

The Judgments of the Tribulation

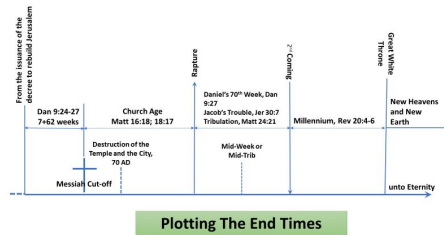
The Trumpet Judgments

I. An Interlude – Taking Our Bearings

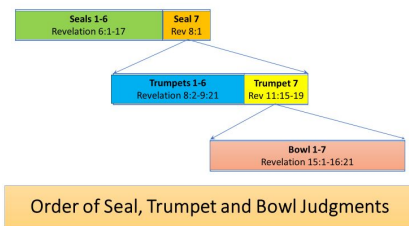
A. Review.

1. The Tribulation period.

- a. is the last week of the 70 weeks of years revealed by the Lord through the angel Gabriel unto the prophet Daniel. In these 70 weeks, the Lord is dealing with the nation Israel. These 70 weeks of years is the period in which the Lord decreed unto the city of Jerusalem and the nation Israel to be restored to glory and the kingdom of Israel built again. (Jeremiah 29:10) The Lord said, “I will visit you and perform My good word toward you, and cause you to return to this place.” The counting of the 70 weeks of years ceased when Israel rejected the Messiah who would have restored the kingdom and glory of Jerusalem and the nation Israel. Because they have rejected the Messiah and the gospel of the kingdom, Israel shall be driven into all nations of the earth, This became an occasion for the Lord Jesus to visit the Gentiles to take a people for His name (Acts 15:14) to provoke them to jealousy (Romans 11:11) for the Lord has taken the Gentiles for Himself which is not a people. Presently, the Lord has temporarily ceased dealing with Israel and now is dealing with the Gentiles. This is the reason why the counting of the 70 weeks of years has stopped after the 69th week. But when the fulness of the Gentiles is come (Romans 11:25), the Lord will deal again with Israel and the counting of the 70th week will start and this last week of Daniel’s 70-week prophecy will resume. This is the last of the 70 weeks or the 7 years when at the end, the Lord will prepare the nation Israel for the coming restoration of the kingdom of Israel with the Lord Jesus, the Messiah, reigning in the world from the city of Jerusalem. The Lord will regather the nation and purify them by the fire of the great tribulation, or Jacob’s trouble (Jeremiah 30:7) that shall come upon this earth. Eventually, Israel will recognize Jesus as their Messiah and be converted and receive the Almighty Lord God the Son Jesus Christ as their Messiah and so Israel shall be saved. (Isa. 53:1–9; 59:20–21; 61:8–9; 64:1–12; Jer. 30:3–24; 31:31–40; 32:37–40; 50:4–5; Ezek. 11:19–20; 16:60–63; 34:25–26; 36:24–32; 37:21–28; Hosea 6:1–3; Joel 2:28–32; Zech. 9:11; 12:10–13:9; Rom. 11:25–27) Romans 11:25-26) The conversion of the nation Israel to the Lord Jesus Christ is a precondition for the Lord’s return as their King to restore and set up His Kingdom in the city of Jerusalem and reign for a thousand years (Revelation 20:4) before creating the New Heavens and New Earth where He will reign forever and ever. (Revelation 21-22; Isaiah 9:7; 2Peter 3:13)



- b. In other words, the Tribulation or Jacob's trouble is for Israel, the last week of the 70 weeks of years is determined or decreed by the Lord upon Jerusalem and Israel, the people of Daniel. (Daniel 9:24) The Tribulation period is not meant for the Church because the church has been raptured (1Thessalonians 4:16-18) before the Tribulation as the Church takes comfort in this (1Thessalonians 4:18), that it is not appointed unto wrath but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ. (1Thessalonians 5:9).
2. The Judgments of the Tribulation Period. In the interval between the Rapture and the Second Coming of the Lord Jesus Christ a series of three sets of 7 judgments. These are the Seals, the Trumpets, and Bowl Judgments. These divine judgments increase in severity like birth pains as the judgments are successively revealed. The Seals are opened, while the trumpets are sounded and, eventually, the bowl judgments are poured upon this earth.



BEGINNING OF THE TRIBULATION (7 years): Sequence of Judgments after the RAPTURE OF THE CHURCH (Rev. 4 & 5)

7 SEALS

1) Opening of the 6 seals

The Seal Judgments

- 1st Seal: white horse - appearance of the antichrist (Revelation 6:1-2)
- 2nd Seal: red horse - great warfare (Revelation 6:3-4)
- 3rd Seal: black horse - great famine (Revelation 6:5-6)
- 4th Seal: pale green horse - death by sword, hunger, plague, beasts (Revelation 6:7-8)
- 5th Seal: martyrdom of believers in Christ (Revelation 6:9-11)
- 6th Seal: cataclysmic events in heaven and on earth (Revelation 6:12-14). Those who survive the six seals cry out to the mountains and rocks, "Fall on us and hide us from the face of him who sits on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb! For the great day of his wrath has come, and who can stand?" (Revelation 6:16-17).

Revelation 7 (Parenthetical Chapter)

The 144,000 Jews Servants of God

- Rev 7:4 And I heard the number of the sealed, 144,000, sealed from every tribe of the sons of Israel:
- Rev 7:5 12,000 from the tribe of **Judah** were sealed, 12,000 from the tribe of **Reuben**, 12,000 from the tribe of **Gad**,
- Rev 7:6 12,000 from the tribe of **Asher**, 12,000 from the tribe of **Naphtali**, 12,000 from the tribe of **Manasseh**,
- Rev 7:7 12,000 from the tribe of **Simeon**, 12,000 from the tribe of **Levi**, 12,000 from the tribe of **Issachar**,
- Rev 7:8 12,000 from the tribe of **Zebulun**, 12,000 from the tribe of **Joseph**, 12,000 from the tribe of **Benjamin** were sealed.

(Revelation 7)... A parenthetical portion detailing the sealing of 144,000 Israelite soul winners who win multitudes to Christ, but these converts are murdered sometime during the first half or at the mid-point of the Tribulation. “after this...”

(Rev. 7:9) “when he had opened the seventh seal ... I saw the seven angels who stand before God, and seven trumpets were given to them.”

2) 7 TRUMPETS

The Trumpet Judgments

- **1st Trumpet:** hail and fire mingled with blood, and they were cast upon the earth;
- **2nd Trumpet:** a great mountain burning with fire was cast into the sea;
- **3rd Trumpet:** a great burning star (Wormwood) from heaven fell upon the third part of the rivers, and upon the fountains of waters;
- **4th Trumpet:** the third part of the sun was smitten, and the third part of the moon, and the third part of the stars, so as the third part of them was darkened,
- the third part of trees was burnt up, and all green grass was burnt up.
- the third part of the sea became blood; the third part of the living creatures in the sea died; and the third part of the ships were destroyed.
- the third part of the waters became wormwood; and many men died of the waters because they were made bitter.
- and the day shone not for a third part of it, and the night likewise

“Woe, woe, woe” (Rev. 8:13)

The First Woe (Revelation 9:1-12)

- **5th Trumpet:** a star fell from heaven unto the earth: he gave the key of the bottomless pit; he opened the bottomless pit; and there arose a smoke out of the pit, as the smoke of a great furnace; there came out of the smoke locusts upon the earth: and unto them was given power, as the scorpions of the earth have power: the shapes of the locusts were like unto horses prepared unto battle; and on their heads were as it were crowns like gold, and their faces were as the faces of men, they had hair as the hair of women, and their teeth were as the teeth of lions, they had breastplates as it were breastplates of iron; and the sound of their wings was as the sound of chariots of many horses running to battle. And they had a king over them, which is the angel of the bottomless pit, whose name in the Hebrew tongue is Abaddon, but in the Greek tongue hath his name Apollyon.
- and the sun and the air were darkened by reason of the smoke of the pit.
- it was commanded them (locusts) that they should not hurt the grass of the earth, neither any green thing, neither any tree; but only those men which have not the seal of God on their foreheads.
- And to them it was given that they should not kill them, but that they should be tormented five months; and their torment was as the torment of a scorpion when he striketh a man: in those days shall men seek death, and shall not find it; and shall desire to die, and death shall flee from them.
- And they had tails like unto scorpions, and there were stings in their tails: and their power was to hurt men five months.

One woe is past; and, behold, there come two woes more hereafter” (Rev. 9:12)

The Second Woe (Revelation 9:13-21)

- **6th Trumpet:** a voice from the four horns of the golden altar which is before God, saying to the sixth angel which had the trumpet, Loose the four angels which are bound in the great river Euphrates. The four angels were loosed, which were prepared for an hour, and a day, and a month, and a year;
- And the number of the army of the horsemen were two hundred thousand thousand; and I heard the number of them. And thus I saw the horses in the vision, and them that sat on them, having breastplates of fire, and of jacinth, and brimstone: and the heads of the horses were as the heads of lions.
- For their power is in their mouth, and in their tails: for their tails were like unto serpents, and had heads, and with them they do hurt.
- for to slay the third part of men.
- and out of their mouths issued fire and smoke and brimstone. By these three was the third part of men killed, by the fire, and by the smoke, and by And the rest of the men which were not killed by these plagues yet repented not of the works of their hands, that they should not worship devils, and idols of gold, and silver, and brass, and stone, and of wood: which neither can see, nor hear, nor walk: Rev 9:21. Neither repented they of their murders, nor of their sorceries, nor of their fornication, nor of their thefts, the brimstone, which issued out of their mouths.

(Chapters 10, 11, 12, 13, and 14 are parenthetical chapters which give details about the middle of the Tribulation)

Revelation Chapter 10-11:15

Interlude or Parenthetic Chapters

Chapter 10 - a mighty angel with a little book and the apostle John eats the little book...

Chapter 11 - God's 2 witnesses preach, killed, and resurrected and the second "woe" is passed (Revelation 11:14).

Continuation of Trumpet Judgments:

- a. The entire passage of Revelation from chapters 10 through 14 is parenthetical and does not advance the narrative. Each of the three series of judgments (the seals, trumpets, and bowls) contains a parenthesis between the sixth and seventh events. Between the 6th and 7th seals is a parenthetical chapter, chapter 7. Between the 6th and 7th trumpet, John eats the little book and the two witnesses of God are sent to preach, be killed, and be resurrected. The details of the sounding of the seventh trumpet are unfolded in chapter 15.
- b. There is also an interval proclaiming the kingdom of this world has now become the anticipated kingdom of our Lord and our Christ and He will reign forever and ever. The tense of the verb translated "has become" describes a future event that is as good as done. This is similar to the prophecy given to Isaiah about the suffering servant Messiah, "But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him, and with his stripes we are healed." (Isaiah 53:5) Isaiah was writing about an event that is more than 700 years in the future but the verbs are in the past tense. The future event is as good as done because, for sure, the prophecies about the suffering Messiah will have to be fulfilled for the salvation of the whole world when the Messiah "who knew no sin was made sin that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him" (2Corinthians 5:21).
- c. The nations are enraged (11:18) with no desire to repent of their sin. Normally, when one sees he is going through a divine judgment, it brings him to repent but most of the people at this time during the tribulation who refused to repent have hardened their hearts against the Lord. The Holy Spirit was pleading with them, "Today when you hear His voice, harden not your hearts." (Hebrews 3:7-8; 4:7) To those who refuse the Lord, the Bible says three times, "For this cause, God gave them over" in Romans chapter 1 "because that when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened." They have arrived at a very dreadful end when even God whose mercy endures forever (Psalm 136), not wanting anyone to perish but that everyone comes to repentance (2Peter 3:9)
- d. 2 Thessalonians 2:9-12 speaks about this fearful situation when people are deceived by the lawless one (antichrist) "because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this cause, God shall send

them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness.”

- e. Those who continue in sin and unrepentant of their ways, think that the Lord is loving and meek as a Lamb, will one day say “to the mountains and rocks, ‘Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb. For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?’”
- f. Do not be left behind to suffer those horrible days of the tribulation period. If you have not totally surrendered your all, including your sins, to the Lord Jesus, this is the day of salvation (2Corinthians 6:2) The Bible says, “If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (1Jn 1:8-9)
- g. One day when the Lord Jesus Christ returns to reign as King, He will bring eternal judgment to those who reject Him but reward His servants the prophets, and to the saints, and them that fear thy name saying, “And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be.” (Revelation 22:12) “Even so, come, Lord Jesus.” Maranatha!

The Lord’s Message – 29/11/2020