

REVELATION  
**THE SEVEN SEALS**

— “A VIEW FROM THE HEEL” —



**A STUDY**



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# Revelation

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A View from the heel



*While this work is dedicated to*

**The Saints,**

*especially..... "the feet of Him" ....and to*

**The Household of Faith**

*.....we are greatly thankful to*

**Our Heavenly Father**

*and ....to our Master*

*"The King of kings and Lord of lords"*

**Lord Jesus Christ.**

*for this privilege of His Holy service.*



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*“And I saw in the right hand of Him that sat on the throne a book written within and on the backside , sealed with seven seals.  
And I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice , Who is worthy to open the book and to loose the seals thereof ?”*

## REVELATION 5:1-2

**Y**es We will be looking at the **SEVEN SEALS** in the .....  
**Book of Revelation.**

 We find them beginning... at the **6th chapter and Vs-1...** and going through till the **8th chapter beginning...** and precisely ending at **Vs-5.**

 We have an **INTERLUDE** between the 6th and 8th chapter...  
 ... the **7th Chapter**

...which **seems to** contain that which is NOT PART of the *“seven seals”*... but yet is placed between the end of the sixth seal description... and before the seventh seal description.

**We will see WHAT all this seems to SIGNIFY**


But **FIRST** let us **begin at the point** where... in the book of Revelation.... the *“seven seals”* ORIGINATED so to speak!

Ah Yes! The “book” we find spoken of in our theme text -

### Revelation 5:1

*“...a book written within and on the backside,  
sealed with seven seals”*



 Yes! There it is !


 **What does all this mean?**


Firstly it is ENTIRELY SYMBOLIC and it would be wrong and erroneous to INTERPRET it in any way literally! In understanding what is signified here, it is profitable to our study to understand the TIME FRAME of when this vision takes place.

We identify that now, through reading from -

**Vs - 6**

*"...and lo , in the midst of the throne and of the four beasts , and in the midst of the elders stood a Lamb as it had been slain..."*

 Yes! This is JESUS **after His death and resurrection**... and... before the Pentecostal outpouring of the Holy Spirit!

 Thus it was that the Lord said these words to His disciples, which we read in -

**Matthew 28:18**

*"All power is given unto me..."*

Yes! At this point He had **already** received the "*book*"

**Now what is this "book"?**

We find it described as -

*"...in the right hand of him that sat on the throne a book written within and on the backside..."*

The "*book*" symbolises **a record of something** - and in this case it is -

**GOD'S DIVINE PLAN OF SALVATION FOR MANKIND**

.....and it is "*in His right hand*" - meaning that the "*hand*" not only signifies it being in HIS CONTROL but further the

mention of *"right"* signifies a position of... **being pleasing** as in -

▶ **Matthew 25:34** - the *"sheep"* on the *"right hand"*...

and in...

▶ **Hebrews 1:3** - the Lord Jesus Himself seated *"at the right hand"* of the Father.

Thus this DIVINE PLAN OF SALVATION is **something very pleasing to God** as is well confirmed in -

**Isaiah 53:10**

*"Yet it pleased the Lord to bruise Him; He hath put Him to grief: when thou shalt make His soul an offering for sin, He shall see His seed, He shall prolong His days, and the pleasure of the Lord shall prosper in His hand."*

**And again we read** of this same matter in -

**Ephesians 1:9**

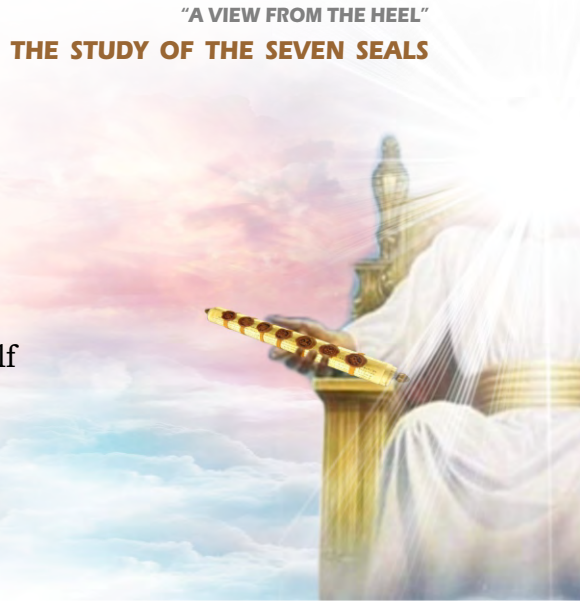
*"Having made known unto us the mystery of His will, according to His good pleasure which He hath purposed in Himself:"*

Yes! This Divine Plan which is *"the good pleasure"* of God is here shown to be so symbolically in those words -

 *"in the right hand of him"*






Now this *"book"* has writings or **REVELATIONS** of that PLAN... both *"within and on the back side"*. It is the portion *"within"* that is **SEALED** with the SEVEN SEALS!

The portion on the *"backside"* is VISIBLE and READABLE and would include that part of the Divine Plan **that had been**




revealed and many not even fulfilled until the... opening of the Gospel Age!

 **Yes! Revelations of the Divine Plan such as.....**


-  **The prophecy of "the seed of the Woman" and the seed of the serpent.**
-  **The Abrahamic promise to "bless all the families of the earth"**
-  **The coming of a Messiah - "one like unto Moses"**
-  **The Tabernacle and its sacrifices.**
-  **The Law and all its hidden types.**

Yes! There was something **proclaimed and revealed...** but nothing was completely clear!


 It was like writing backwards on a paper... and one would not understand until the paper **was held up to the light and seen from behind!**

Yes! It would require the... revelation of that portion "*within*" the "*book*" to **FULLY UNDERSTAND**. And that needed **someone** who was "**WORTHY**" to open the book and to loose the seals.

**Ah! Yes! The question of -**

 **"Who is worthy"?**

.....implies the OPPORTUNITY opened by God... for AN **EXECUTOR** of the Divine Plan! He would have to prove his worthiness... by submission to the Divine Will... in... **BECOMING** and **GIVING** His life as the **RANSOM PRICE** to redeem all mankind. In doing so, He would prove His **supreme LOVE** for God... **AND** for the fallen race of mankind... and would thus be -

 **"WORTHY"** to enter in as the executor of that plan and be entitled to receive the UNDERSTANDING of the plan in its entirety with CLARITY... and its TIMES and SEASONS!

( We wish to point out to the readers ....that though this "book" is a **SYMBOL** of God's great **DIVINE PLAN OF SALVATION**.....here in this context it reveals the **UNFOLDING** of the "**so great salvation**".....of the Gospel age which was opening .)

 Which brings us now to **the book and its being sealed** with...

➤ *“seven seals”.*

This represents... as we will see in the understanding of the **SEVEN SEALS**...


 **the EVENTS unfolding.....**


➤ **REGARDING THE CHURCH AND ITS SALVATION**  
and...

➤ **THE DEVELOPMENT AND GROWTH OF THAT ASTONISHING**  
**“MYSTERY OF INIQUITY” ( II Thessalonians 2:7)**

Yes! Both Christ and ANTICHRIST are mysteries!!!  
**(Christ as a mystery... Romans 16:25)**

The *“seals”* represent these **“MYSTERIES”** and the *“seven”* represents that for BOTH Christ and ANTICHRIST the development and history would be over **SEVEN STAGES** or periods of time in the Gospel Age.

 **For Christ** ➤ Seven periods for development of a *“body”* of 144,000 members and ending in FINAL GLORIFICATION

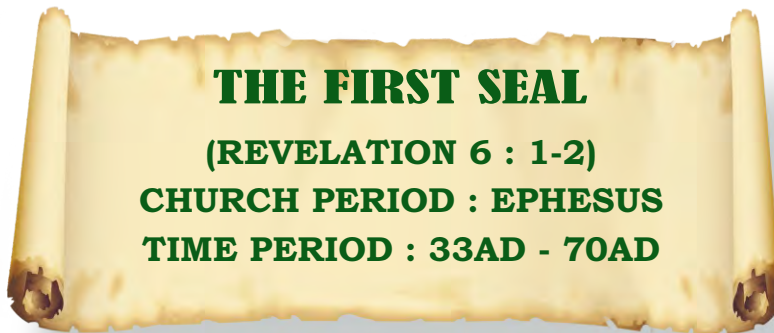
 **For Antichrist** ➤ Same seven periods for establishing a COUNTERFEIT CHURCH SYSTEM and ending in FINAL DESTRUCTION.



Yes! One could sum up the *"Seven Seals"* as -

**THE SEVEN FOLD REVELATION  
 OF THE MYSTERIES OF CHRIST AND  
 ANTICHRIST**


Having seen **this introduction to the matter** and the thoughts so to speak... let us now turn to the SEVEN SEALS and study them one by one -



**Vs - 1**


*"And I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seals, and I heard as it were the noise of thunder, one of the four beasts saying come and see" one by one -*

Here as we now get into the understanding of the "seals" and the symbolisms used **let us remember TWO things.**

-  **#1.** The events of these *"seals"* **correspond in TIME** to the seven periods of the Gospel Age Church as delineated in Revelation 2nd and 3rd chapters.

It is the same with the **trumpets** too! Thus our interpretation will STRICTLY follow this harmony **as it is most reasonable** that the number *"seven"* for the seals corresponds to those **SEVEN TIME DIVISIONS** of the Gospel Age.

## THE STUDY OF THE SEVEN SEALS

 #2. And **secondly...** we must look... in our interpretation, for **BOTH** the true church and... the false counterfeit church in all the seven seals. In the case of the true church, the development is with the **approval of God...** while **with the** false church it is with **the permission of God!!**

Thus we have the terms and phrases used -

 **"was given to him"**

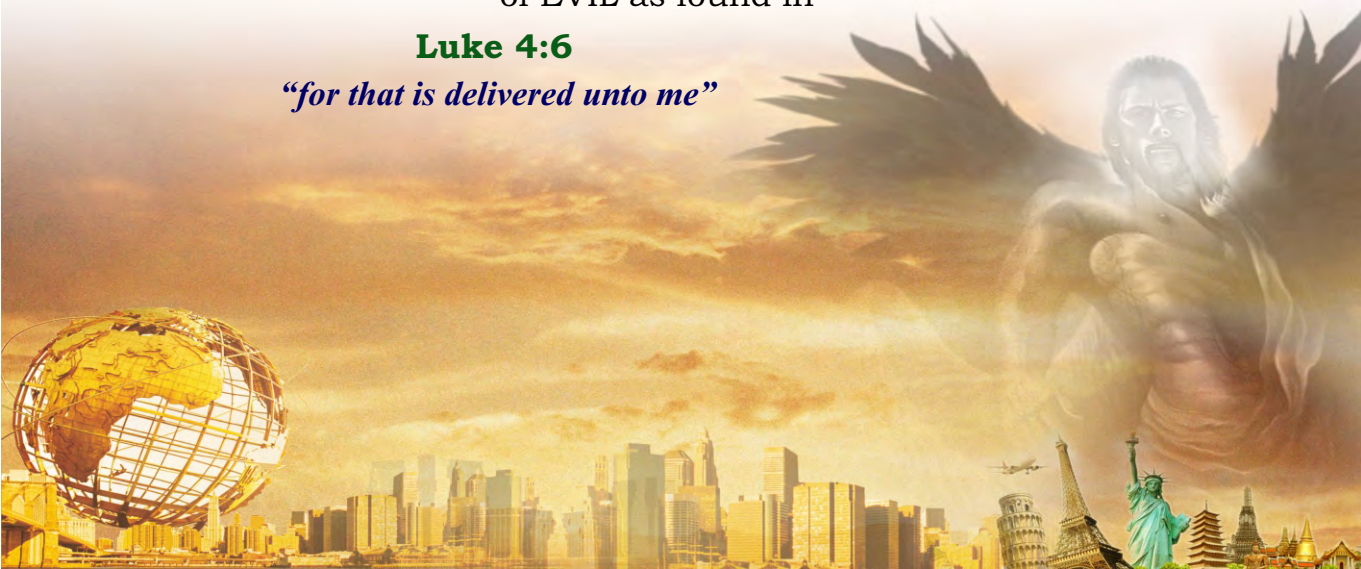
**or....**

 **"was given unto him"**

This corresponds to God's permission of EVIL as found in -

**Luke 4:6**


*"for that is delivered unto me"*



Yes! This is Satan speaking of his **permitted** authority.

So too we read of the same in -

**Job 1:12 and 2:6**

 *"And the Lord said unto Satan, Behold, all that he hath is in thy power; only upon himself put not forth thine hand. So Satan went forth from the presence of the Lord".*

 *"And the Lord said unto Satan, Behold, he is in thine hand; but save his life".*



**Yes! It is very clear!**

Thus the references in this kind of language in the seven seals refers NOT to the true church **but rather** to the false church!

Now let us return back to -

**Revelation 6:1**

*"...and I heard as it were the noise of thunder, one of the four beasts saying, come and see..."*

We know that the four beasts over here are representative of God's **FOUR CHARACTER ATTRIBUTES**... and it will be noticed in the... **next three seals** too... that each of those living creatures calls to... *"come and see"*. Thus they number FOUR in all!

In order to understand the **ORDER** of these attributes we go to **Revelation 4:7** and... note that the **FIRST** beast was like a lion!!


➡ Are we THEN to follow this same order???




➤ It is well known that in the study and interpretation of these *"four beasts"* of **Revelation 4th chapter**,... and specifically in **Vs-7** (Revelation 4)... *"the first beast was like a lion"* has had very **DIVERGENT** views among the brethren worldwide. There has been one school of thought that


interprets the "first beast" which is "like a lion" to represent **DIVINE JUSTICE**, while the "second beast like a calf" is taken to represent **DIVINE POWER**.

While we do not have the time now to go into the details of this reasoning, suffice it to say, that such is, a **school of thought**.

 And there is another school of thought that interprets the matter in a **reverse manner**... with the "lion" being a representation of DIVINE POWER... and the "calf".  
**(Greek #34481- "moschos" meaning also young bullock)** representing DIVINE JUSTICE, as further supported by it being the means to fulfill the sacrifice to satisfy divine justice, in the typical picture of the Atonement day in the Tabernacle  
**(Leviticus 16th chapter).**

 We **LIKE** and **SUPPORT** this thought!

 Further as a scriptural support for our leaning to this thought that the "lion" as the first beast is representative of DIVINE POWER we would point out that **the FIRST aspect** to be understood of God is that He is **ALMIGHTY**... meaning His being the **CREATOR** and **LIFE GIVER** of all... **the ORIGIN of life itself!**

 Thus it is we see, that when God FIRST revealed Himself to man, in the person of Abraham, he was known as...

*"El-Shaddai" in...*

**Exodus 6:3**

*"And I appeared unto Abraham, unto Isaac, and unto Jacob, by the name of God Almighty...."*

**(Hebrew # 410 & 7706 - "El-shaddai")**

(Also found in- **Genesis 17:1/28:3/35:11/48:3**)



And then again... when God begins His revealed and written  
**WORD** ... the **BIBLE**... he reveals Himself as...the  
**CREATOR**... in -

**Genesis 1:1**

*"In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth"*

Yes! The first understanding in the revelation of God... and his attributes, must of necessity be His divine power as  
**CREATOR** and **LIFE GIVER**.

➤ **So thus it is this thought that we find suitable...  
 and also supported scripturally!**

When we go to our text **Revelation 6:1**... we read that  
 there was -

☞ ... *"as it were the noise of thunder"*

This **IDENTIFIES** or is an indicator of... that first beast!

➡ **What does it mean?**

We shall now turn to a scripture in -

**Revelation 10 :3**

*"And cried with a loud voice, as when a  
 lion roareth: and when he had cried,  
 seven thunders uttered their voices".*

Yes! The thunder is... compared to  
 a **LION'S ROAR!!** Thus the **FIRST**  
 of these *"beasts"* is indeed the  
**LION**... and corresponding to the  
**ORDER** of **Revelation 4:6!!**

The "lion" is representative of  
**GOD'S ATTRIBUTE** of -

➡ **POWER**



Yes! At the opening of the FIRST SEAL... God's attribute of POWER draws attention to the events that manifest therein!!

 **What would this mean?**

Well, this would mean something symbolic! That is, the developments that would soon unfold... and as described in the first seal... or first period of the church, would seem to be a challenge to and **VERY contradiction of**... the existence of the **ALMIGHTY POWER** of God.

Here we are to understand something from the scriptures concerning the **ALMIGHTY POWER** of God **in relation to ALL EVIL!** We will need to look into a few scriptures to understand this wondrous matter! Let us begin with -

**Isaiah 45:7**

*“ I form the light, and create darkness : I make peace, and create evil : I the LORD do all these things. ”*

This scripture details a very **ASTOUNDING** truth, very hard to be understood and grasped initially by the human mind! Here God **“THE LORD”**- very clearly explains His relation to **ALL EVIL!**

Notice, in relation to *“light”* and *“peace”* God's actions are *“form”* and *“make”*, but in relation to *“darkness”* and *“evil”* God's action is described as *“create”* (**Strongs -Hebrew #H1254**). it is a different word from the previous two words.

 **What does this mean?**

 **Bro Russell writes in R 849.....**

**God declared man guilty and pronounced the righteous penalty, death . In carrying it out, various agencies are allowed to operate against man . Thus God is said to **“create evil”** (Isaiah 45 : 7)**



So we see in relation to **EVIL**, that it is God's **PERMISSION** or **PERMISSORY power** that allows such evil and opposition to be expressed or come into existence. God uses his **OVERRULING** power in this matter as we read in -

**Psalms 76:10**

*"Surely the wrath of man shall praise thee: the remainder of wrath shalt thou restrain"*

Again this speaks of **this OVERRULING power of God** in the world - in the affairs and history of mankind!

➤ Again Bro Russell writes in R 1778.....

**"The wrath of man and devils, while not in any sense of God, shall be operated or controlled by Gods providence"**

So we see clearly God's relation to **ALL EVIL** is in his **PERMISSION** and **OVERRULING providences**.



Thus we would understand the "*lion*" or God's attribute of **DIVINE POWER** saying "*come and see*" to represent how at the opening of the Gospel Age, something was being PERMITTED to come into being, which we will later see.... is the **ANTICHRIST** system.

👉 "*the mystery of iniquity*" (2 Thessalonian 2:7)

And thus we complete our thoughts on this first verse of the **FIRST SEAL**

**Let us now look to the contents of the first seal in -**

**Vs - 1**

*"And I saw, and behold a white horse; and he that sat on him had a bow; and a crown was given unto him: and he went forth conquering, and to conquer"*



**Ah! Yes... "*a white horse*"**

Here we are going to see that in the first four seals... as they are being opened, **a horse of a different color** comes forth.

The "*horse*" here is a symbol for doctrine (**Isaiah 31:3**)... While the VARYING colors reflects the **CONDITION** of the **DOCTRINE** in that particular period.



➤ Yes! The **"white horse"** here would represent the PURE DOCTRINE of TRUTH in the first church period. Yes! It was the **"Most Holy faith"** that was then **"delivered unto the saints"** (Jude:3). It was the APOSTOLIC period of the Church and they were ABLE CUSTODIANS of the FAITH and did **"contend"** to keep the TRUTH in its purity!

Now let us come to the **rider** of the horse - which would represent the **BELIEVERS** in the **DOCTRINES**.

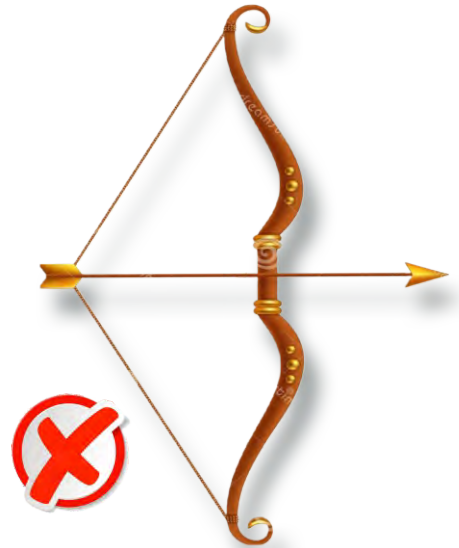
Let us see the rider described over here -

👉 *"...and he that sat on him had a bow; and a crown was given unto him..."*

Here the word **"bow"** is from the Greek word **"toxon"** (Strong's Greek # 5115) which means **a bow**, as made from cloth or fabric!!



Many commentaries have shown this **"bow"** to be **a weapon...** and thus interpreted, this rider is taken to be **ENTIRELY the false church!**



But we would like to present **a DIFFERING thought...** that is supported by the scriptures too!

In searching for the Greek word for "*bow*" - "**toxon**" we find that it is **related** to another word in # 5088 - "**tikto**"/ "**teko**" which means "**bear**" or "**bring forth**".

Thus we suggest that "*bow*" here from the Greek word used would mean -

➤ "**having a seed to bring forth**"

Indeed, the rider here is the TRUE CHURCH founded on the "*Most Holy Faith*" and... as begotten to new life... as NEW CREATURES.

Indeed, the first phase of the Church **was given a MISSION**, as can be seen in the final words of Our Lord and Master... that has come to be called "**the great commission**" in -

**Matthew 28:19**

*"Go ye therefore and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost."*

Ah! Yes! To **seek and to find a select group** or "*body*" which would be represented by all peoples and tongues of the earth, as we read in -

**Matthew 28:19**

*"And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof; for Thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by Thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people and nation."*

➡ Oh! Yes! The "*us*" class here **had to be found in every nation and language of the world**, over the next close to **2000 years**... the Gospel Age... and this grand work and... **MISSION** was only **BEGINNING!**





▶ **"and he that sat on him had a bow"**

**Yes! All FAITHFUL disciples of the Master went forth to fulfil this commission of the Master.**

But there is another part of the rider which we read next -

☞ ***"...and a crown was given unto him"***

Yes! While the church was **PROMISED** "*glory and honor*" with Jesus in the first resurrection (**II Timothy 2:11,12**), some in the early church **sought for it in this life itself.**

☞ The **Apostle Paul** speaks of them (this class in the church) in-

**I Corinthians 4:8**

*"Now ye are full, now ye are rich, ye have reigned as kings without us: and I would to God ye did reign, that we also might reign with you".*

...And **the Lord speaks of them** in His message to this, FIRST church of Ephesus in -

**Revelation 2:6**

*"But this thou hast, that thou hatest the deeds of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate".*

Yes! The "*Nicolaitans*"... who were **INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS** within the early church, who sought for **DOMINION** and **EARTHLY GLORY.**

**Yes!... "a crown (which he sought for) was given unto him..."**



These members of the ANTICHRIST in "**embryotic form**" were allowed by God to "**CONCEIVE**" or begin to GROW!!

And thus the "**rider**" on the white horse was a combination of the **TRUE** church **AND** the... **embryotic false church**... which picture is clear and shown again in -



**Revelation 12:1,2**

*"And she being with child cried..."*

Yes! This is **exactly pictured** in the "**rider**" of **this WHITE HORSE!!** Finally, we read -



*"...and he went forth conquering, and to conquer"*

Again **the TWIN element** showing the presence of two personalities!

Yes! the TRUE CHURCH had a **battle** and needed to **conquer** the enemies... of SELF / THE WORLD and THE ADVERSARY and Christian life was... to **be conquering** and... to become **conquerors** as we read in **Romans 8:37** / **Revelation 3:21.**

But we see that the "**embryotic**" FALSE CHURCH too had a **DESIRE** and **WISH** and **MISSION**, so to speak  
 ➤ "**.....to conquer**" This conquest was **AIMED** to be of **EARTHLY GLORY AND HONOR.**

Here this is described as -



 a **WISH** and

 ...in a **futuristic sense**

...since the FALSE church was still **"embryotic"** and was

 **YET TO TAKE A FULL and COMPLETE SHAPE!!**


Yes! We are to always remember that this ANTICHRIST system... the false church... and its development in the scriptures is shown as having **THREE stages** as we read in **Revelation 12th chapter...**

 **STAGE #1** ... the beginning...

**Revelation 12:2**

*"And she being with child cried travailing in birth, and pained to be delivered"*


This is the **INVISIBLE** and **POWERLESS stage** of the Antichrist - system... "conceived" **INSIDE** the "body" of the true Church. This period could be said to be **from the first century till the council of Nicaea in 325 AD**

 Then we have... **STAGE #2**

**Revelation 12:5**

*"And she brought forth a man child, who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron, and her child was caught up to God, and to his throne"*

This is the **VISIBLE**, but **POWERLESS stage** of the Antichrist system... the *"man of sin"*, system in the form of *"man child"*. This period could be said to be from the Council of Nicaea in **325AD** till the receiving of the title of **"Pontifex Maximus"** from Emperor Justinian in **539AD**.

 And finally.. we have.. **STAGE #3**

**Revelation 12:7,8**

*“And there was war in heaven; Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels. And prevailed not; neither was their place found anymore in heaven”*


**And, again in...**

**Revelation 12:7,8**

*“Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called god, or that is worshipped; so that he as god sitteth in the temple of God, showing himself that he is god.”*


This is the **VISIBLE** and **POWERFUL** stage of the Antichrist system that could be said to have begun in **539AD...** and the beginning of **the divinely permitted period of AUTHORITY** of...

 *“time, times and half a time”* (**Revelation 12 : 14**) or...

 *“a thousand two hundred and three score days”* (**Rev 12 : 6**)  
or... again

 *“to continue forty and two months”* (**Revelation 13 : 5**)

which of course is chronologically the period from...

 **539 AD to 1799 AD (A period of 1260 years)**

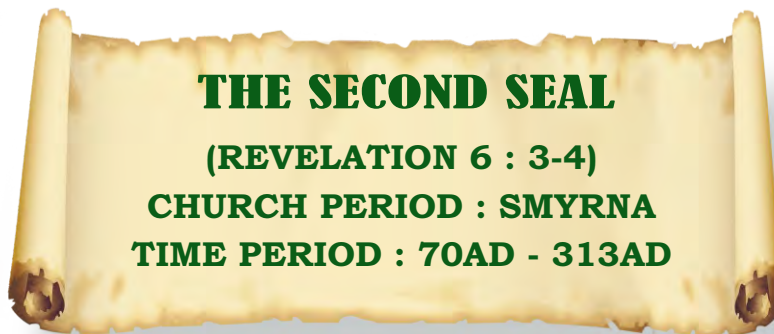
Now in this **“first seal”** this system, is in its beginning... the **INVISIBLE** and **POWERLESS** stage... of having just been “conceived”, but having a **very different MISSION** from the true church - a seeking for **EARTHLY power, glory and authority**, in the name of God and **“His kingdom”** which would be a **FALSE CLAIM!**

👉 Yes! *“and to conquer”!*

Thus was the **BEGINNING** of these TWO “mysteries” in the opening of the first seal and... **it would seem** that **GOD’S ALMIGHTY POWER attribute** draws our attention to this **FALSE** and **COUNTERFEIT SYSTEM** that was **ALLOWED** to take shape!

Yes! This was DIVINE power... **manifesting in PERMISSION!**

👉 *“one of the four beasts saying come and see”!*



Vs - 1

*“And I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seals, and I heard as it were the noise of thunder, one of the four beasts saying come and see”  
one by one -*

👉 Yes! Here the *“second beast”* draws our attention to the **ORDER** of the ‘beasts’ as revealed in **Revelation 4:7** where **the second** beast is *“like a calf”* and thus represents the **SECOND CHARACTER ATTRIBUTE** of God -

➡ **“JUSTICE”**



Yes! God's attribute of JUSTICE seems to wish to **draw our attention** to the **contents** of the second seal !

Let us now see the contents -

**Vs - 4**

*"And there went out another horse that was red: and power was given to him that sat thereon to take peace from the earth, and that they should kill one another: and there was given unto him a great sword!"*

Firstly, please notice that the "horse" **here has CHANGED** and... the colour too has changed - representing a **CHANGE IN THE DOCTRINE!**

Yes! **A great change** from the "white" of the "Most Holy Faith"  
Thus we note those words -

*"And there went out another horse that was red:..."!*



**Now what does "red" in symbol mean?**

We find the answer in -

**Revelation 12:3**

*"...a great red dragon"*

Yes! This is a symbol **for the Roman Empire !** And **“red”** symbolises how the purity of the *“Most Holy Faith”* began to take... **Romanish shades!**

**PLEASE NOTE :** In the language of TAMIL, HINDI, and some other language translations of the BIBLE, it is observed that the colours - “red” and “scarlet (Crimson - Isaiah 1:18) ”

DO NOT have separate words, but are one and the same word!

This causes a MAJOR problem!

Because the two colours, when taken SYMBOLICALLY have completely DIFFERENT meaning and significance. Thus this matter in any such language..... must find a solution when taking up this study, with the suggestion of two SEPARATE words for “red” and “scarlet (Crimson)”!



**When and how** did this take place?

We find that answer in -

**Matthew 13:25**

*“But while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat and went his way”*

Yes! This clearly shows us the time period. The phrase - **“while men slept”** represents the end of the **APOSTOLIC ERA** with **the death of the last apostle - Apostle John, around 100 AD...** which incidentally was the beginning of the second church period of SMYRNA. And this parable too relates to what happened in this SECOND church period.

Yes! Satan began **to draw out BELIEVERS** from Christians of the church **for his FALSE DOCTRINES** as prophesied earlier by Apostle Paul in -




**I Timothy 4:1**

*"Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils;"*

Yes! Gradually **PAGAN ROMAN BELIEFS** and **PRACTICES** began to enter the Church.

➤ **Remember - the tare seeds were sown "among the wheat"**

 Now to understand **the other symbolisms!**

Let us remember that these are symbolic descriptions of events taking place in each of the seven periods of the Gospel Age **from God's point of VIEW !!**

**Let us read again -**

**Vs - 4**

*"And there went out another horse that was red and power was given to him that sat thereon to take peace from the earth, and that they should kill one another: and there was given unto him a great sword."*

The first thing we must notice here is the rider -

**HE IS ABSOLUTELY DIFFERENT** FROM THE PREVIOUS RIDER!

Yes! While in the period of the **FIRST SEAL** the believers in the **TRUTH** were the **MAJORITY** and the false members a **MINORITY...**

.....here in the **SECOND SEAL** period **the matter is reversed!**

➤ **The BELIEVERS in the FALSE DOCTRINES is now the MAJORITY and the believers in TRUTH had become the MINORITY!**

Yes! As in the **second parable** of Matthew 13th chapter, the tares sprung up and began to DOMINATE over the WHEAT -

**Matthew 13:26**

*"But when the blade was sprung up, and brought forth fruit, then appeared the tares also."*

Yes! The believers in the TRUTH were reduced to...**ONLOOKERS** while the believers in the false doctrines began to progress...their **PLANS!**

Let us now read (**Rev 6:4**) -

➤ *"...and power was given to him that sat thereon to take peace from the earth..."*

Yes! These "tare" (Nominal) church members were **PERMITTED** power from God to grow in numbers... and to **progress their plans** and this GREATLY DISTURBED the **PEACE** and... **ONENESS** of the church, which it had enjoyed until then... when the TRUTH had greatly dominated.

[ **The First church period** ]

This taking of the "peace from the earth" is **manifest** in **TWO places** as regarding this SECOND church period-

➔ **Matthew 13:27**

*"So the servants of the householder came and said unto him, Sir, didst not thou sow good seed in thy field? from whence then hath it tares?"*

Yes! The servants are **clearly disturbed here** in their expression at seeing the FRUITAGE of the "tares"!



Again we read in -



**Revelation 2:9**

*"I know thy works, and tribulation, and poverty, (but thou art rich) and I know the blasphemy of them which say they are Jews, and are not, but are the synagogue of Satan"*

Yes! These false members **also claimed** to be SPIRITUAL JEWS ! (or SPIRITUAL ISRAEL)

Oh! Yes! These members in the church with their beliefs in differing **"false"** doctrines... and their **RESISTANCE** and **OPPOSITION to the truth** (*"blasphemy"*) caused great disturbance **mentally** and **perhaps physically** (*"tribulation"*).

Thus the *"peace of the earth"* or the comfort of PEACE IN THE CHURCH IN THE FLESH... **was taken away...** by the entry of these individuals and their FALSE DOCTRINES!



And further we read-



*"...that they should kill one another..."*


This refers to the **MISUSE of AUTHORITY**...by these believers of false doctrines in the Church... and especially those in positions of leadership... **that of ELDERS and BISHOPS.**

We can well imagine that with the RAPID growth of this **"tare" CLASS** in the church, in course of time the **ELDERS**

and even **BISHOPS** elected were of the *"tare"* class as we see an example in the elder **DIOTREPES** in **3 John: 9,10** who opposed the **Apostle John** himself.

Here *"kill"* signifies the meaning of-

 ....to put to death... or

 ....to be *"cut off"* (Refer to **Psalms 37:9**)

Yes! The power was used to - ...*"kill one another"* referring to the SELFISH USE of church power... seeking to **DESTROY** and... **EXCOMMUNICATE** one another as teachers and leaders.



**ECCLESIA**

We must bear in mind that since the tares sown *"among the wheat"* (**Matthew 13:25**) by the **ENEMY**... began to spring up... it turned out that the **MAJORITY** or large numbers in the church congregations were of this CLASS! Thus, we can imagine that when ELECTIONS took place... many of the **ELECTED ELDERS** would have been of this *"tare"* class! And one can easily imagine how this **DIVINELY APPOINTED AUTHORITY** to *"serve"* in the churches was quickly used to exercise **AUTHORITY**... against the **TRUE** servants of the **TRUTH!**

Yes! Since they must have certainly been in the MAJORITY, they misused the divine arrangement for **DISCIPLINARY ACTION** against individuals done in love called **EXCOMMUNICATION** or removing from membership to the church which we find in -

**Matthew 18:17,18**

*“And if he shall neglect to hear them, tell it unto the church: but if he neglect to hear the church, let him be unto thee as an heathen man and a publican.*

*Verily I say unto you, what so ever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and what soever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.”*



Yes! This **DIVINE AUTHORITY** was given to the church to take decisions which would have the divine agreement! This was an **EXTREME** step taken to cause **REPENTANCE** and **REFORM**... and was intended to be temporary and **NOT** permanent!

(We see a **example** in the first church period of **EPHESUS** in the ecclesia in **CORINTH** where a individual caught in sexual **IMMORALITY** was “**removed**” by the church in **I Corinthians 5: 1-5** and specifically so by the Apostle Paul’s instructions... but we see the same Apostle Paul later in the **2nd letter** to the Corinthians say the punishment was enough and the person must be **FORGIVEN** and comforted in **2 Corinthians 2: 6-10.**)



Yes! These BISHOPS and ELDERS had either... FORGOTTEN... or IGNORED... or may be **NEVER HEARD** of these teachings and disciplinary actions in love... or even of **the instruction** of the Master in-

**Luke 22:26**

*"But ye shall not be so: but he that is greatest among you, let him be as the younger; and he that is chief, as he that doth serve."*

Yes! Instead of **servicing OTHERS**... they turned to serve SELF... in VAIN GLORY and PRIDE and misused the DIVINE instructions.

**And finally** we read -



*"... and there was given unto him a great sword"*

The "*great sword*" here is a reference to... THE WORD OF GOD as we find described in -

**Ephesians 6:17**

*"...and the sword of the spirit which is the word of God"*

**(#3162- Strong's Greek- "macha-ira")**

Yes! The "**Word of God**"... the BIBLE, was permitted to be dominated,... or go **into the CONTROL**... of these selfish church leaders. This was probably accomplished by the RESTRICTIONS on the availability of the COPIES or SCROLLS of the Old Testament books... and the then being composed books of the **NEW TESTAMENT**. Yes! The **LETTERS** of the **Apostles Paul, Peter, John, James, etc.**, were then being circulated among the churches (**2 Corinthians 10:11 / Colossians 4:16 / I Thessalonians 5:27 / 2 Thessalonians 3:14**) It was in this church period that the NEW TESTAMENT

took the **FORM of 27** books! There **were more than four** gospels (**There is a "gospel of Thomas" and even a "gospel according to Judas Iscariot"**) There were many epistles, all claiming to be HOLY scripture. So about the end of the second century it was necessary to IDENTIFY those books that would be finally universally recognised as the New Testament.



The name of the early church leader **Irenaeus (AD 120-200)** is associated with this work.

Yes! All these books then were in the form of scrolls!

**There might have even been the DOMINATION of those "scrolls" by these leaders.**

**→ And what was the result?**

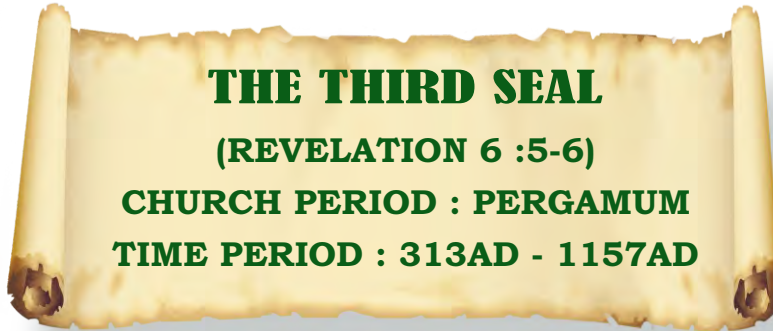
With the passage of time the INDIVIDUAL STUDY of God's Word was discouraged and gradually and systematically replaced by what was to be called "**CREEDS**" or a SUMMARISED BASIS OF FAITH... which was all that was expected of any Christian believer **to KNOW and BELIEVE** about the scriptures.

However the full actual development and **VISIBLE MANIFESTATION** of these "**creeds**" was... to come forth in the next seal or church period.

Yes! It would seem... that **the attribute** of God's **INFINITE JUSTICE** draws our attention to such **INJUSTICES** and

**UNJUST BEHAVIOUR** ... which was divinely **permitted to prevail** in this church period !

👉 Yes! *"I heard the second beast say come and see!"*



**Vs - 5**

*"And when he had opened the third seal, I heard the third beast say, come and see. And I beheld, and lo a black horse; and he that sat on him had a pair of balances in his hand"*

👉 Now we know that this *"third beast"* is a reference to the third beast listed in **Revelation 4:7** that *"had a face as a man"* and this represents the **THIRD CHARACTER ATTRIBUTE** of God -

➡ **"LOVE"**

Yes! God's attribute of **INFINITE LOVE** draws attention to the contents of the third seal!

Let us now continue reading -

**Vs - 5,6**

*"And I beheld , and lo a black horse; and he that sat on him had a pair of balances in his hand. And I heard a voice in the midst of the four*



*beasts say, A measure of wheat for a penny , and three measures of barley for a penny; and see thou hurt not the oil and the wine”*

### First to be noted

is the horse and  
its colour -



**Notice also**

the words...

*“I beheld”*

This represents  
the passage of  
**some time** in the  
THIRD Church  
period **BEFORE**  
the manifestation  
of this  
*“black horse”*.



Yes! In the scriptures we see, the use of this word *“I beheld”* in the language of visions to mean **the passage of some time.**

This is verified for us in Daniel’s visions in -



**Daniel 7:4**

*“I beheld till the wings thereof were plucked”...*

Thus it was **NOT IMMEDIATELY** in **313AD** at the very outset of this church period... but rather gradually and much later... **after** Papacy was established in **539AD**... and much later... **after** it began to reign in glory from **799AD** and the HOLY ROMAN EMPIRE... and the DARK AGES were ushered in... was actually manifested this BLACK HORSE. Black as we know is the colour of **DARKNESS**... and thus in this period the DOCTRINES of the church had turned to DARKNESS and

the TRUTHS of God and His Word were being systematically replaced... by **UNTRUTHS** (Darkness).

➤ In addition to the **CREEDS**, the doctrines of...  
**IMMORTAL SOUL**,... a **HELL** of **TORMENT**,...  
**PURGATORY**... **TRINITY**... and **CLERGY**... and **MARY**  
**WORSHIP** were all developed in this period....

Further it was in this period of church history, which incidentally also was the **LONGEST** period of all in the Gospel Age... that...

➡ ...the **Bishop of Rome** began this period as one harbouring ambitions...

➡ to...then receiving the FAVOUR of the Emperor of Rome - **Emperor Constantine** about **320AD**...

➡ And then... was further honored at the organising of the Council of Nicaea in **325AD**...

➡ Which then... this favour further **grew**... to him finally receiving the title of "**Pontifex Maximus**" from **Emperor Justinian** in **539AD** and assuming **RELIGIOUS HEADSHIP** over the Roman Empire and taking on the title of **Papas (Pope in English and means FATHER in Latin)**...

➡ And then... even further in **799AD**, **Pope Leo III** was elevated and **CROWNED** the first **Emperor of the Holy Roman Empire** which was established in that very year with the Pope being the "divinely appointed" emperor who held both **RELIGIOUS** and **POLITICAL POWER** !!



➤ Oh! Yes ! By the end of this church period  
 the Bishop of Rome was now... a reigning powerful  
 king upon a throne!

Yes!... The **CHRISTIAN** Faith was systematically replaced by  
 the **CHRISTIAN RELIGION**.

➡ Christianity gave way to... **CHURCHIANITY!!**

That is perhaps **why we have the rather peculiar wording**  
 found in the time prophecy scripture **which gives us that**  
**date of 539AD.**

Let us read from -

**Daniel 12:11** - *"And from that time that the daily sacrifice shall be taken  
 away, and the abomination that makes desolate set up...."*

➤ Yes! This is a reference to that date 539AD  
 ("that time")... when true **CHRISTIANITY** and the teaching  
 and spirit of consecration ("**the daily sacrifice shall be taken  
 away**")... was **REPLACED** and **OVERWHELMED** by the  
**ANTICHRIST** system of **CHURCHIANITY** ("**the abomination  
 that makes desolate**").

Yes! Indeed the 'set up'  
 of this system began in  
**539AD** - "*that time*"! But there  
**is another point to note** and  
 that we find as we read about  
 the rider -

**Vs - 5**

*"And he that sat on him had a pair  
 of balances in his hand"*



We now have an idea of **WHO** this rider is due to the progression of the seals. Yes! It is the PAPACY CHURCH system in CONTROL! And thus the **TRUTH** and the Word of God (**the skin manuscripts**) began to become really **SCARCE!**

This is symbolised by the "*balances*" which represents **SCARCITY** as we read in -

**Leviticus 26:26**

*"and they shall deliver you your bread again by weight: and ye shall eat, and not be satisfied"*

...and again in -

**Ezekiel 4:16,17**

*"I will break the staff of bread in Jerusalem; and they shall eat bread by weight"*

And the "*balances*" being... "**in his hand**" is an IMPORTANT detail and signifies that the Word of God - the scriptures was in the **CONTROL** of the system and... the teachings that were brought forth contained **MORE** and **MORE** of ERROR and UNTRUTH... and **LESS** and **LESS** of the WORD OF TRUTH.



- **All worship services were in Latin and... people were starved of the Word of God in their native tongues.**
- **And the Bible was manifested in the reading of a few verses ONLY at worship services.**

Indeed!! The SYMBOL for the state of doctrines and TEACHINGS for this period is actually described as

*"And I beheld, and lo a black horse"*

Now let us **continue reading** in -

**Vs - 6**

*"And I heard a voice in the midst of the four beasts say, A measure of wheat for a penny, and three measures of barley for a penny..."*

**Whose is this "voice"?**

It comes from the "*midst*" of the four beasts! Normally this would represent **GOD HIMSELF (Revelation 4:6)**... but we find **another too** being referred to as .. "*...in the midst of the four beasts*" in -



**Revelation 5 : 6**

*"in the midst...of the four beasts stood a Lamb as it had been slain..."*

Ah! Yes! This is a reference to **the LORD JESUS** who is now seated - "*on the right hand of the majesty on High*".

**(Hebrews 1:3)**

**Some commentaries interpret** this "*voice*" as being of the Father and some...of being JESUS!!

**Before we come to our CONCLUSION** let us study the words spoken by the "*voice*"-

**Vs - 6**

*"And I heard a voice in the midst of the four beasts say, A measure of wheat for a penny, and three measures of barley for a penny; and see thou hurt not the oil and the wine"*

**Again, before understanding the word meaning,  
let us first understand the symbols  
being used!**

➤ *"wheat"* - a symbol of **TRUE Christians** – God's elect, those of the **NEW CREATION** "spirit begotten" by the word of **TRUTH!** (**Matthew 3:12/13:30**)

➤ *"barley"* - We find it associated with an **adulteress** in **Hosea 3:1,2**

*"So I bought her...for a homer of barley, and an half homer of barley"*

Again **barley** is associated in an offering of jealousy for a wife suspected of infidelity in -

**Numbers 5:15**

*"the tenth part of an ephah of barley meal..."*

Thus *"barley"* would represent the **nominal Christians** of the **Papal system...with the adulterous spirit of friendship with the world: as we read of the warning in scripture in -**

**1 John 2:15** - *"Love not the world , neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world , the love of the Father is not in him."*

➤ *"penny"* - It is a symbol for a daily wage for labour in **Matthew 20:8,9** Thus *"penny"* would represent - the **FRUITAGE of LABOUR.**

➤ *"the oil"* - A symbol for God's **HOLY SPIRIT** (**Matthew 25:3,4**)

➤ *"wine"* - A symbol of doctrines, the **TRUTHS** of God - the Gospel Message (Refer to Biblical Comments(**EBC**) Pg 51) (**Matthew 9:17/Amos 9:13 - general TRUTHS!**)

➡ **Now what does all this mean?**

This represents the **SITUATION** in this period of Pergamos, where the **FRUITAGE** of the Gospel labours... are being explained and made **MANIFEST** from the divine perspective.

A great **MAJORITY** of those being called "**Christians**" were not Christian in spirit at all and a very small **MINORITY** alone could be REALLY "*wheat*" - **called CHRISTIAN!**  
(Spirit begotten New Creatures!)

It was the period when the FALSE DOCTRINES sown by Satan previously, began to bring forth large followings!

Those who looked to follow the scriptures as... the **STANDARD of TRUTH... were very, very few!**

This **WHOLE** picture is seen **in the parable the Lord** spoke to denote this church period in -

**Matthew 13:31,32**

*"Another parable he put forth unto them, saying, The kingdom of heaven is like to a grain of mustard seed, which a man took, and sowed in his field: Which indeed is the least of all seeds: but when it is grown, it is the greatest among herbs, and becometh a tree, so that the birds of the air come and lodge in the branches thereof."*

Yes! The Gospel message sown by **Our Lord** - "*a man*" and his apostles... in the "*field*" - **the world**... did develop over a period of time... during which the "*enemy*" had come and sown "*his seeds*" among the wheat field... which brought forth a full field of "*tares*" as seen in the second parable (Matthew 13:25,26) ... or as shown in this parable, the single mustard seed... which grows only into a plant (a shrub)... attained **UNUSUAL and UNNATURAL** "*growth*"... **to become a tree!**

Yes! The "*Church*" of Jesus Christ indoctrinated with false doctrines... began to become a **SYSTEM** of large membership with **VERY FEW begotten** of the Gospel Truth!



But notice that the **INSTRUCTION** is



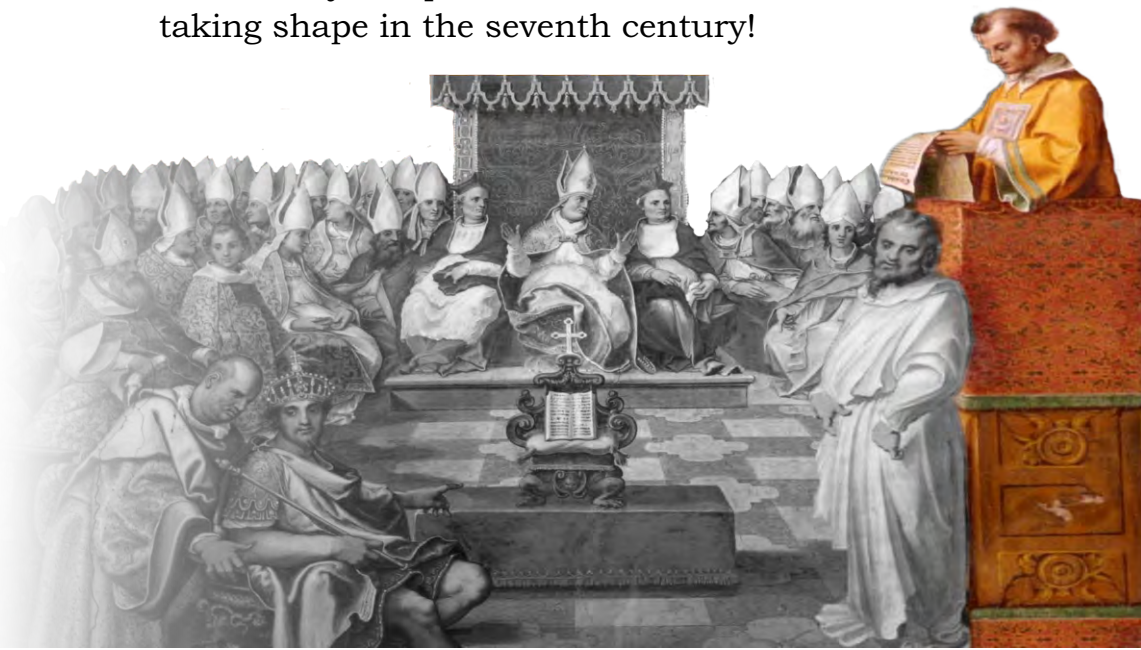
➤ *"... hurt not the oil and the wine"*

This represents how inspite of all these conditions... the **HOLY SPIRIT of TRUTH**... and the **DOCTRINES of TRUTH** - the GOSPEL MESSAGE ... was **not allowed** to be entirely destroyed or corrupted!

This, of course represented the CONTINUANCE of the DIVINE PURPOSES of finding and developing members of the "new creation", begotten by the WORD of TRUTH (**James 1:18**) even in the midst of these VERY corrupted circumstances of the Church period of PERGAMOS!

👉 Yes! It was still preserved ... **"in measure"**.

And this was accomplished in this period through - **ARIUS** and his doctrines of truth which came to be called... **"ARIANISM"**. We are not able to ascertain much details of the **DOCTRINES** and **TEACHINGS** of Arius, but we are keenly aware of how in the **"Council of Nicaea"** held in **325AD**, how he **strongly opposed** and **REFUTED** the blasphemous teachings of **ATHANASIUS** concerning the matter of **John 10 : 30** - *"I and my Father are one"* as being a literal matter of them **being ONE in person**, a teaching claiming Jesus to be God Himself and which would lead to the terribly blasphemous doctrine of the **TRINITY** taking shape in the seventh century!



Those who were faithful Christians and "wheat" of this time were mainly **ARIANS**... in the northern part of Africa around Alexandria in Egypt...



Finally, whose is the "*voice*" that came from "*the midst of the four beasts*"?



**We would think that this "voice" represents - THE WORD OF GOD.... and His DIVINE PLAN**

.....which had foreseen ALL THIS... and ALL THAT WAS TO COME... and perhaps the "*voice*" being made manifest here at the opening of the third seal is to... **REASSURE THE FAITH** of the faithful Christians... that everything was very much UNDER THE **CONTROL** of GOD... even the dawning of what would now be... **THE DARK AGES** in Church History!!

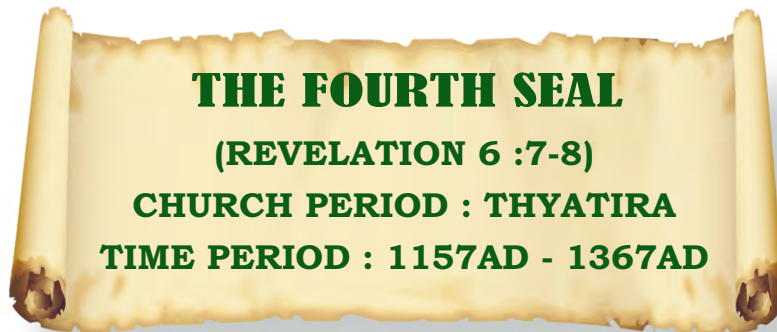
Yes! We believe **in some way.... that we are unable** to PROVE with EVIDENCE as there are no records of the **WRITINGS** of **ARIUS**, that... he would have understood and taught certain truths and TEACHINGS from the word of God speaking of these developments by the NOMINAL church SYSTEM!

Yes! The **revelations** of God's plan for the gospel age... and the soon to be developing **DARK AGES** and domination of this **PAPAL SYSTEM**, in the unfolding "**Holy Roman Empire**" was all FOREKNOWN by God... and permitted by divine wisdom... and God's ability through His Son Jesus to uphold and **KEEP** His true Church **through** it all... "*hurt not the oil and the wine*" was what we believe to have been the "*voice*" of **TRUTH**, through the **WRITINGS** and **TEACHINGS** of **ARIUS**, this church's "*angel*" and one of the "*seven stars... in his right hand*" of the Lord (**Revelation 1:16**) for the class whom the Lord addresses in Pergamos in **Revelation 2:17** as "*He that has an ear, let him hear...*"

Oh! If **ONLY** we could have SEEN those writings... or **HEARD** those **TEACHINGS** of **ARIUS!** Alas! It was all destroyed and burnt by his enemies! (**Revelation 2:13**)

And, Yes! It would seem that God's **INFINITE LOVE** draws our attention to such a system which went **against** every **principle of LOVE** and... all done in the Name of God and Christ, was allowed to be **ESTABLISHED by Divine permission!!**

 Yes! *"I heard the third beast say, come and see..."*



**Vs - 7**

*"And when he had opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth beast say, come and see"*

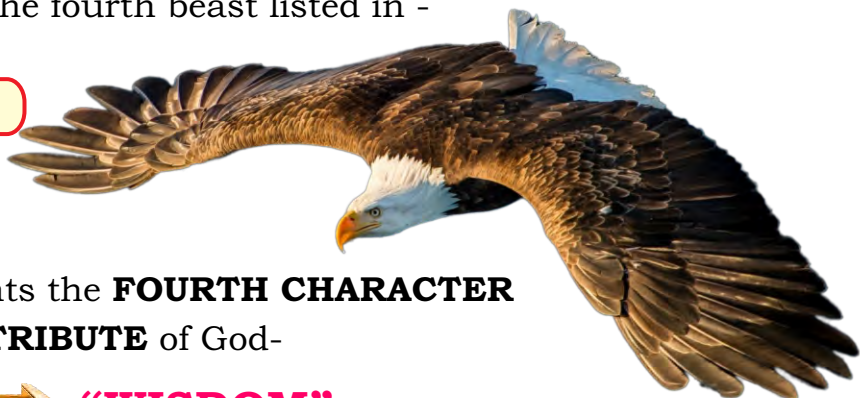
Oh! Yes! We will know that this *"fourth beast"* is a reference to the fourth beast listed in -

**Revelation 4 : 7**

*".....was like a flying eagle"*

And this represents the **FOURTH CHARACTER ATTRIBUTE** of God-

 **"WISDOM"**



Yes! God's attribute of INFINITE WISDOM draws attention to the contents of the fourth seal.

Let us now continue reading -

**Vs - 8**

*"And I looked, and behold a pale horse: and his name that sat on him was Death, and Hell followed with him. And power was given unto them over the fourth part of the earth, to kill with sword, and with hunger, and with death, and with the beasts of the earth"*



**What does all this mean?**

👉 Firstly... let us look at the horse, and note its colour - **"pale"** which is from the Greek word **"chloros"** (**Strong's-Greek#5515**) which is defined as **"greenish"** in colour!!

As already seen so far, the *"horse"* is a symbol for **DOCTRINES** and **TEACHINGS**... and the **"greenish pale"**



represents the **CONDITION** of the **DOCTRINES**, during this Thyatira phase of the Church!



Indeed! The "*black horse*" seen in the third seal period now was turning "*greenish*" or **BLACKISH GREEN** as... the fungus that develops upon old and rotting bread and food ! Indeed, the black colour **takes on a greenish shade** that is **NOT** bright green ... but a **pale** green colour... mixed into the black!

➤ **Yes! The "pale greenish" represents A DEATHLY CONDITION AND EVEN..... ROTTENNESS!!**

Indeed! The doctrines during this period of the Church is described by the Lord **in the parable describing this phase** of the Church in -

**Matthew 13:33**

*"...is like unto leaven, which a woman took and hid... till the whole was leavened..."*

Yes! The "*leaven*" here is **FALSE DOCTRINES** and the **TEACHINGS "of men"** (**Colossians 2:22,23**) which this "*woman*" representing the **ROMAN CATHOLIC (PAPACY) CHURCH SYSTEM**, which was now in full power and authority, seeking to hinder EVERY expression or revealing of the **WORD of TRUTH!**





This *"woman"* is found described in symbol, in the message of Our Lord to *"the angel of the church in Thyatira"* in...

**Revelation 2:20**

*"Notwithstanding I have a few things against you, because you suffer that woman Jezebel, which calls herself a prophetess, to teach and seduce my servants to commit fornication, and to eat things sacrificed to idols"*

Yes! Here the *"woman"* of the parable in **Matthew 13:33** is referred to by the symbol – *"Jezebel"*

[EBC comments for Revelation 2:20 *"that woman Jezebel"* – The idolatrous wife of King Ahab (I Kings 19:14) from whom Elijah fled for his life unto the wilderness. R 5993 / R 4741 / R 3794 / R 3326 / B 256. Representing a false Christian church system married to earthly governments R 5751]

On observing the symbolic words of **Revelation 2:20**, it is clear the Lord refers to the **FALSE DOCTRINES** and *"doctrines of men"* which was used to **ALMOST COMPLETELY** destroy the doctrines of **TRUTH** in the gospel message.

Ah! Yes! **All** the doctrines of **TRUTH** in the Gospel Message....

- of salvation,
- forgiveness of sins,
- the soul of man,
- the wages of sin,
- the heavenly calling,
- the worship of God,
- baptism,
- the resurrection,
- the kingdom



**EVERYTHING...YES, EVERYTHING WAS CORRUPTED!!**

The doctrines had no more the *"life"* of truth in them **(John 6:63).**



**It was lifeless and ROTTEN!**

➡ It was well and truly... the DARK AGES of CHURCH HISTORY...!

THE TRUTH WAS NOW **COMPLETELY** LOST!!

This is evidenced in that the *"sower"* ... the *"man"* of the first three parables of **Matthew 13th Chapter**... is **TOTALLY MISSING** over here!

➤ #1. Yes! The **TRUTH** about the **FOUNDER** of Christianity was forgotten.

➤ #2. **TRINITY** had taken its place

➤ #3. The Son.... was now **BOTH** the Father and **GOD HIMSELF!**

➤ #4. Indeed the *"woman"* was now in charge and .... in the place of prominence! The **TRUE "Church"** as a **HEAVENLY CALLING**.... had been replaced.... by the *"Church"* as a great and grand **SYSTEM** of religion!

Now let us **turn to the RIDER** and study the description given!

Let us read again -

**Vs - 8**

*"And I looked, and behold a pale horse: and his name that sat on him was Death, and Hell followed with him. And power was given unto them over the fourth part of the earth, to kill with sword, and with hunger, and with death, and with the beasts of the earth"*

It must be quite clear to all by now that the RIDERS described in these **preceding** seals were the **BELIEVERS** of those DOCTRINES... denoted by the horses and their COLOUR!

Thus the symbols used here would represent the


## PAPAL SYSTEM IN ALL ITS POWER!!

We already saw this confirmed in the parable... with *"THE WOMAN"* who added leaven.

Now let us study these symbols to understand what **EXACTLY** is meant over here...

---

 *"his name that sat on him was Death"* } Yes! Here *"name"* would signify **IDENTITY** and.... *"Death"* would represent **LIFELESSNESS**.

 *"and Hell followed with him"* } Here... *"Hell"* is the Greek word Hades (**Strong's Greek # 86**) and means the "grave" and would signify... **A LIFELESS CONDITION**.

---

### What does all this mean?

These are **SYMBOLS** used by God to describe the condition of this period of the **DARK AGES!** While the *"pale horse"* represents the absolutely **CORRUPTED** doctrines being taught, the rider here is a reference to the *"woman"* of the parable in **Matthew 13:33**. and the *"Jezebel"* of **Revelation 2:20**... which is...

### **THE ROMAN CATHOLIC (PAPACY) CHURCH SYSTEM**

Their complete **LACK** of the use of God's word of truth and *"life"* (**John 6:63**) and their being the **PROPOGATOR** of **FALSE DOCTRINES** is summed up in those words –

 *"and his name that sat on him was Death"*

The believers and FOLLOWERS of this SYSTEM **claiming to be Christians**, but lacking the **WORD of LIFE**, can only naturally be referred to as being in **A LIFELESS (DEAD) CONDITION!!**



➔ **Yes!.....“and hell followed with him.”**

Yes! This **RIDER** is a reference to the **ANTICHRIST SYSTEM**... and its followers, who are similarly referred to in -

**Revelation 12:7**

*“...Michael and his angels”*

Yes! This system and its **supporters** or “followers” depicted here at the beginning of it being established (between 325 AD and 539AD) where Michael is a symbol for the pompous Bishop of Rome and **his grand divine claims!**

**One can see a further picture here**, which we will see, by turning to -

**John 11:25**

*“I am the resurrection, and the life”*

**Yes! Did you see that?**

- **If Christ be..... the RESURRECTION and THE LIFE.....**
- **.....then ANTICHRIST is the very opposite.....DEATH the very opposite AND THE GRAVE!!**

Now let us read further -

**Vs - 8**

*“And power was given unto them over the fourth part of the earth, to kill with sword, and with hunger, and with death, and with the beasts of the earth”*

Here *“power was given unto them”* would represent the **DIVINE PERMISSION** given... or PERMITTED to *“them”* - the SYSTEM OF PAPACY... **AND ITS SUPPORTERS.**

Yes! This is a term used for DIVINE PERMISSION of that which is actually... EVIL as we read for example in -

**Luke 4:6**

*“All this power will I give thee, and the glory of them for that is delivered unto me”*

A reference **to the Devil** and his acknowledging the receiving of... the permission of his EVIL power!

Ah! Yes! This then is the meaning of God’s words in -

**Isaiah 45:7**

*“I make peace and create evil: I the LORD do all these things”*

Yes! Everything in the Universe,... both **GOOD** and **EVIL**... is under **the absolute CONTROL** of the Heavenly Father!

**Let us continue...**

This *“Power”* was to be over *“the fourth part of the earth”*.

This is a reference to the FOUR LAND MASSES... or CONTINENTS that were **inhabited** and **known** at that time -


➤ **1. Europe 2. Africa 3. Asia 4. The Americas**







This **"Power"** was to be over the fourth part and here refers to one of these four... and is a reference we believe, to...

**EUROPE**... where this ANTICHRIST system was established and exercising its greatest **INFLUENCE!**

**Finally what do we read -**

 *"to kill with sword, and with hunger, and with death, and with the beasts of the earth"*


Yes! Here the **"power"** was exercised...to **"kill"** through what is described as four methods -

 .....with sword       .....with hunger  
 .....with death       .....with the beasts of the earth

Clearly this is all **SYMBOLIC** language... and not to be taken literally! It is the Greek word - **"apokteino"** (**Strong's - Greek # 615**) which means **"to destroy"** or **"put to death"**

Here it would symbolise the PERSECUTION and OPPOSITION METHODS used by this ANTICHRIST PAPAL SYSTEM **against** all those... who opposed it... and in this case... that included in a **LARGE MAJORITY**... the **TRUE CHILDREN OF GOD!!**

Yes! This was the period of the church when the large measure of God's **TRUE** children... were those who followed - **PETER WALDO**, the **"angel"** to this FOURTH period of the church and HIS TEACHINGS.

 Yes! They were known as.... **"THE WALDENSES"**

Let us now study **the methods** used and mentioned here -


**"with sword"**

This would represent the use of the very word of God - *"the great sword"* by way of **SCRIPTURAL OR DOCTRINAL CONTROVERSY**... used to stir up the passions of the people **AGAINST** the reformers who HIGHLIGHTED the TRUTHS of GOD'S WORD. The claim was made by the **PAPACY** and its authority and servants that the **TRUTHS** presented by the reformers were **NOT** correct interpretations of the scriptures and was **ERRONEOUS** ! This was an attempt to create **CONFUSION** in the understanding of the common people!



The word used was -

 **"HERESY"**

**And these reformers** who were preaching the TRUTH from the Word of God were called - **"HERETICS"**!



**The next method was - "with hunger"**

This is translated from the Greek word - "**limos**" (**Strong's - Greek # 3042**) which is defined as "scarcity of food", "destitution", "famine". Thus this would represent the great **SCARCITY** of hearing God's Word as it was now in the **CONTROL...** of this system and **was mostly in Latin...** and not understandable to the common people.

Indeed! The scriptures were read in **FIXED** "readings" during the **MASS...** and that too was in **LATIN!** Even the manuscripts and **SCROLLS** were in the languages of **HEBREW/GREEK** and **LATIN...** and additionally these manuscripts were almost inaccessible to the common people.

It was a progressive picture of what we read in the  
**SECOND SEAL** in -

**Revelation 6:4**

*"...and there was given unto him a great sword"*

Yes! **Access** to the scriptures was made very difficult... as all the manuscripts (at that time it was the handwritten scrolls on animal skin) were in the hands of the **PAPAL SYSTEM...** and printing had yet to be **INVENTED!** In fact the first attempt to translate the scriptures was... undertaken during this time by **PETER WALDO** who hired and paid the priest **Stephanus de Evisa** to do it in the language of... **FRENCH!!**

And as far as we reliably have information on the matter, we are told that this work of translation into the **FRENCH** language (**a dialect of French called PROVENCE**) of the scriptures included the gospels and only some books of the New Testament (**Reference: WIKIPEDIA**). In all probability,

it was a very difficult task.... as access to the scrolls of the scriptures was largely with the Roman Catholic Church... Thus Waldo must have **used this priest to gain access...** and perhaps **at some very great cost** as well !

➤ **The next method was - "with death"**

If taken literally it would be rather strange to say...

☞ *"to kill... with death"*

But when we understand both **"kill"** and **"death"** to be **SYMBOLIC**... then it becomes clear! As death means **"to cut off"**... this would represent the **CUTTING OFF** done by the **ANTICHRIST PAPAL SYSTEM** as part of its persecutions upon those who preached and propagated the teachings of the Word of God.

Yes! It was called -

☞ **"EXCOMMUNICATION"**

**The Christian** who underwent this, experienced public humiliation, and... was removed from the membership of the Church... and was faced with great **STRUGGLES** and **TROUBLES** even in society as the **"CHURCH"** of the PAPAL





SYSTEM had such a far reaching influence at that time even in social life as a vast majority in Europe then were members of the Roman Catholic Church!

We are to bear in mind that it was the **ONLY** church then, as the Reformation was still future and **PROTESTANTISM** was yet to be born. **Thus the church's influence extended into the business, educational and commercial spheres of life as well.** And so the excommunicated one, would NOT ONLY be made a public spectacle, but additionally would find it very difficult to even make a living !

**Finally we read -**



*“with the beasts of the earth”*

This is easy to understand as the *“beasts”* symbolise the kingdoms of that *“fourth part of the earth”* - Europe ! Yes ! The KINGS of Europe !

We call to mind that this symbol of *“beasts”* with reference to kingdoms of the world is seen in **Daniel 7:3** where those **“four great beasts”** represented the four kingdoms and universal world empires that are seen in that *“vision”*. But here we are in the period of the **FOURTH** of those empires – the **ROMAN EMPIRE!**

Yes! The **“Kings”** and **kingdoms** in the Holy Roman Empire of Europe! They too were used as **MEANS** and tools... to **PERSECUTE** the members of the true church... who sought to expose and preach and teach the truth of God!

This we see quite clearly in the scriptures in -

**Revelation 12 :13**

*“And when the dragon saw that he was cast unto the earth, he persecuted the woman which brought forth the man child.....”*



👉 **Yes! It seems very clear!**


The *"dragon"* here are the *"beasts"* of **CIVIL POWER** in Europe all part of the then **HOLY ROMAN EMPIRE!** And many were the cases of persecution from the **CIVIL POWERS...** at the **behest of PAPACY!**


We are to remember and understand that in the **HOLY ROMAN EMPIRE** arrangement, the popes claimed **DIVINE** authority of kingship (thus they wore crowns on their heads) and the **KINGS** of Europe were to be **"under"** their authority... and were thus ordered to fulfill their commands, claimed to be from God. Hereunder we give **TWO** instances of how the *"beasts of the earth"* – the **KINGS** exercising **CIVIL** power, were asked to persecute the enemies of the **PAPACY...** and in these cases – the true children of God!

👉 In **1160...** a group of Waldenses were ordered by **King Henry II of England** to be publicly whipped, branded on the cheek with a red hot iron... and driven half naked out of the city in the middle of winter and nobody was allowed to help them !!

👉 Another instance was in **1224**, where **Frederick, the emperor of Germany** sentenced many Waldenses to be burnt alive... and their property to be confiscated!



 Yes! It seemed to be a great question mark... over **HOW** and **WHY** the **INFINITE WISDOM** of God would permit such a terribly **EVIL** and **COUNTERFEIT SYSTEM**... to so **dominate** and **flourish**... and almost completely DESTROY the children of God!

 **WHAT possible good was all this destruction and death accomplishing?**

Well, **we are reminded** of the **TERRIBLE** and **GORY** violence that **Jesus, the Son of God** was subjected to ...ending in the death on the cross after 6 hours of excruciating agony...and remember the text in -

**Isaiah 53:10**

*“Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise him; he has put him to grief...”*

Though we may not **KNOW COMPLETELY** the **“reasons”** for all these **DIVINE PERMISSIONS**, we are confident that God, the Heavenly Father is too wise to **“err”**, and also remember the words of the LORD in -

**Isaiah 55 : 8**

*“For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways said the LORD”*

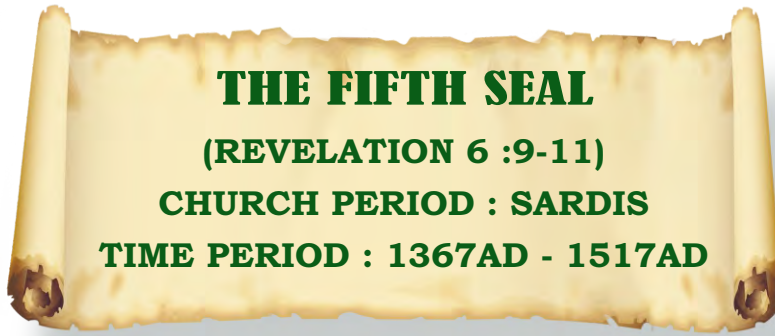
Yes! Dear brethren of **the “David” class**, we must say as we read in –

**Psalms 139:6**

*“Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, it is high, I cannot attain to it”*



**Oh! Yes!** *“I heard the voice of the fourth beast say, come and see”!*



**Vs - 9**

*"...And when he had opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of them that were slain for the word of God, and for the testimony which they held..."*

Now the **first** four seals are dedicated to show the gradual GROWTH...and MANIFESTATION and ESTABLISHMENT of "the mystery of iniquity"

**THE GREAT ANTICHRIST...  
AND  
COUNTERFEIT CHRIST SYSTEM**

By the fourth seal period it is established in great power and GLORY and the great truths of God had almost **ALL** been corrupted!! Now **DIVINE REVELATION** turns our attention to a new scene...the **CONDITION** of the **TRUE CHURCH** in the midst of all these extreme circumstances!!

☞ Yes! This similar picture is found in the other scripture passage that describes the HISTORY DEVELOPMENT of the ANTICHRIST SYSTEM!

☞ Yes! It is the **12th chapter of Revelation** and...

**Vs - 14**

*“And to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness, into her place...”*

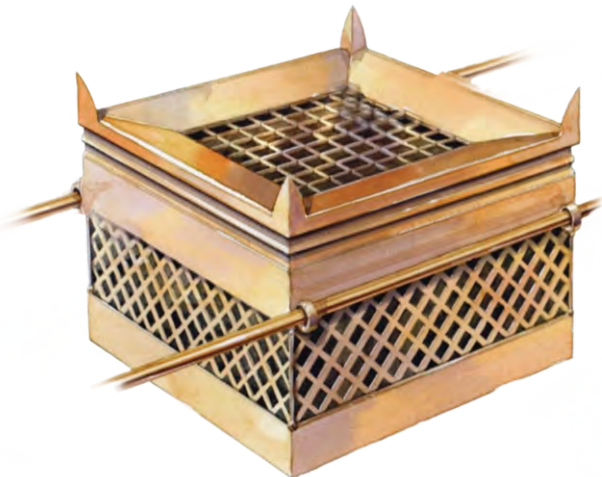
👉 Yes! After **7** verses (**Vs 7 to 13**) describing the HISTORY and... **DEVELOPMENT** of the Antichrist system... the attention is turned to a different scene here in **Vs 14 - The TRUE Church!**

**Similarly... here too**, after four seals describing the DEVELOPMENT of the ANTICHRIST SYSTEM... in the **FIFTH SEAL**... the attention is turned to the VICTIMS of the persecutions of the ANTICHRIST!

Yes! Unlike in the first four seals... where the opening of each... manifested a horse whose colour kept changing... here what was seen was... A SACRIFICE ALTAR!


**What does this mean?**

While this was a **VISION** that the Apostle John **saw**...and must have consisted of the sight of **A LITERAL ALTAR**... upon which many sacrifices had been offered... and thus was greatly stained with blood... the **REAL IMPORT** of this vision and these words are to be understood SYMBOLICALLY!



Thus this *“altar”* would represent the TRUE CHURCH in its **CONDITION** and... **GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO SACRIFICE DURING** this Gospel Age and specifically... this SARDIS period of the church.




 Indeed the LORD has opened the great *“altar”* of His, which we read of in-


**Exodus 20:25,26**

*“And if thou wilt make Me an altar of stone, thou shalt not build it of hewn stone: for if thou lift up thy tool upon it, thou hast polluted it”*  
*“Neither shalt thou go up by steps unto Mine altar, that thy nakedness be not discovered there on”*

Yes! We must understand in God's **GREAT DIVINE PLAN** of **SALVATION**, the Word of God teaches **TWO** salvations in two AGES – *“the so great salvation”* (**Hebrews 2:3**) of the **GOSPEL AGE** and *“the common salvation”* (**Jude 1:3**) of the **MILLENNIAL AGE** to follow.

 The Christian Gospel age salvation is a **SACRIFICE** based salvation. It begins with a *“covenant... by sacrifice”* (**Psalms 50:5**) and involves very **CLEARLY** the symbolic reference to SACRIFICE by the Master in numerous places of – *“take up his cross, and follow me”* (**Matthew 16:24 / Luke 9:23 / Mark 8:34 / Mark 10:21**)

It is obvious Jesus was **NOT** speaking of a **LITERAL** wooden cross ....but of **SACRIFICE!** In the plan of God, this gospel age is the **ANTITYPICAL ATONEMENT DAY**... where the *“better sacrifices”* (**Hebrews 9:23**) would be accomplished through the **RANSOM SACRIFICE** of Jesus first... and followed by the members of *“His Body”* – the true church of Christ offering themselves up to God as.....

 *“....a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service”* (**Romans 12:11**)

Let us now continue reading -




**Vs - 9**


*"I saw under the altar the souls of them that were slain for the word of God, and for the testimony which they held".*

**We are to remember** that this is NOT literal language, but is rather ALL symbolic language!

Here the *"souls... slain"* represent the **CONSECRATED CHURCH** or the **"saints"** during this church period of SARDIS! These were *"under the altar"* representing that they were **UNDER** or submitting themselves ONLY to the **HEADSHIP OF CHRIST** and **REFUSING** to acknowledge the headship of the counterfeit papal system! It took a lot of courage to do this in those times !

 **Yes! These were the "saints" of the SARDIS church period!**

What was so special in these **"saints"** that they be highlighted here in this FIFTH SEAL revelation?

 **The answer is...** It was the period in which they lived.

**YES... IT WAS THE PRE-REFORMATION PERIOD** when the Word of God would **BEGIN** to **RISE UP** from the darkness it had been enveloped in !!

Yes! We read this in Our Lord's **parable regarding this period** in -

**Matthew 13:44**

*"...is like unto treasure hid in a field, which when a man hath found..."*

Yes! This **FIFTH** parable of the Lord spoken to **DENOTE**

**EVENTS** in this period of the church, speaks of a hidden treasure being found!

➡ **What is this treasure?**

👉 Ah! It is the WORD OF GOD which during this period of the church began to become **MANIFEST** in French and English..from its "**hidden**" condition of being in the dead ancient languages of Hebrew and Greek and Latin!!

**And again of this period we read in -**

**Revelation 6:1**

*"And to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle..."*

👉 Yes! These two wings of a great eagle is a symbolic representation of the **TWO PARTS** of the word of God - the BIBLE!!

👉 And we read that - *"to the woman were given"*



Indeed! These "*two wings of a great eagle*" represent how for the **FIRST TIME** in this **Fifth stage of the church - Sardis...** the whole Bible in its **TWO TESTAMENTS** was made available in the translation of the **ENGLISH BIBLE** by **John Wycliffe.**

This represents how the **TRUE CHURCH... AFTER...** all the terrible **PERSECUTIONS...AND THE DARK AGES...** was "*given*" the word... by way of the French and English translations by - **PETER WALDO...** and **JOHN WYCLIFFE**

Thus the *"eyes of understanding"* of the *"saints"* began to be **opened**... through the Word of God... to the **TRUE NATURE** of the Nominal church system which was now before them in **POWER** and **GREAT AUTHORITY!**

➤ So, dear readers, what we have seen being described in **SYMBOLS** here in **Vs 9**... is a beautiful reference to the state of the **TRUE** church of Christ, in their "spirit begotten" condition of being **CONSECRATED** and under the **HEADSHIP** of Jesus Christ in the privilege and opportunity of partaking of the "better sacrifices" of the **GREAT ANTITYPICAL ATONEMENT DAY**... and more specifically this is a picture of the "saints" of **SARDIS**! Now the fact that these "souls of them that were slain" are **NOT** literally dead, but are actually living is revealed **CLEARLY** to us in the next verse!

And thus we read in -

**Vs - 10**

*"And they cried with a loud voice, saying, How long, O Lord holy and true, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth"*

➡ **What does this mean?**

Well, this is a reference to **ENQUIRY** being made by the "saints" of **SARDIS** to God. To be able to clearly understand what **EXACTLY** this means, we must keep in mind **TWO** important matters that was manifested to the "saints" of **SARDIS** at this time.

➡ **#1.** The **TRANSLATION** and availability of the Holy Scriptures in the common languages of **FRENCH** (by **Peter Waldo**) and in **ENGLISH** (by **John Wycliffe**) caused

increasing knowledge of the *"light"* of TRUTH by opportunity to study the BIBLE!

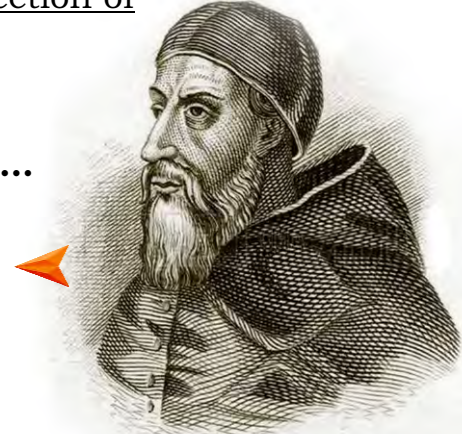
➔ #2. Additionally... Something very **STRANGE** and **PECULIAR** took place before the very eyes of the *"saints"* in **SARDIS** concerning the **PAPACY** and the church system.

In **1378**, with the death of **Pope Gregory XI** came a very surprising development – the election of two RIVAL popes -



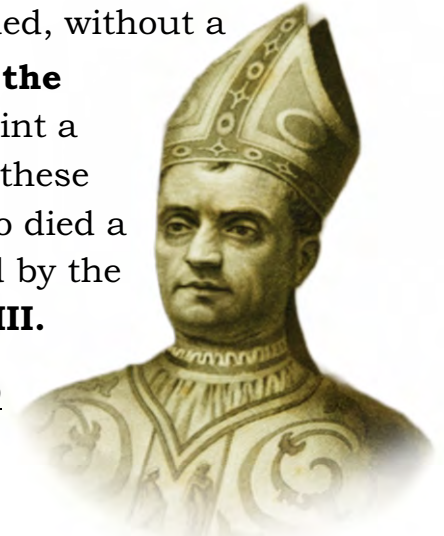
➤ **Pope URBAN VI in Rome...**  
and...

**Pope CLEMENT VII in Avignon, France.** ➤



Both fought each other openly and each claimed to be Christ's **VICAR** on Earth. This continued, without a solution, for **31 YEARS** until in **1409**, **the Council of Pisa (1409)** decided to appoint a different person to be **POPE**, other than these two!! Yes! A third pope... **Alexander V**, who died a few months later, and was then succeeded by the very popularly known **Pope John XXIII**.

Thus from **1378 to 1409** there were TWO popes... and from **1409 to 1418** there were THREE popes!!



☞ **Can you imagine that situation for the SARDIS saints ?**

These were **40** years of utter confusion and chaos! For **31** long years there were **TWO** opposing popes... And for a further **9** years this increased to **THREE** popes! All this



served to **"open the eyes"** so to speak of many to the **TRUE NATURE** of the Papacy.

Thus it was, that the saints of this period of **SARDIS** got clear **INSIGHT** and **EVIDENCE** of the true nature of the great church system... and perhaps its **ANTICHRIST** identity and expressed the collective sentiment of.

 *"How long O Lord..."*

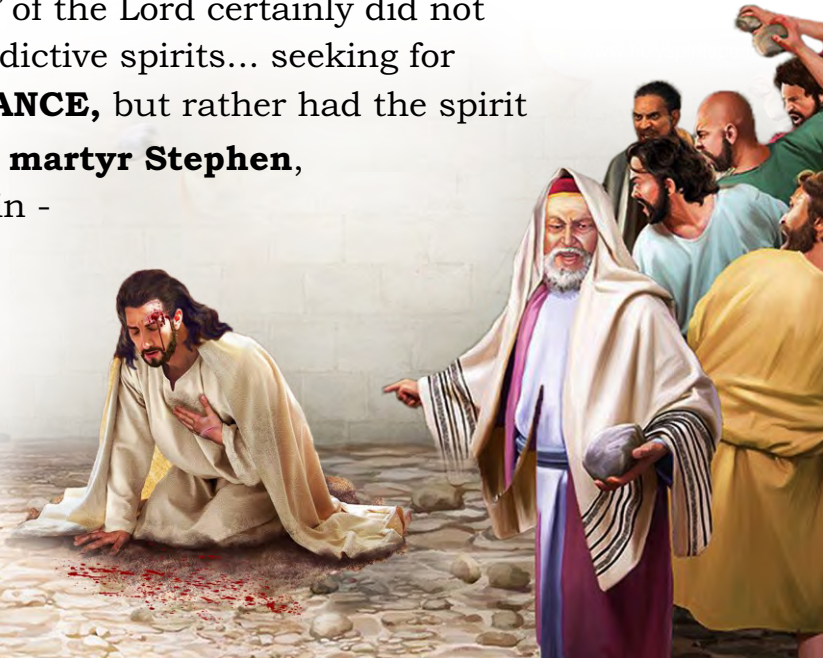
.....perhaps representing their **SEARCHING** and **SEEKING** for a clear understanding of God's Plan concerning this church system in **PROPHECY** and **CHRONOLOGY** – and the **TIMES** and **SEASONS** for the **JUDGEMENT DAY**... possibly through the Bible study that then began among the saints of **SARDIS** then!

Ah! Yes! The *"saints"* of the Lord certainly did not harbour... any vindictive spirits... seeking for **REVENGE** or **VENGEANCE**, but rather had the spirit epitomised in the first **martyr Stephen**, of whom we read in -

**Acts 7:60**

*"Lord lay not this sin to their charge"*

Yes! Rather, this was a sincere seeking to know more details of **GOD'S TIMES AND SEASONS!!**



And in this case with respect to the understanding of **His judgement** of the now clear and evident **nominal and counterfeit** church system!



Thus we continue to read in -

**Vs - 11**

*“And white robes were given unto everyone of them, that they should rest yet for a little season, until their fellow servants also and their brethren, that should be killed as they were, should be fulfilled!”*

This represents the **RESPONSE** received by these “*saints*” and the **DIVINE PERSPECTIVE** for and during this **FIFTH** church period of Sardis!

Let us now look at this response more carefully -

 *“And white robes were given unto everyone of them...”*

**What does this mean?**

For the answer **let us turn to the Lord’s words** written to this church period of **Sardis** as recorded in His message in -


**Revelation 3:2 and 4**

*“Thou hast a few names in Sardis which have not defiled their garments: and they shall walk with me in white for they are worthy. He that overcometh the same shall be clothed in white raiment...”*

Here the “*white raiment*” represents a **CONDITION OF HAVING FINALLY OVERCOMED**, for note the words of the Lord -

 *“shall be clothed”*

This speaks of something **FUTURISTIC** and further... subject to their having OVERCOME!

 Is this the meaning of the “*white robes*” described here in the fifth seal?

 The answer is - **NO!!**


The "*white robe*" that signifies OVERCOMING comes **AFTER** completing one's course in death... but the ones who received the "*white robes*" here - the "**slain souls under the altar**" represent the saints in the FLESH during the Sardis church period!

 Thus this meaning of "*white robes*" does not fit here!!

Further note the words in the verse we are studying -

**Vs - 11**

*"were given unto everyone of them..."*

 Did ALL the "*saints*" of this period OVERCOME?

We find that answer given to us in -

**Revelation 3:4,5**

*"...for I have not found thy works perfect before God!  
Thou hast a few names...which have not defiled..."*

 **Isn't it very CLEAR to us!?!?**

Then **WHAT** is this white robe that **ALL** received?

The answer is found in -

**Revelation 19:8**

*"And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen,  
clean and white..."*

Yes! It is the "*robe of righteousness*" which symbolises a JUSTIFICATION by **FAITH**. Indeed! The faith of these "*saints*" gained for them... THE ROBE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS which is "*the heavenly gift*" of **Hebrews 6:4**.

**Now let us continue...**

▶ *"that they should rest yet for a little season...."*

### What does this mean?

Here the *"rest"* is SYMBOLIC and again *"rest"* as referring to the CHURCH in symbol is described as of **TWO KINDS** by the Apostle Paul in -

#### Hebrews 4:3

*"For we which have believed do enter into rest, as he said..."*

This is the *"rest"* which represents the **DELIVERANCE** from the CONDEMNATION OF SIN... which comes through **FAITH** in the ransom sacrifice of Our Lord... **JUSTIFICATION**.

Now while this JUSTIFICATION is **real forgiveness of sins** and **DELIVERANCE** from the condemnation of sin, the full deliverance from sin is not accomplished as long as one continues to be **in the flesh (fallen condition)**.

But a further and a SECOND "rest" is needed and thus we read in the same Hebrews 4th chapter -


#### Hebrews 4:9


*"There remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God"*

This is the one that represents the complete DELIVERANCE from the SINFUL and the SIN BOUND **BODY OF FLESH...** which will be in the FIRST RESURRECTION... when will be received the perfect bodies of the divine nature fully conformed to the **"new mind"** and **"new will"** of the NEW CREATURE.



Thus **here** we realise in the verse we are studying (**Rev 6:11**)... the "*rest*" to signify the **first kind** of "*rest*" the JUSTIFICATION by FAITH!

 What does "**rest yet**" mean?

 It signifies a **CONTINUANCE** for some time future of this kind of "*rest*"...as the **TIME** was **NOT YET DUE** for the second kind of "*rest*" to be manifest... which of course represents the **FIRST RESURRECTION**, which then leads us to the next portion which says.....

 "*for a little season*"

This is the **DIVINE PROVISION** of a **DATE** for the matter enquired into... but it is given by way of a **TIME PROPHECY**.

 Yes! It **points** to the **YEAR** appointed by God for...

 **THE PRONOUNCEMENT OF JUDGEMENT ON THE NOMINAL CHURCH SYSTEM OF BABYLON**

**and....**

 **THE BEGINNING OF THE FIRST RESURRECTION.**

The calculation of this time prophecy is to do with the Greek word "**chronos**" which means "**time**"... which in turn in prophetic language signifies a prophetic "YEAR" period of 360 "prophetic DAYS" (**Revelation 12:14**) This in literal terms is **360 YEARS**.

 **Where does this 360 year period BEGIN?**

This is where we **MUST** understand that God gave **TWO PERIODS** for the **NOMINAL CHURCH SYSTEM** to repent... as we read in -

**Jeremiah 51:9**

*"We would have healed, Babylon, but she is not healed..."*

Yes! This represents the **CHANCES** and **OPPORTUNITIES...** that God gave for this Nominal Church system to **REPENT** of its ways! They in fact represent **TWO OPPORTUNITIES**, consisting of a TIME PERIOD of **360 LITERAL YEARS** in **each** case which was both **BEFORE...** and **AFTER** the Reformation.

In the case of the time period before the reformation, the reference is to the symbol of Jezebel which we read in -


**Revelation 2:21**

*"But I gave her space to repent"*

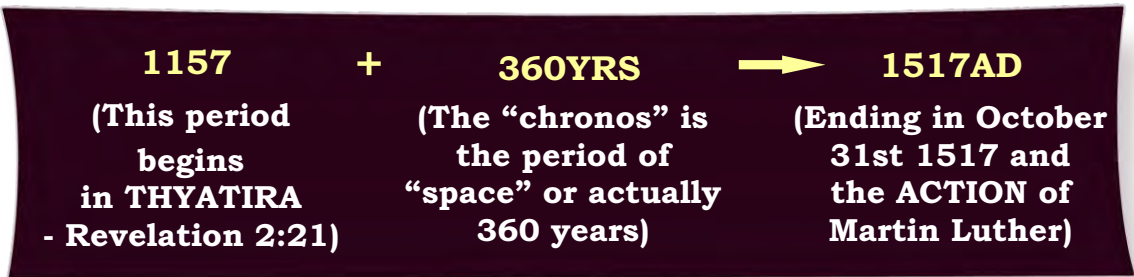
Yes! Here *"Jezebel"* is a symbol referring to the **"Mother"** system **before** the birth of the daughters or... before **REFORMATION**. This period of **"chronos"**-the **FIRST** period called - *"space"* begins in 1157 in the church period of Thyatira.

**But in the scripture we are studying for the fifth seal here, the reference is to the COMBINATION of the Mother and.... daughters.... "BABYLON" and the period God allotted for their repentance AFTER THE REFORMATION!**

A word about these **TWO** periods of **"chronos"** needs to be said here. And that is...

 **the first "chronos"** or period of 360 years ended at the Reformation... or the date of **October 31st 1517**.  
(Beginning in **1157** and running **360 years** till **1517**).





➡ But **the second** period of "**chronos**" or another period of 360 years DID NOT BEGIN immediately at that date!

According to the Lord's arrangements and CALCULATION  
**(there is NO scripture for this!)**

.....there was to be a gap of **SIX MONTHS** to be left, before beginning this SECOND "**chronos**" or period of 360 years.

And that would bring us to the date of... **APRIL 1518** (6 months from OCTOBER 31st 1517). This matter is **divinely proven** though **THROUGH THE PARALLELS** of the Second Advent, which we will look into a little later in this study.

**(In those SIX months the Reformation message of Martin Luther which was first proclaimed in LATIN, was translated into GERMAN in January 1518...and many other European languages a few months later.)**

Thus this period of "**chronos**" for **360 LITERAL YEARS** would begin WITH the Reformation and more **SPECIFICALLY... 6 MONTHS AFTER** the beginning of the Reformation which was "sparked off" on -  
**OCTOBER 31st 1517.**

And....thus it would take us to APRIL 1518

 This is the STARTING POINT!

And adding 360 years to that brings us to -


1518 (APRIL) + 360  1878(APRIL)


Yes! In 1878 April took place.....

#1. THE PRONOUNCEMENT OF JUDGEMENT on "Babylon"  
 (Revelation 18:2)

and...

#2. THE FIRST RESURRECTION began  
 (1 Thessalonians 4:16)

 Here it is interesting to **NOTE** the manner in which God responds with an answer to that cry from the saints of Sardis of -

 *"How long, O Lord holy and true, dost not thou judge and avenge our blood..?"*

Yes! While the saints enquire of God for matters concerning His judgement; the **LORD** in actuality by replying...

 *"rest yet for a little season, until..."*

...was **POINTING** those saints of SARDIS to the date for the **FIRST RESURRECTION**... April 1878... which **incidentally is also** the date for the proclamation of the **DIVINE JUDGEMENT** on Babylon!!

 **And WHY does the LORD do this?**

Well, it is because for these saints of SARDIS to actually behold and **"see"** the **DIVINE JUDGEMENT** upon the

**PAPACY** system, they must become ALIVE again... in the **FIRST RESURRECTION** !! And thus in **April 1878**,... these saints of **SARDIS** who made that cry OF ENQUIRY to the **LORD**, found themselves beholding the fulfillment of what they had asked for, while they ...had been in the flesh!



➤ **How marvelous are the ways of God, indeed!!**


Now another important point to be highlighted is these words -

*“dost not thou judge and avenge our blood..”*


**Yes! Careful attention being paid to these words yields most WONDERFUL TRUTH concerning the FINAL JUDGEMENTS to come on the Babylon systems..... and the manner of it as well!**

☞ Yes! The word **“judge”** refers to the proclamation of **DIVINE JUDGEMENT** upon the Babylon system as described in **Revelation 18:2** - *“And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen...”*

This **SPIRITUAL** and **DIVINE** condemnation of Babylon was made by Jesus AFTER His second coming... in **APRIL 1878**... but was in reality **ONLY** the **BEGINNING** of the judgement process upon Babylon or the **FIRST STEP**.

 Then the word "**avenger**" refers to the **CONCLUSION** or **FINAL STEP** of this judgement process upon Babylon, which causes its **FINAL DESTRUCTION**, which we will discuss in detail a little later.

(We will discuss this in the **SEVENTH SEAL** description in Revelation 8:2 on Pgs\_\_\_ of this book!)

 Yes! This **TWO STEP JUDGEMENT PROCESS** over a long period of time, is the enlightened **REVEALMENT** by the Holy Spirit, which was wholly NOT understood by the then enquiring "*saints*" of **SARDIS**. Their enquiry of God's judgement towards this system - the Roman church, would probably have included the thought of it being **SUDDEN QUICK** and **ABRUPT**. That it would be very different and involve a **PROCESS over a long period of time (which we, the readers from Laodicea now understand!)** is hidden in those words supplied by the Holy Spirit-

 ... "*thou judge and avenge...*"

The "saints" of SARDIS were **just coming** to the understanding of this **ANTICHRIST** system... and thus made general enquiry of its **FUTURE JUDGEMENT**. But those thoughts recorded in the scriptures by the divine overruling of the Holy Spirit, contains the **HIDDEN SECRET** of details **of the TWO STEP PROCESS** of that judgement over a long period of time!

 **Now let us come to the concluding part...**

*"...until their fellow servants also and their brethren, that should be killed as they were, should be fulfilled"*

This represents the **WORK** of the remaining portion of the Gospel Age which would yet cover **TWO** more time periods of

church History - "*Philadelphia*" and "*Laodicea*"! And then only would the BODY OF CHRIST... be completed!

The words - "*be killed as they were*" represents "*the covenant... by sacrifice*" (**Psalms 50:5**) by which the "*few*" who become "*chosen*" among Christians (**Matthew 22:14**) go through a **PROCESS** of **DEVELOPMENT** wherein the **INVITATION** is to present your bodies "*a living sacrifice*" as we read in the words of the Apostle Paul in **Romans 12:1**

**This then leads to the SPIRIT BEGETTAL of the "new creature" which through the "killing" and the "dying" of the human nature and human life... causes the DEVELOPMENT to the HEAVENLY NATURE !!**

This DEVELOPMENT to the HEAVENLY NATURE is along TWO lines as manifested in the words -

👉 "**their fellowservants... and their brethren**"

This represents how the NEW CREATION will develop and FINALLY manifest in TWO natures -

➤ **#1. THE DIVINE NATURE**

➤ **#2. THE ANGELIC NATURE**

Yes! The development of these NEW CREATURES...while in the flesh is along TWO lines as we read also in -

**Matthew 25:2**

*"And five of them were wise, and five were foolish"*





Yes! The "*wise virgins*" are referred to as... "**fellow servants**" over here... while the "*foolish virgins*" are referred to as... "**brethren**"

And Yes! They BOTH are "*killed*" in that they make the "*covenant by sacrifice*" of "*presenting their bodies*" as living sacrifices!!

This DIFFERENTIATION of **TWO** CLASSES among the consecrated members in the flesh **is very evident in the scriptures.**

**Let us now see some examples -**

**1**



**Proverbs 31:15**

*"She riseth also while it is yet night, and giveth meat to her household, and a portion to her maidens"*

Here in this scripture we find the description of "*a virtuous woman*"....who is a SYMBOL for the "**Bride**" of Christ.

Notice that she is shown serving "*meat*" for her "*household*" and "*a portion for her maidens*". There are the TWO classes in the flesh being shown here !

**Again we see the same in -**

**2**



**Genesis 24:61**

*"And Rebekah arose, and her damsels, and they rode upon the camels..."*

Notice the riding "*upon the camels*" represents the **JOURNEY** of the Gospel Age... with "the Most Holy faith" of the **TRUTH !**

And notice the TWO separate classes represented by "*Rebekah*" and "*... her damsels*".

**Finally we see this again in -**

3



2 Kings 2:11

*“And it came to pass, as they still went on and talked, that behold, there appeared a chariot of fire and horses of fire, and parted them both asunder...”*



Here too we see *“Elijah”* and *“Elisha”* **together...** but it is **only Elijah** who smote the waters of the Jordan... while Elisha only accompanied with him... and finally **ONLY AFTER “Elijah”** is taken up in *“the whirlwind”* does Elisha take up Elijah’s mantle and *“smote the Jordan”*

This again represents **the wise virgin class** as *“Elijah”* who are the **“servants”** in God’s DIVINE SERVICE... while *“Elisha”* representing the

**foolish virgins...** are permitted to do a service ONLY AFTER the completion of the Body and... after their own REPENTANCE and CLEANSING...!

.....as represented in -



2 Kings 2:12

*“And Elisha saw it and he cried and he took hold of his own clothes, and rent them in pieces”.*



**Isn’t it very clear?!**

To those who enquire... what is the BASIS of becoming of the “servants” class, we find **that answer in two scriptures** in -



**Isaiah 52:11**

*“Depart ye, depart ye, go ye out from thence, touch no unclean thing; go ye out of the midst of her; be ye clean, that bear the vessels of the LORD”*

Here the EMPHASIS is on *“be ye clean”* which represents the keeping of the *“robe of righteousness”* (**Isaiah 61:10**) **CLEAN** through what the Lord describes in -

**Luke 21:36**

*“watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy...”*

This of course is a reference to the new creature **“watching”** the **THOUGHTS, WORDS** and **DEEDS** of its fallen weak flesh and the ... *“pray always”* refers to the prompt **CLEANSING** through the confession of those sins in prayer (**I John 1:9**)

**The other scripture  
 we find in-**



**Daniel 12:10**

*“Many shall be purified, and made white, and tried, but the wicked shall do wickedly and none of the wicked shall understand”*



Yes! Here the emphasis is on **NOT** being *“wicked”*.



**What does this wicked signify?**

**(This refers as we read in the Expanded Biblical comments (EBC) and page 343... those who are *“wicked”* to their *“covenant by sacrifice”*...)**

**Proverbs 6:16,17**

*“These six things doth the LORD hate... a proud look, a lying tongue...”*

Yes! These are those who are **UNFAITHFUL** to what they themselves had made **AGREEMENT** with the LORD!

➤ **Thus it is seen that the BASIS for being of the “servant” class is CLEANLINESS of the “robe” and ...FAITHFULNESS to the “covenant by sacrifice”.**

We see this **ASPECT** of **what we have just seen** as the **BASIS** of being of the “*servants*” class found in the **SYMBOLIC** representation described for the **CONSECRATION** of the royal priesthood shown in a **TYPE** in **Leviticus 8th chapter** in the **ANOINTING PROCESS** of Aaron and his sons, and specifically in the verses in -

**Leviticus 8:25,26**

*“And he took the fat, and the rump, and all the fat that [was] upon the inwards, and the caul [above] the liver, and the two kidneys, and their fat, and the right shoulder”*

*“And out of the basket of unleavened bread, that [was] before the LORD, he took one unleavened cake, and a cake of oiled bread, and one wafer, and put [them] on the fat, and upon the right shoulder”*

This is from “*the ram of consecration*” which Aaron and his sons laid their hands on its head (**Leviticus 8:22**) which meant that this represented them and their **CONSECRATION** experiences of sacrifice.

{**EBC** - “*laid their hands*” - **Indicating that it represented them (Pg 49)**}.

### We would like to suggest that...

- **Vs-25...** is a reference to this matter of CLEANLINESS or the daily process of SANCTIFICATION.
- **Vs-26...** is a reference to the matter of FAITHFULNESS to *"the covenant by sacrifice"*



### Let us briefly explain...

In Vs-25, the reference to *"the rump"* is **Strong's - Hebrew # 451 "alyah"** which means **"fat tail of sheep"** which was an Eastern delicacy! Thus in this verse is a reference to the two kidneys and lobe above the liver, **and a lot of fat!**



### What would this signify?

We would like to suggest these two organs of the *"kidneys and the liver"* are principally involved in the work of **CLEANSING** from all toxins and substances poisonous to the life of the body. Thus the symbolic reference here would mean...

### **CLEANSING FROM SIN !**

Now the *"fat that is on them"* could represent the **ZEAL** and **DEVOTION** in being careful and prompt in this **CLEANSING FROM SIN... manifesting true sanctification.**

In **Vs-26**, the reference to *"the basket of unleavened bread"* is representative of the **DIVINE ARRANGEMENT "in Christ Jesus"** (**I Corinthians 1:30**) for the new creation of this gospel age where these PROGRESSIVE processes of **JUSTIFICATION, SANCTIFICATION** and **GLORIFICATION...** which are finally achieved by reason of **FAITHFULNESS...** as represented here by those words -



*"...and put [them] on the fat, and upon the right shoulder"*

Yes! The *"shoulder"* would represent RESPONSIBILITY towards fulfilling *"the covenant by sacrifice"....* and the *"fat"*



representative of the **ZEAL** and **DEVOTION** to do so... as perfectly represented in the **HEAD** and **Master** in -

**Luke 12:50**

*"But I have a baptism to be baptized with; and how am I straitened till it be accomplished!"*

**Ah, Yes! It must be very clear!**

Now let us conclude the understanding of this FIFTH SEAL contents with an interesting point to note in the words -

 *"....Until...."*

Yes! Herein lies another **HIDDEN TRUTH** ! From all the understanding we have gained so far from the above verses and the significance implied, let us now grasp the meaning behind this word *"until"*. **Let us do this by looking at that verse** where it appears... and that is....

**Vs - 11**

*"And white robes were given unto everyone of them; and it was said unto them that they should rest yet for a little season, until their fellow servants also and their brethren, that should be killed as they were, should be fulfilled"*

The whole context of this verse is that it is the divine response to the cry of - *"How long O Lord"* concerning the future **DIVINE JUDGEMENT** on Babylon, which **as yet then** was only consisting of (**Revelation 2:20**) - **the Roman Catholic Papacy system.**

Thus the **LORD** points future to the fact that Gospel Age Church history from the perspective of Sardis, still had **TWO** more stages of church history, namely **PHILADELPHIA**

and **LAODICEA** ahead, before this **JUDGEMENT** would be fulfilled.

➔ #1. Thus "*until*" first takes on that significance of the fact that this enquired of **DIVINE JUDGEMENT**... would take place in the last stage of the church - LAODICEA.

➔ #2. Further, the "*until*"... when we observe carefully the context of those words - "*their fellow servants also and their brethren, that should be killed as they were should be fulfilled*".

➔ .....reveals something deeper!

**And what would that be?**

Well, we already saw **the deeper significance** in those words concerning judgement in **Vs-10** -

👉 "*dost not thou judge and avenge our blood.*"

Yes! It is clear to us now that this **JUDGEMENT** upon Babylon... was to be a **PROCESS** over a long period of time, beginning with the "*judgement*" in April 1878... and concluding with the "*avenge*" during the pouring out of the "*seventh vial*" as described in - **Revelation 16 : 19** - "*...and great Babylon came in remembrance before God, to give unto her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of his wrath*"

👉 **This of course is still future in time even from our perspective today!**

Yes! This final destruction takes place **AFTER** the **FULL GLORIFICATION** of the **FULL** Body as we read in -

**Revelation 14:10**

*"... the wrath of God which is poured out without mixture in the presence*

*of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb”*

**Ah! Yes! This is the... “burning of the tares (bundles)”** at the **CONCLUSION** of the **GOSPEL AGE!** (Matthew 13:30)

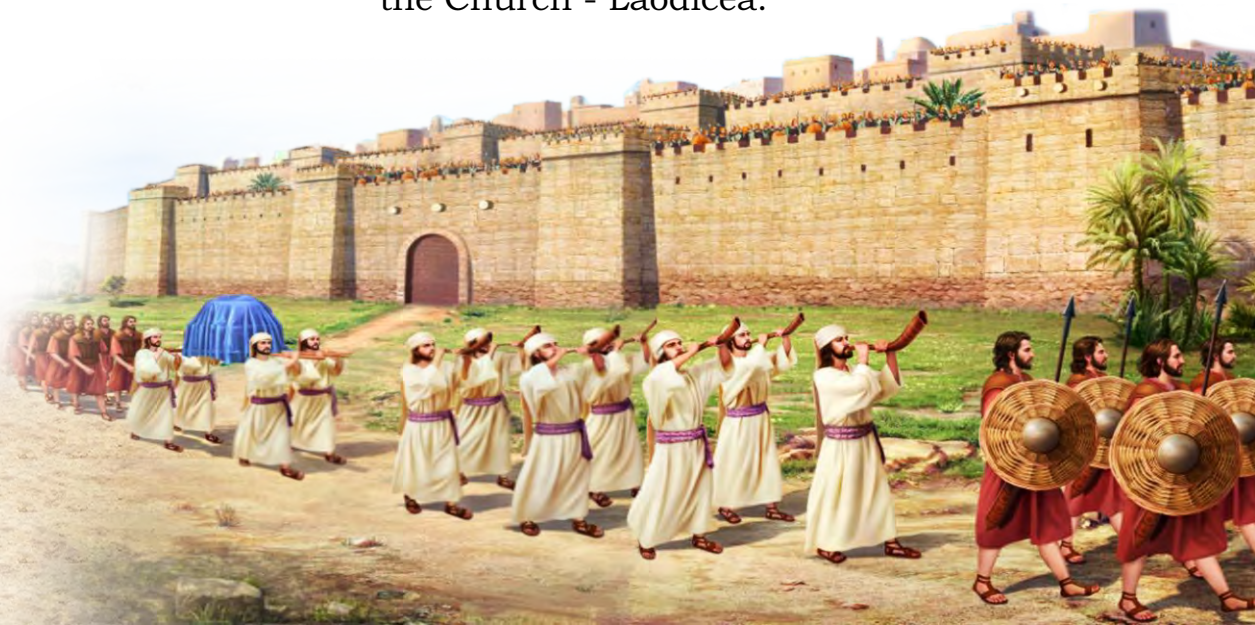
The **deeper matter** that we now see in the *“until”* is that this scripture **CLEARLY TEACHES** us now... that the final destruction of Babylon will take place only **AFTER** the completion of not just the *“little flock”* - the **BODY of the Christ**, but further, it will also be... after the completion of the *“great company”* as well!!

➡ **Yes! Note those words - “be fulfilled”!**

This of course supports the same truth we learnt from the type of the **fall of the walls of Jericho in Joshua 6:2 - 24...**

That, of course typified the destruction of Babylon, where the *“seven days”* pictured the seven stages of the Gospel Age Church. The *“trumpets of rams horns”* picture the witness of the word of God.

And the *“compassed the city seven times”* on the seventh day pictures the *“seven vials”* of **Revelation 16th chapter** which brings about the final fall of Babylon in the seventh stage of the Church - Laodicea.



And in **Vs-20** the collapse of the walls of Jericho after the people hearing "*the sound of the trumpet*".... and themselves "*shouted with a great shout*" picturises how after the great final pouring out of the "*seventh vial*"(**Rev 16:17**) which will consist  
**of a final public witness...**

**(VERY POSSIBLY broadcast "LIVE" on all television channels worldwide as "BREAKING NEWS"!)**

.....by the last members of the church... of the Divine Plan of God, styled the "*gospel of the Kingdom*" (**Matt 24:14**) by the last saints in the flesh, which will lead to a enlightenment and  
**REVEALMENT** of the **TRUE NATURE** of the Antichrist "*mystery of iniquity*".... which of course then leads to a great  
**PUBLIC OUTBURST** at the revealment (**II Thessalonians 2:8/Revelation 17:16**).

Now **the point we are really pointing to** comes next in the "*saving of Rahab the harlot and her full household*" (**Vs 23**).

This represents the **COMPLETE** salvation of the "**great company class**" in the **SECOND RESURRECTION**.

➤ **Yes! Note those words in Joshua 6:23 - "and brought out Rahab, and her father, and her mother and her brothers ,and all that she had; and they brought out all her kindred....."**  
**Ah! yes! The complete "household" of Rahab is saved!**

And... **Only after this...** follows the burning of the "*city of Jericho*"... **which picturizes the final destruction of Babylon** - the divine judgements of the "*wrath of God*" poured out to...

 "*avenge*"

**And, Ah, Yes! It is so clear that the “until” for the completion of the FINAL judgement upon Babylon, will have to wait till the completion of both the “little flock” (“their fellow servants”) AND the “great company” (“their brethren”)....be over (“be fulfilled” ).**

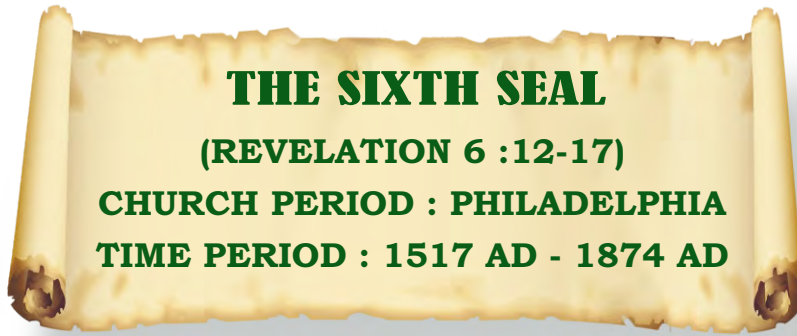
Ah! Indeed! How **MARVELOUS** are these great TRUTHS hidden in these words of enquiry by the church of **SARDIS**, which serves as the **LIGHT OF PROPHECY** to **us**, the saints of LAODICEA, **living in the flesh** in the VERY TIME when these JUDGEMENTS on BABYLON are being **fulfilled** before our very eyes!!

Yes! In **conclusion** let us quote that scripture again, which has **cast such wonderful light** -

*“And white robes were given unto every one of them; and it was said unto them, that they should rest yet for a little season, until their fellow servants also and their brethren, that should be killed as they were, should be fulfilled.”*

**Awesome... and...  
Amen!**






**Vs - 12**


*“And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal; and lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood.”*


The **SIXTH SEAL** contents describes the **POST REFORMATION** period of church history... and especially that of the **ANTICHRIST SYSTEM** which was during this period to develop into... a “**SYSTEM OF SYSTEMS**”

 Yes! The development of “**Babylon**” as a **SYSTEM** of...  
**“MOTHER”** and “**DAUGHTERS**”

Many commentaries interpret this... “*earthquake*” mentioned here to be... **THE FRENCH REVOLUTION**, which began in 1789 and which 10 years later led to Napoleon Bonaparte putting an end to **PAPAL POWER** ... and the **HOLY ROMAN EMPIRE** in 1799!!

**Can we take this to be the interpretation ?**

 We have a problem as regards TIME in accepting this interpretation.

 The **SIXTH SEAL** is opened at the **BEGINNING** of the “**Philadelphia**” period of the church and that is the year **1517**. We have a nearly **272 years** gap ! (from 1517 to 1789).

Further let us note the language of the scripture -

**Vs - 12**

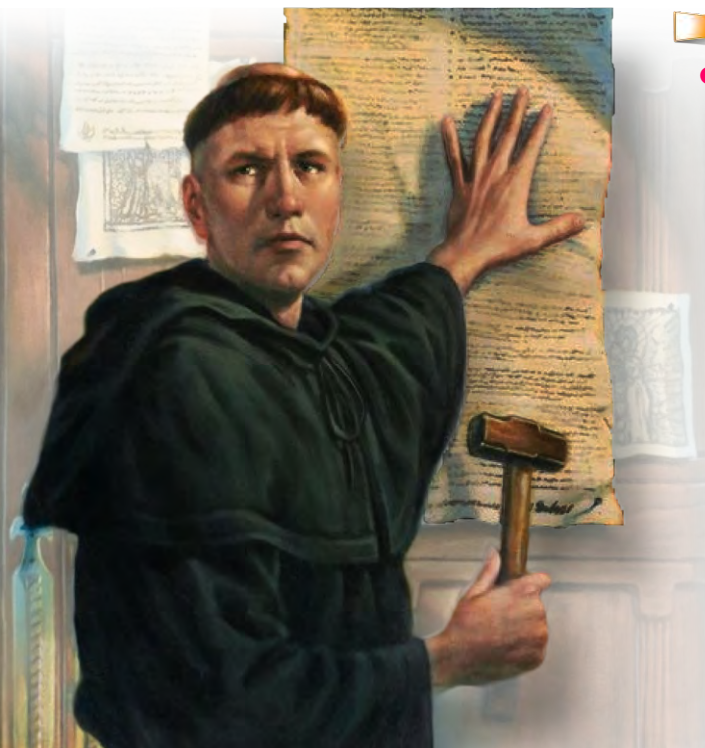
*“And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal; and lo, there was a great earthquake;...”*

**Did you see that?**

The words *“and lo”* teaches us that ALMOST IMMEDIATELY and at the same time of the opening of this seal was manifest the *“earthquake”*.

➡ **Now let us understand what this *“earthquake”* signifies?**

An *“earthquake”* is a SYMBOL for REVOLUTION which **DESTROYS** the old order... and thus causes the raising up of a **NEW ORDER**.



➡ **Now what was the earthquake or REVOLUTION that manifested with the opening of the sixth seal in the year... of 1517? Ah! Yes! It was the *“great earthquake”* of REFORMATION..... which began on October 31st of 1517..... when Martin Luther stuck his **95 THESES** on the door of the main church in the little town of WITTENBERG in Germany!**


Yes! This was the *“great earthquake”* that came upon **PAPACY**... and the **ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH** which was


FOREORDAINED of God as we read clearly in the prophetic scriptures **concerning the seventh trumpet** in -


**Revelation 9:15**

*“And the four angels were loosed, which were prepared for an hour and a day, and a month, and a year....”*

**There are many** who are inclined to think that this *“great earthquake”* is a reference to the FRENCH REVOLUTION.


 **Thus let us show forth the SCRIPTURAL REASONS for us disagreeing with this view.....**


 When we look at the scriptures detailing the *“sixth trumpet”* in - **Revelation 9:14-16**... we see that the PRIMARY FOCUS in the sixth church period of Philadelphia is... THE REFORMATION.

 So too when we look into the Lord’s message to the church of Philadelphia in **Revelation 3:8** we see - *“I know thy works: behold, I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it..”*

Here this **“open door”** is a clear reference to the OPPORTUNITY to **EXPRESS** and **STAND FIRMLY** for the Word of God... and to turn the common people’s focus to the BIBLE as... God’s written and expressed word !

 And that was... **THE REFORMATION.**

 This *“door”* was opened by Divine power as expressed in the previous verse of **Vs -7.**

 Then again when we look at the **SIXTH** of the seven parables of the Lord in **Matthew 13th chapter**, detailing in summary the events of the seven church periods of the Gospel age in -

**Matthew 13:45,46**

*"...the kingdom of heaven is like unto a merchant man seeking goodly pearls: who when he had found one pearl of great price..."*

It is clear to us that this "*merchant man*" referred to here is none other than **MARTIN LUTHER** and the "*one pearl of great price*" that he found was the understanding of the process and doctrine of justification that he found in the Bible in -

**Romans 1:17**

*"For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith as it is written, The just shall live by faith"*

It was this great **TRUTH** realisation that spurred Martin Luther, a Roman Catholic priest at the time... to write his "**95 THESES**" and to through this proclamation of dissent against the Roman church "**spark off**" the REFORMATION.

So it would seem quite clear to us that all reference to the sixth church period of Philadelphia focuses **PRIMARILY** on... THE REFORMATION. Though the French Revolution is the **next** main event that transpired in this church period... to end the "*one thousand two hundred and sixty days*" of the PAPACY... it is to be kept in mind that this was towards the **CLOSE** of this church period and... **NOT** the beginning!

And... yes, while the French Revolution was indeed an "*earthquake*", it is given a SECONDARY focus as we find in -

**Revelation 11 : 13**

*"And the same hour was there a great earthquake, and the tenth part of the city fell, and in the earthquake were slain of men seven thousand: and the remnant were affrighted, and gave glory"*

A CLEAR reference  
 to the **French  
 Revolution** in  
 France "*the tenth  
 part of the city*" - the  
 then Holy Roman  
 Empire!



(The "*tenth*" here is a reference to the "*ten horns*" of the "*fourth beast*" of **Daniel 7:7,8** which is a reference to the **ROMAN EMPIRE** and its ten divisions of which the "the tenth part of the city" which "*fell*" is a reference to **FRANCE** and the circumstances of the **FRENCH REVOLUTION**)

Notice this **11th chapter of Revelation** from **Vs 13 and 14** is an EXTENSION, so to speak, ....of the "*sixth trumpet*" which began description in the **9th chapter** and **Vs -13**.

Thus it is that we wonder why in the **SIXTH SEAL** description and at its very opening..... "*a great earthquake*" is taken to be the French Revolution which is an event that happens towards the **CLOSE** of this church period??

Having said that... let us move on -

**Vs - 12**

*"...and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood..."*



## What would all this mean?

Before we go into attempting to understand these SYMBOLS of prophetic scripture let us keep before our minds always that these SEVEN SEALS describe matters of the development of BOTH...

 the **CHRIST church**,  
....as also.....

 the **ANTICHRIST church**...

 **This is the perspective from which we are to look !**

Now before we go further, let us understand clearly these SYMBOLS as they apply to both the **“Christ” church... and the “Antichrist” church.**


| <b>CHRIST CHURCH<br/>(REAL)</b>  | <b>ANTICHRIST CHURCH<br/>(COUNTERFEIT)</b>  |
|--|---|
| <p><b>SUN</b> - It is the true light of the <b>GOSPEL</b> message from God... which is the divine plan for man... and spoken <b>through Jesus Christ</b>... who is the <b>LIVING WORD</b>(<b>John 3:34, Heb 1:2, John 1:9</b>) And just as the SUN literally provides <b>LIGHT</b> and <b>LIFE</b> for all on Earth... the Gospel provides the <b>LIGHT of TRUTH</b> and the... <b>PLAN of LIFE</b> for all from the divine standpoint.</p> <p><b>MOON</b> - This represents <b>the Law</b> as revealed <b>through Moses</b>... and the <b>words of the prophets</b> which compose the <b>OLD TESTAMENT</b> part</p> | <p><b>SUN</b> - It is the false and counterfeit message and <b>TEACHINGS</b> of the <b>PAPACY</b> claiming authority through the office of the Pope... who <b>CLAIMED</b> the headship over the church. These include many <b>PAPAL teachings &amp; doctrines</b> such as <b>infant baptism, Mary worship (MARIOLOTRY) Pope’s headship of the world wide church, adoration and prayer intercession through saints... etc</b></p> <p><b>MOON</b> - The Roman Church’s <b>CANON LAW</b>... and its various <b>PRONOUNCEMENTS</b> like <b>“bulls”</b> and <b>“edicts”</b> by which their members are</p> |

of the scriptures... which in turn were the words of God.. but in **OBSCURE** prophetic language and **SYMBOLS**... which was all about the GOSPEL message of God for man (**Revelation 12:1, Heb 1:1**). Yes! Reflecting the light of the Gospel - not bright and clear light - but **OBSCURE light !!**

**STARS** - The bearers and... messengers of the Word of Truth... principally the "*twelve stars*" of **Rev 12:1**... who are the **TWELVE APOSTLES** and... the "*seven stars*" of **Revelation 1:16**... who are the **SEVEN MESSENGERS** to the Seven stages of the Gospel Age Church.

bound... and for each of which was CLAIMED a... Biblical basis and origin. These also included the "**seven sacraments**", liturgical arrangements, Catechism, etc.,

**STARS** - The various servants of the PAPAL SYSTEM - the **bishops; archbishops, cardinals etc.** Yes! These are the messengers of the false and counterfeit light of the PAPACY. It is a **hierarchy** with the Pope at the very top, and... ending with **Parish Priests** and the **Theologians**.

 **So which Church's SUN, MOON and STARS are being referred to over here??**

**Is it the real... or the counterfeit?**

The answer is clear when we realise the "*great earthquake*" in **Vs 12** at the opening of the "sixth seal" is... a reference to the REFORMATION.

In fact the interpretation of the symbolic significance of the next few verses will **CLEARLY ESTABLISH** that the thought presented of this "*earthquake*" being the **REFORMATION** is the light of truth !

Yes! The "*sun*" "*moon*" and "*stars*" mentioned in **Vs 12** and **13** are a reference to the... **counterfeit church**.

 **So what do they signify?**

This is a reference to the RESULTS or EFFECTS that came out of the REFORMATION upon this counterfeit Roman church.

We are also to realise that the developments pointed to here **did not immediately happen in 1517 itself...** but rather was manifest **in process of time.**

Now let us see what is meant by the prophecy by understanding the symbols used.

 *“and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair”*

Yes! This is a reference to the **EFFECT** upon the PAPACY that came with the Reformation... and carried on till the **CULMINATION of the matter in 1799...** at the hands of Napoleon Bonaparte.

In fact it was **not just the PAPACY as an office...** but **its teachings and doctrines** and... its CLAIMED church HEADSHIP authority that came under question... and was finally discovered to be FALSE by many!


 **What would the symbol of “black as sackcloth of hair” mean?**

As seen in the third seal and the horse being “black” the symbol black symbolises **DARKNESS...** or the **OPPOSITE of LIGHT.**

Thus we see how after the Reformation the reformers like **Luther, Charles and John Wesley, Jan Huss, Ulrich Zwingli, etc,** began to make MANIFEST the fact that PAPAL DOCTRINES were **NOT** Biblical... and of DIVINE origin as claimed...!!

Thus these teachings and doctrines... which for long... had been taken to be LIGHT... was made MANIFEST as...

**DARKNESS** or “black”!

 Further we see that “black” has a further meaning as we read in -

**Zechariah 6:6**

*“The black horses which are therein go forth into the north country; and the white go forth after them; and the grisled go forth toward the south country.”*

As we all well know, the *“black horses”* **chariot** here represents one of the *“four chariots”* of this VISION of Zechariah. It is a symbol for the church class - *“the little flock”* who make a **COVENANT of death** or sacrifice of their human natures.

Yes! *“black”* here is a symbol of **DEATH**. And so too the reference of *“black”* to the PAPAL DOCTRINES... meant the manifesting of them as... **LIFELESS**... as they have **NO BIBLICAL BASIS**... or “life” (**John 6:63**).

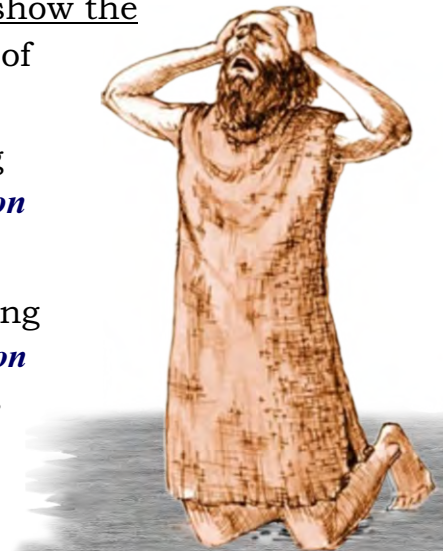
Having now seen what *“black”* symbolises, let us see what is...

➤ *“as sackcloth of hair”*

The word *“sack cloth”* is the Greek word - **“sakkos” #4526** which is found again in the **11th chapter** and **Vs 3** where the reference is to the *“two witnesses”* and... we know that is a symbol for - **A HUMBLING CONDITION**.

Indeed, in the Old Testament we see how *“sackcloth”* was literally a part of the **PROCESS** to show the **HUMBLING** of oneself in the way of showing repentance!

- ◆ **I Kings 21:27** – (King Ahab showing repentance by putting on *“sackcloth upon his flesh”*)
- ◆ **II Kings 6:30** – (King Jehoram showing repentance - *“he had sackcloth within upon his flesh”* ....seeing the distress of his people)



- ◆ **II Kings 19:1** – (King Hezekiah humbling himself before God by - *“covered himself with sack cloth, and went into the house of the LORD”*)
- ◆ **I Chronicles 21:16** – (King David and the elders of Israel humbling themselves before God by - *“were clothed in sackcloth, fell upon their faces”*)

So it must be very clear that *“sackcloth”* was a symbol for **HUMBLING ONESELF.**



Now, finally we note the word -



*“and the Sun became....”*

Now this word *“became”* is **Strong's - Greek # G1096** - **“ginomai”** which means **“to come into existence”** or **“to come to pass”** What is implied here is that this development was **NOT** immediate or over a short time ...but rather was the **RESULT** of a long period of time where the witness to the **WORD** of God - the **BIBLE**, by the reformers, beginning with **Martin Luther** led gradually and finally to this development.

Thus this would refer to how the **REFORMATION** and the... messages of the reformers gradually and thereafter (**1517 to 1799**) exposed the **UNSCRIPTURALNESS** of the PAPAL

TEACHINGS and DOCTRINES... causing a **humbling of the once strong hold** it had on the people... even leading to **Napoleon Bonaparte** to humiliate **Pope Pius VI (Daniel 11:37)**... which led to the **END of PAPAL POWER in 1799.**





 **Yes! A great humbling of the Papal influence!**

Then we read -

 *“and the moon became as blood”*

Here too, the reference is to the counterfeit church’s *“moon”* - the **CANON LAW** and the various pronouncements of the Roman church by which its members are **BOUND** to obedience.

 **Now how does the *“moon”* *“become as blood”*?**

Remember, these are symbols !! And **NOT** to be taken literally !!


Thus *“blood”* is a symbol for **LIFE** as we read in -

**Leviticus 17:11**

*“For the life of the flesh is in the blood:”*

Remember the **ATONEMENT DAY** sprinkling of blood on the mercy seat by the High Priest in the Most Holy?

 Yes! It was because DIVINE JUSTICE required...  
*“a life for a life” (Ex 21:23).*

 Yes! The sprinkled blood was the satisfaction of the demand for life... for *“blood”* is a symbol of LIFE.

 **NOW how did the Papacy’s CANON LAW *“become”* LIFE?**

Well, it was by the use of its VARIOUS PRONOUNCEMENTS that the Roman Church tried to SUSTAIN its own existence ...from the onslaught of the reformers using Bible scriptures to... **EXPOSE** and **MANIFEST the ERRORS** of the **PAPACY.**

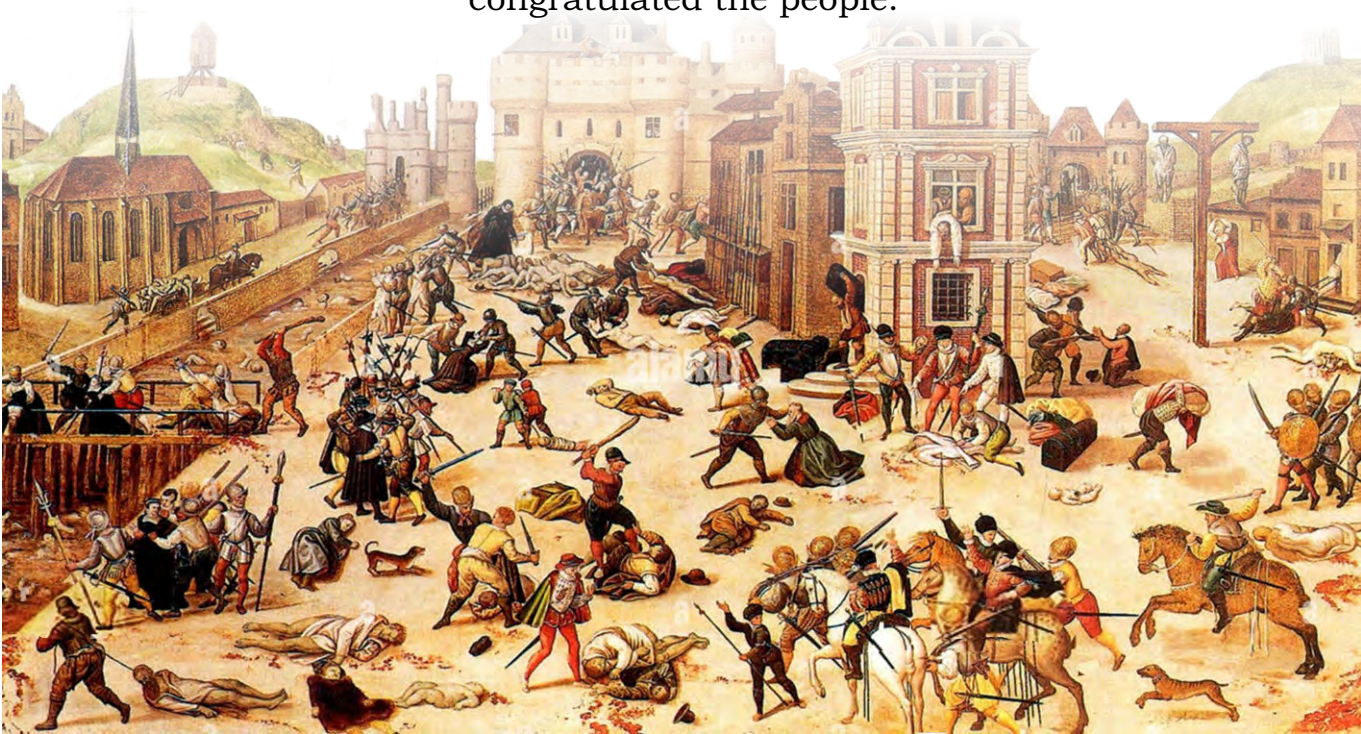
Thus papal "**BULLS**" were issued to excommunicate some from membership in the Roman Church as for example with Martin Luther... while others were deemed **HERETICS**... while kings of Europe were urged to **EXTERMINATE** all those who oppose papacy and its teachings.

👉 **Orders were issued from Rome called... "edicts"**

("Bulls" were documents of the **CANON LAW** which consisted of **ORDERS** of condemnation/judgement against **INDIVIDUALS** "Edicts" on the other hand were against **GROUPS** consisting of many !)

The Catholics **were bound** by the orders... which was proclaimed to be their **DIVINE DUTY**, for which they were told that they would receive reward from God !

➡ Thus in **1572**... French Catholics on August 23rd, which was St. Bartholomew's Day... put to death **70,000** Protestants (known as **Huguenots**). This was called... **The St. Bartholomew's day Massacre**. Blood was flowing in the streets... while **Pope Gregory XIII** celebrated mass and congratulated the people.





➔ Many prominent protestants and reformers like **William Tyndale** and **Thomas Cranmer**, Archbishop of Canterbury were **burnt at the stake**.

➔ In **1614**... Irish catholics killed and massacred **30,000** protestants in **IRELAND**.

Yes! The Papacy used its **CANON LAW** to stir up its members to SHED THE BLOOD of those who exposed its terrible errors... **in order to sustain its own life.!**

Yes! It was a matter of its own life as we read in -

**Revelation 13:14**

*"...saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword, and did live."*

☞ **Yes! Did you see that?**

It was the "sword" of God's Word in the Reformation and after.

☞ And **thus indeed** did the Papacy's "*moon became as blood*"!

**Now let us turn to -**

**Vs - 13**

*And the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind"*

➔ **What would all this mean?**

☞ Firstly, let us keep always in mind that this is **SYMBOLIC** language being used here.

☞ Secondly the “*stars*” here are part of the same “*sun*” and “*moon*” HEAVENS we have already seen - the **COUNTERFEIT** “**Roman**” church.

➤ This also is conclusive proof that it is the counterfeit church that is being referred to over here... for the “**sun and moon**” cannot be of the REAL church and the “**stars**” of the COUNTERFEIT church.... or vice versa!

➤ They ALL have to be of ONE !

Now these “*stars*” are a reference to the light bearers of the PAPACY or... its **SERVANTS** - the priests, archbishops, bishops, cardinals etc.

Now let us read the description of what **effect** came upon them after the REFORMATION -

➤ “*the stars of heaven fell unto the earth*”

**Here the primary focus is on the word “fell”!**

Yes! As a result of the reformation and the proclaiming of the Word of God by the reformers... and the open statement of Luther saying that popes, cardinals, archbishops etc. had **NO BIBLICAL AUTHORITY**... the heavenly or SPIRITUAL RELIGIOUS influence began to fade and they began to be seen more and more... as **MERE MEN**...by the general common people!

➤ Yes! “fell” ...from heaven.... “unto the earth” !

**Then we read-**



➤ *“as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind”*

Here the symbol of the *“fig tree”* is used **METAPHORICALLY**. As is well known the fig tree in the scriptures represents the nation of ISRAEL - **the fleshly house of God**. (Matthew 24:32 / Jeremiah 24).

➡ **Thus here it would seem that events in the Gospel Age are being compared to that of the Jewish age.**

Yes! The **JUDGEMENTS** that came upon the **“fleshly”** house of Israel are being alluded to... with respect here to the **“spiritual”** house of Israel and... the **JUDGEMENTS** that would come upon it too.

The *“mighty wind”* is a symbol of the **TROUBLES** that would come... and in this case would refer to the great TROUBLE that reformation was to the papacy.


➡ **Now what would the reference to *“casteth her untimely figs”* represent?**


Here perhaps an understanding of certain **FACTS** and **FEATURES** of a real fig tree would be very useful and helpful to us to pick up the point being made over here!!


**In the case of fig trees** we see that there are **THREE stages of harvest** of the figs -






 **#1. UNTIMELY FIGS** - **Around end March** tiny little figs appear which are immature and with the strong winds at that time... fall to the ground. These have **in NO WAY developed** to the stage of ripeness as figs. Thus they are said to be -  
**"UNTIMELY"**

 **#2. EARLY HARVEST** - **Around the month of June** some of these untimely figs which did not fall to the ground DEVELOPS to FULL RIPENESS. The harvest of these figs are known as **"EARLY FIGS"**. But this is still NOT the real and FINAL HARVEST of the fig tree.


 **#3. THE SECOND OR GENERAL HARVEST** - At that time **in June**, appears flowers in the higher branches... **which then by August** are RIPE and READY for the FINAL **harvesting** of the fig tree.

Yes! It would seem that the Lord has so arranged the matter here, so as to... **leave a lesson** in the "*fig tree*" as to the MANNER by which His JUDGEMENTS would come upon **"spiritual"** Israel... whom the "*fig tree*" or **fleshly Israel** only TYPIFIED.

 **Let us now see how -**

 Israel had a **typifying** of the FINAL JUDGEMENTS that would come upon it... with **the fall of the last king Zedekiah** in **606 BC** and... the destruction of the temple and Jerusalem at the time... leading to the 70 years of CAPTIVITY in Babylon.

This all **TYPIFIED** the **FINAL JUDGEMENTS** that would come to the nation **in TWO stages** when they would REJECT the Messiah.

 **In - AD 33**... when Jesus pronounced those words of Divine judgement in **Matthew 23:38** - "*Behold your house is left*

*unto you desolate*" But this was not the **FINAL DESTRUCTION**...or the fulfillment of the JUDGEMENTS of God **that came later...! Yes ! much later !**

- **In - AD 69 - 70**... when under **Titus, the Roman general**, Israel was laid siege to and both the "*city*" and the "*temple*" "*Sanctuary*" - KJV) were destroyed in fulfillment of the prophecy of **Daniel 9:26**... and all the people were dispersed throughout the world... and the land of Israel left desolate (**Zechariah 7:14**).



☞ This was **the FINAL judgements** on Israel or "*the fig tree*".

This was all **TYPIFIED** in the VISION of "*the valley of dry bones*" that Ezekiel was shown in **Ezekiel 37th chapter**... which he received from the Lord during those **70 years** in Babylonian captivity **from BC 606 to BC 536**.

And all this that came upon the "*fig tree*" or fleshly Israel... would TYPIFY what would **come upon Spiritual Israel** during the Gospel Age.



**That is why we note the word - "as" in vs  
( 13 - Revelation 6 )**

Now let us see **the corresponding ANTITYPES** of the THREE stages of the "fig tree" for its HARVEST to... that of Spiritual Israel.



Firstly we are to understand HARVEST as not just a period of collecting **FRUITAGE**... but ALSO to be the period for **DESTROYING the waste fruitage** as we read in -

**Matthew 3:12**

*"Whose fan is in his hand, and he will thoroughly purge his floor, and gather his wheat into the garner; but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire."*

Notice **those TWO works** in the HARVEST PERIOD... here referring to the **JEWISH AGE**.

**Then again we read in -**

**Matthew 13:30**

*"Let both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather ye together first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into my barn."*

Here too is seen **the same TWO works** at the conclusion of the GOSPEL AGE harvest.

Thus when we look at the JUDGEMENTS upon the spiritual house of Israel **we see the same THREE stages** -




**From REFORMATION in 1517...** to the **FRENCH REVOLUTION in 1789** and culminating in **1799** with the complete **FALL** of Papacy... was a **TYPIFYING** of the

FINAL JUDGEMENTS to come upon that system at the  
**END OF THE AGE!**

These JUDGEMENTS were "**untimely**" in that... the "*Jezebel*" system (**Rev 2:20,21**) was yet to TRANSFORM itself... into "*Babylon the great*" with mother and "*daughters*" (**Rev 17:5**).

 Yes! That **FINAL JUDGEMENT** too would come in  
**TWO stages -**

 In **AD 1878**... when the returned King and "*Bridegroom*" pronounced **the words of DIVINE judgement in -**

**Revelation 18:2**

*"And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird."*

But **that was not** the FINAL JUDGEMENTS... or the fulfillment of the JUDGEMENTS of GOD. That **awaits** the completion of the church and **the pouring out** of the "*seventh vial*" of the wrath of God as we read in -

**Revelation 16:19**

*"And the great city was divided into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell: and great Babylon came in remembrance before God, to give unto her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of his wrath."*

 **Yes! It is all very clear !**

Thus seen, the reference to the scripture under study of Revelation 6:13 "*And the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind*"

.....is quite clear now, that this is **a reference** to the terrible experiences of the **FRENCH REVOLUTION**, which

*"a mighty wind"* here clearly signifies! Indeed the "stars" of the PAPAL system had a **great terrible judgement experience** there, which is aptly described as *"the stars of heaven fell unto the earth"*

But being **NOT YET** the final judgments, which now awaited the last stage of the church and the end of the age, it was indeed.... *"untimely"*!

➤ Thus we have seen the beautiful **SIGNIFICANCE** of the metaphor - *"as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs"*

Now let us go to -

**Vs - 14**

*"And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together: and every mountain and island were moved out of their places."*

 **What would all this mean?**

And which *"heaven"* is being referred to over here ?

Well, this is a reference to the **SAME** *"heaven"* of whose... *"sun, moon and stars"* we just studied about.

 Yes! The **NOMINAL** church *"heaven"*

➤ This is a reference to the **DEVELOPMENT** that took place... **AFTER** the Reformation and... **AFTER** the French revolution.

➡ Yes! **The END** of the PAPACY's permitted period of power of 1260 *"days"* or 1260 years from **AD 539 - 1799**.

➡ Also the ending of the Papacy's MILLENNIUM of power that began in **AD 799**... with the signing of the agreement to



form the Holy Roman Empire... which **ended in 1799**.

This took place when Napoleon Bonaparte of France imprisoned the Pope, confiscated the papal states... and cast down the PAPAL POWER.

👉 Yes! The *"heaven departed as a scroll"*.

We wonder though why the comparison is made to...  
*"a scroll"??*

Well, when we realize the **YEAR** this took place... and its **SPECIAL SIGNIFICANCE** we will be able to understand the matter!

**Yes! The year 1799... began a period known scripturally as  
 "the time of the end" (Daniel 12:4,9)  
 This is the period from 1799 till the END of the Gospel Age  
 and... the establishment of the VISIBLE phase of the  
 kingdom in Israel.**

Thus what happened in 1799 **only typified** what... would happen with the **CONCLUSION** of the period of *"the time of the end"* ...when not only the POWER of the *"heaven"* would be removed as happened here in 1799... but the entire *"heaven"* will be **PERMANENTLY REMOVED**.

**This we read very clearly described in -**

**Isaiah 34:4**

*"And all the host of the heaven shall be dissolved, and the heavens shall be rolled together as a scroll: and all their host shall fall down, as the leaf falleth off from the vine, and as a falling fig from the fig tree."*



☞ Thus we must understand... the COMPOSITION of this “*heaven*” which is shown as a “*scroll*”.... has... **TWO OPPOSITE ENDS**... which represents the beginning position of **CATHOLICISM** and... **PROTESTANTISM** as when a “scroll” is opened !  
A condition of **OPPOSITION** and **distance from** each other.

➤ But as this “*scroll*” will **FINALLY** be “**rolled together**” for **FINAL REMOVAL**... the two opposing **ENDS** will gradually start to come **CLOSER**.

This represents the CONDITION **NOW** in the Laodicean phase of the church when we see **CATHOLICISM** and **PROTESTANTISM**... are making efforts for **UNION** though also at the same time maintaining their **DISTINCT IDENTITIES**.

(The **CLEAR** reason why in divine writ, the symbol is being referenced to a “*scroll*” with **TWO ENDS** and... a opening... and closing position.)

☞ Yes! They will be **TOGETHER** when they are finally **destroyed** as we read very clearly in prophecy in -

**Revelation 19:20**

*“And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshiped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone.”*

Thus the comparison to *"a scroll"* is... **ALSO a prophetic statement** here from the point of view of the sixth church period of Philadelphia... showing something that would LATER happen at **the end of Laodicea!**

Yes! The **TYPICAL removal** of the *"heavens"* in 1799... pointing to **the REAL REMOVAL** much later in time!

**Then we read -**

➤ *"and every mountain and island were moved out of their places"*

👉 **What would this mean?**

This is a reference to that same period of time... about 1799 onwards.

The *"mountain"* as we well know is a symbol for **KINGDOMS** while... *"island"* is a symbol of **DEMOCRACIES** where **waters** **picturise people (Revelation 17 : 15)...** **which is all around that land mass of island**, perfectly picturing the democracy CONCEPT of...

👉 **"of the people, by the people and for the people".**

This is a reference to how after the fall of the **PAPACY in 1799...** and **the END** of the Holy Roman Empire... there arose a... **CHANGE...** which impacted all the existing nations - whether they were *"mountains"* or **kingdoms** or... *"islands"* or **democracies...**

👉 **What does this mean?**

➤ **And that was the ARISING of "the ten toes" (of "the image" of Daniel 2nd chapter)**



Yes! The **TEN KINGDOMS of Europe** began to COLONISE the nations of the world... and all in the guise of being... CHRISTIAN KINGDOMS. (the toes were... *“part of iron and part of clay”* - **Daniel 2:42**).

➡ Thus the *“moved out of their places”* would **represent this... NEW CHRISTIAN INFLUENCE... that came upon all the colonised nations of the world...** with **SWORD** and **FORCE**. A great and **DRASTIC CHANGE** thus came into all these colonised countries in matter of **RELIGION, SOCIETY, CULTURE** etc.,

We then continue to -

**Vs - 15**

*“And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains”*

**What does this mean?**

Well, first of all let us point out to the readers that... this verse is in COMBINATION with the next two verses -

**Vs 16 and 17**

Let us now read those too -

**Vs - 16,17**

*“And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb. For the great day of his wrath is come, and who shall be able to stand”*

Yes, We are to understand **these three verses** speaking of and describing **one single matter**.

➡ **And what would that be?**

Well, what we see described here is almost **EVERY STRATA OF SOCIETY** reacting to what they think is... the coming and imminent "**Judgement Day**" of the Lord!

👉 **How did this happen?**

Ah! Yes! That brings us... to **the LAST EVENT** of the Philadelphia... or the sixth church period... which is being referred to over here!

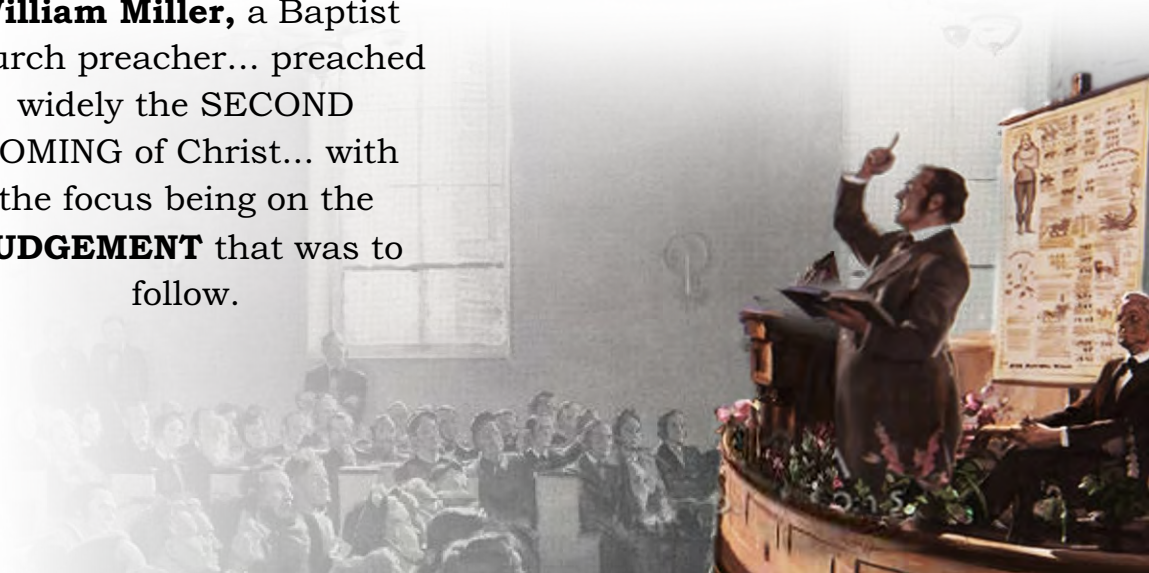
➤ **Yes, It is.... THE MILLERITE MOVEMENT..... from 1829 to 1844**

**William Miller**, a Baptist church preacher... preached widely the **SECOND COMING** of Christ... with the focus being on the **JUDGEMENT** that was to follow.

Yes, this Miller Movement... as it was called... was the manifestation of what would lead to the fulfillment of the **FIRST TWO** time prophecies with reference to the Second Coming of Jesus as found in the Book of Daniel in the 12th chapter in -

**Daniel 12:11**

*".....and the abomination that maketh desolate set up there shall be a thousand two hundred and ninety days".*

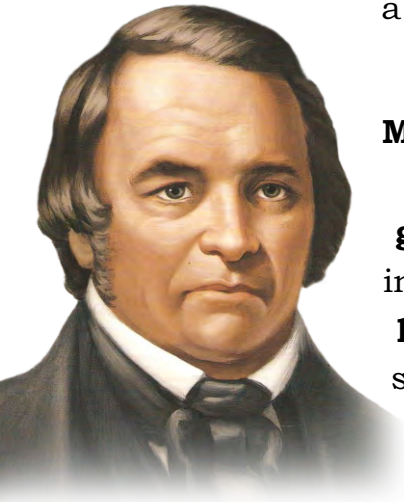




And it was during the MINISTRY of Bro. Miller and WHAT he preached... and **PROCLAIMED** from the scriptures... and which was very widespread in influence... that brought forth the **REACTION PUBLICLY**, that is being referred to over here!

And to better understand, the import of all these prophetic scriptures, we must look into HISTORY and better understand... **WHAT** it was that Bro. Miller preached... and **WHAT** were the circumstances in those days.

👉 This information can be gained by going on the internet and through the **Google** search engine... one can learn much about William Miller in WIKEPEDIA.



He was born on **Feb 15th 1782** in **Pittsfield, Massachusetts** in the **United States of America**.

Though he had no formal education, he **was a great reader...! He joined Military service** and in **1815** discharged from the army to settle in **the life of a farmer**. But the death of his father and sister in quick succession... and the death he saw while at war made him to think about...

➡ **DEATH & LIFE AFTER DEATH.**

**From an atheist** he suddenly became a believer... while **reading a sermon** in the Baptist Church, one day... about a SAVIOUR... **so kind and compassionate...** as to bear the burden of our sins.

👉 Thus he began to study the Bible.. and studying the prophecy of **Daniel 8:14** and *"the two thousand three hundred evenings and mornings"* ...he calculated this to be a period... **from 457 BC and got the date 1843 AD.**

👉 Then... in **the year 1818, was when he discovered this date** and expected it to be the due date of the SECOND

COMING. He continued to study the matter over the next 5 years... until **1823**.

➤ He made a formal 20 point document **proclaiming 1843** to be the date of the Lord's **SECOND COMING**.

In **1832**... Miller submitted a series of his studies to be published in a Baptist newspaper... which then led to Miller **beginning his widespread preaching ministry**. Initially he did **NOT** preach a date... but only **the year 1843**... but as the year drew near...

he spoke first of –

👉 #1) Anytime between **March 21, 1843 and March 21, 1844**.  
**Then.. came...**

👉 #2) **April 18, 1844**.

➤ When **NOTHING** happened Miller responded saying,  
"I confess my error, and acknowledge my disappointment.  
Yet I still believe that the day of the Lord is near,  
even at the door"



Thus it was that in August 1844 a date of... **October 22nd 1844** was determined.

And that day became what is now commonly called -

➔ **"THE GREAT DISAPPOINTMENT"**.

Now these **VIEWS** and **TEACHINGS** of William Miller through **the power of the press...** and specifically a publisher by the name of **JOSHUA HIMES..** and through a fortnightly paper called - **"Signs of the Times"** became very WIDESPREAD and... Yes! A nation wide MOVEMENT !



(This journal is **STILL** published even till today by... The Seventh Day Adventist Church)

➔ In fact... just before 1844 came, there were about **48 Millerite** periodicals being circulated!!!

**And WHAT was the message?**

Well, most all of the **SCRIPTURES** used by William Miller for the Second Coming teachings **were treated LITERALLY** such as...

➔ **Revelation 1:7**  
*"Behold he cometh with clouds"*

Thus a **VISIBLE return** was expected with a **panorama in the sky !**



 **Matthew 25:6**

*"And at midnight"....*

Ah! Thus a COMING was expected at **night**... yes !  
... at **midnight** !!

 **II Thessalonians 1:7,8**

*"....in flaming fire taking vengeance".*

This was **the FIERY and SCARY part** of the SECOND COMING expectations !

It was a time when the Seventh church period... of Laodicea... was yet to come in to being... and the **EYES OF UNDERSTANDING** were **yet to open brighter** and *"rightly divide the word of truth"*... (**II Timothy 2:15**)... and comprehend the **SYMBOLIC NATURE** of these texts...**even to understand**... that the Lord in His Second Coming **so comes...**

 *"as a thief in the night"* (**I Thessalonians 5:2**)

Thus the general result was to **INSTIL GREAT FEAR** in people's hearts... and a TERRIBLE DREAD of the **JUDGEMENT DAY**... which is completely and aptly summed up in the words -

**Vs - 17**

*"For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?"*

Now **Verse 16** and the use of the words -

 *"And said to the mountains and rocks , fall on us.."*

 ...is **NOT** to be taken **NEGATIVELY** or **destructively**.

(The words translated *"fall on us"* is the Greek word - **"epi"** (Strong's # 1909) which could also be better translated - **"fall across or about us"**)

This represents a **SEEKING FOR PROTECTION**... as is confirmed by the following words in that scripture, which is -  
*“and hide us from the face of Him”*

Now the *“dens”* and *“rocks”* in the *“mountains”* represent in symbol the **SOCIAL ORGANISATIONS** within societies... such as **CLUBS, GROUPS, TRADE UNIONS, GUILDS, TRUSTS**... which are sometimes **secular based** or **religious based!**

These are usually set up and operated for the welfare of the members. But,... the question here is...

 **WHAT exactly is this scripture referring to?**

We would suggest that what is being implied here is that as the TIME approached for the Lord's SECOND COMING... the majority of people... Yes... Christians themselves were losing their faith in God and His Word... and **DEVELOPING WRONG** and **NEGATIVE** ideas about God and rapidly reaching the **CONDITION** prophesied in -


**Luke 18:8**

*“Nevertheless when the Son of Man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth”?*

**Thus was summed up** the TIME PERIOD before 1874 about **which the scriptures reveal in -**

**Daniel 12 :12**

*“Blessed is he that waiteth, and cometh.....”*

 Ah! Yes! There was a lot of MISUNDERSTANDING... that awaited the **light of understanding**.

 And further, there was great disappointment of 1844... that awaited **ACTUAL FULFILLMENT**.



And thus we see and must understand the mindset that brings us to **1874** and the **END** of the period of the **Church of PHILADELPHIA!**

## PRELUDE TO THE SEVENTH SEAL

Now before the SCRIPTURES take us to the DESCRIPTION of the SEVENTH SEAL and its details in the **8TH CHAPTER of REVELATION**... we have an intervening whole chapter –

➔ **THE 7TH CHAPTER.**

👉 **WHAT** are we to understand of this INTERVENING chapter?

👉 **WHERE**, in the context of the ongoing description of the **SEALS**, does this chapter come in?

👉 Is it a **EXTENSION** of the events of the **SIXTH SEAL**?

Well the answer to these questions is found in UNDERSTANDING the peculiar aspect found in BOTH the “seals” and the “trumpets”... just PRIOR to the unfolding of the events of the SEVENTH STAGE and... JUST AFTER the description of events of the SIXTH STAGE... there is a WHOLE chapter set aside.

**We see it in –**



- **CHAPTER 7** (in the case of the "*seals*")  
**and**  
 ➤ **CHAPTER 10** (in the case of the "*trumpets*")

**What would this mean?**

Well... we would suggest these are **PREQUELS** or **PRELUDES** so to speak to the **GLORIOUS** and **CONCLUDING STAGE** of Seventh Church of **LAODICEA**... where... the Master is present and returned and many **GLORIOUS events** begin to be fulfilled... such as...

➡ *"Behold, I stand at the door and knock"*

**(Revelation 3:20)**

**(THE LORD JESUS RETURNED & PRESENT)**

**and....**

➡ *"Behold a white cloud and upon the cloud one sat like unto the Son of man, having on his head a golden crown and in his hand a sharp sickle"*

**(Revelation 14:14)**

**(BEING PRESENT AS REIGNING KING & CHIEF REAPER)**

**and....**

➡ *"And at midnight there was a cry made. Behold ,the bridegroom..."*

**(Matthew 25:6)**

**(BEING PRESENT AS BRIDEGROOM FOR THE WEDDING OF THE LAMB)**

**And further...**

➡ *"And ye yourselves like unto men that wait for their Lord , when he will return from the wedding..."*

**(Luke 12:36)**

**(THE 'WEDDING' OR FIRST RESURRECTION TO BEGIN JUST AFTER THE COMING... AND TO CONTINUE THROUGH THE WHOLE PERIOD OF LAODICEA)**

➡ **Yes! Indeed the "seventh" is a GLORIOUS TIME, indeed !!**

➤ What we would further EMPHASISE is that both these PREQUELS AMPLIFY matters to be described in the "seventh" stage!

Let us now see how -

➡ In the case of **chapter 7** the focus is on the **HARVEST WORK...**

➡ while in **chapter 10** the focus is on the **HARVEST MESSAGE** which is also "*the trump of God*" (**I Thessalonians 5:16**).

Let us now **BRIEFLY examine** and understand **Chapter 7**

**Revelation 7:1**

*"And after these things I saw four angels standing in the four corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth, that the wind should not blow on the earth, nor on the sea, nor on any tree"*

We are to **SPECIALLY NOTE** the beginning WORDS of this chapter and verse...

 "*And after these things*"

We are **NOT to suppose** that this is a CONTINUATION OF EVENTS described in the last verses of the previous chapter and concerning the SIXTH SEAL. On the contrary this is a **SEPARATOR** so to speak... which tells us at the very outset that what we are **NOW** going to "see" and study is... **APART FROM...** and **DIFFERENT** from the description of matters concerning the **SIXTH SEAL**.

We would also suggest that these words of "*after these things*" take in a meaning relative to the YEAR 1874! It is in this very year that the church period of **Philadelphia** ended with the ending of the month of **SEPTEMBER...** and the church period of Laodicea began with the beginning of the month of **OCTOBER**.

So **AFTER** all the **SEVERAL** events described in the Sixth period of the church, concluding with the monumental "**Miller Movement**" and the great disappointment associated with the expectations of the Second Coming of the Lord, Church HISTORY was now entering a **NEW STAGE** - the, **SEVENTH** and **LAST** stage of Laodicea, from October **1874**.

➤ And as already mentioned earlier, this 7th Chapter and... its 17 verses are a **PRELUDE** so to speak, describing certain events of the **SEVENTH SEAL**. They describe in greater detail something of the **SEVENTH CHURCH** period that does not find expression in the description of the **CONTENTS** of the **SEVENTH SEAL** in Revelation 8th Chapter.

👉 And **WHAT** would this be?

After reading many **COMMENTARIES** on this chapter... and the comments... we are strongly moved to **SUGGEST** that in this 7th Chapter, we find described **TWO EVENTS post October 1874** and the Second Coming of Our Lord, which are...

➡ **THE BINDING OF SATAN**  
and...

➡ **THE HARVEST OF THE CHURCH**

which was brought about by **the revelation of truth**, described in -

**Habakkuk 2:2**

as....

*"Write down the vision, and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it."*

Now before we get into a **DETAILED STUDY** of this chapter we would like to draw attention to the unusual **MENTION** of the **Lord's Second Coming** in ...

**Vs - 2**

*"And I saw another angel ascending from the east, having the seal of the living God..."*

Now we find this scripture a **little PECULIAR**... with the angel described as... *"ascending from the east"* This is **ACTUALLY** a reference to the Lord's Second Coming but translators have done a rather **POOR** job!

**Yes! It is rather strange** that when the reference is to the Lord's second coming and the expectation is for the Lord to be seen as **DESCENDING (I Thessalonians 4:16)**... the verse here makes a reference to **ASCENDING !!** It was very confusing indeed! On searching in **MANY** other Bible translations, we found most **ALL** referencing the **ASCENDING** to the *"angel"*

➡ Thus we turned to the **STRONG'S CONCORDANCE** - We found that the word - *"ascending"* is the Greek word - **"anabaino" (Strong's Greek # 305)** which means - **"to arise"** or **"come up"**

➡ Then the other word - *"the east"* is the Greek words - **"anatole"** and **"helios" (Strong's Greek # 395 and 2246)** and means - **"a rising of light"** or **"the Sun"** and **"by implication the east"**.

Thus, this rather strange rendering of *"ascending from the east"* when analysed from these word meanings **has an alternative and more acceptable rendering!** And that is *"ascending"* is replaced by **"to arise"** or **"the rising of "** and.... *"from the east"* is replaced by **"the Sun"**.



Thus a more proper translation would have been –  
*“And I saw another angel from (as) the rising of the sun, having the seal of the living God..”*

Here below is the INTERLINEAR excerpt of this  
**Revelation 7:2** verse in GREEK/ENGLISH from the  
 “Sinaitic Codex” manuscript  
 (Grateful thanks to Bro RICHARD D. DOCTOR, CHICAGO, USA)



2 και ειδον αλλον αγγελον αναβαινοντα απο  
 And I saw another angel coming up from  
 ανατολη? ηλιου εχοντα ?φαγιδα ΘΥ ζωντο?  
 rising of the sun having seal of God living  
 και εκραξεν φωνη μεγαλη τοι? τε??αρε?  
 and cried voice great to the four  
 αγγελοι? οι? εδοθη αυτοι? αδικη?αι  
 angels to whom was given to them to hurt  
 την γη και την θαλα??α  
 the earth and the sea

And indeed , we find a very SIMILAR translation in the  
**SMITH'S LITERAL TRANSLATION BIBLE (SLT)....**

*“And I saw another angel having come from the rising of the Sun, having the seal of the living God ! and he cried with a great voice to the four angels, to whom it was given to injure the earth and the sea,”*

**And, indeed!** The Lord’s SECOND COMING is always associated in symbol... with the sun and its rising !!

For don’t we read the Lord Himself likening his **PAROUSIA** to the **RISING OF THE SUN** in **Matthew 24:27** ??

And besides all that... the Lord's Second Coming is **LIKENED to the SUN** and **SUNLIGHT** in the book of Revelation in -



**Revelation 10:1**

*"And I saw another mighty angel... and his face as it were the sun....."*

**And then again in -**



**Revelation 18:1**

*"And after these things I saw another angel... and the earth was lightened with his glory"*



**Ah! Yes! It is VERY CLEAR!**

Now let us return to **Vs-1 of the 7th chapter -**

**Vs - 1**

*"And after these things I saw four angels standing on the four corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth, that the wind should not blow on the earth, nor on the sea, nor on any tree.."*

Yes! The **beginning words** of -

*"And after these things..."*



...as already mentioned **is a reference** to the **SIXTH SEAL** events and their completion...



.....and **specifically** those last verses of the 6th Chapter,  
**...Vs 15-17**



.....which **we did see was** the reference to the  
**MILLERITE MOVEMENT.**

**Yes! What followed the Miller Movement?**

Well, there was the **GREAT DISAPPOINTMENT OF 1844...** and a looking forward to **the CORRECT understanding** of the **SECOND COMING** of Our Lord. But **PROPHETICALLY** speaking when we search for what followed the Miller

Movement, we must turn to the **Book of Daniel** and the **12th Chapter** and...

**Daniel 12:12**

*"Blessed is he that waiteth and cometh to the thousand three hundred and five and thirty days"*

Ah! Yes! The **ACTUAL** Second Coming DATE of Our Lord is in **October 1874**

➤ **The year 1874 and with the beginning of OCTOBER... also brings us into the SEVENTH CHURCH period of Laodicea.**

Thus we are to bear in mind, that the **SIXTH stage** of the Church - **PHILADELPHIA**, and its time period **which ended in 1874**, was until the **end of the month of September** of that **very same year** ! It was only AFTER this, with the beginning of October, came the Lord's much anticipated **SECOND COMING**... and his "**parousia**" began... which also began the seventh and Laodicean phase of the church.

Yes! Indeed! "*And after these things...*" is a clear phrase of **SEPARATION**... a curtain, so to speak... separating the just ended **SIXTH stage** of the church... and the **newly opening SEVENTH STAGE !!**

☞ Having understood this... we now see that the rest of the matter in Verse **1 of this 7th chapter of Revelation** is referring to something that ALSO took place in 1874... but in **SEQUENCE a little BEFORE** the Second Coming. (**as in terms of priority of action**)

➡ **Do you know what that is?**

Ah! It is what we read in **the words of Our Lord Himself** in -

**Matthew 12:29**

*“Or else how can one enter into a strong man’s house, and spoil his goods, except he first bind the strong man...”*



Ah! Yes! **THE BINDING of Satan** by Our Lord Jesus!

The Second Coming **CANNOT** take place until... Satan is **BOUND FIRST** or... the **DIVINELY ORDAINED** binding process begins.



Thus we see this great **TRUTH** represented in the sequence of verses 1 and 2, where Vs 2 describes the **SECOND COMING** as subsequent... to the binding of Satan!

Having understood this, let us come to the details of the **language in verse 1** - Here there are *“four angels”* who stand on the *“four corners of the earth”* and hold back the *“four winds of the earth”*



**What does all this mean?**

Firstly *“the earth”* here is **NOT** the literal planet... but is a **symbolic reference** to... THE VISIBLE HUMAN RULERSHIP consisting of the **four PARTS** or *“elements”* of **2 Peter 3:10**

For further confirmation we see that the word used for *“earth”* here is the Greek word - **“ge”** (Strong’s- Greek # 1093) which **is the SAME WORD** used in **Revelation 21:1 and 20:11.**



**Now what are these *“four winds of the earth”* ?**

**This is a direct reference to -**

**Daniel 7:2**

*“I saw in my vision by night and behold, the four winds of the heaven strove upon the great sea”*

Yes! Here is Daniel describing in **SYMBOL** the **rulership** of his day... where "*heaven*" is the **INVISIBLE SPIRITUAL RULERSHIP** of Satan and his angels... who **EXERCISE** and **CHANNELISE** their power through the **VISIBLE HUMAN RULERSHIP** or "*the earth*" and its **FOUR PARTS**... which are here symbolised by - "*the four winds*".

☞ The "*great sea*" here, of course is a reference to the **WORLD OF MANKIND** under this **EVIL** influence (**Isaiah 57:20**).

☞ Thus "*the four winds of the earth*" here refer to the **VISIBLE HUMAN RULERSHIP** under the present **EVIL** influence.

Now having understood what these "*four winds of the earth*" are in **verse 1**... let us now understand what "*the four corners of the earth*" represent.

➡ It is very **SIMILAR** in meaning to the four winds... **but with an important difference.**

Yes! The "*four corners of the earth*" represent the **SAME** **VISIBLE HUMAN RULERSHIP**... but **from a different perspective!**

Here ...it is just a **PLAIN REFERENCE** to the **FOUR SEGMENTS** or **DIVISIONS** to the **VISIBLE HUMAN RULERSHIP**...or "*the elements of the earth*"

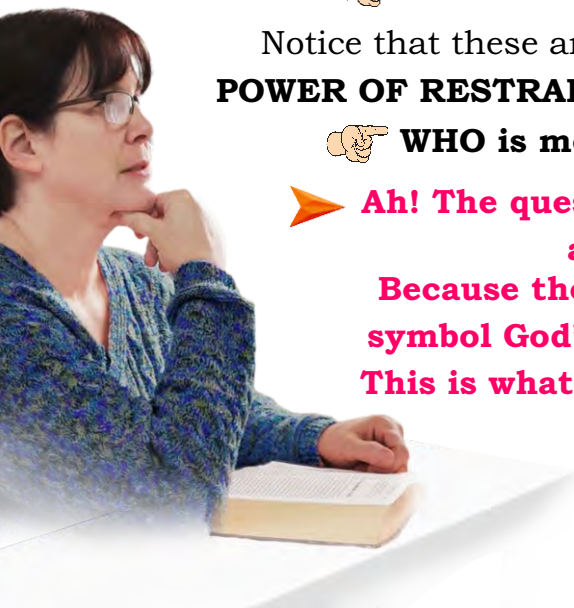
☞ Now we came to the "*four angels*".

Notice that these are said to be **EXERCISING GREAT POWER OF RESTRAINT** upon "*the four winds*" of the "*earth*"

☞ **WHO** is meant by these "*four angels*"?

➤ **Ah! The question must be rephrased to... WHAT are these "four angels"?**

**Because these "four angels" here represent in symbol God's DIVINE ATTRIBUTE of... POWER! This is what Jesus USES and EXERCISES in the BINDING of Satan.**





Indeed, Jesus returned to the earth at His Second Coming with **GREAT DIVINE POWER** as we read in -



**Revelation 18:1**

*“And after these things I saw another angel come down from heaven having great power...”*

And again we read in -



**Revelation 28:18**

*“And Jesus came and spoke unto them saying, all power is given unto me in heaven and in earth”*

Ah! Yes! It is clear! And **please notice** that it is... *“all power is given unto me”*... meaning the **DIVINE POWER & AUTHORITY** that... **HE RECEIVED** !



Now, someone may ask, **WHY** is God’s Attribute of power represented here by... *“the four angels”* ?

Ah! The **answer to that** is found in **the Book of Ezekiel** in -

**Ezekiel 1:15,16**

*“Now as I beheld the living creatures, behold one wheel upon the earth by the living creatures with the four faces... and they four had one likeness and their appearance and their work was as it were a wheel in the middle of a wheel”*

Ah! Yes! Here God’s **FOUR DIVINE ATTRIBUTES**... of **POWER, JUSTICE, LOVE** and **WISDOM**... are represented as *“four faces”* but having -



*“one likeness”*

and



*“as it were a wheel in the middle of a wheel”*


Yes! Dear brethren, the great and **AWESOME TRUTH**

that God's attributes **ALL** work together in **PERFECT ONENESS** and **HARMONY**.

Thus God's attribute of **POWER** is **NOT** exercised in ISOLATION or **ALONE**... but rather it is –

 **"JUST, LOVING AND WISE POWER"**

Yes! This is **DIVINE POWER**... which is COMPLETELY UNLIKE... Satanic power... or even human power !!

 Ah! Yes! This is what is meant by *"the four angels"*

Thus this **verse 1** of the **7th** chapter very **WONDERFULLY** describes in **SYMBOL**, the BINDING of Satan in 1874... where the **returned NEW KING** of earth, the Lord Jesus Christ put... the **OLD KING** whose permitted divine authority had expired... *"the prince of the power of the air"* under **DIVINE RESTRAINT**... which in scriptural language is described as... *"the chain"* **STAGE** of Satan's binding in -

**Revelation 20:2**

*"And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan and bound him a thousand years"*

Yes! The *"laid hold on"* is the **EXERCISE** of that Divine power of **RESTRAINT**.

We would like to draw the reader's attention here to some particular DETAIL we must note from the description of **"the binding of Satan"** as found described in SYMBOLIC language in **Revelation 20:1 to 3**. There are three different procedures described which all **TOGETHER** take that period referred to as -

 *"and bound him (Satan) a thousand years"* **Revelation 20:2**

 Please see the chart below....

| <b>UNDERSTANDING THE BINDING PROCESSES OF SATAN</b><br>(In the light of the scriptures of <b>Revelation 20: 1 to 3</b> )  |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| <b>PROCEDURE #1</b>   | <b>PROCEDURE #2</b>  | <b>PROCEDURE #3</b>   |
| "And he laid hold on..." ( <b>Revelation 20:2</b> )   | "and bound him ..." (with the great chain) ( <b>Revelation 20:2,1</b> )  | "And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him.." ( <b>Revelation 20:3</b> )   |
| The <b>BEGINNING</b> of this " <i>binding</i> " process <b>SUDDENLY</b> in October 1874 ( <b>Matthew 12:29</b> )... which then led to the "chain" <b>STAGE</b> of binding ! | The <b>LONG</b> period of the "great chain" binding process, extending till the passing away of the "heaven and earth" of the "present evil world" in ( <b>Galatians 1:4</b> ) a <b>GRADUAL</b> process of <b>ENLIGHTENMENT</b> and <b>DISINTEGRATION</b> of the systems and traditions and lies of Satan. ( <b>Revelation 20:11 / II Peter 3:10 / Isaiah 26:9</b> ) | The <b>LONGEST</b> period of Satan and his "systems" being completely bound to a condition of <b>TOTAL INACTIVITY</b> ( <b>Isaiah 29:20</b> ) ....to enable the human race to experience <b>NO DECEPTION</b> during their period of salvation and judgement ! |
| Took place at the moment of the Lord's return in October 1874!  | Took place from October 1874 and extends through the period of the <b>INVISIBLE PHASE</b> of the Kingdom of God.   | Starts with the period of Armageddon and extends till the <b>EXPIRY</b> of the "thousand years" in October 2874...right through the <b>VISIBLE PHASE</b> of the Kingdom of God  |
| <b>ALL THESE THREE PROCEDURES TOGETHER COVER THAT TIME PERIOD OF "a thousand years"</b>   |  |   |

Now finally we see the **OBJECT** of the **RESTRAINT** in the **concluding words** of the -

**Vs - 1**

*".....that the wind should not blow on the earth, nor on the sea, nor on any tree"*

Here of course the SYMBOL of *"the earth"* represents what we already saw to represent... THE VISIBLE HUMAN RULERSHIP in its FOUR SEGMENTS.

Then the symbol... *"sea"* as we also saw earlier represents... **THE WORLD OF MANKIND** under the present influence of evil.

Finally the symbol... *"tree"* represents... **THE HOUSEHOLD OF FAITH**, who have received the justification to life (**Psalms 1:1-3**).



**What exactly** is meant by **these last words of verse 1**?

It would seem that the returned Lord, beginning his **MILLENNIAL** reign and binding Satan using **DIVINE POWER**, does all this with the **OBJECTIVE** in mind that is described in **Verse - 3** with those words - (**Vs-3**)... *"hurt not the earth , neither the sea , nor the trees till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads"*

We will be looking into those details and meanings when we study the **next 2 verses!**



**So what EXACTLY** does these words mean?

It has to do with **DIVINE INSTRUCTIONS concerning** the BINDING process of Satan, that was begun in October 1874! The next 2 verses will provide insights into the meaning and significance of these words.

When we realise that the beginning of the BINDING of Satan is symbolised in **Revelation 20:1** as... *"in his hand a great chain"*.... which in turn represents the **RESTRICTION** of Satan's

**INFLUENCE** and **AUTHORITY** over mankind by the gradual and continuous revealments of **LIGHT (as links to a chain)**... to dispel his rule of **DARKNESS** and **LIES**, it will be seen that **these words here imply** a **METHOD** and **PURPOSE** to this work of the binding of Satan!

**Further understanding will follow** in the next two verses!



**Now we come to -**

**Vs - 2**

*“And I saw another angel ascending from the east having the seal of the living God: and he cried with a loud voice to the four angels to whom it was given to hurt the earth and the sea”*

**As already studied earlier**, this is a reference to the Lord Jesus Second coming in October 1874.



**Now what is meant by “the seal of the living God”?**

Some have thought it to be the **SEVENTH SEAL**... but that is **NOT SO**, for we read in the next verse that this “*seal*” is used to seal “*the foreheads*” of “*the servants of our God*”.

The **ANSWER to what** this “*seal*” represents... is found in -

**Revelation 14:1**

*“And I looked, and lo, a Lamb stood on the mount Zion, and with him an hundred forty and four thousand, having his Father’s name written in their foreheads”*



**Yes! This “seal” is.....**



**“THE FATHER’S NAME”**

Now as it is clear that this “*Father’s name*” or “*the seal*” was in “*their foreheads*”.... this would imply that this is a reference to a **INTELLECTUAL UNDERSTANDING** of something concerning God, the Father.



And **WHAT** would that be?



Well, it is the **TRUTH** of the DIVINE PLAN OF GOD... in all its depth and features as found recorded in the Word of God. And it is this TRUTH that **both 'BEGETS'** and... **develops** the new creation as we read in -

**James 1:18**

*"...Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of first fruits of his creatures....."*

And **again we read** in....

**John 17:17**

*"...Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth"*

But this TRUTH is **not mere KNOWLEDGE alone**... but it is the gaining of the SPIRIT of God, as we read in -

**John 14:16,17**

*"...And I will pray the Father and He shall give you another comforter... even the spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth Him not..."*

The TRUTH and God's HOLY SPIRIT are closely intertwined, so that the TRUTH is not merely **"head knowledge"**... but is a BOUNDLESS OCEAN OF LIGHT that manifests the **MIND** and **PERSONALITY** and **PURPOSES** of the Heavenly Father... which *"in good ground"* (**Matthew 13:23**) or GOOD **HEARTS** brings forth **WONDER, AWE** and **WORSHIP**... and a seeking and yearning to attain to that likeness... especially

AFTER realizing that to be the WILL of the Heavenly Father that was so wonderfully exhibited in the example of the *"first born"* and **eldest brother, Lord Jesus Christ.**



➤ **Bro Frank Shallieu, in his book "The Keys of Revelation" writes concerning this sealing on page 190 -**

**"To be sealed signifies the acquirement in the present life of that degree of the knowledge of God and of His Word, of the humility of mind that was in Christ Jesus: of the progress and growth in the graces and the fruits of the Holy Spirit: of the fixity of purpose and crystallisation of character in both mind and heart; of the attainment to, and standing fast at the mark or standard of the high calling; and of faithfulness unto death - all deemed essential to secure election to the reward of the saints in glory beyond the veil of human experience"**

👉 Ah! Yes! The *"seal of the living God"* by which would be sealed **144,000**.

Ah! Someone may ask, if this be a picture of the Second Coming, and that period of time... **HOW are we to understand that these 144,000 have ACTUALLY been getting "sealed" since the days of the apostles and... Pentecost?**

We will answer this... in our interpretation to verse 4.

Before we move on, we would like to **suggest another significance** for the mention of *"sealed in their forehead"*! While we have taken in the significance of **KNOWLEDGE** and **UNDERSTANDING** of **Truth** from the word of God, we would think that this is **ALSO** a reference to...

➡ **THE NEW CREATURE** and its **LOCATION**

Yes! We are to remember that the truth of the word causes **"spirit begettal"** and the **CONCEPTION** of the new creature

in the form of a **SPIRIT MIND**, which must now operate and grow in the body of flesh as we read in...

**2 Corinthians 4:7**

*“But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us.”*

We **have strong reason to believe** that the **LOCATION** of this *“new creature”* or **NEW “spirit mind”** is in the **FRONT** of the **HEAD** or *“forehead”*, which would place it in confrontation and **CONFLICT** with the *“flesh mind”* referred to as the *“old man”* in -

**Colossians 3:9,10**

*“Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds; And have put on the new [man], which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him”*

(Also found in - **Ephesians 4:22-24 / Romans 6:4-6** )  
This **“contrary” BATTLE** within, is also found described in -


**Galatians 5:17**

*“For the flesh lusteth against the spirit , and the spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would.”*

Yes! The *“new creature”* in *“the forehead”* **COMBATS** the old creature or **“fleshly mind”**... for control in the expressions through the **BODY OF FLESH!** The *“word of truth”* (**James 1:18**) that spirit *“begat”* the new creature, **continues to be the FOOD of the growth** of this new creature, all through this process referred to as ... *“sealing in the forehead”*!!



Now returning to **verse 2** we read -

 *“...and he cried with a loud voice to the four angels , to whom it was given to hurt the earth and the sea..”*

 **WHAT does this mean?**


As already seen earlier, these *“four angels”* represent DIVINE POWER. And this is a SYMBOLIC representation of how the now highly EXALTED Lord Jesus - *“the angel”* - **the representative of the Heavenly Father... EXERCISES** that POWER... and is in **FULL CONTROL**.

Thus we read **this fact, very clearly** in -

**Hebrews 1:3**

*“Who being the brightness of his glory , and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power.... sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high”*

Now we come to the part which says of these *“four angels”*

 *“to whom it was given to hurt the earth and the sea”*

This represents how this **time of trouble** that SWEEPS away the Second World and its systems... is **ENTIRELY** of the PERMISSION of God and under His DIVINE POWER of control **as symbolised here in these words** concerning these *“four angels”*.

This **AGAIN** we see now **through a series of scriptures,** **beginning with -**



**Malachi 4:6**

*“And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse”*

Yes! There is **God Himself speaking** of the “*great time of trouble*” as being directly from Him.

Then again we read in -



**Revelation 14:14**

*“And I looked and behold a white cloud , and upon the cloud one sat like unto the Son of Man....”*

Yes! Here the “*cloud*” is a symbol of the “*time of trouble*” (**Zephaniah 1:15**)... and the fact that it is **WHITE** symbolises... its **ORIGIN** and **PURPOSE**.

Yes ! It is...

- **OF GOD... in that it is permitted of God,**  
**and.....**
- **.....it is for the HOLY PURPOSE of the DELIVERANCE**  
**of the world of mankind from the BONDAGE**  
**to sin and death.**

Then again we read in –



**Revelation 4:6**

*“And before the throne there was a sea of glass like unto crystal....”*

Ah! Yes! A **VERY** familiar scripture which shows us the **FOUR CHARACTER ATTRIBUTES** of the Almighty Heavenly Father. As we well know, this **CHAPTER-4** of Revelation is **WHOLLY DEVOTED** to describing in symbol the Heavenly Father in all His glory. That is why we fondly refer to this **chapter 4 of Revelation** as -





## “The God Chapter”

for herein is revealed in symbol, details of **the great INVISIBLE God** of the Universe and all creation.

These particular words of “*the sea of glass*” is a **SYMBOLIC** description of God’s **FOREKNOWLEDGE** concerning **the permission of evil** in the FIRST and SECOND worlds.

For the “*sea*” is a symbol of the world under the influence of evil (**Isaiah 57:20**)... and “*glass*” is a symbol of **TRANSPARENCY**... while “*crystal*” is a symbol for **ABSOLUTE CLARITY**.

And indeed God does **KNOW ALL** of the permission of evil as we read **very starkly and clearly** in -

**Daniel 2:22**

*“He revealeth the deep and secret things: he knoweth what is in the darkness, and the light dwelleth with him”*

Yes! It is so clear!

Now this “*sea of glass*” which represents God’s foreknowledge of the permission and period of evil... is also shown in scripture... **CONCERNING** the “*time of trouble*” in **the harvest period of the CHURCH** as we read now in -

**Revelation 15:2**

*“And I saw as it were a sea of glass mingled with fire”*

Ah! What an **ASTONISHING looking symbol** for “*John*” to describe !

Yes! The “*fire*” symbolise God’s **JUDGEMENTS from October 1874** that **progressively** bring forth... the final great trouble.

**Finally a picture in -**



**Matthew 14:25,26**

*“And in the fourth watch of the night, Jesus went unto them, walking on the sea, And when the disciples saw him walking on the sea they were troubled...”*



Here is a very **MEANINGFUL TYPICAL PICTURE** enacted by the Lord upon the Sea of Galilee... which shows the **DIVINE CONTROL** he exercises over the “*sea*” or the restless **MASSES** of humanity under the influence of evil... and **THROUGH WHOM** will **COME** the **COMPLETE DESTRUCTION** of the present Second World as we read in -

**Joel 2:2,3**

*“A day of darkness and of gloominess... a great people and a strong, there hath not been ever the like... A fire devoureth before them... and behind them a desolate wilderness; yea and nothing shall escape them”*

Yes! Thus we have seen **HOW GOD** using **HIS GREAT JUST, LOVING** and **WISE POWER...** and **THROUGH Jesus His instrument...** and the various agencies... will bring about *“the great time of trouble”* finally !!

**Thus it is in this context and meaning...**

**that, we read of - “the four angels”  
we read -**

*..... “to whom it was given to hurt the earth and the sea”*

Here **again** we would like to draw the attention of the readers to these “*four angels*” of **Vs-1**... and of whom it is written in **Vs-2** - “*to whom it was given to hurt the earth and the sea*” .....and finally in **Vs-3** - “*.....hurt not the earth neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have sealed ...*”

While we have interpreted these “*four angels*” to be DIVINE POWER under the control of “*another angel ascending*” of **Vs-2** ... which we saw to be a reference to the **LORD JESUS at His Second coming** in October 1874 and onwards, we must consider the position of the fallen angels in this picture !

Let us read from the **EBC of Bro.Russell**  
(for **Vs-1** and **Vs-3** )

- “The **letting loose** suddenly of the fallen angels will account well for the suddenness of the coming trouble”  
**(R4823/Q738).**
- The great time of trouble is **held in check by divine power** until the completion of the harvest work **(R4822).**
- The winds of violence, which will **shortly be loosed**, and which will produce the terrific “**storm**” are being held back until the sealing of God’s servants in their foreheads shall have been accomplished **(SM187).**
- These symbolic winds represent strife, anarchy, the great time of trouble which is **held in check by divine power** “*until....*” **(R4822).**
- The evil angels would long ago have done injury to the symbolical earth, sea and tree, had it not been for **the restraint of divine power (R4822).**



From these above comments we see clearly that the fallen angels are represented in their power and activity by those “*four winds*”... which the “*four angels*” representing **DIVINE**

**POWER** are keeping under RESTRAINT from **October 1874**,  
as the work of harvest has been unfolding.

➡ Concerning these fallen angels we read in - **2 Peter 2:4**  
**(Also in Jude 1:6).**

*“For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast [them] down to hell, (Greek- G5120 - tartaroo) and delivered [them] into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment; (Jude 1:6 “... unto the judgment of the great day”.)*

These scriptures tell us that this divinely restricted condition of the fallen angels post the flood of Noah’s day stands in place **TILL “the judgement of the great day”** or the millennium of judgement under Christ (Acts 17:31) beginning in October 1874.

➡ **WHAT does this mean?**

➡ This represents the fact that with the **JUDGEMENT DAY** of the world beginning in **October 1874**, and the binding of Satan, these will be the very circumstances for the FINAL TRIAL (judgement) of the fallen angels, of whom there are some who have repented and seek forgiveness of God. This means that while Satan is *“bound”*... these fallen angels will be *“loosed”*!

👉 **This we understand from a scripture and some comments of Bro.Russell.**

**Colossians 1:20**

*And, having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, [I say], whether [they be] things in earth, or things in heaven.”*

**Bro.Russell’s EBC comments from Jude 6**

- The permission for them to find and use means of materialisation and communication with mankind will furnish the special trial and testing of the fallen angels. It will prove which of them are sorry for sin and at heart now loyal to God, and which are otherwise. It will be within the period of man's day of trouble (**R4070**).
- *“Until”* (in **Jude 6**) seems to imply that when we reach that time, then the restrictions are broken, and materialisation may again be possible. (**Q464 / R3490 / R2171**).


Thus from the above,.... in conclusion we wish to state that **DIVINE POWER** - *“the four angels”* will completely OVERRULE in bringing the *“great time of trouble”* using various **AGENCIES**, the most prominent being the unrepentant fallen angels... Yes! the *“four winds”* which lead finally to the *“whirlwind”* !

Now let us come to -

**Vs - 3**

*“Saying hurt not the earth neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads”*

This of course is a CONTINUATION of what we read in **Vs-2**... about the **DIVINE POWER** and **AUTHORITY** that the returned Lord Jesus exercises upon the earth **since October 1874**.

 **And the purpose of the RESTRAINT is explained here...**

Yes! **To enable** the work of *“sealing”*... or **THE HARVEST** of the Gospel Age... which began with the Lord's Second Coming in October **1874** as **THE CHIEF REAPER**.



▶ Oh! Yes! THE TURBULENT EMOTIONS... and the RAGE of Satan and his demons... and men... as the LIGHT begins to expose and CONSUME the works of a WORLD of “darkness” **will not be permitted** to interrupt or...DISTURB this VITAL work of the COMPLETION of the CHRIST BODY to GLORY.

Then **we must now turn our attention** to those words -

 ... “*till we have sealed...*”

Firstly the word "*till*" clearly tells us that the blowing of the four winds... which will cause the **WHIRLWIND**... or “**the great time of trouble**”, which will sweep away the Second World... will be **allowed to work its work only AFTER** the harvest is ended and the CHURCH IS COMPLETE.

We realise this with conviction from **the following two verses** of scriptures in -



**Malachi 3:17**

*“And they shall be mine, saith the LORD of hosts, in that day when I make up my jewels; and I will spare them, as a man spareth his own son that serveth him”*

And again we **read of the same** in -



**Luke 21:36**

*“Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man”*

Ah! Yes! The key words are -

 “*I will spare them*”

and.....

 *“be accounted worthy to escape....”*

**Ah! It is so CLEAR!**

 **Now, what is meant by the words -**

*“we have sealed the servants of our God”*

We are to bear in mind this is the Lord Jesus speaking and he uses the word - **“We”**. **WHO** are meant by the others that the Lord seems to include with Himself in this work by saying - **“We”**?

We would suggest that the Lord here is SPECIFICALLY speaking of another **INDIVIDUAL** whom he would use in this *“sealing”* work!

Yes! We **find that answer** in -

**Ezekiel 9:4**

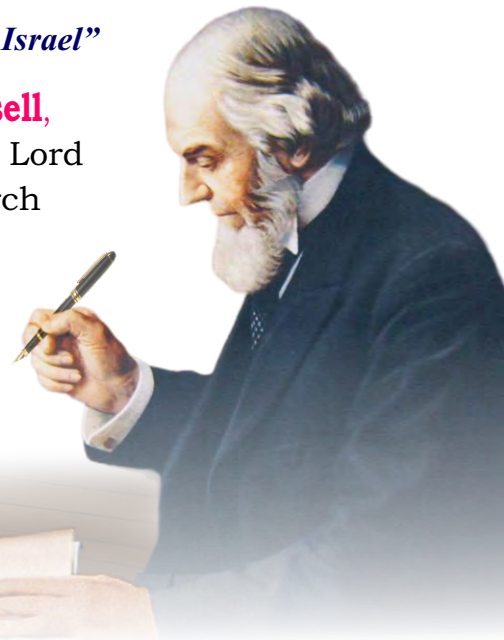
*“And the LORD said unto him, go through the midst of the city, through the midst of Jerusalem, and set a mark upon the foreheads of the men, that sigh and that cry for all the abominations that be done in the midst thereof”*

Yes! This was the **SPECIAL COMMISSION** that was received by *“the man clothed with linen which had the writer’s ink horn by his side”* from the Lord Jesus Christ **AFTER** October 1874 and the Second Coming.

Yes! From - *“the glory of the God of Israel”*

Ah! Yes! This is **Pastor Charles Taze Russell**, the seventh *“star”* in the right hand of Our Lord Jesus - **the ANGEL** to the seventh church stage of Laodicea !

And **HOW** did Bro Russell, the seventh Church messenger, who is being referred to over here **GO ABOUT THIS GREAT WORK** of Harvest with the Lord Jesus?



We read that answer in -

**Habakuk 2:2**

*“And the LORD answered me and said, write the vision and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it”*

**Yes! Bro. Russell was used to write -**

**➡ THE SIX VOLUMES of THE STUDIES IN THE SCRIPTURES**

**AND**

**➡ THE TABERNACLE SHADOWS OF THE BETTER SACRIFICES**

This WAS and... still IS the means by which the **“sealing”** is being accomplished. Thus the **“we”** spoken of and referred to by the Lord is a reference to Himself... as the **CHIEF REAPER** and Bro Russell who would be HIS **INSTRUMENT** with HIS WRITINGS in what can be called  
➡ **“THE HARVEST MESSAGE.”**

(Much **wonderful DETAILS** of how the Lord Jesus carrying the **“trump of God”** (I Thessalonians 4:16) - the **HARVEST MESSAGE**, at His second coming,... and **Bro.Russell**, his human instrument, and ...how they work together is found in **Revelation 10th chapter -Vs - 2 and 3** )

And we have a CLEAR reference again to this in -

**Zechariah 13:7**

*“Awake, O sword, against my shepherd, and against the man that is my fellow, saith the LORD of hosts...”*

➡ Yes! Bro Russell is referred to over here as... **“my fellow”**.

Yes! HOW **DEEP** is the use of this **EXPRESSION** and


especially in the light of the reference to the work of sealing to be undertaken .... *“till we have sealed”*

 Now it is proper that at **this juncture** we draw the reader’s attention to the **Expanded Biblical Comments (EBC)** for this verse - **Revelation -7:3...**

**Till we** - Those in perfect harmony with God are to be his servants (R4880:5). Those on this side of the veil have an important work to gather together the elect and to seal them in the forehead (**intellectually**) with the knowledge of the truth.(C303) Just as soon as the sealing of the saints is completed, then these four angels who are holding the four winds will let them loose (R4880:5 / 519:5)

While Br.Russel’s comments point to this work of *“we” to include the saints in the harvest work of “sealing on the forehead”* we **READILY** realise that the means of doing this work - *“the seal”* - *“the sickle”* of **TRUTH** - is the **WRITINGS** of Bro Russell.

Thus the *“we”* in **PRIMARY reference** is to the **Lord Jesus** and **Bro.Russell**, and... in a **SECONDARY reference** to all **HARVEST WORKERS.**

 Surely Bro. Russell cannot be expected **to point to himself** as the fulfilment of this *“we”* in a **PRIMARY** sense of its meaning !! (*Proverbs 27:2*)

**Now we come to -**

**Vs - 4**

*“And I heard the number of them which were sealed: and there were sealed an hundred and forty and four thousand of all the tribes of the children of Israel”*

Ah! here comes the **IMPORTANT INFORMATION** that John “heard” the number that were “sealed” He did not **SEE** them being sealed !

➔ **This is TRUE!**

Because, **“John”** here **represents a CLASS** of whom Jesus Himself described and referred to in -

**John 21:22**

*“Jesus said unto him, if I will that he tarry till I come, what is that to thee.....”*

Yes! **“John”** is... the CHURCH of LAODICEA that continues to remain or **“tarry”** in the flesh even **AFTER** the Second Coming of October 1874.



And, indeed! It was **ONLY AFTER 1874**, and... through the ministry of the seventh messenger, **Bro. Russell...** and specifically through his **WRITINGS** in -

**Volume - 3**

- **“Thy Kingdom come”**

**and...**

**Volume - 6**

- **“The New Creation”,**



...that... the Church of Laodicea... or the **“John” CLASS**, **BEGAN to understand the details and depth** concerning the **“Bride”** and even... *“the number of them which were sealed”*

This also signifies that this **“sealing”** DID NOT BEGIN at this point of time... but had **started at Pentecost**, with the outpouring of the Holy Spirit... but herein was being



described the **CONCLUDING PICTURES** of that **sealing work** during the HARVEST PERIOD.

While Truth has always been provided for the growth and development of the church in each of the **FIRST SIX** stages... each had its *“meat in due season”* which was **PRESENT TRUTH** to them as for instance the great truth of ...the FORGIVENESS OF SINS (**Romans 1:17**) was to **Martin Luther** and the **Sixth Church** of Philadelphia.

 Thus Bro. Russell describes this in R 5232-  
 ... *“The sealing of the elect has been in progress for nearly nineteen centuries”*....

But this picture of the *“seal of the living God”* in the hands of this *“angel”* who is Our Lord Jesus is a very special matter concerning this time period which we read in -

### Revelation 10:7

*“But in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he shall begin to sound, the mystery of God should be finished..”*

Yes! The COMPLETE REVELATION and UNDERSTANDING of the Divine Plan would become due! This *“seal of the living God”* is this *“seventh trumpet”* which is also referred to as - *“the trump of God”* in **1Thess 4:16**. It is also called - *“a little book”* in the 10th Chapter of Revelation. Yes, it can also be referred to as **THE HARVEST MESSAGE!**

Thus in the light of all we have just learnt, it is **CLEAR** that the reference in **Verse 3** would be better translated as follows -

➤ *“till we have (**completed the sealing of**) the servants of our God in their foreheads”*

Yes! The **CONCLUDING** pictures of this age long work of finding and **“sealing”** this **CLASS** numbering **144,000** !

Returning back to **Verse 4**,  
we now consider the last part of that verse-

➤ *..... “of all the tribes of the children of Israel”.*

The usage of these words have caused the vast majority of Nominal Christianity to... have their “eyes” **CLOSED to the great truth therein...** and to think this was a reference to the NATURAL NATION OF ISRAEL... and their 12 tribes!

But a simple **STUDY** and **COMPARISON** of the NAMES of the TWELVE TRIBES as listed here, in the **7th chapter of Revelation...** with the list in the **49th chapter of Genesis** of the TWELVE SONS of Jacob... will immediately REVEAL them NOT being the same!

➤ **Dan**, one of the sons of Jacob and one of the TWELVE tribes of Israel is found **MISSING** in the Revelation list...while **Manasseh**, a grandson of Jacob and the son of Joseph, and who is NOT a tribe is found taking Dan’s place in the **Revelation 7th** chapter record.

 There was no such HAPPENING that had taken place in NATURAL Israel literally !!


Thus we are to understand that Israel and the *“tribes”* mentioned here in Revelation 7th chapter is a reference

to **ANOTHER Israel** that we find referred to in -

**Galatians 6:15,16**


*“For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision availeth anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creature. And as many as walk according to this rule, peace be on them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God”.*

Yes! this *“Israel of God”* is... SPIRITUAL ISRAEL, for which the natural nation of Israel was ....but a **SHADOW** and **TYPE**.

 **FINALLY**, a thought on the use of the words -

...*“the children of Israel”*.

This of course is NOT LITERAL ! Little children are NOT the ones being *“sealed”* here! Here the reference to *“children”* is NOT physically... but rather SPIRITUALLY - in this *“so great salvation”*

 In this **CONTEXT** all those who are *“sealed”* and **SPIRIT BEGETTON** to the *“High calling”* are but **CHILDREN. (spiritually)**

Thus Jesus meeting with the disciples after His resurrection and having attained FULL *“New Creature”* growth in the SPIRIT BORN condition... addresses them **in this way** as we read in -



**John 21:5**

*“Then Jesus saith unto them, children have you any meat?.....”*

Even the **apostle John** in his old age and FULL *“New Creature”* development when writing to the Church, **writes similarly** in-



**1 John 5:21**

*“Little children, keep yourselves from idols”*

Yes! The “*children*” reference here is a reference to **the BEGINNING** of this development as “*new creatures*” - through SPIRIT BEGETTAL !

And this verse is STRIKING EVIDENCE that the “*sealing*” and “*sealed*” references in **Revelation 7:3** is clearly to **the BEGINNING** process of a “*new creature*” - SPIRIT BEGETTAL, which when COMPLETED of that number of 144,000 **leads to** the PERMISSION of...



*“hurt not the earth, neither the sea, not the trees, till we have sealed”*

**(This beginning spiritual state as “babes”... and then to that of “children”... and then to that of “maturity” is found referred to in the “Songs in the Night” of March 9th)**



A beautiful **ALLEGORICAL PICTURE** (Galatians 4:24 - “**allegory**”) of this matter is found enacted in **Mark 10:13-16** and especially those words in -


**Vs - 4** - *“Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God”*

Yes! These **FIRST group of little children** who are said to struggle to approach unto Jesus are said to represent the “*kingdom*” CLASS - the CHURCH and the beginning stage of their “**so great salvation**” **opportunity** !



Yes! *“for of such is the kingdom of God”*

Of course there is much depth to these words... and many lessons are intended to be learnt. But as childhood is a early growth period of life... yet **DEVOID OF MATURITY** and **FULL GROWTH**, so too here it is intended to show that spiritual condition of those **SPIRIT BEGOTTEN** to be “*New Creatures*” in Christ Jesus at the **BEGINNING** !

 Further in the following **Vs -15 (Mark 10th chapter)**... is a reference **to the WORLD of MANKIND** at the time of their receiving their salvation... **the BEGINNING of their journey** to the **“everlasting life”** opportunity!

Then we come to **Revelation 7:5-8** which we will now read... but which enumerates the **TWELVE TRIBES** that were **“sealed”** ... with their names, and the fact that there were **12,000** in each.

**Vs - 5-8**

*“Of the tribe of Judah were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Reuben were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Gad were sealed twelve thousand.”*

*“Of the tribe of Asher were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Nephthalim were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Manasses were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Simeon were sealed twelve thousand.”*

*“Of the tribe of Levi were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Issachar were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Zabulon were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Joseph were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Benjamin were sealed twelve thousand.”*

*“Of the tribe of Zabulon [were] sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Joseph [were] sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Benjamin [were] sealed twelve thousand.”*

This **12,000 in 12 tribes makes for a total of 144,000**, which is the **FIXED, PREDETERMINED** number for this class, according to God's will.

Now the **NAMES** of these TWELVE TRIBES have a lot of significance... and basically show forth **TWELVE CHARACTER WISE DIVISIONS** in Spiritual Israel which we



## THE STUDY OF THE SEVEN SEALS

will NOT be going into great detail here... but here below is the matter in **BRIEF**.

| TRIBES OF ISRAEL LISTED IN GENESIS 49th CHAPTER (SONS OF JACOB) | TRIBES OF ISRAEL LISTED IN REVELATION 7th CHAPTER (SPIRITUAL ISRAEL) |
|---|--|
| 1. REUBEN   | 1. JUDAH {4}   |
| 2. SIMEON   | 2. REUBEN {1}  |
| 3. LEVI   | 3. GAD {8}   |
| 4. JUDAH  | 4. ASHER {9}   |
| 5. ZEBULON  | 5. NAPHTALI {10}   |
| 6. ISSACHAR   | 6. MANNASEH {7}  |
| 7. DAN (X)  | 7. SIMEON {2}  |
| 8. GAD  | 8. LEVI {3}  |
| 9. ASHER  | 9. ISSACHAR {6}  |
| 10. NAPHTALI  | 10. ZEBULON {5}  |
| 11. JOSEPH  | 11. JOSEPH {11}  |
| 12. BENJAMIN  | 12. BENJAMIN {12}  |

When we look at the **CHART above** and the **TWO** listings of the **twelve sons of Jacob** and... here the list in a different **ORDER** and with the feature of **DAN** being replaced by **MANNASEH**, we must understand that this being the book of Revelation, this is to be seen and understood as **SYMBOLIC !**

**We are to learn MANY LESSONS and TRUTHS from the listing of the twelve tribes and their **NAMES** and **ORDER** !**



The first lesson.... is that this is **SPIRITUAL ISRAEL**... and names given to the twelve tribes are symbolic to describe the **CHARACTER** traits and **FRUITAGE OF WORKS** of each of these tribe divisions. We suggest that we learn **INSIGHTS** into this from examining the WORDS spoken by Jacob to each of his sons in Genesis 49th chapter....as also the name SIGNIFICANCE as found in the CONCORDANCE.

The fact that the Lord speaks of each of the twelve apostles to be -*“you shall also sit on twelve thrones”* (**Matthew 19:28**) and the fact **NEW JERUSALEM** (*“that great city, the holy Jerusalem”*) had *“twelve foundations”* which had the names of the twelve apostles (**Revelation 21:14**)... suggests to us that **EACH** of these twelve tribes of **SPIRITUAL ISRAEL** will be headed by a apostle.

**We have suggested the identity of two apostles here and .... wonder about the rest !**

Let us now learn lessons of TRUTH in brief about the NAMES...  
in relation to those twelve tribes of SPIRITUAL ISRAEL...

## NAME SIGNIFICANCE & CHARACTER

1.

### JUDAH

(Genesis 49:8) “Praise”  
SPECIAL CLASS whose  
lives bring PRAISE to God.  
The APOSTLE PAUL is the  
one who heads this “tribe” of  
GREAT members all  
through the AGE !

2.

### REUBEN

(Genesis 49:3) “Excellency” FIVE  
TALENTED CLASS! Yes! This  
CLASS of saints possess and are  
able to give their TIME, HEALTH,  
WEALTH, MENTAL TALENTS &  
SPEAKING INFLUENCE to the  
DIVINE service. But danger of  
misuse of TALENTS for self !

3.

### GAD

(Genesis 49:19) “troop cometh” /  
“good fortune” Reference to SISTERS in  
the blessed work of “Child bearing”  
(1Timothy 2:15) BRINGING UP their  
CHILDREN in the way of TRUTH and  
RIGHTEOUSNESS. Perhaps the  
APOSTLE JOHN might be the one who  
heads this “tribe”, of which we believe a  
very HIGHLY HONORED members will  
be Mary, the mother of Jesus !  
(Acts 1:13,14)

4.

### ASHER

(Genesis 49:20)  
“Happy” A CLASS THAT are  
always REJOICING &  
CHEERFUL despite life’s  
struggle. They greatly INSPIRE  
and ENCOURAGE OTHERS.  
They embody the words of the  
Apostle in Philippians 4:4

5.

### NAPHTALI

(Genesis 49:21 ; 30:8)  
“wrestling” A class that  
WRESTLE with God in PRAYER,  
on their knees! They are the  
PRAYER WARRIORS in the  
service of God ! Most of this class  
have been INVISIBLE in their  
services ! (Philippians 1:19)

6.

### MANNASEH

“forgetting”  
(Strong’s #3128 Greek)  
Represent a class that are  
able to FORGET all their  
various EARTHLY troubles  
and trials to faithfully  
pursue their  
SPIRITUAL LIFE !.

7.

### SIMEON

(Genesis 29:33)  
“Hearing”  
SYMPATHETIC & PATIENT  
to others, due to having  
experienced hard PERSONAL  
experiences for themselves.

8.

### LEVI

(Genesis 29:34)  
“Attached to”  
FULL TIME in the service  
of God, CLASS. Many of them  
are EUNUCHS for the  
kingdom ! (Matthew 19:12)

9.

**ISSACHAR**

(Genesis 49:14) “A strong ass” (donkey) These are a class of **BURDEN BEARERS!** They are “*behind the scenes*” **TIRELESS WORKERS** in the Lord’s service whose **EFFORTS** and **LABOURS** are **not usually greatly noted** or noticed... **but are by the Lord.** The reference to “**between two burdens**” could be a reference to service to their **OWN** salvation.....and for **OTHERS** salvation (**I Timothy 4:16**)

10.

**ZEBULON**

(Genesis 49:13)  
“**Dwelling place**”

A spiritual **CLASS** that All their life in **SERVING** the Lord, having **no particular dwelling place** for themselves in the spirit of Jesus words in Luke 9:58.They move from **PLACE** to **PLACE** even **Country** to **Country** for the **GOSPEL Service!**

11.

**JOSEPH**

(Genesis 49:22) “Fruitful” / “to add” This is a class having the character of **FRUITFUL** and **TO ADD!** They bring/have **MULTI QUALITIES** in their services to the Lord! It is their **ZEAL** and **ENTHUSIASM** to seek and enter, into any of many opportunities in the Gospel service without hesitation! They are **very VALUABLE** in the Lord’s service!

12.

**BENJAMIN**

(Genesis 49:27/35:18) “Benoni” to “Benjamin” (son of my trouble **TO** son of my right hand) A class in the Lord’s ministry who have been **ASSISTANTS** and **CLOSE ASSOCIATES** of those who are being **ACTIVELY** and **GREATLY** used of the Lord **Examples** of Timothy and Silas and Barnabbas and Luke to the **APOSTLE PAUL**....and Mark to the **APOSTLE PETER!** Valuable service as **CO LABOURERS!** (**Hebrews 10:33**)

Now having seen **BRIEFLY** the possible significance of the **NAMES** given to these twelve tribes, let us now turn our attention to the matter of... **ORDER** in which the tribes are listed, with “Judah” mentioned **FIRST!**

But we are to **NOTE** that the “*tribe of Judah*” which is **LISTED FIRST** here in the order of the twelve tribes of **SPIRITUAL ISRAEL** **is unusual** as in **NATURAL ISRAEL** and among the sons of Jacob as listed in the **49th Chapter of Genesis**, he is **NOT** the “*first born*”, but comes in as the “*fourth*” born in that chapter.

So, is there ANY SPECIAL significance in “*the tribe of Judah*” being mentioned first here concerning... **SPIRITUAL ISRAEL?**

We see the Comments of **Bro. Russell** in **EBC** (Expanded Biblical Comments) and **pg 839** for this verse -5.

➤ **Tribe of Judah** - There is a bare possibility that since our Lord is “the Lion of the tribe of Judah” (**Rev 5:5**), there may be some special gradation suggested in this tribe.

We could add that an observation of the words of Jacob concerning his son **JUDAH**, if taken prophetically could further emphasise this matter concerning the “*tribe of Judah*”,

We read from - **Genesis 49:8**

*“Judah, thou art he whom thy brethren shall praise,*

We would thus suggest that this tribe of “*Judah*” in **SPIRITUAL ISRAEL** could represent a group of **12,000 SAINTS** whose life **TESTIMONIES** and personal **SACRIFICES** in the Lord’s service all through the gospel age, was **CLOSEST** to “*the likeness of the Son*” and greatly **PRAISE WORTHY!** They would be **headed by the Apostle Paul...** and could consist in large measure of the “*sixty fold*” fruitage class of **Matthew 13:23** whose life, works, ministry and testimonies would finally elicit those words of **PRAISE** from the **FULL glorified Body of Christ** - (*thy brethren*)

 *“Judah, thou art he whom thy brethren shall praise,*

 **Surely much food for thought here!**

Besides the **ORDER** of the other tribes in **Revelation 7th Chapter**, as **NOT** in the order of the sons of Jacob, further suggest that perhaps there could be some GRADATION and... deeper truth to be understood here concerning the “*tribes*” of **SPIRITUAL ISRAEL** here, of whom INDIVIDUALLY, we are



told elsewhere by the **Apostle Paul** in **I Corinthians 15:41,42** - *“..for one star different from another star in glory. So also is the resurrection of the dead.”*

Yes! We are to **NOTE** how the tribe of GAD, which represents in large measure the “women” in the BODY of CHRIST are placed THIRD on this listing! Followed by ASHER... then NAPHTALI... then MANNASEH, etc.,



**More insights** into this... is awaited on the **OTHER SIDE** of *“the veil”* !!!

A final word concerning the replacement of the tribe of DAN, with MANNASEH here in this list ! The names of these twelve tribes of SPIRITUAL ISRAEL here, would represent not only the characteristics of each of these tribes in terms of CHARACTER and FRUITAGE of WORKS.... but further we are to keep in mind that each tribe has a *“throne”* (**Matthew 19:28** - *“twelve tribes”*) and would thus correspond to a particular APOSTLE for each tribe! We have suggested the **Apostle Paul for the tribe of Judah...** and **the Apostle John** for the tribe of **GAD...** and thus there may be identified one for every tribe !

Now coming to the matter of the replacement of the tribe of **DAN...** with **MANNASEH** in this list... it would symbolically depict a completely different matter !

Yes! The matter that one of the chosen apostles by Jesus would lose his place in this **APOSTOLIC MINISTRY** as we read concerning **JUDAS ISCARIOT** in -

**Acts 1:25**

*“That he may take part of this ministry and apostleship, from which Judas by transgression fell, that he might go to his own place.”*

Yes! The “**apostleship**” place of JUDAS, was later filled by the one Jesus chose on “*the road to Damascus*” in -

**Acts 9:15**

*“But the Lord said unto him, Go thy way: for he is a chosen vessel unto me, to bear my name before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel.”*

Yes! The one named “**SAUL of Tarsus**” who became the great Apostle Paul (**Galatians 1:1 / I Corinthians 9:1**)

He was **NOT** of the original “*twelve*” and was **ADDED** later to replace Judas Iscariot. This is what this picture of Mannaseh replacing Dan here represents!



Thus we move on to what can be understood as **the NEXT section** of this **7th chapter**.



**Yes! The vision changes!**

Now Verses **9 to 17** describes **ANOTHER** picture of a **HEAVENLY** and **SPIRITUAL** group... that are **NOT** the Bride!

**Vs - 9-17**

*“After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands; And cried with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb. And all the angels stood round about the throne, and [about] the elders and the four beasts, and fell before the throne on their faces, and worshipped God, Saying, Amen: Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and thanksgiving, and honor, and power, and might, [be] unto our God for ever and ever.*

*Amen.*

## THE STUDY OF THE SEVEN SEALS

*And one of the elders answered , saying unto me ,What are these which are arrayed in white robes? and whence came they? And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple: and he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them. They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat. For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes.”*



Yes! There are **MANY** points of **DIFFERENCE**... to be noted here concerning the description details of this group or CLASS!



**#1.** Their numbers are **NOT** fixed as with the Bride... but are described as **“A GREAT MULTITUDE”** that cannot be numbered!



**#2. Then....**They are seen very clearly to **STAND** before the throne... unlike the Bride who has been invited to **SIT** upon the throne (**Revelation 3:21**) as scripture clearly teaches.



**#3. Then....**They are seen to stand **BEFORE** the Lamb in this vision here... unlike the Bride who will be seated **NEXT** to the LAMB.



➡ #4. **Then** are seen to be **CLOTHED** with “*white robes*” unlike the Bride who is shown to be of clothing which is described to be - “*of wrought gold*” (**Psalms 45:13**)

➡ #5. **Finally....** They are seen to have **PALM BRANCHES** in their hands... unlike the Bride who have been promised to be **CROWNED** as “*Kings and priests*” (**Revelation 1:6**)

👉 **Oh! It is very CLEAR dear brethren!**

**Yes!** The verses **9 to 12** clearly describes a **HEAVENLY** scene **before “the throne”** of God and **in the midst of the “angels”** in the praise and glory of the **DIVINE PRESENCE** in heaven!

This is established with great clarity and without any doubt!

**A point of note** though on **verse 10** -

**Vs - 10**

*“And cried with a loud voices saying, Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the lamb”*

If we are to ever keep in mind that this is all **SYMBOLIC** language ... we **suggest a matter** here!

Let us now turn to **2 Kings and chapter 2** and **Vs-14**

**2 Kings 2:14**

**(2 Kings, chapter 2)**

*“And he took the mantle of Elijah that fell from him, and smite the waters, and said, where is the LORD God of Elijah? and when he also had smitten the waters, they parted hither and thither; and went over.”*

This picture of the **TWO** prophets, **Elijah** and **Elisha** in this chapter from **verse 1 to 14** details **PROPHETICALLY** the

**TWO classes** of the “*wise virgins*” and the “*foolish virgins*” during the period of Laodicea from **October 1874** onwards. This verse **14** we are studying here details the **COMPLETION** of the “**earthly**” journey of the **ELISHA** class. Now while “*Elijah*” represents the “*wise virgins*” who become of the **LITTLE FLOCK** class, “*Elisha*” here represents the “*foolish virgins*” who become the **GREAT MULTITUDE** class.

➡ Now the point we wish to point out to here is when we look at the name SIGNIFICANCE of the names of these two prophets... we learn a important matter!

The name “*Elijah*” is the Hebrew / **Strong's # H452** which is “**Eliyah**” and means “**God of Jehovah**”

Here we are to bear in mind that the **LIFE** and **NAME** of the prophet Elijah is very **CLOSELY** associated with the Christ “in the flesh” during the gospel age as seen specifically in those concluding words of the Old Testament in **Malachi 4:5 & 6** - the “*Elijah shall come first...*”

(Details in Volume - I - “The Divine Plan of the Ages” - Study 8 pages 249 to 266)

Thus the Elijah name meaning of “**God of Jehovah**” has a reference to God’s creative work of the gospel age - the New Creation...

➡ to the **DIVINE NATURE** itself - that of “**gods**”  
(Psalms 82:6)

➡ the “**gods CREATION**” of Jehovah! (**Philippians 2:13 / Ephesians 2:10**)

➡ On the other hand, the name “*Elisha*” is the Hebrew / **Strong's # 477** which is “**Eliysha**” and means “**God is salvation**”



This represents how this class of saints of the gospel age **FAIL** in the **HIGH CALLING**... but receive **GRACE** from God... and a salvation as found described by the Apostle Paul in  
**1 Corinthians 3:13 to 15** -

**Vs 15** - *“If any man's work shall be burned he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved: yet so as by fire”*

Yes! The *“saved”* or **SALVATION** for this class is by the grace of **GOD**, even though *“he shall suffer loss”*

- Before we move on to **vs 13**, we take NOTE of the intervening **verses 11 and 12**

**Vs - 11-12**

*“And all the angels stood round about the throne, and about the elders and the four beasts, and fell before the throne on their faces, and worshipped God, Saying, Amen: Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and thanksgiving, and honour, and power, and might, be unto our God for ever and ever. Amen.”*

These verses establish the fact that this indeed is **A HEAVENLY PICTURE** describing in symbols, the spiritual realms ...and the presence, glory and, authority of the **DIVINE** represented here as *“the throne”* and the **PERFECT HARMONY** that exist there further extends **to full submission** ( *“and fell before the throne”* ) in the **SERVICE** of doing the divine will ( *“and worshipped God”* ) And all this is done in **JOY** and **REJOICING**.... that follows a daily unfolding in the AWESOME, understanding of divine wisdom, in the manifesting of the various features of the **DIVINE PLAN** coming to fruition as found described in vs 12 here.

A similar reference to the **HEAVENLY PICTURE** in symbols as shown here is found in **Revelation 5: 11,12**.

➤ And now... when we go back to **Revelation 7:10** and read those words of this “**great multitude**” saying ....“*Salvation to our God*”..... it is like they are revealing their **IDENTITY** as being indeed of the “**ELISHA**” class!  
(the **LAST** members of the “**great multitude**” class in Laodicea.)

This clear **UNDERSTANDING** of this **second HEAVENLY SPIRITUAL** group... who are **NOT** the Bride... seems to have been LACKING and UNCLEAR to John, as we read in -

**Vs - 13-14**

*“And one of the elders answered, saying unto me, What are these which are arrayed in white robes? and whence came they? And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest...”*

The fact that “**John**” here is shown as **IGNORANT** of the existence and details of this class... is perhaps representative of the fact that early in the Laodicean period, just post **1874**, the “**light**” of knowledge and **DETAIL** of the “**spiritual**” and “**heavenly**” aspects of the salvation of the Gospel age was **JUST BEGINNING TO BECOME MANIFEST**.

➤ In fact, Bro.Russell, the seventh church messenger, does go into much explanation of this **ENLIGHTENMENT** in his own words, concerning his own scriptural study in **R 3825 (Reprints)**.

➡ **And how did the enlightenment come?**

It was surely from the **STUDY** of the scriptures and... of **PROPHECY**.(**Matthew 7:7,8**) And of course in this case **it is a**

**very SPECIFIC prophecy** - an “*elder*” of “**the twenty four elders**” who is speaking here !



Yes! It is one of the “*Elders*” or one of the **TWENTY FOUR DIVINE PROPHECIES** concerning God’s PLAN and the KINGDOM.

Here we would like to point out that the reference of “*one of the elders answered*” has a **TWOFOLD** application to the picture here concerning “**John**” - a **GENERAL** application and a **SPECIFIC** application...!

**(Remember, dear beloved reader, when you entered into the “light” of TRUTH, how all these details were completely UNKNOWN to you ??)**

### GENERAL APPLICATION:



“**John**” in **IGNORANCE** of this “**class**” here would represent FIRSTLY the “**seventh angel**” **Bro.RUSSELL**, in the early stages of his spiritual enlightenment, BEFORE he wrote the **FIRST VOLUME** - “**The Divine Plan of Ages**”. This, of course he himself testifies in **R3825**.



Then subsequently the significance of “*John*” would extend to each and **ALL** of the members of the church of Laodicea who too received **enlightenment** on this matter slowly and gradually! ...over the many decades since 1874 and extending to ALL parts of the world to include “*every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation*” ( **Revelation 5 :9**)

It was **SLOW** .....and **GRADUAL** for all !



Now the **GENERAL** application of this picture of “*one of the elders answered*” would represent that THIS referred to **PROPHECY** and the **STUDY of prophecy**, which served to bring this **KNOWLEDGE** of the “**John**” class. And thus too it was first fall with **Bro.Russell** !

**SPECIFIC APPLICATION:**

➡ But, as we look at the **second** application of the picture here concerning *“one of the elders answered”*.... we see it has a **SPECIFIC** application as well. For those familiar with the *“twenty four elders”* or the twenty four prophecies from the **Old Testament**... it will be clear WHICH *“elder”* is being referred to over here.

Yes! It is the prophecy in the **Book of Hosea** in -



**Hosea 7:8 & 11**

*“Ephraim , he hath mixed himself among the people; Ephraim is a cake not turned.”*

*“Ephraim also is like a silly dove without heart: they call to Egypt, they go to Assyria”*

☞ Yes! Here under the symbol of *“Ephraim”* is being described this *“silly dove”* CLASS of *“foolish Virgins”* (**Matthew 25:2,3**).

Though **SYMBOLIC LANGUAGE** is being used here... like... *“a cake not turned”* ... and *“they call to Egypt, they go to Assyria”*

☞ .....the REFERENCE is unmistakably **to the spiritual immaturity** and **LACK of full spiritual growth**...in the great multitude class of spiritual israel.

For those seeking further **CONVINCING EVIDENCE** of this *“elder”* in the book of Hosea, referring to the GREAT MULTITUDE class under the symbol of *“Ephraim”* we turn to -

**Hosea 13:13**

*“The sorrows of a travailing woman shall come upon him; he (EPHRAIM) is an unwise son; for he should not stay long in the place of the breaking forth of children”*

☞ Yes! Notice the reference to *“an unwise son”* ... and the

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TRIBULATIONS involved at “*birth*” Indeed! This “*elder*” or **PROPHECY** from the **Book of Hosea**, is the enlightenment concerning this **CLASS** of the **GREAT MULTITUDE** in the Divine Plan of God! This is **ELDER # 12** in that list of **24 Elders!**

**(That is Lesson #27 in the basic 53 BIBLE STUDY Lessons)**



**A little interjection here...!**

It has been ARGUED and discussed among the brethren concerning the IDENTITY of these “*twenty four elders*” .....

**that they are identified as.....**



**#1.** The **TWENTY FOUR COURSES** of the **priesthood** as described in **I Chronicles 24:3-5**... which in turn is said to represent the **CHURCH**, or the **BRIDE** in a **PROSPECTIVE** or **ANTICIPATORY** sense.

(This view was supported prominently by **Bro R.E.Streeter** and many other brethren.)



**#2.** Then there is the view that they are... **THE TWENTY FOUR BOOKS** of the **Hebrew Testament**


Now this view is supported prominently by **Bro.Frank Shallieu** in his book “**Keys to Revelation**” and **pg.126**... where at the bottom of that page is the evidence of the **COVER PAGE** of the Hebrew Testament entitled - “**Twenty four books of the Holy Scriptures**” by - **Isaac Leeser** and printed in **1923**.




**Now while these eminent and senior brethren of ours have received CAREFUL CONSIDERATION FROM us... we are of the conclusion that these CANNOT BE the right interpretation, as they DO NOT harmoniously satisfy us from the point of view of EACH and EVERY occurrence of the “twenty four elders” in the book of Revelation.**




We are actually COMPLETELY satisfied with the suggestion of **Bro. W. I. Mann in R529**, that these “*elders*” are SYMBOLIC of **TWENTY FOUR SPECIFIC DIVINE PROPHECIES**, concerning the Divine Plan and the Kingdom promises...  
*“which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began” (Acts - 3 : 18)*

 **And we are more convinced** as we behold the “*elder*” speaking to “*John*” in **Revelation 7:13,14**... who ENLIGHTENS him of the GREAT MULTITUDE CLASS... spoken by the “*mouth of*” the **PROPHET HOSEA**.

 Surely the idea that **ONE** of the twenty four courses of the priesthood could REVEAL this message... or that any **ONE** Book of the Hebrew Testament was EXCLUSIVELY and COMPLETELY devoted to revealing the “*Great Multitude*” class **is entirely baseless and beyond the realms of possibilities.**

Further **we point to the spiritual CONTEXT** of the matter in **Revelation 4:8** - “*the four beasts each with six wings*” [twenty four wings that again represent these **GRAND 24 PROPHECIES** revelation of God’s great and grand Divine Plan for man.. that will in turn REVEAL and MANIFEST the **FOUR** character attributes of God in their fulfilment !! ]

 **Additionally we are SURE** that the PROPHEVIC TESTIMONY of each of these “twenty four elders” finds FURTHER and **EXTENSIVE support** in the Scriptures.

 **So too it is with this “*elder*” !**

The “*Great Multitude*” CLASS is mentioned and picturised all through the Scriptures, beginning **right from Genesis and... through to Revelation...**



Some instance are -

- ➡ **The second river, GIHON** of the four rivers that came out of Eden (**Genesis 2:13**) representing the **SECOND RESURRECTION** of this class !
- ➡ **Then...** we see them in the “**damsels**” that accompanied Rebekah as she journeyed to the marriage with Isaac where of course Rebekah picturises the Bride - the **CHURCH** and these accompanying her are the **GREAT MULTITUDE Class** (**Genesis 24:61**)
- ➡ **Then...** we see them represented in the **birth of Benjamin** to Rachel who died giving him birth, after much travail. (**Genesis 35:17,18**). Incidentally Rachel bore only one son previously... who was **JOSEPH**, representing the **BRIDE...** while Rachel representing the “**grace covenant**” which develops the **NEW CREATION**, which **CEASES** after the completion of the Great Multitude, fitly dies during the birth of Benjamin.
- ➡ **Then...** another picture of this class is seen here in the “*scape goat*” of the Atonement Day sacrifices who **was not sacrificed...** but was sent into the wilderness to die. (**Leviticus 16:21,22**).
- ➡ **Then...** we see them represented and typified in **RAHAB** (**Joshua 6:22,23**) who though she was said to be a “*harlot*”, she and “*all her kindred*” were saved before the burning and destruction of **Jericho**.
- ➡ **Then...** we see them in the **9700** of the 10,000 who were rejected by God to be “*the army*” of Gideon... when they drank water by bowing down upon the knees (**Judges 7:6,7**)
- ➡ **Then...** we see them in the “**sister**” who rises up **TOO LATE**

to... *“the knock”* of her Beloved in the Song of Solomon.  
**(Song of Solomon 5: 3-6).**



**Yes! The list can go on... and on!**

There's **“Elisha”** in 2nd Kings 2nd Chapter, **“the virgins her companions”**, of Psalms 45 and verse 14, etc etc.,

Indeed,.. the *“Great Multitude”* is a CLASS **very CLEARLY and REPEATEDLY manifested** in the Scriptures!



Now this picture of the great multitude in **Revelation 7th chapter** and the 14th Verse, as having *“come out of great tribulation”* is **NOT** a reference only to the LAST MEMBERS of this Class... who get caught in... *“the great time of trouble”* after the COMPLETION of the Church... as **TYPIFIED** by Elisha **AFTER** Elijah is taken!

**If this were true** then this group seen in this 7th chapter would NOT be the WHOLE *“great multitude”* class... **but only the LAST MEMBERS of that class** who would remain after the “Bride” is taken and... who go through *“the great time of trouble”*.



**But that we realise CANNOT be TRUE!**

Because this picture here is **NOT** a picture of the *“great multitude”* in the flesh... but rather **AT THE TIME OF THEIR RESURRECTION or “birth”... TO RECEIVE SPIRITUAL BODIES** of the angelic nature in heaven.




And that being the case then this reference of - *“came out of great tribulation”*... would rather be... **A GENERAL & COMPREHENSIVE REFERENCE... to the FINAL EXPERIENCES of this CLASS, ALL THROUGH the age from Pentecost onwards with the last members of this class partaking of this “great tribulation” during “the great time of trouble”.**


A supportive TEXT to this thought is found in -

**1 Corinthians 5:5**

*“To deliver such an one unto Satan for the destruction of the flesh that the spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus”*


Ah! This is the CASE **in the Church of Corinth...** which points to the salvation of *“the great multitude”* who will be “saved” SPIRITUALLY to a spiritual salvation... **but ONLY after** the *“great tribulation”* or the *“destruction of the flesh”* that he would be subjected to.

 Indeed ! This **CLASS** of the *“great multitude”* has existed right from the **120** who were present together in *“the upper room”* (**Acts 1:13 to 15**).....to the **3000** who were baptized from the Jews on Pentecost day (**Acts 2:41,42**).....to the **5000** of numbers of the Jewish believers (**Acts 4:4**).....and **ALL** through the age and in **ALL** seven stages of the church. This is the very class that is represented by *“the scapegoat”* (**Leviticus 16:7 to 10**) whose opportunity for **SACRIFICE** was divinely **REJECTED** as represented in *“cast lots on the two goats”* (**Leviticus 16:8**) by Aaron the High priest.

 **Now in CONCLUSION** let us look **at the last verses** of the chapter -


**Vs-15 to17**


*“Therefore are they before the throne of God and serve him day and night in his temple: and he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them. They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more, neither shall the sun light on them nor any heat. For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes.”*

 Now these verses give us very rare GREAT DETAILS of this CLASS... as also their **FUTURE HEAVENLY REWARD**.

That beginning word - *“therefore”* is **so full of meaning**. It is used to SUM UP something or... to render a CONCLUSION.

 **How apt, indeed!**

 For this class of "**saints**" had been CALLED to the Gospel Age *“so great salvation”* in what is described as - *“in one hope of your calling”* (**Ephesians 4:4**)  
.....but had due to lack of ZEAL and FAITHFULNESS to their covenant of sacrifice been led to *“suffer loss”* (**I Corinthians 3:15**) of what would have been the GRANDEST PRIVILEGE to be of the *“Bride of Christ”*.

 Concerning this aspect of the Great Company class we read from the writings of Bro. Russell... on **page 11** of **WHAT PASTOR RUSSELL TAUGHT...**

**“Second, there is the other class of the Church which, although making the same Covenant of sacrifice, fail to go on obediently to lay down their lives in the Lord's service. They do not draw back to sin and to death, but neither do they go on to the sacrificing stage; hence they constitute a secondary class, servants of the first class. These were typified in the Levites, who were the servants of the priests.**

**These are not to be in the Throne with the sacrificing priests, the Royal Priesthood, but are to serve God in His temple. They are not to have crowns of Glory, but will be granted eventually palms of victory”**

**(WHAT PASTOR RUSSELL TAUGHT, Page 11, Para 2)**

This concept of the *“one hope of your calling”* is represented by **the Lord** in the scripture in -



**John 15:2**

*“Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away; and every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit.”*

The “*true vine*” is that “*calling*” in **CHRIST** to be of the **Bride class**. When the husbandman (the Heavenly Father) “*taketh away*” a branch from the “*vine*”, this would represent a RELEGATION to the “*great multitude*” class.



➤ Thus what **COULD HAVE BEEN** the **GLORIOUS CONDITION** of sitting upon the throne with the Lord... has been reduced to....

☞ “standing before the throne”

**But on the other hand** because of their demonstrating their **LOVE for the Lord...** and for **RIGHTEOUSNESS** in their **heartfelt repentance** for their FAILURES, as they come through the tribulation experiences... in what is described as...

☞ “*washed their robes, and make them white in the blood of the Lamb*”  
.....they receive a BOUNTIFUL reward from the Lord as described in these **Verses 15 - 17**.

**Let us now look at what these signify -**

➤ “.....are they before the throne of God”

This *“throne of God”* signifies the **DIVINE AUTHORITY** and **RULERSHIP** of the Universe. Jesus is the **INSTRUMENT** of the EXERCISE of that Divine authority, as represented by the phrase...



*“sat down on the right hand”* in **Hebrews 1:3** and **Psalms 110:1**...

...and the CHURCH, the Bride **SHARES** in the exercise of that authority through their **HEAD** and **HUSBAND** Jesus.

(See **Isaiah 53:12**) and those words -  
*“and he shall divide the spoil with the strong”*

The *“Great Multitude”* on the other hand having lost that privilege are in the position of being...

*“before the throne”* which represents -



**THE SERVICE OF DIVINE AUTHORITY and RULERSHIP.**

And this is further proven true as we see the same language being used in reference to the **SERVANTS of God** -

**His Holy angels** in -

**DANIEL 7 : 10 -**

*“A fiery stream issued and came forth from before him; thousand thousands ministered unto him and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him...”*

(Also found referred to in **Revelation 5:11,12**)



**Yes! it is so clear!**


**Someone may ask the question...**



**Are they going to be EQUAL to the angels or SUPERIOR to the angels?**


The answer to this question can be gained by the meditation on the verses remaining in this chapter and the thoughts found therein...!!

Then we read -

 *“and serve him day and night in his temple”*


The *“temple”* here of course is a reference to the CHRIST - Head and Body, on the Divine Nature. And the *“Great Multitude”* are **SERVANTS** of Christ and the Church and the **Zion Government**. And the words *“day and night”* represents that this is to be a PERMANENT POSITION. We see a similar use of this phrase *“day and night”* in **Revelation 20:10** which again has the meaning of PERMANENT and FOREVER!

 As to the nature of their service we suggest the following -

 ● #1. They would be the **MESSAGE CARRIERS** or **MESSENGERS**... between the *“new heaven”* and the *“new earth”* The basis of this thought is **Genesis 28:12** and the *“ladder”* with the *“angels of God ascending and descending on it”*

Yes! These *“angels of God”* **ASCEND** first as they were of earthly ORIGIN... and then **DESCEND** as they become HEAVENLY MESSENGERS to the earth... but upon the *“ladder”* that **CONNECTS** heaven to earth! - **which represents Jesus and His kingdom reign (John 1:51)**

Ah! How beautifully they represent the Great Multitude in their work as **ZION GOVERNMENT SERVANTS**.

 ● #2. Then we would suggest...that they would also form the **INVISIBLE SPIRITUAL POLICE FORCE** of the **“visible phase”** of the Kingdom.

We gain this thought when we read in -

**Isaiah 11:9**

*“They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain...”*

For this scripture to be fulfilled CRIME and CRIMINAL ACTIONS must be intercepted at the **VERY THOUGHT OR INTENT** stage! For we are to remember, that every **ACTION OR WORD** is ....**PRECEDED** by a **THOUGHT!**

This we read in -

**James 1:14,15**

*“But every man is tempted when he is drawn away by his own lust, and enticed. Then when lust hath conceived it bringeth forth sin, and sin when it is finished, bringeth forth death”*



Yes! The *“lust”* here is **SINFUL DESIRE** in thought!

Thus the *“great multitude”* having had their own EXPERIENCES in **WEAKNESSES** and the FALLEN HUMAN NATURE... will be in the ideal position to **MONITOR** and **INTERCEPT** these kind of thoughts...!

The **basis for this suggestion** we find in -

**Isaiah 30:21**

*“And thine ears shall hear a word behind thee saying, This is the way, walk ye in it when ye turn to the right hand, and when you turn to the left”*

This scripture suggests an AUDIBLE GUIDANCE SYSTEM which we believe will be the... **“MODUS OPERANDI”** followed by the *“great multitude”* **INVISIBLE SPIRITUAL POLICE FORCE**... after having **MOMENTARILY MANIFESTED VISIBLY** in the early part of the **VISIBLE** and **PEACEABLE** phase of the kingdom... to CLEARLY establish their **INVISIBLE PRESENCE**.

Thus thereafter there would be **NO NECESSITY** for materializing and becoming **VISIBLE**... for mere **AUDIBLE**

words of GUIDANCE and WARNING should suffice!!

**Then we have - (Rev 7:15) ...**


 *“and he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them”*

The *“he”* here we believe is Our Lord Jesus Christ, who has the AWESOME GLORY to be *“set down with my Father in his throne”* (Rev 3:21). This is a reference to *“dwell”* among them.

Here “dwell” is the Greek word -

**“okaynoo” (Strong's Greek # 4637)** which means...  
**“to occupy” “a tent” and “to reside”.**

Thus this would refer to the *“great multitude”* receiving the PRIVILEGE of a **“close” ASSOCIATION** with King Jesus as he uses them in the DIVINE SERVICE of the KINGDOM ARRANGEMENTS... **and thereafter** perhaps in the then unfolding ages to come.

 **This is where we would like to point out that this PROMISE of a special “close” ASSOCIATION with King Jesus, is the basis for us to come to the conclusion that the GREAT MULTITUDE on the spiritual ANGELIC nature will occupy a HIGHER place in the DIVINE SCHEME OF THINGS than the heavenly angels.**

Further based on this scripture pointing to this close **PROXIMITY** of the *“great multitude”* class with the Lord, we wish also **to point to a thought we had earlier given (on pg-107)** concerning the interpretation of the vision of the *“ladder”* and the *“angels ascending and descending”* in **Genesis 28:12** (the dream of Jacob) and Jesus quoting the same matter in **John 1:51** (where he shows us **He** is that *“ladder”* -

 *“and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of man”*



Yes! In the Biblical Comments (**EBC**) and **page 16** for **Genesis 28:12** and **page 455** for **John 1:51**, Bro Russell interprets the “*angels*” as the “*princes*” - the Ancient Worthies and their being the channels of divine communication in God's kingdom on earth. While not refuting this thought in the least, but being fully in harmony with it, **we only wish to suggest in another perspective of this vision....** that the **HEAVENLY MESSENGERS** of the king, carrying communications from the Heavenly phase to the Earthly phase and to the “*princes*”... will be this class of angels described as “*ascending and descending*” which **we think to aptly describe** the **GREAT MULTITUDE** class.

**Then we read - (Rev 7:16)**



*“They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more”*

This of course refers to the “*great multitude*” experiencing a CERTAIN - “*hunger and thirst*”.... while they were in the flesh.



**WHAT** could that be?



**We would suggest that this “*hunger and thirst*” is SYMBOLIC of a LACK.**



**Yes! A lack of various SPIRITUAL QUALITIES for healthy new creatures...**



A lack of **UNDERSTANDING** to digest the “*meat*” of the word (**Proverbs 31:15**).



A lack of **ZEAL** in “*patient continuance*” in the Lords service, even in difficult situations and circumstances (**Luke 19:21 - 24**).



A lack of the **HOLY SPIRIT** of walking and living the TRUTH

which was to be the “oil” in the “vessel” to keep the “lamp” burning (**Matthew 25:2,3**).

➡ A lack of **DIVINE FAVOR AND APPROVAL** as represented in God favoring the 300... and disfavouring the 9700 in the selection process for “*Gideon's band*” (Judges 7:7).

➡ A lack of the **COURAGE** to not only “*love righteousness*”.... but also to HATE INIQUITY as represented in Lot, who lived in Sodom.

👉 Yes! This **is just a small SAMPLE list** of the spiritual “**lack**” they experienced in their NEW CREATURE growth and development which is described here as  
*“hunger... neither thirst”*

**And then we read - (Rev 7:16)**

➡ *“neither shall the sun light on them nor any heat”*

Here the “*sun*” would symbolise the **Gospel (Rev 12:1/ 2 Corinthian 4:4)** And “*light*” would symbolise the **TRUTH (Psalms 119:105)** which is **MANIFESTED** from the word of God (**John 17:17**) And “*heat*” here would symbolise the **TRIBULATION** and **PERSECUTION** that arises because of the standing for and being associated with the Word of Truth  
**(Matthew 13:5 - 6 and 20 - 21).**

Now this would be a reference to the EXPERIENCES that “*the great multitude*” had with respect to the TRUTH.

The being “*hurt*” by the “*light*” of the “*sun*” represents the **REBUKE** and **CONVICTION** within themselves, that they would have felt while hearing the word of truth for we read of the **POWER** of the word of God in -

**Hebrews 4:12**

*“For the word of God is quick and powerful and sharper than any two edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joint and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart”*



Yes! The key word here is

*“the dividing asunder of soul and spirit”*

Yes! These are the **TWO ASPECTS** of our life now as **“spirit begotten”** NEW CREATURES who - *‘have this treasure in earthen vessels’*

➤ And that is our **earthly life** or human life..... as also the **spiritual life.**

Yes! The *“soul”* is a reference to the human life... and the *“spirit”* is a reference to **the spiritual life**, Consecration **INVOLVES BOTH these aspects** as we read in the words of the Apostle Paul in -

**Romans 14:7,8**

*“For none of us liveth to himself and no man dieth to himself, for whether we live, we live unto the Lord; and whether we die, we die unto the Lord: whether we live therefore, or die, we are the Lord's”.*

Yes! It is quite CLEAR! And the **KEY** to success as a *“new creature”* who would attain to the divine nature is...



**FAITHFULNESS** in these two aspects of their life.

➤ And the *“the great multitude”* we read in Matthew 25th chapter and Vs 3 and 4 .....took **“no oil”** with them in their vessels!! (their earthly lives)

Yes! **And** thus the TRUTH... and the hearing of it would have been a very 'CUTTING' experience for them!

Further the gospel "*heat*" would represent the "*great multitude*" **UNWILLINGNESS to faithfully bear** the tribulation and persecution associated with the service of the TRUTH.

And here we are referring **NOT ONLY** to the service of the truth in the work of harvest and evangelistic efforts.....but also **and MORE SO** the service of the TRUTH in the Ecclesias by way of duties of ELDERS and DEACONS and DEACONESSES that **involves consistent and continuous** tireless labours.....of efforts in the work of **TEACHING, COUNSELLING, PASTORAL WORK OF HOUSE VISITING, HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE , etc (2 Corinthians 12 : 5, 6, 8 to 10, 28 )** It would seem that this class of "*the great multitude*" were **UNWILLING** to bear the "*heat*" of the tribulations and persecution that are part of **FAITHFULLY** rendering these services.

They are unlike the "*Bride*" of whom it is written in

**Song of Solomon 1:16**

*"Look not upon me, because I am black, because the sun hath looked upon me..."*

The translation in the **RSV** is more clear -  
... "*because the sun has scorched me*"

Yes! The "*great multitude*" class were unable to **VOLUNTARILY**... and... "*joyfully*" enter into the tribulation that their "**covenant of sacrifice**" entailed.

**And thus we read of them in this matter in -**

**Hebrews 2:15**

*“And deliver them who through fear of death were all their life time subject to bondage.”*

Yes! They were hurt by the “*heat*” of “*the sun*” !!

➤ Thus **Rev 7 and Vs 16** is a **WORD OF COMFORT** concerning **their experiences in the flesh ...** and now that they had **been delivered from that condition!**

Now we come to the last verse -

**Vs -17**

*“For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them into living fountains of waters; and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes”*

Is this a picture of the “**fleshly**” experience of the “*great multitude*” or... is this a picture of the other side of the veil...  
**a heavenly picture ??**

➤ Being the **CONCLUDING** verse of this revelation of “**the great multitude**” class, we would suggest that this would represent in **SYMBOL** the **FINAL** salvation of the “**great multitude**” and a heavenly picture.

The “*Lamb*” - Our Lord Jesus Christ is highlighted here with respect to their receiving their salvation **BLESSINGS** as... He is their **SAVIOR** and **REDEEMER**... and will also be their **SHEPHERD**, as the word “*feed them*” is translated as -

➡ “*shepherd them*” ... in the **RSV** Bible.

👉 For the Greek word is - “**poymaheeno**”



(Strong's- Greek #4165) which means **“to tend as a shepherd”**

While we are to carefully NOTE that the reference to the Lord Jesus here is NOT as *“bridegroom”* but as the *“lamb”*, which clearly DENOTES that this is a reference to the relationship in heaven and forever more between the Lord Jesus and the *“great multitude”* CLASS.

Yes! While in receiving their spiritual life from *“spirit begetting”* to *“spirit birth”* ( in the Second resurrection)..... *“the lamb”* was their **REDEEMER** and **SAVIOUR**....it is seen here that in their heavenly **SPIRIT BORN** condition of having become **spirit beings who are mortal** like the angels, the highly glorified Lord Jesus will be their **SHEPHERD**....in the sense of overseeing ALL their needs as spiritual beings, and thus being under the **SPECIAL care** of the LORD Jesus Himself. This was seen earlier in **vs 15** and those words...




*“and he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them”*

And this phrase of - *“and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters”*... would perhaps describe the **HEAVENLY SALVATION** that they receive as **ANGELIC BEINGS** and into the very presence of God, and the SOURCE and *“foundation”* of all truth. We would suggest that the *“living... waters”* here is a SYMBOL for truth (**Revelation 22:17**) related to GOD'S **PLAN FOR LIFE**, which after the completion of the **7000+ year DIVINE PLAN OF AGES** for the salvation of man from sin and death... unto *“the image and likeness”* of God

(The **fulfillment** of **Genesis 1:26**)... will then enter into the period of eternity which is designated in the scriptures as *“the ages to come”* (**Ephesians 2:7**)... which implies again **WORKS of GOD** involving myriad PURPOSES over many ages... which are doubtless for the creation and sustenance of **LIFE** in ways and places (worlds)... that God is yet to clearly reveal. These future plans of the CREATIVE works of God in all their details are perhaps what is meant by

*“fountains of waters”* ... and Yes, *“living fountains of waters”*  
 This could mean that through the *“Lamb”*, the *“great multitude”*  
 class would receive **DEEPER UNDERSTANDING** and  
**ENLIGHTENMENT** into **the plans and purposes of God**  
**unfolding** for all eternity... Yes, details of the Millennial Age...  
 and the works of the **“Ages to come”**... of which they would be  
 special servants of the *“temple”* - the Lord Jesus and His Bride -  
**the CHRIST in glory!**

**Finally the phrase -**

 *“...and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes”*

This would represent that though they would have *“tears”* of  
**REGRET** and **REMORSE**... as they look back at their Christian  
 walk of consecrated life with its series of... **COMPROMISES** and  
**WASTED OPPORTUNITIES**... and realise their being  
 UNWORTHY to be of the “Bride” and yet... be **GRATEFUL** and  
**REJOICING** towards God for the immense grace and reward  
 that would have THEN been shown unto them, **in spite of their**  
**having FAILED** to have made - their *“calling and election sure”*

Ah! Yes! And we catch the **REFRAIN of this REJOICING**  
 in the scriptures in -



**Revelation 19:7**

*“Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him , for the marriage of  
 the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready”*

**And again we read in -**



**Habakkuk 3:18**

*“Yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will joy in the God of my Salvation”*

While these previous quoted scriptures from **Revelation 19th  
 Chapter and Habakkuk 3rd Chapter**... could well refer to the

*“great multitude”* while in the flesh condition, and experiencing **JOY** and **GLADNESS** at the great event of the full glorification of the Bride of Christ... we point to another scripture in **Psalms 45:14** and **15** which reveals *“gladness and rejoicing”* in their heavenly **SPIRIT BORN** conditions of the second resurrection!

And thus we read in -



**Psalms 45:14,15**

*..... “the virgins her companions that follow her shall be brought unto thee. with gladness and rejoicing shall they be brought: they shall enter into the King's palace”!*



Truly, as seen in **Verses 15 to 17**, God has planned a very **BLESSING** filled salvation for the *“great multitude”* class , that when beheld in their heavenly spirit being condition, will gradually serve to -



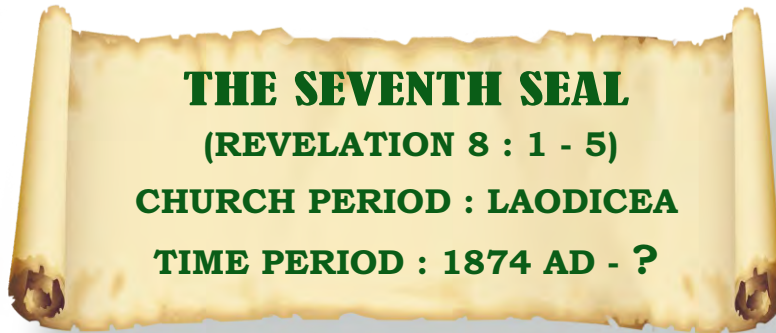
*“...wipe away all tears from their eyes”*

Yes! It will cause them to **FORGET** their great disappointment and repent at the **LOSS** of “the one hope of their calling” forever!



Thus we have seen that this 7th Chapter of Revelation, begins as it describes the **BINDING OF SATAN** by the Lord Jesus at His **SECOND COMING**, using Divine Power... which then leads to the work of **HARVEST**.... which in turn reveals the **DEEP DETAILS** of the **TWO SPIRITUAL CLASSES** in *“the so great salvation”* (Heb 2:3) of the **GOSPEL AGE**.

As we now enter **Chapter - 8** and the **“opening”** of the **SEVENTH SEAL**, ...we will see that the **FOCUS** is going to be on **JUDGEMENT** since **1874 October**.



## { THE COMPLETION OF THE GOSPEL AGE }

### Revelation 8:1

*“And when he had opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven about the space of half an hour”*

*T*he **seventh seal** of God is the last prophetic testament of the events occurring in the seventh stage of the Church - **(the church of Laodicea** in this prophetic revelation of *“the seven seals”* (Revelation 3:14 - 21). It is also the concluding pictures of the gospel age before the establishment of... **the visible phase of the kingdom of God** in Israel after *“the time of trouble”* is brought to an end. Thus this seal is very important in the series of the seven seals and holds much interest for the **earnest student of God’s Word!**


The interpretations of this scripture in *Revelation 8:1* **have been many** and efforts have been made to understand the *“silence in heaven”* and... the time span of *“about the space of half an hour”*. The understanding of this scripture lies in the interpretation of the silence in heaven **AND**... the time span and further... **PERFECTLY HARMONIZING THE TWO**, while also bearing in mind that **symbolic language** is being used here!!


Further we are going to see a **SEEMINGLY NEW APPROACH** to understanding the seventh seal and its contents in this study. **For long it has been thought** by a large number of **commentators** that the scriptures concerning the seventh seal is only restricted to... *Revelation 8:1*.

**But today we will see that the scriptures of this seventh seal runs from..... verse 1 through to verse 5.**

**The “problem” seems to be with verse - 2 !**

There seems to be an apparent misplacement of verse 2 which some would think perhaps to belong in the right context **after verse 5** and... **before verse 6** for the seven angels mentioned there being given the trumpets, begin sounding those trumpets not in the Laodicean period but... from the beginning of the gospel age itself !!

 Yes! Because of this verse placed here in **vs 2**, many have drawn the conclusion that the scriptural content... or the **MATTER** of the seventh seal **begins and... ENDS with** *Revelation 8:1*.

 **Then** there is the matter of verses **3 - 5** and.... in what context they must be taken? Do they refer to **Laodicea** and the **END** of the Gospel Age... or are they a reference to the very **BEGINNING** of the Gospel Age?

Many have opted to give CONTEXT and interpretation to these verses as **occurring in the beginning** of the Gospel Age, and it all seems **very CONFUSING** and unreasonable as well , as we will see in our study today.

Thus among **a large MAJORITY of the commentators**, the **“general thought”** prevailing is that the SEVENTH SEAL prophetic scriptures are **ONLY RESTRICTED** to *Revelation 8:1!*

➤ But we are going to humbly see how that is... NOT SO !!

The placing of **vs - 2** and the matter of *“the seven angels”* receiving *“the seven trumpets”* is actually what is called...  
**an ANALOG !**

(AN ANALOG /ANALOGUE is a form of language that in the NOUN form is used for a person or thing seen as comparable to another)

Yes! This verse 2 is an analogy to *Revelation 15:1* where we see *“seven angels”* receiving the seven last plagues (**seven vials- Revelation 16:1(KJV)**). These are the **SAME** *“seven angels”* who were used during the entire gospel age to sound forth the *“trumpets”* and the only **DIFFERENCE** being that here in Revelation 15:1, they are **NO MORE IN THE FLESH... but are all glorified** and are **THEN** used to pour out the *“seven golden vials”* *“seven last plagues”* (KJV) of *“the wrath of God”* during the Laodicean phase of the church.

Ah! Yes! These **INDEED** are the same **SEVEN** *“angels”* or messengers to each of the seven divisions of the gospel age church.



**Ah! Someone may rightly ask! How are we so SURE about this ?**



**Let us now turn for the answer to-**

*Revelation 17:1 - “And there came one of the seven angels which had the seven vials, and talked with me, saying unto me, Come hither; I will shew unto thee the judgement of the great whore that sitteth upon many waters:”*



Here we see that **one of those seven angels** which had the “*seven vials*” comes to speak to John and to reveal to him the **JUDGEMENT** of the “*great whore*”



**Is this difficult to comprehend? No, it isn't.**

Here, as we all know “**John**” picturizes a **CLASS** of whom Jesus spoke to **the Apostle Peter** in *John 21:22* saying -



*“...If I will that he tarry till I come, what is that to thee.”*

Yes! The **CLASS** or... the part of the Body... or the Laodicean stage of the church... which “tarries” or **REMAINS IN THE FLESH** even **AFTER** the Lord’s second coming... and also **AFTER** the first resurrection has begun, as we read in -

**I Thessalonians 4:17** - *“Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds...”*

Yes! The “*we that are alive and remain*” **CLASS** or the Body members from the **church of Laodicea**. Thus understanding “*John*” here in **Revelation 17:1** to represent the **LAST** and seventh stage of the church - **LAODICEA** - **still in the flesh** after the Lord's return in **1874**, October, this “*one of the seven angels*” here is a reference to the “*angel*” to the church of Laodicea - Pastor **CHARLES TAZE RUSSELL!**

And, the fulfillment of these words - “*Come hither, I will show unto thee the judgment of the great whore that sitteth upon many waters*” is a reference to the unfolding of TRUTH concerning the **JUDGEMENT** of the “*Babylon*” systems **that were revealed in his writings** in -

- ....Volume IV of the Studies in the Scriptures -  
“**The Battle of Armageddon**”  
and in
- .... Volume II - “**The time is at hand**”.

Now, **as if this evidence were not enough**, we have yet further evidence given to us as to the IDENTITY of this *“one of the seven angels which had the seven vials”*, when we read of his further conversation with *“John”* in -

*Revelation 21:9 - “And there came unto me one of the seven angels which had the seven vials full of the seven last plagues, and talked with me, saying, Come hither, I will shew thee the bride, the Lamb’s wife.”*

Now the fulfillment of these words – *“Come hither, I will show thee the bride, the Lamb's wife”* is a reference to **the unfolding of TRUTH** concerning the REVEALMENT of *“the bride, the Lamb's wife”* in all **“her” depth and beauty in his writings in** –

- ...Volume III - **“Thy Kingdom Come”**  
and in...
- Volume VI - **“The New Creation.”**

Thus if the seventh angel who blew the seventh trumpet is shown here as... **ONE of** *“the seven angels which had the seven vials”* ... the **other SIX** could be none other than... the other SIX ANGELS to the Church !!

 **For is he not part of the** *“seven stars which you saw in my right hand”* of **Revelation 1:20** !??

Having clearly identified these *“seven angels having the seven last plagues”* as none other than the **SAME** *“seven angels”* who had blown the seven trumpets in each stage of the Church in the gospel age, let us see another **important aspect** concerning them in –

**Revelation 15:6**

*“And the seven angels came out of the temple, having the seven plagues, clothed in pure and white linen, and having their breasts girded with golden girdles”*

This scripture in **SYMBOLS** describes and **PROVES** the **GLORIFIED CONDITION** of these “*seven angels*” as they undertake this service of pouring out, “*the seven last plagues*”. We see this **first of all** in their “*came out of the temple*” which is a reference to the previous verse – **Vs 5...** where the reference “*the temple... in heaven was opened*” is a reference to the **FIRST RESURRECTION** and the glorification of the Church begun since **April 1878**. This is further supported in **Revelation 11:19** describing the same matter during the “*seventh trumpet*” period!

**Then we read** of them being “*clothed in pure and white linen*” which again is a reference to their **CONDITION** of **ACTUAL holiness** having been “*born of the spirit*” and receiving in their first resurrection the **PERFECT BODIES** of “*spirit*” to suit their fully developed “*spirit*” new MINDS! Yes! This righteousness or holiness in **DIVINE NATURE GLORY** described as “*clothed in pure and white linen*” is **CONTRASTED** with what was provided for them in the flesh as found in **Revelation 19:8** and described as...



“*she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white*”

Yes! The symbol “*clean and white*” implies a possibility to become “unclean”... But “*pure and white*” has **NO POSSIBILITY** of becoming impure !! This is the perfected and permanent condition of **HOLINESS** in their glorified **DIVINE NATURE** condition in heaven!

➤ Please **NOTE** that it has been observed that in many language translations of the BIBLE such as TAMIL and HINDI (Indian languages) this clear difference in **Revelation 15:6** as “*pure and white*” and in **Revelation 19:8** as “*clean and white*” is **NOT FOUND!!**

Please **carefully examine this matter** in your respective language BIBLE TRANSLATIONS!

Finally, we read in –

**Revelation 15:6**

*“and having their breasts girded with golden girdles”*

These too are **SYMBOLS** relating to the **GLORIFIED** condition of these *“angels”*. This relates to their being **SERVANTS** of God on the divine nature!

We confirm this symbolic interpretation when we read in –

**Revelation 1:13**

*“...one like to the Son of man, clothed with a garment down to the foot, and girt about the breasts with a golden girdle”*

This is a reference to our Lord Jesus performing his **DIVINE SERVICE** of **HEAD** and **HIGH PRIEST (Ephesians 1:22)** throughout the Gospel age! This special, condition of SERVICE to God on the divine nature is represented in symbol as – *“girt about the breasts with a golden girdle”* which could symbolize **VOLUNTARY** and **HEARTFELT** – with great love, joy and zeal – **SERVICE** rendered by this *“sons of God”* class  
(Hebrews 2:10 / John 1:12)

➤ Thus **Vs - 2** shows these seven angels more as a **reminder or.... ANALOG** to this Gospel age work of theirs of being the ones used to blow the **SEVEN TRUMPETS** while they were **in the FLESH....but here** in the seventh stage of the church are shown doing a special task in their glorified condition of each pouring out one of the **“golden vials”** of the **“wrath of God”** upon the Babylon systems during the **“seventh seal”** period of the church of Laodicea.

Now **the background to this seventh seal** is that it is first opened by *“the Lamb of God”* in Heaven (*Revelation 5:6 & 6:1*) and has a reference to the events that would **be fulfilled in the Laodicean (seventh) stage of the church** which would begin


in **October 1874** and run through till the end of the gospel age, ending with the great time of trouble as **symbolized** in *Revelation 8:5*

The contents of the seventh seal begins with its opening and then **almost simultaneously** there is a *“a silence in heaven”* which lasts for *“about the space of half an hour”*.

 **What does this signify ?**

**The first thing to be kept in mind** is that the book of Revelation is a book of symbols (*Revelation 1:1*) and here too we must expect a **symbolic interpretation** of this scripture. But all symbolic language is understood from... **the symbols themselves!!!**

Incidentally here it must be kept in mind by the reader that the **SEVEN SEALS** in totality reveal the history and development of **TWO MYSTERIES**... and their... **beginning,...** **growth** and **development,...** **pre-reformation** and **post-reformation** condition... and **the final judgement**.

 Which are these **TWO MYSTERIES ?**

**Well, they are....**

- **1. The “mystery which was kept secret since the world began” (Romans 16:25,26) and again “the mystery of Christ” (Ephesians 3:3,4). Yes! The “mystery” that is CHRIST! ....and then there is....**
- **2. The “mystery of iniquity” (II Thessalonians 2:7). Yes! This is the “mystery” that is ANTICHRIST**

The PARALLEL history of these two mysteries are described in the SEALS with a special emphasis given to *“the mystery of iniquity”* - that **ASTONISHING ABOMINATION** of the evil one!

## THE STUDY OF THE SEVEN SEALS

The **first four SEALS** reveals FIRST *“a white horse”* and then *“another horse that was red”* whose **color changes** from *“red”*.. to *“black”*.... to *“pale”*! This of course is a reference to the **DETERIORATION** of the doctrine of *“The Most Holy Faith”* that was preached by Jesus and the apostles, which through the first **FOUR** stages of the church began to be defiled... and darkened... and all but extinguished under the influence and efforts of the *“evil one”* and his **ANITICHRIST** system of **THE PAPACY.**



Then the fifth and... sixth seals speak of the **PRE-REFORMATION** and... **POST REFORMATION** condition of these two *“mysteries”*.

➡ This is because the reformation date of **1517** divides these two periods or stages of the fifth and sixth church periods.

➤ Thus finally in the **SEVENTH SEAL** we are to expect the **JUDGEMENT** and its details for these two *“mysteries”*.


So in keeping with this... we expect the seventh seal scriptural language of *Revelation 8:1-5* to speak of... **this great final judgement.**



 **And thus we suggest...**

 ...that **vs 1** and **2** speak of the final judgements **of the ANITICHRIST.**


 ...and **vs 3** and **4** speak of final judgements **of the CHRIST.**


 ...while **vs 5** speaks of the final judgements **upon the world SYSTEMS** that brings an end to the **SECOND WORLD** and the **GOSPEL AGE.**

 **Let us now see how all this unfolds in those vs 1 to 5 !**

Let us begin by studying the original Greek words used and their meaning from **Strong's Concordance** of *Revelation 8:1* - *"And when he had opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven about the space of half an hour."*

We begin with the *"silence"* which is the Greek word **"sige"** (Strong's - Greek # 4602) which is merely rendered as... *"a silence"*. But a further amplifying of the meaning of this word is found **in the instruction to compare the word** meaning of **"siopao"** (Strong's - Greek #4623) to **"sige"**. And there we find that the *"silence"* meant over here in this scripture is two things -

 **1.** It is a **VOLUNTARY** refusal or indisposition to speak. **and....**

 **2.** The *"silence"* here **emanates from the SOURCE** and **NOT** from the subject as in SILENCING somebody.

● **This is an important point to note!**

Now the word *"heaven"* comes from the Greek word **"ouranos"** (Strong's Greek # 3772) and means both "the sky" as also **"the abode of God"**.

Finally the word *"half an hour"* comes from the Greek word **"hemiorion"** (Strong's - Greek # 2256) which simply means *"half an hour"*.

➤ Thus what we understand here is, there was - a voluntary refusal or indisposition to speak from the abode of God for a period of “about the space of half an hour”

👉 Now to the **SYMBOLIC** understanding of this scripture.

The “*silence*” or voluntary refusal or indisposition to speak could **NOT** have come from the sky... but rather we believe, from... the abode of God. Thus this “*silence*” **would be emanating from God himself**. Further **this is symbolic language being used here, remember !**

👉 So what would a voluntary refusal or indisposition to speak from God **SYMBOLIZE** or represent ?

We can better understand this **by going to the Old Testament and looking into an illustration** of its meaning in the life of

King Saul. He was **anointed** (appointed by God’s approval) and... given **God’s spirit** (*I Samuel 10: 6,10*) to be king over the nation of Israel (*I Samuel 10:24*). He was the chosen of God - **but time passed...** and Saul began to do things evil in the sight of God.... **disobedience** and **impatience** as we read in - *I Samuel 13:9 - “And Saul said, Bring hither a burnt offering to me, and peace offering. And he offered the burnt offering.”*

**Finally** King Saul disobeyed God’s explicit command to **totally destroy the Amalekites** and all that they possessed - (*I Samuel 15:2-3*) but rather preserved the best sheep and oxen and brought back their king Agag alive.

Saul **had done evil in the eyes of the Lord in his disobedience** as we read in -

*I Samuel 15: 18-19, 22-23 - “And the LORD sent thee on a journey, and said, Go and utterly destroy the sinners the Amalekites, and fight against them until they be consumed. Wherefore then didst thou not obey the voice of the LORD?”*

*“And Samuel said, Hath the LORD as great delight in burnt offering and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams. For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because thou rejected the word of the LORD, he hath also rejected thee from being king.”*

👉 **And then what do we see happened ?**

**Immediately thereafter...** the Spirit of the Lord departed from him and... **evil spirits tormented him** as we read in *I Samuel 16:14 -*  
*“ But the Spirit of the Lord departed from Saul, and an evil spirit from the LORD troubled him.”*



Thenceforth the Lord was **“silent”** (did not answer) towards Saul as we read **his own words** in - *I Samuel 28:6 & 15 -*  
*“And when Saul enquired of the LORD, the LORD answered him not, neither by dreams, nor by Urim, nor by prophets.”*


*“And Samuel said to Saul, Why hast thou disquieted me, to bring me up? And Saul answered, I am sore distressed; for the Philistines make war against me, and God is departed from me, and answereth me no more, neither by prophets, nor by dreams.”*

Yes! No communication was made even through His mouthpiece - the prophet Samuel... **from that moment till the prophet’s death** (*I Samuel 15:35*).

**Further it is noted that...** after the Lord’s spirit was removed from Saul it is also noticed that the **light of God** and the


**light of truth left him** and... **darkness** began to take hold of him, so much so that the very king who had enforced laws against mediums, wizards, etc. (*I Samuel 28:9*) **was now himself** coming to consult one of them and make attempt to communicate with the dead prophet Samuel !!.

Thus the removal of God's spirit of "**light**" brought upon him the Satan "**spirit of darkness and error**" (*Isaiah 60:2*).

 **Now this illustration in Saul's life of... the withdrawal of God's Spirit and... the torment of evil spirits during which time God was "silent" to Saul is helpful in understanding the scripture under study.**


**Some may ask,.... what is the justification in taking events of Saul's life and applying it to the "silence" of the text under study ?**

Well, we will understand as we continue in the understanding of this subject that the symbolic meaning of the silence as we are going to see it... **was all typified** in the life of King Saul, as we will come to see and **RECOGNIZE WHAT** he and his rule of the "*space*" of forty years (*Acts 13:21*) did represent **in type !**

 **The symbolic understanding of this scripture in Revelation 8:1 thus refers to...**

 "*the withdrawal of God's spirit*"

**which we suggest, is the symbolical meaning of "*there was silence in heaven*"**

 **Now the question arises as to WHO is being referred to in this "silence" and... FROM WHOM did God withdraw his spirit?**

The answer takes us to the year 1878 when perhaps **before** the beginning of the first resurrection of the sleeping saints in

## THE STUDY OF THE SEVEN SEALS

April of **that year** (3/12 years from the Second Coming of the Lord in October 1874) there came the great condemnation and **rejection of the house of Nominal Christianity** as seen in -

*Revelation 18:1-2 - "And after these things I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power; and the earth was lightened with his glory. And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird."*

God had permitted **His Holy spirit** to dwell in Nominal Christianity - symbolically called and referred to as "**Babylon**" till the harvest time as we read in -

*Matthew 13:30 - "Let both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather ye together first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into my barn."*

God's **long suffering** and **patience** for "**Babylon**" is reflected in the words we read in -

*Jeremiah 51:9 - "We would have healed Babylon, but she is not healed: forsake her, and let us go every one into his own country: for her judgement reacheth unto heaven, and is lifted up even to the skies."*

But this patience of God for "**Babylon**".... **ran out in 1878** when **in April of that year** the prophetic waiting period of Revelation 6:11 "rest yet for a little season" or "**chronos**" or 360 literal years ended!

➤ **Yes! In that year (and month) the House of Babylon, as a system or institution was REJECTED by Him! And thus from that DATE no more existed upon the earth... GOD'S HOUSE ....who had His spirit and... was His House of representation.**

(Please Note: The "spirit begotten" church of new creatures are not known or recognized by the world at all - I John 3:1)



Yes! Babylon since then was left to become the hold of Satan and his fallen angels and *“foul spirits”* (false doctrines) as we read in -

*Revelation 18:2 - “And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird.”*

It is in this condemnation of Babylon that we see that when God’s Holy spirit of *“light”* and *“truth”* was removed, that Babylon became... *“the habitation of devils and hold of every foul spirit and cage of every unclean bird”*.

➡ **What did this mean to Babylon or Nominal Christendom?**

It meant that the *“light of truth”* (**Revelation 18:23**) in their midst was taken away and the darkness and **“every foul spirit”** or every kind of false doctrine began to take hold...

and it became the *“cage”* or home for the wicked of the world and...

carriers of false doctrine and human traditions which rapidly became the belief of its members... replacing whatever **remained of Bible truth.**

**Example:** Acceptance of **HOMOSEXUALITY** and **GAY MARRIAGE** now by the Roman Church and Church of England!

Thus seen Babylon is enveloped in darkness **much like was seen in type in the life of King Saul.** It is fitting here to





point to certain TYPICAL PICTURES seen here showing forth the matters of the manner of the establishment of God's actual Kingdom on earth. We humbly point the reader's attention to recognize that King Saul and his "*space*" of forty years **was typical of the period of counterfeit, unauthorized rulership established by the Papacy (the ANTICHRIST "Mother" system)** which after God's patient period of waiting... was finally condemned. Yes! In the **characteristics** of the reigns of **the first THREE Kings of Israel** was **TYPIFIED** very important matters of the manner of the establishment of God's **actual Kingdom** on earth.

➤ The reign of **King Saul** symbolized... how the church sought for a **VISIBLE** human head and thus began the **ANTICHRIST** rulership that was **unauthorized** by... and yet **permitted** for a time by God.

➤ The reign of **King David** represents... the **INVISIBLE** phase of the kingdom post 1874 when Jesus rules "in the midst" of his enemies and **INVISIBLE** to the world as was typified by **King David** being in the wilderness and invisible to Israel while... Absalom seemed to be exercising power visibly!

➤ Finally the reign of **King Solomon** represents... the establishment of the **VISIBLE** phase of the kingdom in Israel and the peaceable kingdom thereafter.

{ It must be noted that in considering this typical picture the **EXACT** periods of the reign of these three kings and all the other detailed features of their reign is **NOT** considered here at all. Certain **GENERAL** typical features **only are being considered** }

Now coming back to **the condemnation of Babylon** we see that... this "*darkness*" and condemnation began in 1878 and began with the **removal of God's spirit** or... the **symbolic** "*silence*".

This fact of our interpretation here is **CONFIRMED** in the scriptures when we turn to -

**Isaiah 47:5**

*“Sit thou silent, and get thee into darkness, O daughter of the Chaldeans: for thou shalt no more be called, The lady of kingdoms.”*

This is a **clear** prophetic reference to Babylon as we read from **vs-1** onwards of **Isaiah 47th chapter**. Notice that in addition to the reference of *“darkness”* is a reference to.. *“silence”* and further is also a reference to *“sit”* - which would symbolically mean **a period of waiting** in that condition of silence!!



**ISN'T IT VERY CLEAR ??!**

Let us now see this same matter ONCE AGAIN confirmed in another scripture!

**Let us now turn to -**

**1 Samuel 2:9**

*“He will keep the feet of his saints, and the wicked shall be silent in darkness;”*

Yes! Herein the prophet Samuel's mother, **Hannah's** prayer is a prophetic picture of God's Divine Plan. This verse refers to **the period post 1874** and *“the wicked”* here is a reference to the **ANTICHRIST** system of Babylon which we clearly find in - *II Thessalonians 2:8* -

*“And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume...”*



And notice **the condemnation upon Babylon** is -

*“...shall be silent in darkness”,*



...again representing the very same **CONDITION** of being **DEVOID** of God's Holy Spirit of *“light”* and being rather filled with the *“darkness”* of **UNTRUTH** and **FALSE** doctrines over a period of time -



*“...the hold of every foul spirit”.*

➤ Oh! How wonderfully **HARMONIOUS** is the Word, as the revelations are “.....here a little, and there a little.”!!

We **ALSO** see these events **being foreshadowed in fleshly Israel** when in 33 AD their...

*“house... was left unto them desolate” (Matthew 23:38)...*

➡ ...reflecting their **condemnation** and rejection with their **destruction** coming... **much later**... in **70 A.D.**

If then the *“silence”* symbolically denotes the withdrawal of God’s Holy Spirit... **THE END of this silence** would mean... **the giving again of His Holy Spirit.**

And, yes, the scripture denotes the silence to have a beginning and... an end and... to last a period of... *“about the space of half an hour.”*

👉 **WHO then will receive God’s Holy Spirit after the end of this period of**

👉 *“about the space of half an hour”?*

Now knowing that the **BEGINNING** of this *“silence”* was the withdrawal of God’s Holy Spirit from Babylon **in April 1878...** we also know that this Holy Spirit **CAN NEVER be given back** to Babylon, as... it will go to **UTTER DESTRUCTION** in the judgements of God that will finally come upon it **AFTER** this period of *“silence” (Revelation 14:9-11)*. It must be then **given to ANOTHER upon the earth.**

This **concept between the ages (The Jewish & Gospel Ages)** was **TYPIFIED** in the parable of *“The Rich man and Lazarus”* in -

**Luke 16:25**

*“But Abraham said, Son, remember that thou in thy lifetime receivedst thy good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things: but now he is comforted, and thou art tormented.”*

Here the “*good things*” symbolize **GOD’S FAVOR** and the “*evil things*” symbolizes **GOD’S DISFAVOR**. Thus we see here how when God’s FAVOR is taken from the “*Rich man*” it is then given to “*Lazarus*” Yes! This is a picture of God’s BLESSINGS and FAVOR being withdrawn from **NATURAL ISRAEL** and... being given to **SPIRITUAL ISRAEL**.

Now **this was a picture at the CONCLUSION of the Jewish age**... and the opening of the Gospel age. Now we are at the **CONCLUSION** of the Gospel age... and the opening of the Millennial age... and God’s **HOLY SPIRIT** of **FAVOR** is now taken from “*Babylon*” or **NOMINAL SPIRITUAL ISRAEL** and given to... as we will **see in many scriptures** and their testimony... **to the NATION of ISRAEL**.

Thus here we see that at the end of the “*silence*” God will pour out his Holy Spirit on... **the NATION OF ISRAEL**. This will be **after the beginning** of “*Jacobs trouble*” (*Jeremiah 30:7*) as we read very clearly revealed in -

**Ezekiel 37:8-10**

*“And when I beheld, lo, the sinews and the flesh came up upon them, and the skin covered them above: but there was no breath in them. Then said he unto me, Prophecy unto the wind, prophecy, son of man, and to the wind, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live. So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood up upon their feet, an exceeding great army.”*

Here in **the vision** of “*the valley of dry bones*” the prophet Ezekiel is shown graphically **the regathering and rebuilding of Israel as a nation again**, culminating in them receiving of the “*breath*” which **is God’s Holy Spirit**,... being the **first nation** wherein God’s Kingdom will be established on the earth.

This we read of in -

**Ezekiel 39:29**

*“Neither will I hide my face any more from them: for I have poured out my spirit upon the house of Israel, saith the Lord GOD.”*

This receiving of the “*breath*” or **Holy Spirit** seems... to tarry. It **tarryes until** the “*time of trouble*” as symbolized by the “*wind*” which comes from the “*four winds*” as seen in **Ezekiel 37:9** and more particularly “*Jacobs trouble*” which is **the last feature** of the time of trouble as we read clearly in -

**Ezekiel 38:14 -16**

*“Therefore, son of man, prophecy and say unto Gog, Thus saith the Lord GOD; In that day when my people of Israel dwelleth safely, shalt thou not know it? And thou shalt come from thy place out of the north parts, thou, and many people with thee, all of them riding upon horses, a great company, and a mighty army: And thou shalt come up against my people of Israel, as a cloud to cover the land; it shall be in the latter days, and I will bring thee against my land, that the heathen may know me, when I shall be sanctified in thee, O Gog, before their eyes.”*

Then the nations which attack Israel **will witness and... KNOW** that Israel is **the House of God** as we read clearly in

**Ezekiel 38:23**

*“Thus will I magnify myself, and sanctify myself; and I will be known in the eyes of many nations, and they shall know that I am the LORD.”*

And again in...

**Ezekiel 39:7**

*“So will I make my holy name known in the midst of my people Israel; and I will not let them pollute my holy name any more: and the heathen shall know that I am the LORD, the Holy One in Israel.”*

And again in...

**Zechariah 8:23**

*“Thus saith the LORD of hosts; In those days it shall come to pass, that ten men shall take hold out of all languages of the nations, even shall take hold of the skirt of him that is a Jew, saying, We will go with you: for we have heard that God is with you.”*

Now we are to understand that **the END POINT** of this period of “*silence*” is when God pours out **His Holy Spirit** on the **NATION of Israel**. And that is when the “*eyes*” of Israel will open to “*see*” Jesus as their long awaited and beloved **ALMASHIYA – the MESSIAH!**

And, Yes the fulfillment of those TWO verses in –



**Matthew 23:39**

*“For I say unto you, Ye shall not see me henceforth, till ye shall say, Blessed [is] he that cometh in the name of the Lord”.*

Yes! That “**moment**” would have come!

And... Again in -



**Revelation 1:7**

*“Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they [also] which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen”.*

Ah! Yes! This will be the “**moment**” to “*see*” Yeshua as their beloved Messiah!



**Now the question does arise...!??**

WHEN does this take place?

Is it **before** or... **after** the **FINAL WORLDWIDE** conflict of... the **Third World War??**

Ah, The **ANSWER** to this question is found in studying the **CONTEXT** of **TWO** scriptures! The **first** is found in –



## # 1. Ezekiel 39:26-29

*“After that they have borne their shame, and all their trespasses whereby they have trespassed against me, when they dwelt safely in their land, and none made [them] afraid. When I have brought them again from the people, and gathered them out of their enemies' lands, and am sanctified in them in the sight of many nations; Then shall they know that I [am] the LORD their God, which caused them to be led into captivity among the heathen: but I have gathered them unto their own land, and have left none of them any more there. Neither will I hide my face any more from them: for I have poured out my spirit upon the house of Israel, saith the Lord GOD.”*

Yes! Here we read of those key words in **Vs-29**

*“....for I have poured out my spirit upon the house of Israel, saith the Lord GOD.”*



**But, when will this take place?**



**The answer seems to be in Vs-27**

*“...and am sanctified in them in the sight of many nations”*

Yes! This would have to be only **AFTER** the great **DELIVERANCE** of Israel by God in the final conflict against all nations.

Then **the second scripture** is found in –

## # 2. Zechariah 12:10

*“And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications: and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for [his] only [son], and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for [his] firstborn.”*

Here too this scripture while describing God's pouring of His spirit on Israel also describes a **COMPREHENSIVE** condition of **MOURNING** in ALL Israel... when their “eyes” are opened to see and identify the Messiah.


And this again could only be **AFTER** the final conflict and war... and **NOT** before.

And this thought is **perhaps supported** by the fact that this matter of the pouring out of God's spirit described in **Vs.10** is... **PRECEDED** by **Vs.8 & 9**... where God describes his **HAND** and **INTERVENTION** in that final war to bring victory for Israel and thus the following **verse – 10** begins with the words -


 *“And I will pour...”*

 This again describes something **AFTER...** and **NOT BEFORE!!**

Ah! Yes! Now that **we have identified the two ends** of the *“silence”*, it is **necessary to understand and co-relate** the time frame of *“about the space of half an hour”*. As was seen the *“silence”* occurred *“in heaven”* or from God's abode - this *“silence”* being symbolic language reference to the withdrawal of God's Holy Spirit. Thus the time frame will only be understood from God's time calculation in relation to time prophecy.

 We see **that a day for HIM** as seen in the calculation of the *“creative days”* is ..... **7000 years !!**

The present ongoing history of mankind is but **“the seventh day of creation”** when *“God rested”* (**Genesis 2:2**). The **CHRONOLOGY** of the **Divine Plan of the Ages CHART** bears witness of this calculation of this *“seventh day”* being 7000 years in length (**Job 5:19**). Thus using this “key” of time calculation in respect to God we must now understand this time prophecy.

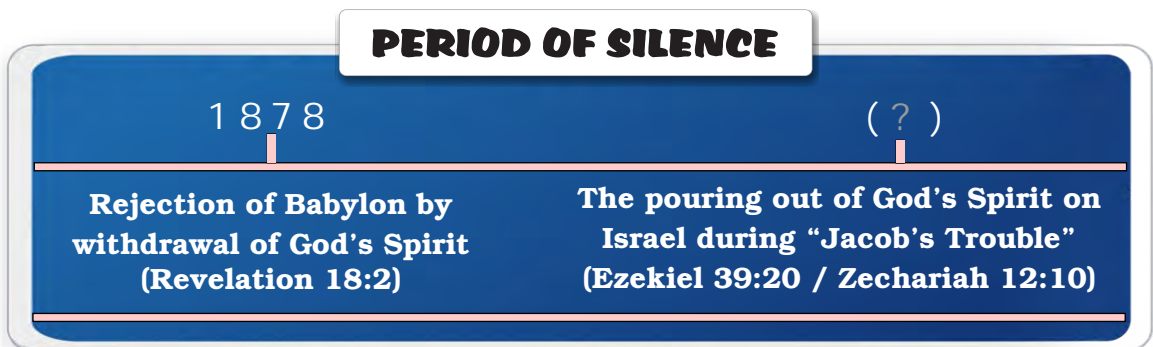
 Yes! How do we understand *“about the space of half an hour”* ?

Notice that the words of this scripture have **something peculiar about it !!**

The time interpretation seemingly looks like it is **restricted strictly to the space of within 30 minutes.** But, on the OTHER HAND, it could mean a time interpretation, **very close to 30 minutes either BEFORE or AFTER!**



Yes! Let us now understand this time period with this chart below.



We will begin by first seeking to calculate what 30 minutes or HALF AN HOUR in God's time frame amounts to. We must divide this **7000 years by 48**...as there are 48 half hours in a day of **24 hours!**

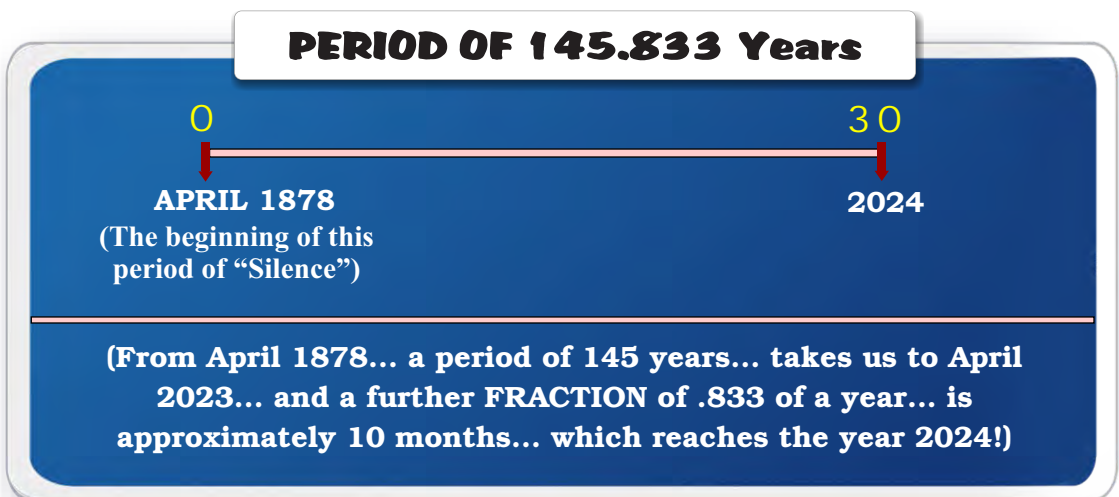
$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{HALF Hour in "Heaven" = } 7000/48 \\ \text{(There are 24 Hours \& 48 half hours in our day)} \\ \text{= } 145.833 \text{ YRS.} \end{array} \right\}$$

**Having calculated** and seen that the **TIME SPAN** of **exactly HALF AN HOUR** in Heaven is **145.833** years... we **realise IMMEDIATELY** that the **"silence"** period is ABOUT this time

span... and thus is **LESS** or **SLIGHTLY MORE** than the time frame of **HALF AN HOUR** in Heaven. This is what we **MUST ALWAYS** keep in our minds about this scripture that says of the "*silence*" being -

 "*about the space of half an hour*"

Now in terms of **TIME** and the **YEAR**... where does this period of **30** minutes... or **145.833** years point to? Let us calculate simply -



Thus if we are **CORRECT**, in our understanding and INTERPRETATION of this "*silence*"... as the **PERIOD of JUDGEMENT** on the ANTICHRIST systems of "*Babylon*"... and will end with the pouring out of God's Holy Spirit on the **NATION OF ISRAEL**... after the **THIRD WORLD** war... then this period of "*about the space of half an hour*"... will be known by us all only with the passage of time ahead of us in the near future ! Will this be a perspective **of being before 2024** or ... **some years beyond** the end of the "*half an hour*" period ??

**We must WAIT and WATCH.**

Now to give us a perspective of this **TIME PERIOD** from God's standpoint, and where we are today (**written in 2021**)... let

us make a small calculation and a **CHART** to show the time **VALUES** for **5 years** preceding or **BEFORE** the year **2024**, and the completion of **30** minutes or **EXACTLY** “*half an hour*”, from God's time calculation of a day being **7000 years!** Or, if this crosses the “*half an hour*” period we have TIME VALUES for some years beyond as well !

**First** we must calculate the value of **1 minute** in **HEAVEN** time.

For that we take the period of **30 minutes** and divide it by **30!**

➡ { **One minute in 'Heaven' =  $145.833/30 = 4.86$  years** }

Now when we make the **CHART**, we will see the **TIME VALUES** for the years **2020/2021/2022/2023** and **2024** and a little beyond !

And we will be calculating the period of “*silence*” from **1878** !

 **Thus we have this Chart below...**





| THE YEAR | THE TIME PERIOD<br>(FROM YEAR 1878) | THE TIME CALCULATION                  |
|----------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| ● 2020   | 142 YEARS                           | $142/4.86 = 29$ minutes 12 seconds    |
| ● 2021   | 143 YEARS                           | $143/4.86 = 29$ minutes 24 seconds    |
| ● 2022   | 144 YEARS                           | $144/4.86 = 29$ minutes 36 seconds    |
| ● 2023   | 145 YEARS                           | $145/4.86 = 29$ minutes 48 seconds    |
| ● 2024   | 146 YEARS                           | $146/4.86 = 30$ minutes <u>      </u> |
| ● 2025   | 147 YEARS                           | $146/4.86 = 30$ minutes 12 seconds    |
| ● 2026   | 148 YEARS                           | $146/4.86 = 30$ minutes 24 seconds    |
| ● 2027   | 149 YEARS                           | $146/4.86 = 30$ minutes 36 seconds    |
| ● 2028   | 150 YEARS                           | $146/4.86 = 30$ minutes 48 seconds    |
| ● 2029   | 151 YEARS                           | $146/4.86 = 31$ minutes <u>      </u> |


**We wish to emphasise we are NOT attempting in any way to be “prophets”... but rather are taking the HUMBLE and ZEALOUS position of being STUDENTS OF THE PROPHETIC WORD!**



**We will wait and watch... and humbly wait upon the LORD to finally understand His word, and their fulfillment!**  
**(Deuteronomy 29:29)**

This silence which runs almost right through the “**Laodicean period**” of the church has its significance in that it is also during -

-  “THE DAY OF THE LORD” (*Amos 5:18*)
-  “THE DAY OF VENGEANCE” (*Isaiah 61:2*)
-  “THE DAY OF THE LORD’S ANGER” (*Zephaniah 2:2*)
-  “THE DAY OF HIS PREPARATION” (*Nahum 2:3*)

 In this period of **judgements** and **destruction** it is **only appropriate** that God’s spirit, which is... **a sign of blessing and... favor** is not represented on the earth at all !

Thus we have seen that “*the seventh seal*” of **judgement** on the **Antichrist** system of Babylon is opened in **1874** and **almost simultaneously**... in **1878** (3½yrs later) begins the symbolic “*silence*” or **the condemnation, rejection and removal of God’s Holy Spirit** from Babylon, leaving it in “*darkness*” and....this state continues in Babylon till its final destruction **just after** the full completion of the church class and the **full glorification of the Body of Christ** as seen in -

*Revelation 14:10 - “The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb:”*

Meanwhile the time prophecy of “*about the space of half an hour*” for the “*silence*” awaits the ENDING of this “*silence*” in the outpouring of the Holy Spirit **on Israel as a nation** and the establishment of the “**visible**” **phase** of the kingdom in Israel.



Now we continue our study of the seventh seal by going to the next verse in -

**Vs - 2**

*“And I saw the seven angels which stood before God; and to them were given seven trumpets.”*

As we have already seen this is a **ANALOG**... where the comparable reference is to the *“seven angels”* to whom had been given the *“seven trumpets”* during the entire Gospel Age and its seven stages !



**Now what deeper meaning would this scripture have?**

As already suggested **vs 1** and **2** of this **8th chapter** of Revelation describe the **JUDGEMENT** upon Babylon - *“the mystery of iniquity”*.

Here it is appropriate to remind the readers of a matter we read concerning the JUDGEMENT PROCESS of the ANTICHRIST “Babylon” systems as we had seen earlier in the FIFTH SEAL in Revelation 6:10 and the saints of SARDIS enquiring...



*“How long, O Lord, holy and true, dost th not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth?”*

Yes! we had read on **Page # 55**

**(IN THE STUDY OF THE FIFTH SEAL)**

of the significance of those two words - *“judge and avenge”*!

**(PLEASE REFER AND READ AGAIN)**

Indeed, here in the **FIFTH SEAL** is seen the **ENQUIRY** made by the *“saints”* of SARDIS concerning enlightenment about the judgement of the counterfeit NOMINAL *“Antichrist”* church systems, whose identity was then BEGINNING to become manifest **THEN** in the *“light”* of the *“light a candle”* of **Luke 15:8** representing the translated **BIBLE in ENGLISH** by John Wycliffe.

We had seen how **by the inspiration of the HOLY SPIRIT** those words were recorded (much like for Apostle Peter and his answer to the question by Jesus in **Matthew 16:16,17**) giving us insights into the **MANNER** of how **JUDGEMENT** would be made upon these systems. Thus -

## ➡ **“JUDGE”**

This represents the **FIRST STEP** in this judgement process of Babylon, set into motion by the returned Lord Jesus, proclaiming **DIVINE JUDGEMENT** in fulfilment of the scripture we read in -

**Revelation 18:2**

*“And he cried mightily with a strong voice: saying Babylon the great is fallen,”*

This proclamation... which we believe was made SPIRITUALLY in **April 1878 - 3½ years**, since the return of the Lord - and perfectly matching to the **JEWISH PARALLEL**, of **33 AD (Matthew 23:37,38)** was what we see described here in the **SEVENTH SEAL** and **Vs-1** - as

➡ *“there was silence in heaven about the space of half an hour”*

And we also saw this condition of **JUDGEMENT** continues all through the period of the **CHURCH of LAODICEA**

- already **144 years** since its beginning in **1878** (written in year **2022**)

# 1878



Then this will be followed at the end by...

## **“AVENGE”**


This refers to the **SECOND STEP** in this judgement process which will bring the **CONCLUSION** in the **FINAL DESTRUCTION** of these church systems altogether.

This we see **finally described in that scripture** in -


### Revelation 19:20

*“And the beast was taken ,and with him the false prophet that worked miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshi ped his image, These both were cast alive into a “lake of fire burning with brimstone”*

Yes! This **FINAL RESULT** of this judgement process upon these ANTICHRIST church systems is described by **those words** - *“was taken”* and *“cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone”*

 While **Vs -1** describes the **BEGINNING** events of these judgements... we see that in **Vs -2** is described very **SUBTLY** how these judgements will be **CONSUMMATED!**

Yes! **Revelation 8:2** describes how this will be accomplished!

 **How can this be, somebody may ask?**

Well, the answer is that it is these same *“seven angels”* who blew *“trumpets”* and **seven in all**, while they were in the flesh are **NOW** used by God in their **GLORIFIED CONDITION** as instruments to pour out what is described in -

*Revelation 15:1 - “And I saw another sign in heaven, great and marvelous, seven angels having the seven last plagues; for in them is filled up the wrath of God.”*

As we had explained earlier on Page 183 these “*seven angels*” are none other than the **SAME** “*seven angels*” who were given to blow the “*seven trumpets*” - Yes, the **SEVEN angels** to the seven churches -

“*in his right hand seven stars*” (**Revelation 1:16,20**)

Yes! They were given the ministry of “*the seven trumpets*” while being in the flesh... and now at the end of the age, during the period of LAODICEA **undertake the ministry** of “*the seven last plagues*” while being in the **GLORIFIED** “*spirit born*” condition of the **DIVINE NATURE**.

This is seen in **Revelation 15:6** where their glorified condition is represented in the words -

 “*clothed in pure and white linen...*”

(the ACTUAL holiness of the spirit born condition with perfect spirit bodies of the divine nature !)

 and “*having their breasts girded with golden girdles*”

(the SERVANTS of God on the Divine Nature as seen also concerning the Lord Jesus in **Revelation 1:13**)

This is the reference we are to understand in **Revelation 8:2** where the subtle reference to the seven angels who were “*given seven trumpets*” is to be taken as an **ANALOG** and comparable reference to **Revelation chapter 15** and their service of “*the seven last plagues*” which causes the final **DESTRUCTION** of Babylon!.

Yes! We must **NOTE in this verse (Revelation 15:1)** the words -

 “*for in them is filled up the wrath of God.*”

This describes the **FINAL JUDGEMENTS** (“*and avenge*”) on Babylon which is described in detail in the **16th chapter of Revelation** with the “*pouring out*” of those “*seven golden vials*” (*Revelation 15:7*). The ACTUAL final consummation is described in the pouring out of the “*seventh vial*” in -

*Revelations 16:19 - "And the great city was divided into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell: and great Babylon came in remembrance before God, to give unto her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of his wrath."*

Yes! The **FINAL DESTRUCTION** of  
*"the mystery of iniquity"* - Babylon!

Here we **would like to point** to the scripture reference .....  
 to the SEVENTH angel and his..... receiving and pouring out  
 of the *"seventh vial/bowl"* or *"the seventh plague"* as found  
 recorded in -

**Ezekiel 10:1,2,6**

*"Then I looked, and, behold, in the firmament that was above the head of the cherubims there appeared over them as it were a sapphire stone, as the appearance of the likeness of a throne. And he spake unto the man clothed with linen, and said, Go in between the wheels, even under the cherub, and fill thine hand with coals of fire from between the cherubims, and scatter them over the city. And he went in in my sight."*

*"And it came to pass, that when he had commanded the man clothed with linen, saying, Take fire from between the wheels, from between the cherubims; then he went in, and stood beside the wheels."*

Most all of the readers, we assume are aware that **the previous chapter - Ezekiel 9th chapter vs 1 to 11** .....detail the earthly MINISTRY of *"the man clothed in linen, which had a writer's inkhorn by his side"*

- Yes! **Pastor Charles Taze Russell**, and his working in conjunction with the returned Lord Jesus .....from 1874 to 1916. We believe **vs 11** details the completion of that mission at his death..... on **October 31st 1916**.

But here now in **Ezekiel 10th chapter** is found described *"the man clothed in linen"* - Pastor Russell in his GLORIFIED CONDITION, in heaven !

And further ..... **specifically** his being given the “*seventh*” and LAST “*vial*” as found described in -

**Ezekiel 10:6-7**

*“And it came to pass, that when he had commanded the man clothed with linen, saying, Take fire from between the wheels, from between the cherubims; then he went in, and stood beside the wheels. And one cherub stretched forth his hand from between the cherubims unto the fire that was between the cherubims, and took thereof, and put it into the hands of him that was clothed with linen: who took it, and went out.”*

Yes! Here is shown his receiving FIRE from “*one cherub*” (**representing divine JUSTICE**) which .....he was told to “*scatter them over the city*”.

This perfectly correlates to what we read of the description of the seventh “*vial*” in -

**Revelation 16:19**

*“And the great city was divided into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell: and great Babylon came in remembrance before God, to give unto her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of his wrath.”*

Divine Justice bringing forth **RETRIBUTION** and **DESTRUCTION**.

➤ **Thus we have seen how verses 1 and 2 here in Revelation 8th chapter concerning the “*seventh seal*” describes the JUDGEMENT and... its PROCESS upon the ANTICHRIST - “*the mystery of iniquity*”**

Now let us continue the understanding of the “**seventh seal**” contents as we continue our study -

**Vs - 3 & 4**

*“And another angel came and stood at the altar, having a golden censer; and there was given unto him much incense, that he should offer it with the prayers of all saints upon the golden altar which was before the throne.*



*And the smoke of the incense, which came with the prayers of the saints, ascended up before God out of the angels's hand."*



Now the interpretation of this scripture has tended to apply its time frame to the **BEGINNING** of the Gospel Age due to the **misunderstanding of verse 2** and the thought that the contents of the seventh seal is restricted **only to one verse** in *Revelation 8:1*.

**Thus the majority of commentaries** tend to find difficulties in correctly interpreting the *"incense"* and the *"prayers"* and tend to forget that it is symbolic language being used here and **NOT to be taken literally!**



But when we realize that **the TIME FRAME of this scripture** and its meaning is found within the seventh church period of LAODICEA... **the matter becomes more clearer !**

As we have already suggested earlier in this study, this is a reference to **the SECOND ASPECT of the JUDGEMENTS** in the judgement period of the church period of Laodicea... which is the entire seventh seal period.



Yes! This describes **something that took place** in that same year of 1878 AFTER the judgements were proclaimed on Babylon.



**Ah! Yes! This describes the JUDGEMENTS upon the SECOND "mystery" - "the revelation of the mystery" (Romans 16:25)...that is CHRIST !**




**Let us now see and understand the matter** that is being described here...





**Firstly who is this "another angel"?**

Ah! The word *"angel"* signifies messenger but he is referred to as *"another angel"* to distinguish him as **NOT** of the

“*seven angels*” mentioned in **verse 2** ! This angel appears **BEFORE GOD**...and performs a priestly duty of offering up “*incense*” with... “*the prayers of all saints*”.


 **What does all this signify ?**

 **Firstly** we must realize this is all symbolic language.

 **Secondly** we see that the symbols used are **from the Tabernacle sacrifices** and its rituals.


Yes ! This is a picture of **an ANTITYPE** or... **the fulfillment of the Tabernacle TYPE** that takes place during the Laodicean phase of the Church!

This “*angel*” doing **priestly duty** is none other than Our Lord Jesus Christ, the great **HIGH PRIEST** of the “*royal priesthood*” (**Hebrews 4:14-15**).

 Notice those words... “*And another angel came ..*”


Yes! That is a reference to the **LORD JESUS** - “*another angel*” **at His second coming!**

And the picture shown here in symbols is.... **WHAT** He does at His second coming! **It picturizes His TWO important OFFICES to the church** ....all through the Gospel Age-

 ...that of **HIGH PRIEST** to His disciples.... the under priests and....

....an **ADVOCATE** at the throne of heavenly grace before the Great Judge (I John 2:1).

 **These offices are the only way** by which the sacrifice of his body members are made “*holy and acceptable to God*”.

 Thus the “*much incense*” here represents in symbol... the **daily sacrifices** of the saints

**(Refer Tabernacle Shadows Pg 65, 3rd paragraph)**

while the word *“much”* would represent these sacrifices of being **individual in nature**....and covering the whole number of 144,000...and **over a period of close to 2000 years** Surely ALL those sacrifices, great and small, when seen in TOTALITY....is *“much”*!

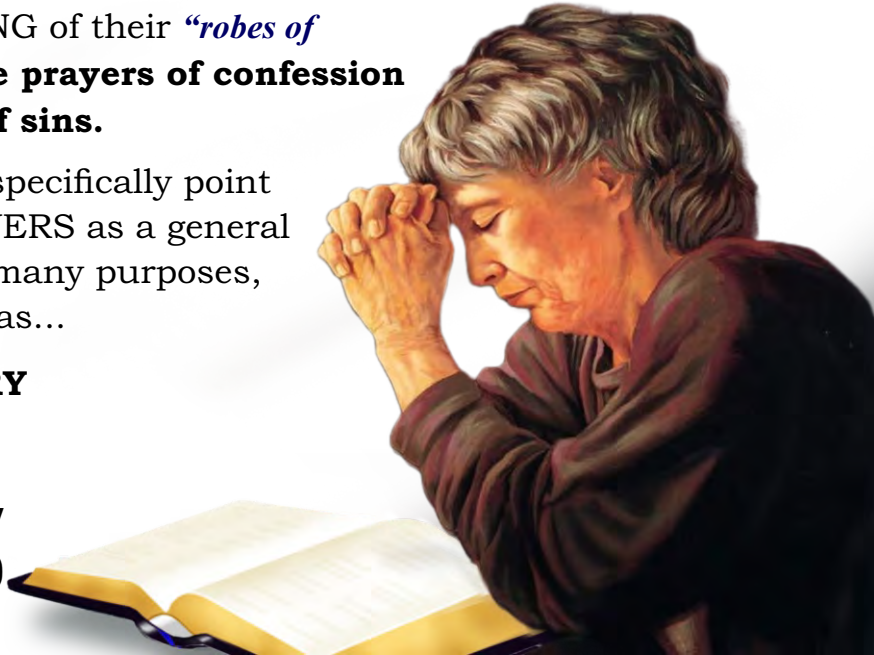
Now *“the prayers of all saints”* represent in symbol... something very important and **VITAL** to **all sacrificing** saints - the CLEANSING of their *“robes of righteousness”* by **the prayers of confession of sins.**


We would like to specifically point out here that PRAYERS as a general term could have many purposes, such as...


 ....**INTERCESSORY**

prayers

( **Romans 1:19/**  
**Ephesians 6:18/**  
**Philippians 1:4** )



 ....**SUPPLICATION** prayers ( **Philippians 4:6 /**  
**2 Thessalonians 3:1** )

 ....**THANKSGIVING** prayers ( **Ephesians 1:16 /**  
**2 Corinthians 1:11** )

 ....and **CONFESSION OF SINS** prayers ( **James 5:16 /**  
**John 1:9** )

Now in the context of this *“much incense”* that is offered with these *“prayers”* being a reference to the **DAILY SACRIFICES** in fulfilment of the *“covenant by sacrifice”*(**Psalms 50:5**)...

it is reasonable to conclude that these *“the prayers of all saints”* would be a **SPECIFIC** reference to the **DAILY** prayers for the confession of sins and **CLEANSING** of the *“robe of righteousness”* (Isaiah 61:10)

Yes! It is **the only way** by which they can **CLEANSE** the precious robe as we read in -

**1 John 1:9**

*“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”*

One cannot suitably emphasize the importance of this matter for the saints... **except by turning to two scriptures!**

One is the **words of Our Lord** in -

# 1  **Luke 21:36**

*“Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.”*

Yes! Here the *“watch ye therefore, and pray always”* is a reference to the **CLEANSING** of the *“robe of righteousness”* by watching **daily** and **hourly** one’s thoughts, words and deeds and promptly confessing at the throne of grace... thus maintaining the **HOLINESS** of the robe and thus enabling the **DAILY** sacrifices to be *“holy and acceptable to God”* (**Romans 12:1**)

This particular scripture and words of our Lord are in their context as part of the **“Lord’s great prophecy”** a reference to the **END** of the **AGE** and the concluding days of the church of Laodicea - even the **VERY TIME** we are now living in !

(**PLEASE NOTE** that these thoughts of ours for this verse are DIFFERENT from the comments in the **EBC page 407**)

where the application is to the **SECOND COMING** and the Paruosia of the Lord)

We can perhaps **PROVE** the basis for our thoughts for this verse by the **CONTEXT** of our **next** scripture!

# 2 

**Revelation 16:15**

*“Behold, I come as a thief. Blessed [is] he that watcheth, and keepeth his garments, lest he walk naked, and they see his shame.”*

Now this scripture AGAIN are **the words of our Lord** and Master (Please check in **RED LETTER KJV** Bibles!).

The context is the period of the end of the *“sixth vial”* and just before the pouring out of the *“seventh vial”* (**Vs.17**). This is clearly a reference to the very END of the age, just before the FULL completion of glorification of the church!



And the Lord’s words of **WARNING** to -

*“...he that watcheth, and keepeth his garments...”*

A clear reference to the great importance of *“the robe of righteousness”* and its being maintained CLEAN -



*“... and keepeth his garments, ...”*

This AGAIN is seen in **the scripture** we are studying now -

**Revelation 8:3**

*“And another angel came and stood at the altar, having a golden censer; and there was given unto him much incense, that he should offer [it] with the prayers of all saints upon the golden altar which was before the throne.”*



**Yes! Notice the MINGLING... or the MIXING of the two!**



The *“much incense”* of the incense **along with** *“the prayers”* !

Thus in the **JUDGEMENT PROCESS** of the church that is being shown here, we see that **ACCEPTANCE** and **APPROVAL** from God is only through Jesus who offers up the “*much incense*” in a manner described as “*with the prayers of all saints*”. The **key word** here is “*with*” for none of the “*incense*” or **DAILY SACRIFICES** would be acceptable to God, without... the “*prayers*” of **CONFESSION** of **SINS** and **cleansing of the robes** to enable a **CONTINUANCE** of offering...



“...sacrifices, holy, acceptable unto God” (Romans 12:1)



And no real saint of God lacks this knowledge.

No wonder it is said of them - the “*little flock*” that... they “*fear*” (Luke 12:32)

Yes! Fear, lest....they “*come short*” in some way! (Hebrews 4:1).

Yes! It is only through the “*hands*” (Merit) of Our Lord Jesus as **HIGH PRIEST**... and **ADVOCATE**, that thus the saints **are kept holy**... and their daily sacrifices in following the footsteps and example of the head in the “*narrow way*” is made **ACCEPTABLE** before God.

Now while this work of the Lord in these **TWO OFFICES** had been going on **ALL THROUGH THE AGE**,... this picture here is to **SPECIFICALLY highlight the conclusion** of that ongoing work in the **JUDGEMENT** that was manifest at the Second Coming as we read in -

**Luke 19:15**

“*And it came to pass, that when he was returned, having received the kingdom, then he commanded these servants to be called unto him, to whom he had given the money, that he might know how much every man had gained by trading.*”



Yes! A clear picture of how at His second coming... the **JUDGEMENT DAY** begins with **JUDGEMENT** of the church which is in fulfillment of the **Apostle Peter's** words in -

*I Peter 4:17 -*

*"...that judgement must begin at the house of God."*

Thus it is that when we read of this "*another angel*" in **verse 3** we read -

*"and another angel came"*

Ah! Yes! The "*came*" is the **SECOND COMING** after which this picture of **FINAL JUDGEMENTS** on the church is made manifest.


Here **we would like to point to the words** here in **Vs-3-**

**Vs - 3**

*"And another angel came and stood at the altar, having a golden censer; .... which was before the throne"*

Yes! we are to notice that this "*golden altar*" is mentioned as "*before the throne*".

This is **SYMBOLIC** language too **we are to bear in mind.**

 **What then is the meaning we are to understand by this?**

The "*golden altar*" is a picture of the church, in the privilege of offering up "*acceptable*" sacrifices to be part of the **SIN OFFERING** of the antitypical **ATONEMENT DAY!**



The “*golden altar*” in the **HOLY PLACE** of the typical Tabernacle, **represented this opportunity** that is **OPEN** right through the Gospel Age!



**But the matter here is different!**

Here the words- “*before the throne*” would represent the **ACTUAL JUDGEMENT** of that class as represented in “*the golden altar*” who partook of that opportunity and now at the **END** of the age - “*at that day*” (**2 Timothy 4:8**) enter into that time of JUDGEMENT.

We see **this concept again** in -

**Revelation 20:12**

“*And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God....*”

Yes! A picture of the **JUDGEMENT** of the Millennial Age.


Thus, we suggest that this picture in **Vs-3** is of the **FINAL JUDGEMENTS** of the Gospel Age, shown in the symbols of Tabernacle types!


➤ **This is the antitypical picture of what was typified in the type in the tabernacle of the atonement day sacrifices when the High Priest took “the Lord’s goat’s” blood (blood representing sacrificed life - Leviticus 17:11) into the “Most Holy” and poured it upon the mercy seat (Leviticus 16:15)**




Now **we are to recall** that the sacrifice of the “*Lord’s goat*” was to be “*for the people*” (*Leviticus 16:15*) which in **ANTITYPE** means that...



**Just as AFTER** the sacrifice of the “*bullock*”, which represented the sacrifice of Jesus, the blessing and opportunity for **SALVATION** came to “*himself*” and for “*his house*” representing the **CHURCH** of the gospel age...


 **so also AFTER** this sacrifice of the Lord's goat, the blessing and opportunity for **SALVATION** will come to... *"the people"* representing the **WHOLE WORLD OF MANKIND beginning with the Jews in Israel.**

 Additionally in the **ANTITYPE** we are to bear in mind that for the blessing upon the church to **BEGIN** on Pentecost day...

 it needed **first the RESURRECTION of Jesus** and **further...**  
 **a period of 40 days** on earth among the **disciples; and then**  
 on ascending to heaven and into the presence of God.,  
**a further 10 days.**

**Thus too in the ANTITYPE** for the blessings to **BEGIN** for the world with the **VISIBLE PHASE** of Gods kingdom established and manifested in Israel...

 it **will need first** the **FIRST RESURRECTION** of the whole Body and... **the glorification of all** the members in what is styled as *"the marriage of the Lamb"* (Rev 19:7),

 **and... a period of time** before the manifesting of **the blessings** of the **VISIBLE** kingdom.

Thus we are to look for a picture of the **FIRST RESURRECTION**, which we do find in the next verse of -

**Vs - 4**

*"And the smoke of the incense, which came with the prayers of the saints, ascended up before God out of the angel's hand."*

Yes! Notice the *"smoke"* which is **the outcome** of the burning *"incense"*. It represents **the manifestation** in the **LIVES** of the saints. It could be referred to as the **FRUITAGE OF THEIR CHARACTER**... but the scriptural word for this is found in...

 *Romans 8:29 - "...to be conformed to the image of his son."*

Oh! Yes! These sacrifices are **ACCEPTABLE** and **APPROVED** by God as we read that the smoke

 *“ascended up to God out of the angel’s hand”.*

This *“smoke”* thus also represents the **FIRST RESURRECTION** which **is the result** of the **ACCEPTANCE** by God of their sacrificial lives in their *“covenant by sacrifice”* which was unto death!


This we read very clearly in...

**Romans 6:5**

*“For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection:”*

 **Yes! It is so absolutely SIMPLE and CLEAR!**

Thus it was that in **April 1878**... and the direct result of this **JUDGEMENT WORK**... **began** the **FIRST RESURRECTION** (*I Thessalonians 4:16*)... and **it has been going on since then till now** (*I Thessalonians 4:17 / Revelation 14:13*) and **will soon be CONCLUDED** when the last members... or the *“heel”* members of the 144000 Body are put to death in bearing an important *“witness”* (as **typified by Stephen** at the close of the Jewish age)...

 ...which as *“a testimony”* (*Luke 21:13*) constitutes the *“seventh vial of the wrath of God”* (*Revelation 16:17-21*)

 **Another thought...** on the *“smoke”*!

We see another reference to the “smoke” in this same period of time - the church period of Laodicea - post **October 1874**, in -

**Revelation 15:8**

*“And the temple was filled with smoke from the glory of God, and from*

*his power; and no man was able to enter into the temple, till the seven plagues of the seven angels were fulfilled”*

Concerning this we read Bro.Russell’s comments (EBC)  
and from R 5822...

➤ “When the last of the “living stones” shall have been made ready in the first resurrection, the Temple shall be filled with his glory, and the meeting place between God and man throughout the Millennium” [ R5822 ]

Despite the general comments being to the contrary,... we strongly suggest that the “*temple*” here is the **GLORIFIED condition** of the church since **April 1878** and the commencement of...



the **FIRST RESURRECTION**

( I Thessalonians 4:16/ICorinthians 15:51,52 )  
**transforming** from the “*tabernacle*” ( “*in part*” flesh or spirit begotten) condition... to the “*temple*” (Spirit born) condition.

This process or **FIRST resurrection** is **COMPLETED** as mentioned here by those words -

*“till the seven plagues of the seven angels were fulfilled”*

The key words of “*were fulfilled*” refers to the **SEVENTH and last “plague”** or vial which leads to the **COMPLETION of the Body**, (*Revelation 16:17 - “It is done”*)

Yes! The **FULFILLING** or completion of all the plagues - and most importantly the **SEVENTH and LAST “plague”** leads to the completion of the Body of Christ, through what we see in prophecy as **PERSECUTION** and **MARTYRDOM!**

Here are the **PROPHETIC** scriptural references of the same....

- **Genesis 3:15** - The seed of the serpent and the seed of the woman - “*and you shall bruise his head*”

- **Matthew 14:6-11** - The **beheading of John the Baptist** in the prison at the request of Herodias and her daughter, through Herod and his authority.



- **Judges 16:28-30** - **Samson bringing down the two pillars** of the house causing the death of *“all the people that were therein”* and himself.

Thus it is, that we now **suggest the interpretation of the smoke**, which is described as -

👉 *“The temple was filled with smoke from the glory of God and from his power”*

.....to symbolise the **DIVINE NATURE** that has been filling “the temple” as the number of **144,000 reaches full completion** in the first resurrection.

And finally, the words *“no man was able to enter into”* would **refer to the MEDIATORIAL work** of the glorified Christ in the **“visible phase”** of the kingdom, which **CANNOT** begin **until** the **“temple”** is **“filled” and...** the seven plagues **“fulfilled”** !

Thus the fulfillment of **verses 3 and 4 had begun in April 1878** and... continues even to the present day and will soon reach its conclusion, **after which** will come... the events of **verse 5!**




Before we move to the final verse - **Vs-5**, let us consider what could be the **SIGNIFICANCE** of the *“golden censer”* in **Vs-3** which is again mentioned in Vs-5.

**To begin with, there are no comments found in the EBC !  
So we must prayerfully make our suggestion !**



Now we must keep in mind that this is symbolic language wherein this *“golden censer”* is a SYMBOL!

In literal terms the *“censer”* is a vessel used by the high priest (**Numbers 16:17/46**) and under priests to carry burning coal (*“fire”*) from the brazen altar into the “holy” to place upon the incense altar: It was a vessel used for the **PRIESTLY** rituals of sacrifice!

 **What could this signify here as a symbol?**

The high priest’s censer amongst the Jews was of **BRASS** (**Exodus 38:3**) but this is referred to as - *“a golden censer”*

 **This being SYMBOLIC, we suggest this could signify -**

**#1.** The priest here and his service was of a **HIGHER** and more EXCELLENT nature - the *“golden”* representing a **DIVINE SERVICE** rendered while being upon the heavenly divine nature. And so indeed is Jesus at His second coming when he undertakes this service.

**#2.** The words *“having a golden censer”* we would suggest signifies **the Lord’s possession of a DIVINE SERVICE** which

## THE STUDY OF THE SEVEN SEALS

these words imply! And that divine service he has received from God... is that of **JUDGEMENT**... as we read clearly in -

**Acts 17:31**

*“Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by [that] man whom he hath ordained; [whereof] he hath given assurance unto all [men], in that he hath raised him from the dead.”*

Thus, here in **Vs-3**... is shown that **JUDGEMENT** service *“at the house of God”* (As Apostle Paul tells us in **2 Timothy 4:8**)... and later in **Vs-5**... **towards the world** which we will now look into!

**Finally**, before we enter into the study of **Vs.5**, let us review these **4 verses** so far, that **CONCLUDE** the description of the *“seven seals”* in respect to these two *“mysteries”* - **CHRIST** and **ANTICHRIST** and observe something concerning the **FINAL JUDGEMENTS...**

| <b>ANTICHRIST</b>   | <b>CHRIST</b>   |
|---|---|
| <p><b>Revelation 8:1</b> - describes in <b>SYMBOLS</b> the <b>JUDGEMENT PROCESS</b> from the <b>DIVINE</b> perspective upon this system</p> <p>- <i>“the mystery of iniquity”</i></p> <p>- a <b>SYSTEM</b> of <b>SYSTEMS</b> from April 1878 till completion.</p> | <p><b>Revelation 8:3</b> - describes in <b>SYMBOLS</b> the <b>JUDGEMENT PROCESS</b> from the <b>DIVINE</b> perspective upon the Christ.</p> <p>- the <b>TRUE CHURCH</b> - from April 1878 till completion !</p> |
| <p><b>Revelation 8:2</b> - describes finally how these judgements bring about the <b>COMPLETE DESTRUCTION</b> of these systems (Revelation 19:20)</p>   | <p><b>Revelation 8:4</b> - describes finally how these individual judgements of the dead in Christ, followed by “we which are alive and remain”</p>   |

over a long period of time by the instrumentality of “the seven angels having the seven last plagues” (Revelation 15:1)

(I Thessalonians 4:16,17) over a long period of time, beginning in April 1878 leads to the completion of the **FIRST RESURRECTION** to the glorious **DIVINE NATURE** of each and all of the **1,44,000**

**Ah! What a Contrast!**

The **ANTICHRIST** goes into **FULL DESTRUCTION**... while the persecuted **CHRIST** goes into **FULL GLORIFICATION** and exaltation to immortality and the divine nature !!

**Finally let us now study the final verse -**


**Vs - 5**

*“And the angel took the censer, and filled it with fire of the altar, and cast it into the earth: and there were voices, and thunderings, and lightnings, and an earthquake.”*

 **What does all this mean?**

This represents how the “*angel*” - **Our Lord Jesus, after finishing** the work represented in **Vs 3 and 4**, takes up this task. It is very clear since **the same golden censer** is used for the work of **Vs 3 and 4** and that of **Vs 5** !! Thus this represents something that the Lord does **AFTER** completing the **JUDGEMENT and FIRST RESURRECTION** of the entire body of Christ !

 **Let us now see the symbols used here !**

 *“...And filled it with fire of the altar, and cast it into the earth....”*

Here the “*fire*” would symbolize **judgements** (*Isaiah 66:15-16*). And the “*earth*” would symbolize the four systems of earthly human rulership - **governmental, societal, religious** and **financial**. This represents **the final judgements of God upon these systems**, causing them to utterly collapse.



This will take place at the completion of the Body of Christ and more specifically **will be set off** by the pouring out of the “*seventh vial of God’s wrath.*”



**This will then lead to what we read next -**





“*...And there were voices, and thunders, and lightnings, and an earthquake.*”

This symbolizes **the process** that rapidly will lead to “*the great*

*time of trouble*". The detailed explanation of the "*voices*", "*thunderings*" and "*lightnings*" we cannot go into right now. But suffice it to say that these are **SYMBOLS** describing the **EFFECTS** of the pouring out of the "*seventh vial... of... God's wrath*" which will be the **FINAL witness message** of the last members of the **CHURCH** which will be a **worldwide witness through the television channels**.

**We come to this conclusion through** the detailed study of the "*seventh vial*" and more specifically **Revelation 16:17** and the words... "*poured out his vial into the air*" ... where this word '*air*' is...

 **Strong's # 109- 'aer'** which means '**atmospheric region**'... and has a **cross reference word...**  
**STRONG'S - Greek - # 5594 ... 'psucho'**

 **...which from the base of #109 - 'aer' means** "**inanimate breeze**" which... in turn, we suggest, refers to **that LAYER (Only one of FIVE)** of the atmosphere which **does NOT contain** life giving gases such as **oxygen** [humans & animals], **carbondioxide** [trees] and **nitrogen** [the ground]... but **contains electrically charged ions** - THE IONOSPHERE.

Yes! It is **the ionosphere** that is instrumental in the transmitting of television signals worldwide !  
And,... indeed, the '*seventh vial*' is a **WORLDWIDE WITNESS** given by the **LAST 'feet'** members - which **will be carried LIVE on the television channels worldwide** fulfilling to the utmost those 2 scriptures in **Matthew 24 :14** and **Revelation 10 :11**

**Thus these symbols in short [ summary] represent -**



- **“voices”** ➤ This represents the modern day channel of communication - **The MEDIA** - and principally the worldwide operating **TELEVISION NEWS** channels such as... **CNN, BBC, AL JAZEERA, NDTV, FOX NEWS, etc.** This witness message will be carried in all these channels as well as **regional language channels** as... what is now very commonly and regularly referred to as - **“BREAKING NEWS”**



- **“lightnings”** ➤ This represents that **following the revelation** through the **MEDIA** - the television channels,... this will lead to further **DISCUSSION, INVESTIGATION** and **ENLIGHTENMENT** further into the Truth of these matters via perhaps... **the panel discussions** and... **the opinions** of experts **which could PERHAPS include** certain members of the left behind ... **“great company”** class ! [ **2 Kings 2 :13,14** ]

This finds BASIS in **2 Kings 2 :13,14** .....where we see **ELISHA** ( Representative of the remaining great multitude class ! ) .....takes the **“mantle”** of **ELIJAH** ( Representative of the divine authority of being a servant of God) .....and goes to **the River Jordan** and **“smote the waters”** ( representing bearing a worldwide witness of divine truth )



Further ...in **Revelation 19:6** and **7** we read some DETAILS of the **WITNESS** of this *“voice of a great multitude”* ( Again representative of this remaining great multitude class after the church is taken away )..... which proclaims...

➤ **vs 6 ( Revelation 19 )** - They are seen saying - *“the Lord God omnipotent reigneth”*..... which would represent a WITNESS of the ONGOING **kingdom reign of Jesus Christ** since October 1874 - Yes ! The millennium ! (*“the thousand years”* reign of the scriptures ! )

➤ **vs 7** - Here this multitude say - *“the marriage of the Lamb is come”* ....which represents a WITNESS of the FULL **completion** of the '*Bride*' - the church CLASS of 144,000

Yes, finally we see the multitude CLASS proclaim.... in **Habakkuk 3 :17...** " *the flock shall be cut off from the fold* " (**Jeremiah 8: 20** )

Thus **THIS is the scriptural basis** ....for this last remaining '*great multitude*' class bearing WITNESS in public.....that could be a part of these "*lightnings* " here.

● *“thunders”* ➤ This represents that following the further **REVELATION** of **TRUTH** (*“lightning”*) it will lead to **ARGUMENTS** and **CONTROVERSIES** associated with much **NOISE** and **EMOTIONS** !


This will then lead to the *“earth quake”*

**It is enough to know** that the final... *“earthquake”* represents.. **the complete destruction and breakdown** of all these systems, which includes the utter destruction of

➡ Babylon **first**... as we read in -

**Revelation 16:19**

*“.....and great Babylon came in remembrance before God, to give unto her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of his wrath.”*

 Yes! This then leads to **the anarchistic end of the nations** (governments) **of the world** as we read in -

**Revelation 16:20**

*“And every island fled away, and the mountains were not found.”*

Yes! The symbol “*island*” represents **democracies (or even republics)** which represent **the majority of all governments** in the world. The “*mountains*” or **big nations** and their governments will utterly fall.

This **will be in fulfillment of the prophetic scripture** in -

**Jeremiah 30:11**

*“...though I make a full end of all nations whither I have scattered thee...”*

 **Yes! It is very clear !**

In the **climax of this collapse of all earthly governments**, the nations... will **attack Israel** in what is termed in the scriptures as “*Jacob’s trouble*” as we read in -

**Zechariah 14:2**

*“For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle.....”*

**This again we read in -**

**Jeremiah 30:7**

*“Alas! for that day is great, so that none is like it: it is even the time of Jacob’s trouble; but he shall be saved out of it.”*

Yes! Israel, we read in the scriptures, **will be delivered mightily and miraculously**, displaying before all nations... the **glory and might** of the great Almighty GOD, **LORD JEHOVAH (LORD YAHWEH in Israel) of Hosts !!**

Thus will then come suddenly... the “*stilling of the storm*” (Matthew 24:22) and **the grand earthly establishment of God’s glorious Kingdom in Israel** as typified in **Daniel 2nd chapter verse 35**, where

➤ **...the rock**

(representing God’s Kingdom under Christ in control yet “invisible” to the world in the first phase or “the day of His preparation”)

➤ **...having powdered the image of gold, silver, bronze and iron and clay, a wind..**

(represents the long period of the time of trouble begun in 1914)

➤ **...carries the chaff..**

(representing the weak and broken remains of human government and Satan’s agencies)

➤ **...away and the same rock from a violent pounding action now becomes stationary and begins to grow in size..**

(representing the “constructive” phase of the kingdom)

➤ **...signifying the establishment of the “visible” phase of the kingdom of God in Israel.**

It’s growing into “*a mountain*” signifies **the process** by which all nations will **then** seek “*the God of Jacob*” in Jerusalem as seen in -

**Isaiah 2:3**

*“And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.”*

....and in.....

**Zechariah 8:22,23**

*“Yea, many people and strong nations shall come to seek the LORD of hosts in Jerusalem, and to pray before the LORD.*

*Thus saith the LORD of hosts; In those days it shall come to pass, that ten men shall take hold out of all languages of the nations, even shall take hold of the skirt of him that is a Jew, saying, We will go with you: for we have heard that God is with you.”*



....and in.....

**Psalms 22:27,28**

*“All the ends of the world shall remember and turn unto the LORD: and all the kindreds of the nations shall worship before thee. For the kingdom is the LORD's: and he is the governor among the nations”*



.....and **voluntarily enter** into the  
**New Covenant arrangement.**

This happens at the end of “*Jacob’s trouble*” when God pours out His Spirit on Israel ( *Ezekiel 39:29,22,7 / Zechariah 12 :10* ) and... **all Israel led by the resurrected Ancient Worthies...** become the visible representatives and teachers of the  
**GLORIOUS KINGDOM OF GOD** as we read in -

**Isaiah 1:26**

*“And I will restore thy judges as at the first, and thy counsellors as at the*

*beginning: afterward thou shalt be called, The city of righteousness, the faithful city.*

➡ As we conclude our comments for this **Vs-5** of **Revelation 8**... and the seventh seal... for those wondering as to WHY **we have gone into some details and scriptures** of the situation post the destruction of the present order of things - the present *“earth”* that is passing away (**Revelation 21:1**)...

➡ ... it is just to show...

...that **AFTER** the judgement upon this *“earth”*

☞ - the present systems of **government / society / religious / financial** which will utterly collapse,

☞ **only to be replaced by a NEW earth...(Revelation 21:1)**

with the opening of the **VISIBLE** phase of the **KINGDOM OF GOD** in Israel, where beginning with the nation of Israel, all nations **will gradually understand, recognise and SEEK** to join and come under that kingdom arrangement... and the basis of entry... the **NEW COVENANT !!**

**In conclusion, as it was in the case of Daniel, what shall WE say?**

**Ah! Let us praise our God... as Daniel did in the Book of Daniel and **chapter 2 and Vs 20-23****

**(we are paraphrasing !)**

“Blessed be the name of God forever and ever: for wisdom and might are His and He by grace reveals to us of His mystery by His Spirit. Hallelujah”  
(Daniel 2 : 20 -23)

**And this concludes our STUDY of -**  
*“The Seven seals”!*





We will now enter  
next into the  
STUDY of ...



# THE SEVEN TRUMPETS

of the Book of Revelation

*"May the Lord add His Blessings to the understanding of  
His Holy Words"*

## AMEN



For any questions; for your views  
and to give your opinion please call



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