



ENDURE



REVELATION STUDY GUIDE: 9 WEEK LEADER GUIDE

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Note to the Reader

Welcome to the Revelation Leader Guide! This 9-week guide was created to help the reader methodically study through the book of Revelation. While there is much symbolism throughout this book, which at times can be challenging to understand, Jesus does desire for us to understand it, be edified and admonished by it. If this is his desire, then we also can trust that he will guide us in understanding the purpose for this book.

There are many different views when approaching Revelation which we will briefly discuss in the intro. and it is good that we strive to agree even on secondary issues, but by the grace of God we have freedom to disagree on issues that are not essential to our salvation. The two beliefs this study stands firm in are all saints must endure and hold fast to Christ and that Jesus will return in the flesh at the end of the age. Praise God! Everything is up for sisterly discussion as you go through this study.

My goal is that this study guide will help you become familiar with this book of the Bible while at the same time diving deep into Old Testament references, allowing Scripture to interpret Scripture. My hope is that this will encourage the reader to deepen their desire to know God's word and eagerly anticipate his return.

"Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear, and who keep what is written in it. For the time is near."
Revelation 1:13

Why study the book of Revelation?

- Like the rest of the Bible, this book is meant to draw us closer to God and understand his will for the world and our lives.
- Despite many of the difficult events mentioned in this book, it's meant to encourage and help us hold fast to Christ.
- If we want to understand much of what will happen in the end times, Revelation is the book to read.

This book is, "the Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show to his servants the things that must soon take place."

Revelation 1:1

Objectives as you study Revelation:

- Confidence in understanding the general purpose of Revelation.
- Learn several Old Testament cross references.
- To realize that Revelation is not a detached book from the Bible, but the completion of the overarching narrative beginning in Genesis that Christ is Lord and King and the mystery of him will be completely revealed at his coming.

Two important points to remember:

- The events in Revelation are not written in a linear fashion.
 - For example, when you get to chapter 13 the events mentioned in this chapter do not happen after the events in chapters 11 rather it is the same time period from a different perspective; the perspective of the beast's reign.
 - The Day of the Lord is alluded to in chapters 6, 11, 14, 15, 19
- The book of Revelation is a consistent story about the endurance of the saints until Christ returns.

Overview

Background

- Author: John
- Time Period: Around A.D. 70 or A.D. 95
- Genre: Apocalyptic (Unveiling)
- Audience: 7 Churches in Asia Minor

Major Themes

- Christ conquering through his death
- The saints bearing witness and enduring in the face of suffering
- The world's constant rejection of Christ and his followers
- The satanic influence behind all world powers
- The return of Christ: The Day of the LORD

Topics

- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| • Seven Churches | • Mark of the Beast |
| • The Throne of God | • The Great Tribulation |
| • Seven Seals | • Rapture/Resurrection |
| • Seven Trumpets | • The Coming of the Lord |
| • Seven Bowls/God's Wrath | • Millennial Reign |
| • The Two Witnesses | • Armageddon |
| • The Beasts | • The New Jerusalem |

Overview cont'd

Corresponding Old Testament Books (not exhaustive list)

- Daniel
- Joel
- Zechariah
- Isaiah
- Ezekiel

Corresponding New Testament Books (not exhaustive list)

- Matthew
- Mark
- Luke
- John
- 1 & 2 Thessalonians
- 1 Corinthians
- 2 Peter

Overview cont'd

The Four Views of Revelation

There are several different views or interpretations of the book of Revelation which are briefly described below; details will be added where it makes sense throughout the study. You might find that you are not a clean fit for any view, but instead a combination. For more in-depth info on each view and how they approach every chapter in the book of Revelation, I recommend reading “Revelation: A Parallel Commentary” by Steve Gregg.

Historicist: The prophecies of Revelation have been unfolding gradually for the last 2,000 years.

Preterist: The prophecies of Revelation are not future but are past, taking place during the time of the 1st century.

- Partial preterist: Believe majority of the events have happened in the book of Revelation with exception of the second coming of Christ.

- Full-Preterist: Believe everything has happened including the resurrection and the second coming of Christ. Beware of this view, because the view that the resurrection has already happened is strictly condemned in Scripture. 2 Tim. 2:16-18. Every person living on earth will see Jesus physically return. Matt. 24:27. The Bible does not allude to a secret or spiritual second coming. 2 Thess. 2:1-4.

Futurist: The prophecies in Revelation are primarily future and happen with a short span of time

Idealist: “This view does not attempt to find individual fulfillments of the visions but takes Revelation to be a great drama depicting transcendent spiritual realities. Fulfillment is seen either as entirely spiritual or as recurrent, finding representative expression in various historical events throughout the age.” Revelation: Four Views” However, they view the second coming to be a literal physical return of Christ.

Overview cont'd

Sub Views

The four main interpretations on the previous page are the general views many apply when studying Revelation. Sub-views are interpretations that tend to be applied to certain topics in Revelation ie, the Tribulation, 144K, the Rapture, and the Millennial Reign. Below are just a few sub views.

- Pre-Trib Rapture view (dispensationalism)
 - The Church will be raptured before the 7- year tribulation.
- Post-Trib Rapture view
 - The Church will be present during all 7 years of the tribulation.
- Pre-Millennialism view
 - Jesus will come back before the millennial reign.
- Amillennialism view
 - The millennial reign is symbolic and began after Christ's ascension into heaven 2000 years ago.
- Post-Millennialism view
 - Somewhat similar to amillennialism, we are in the millennial reign right now, and as the gospel continues to be preached, the earth will become more and more peaceful, then Christ will return.



PART 1

The Seven Churches
The Throne of God
Seven Seals & Trumpets
144,000

Week 1: Leader Notes

As your group works its way through Revelation various sections will contain leader notes to help you facilitate discussion. To get the most out of this study be sure to read through the book of Revelation on your own and at the very least read and work through each “Leader Note”. You don’t need to be an expert on this book to help guide the discussion but getting comfortable with Revelation and working through the study guide ahead of time will prepare you for rich discussion. Let’s begin!

The Golden Lampstand

For us to understand Revelation we must have familiarity with the Old Testament. Revelation contains a lot of symbolism; constantly referencing Old Testament passages to explain a physical or spiritual reality. In the first 3 chapters we are given several symbols one of which is the lampstand.

Keep in mind the significance of the lampstand as your group discusses the seven churches which are represented by 7 lampstands. You can discuss the importance of the lampstand and the Old Testament reference and New Testament symbolism. Below are a few points that you can share with your group and discuss.

Old Testament Reference

What does the lampstand symbolize in the Old Testament?

- Exo. 25:32-33
- Exo. 27:20-21
- Lev. 24:1-4

Characteristics

How do the physical characteristics below symbolize how the church ought to function? (Use Scripture to support)

- d. Pure Gold
- e. One Piece
- f. Six Branches
- g. Main lampstand(Center branch)
- h. Resembled Almond Tree
- i. Olive Oil
- j. Fire Never went Out

What is the New Testament symbolism for the lampstand? (Rev. 1:20)

Seven Churches Chart

Reference for Chapters 2 & 3

Church	Commended for:	Rebuked for:	Warning	Call to Action	Encouragement	To the one who is:	Reward	To those reading the letters
Ephesus	Hardwork	Lost the love they had a first	Will Remove Lampstand	Repent			Tree of Life	
	Perservance	Fallen from a great height						
	Intolerable of wicked people					Victorious		He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit Says to the churches
	Test the spirits							
	Endured Hardships							
	Not grown weary							
Smyrna	Hate the nicolaitans							
	Afflicted/tribulation		You're going to prison to be tested		Don't fear imminent suffering		Not hurt by the 2nd death	He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit Says to the churches
	Impoverished			Be faithful to death		Victorious	crown	
Pergamum	Slandered							
	Holdfast							
	Did not deny the faith even when Antipas, Christ's faithful witness was killed	Some hold to the teaching of Balaam	Christ will war against them	Repent		Victorious	Given hidden manna	He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit Says to the churches
Thyatira		Some hold the teaching of the Nicolaitans					White stone with name	
	Their Love	Some Tolerate Jezebel	Will throw those people into great tribulation	Repent	Hold fast until Christ Returns		authority over the nations	
	Their Works	Refuse to Repent	Strike her children dead			Victorious	given the morning star	He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit Says to the churches
	Their Faith							
	Their Service							
	Patient Endurance							
	Latter Works Exceed the first							

Seven Churches Chart

Reference for Chapters 2 & 3

Church	Commended for:	Rebuked for:	Warning	Call to Action	Encouragement	To the one who is	Reward	To those reading the letters
Sardis	Some have not soiled their garments	Reputation of being alive but are dead	If they don't wake up, Christ will come like a thief	Wake up		Victorious	Clothed in white, and will walk with Christ	He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit Says to the churches
		Works are not complete in sight of God		Strengthen what Remains			Name never blotted out	
				Remember what you received, keep it.			Name confessed before the Father	
Philadelphia	Kept his word, not denied his name				Placed an open door that no one can shut	Victorious	Kept from hour to hour from trial that will come on the whole world	He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit Says to the churches
	Kept his word about patiently endured				Hold on to what you have, so that no one will take your crown		Made a pillar in the temple of God	
					I am coming soon		Never forsaken	
							Write on him the name of my God and the city of my God	
Laodicea						Overcome	Christ's new name	He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit Says to the churches
				By from him, gold refined in the fire	I discipline those I love		Sit on the throne	
				Buy from him, save for their eyes, so they can see				
				Be earnest and Repent				
				Overcome just as he overcame				

Section 1: Chapters 1–3

A: Key Points

- Chapters 1–3 establish the purpose/reason for the revelation John receives: To show the servants what must soon take place.
- All seven churches received the entire book of Revelation along with each church's encouragement or warning.
- The 7 lampstands symbolize the churches that are going through intense persecution.
- Jesus is returning soon, so they are encouraged to repent and endure.

B: Talk it Out

First Vision:

1. What does John hear? V. 10

2. What does he see? V.12–16

As you read through the churches notice the pattern [see also Seven Churches Chart]

- Declaration that these words are from God
- Gives assessment of church
- Call to Action
- Promise of rewards to those who conquer: Notice that these are rewards that accompany salvation. All of these have to do with eternal life.
- The warning to pay attention. Consider why it is important to pay attention the warnings.

What are the churches promised if they conquer, and what does it mean to conquer?

- Ephesus:
- Smyrna:
- Pergamum:
- Thyatira:
- Sardis:
- Philadelphia:
- Laodicea:

Section 2: Chapters 4 & 5

A: Key Points

- John sees the events that happen around the throne of God
- God is worthy to be worshiped
- The Lamb is God therefore worthy of worship
- Redemption is accomplished through the blood of Christ

B: Talk it Out

The Throne in Heaven

1. What are the descriptions of the creatures? For more info read Ezekiel chapter 1, he also received a vision also of the throne in heaven.
2. What is the purpose of these creatures?
3. Who is the only one worthy of praise?

The Scroll and the Lamb

1. Who is the only one worthy to open the scroll?
2. Why is Jesus worthy to open the scroll?
3. What is the connection between 4&5?

C: Takeaways

- Jesus is the only one worthy to open the scroll and reveal the plan for world history.
- Jesus paid the debt of all nations and people through his blood.
- Jesus has made people from every nation and tribe priests who will reign with him.

C: Takeaways

- Endure or repent and hold fast. The one who conquers will inherit eternal life.
- Notice that all of the rewards pertain to salvation, the one who conquers will receive all of these rewards. (We will see these come up again towards the end of our study)

Week 1

Study Note Section

Write down some of your thoughts after going through each week.

Did you come across any other cross references? Write them below.

What questions do you have? Try and discuss with group.

Weeks 2 & 3: Leader Notes

In the next two weeks your group will cover chapters 6-8. In this section the group will briefly discuss the Olivet Discourse in Matthew 24. You will not be able to cover the whole chapter but will discuss the first 15 verses. As you continue this study Matthew 24 will be referenced several times, so it will be helpful for you to have familiarity with this passage. Below are some questions for you to go through in order to become more familiar with the Olivet Discourse.

Read Matthew 24

Signs of the End of the Age

1. When the disciples in Jerusalem hear of wars and rumors of wars what does Jesus say NOT to be? V.6
2. What does Jesus specify as the beginning of birth pains? V. 7-8
3. What happens after the beginning of birth pains? V.9
4. What are the three main things that happen in response to the intense persecution? V. 11,12,13.
5. What does Jesus promise to the one who endures/stands firm? V.13
 - a. Endurance does not cause salvation, rather endurance proves that we've been saved.
6. What will happen once the gospel is preached throughout the whole world? V.14

Weeks 2 & 3: Leader Notes Cont'd

The Abomination of Desolation

7. What sign does Jesus tell the disciples to look for? V. 15 [Ref. Daniel 9:27]
8. When they see this sign what does Jesus tell them to do? V.16
9. After they witness the abomination of desolation what event will happen next? V. 21
10. Why are the days of this great tribulation shortened? V. 22
11. What does he warn the disciples of in verses 23-25?
12. What is Jesus' main point in verses 27-28?

The Coming of the Son of Man & Fig Tree

13. What happens immediately after the great tribulation? V.29
14. What announces his 2nd coming? V. 31 [Compare with 1 Cor. 15:51-52 and 1 Thess. 4:16]
15. Who is gathered at the sound of the trumpet? v.31
16. Who is "this generation" referring to? V.34
 - See verse 33

Weeks 2 & 3: Leader Notes Cont'd

No One Knows the Day or the Hour

17. What will the days be like prior to Jesus' return? V. 37-39

18. What event happens with the believers at the return of Christ? V. 40-41
Compare with following verses:

- 1 Thess. 4:15-18,
- Luke 17:30, 34-37
- Mark 13:27
- Matt. 24:31

19. Considering everything Jesus has just told the disciples what warning does he give them?

Leader Side Note:

Trumpets and Seals: If your group has time to go through each Seal and Trumpet in detail go for it! However, if you are pressed for time, you can briefly summarize what's happening in the first few seals and trumpets but try and take your time going through the last 3 seals and the last 2 trumpets.

Section 3: Chapters 6 – 9

A: Key Points

- The 7 seals conceal all the events of world history.
- Conquest, war, famine, death general everyday events of history.
- Persecution of the saints.
- Signs of the coming of the Son of Man.
- Sealing of God's servants prior to world history unfolding.
- The seven trumpets come out of the 7th seal.

B: Talk it Out

If the Book of Revelation could be summed up in one chapter, it would be Matthew 24. You will become more familiar with this chapter as we work through the study.

Pause and Read Matt. 24:1-15

1. When we hear of wars and rumors of wars what are we to do? v. 6
2. What will happen to disciples of Christ? v. 9
3. What will happen to unbelievers? v.10-12
4. What will happen when the gospel is preached? v.14
5. What specific sign were the disciples told to look for that would indicate the end? V.15

Weeks 2 & 3

Seals and Trumpets:

Write down what happen in each seal and trumpet.

1st Seal:

2nd Seal:

3rd Seal:

4th Seal:

5th Seal:

- What are the saints wanting Christ to do?
- What does Jesus tell them?
- How are their fellow servants going to die?

6th Seal: What is happening in the 6th seal? What 'day' is this? Compare with following verses:

- | | |
|------------------|----------------|
| • Isaiah 13:9-11 | Matt. 24:29-30 |
| • Joel 2:1-2 | Mark 13:24-27 |
| • Zeph. 1:14-16 | Luke 21:25-28 |

7th Seal: What comes out of the 7th seal?

- 1st Trumpet:
- 2nd Trumpet:
- 3rd Trumpet:
- 4th Trumpet:
- 5th Trumpet:
- 6th Trumpet: What events happen during the 6th seal? (the second woe)
- 7th Trumpet: What happens at the sound of the seventh trumpet? (the third woe)

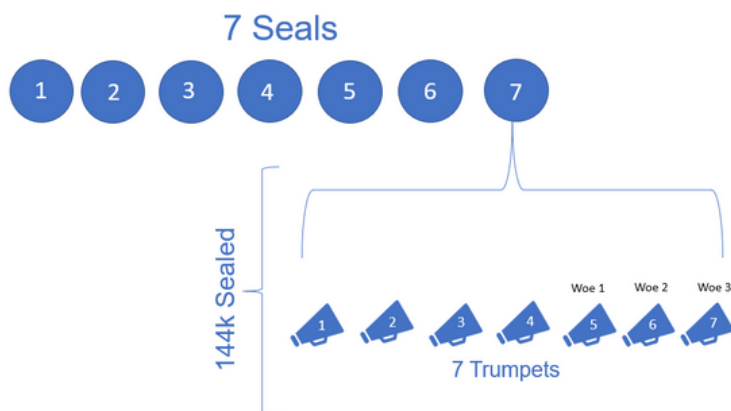
Chapters 7–8

The 144,000 and the Great Multitude

1. There is an interruption to provide commentary between the 6th and the 7th seal to introduce the 144,000.
 - What does John hear?
 - What happens to the 144,000 before the four angels can harm the earth?
 - What does he see?
 - Which tribes are missing from the list?
2. What is unique about the last three trumpets? 8:13
3. Which trumpet completes the 7th seal?

C: Takeaways

- There will be human strife throughout history
- God's people will be persecuted/killed from the beginning of time until Jesus returns
- The servants of God are sealed before the trumpets begin.



Weeks 2 & 3

Study Note Section

Write down some of your thoughts after going through each week.

Did you come across any other cross references? Write them below.

What questions do you have? Try and discuss with group.

PART 2

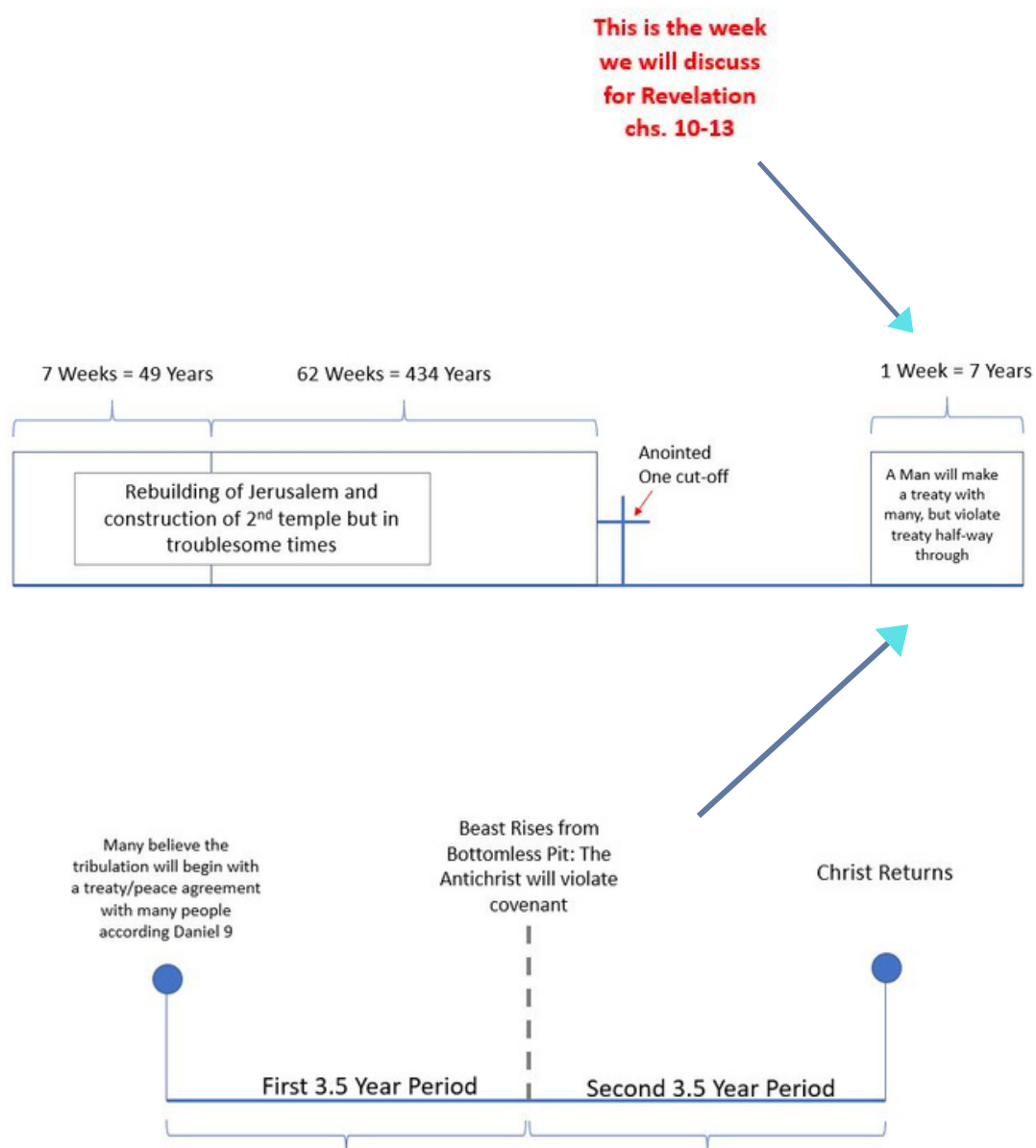
The Two Witnesses
The Beast
The False Prophet

Weeks 4 & 5: Leader Notes

The 70th Week of Daniel

Many consider the 70th week of Daniel to be a reference to the 7-year tribulation period. In Matt. 24:15 Jesus references the “abomination of desolation spoken of by Daniel.” Paired with other verses, there is a strong case to believe that this 70th week is future and specific to the tribulation period.

Feel free to briefly mention this information in your group and encourage them to read Daniel 9 on their own and feel free to research other views, discuss and compare.



Weeks 4 & 5: Leader Notes

In chapter 11 your group will discuss the Two Witnesses, below are the most common views of who the witnesses are. You can share these views with the group and spend however much or little time you'd like explaining the views.

Four Main Views

Option 1: Elijah and Moses

- Moses: because of the plague of water turning into blood.
Elijah: because he prayed that it wouldn't rain, and for 3.5 years it didn't, and because he called down fire from heaven.

Option 2: Elijah and Enoch

- Elijah: because he prayed that it wouldn't rain, and because he called down fire from heaven.
- Enoch and Elijah: In Hebrews 9:27 it says, "it is appointed for men to die once and after this comes judgment." Because Enoch and Elijah did not die, they must return to earth to die, therefore they will come as the two witnesses.

Option 3: Joshua and Zerubbabel

- In Rev. 11:4 it says, "These are the two olive trees and the two lampstands that stand before the Lord of the earth." This is a reference to Zechariah 4:14, therefore the two witnesses might be Joshua and Zerubbabel. Notice in Zech. 14:12 that Zerubbabel and Joshua are the two branches that come from the olive trees

Option 4: The Church

- This option treats all the clues about who the two witnesses are as symbolism and are not meant to be taken literally. The tree and the lampstand represent a group of people not just two. Therefore, the two witnesses must also be a symbolic; indicating that the testimony they are bringing to the world must be established by at least two witnesses. Deut. 19:15

Section 4: Chapter 10

A: Key Points

- Chapter 10 is another interruption to provide commentary of additional events to come in the 6th trumpet.
- An angel gives John a scroll to eat that will taste sweet but make his stomach bitter. Eze. 3:2 ref.
- The scroll contains the word of God that John is to now prophesy.

B: Talk it Out

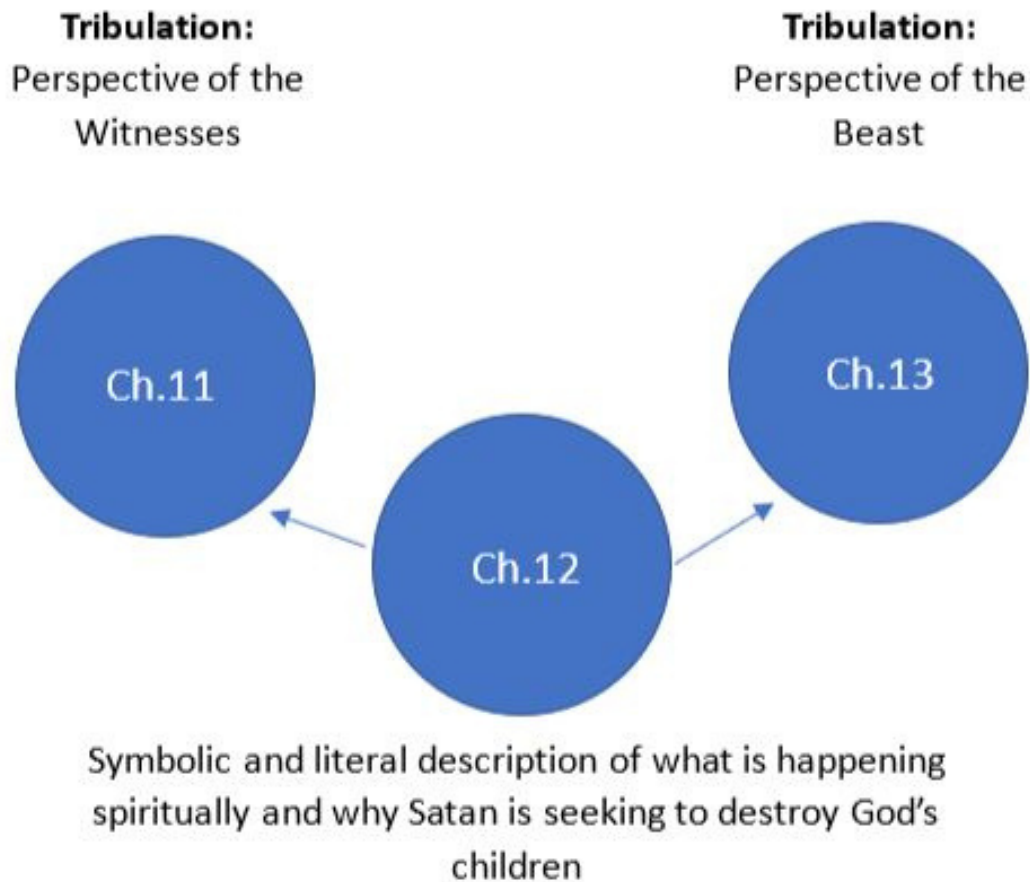
1. What does the angel say to John about the 7th angel who holds the 7th trumpet? V. 5-6
2. After John eats the scroll what is he told to do? V. 11

C: Takeaways

- The events of the 6th trumpet end when the 7th trumpet blows, and the mystery of God will be fulfilled.

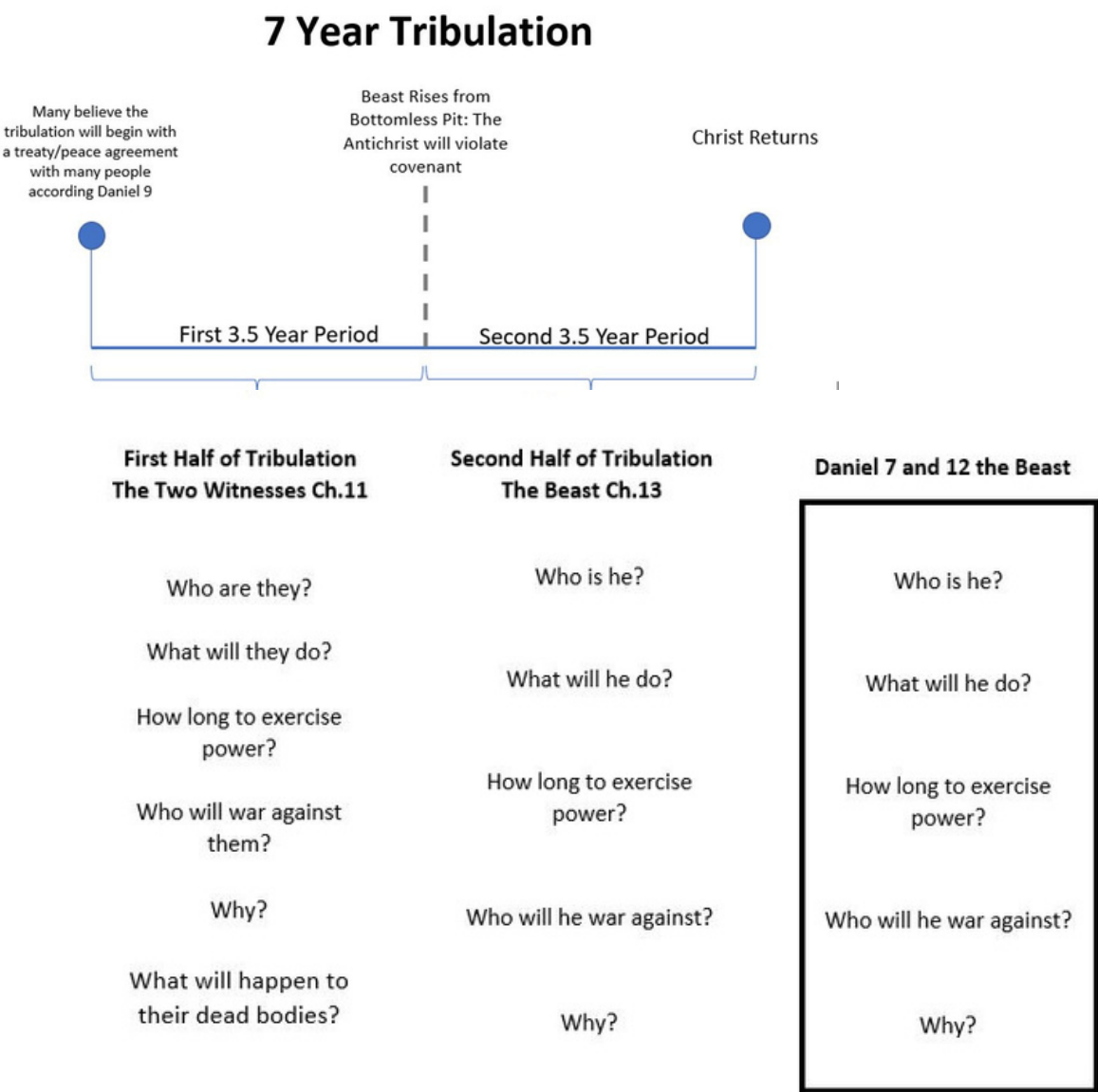
Section 5: Chapters 11-13

A: Key Points



B: Talk it Out

As you read chapters 11-13 answer the questions in the diagram below.



1. According to the verses below, who returns immediately after the 3.5 year reign of the Antichrist?

- a. Rev. 11:15
- b. Matt. 24:29–31
- c. Daniel 7:21–22
- d. Daniel 7:25–27

2. What announces his return?

- a. Rev. 11:15
- b. Rev. 10:7
- c. Matt. 24:30–31
- d. 1 Cor. 15:51–51
- e. 1 Thess. 4:15–16

3. Who were they told to wait for? Rev. 6:11

4. What will the beast do during his 3.5 year reign and why? See diagram below.

	Rev. 11:7	Rev. 12:17	Rev. 13:7	Dan. 7:12	Dan. 7:25	Dan. 8:24
Dragon/Beast	“War on them and conquer them.”	“War on the rest of her offspring.”	“War on the saints and conquer them.”	“This horn Made war with the saints.”	“He shall wear out the saints of the Most High.”	“His power shall be great...and destroy mighty men and the people who are the saints...and shall even rise against the Prince of princes.”
	Rev. 11:7	Rev. 12:17	Rev. 12:11			
The Two Witnesses/Saints	“When they finished their testimony.”	“Hold to the testimony of Jesus.”	“Word of their testimony.”			

3. How long will the beast make war on the saints?

Rev. 13:5	Dan. 7:25	Dan. 12:7
42 Months	Time, Times, Half a Time	Time, Times, Half a Time

4. At what point in the tribulation will Jesus return?

Rev. 11:11-15	Dan. 7:22	Dan. 12:7	Dan. 12:1-2	Matt. 24:29-30
"The beast will make war on them and kill them...after 3.5 days the breath of life from God entered them..."Come up here"...The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord..."	"This horn made war and prevailed over the saints...until the Ancient of Days came..."	"That when the shattering of the power of the holy people comes to an end all these things would be finished."	"There shall be a time of trouble, such as never has been since there was a nation till that time...And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake some to everlasting life, and some to everlasting contempt."	"Immediately after the tribulation of those days...Then will appear in heaven the sign of the Son of man and the earth will mourn...they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds."

Chapter 12

4. What is the significance of the sun clothing her and the moon under her feet? Gen. 37:9-10
5. What does the crown of 12 stars represent? Gen.37:9-10
6. Who is the child she gave birth to? V. 5
7. Who does the woman symbolize?
8. What happens when Jesus is resurrected and ascends to heaven? V.7-9

Weeks 6: Leader Notes

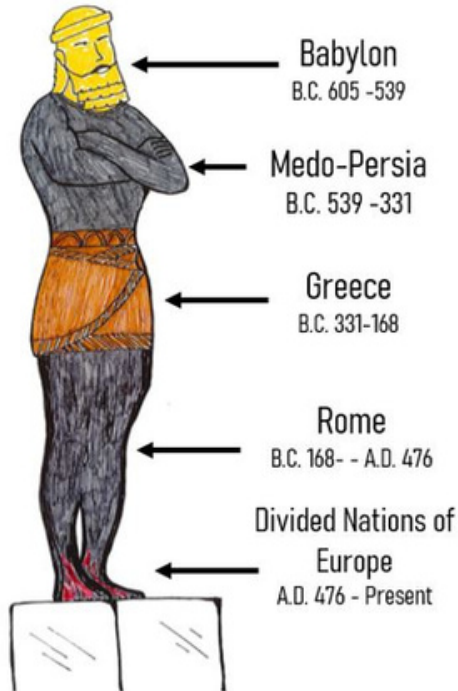
Daniel 2:31-45, and chapter 7

Encourage your group to read Daniel chapters 2 and 7 on their own if you do not have time to read in your small group. It will also be helpful to familiarize yourself with a man by the name of Antiochus Epiphanes whose prophesied about in Daniel as he is a type of the Antichrist. He may come up in your group.

As your group discusses chapter 13 keep in mind that the beast mentioned in this chapter is a reference to the 4th beast in Daniel chapter 7. There are two main symbols in Daniel that are used to described kingdoms throughout world history, they are: The Statue in Daniel chapter 2 and the beasts in Daniel chapters 7-9. Being aware of the meaning of the statue and the beast is helpful in facilitating discussion as you read through Revelation chapters 13 and 17.

Weeks 6: Leader Notes

The Statue



Different views on who the 10 toes might represent:

- Divided nations of Western Europe
- 10 kings not specific to Europe, but 10-nation confederacy

Statue, Beast, Empire

Statue	Beast	Beast	Empire
Head of Gold	Lion w/Eagles Wings		=Babylon
Chest of Silver	Bear w/ 3 Ribs in Mouth	Ram w/ 2 Horn Dan 18: 20	= Medo-Persia
Thighs of Brass	Leopard w/4 Wings	Goat Dan. 18:21	=Greece
Legs of Iron	Terrifying/Different/10 Horns Leopard, Bear, Lion		=Roman Empire
Feet mixed of iron and clay	Terrifying/Different/10 Horns Leopard, Bear, Lion		= 10 kings/Antichrist

Chapter 13

The First Beast out of the Sea: **Tyrannical Rule Under the Antichrist**

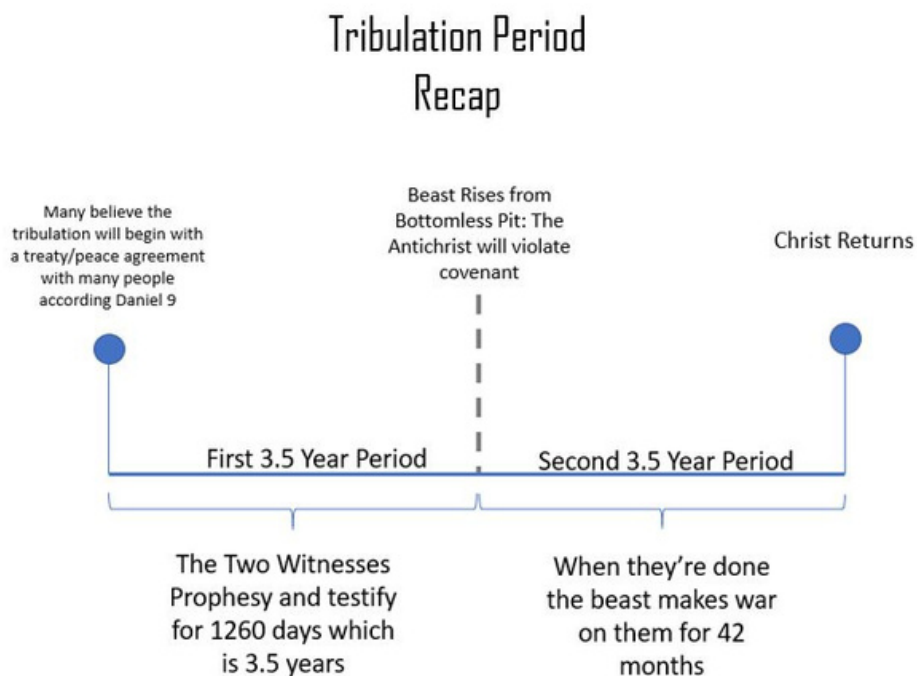
1. Who gives the beast its power? V.2
2. How long does he have to “utter proud words, blaspheme and exercise authority”? Compare with following verses?
 - a. Matt. 24:21-22
 - b. Daniel 7:25-27
 - c. Daniel 7:36-37
 - d. Daniel 12:7
3. What else is the beast allowed to do for the 42 months? V. 7 Compare with following verses:
 - a. Revelation 11:7
 - b. Daniel 7:21
 - c. Daniel 7:25-27
 - d. Daniel 12:7
 - e. Matt. 24:15-22
4. Why does the beast make war on the saints? Rev. 12:17
5. What are Jesus’ words to the saints? V.9-10

What will the Antichrist do?

Blaspheme God	Set up an abomination	Seek to change the time and laws, display military power	He will require people to worship him	Persecute and kill the saints	He Will Reign for only 3 ½ Yrs.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Daniel 7:8 - Daniel 7:20 - Daniel 7:25 - Daniel 11:36 - Daniel 11:37 - Rev. 13:6 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Daniel 9:27 - Matt 24:15 - Mark 13:14 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Daniel 7:25 - Daniel 11:38-39 - Daniel 12:11 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Daniel 11:37-39 - Rev. 13:15 - Rev. 13:8 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Daniel 7:21 - Daniel 7:25 - Daniel 12:7 - Rev. 11:7 - Rev.12:7 & 9-10 - Matt. 24:21-22 - Mark 13:19-20 - Mark 21:23-24 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Daniel 7:25 - Daniel 12:7 - Rev. 13:5

The Second Beast out of the Earth: The False Prophet, Deceptive False Religion, and a counterfeit trinity: 1st Beast, 2nd Beast, & the Statue

1. Why do you think the beast look like a lamb?
2. What does this beast force all the people on the earth to do? V.12
3. How does this beast mimic the two witnesses and deceive the whole earth? V.13
 - a. Deut. 13:1-4
4. What does Scripture say about false teachers, and prophets?
 - a. Deut. 13:1-4
 - b. Deut. 18:20-21
5. What does the 2nd beast require the worshipers of the 1st beast to do? V. 14
6. What power is given to this man-made image? V.15
7. What are the people of the earth forced to do if they want to buy or sell? V. 15-17.



Week 6: Leader Notes Cont'd

Rapture Verse Exercise

If your group would like to discuss the rapture further feel free to go through this exercise together. We don't all need to agree on when this event will happen, but discussion concerning this topic is still good. The goal of this exercise is to consider what Scripture says on the topic of the rapture. If you sense the conversation is turning in a direction that is not fruitful, move to the "Takeaways" for this section.

Pre-trib./Post-trib – what points do these views agree:

1. Jesus will return at the end of the 7-year tribulation at a trumpet call.
2. There will be saints on the earth when he returns.

Question to answer: Does Jesus reveal to us the order in which the following events happen? Tribulation, Being Gathered to Him(Rapture), Second Coming(Day of the Lord) and the Last Trumpet.

Week 6: Leader Notes Cont'd

The first list below are all the "Rapture" verses that talk about being caught-up or gathered to the Lord. The second list are all the "Events" that take place BEFORE or ON the Day of the Lord. Please indicate when the "Events" happen according to the "Rapture" verses below and place them in the correct box.

RAPTURE VERSES

Matt. 24:29-31

Matt. 24:36-42

1 Thess. 4:13-18

1 Cor. 15:51-52

Mark 13:24-27

Luke 17:28-37

2 Thess. 2:1-3

EVENTS

Antichrist Revealed

The Great Tribulation

Changed in the Twinkling of an Eye

Trumpet Call

Resurrection

Gathered/Caught-up

Christ Returns

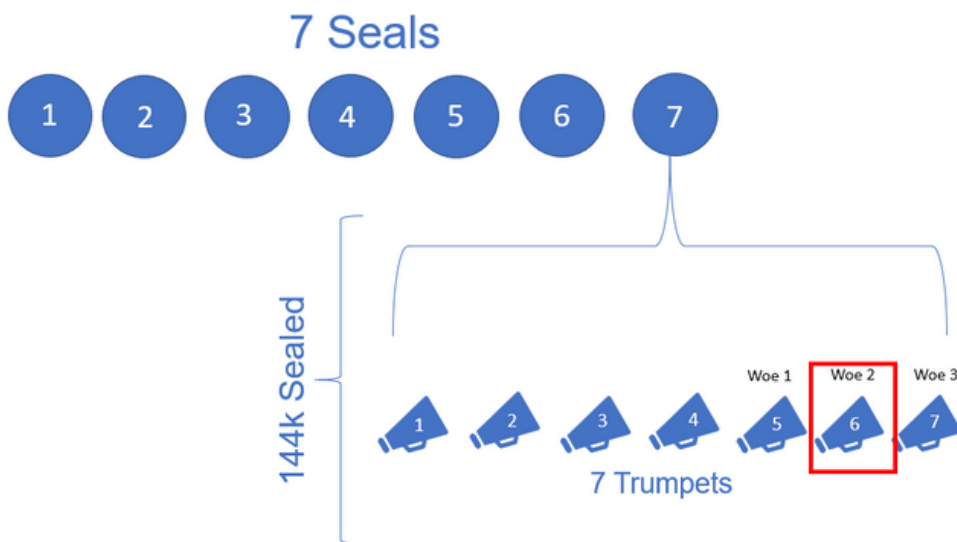
Before the Day of the LORD

On the Day of the LORD

C: Takeaways

- The time just prior to Christ's return will be a time of chaos and intense persecution for the believers on the earth at that time.
- The first half of the tribulation will be marked by God's wrath poured out on the ungodly via the two witnesses (two olive trees/lampstands). The second half will be marked by Satan's wrath in the form of persecution against the saints. The second half is known as the great tribulation.
- The saints are told to endure this persecution and wait for Christ.
- The ascension of Jesus to heaven prohibits Satan from approaching God in heaven to accuse the saints. He's cast down to earth and filled with wrath and will feverishly work to persecute and kill the rest of God's offspring, the church.

The Second Woe has Passed



Week 6

Study Note Section

Write down some of your thoughts after going through each week.

Did you come across any other cross references? Write them below.

What questions do you have? Try and discuss with group.

PART 3

The Harvest
The 7 Plagues
Babylon the Great
The Day of the LORD

Section 5: Chapter 14

A: Key Points

- John sees the Lamb and the 144,000 standing on Mount Zion.
- Verses 6–20 are a recap of the tribulation, the gathering of the saints and the Day of the Lord.
- The saints are gathered before God pours out his 7 bowls of wrath on unbelieving people.

B: Talk it Out

3. Who are the 144,000 according to verse 4–5?

a. _____ [Compare with Galatians 5:19]

b. _____ [Compare with John 10:27]

c. _____ [Compare with James 1:18]

d. _____ [Compare with Jude 24–25]

4. What happens to those who worship the beast and its image and take his mark? V.9–11

5. What are the saints called to do in response to the warning of hell? V.12

6. When are the saints resurrected and gathered to Christ?

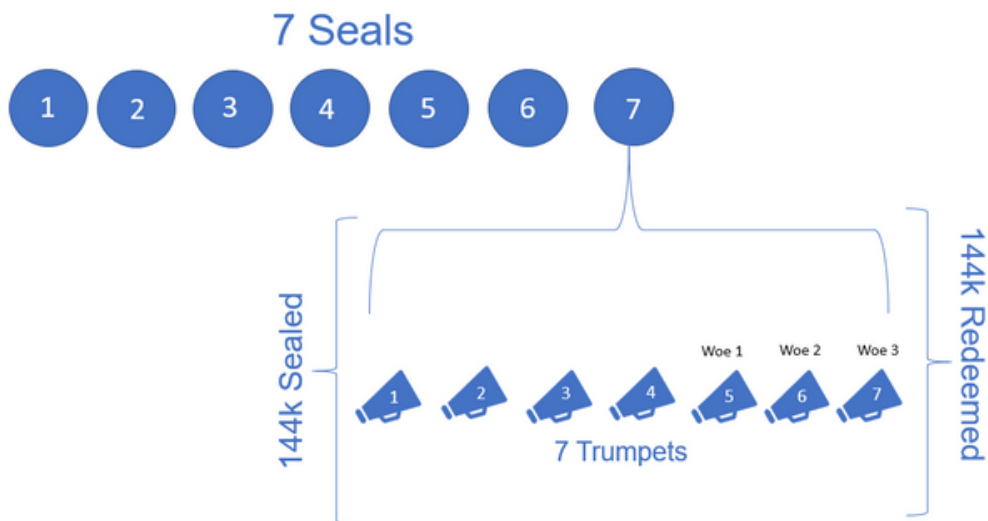
a. 1 Thess. 4:13–18

b. 1 Cor. 15:51–52

C: Takeaways

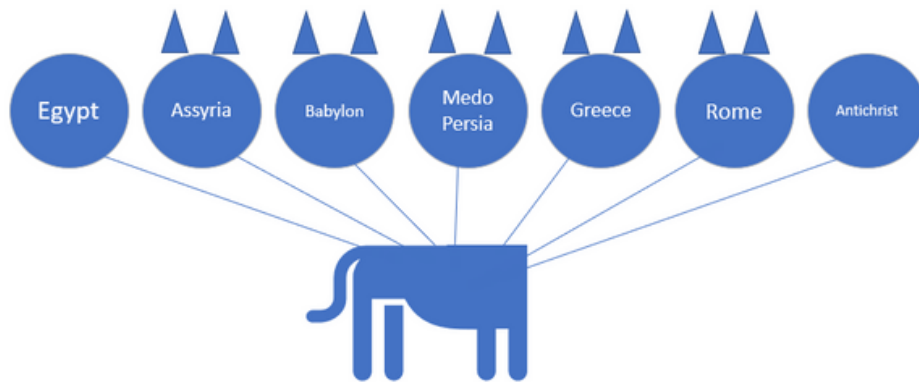
- To take the mark of the beast is to pledge allegiance to Satan whether one is aware of it or not. Do not take the mark of the beast.
- The saints are to endure and wait until Christ redeems them and saves them from the wrath to come.
- Christ harvests the wheat (the saints) in Rev. 14:14-6 and treads the grapes (ungodly) in the winepress of his wrath which are the seven bowls.

Visual Recap of Seals and Trumpets



Weeks 7: Leader Notes Cont'd

The Fourth Beast



**There are three phases of the
terrifying 4th Beast
Dan 7:23-25**



Section 6: Chapters 15–18

A: Key Points

- God's wrath is only reserved for those who have rejected God through idolatry/false gods/friendship with the world. Believers will not endure the wrath of God.
- The seven plagues are the winepress of God's wrath [see Rev. 14:19–20]
- The mystery of Babylon the great and the beast are further explained
- •Babylon the great would represent all false religions (idolatry) and the beast represents corrupt political power

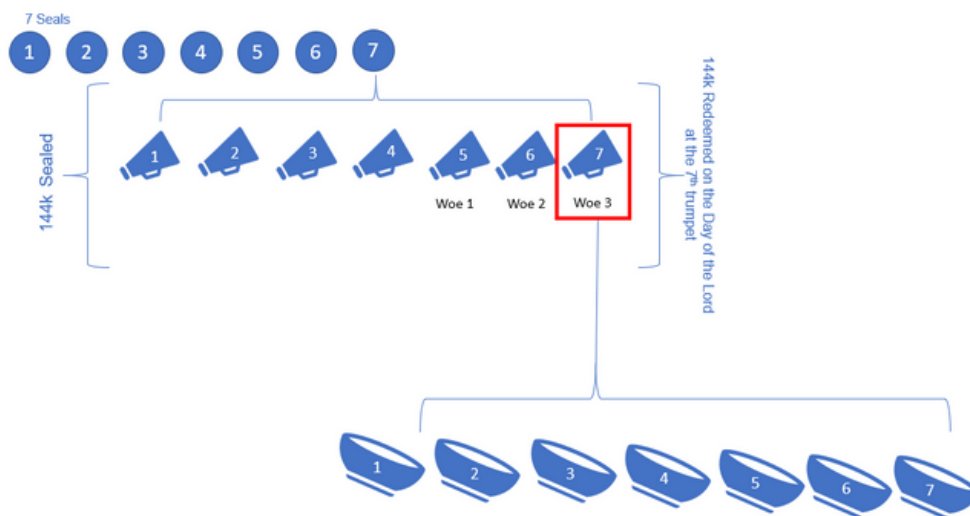
B: Talk it Out

1. What is the purpose for the seven plagues? V.1
2. Why are these people having God's wrath poured out on them? 16:2
3. Despite these horrific plagues what did the people refuse to do?
4. The rivers are dried up with the plague of the 6th bowl, why? V. 12–14
5. How does the angel describe the great prostitute? V.1–2, 5
 - a. The great prostitute represents idolatry/paganism
6. What is the result of the 7 plagues?
 - a. Rev. 16:18
 - b. Rev. 18:1
7. How does Scripture describe her swift destruction? Ch. 18:8, 10, 17

C: Takeaways

- Despite the severity of the plagues the wicked do not repent.
- The last bowl completes the 3rd woe of the 7th trumpet. The 3rd woe is the winepress of God's wrath displayed in the seven plagues. Believers are not present during the third woe. Remember at the sound of the 7th trumpet Jesus is coming back, believers are caught-up and resurrected at the revelation of Christ.
- (To understand how the seals, trumpets, and bowls relate to each other see page 62 in appendix).

The 3rd woe begins: The Winepress of God's wrath



Week 7

Study Note Section

Write down some of your thoughts after going through each week.

Did you come across any other cross references? Write them below.

What questions do you have? Try and discuss with group.

The Day of the Lord

Chapter 19 is where we finally “see” Christ return. However, we have already read glimpses of the Day of the Lord. In Revelation 6, 11 and 14. Let's review by taking some time to answer the questions below.

1. In which seal is the first indication of the arrival of the Son of Man? Read 6:12-17

- a. Matt. 24:29-30
- b. Mark 13:24-26

2. During which trumpet does the Day of the Lord occur?

- a. Rev. 10:17
- b. Rev. 11:12-17

3. Review question: What are the signs of the coming of the Son of Man?

- Joel 2:1 & 31
- Amos 5:18-20
- Zeph. 1:14-15
- Isaiah 10:11
- Isaiah 13:9-10
- Matt. 24:36
- 1 Cor. 15:52
- Acts 2:20
- Rev. 6:12-17
- Eze. 30:3
- Mark 13:24-27
- 2 Ptr. 3:10-12

4. How is the Day of the Lord described for believers according to the following verses?

- a. Hebrews 10:35-39
- b. Zephaniah 3:19-20
- c. Luke 21:27-28
- d. 1 Cor. 1:7-8
- e. Titus 2:13
- f. 1 Thess. 4:16-18
- g. 1 Cor. 15:51-55

5. How does Scripture describe the Day of the Lord for God's enemies?
- a. Isaiah 13:6-9
 - b. Joel 2:1-11
 - c. Zechariah 12:3-4
 - d. Joel 1:15
 - e. Zephaniah 1:14-18
 - f. Isaiah 2:19-21
6. What is the Day of God's wrath compared to?
- a. Joel 3:14
 - b. Isaiah 63:1-4
 - c. Rev. 14:18-20
 - d. Rev. 19:15
7. What does wine occasionally represent in Scripture?
- e. Rev. 17:6
 - f. Luke 22:20

Section 9: Chapter 19

A: Key Points

- The saints rejoice over the defeat of their enemies.
- Jesus returns!
- Chapter 19 fulfills the request of the saints from the 5th seal. Jesus returns to avenge the blood of those killed for the sake of his name.

B: Talk it Out

1. Who are the only people invited to the marriage supper? v. 7-9
2. Where do we first see the signs of the coming of Christ?
 - a. Rev. 6:12-17
 - b. Rev. 11:19
3. When do we see the transfer of the kingdom from the world to Christ?
 - a. Rev. 11:15-16
4. In chapter 19 we finally “see” Christ. What does he look like? V.12-13, 16
5. What has he come to do and who is with him? V.11 & 15
6. Why is his robe dipped in blood? V.15
 - a. Isaiah 63:1-4
7. What happens during the 3rd woe (7th Trumpet)?
 - a. Rev. 11:15
 - b. Rev. 14:19-20
 - c. Rev. 15:1
 - d. Rev. 19:15

8. In acts 1:11 the angel says to the disciples that Jesus will return the same way he came. Whose feet will touch the Mount of Olives on the Day of the Lord? And what will that day be like?

- a. Zech. 14:4
- b. Zech. 14:6
- c. Zech. 14:9

C: Takeaways

- Jesus comes back for two reasons: to gather his elect and war against his enemies. The 6th bowl sets the stage for the battle of Armageddon where Jesus will defeat his enemies.

Week 8

Study Note Section

Write down some of your thoughts after going through each week.

Did you come across any other cross references? Write them below.

What questions do you have? Try and discuss with group.

PART 4

Satan Bound

The Great White Throne

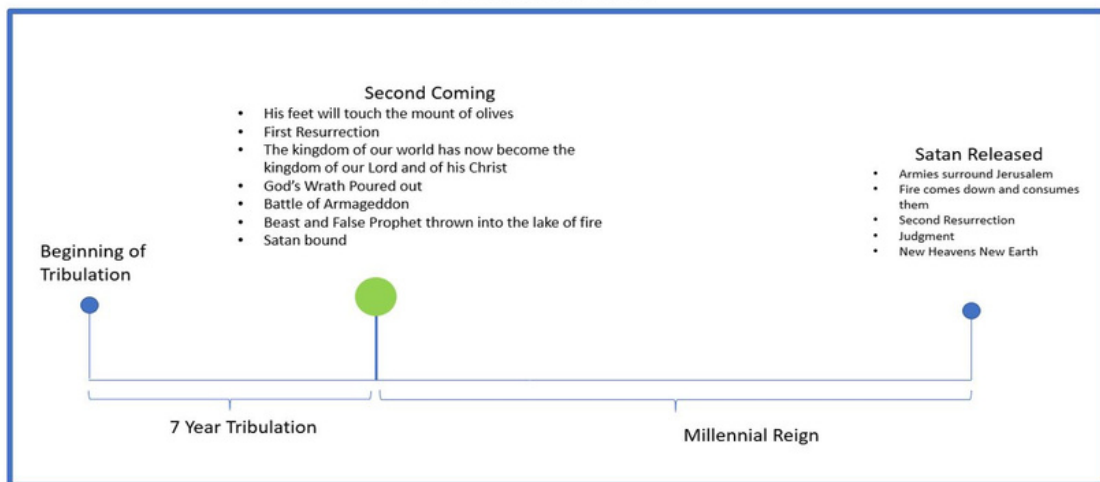
The New Heavens and New Earth

Week 9: Leader Notes

The 1000 Year Reign

As the group reads chapter 20 feel free to discuss the two main views regarding the millennial reign of Christ. Also, read Zechariah 14; this chapter gives more detail about what Jesus will do on the day of his return.

Premillennial



Amillennial & Postmillennial



Section 8: Chapter 20-22

A: Key Points

- When Jesus returns, he will destroy those who are battling against him and cast the beast and false prophet immediately into the lake of fire.
- Satan bound, but later released and immediately destroyed
- Judgement before the throne of God.
- There will be a new heaven and a new earth
- Final warning that Jesus is coming for those who are clothed in righteousness and waiting for him.

B: Talk it Out

1. When Satan is bound what will he no longer be able to do? 20:3
2. Who does John see come to life, and what do verses 5 and 6 say about this resurrection?
3. What happens before the throne of God? V. 13-15
4. What will the new heaven and new earth be like? V. 4-5
5. Who are the people who will inherit this new heaven and earth and who will not? V. 7-8
6. In verses 6-21 there are three warnings given. What are they
 - a. V. 10
 - b. V. 12
 - c. V. 18-19
7. What rewards mentioned in chapters 2 and 3 are mentioned again in chapter 22?
 - a. V. 4
 - b. V. 14
 - c. V. 16

C: Final Takeaways

- Jesus is coming and he has provided everything we need to be ready for his return.
- Stay faithful.
- Share the gospel with everyone!
- The Seven Beatitudes in Revelation:

1. “Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear, and who keep what is written in it, for the time is near.” Rev. 1:3

2. “Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on. That they may rest from their labors, for their deeds follow them.” Rev. 14:13

3. “Blessed is the one who stays awake, keeping his garments on, that he may not go about naked and be seen exposed!” Rev. 16:15

4. “Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.” Rev. 19:9

5. “Blessed and holy are those who share in the first resurrection! Over such the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ, and they will reign with him for a thousand years.” Rev. 20:6

6. “Blessed is the one who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book.” Rev. 22:7

7. “Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they may enter the city by the gates.” Rev. 22:14

Study Note Section

Write down some of your thoughts after going through each week.

Did you come across any other cross references? Write them below.

What questions do you have? Try and discuss with group.

APPENDIX

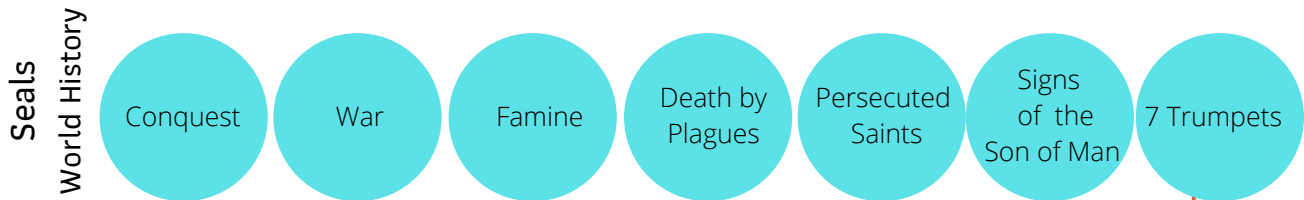


Additional Resources

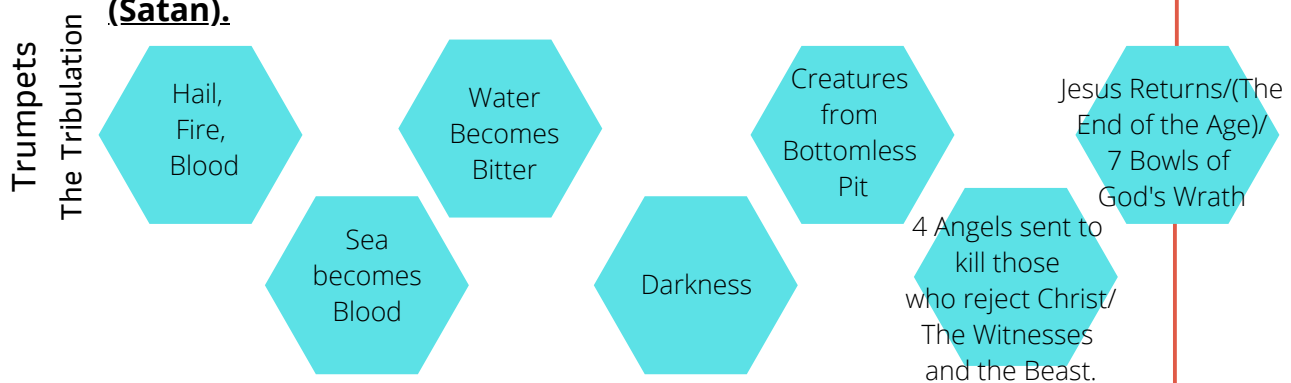
Below you will find a list of either symbols or descriptions used throughout Revelation, most which are references to the Old Testament. This is not an exhaustive list.

Revelation Reference	Revelation Verse	Old/New Testament Verse
Seven Lampstands	Rev. 1:12, 20	Exo. 25:31-40, Zech. 4:1-14
Hidden Manna	Rev. 2:17	Deut. 8:3, John 6:33
Morning Star	Rev. 2:28	Rev. 22:16
White Garments	Rev. 3:5, 18 Rev. 7:13, 19:8, Rev. 22:4	Zech. 3:1-5, Dan. 12:10
Rider on the White Horse	Rev. 6:2,4-5,8	Zech. 1:8
Scroll with 7 Seals	Rev. 5:1, 6:1-17	Eze. 3:1-3
Golden Censer	Rev. 8:3-5	Leviticus 16:1113
Eating the Little Scroll	Rev 10:9-10	Ezekiel 3:1-3
Two Witnesses	Rev. 11:3	Deut. 19:15
Two Olive Trees	Rev. 11:4	Zech. 4
Beast Makes War with the Saints	Rev. 11:7, 12:17, 13:7	Dan. 7:21-22, 25, Dan. 12:6-7
The First Beast	Rev. 13:1-2 Rev. 11:7	Daniel 7:7-8
Babylon the Great	Rev. 16:19, Rev. 17:5, Rev. 18:2	Eze. 24
The Fall of Babylon	Rev. 18	Isaiah
Babylon's Destruction in One Day	Rev. 18:8	Isaiah 47:9
The Drunk with her Wine	Rev. 17:1-2	Isaiah 51:7
Robe Dipped in Blood	Rev. 19:13	Isaiah 63:1-6
New Heaven and Earth	Rev. 21:1	Isaiah 65

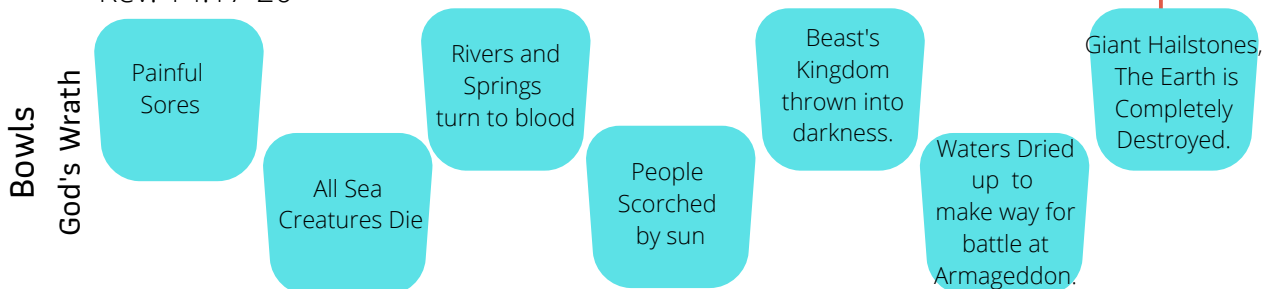
The 7 Seals are a general overview of world history, the tribulation has not yet started in the seals. Conquest, war, famine, death by plagues and persecution of the saints has been the way the world has operated since Genesis. Read Matt. 24:6-8. The first 5 seals are not signs of the end of the age. The signs of the end are the abomination of desolation and the great tribulation that follows. Read Matt. 24:15-31



In general, the trumpets are judgments from God on unbelievers. The 6th trumpet contains the 7 year tribulation. Chapter 12 explains why Satan persecutes the saints from a spiritual perspective while chapters 11 and 13 are from the earthly perspective. Take note of the power of the witnesses in chapter 11 and the catastrophic events in chapters 8 and 9. God's servants (the saints) are protected (sealed in ch. 7) from all the events of the trumpets **except the persecution from the beast (Satan).**



The bowls are the wrath of God. The servants of God are no longer on the earth. Unbelievers are now enduring the winepress of God's wrath. Rev. 14:17-20



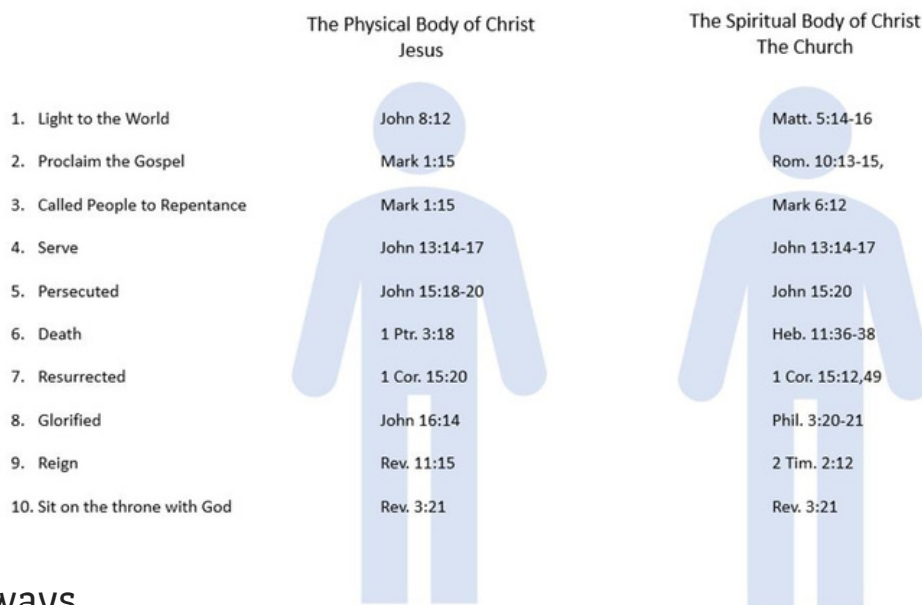
The Body of Christ: Physical and Spiritual Parallel

During the time of John's vision, the churches and John were being heavily persecuted, and Jesus' main point of encouragement and warning to the churches is that he's coming back soon, so continue to endure and hold fast to his name even if that meant death. Christ has yet to return, so what does this mean for the church today?

In general, the bride of Christ should expect persecution, even though in the western world we currently have no fear of persecution, many members in the body of Christ are currently suffering and dying for Jesus.

2 Timothy 3:12 says, "Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted..."

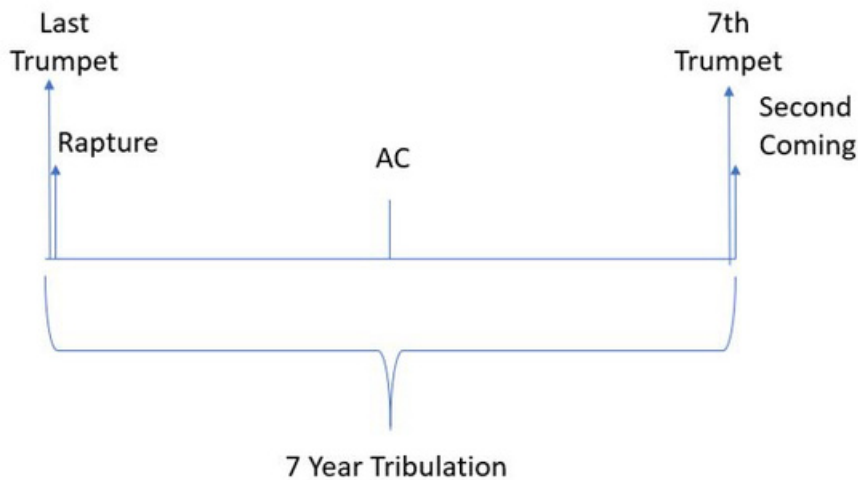
The book of Revelation is about enduring in the midst of intense persecution. As the body of Christ, we should not only expect the blessings that come along with belonging to Christ, but also the suffering. We must realize the spiritual body of Christ is just like the literal body of Christ in that we are called to be like him and do what he did. Review the diagram and verses below and write down any reflections you may have.



C: Takeaways

- Jesus is coming back soon.
- Endure or repent and hold fast. The one who conquers will inherit eternal life.
- The one who conquers will receive the rewards that accompany salvation.

Reasons for Pre-Tribulation Rapture

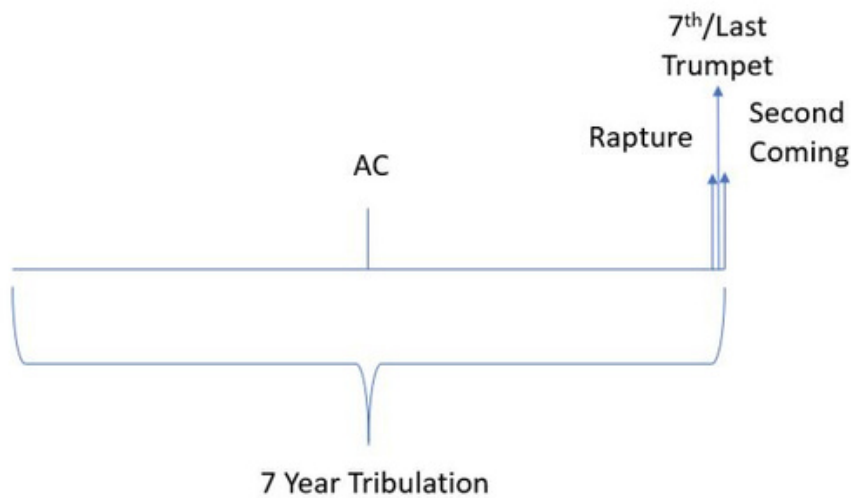


1. The tribulation/great tribulation is God's wrath and the church will not have to endure God's wrath.
2. The rapture happens 7 years before Christ returns. He doesn't completely reveal himself, but comes down partially, and the church is caught up to meet him in the air.
3. The church is mentioned in chapters 1-3 but not again until ch. 19, and this is because of the rapture.
4. The rapture occurs without warning and there are no signs, the church simply vanishes.
5. The last trumpet in Matt 24 and 1 Cor. 15 is not the same trumpet in Revelation 11.
6. The tribulation is a time for the Jews to endure and be tested, but not the church, so we are taken, so he can reconcile Jews back to himself.
7. The rapture must take place before the tribulation, because the Holy Spirit is the "restrainer" spoken of in 2 Thess. 2:6. Once the Holy Spirit is removed from the earth then the tribulation will begin, and anyone who gets saved during the tribulation are tribulation-saints.

- | | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| • 2 Thess. 2:6-7 | • Matt. 24:3-51 | • 1 Thess. 5:9 |
| • 1 Thess. 4:15-17 | • Titus 2:13 | • Revelation 4:1 |
| • John 14:1-3 | • Luke 21:34-36 | • Deut. 4:29-31 |
| • 1 Cor 15:51-52 | • Revelation 3:10 | |
| • 1 Thess. 5:9 | • 1 Thess. 1:9-10 | |

• Dispensationalism: It's important to note the pre-tribulation view stems from the view of dispensationalism which teaches that the Bible is broken into seven dispensations. According to this view, the 6th dispensation is reserved specifically to test the Jewish (and gentile) unbelievers who have rejected their Messiah. Therefore, the church must be taken out of the way for God to deal with his people. For more information check out Gotquestions.org or read "Prophecy for Today" by J. Dwight Pentecost.

Reasons for Post-Tribulation Rapture



1. God's wrath and the Great Tribulation period are two separate events. God's final outpouring of wrath begins on the Day of the Lord which happens immediately after the 7 year tribulation.
2. Scripture tells the saints to wait patiently for the appearance of the Lord at his second coming.
3. Any verse that alludes to the rapture is associated with either or both Jesus' second coming and the last trumpet. Making the Day of the Lord and the day of rapture the same day.
4. The last trumpet in Matt 24 and 1 Cor 15 is the same in Revelation 11, because the same events happen.
5. There are verses that indicate that the rapture happens after the tribulation but there are no verses that place the rapture before.
6. The saints on the earth at the time of Christ's return are the continuing church from the day the church was established in the 1st century. Jesus and Paul spoke as if every generation could have been the generation to witness the tribulation. Therefore, they both encourage the saints throughout history to endure persecution and to be watchful for the Day of the Lord.

- Matt. 24: 29-31
- Matt. 24:36-42
- 1 Thess.4: 13-18
- 1 Thess. 5:1-5
- 1 Thess. 2:1-5
- Luke 21:25-28

- Matt. 24: 29-31
- Matt. 24:36-42
- 1 Thess.4: 13-18
- 1 Thess. 5:1-5
- 1 Thess. 2:1-5
- Luke 21:25-28

- 1 John 2:28
- Philippians 1:6
- Hebrews 9:28
- Philippians 3:20
- Titus 2:13
- 2 Thess. 2:1-13

Additional Resources

To learn about the Beasts, the 70 Weeks, and Antiochus Epiphanes in Daniel check out the following videos by Mike Winger:

- Fulfilled Prophecy (Daniel 7-8) Evidence for the Bible Part 3
- Daniel 9 and the prediction of Jesus' Coming: Evidence for the Bible Part 9
- The Most prophetic passage of the Bible: Evidence for the Bible Part 5

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