is they are doing to worship and praise God for ridding the world of wickedness, for establishing His peace, and for salvation. They will also remember the mighty strength of the LORD and their evil ways (Ezekiel 36:31).

"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among men with whom He is pleased." Luke 2:14 (Isaiah 49:8,22)

Service of the Resurrected

The Scripture reveals the faithful followers of the first resurrection will serve Jesus during the 1,000 years (Revelation 20:4-6). They will be given authority over the cities on earth. However, no mention is made if they (we) will be seen; though, the tombs were opened on the day Jesus was crucified, and many saw faithful people who had died (Matthew 27:52,53).

Commit Your Life to the LORD

Know for certain, every prophecy will be fulfilled, whether or not anyone believes it (Luke 24:44). Unless each person receives forgiveness from God through Jesus, and desires to abide in Him, he or she will not receive the gift of eternal life (Isaiah 65:11,12; John 8:31; John 3:15; John 5:24; John 14:6,21). Become an heir of Salvation. With humility and sincerity of heart, pray:

"Dear God, I have sinned, please forgive me. I believe You sent Jesus, in my place, to die for my sins; and also, that Jesus was resurrected so that I would have life eternal in Him. I desire to live the rest of my days according to Your Word. This I ask in Jesus' name. Amen."

If you have prayed this prayer, God is faithful and He has forgiven you. As Jesus has given us His example and commandment, be baptized by immersion in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, if at all possible (Matthew 28:19,20);

Mark 16:16). Every day read your Bible; be active in a church body that: proclaims Jesus is the Son of God; teaches the full Word of God from both the First and Second Testaments; embraces all followers of Jesus with loving fellowship, for we are of One body—not divided (Beware of people who do not practice such things. Romans 12:4,5; 1Corinthians 12:12,13). Grow in understanding and live godly lives. Know that one's maturity in Christ is each person's responsibility (Hebrews 6:1; Ephesians 4:22-25). Do not delay (Psalm 119:59,60).