



Looking Ahead –

Aug. 27 – no class.

Sept. 3 – No class – Labor Day weekend.

We will resume our regular weekly schedule Sept. 10.

“Seal #5: Persecution”

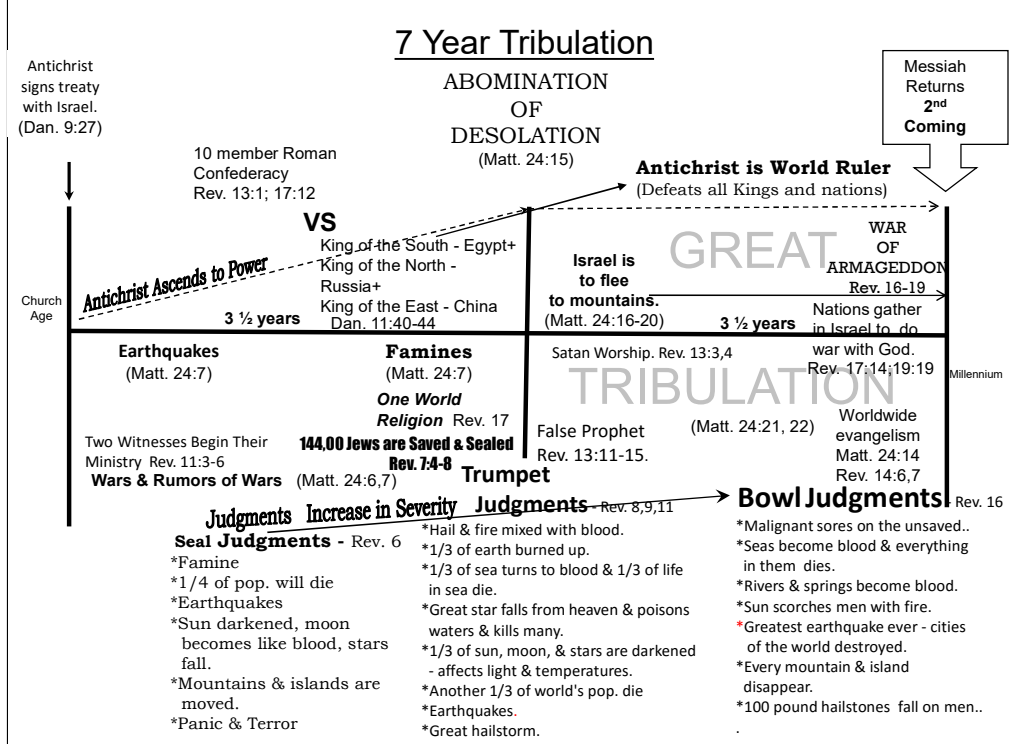
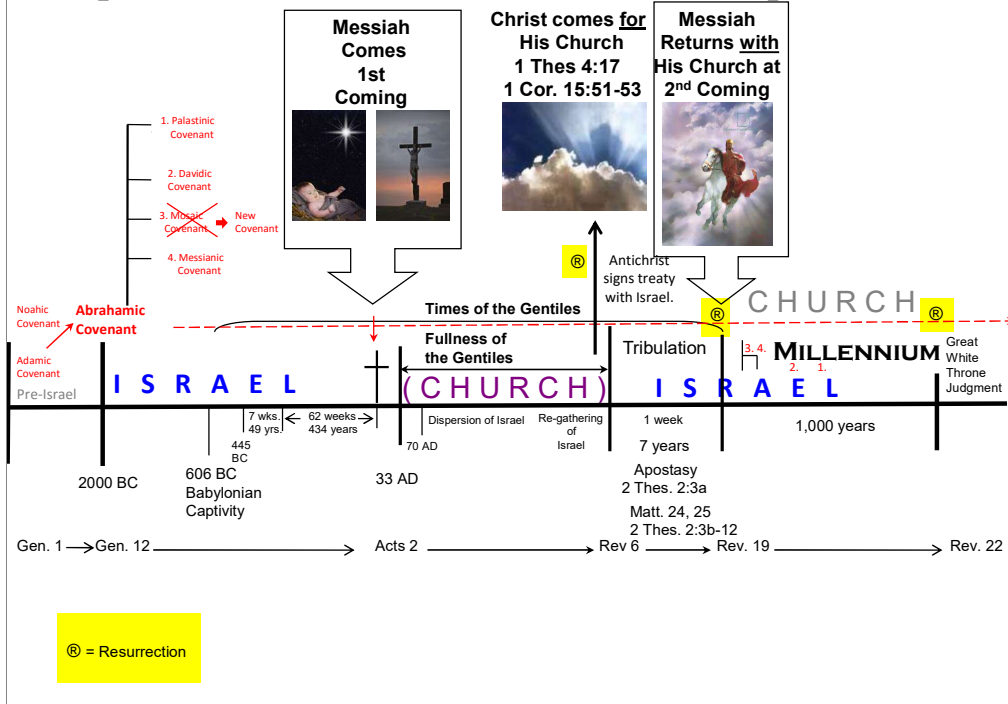
Rev. 6:9-11

August 20, 2017

Rom 11:2

“Behold then the kindness and severity of God”

Comprehensive Biblical View of Future Prophetic Events



	<u>Color</u>	<u>Object</u>	<u>Meaning</u>
Seal #1	White	Bow	Deception/Antichrist
Seal #2	Red	Sword	Blood/War
Seal #3	Black	Scales	Famine
Seal #4	Ashen/Pale	Authority	Death/Grave

Rev 6:9-11

9 When the Lamb broke the fifth seal, I saw underneath the altar the souls of those who had been slain because of the word of God, and because of the testimony which they had maintained;

10 and they cried out with a loud voice, saying, "How long, O Lord, holy and true, will You refrain from judging and avenging our blood on those who dwell on the earth?"

11 And there was given to each of them a white robe; and they were told that they should rest for a little while longer, until the number of their fellow servants and their brethren who were to be killed even as they had been, would be completed also.

Matt 24:4-15

- 4 And Jesus answered and said to them, "See to it that no one misleads you.
5 "For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and will mislead many.
6 "You will be hearing of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not frightened, for those things must take place, but that is not yet the end.
7 "For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, and in various places there will be famines and earthquakes.
8 "But all these things are merely the beginning of birth pangs.
9 "Then they will deliver you to tribulation, and will kill you, and you will be hated by all nations because of My name.
10 "At that time many will fall away and will betray one another and hate one another.
11 "Many false prophets will arise and will mislead many.
12 "Because lawlessness is increased, most people's love will grow cold.
13 "But the one who endures to the end, he will be saved.
14 "This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all the nations, and then the end will come.
15 "Therefore when you see the ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION which was spoken of through Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place (let the reader understand), 16 then those who are in Judea must flee to the mountains.

“When a child is to be born prior to the birth, there are a series of birth pains that get increasingly more intense and closer together as you get nearer to the great event of birth itself. And what our Lord is saying is there is a great event, namely the arrival not of a child but the arrival of the King, the Son of God. But as you get within seven years of that arrival, the birth pains are going to start to come, the earth is going to feel the pain. It will start out somewhat slowly and it will rapidly increase, the beginning of those birth pains will occur in the first three and a half years, and the furious pain will come in the second half and that our Lord designated as a time called the Great Tribulation. So the first half in Matthew 24:8 is called the beginning of birth pains, the second half in Matthew 24:21 is called The Great Tribulation, or the great time of trouble, pressure, and pain.”

- John MacArthur

Rev 6:9-11

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Matt 24:14

- 14 "This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all the nations, and then the end will come.

Matt 3:2

- 2 "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

John 1:29

- 29 "Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!

How do people become believers during the Tribulation?

*All believers, living on earth, were raptured before the Tribulation began.

1. *Bibles.*

Isa 40:8

8 The grass withers, the flower fades,
But the word of our God stands forever.

2. *Holy Spirit.*

John 16:8

8 "And He, when He comes, will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment;

3. *144,000 Jewish evangelists.*

Rev 7:4

4 And I heard the number of those who were sealed, one hundred and forty-four thousand sealed from every tribe of the sons of Israel:

4. *Two Witnesses*

Rev 11:3

3 "And I will grant authority to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy for twelve hundred and sixty days, clothed in sackcloth."

5. *An angel proclaims the gospel to the entire earth.*

Rev 14:6-7

6 And I saw another angel flying in midheaven, having an eternal gospel to preach to those who live on the earth, and to every nation and tribe and tongue and people;

7 and he said with a loud voice, "Fear God, and give Him glory, because the hour of His judgment has come; worship Him who made the heaven and the earth and sea and springs of waters."

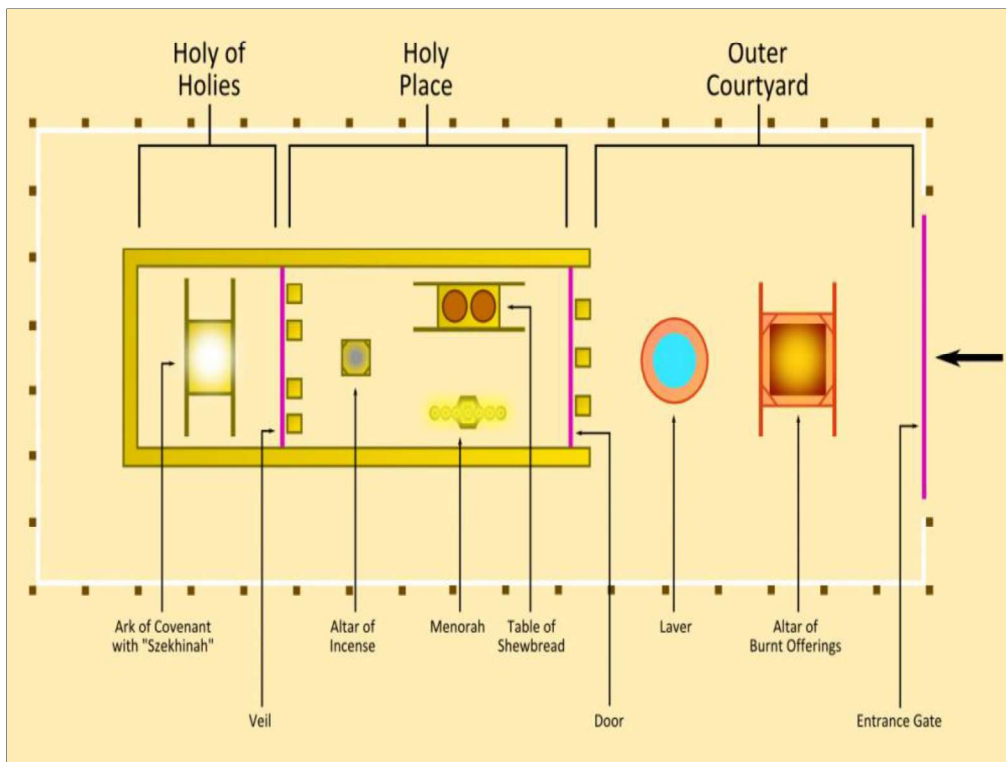
Rev 6:9-11

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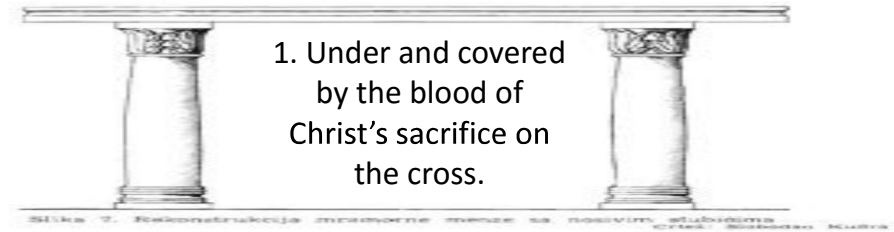
10 and they cried out with a loud voice, saying, "How long, O Lord, holy and true, will You refrain from judging and avenging our blood on those who dwell on the earth?"

11 And there was given to each of them a white robe; and they were told that they should rest for a little while longer, until the number of their fellow servants and their brethren who were to be killed even as they had been, would be completed also.





2. Prayer directly to God is now possible because of Christ's finished work on the cross.



So the picture in Rev. 6:9,10 are slain believers who are:

1. Under the blood of Christ.
2. Crying out to God in prayer.

Rev 6:9-11

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Persecution of believers will occur on a scale unparalleled in history -

1. It will involve every nation on earth.
 - Persecution will be legal/official.
 - It will be government-led.
 - It will be religiously-inspired .
 - If it involves the courts, guilty will be the only verdict.
 - Presidents, Prime Ministers, Kings, Queens, governors, mayors, the courts, police/law enforcement, all branches of the military, will be involved in it. Churches, synagogues, religious organizations will be involved in the persecution.

Rev 17:4-7

4 The woman was clothed in purple and scarlet, and adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls, having in her hand a gold cup full of abominations and of the unclean things of her immorality,

5 and on her forehead a name was written, a mystery, "BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH."

6 And I saw the woman drunk with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the witnesses of Jesus. When I saw her, I wondered greatly.

Rev 6:9-11

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The Word exposes and judges who men are, and what they do, and so in rebellion to a God that they may have to be accountable to, the world persecutes those who stand for the Word.

**The rejection you experience because of your testimony and witness for Christ is not a rejection of you, but of Christ and His Word.

Rev 1:1-2

1 The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave Him to show to His bond-servants, the things which must soon take place; and He sent and communicated it by His angel to His bond-servant John,
2 who testified to the word of God and to the testimony of Jesus Christ, even to all that he saw.

Rev 1:9

9 I, John, your brother and fellow partaker in the tribulation and kingdom and perseverance which are in Jesus, was on the island called Patmos because of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus.

Rev 12:11

11 "And they overcame him because of the blood of the Lamb and because of the word of their testimony, and they did not love their life even when faced with death.

Rev 20:4

4 Then I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was given to them. And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of their testimony of Jesus and because of the word of God, and those who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received the mark on their forehead and on their hand; and they came to life and reigned with Christ for a thousand years.

Rev 6:9-11

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Notice –

1. These are believers in heaven without their sin natures, and they are crying out for God's justice and righteousness to prevail on the earth. They are calling for God to take revenge against the wickedness of man for taking their lives.
2. "Lord" here is not κυριος but δεσποτης - an owner. This word is used to appeal to the Lord on behalf of those who He owns.

Rev 6:9-11

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Examples in Scripture of believers crying out for God's vengeance on the wicked:

1. Imprecatory Psalms – **5, 7, 35, 58, 59, 69, 70, 79, 83, 109, 129, 137, 139, 140, 144**

They are called "Imprecatory" because they are a call for God's wrath and judgment to fall on the enemy, the wicked and the evil.

Ps 79:10

10 Let there be known among the nations in our sight, Vengeance for the blood of Your servants which has been shed.

2. Luke 18:6-8

- 6 And the Lord said, "Hear what the unrighteous judge said;
7 now, will not God bring about justice for His elect who cry to Him day and night, and will He delay long over them?
8 "I tell you that He will bring about justice for them quickly.

3. Luke 21:20-23

- 20 "But when you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then recognize that her desolation is near.
21 "Then those who are in Judea must flee to the mountains, and those who are in the midst of the city must leave, and those who are in the country must not enter the city;
22 because these are days of vengeance, so that all things which are written will be fulfilled.

4. Rom 12:19-20

- 19 Never take your own revenge, beloved, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, "VENGEANCE IS MINE, I WILL REPAY," says the Lord.

Why is Vengeance a Good Thing?

1. Vengeance displays God's glory.
2. Vengeance displays God's justice.
3. Vengeance displays God's holiness.
4. Vengeance displays God's righteousness.

In the Tribulation, it's time for prayers of vengeance.

Dan 9:24

24 "Seventy weeks have been decreed for your people and your holy city, to finish the transgression (**to restrain sin**), to make an end of sin (**to break the power of sin**), to make atonement for iniquity (**the blood of Christ will cover sin**), to bring in everlasting righteousness (**standards of life**), to seal up vision and prophecy (**end of revelation**) and to anoint the most holy place (**build a Millennial Temple**).

Rev 6:9-11

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10 and they cried out with a loud voice, saying, "How long, O Lord, holy and true, will You refrain from judging and avenging our blood on those who dwell on the earth?"

11 And there was given to each of them a **white robe**; and they were told that they should rest for a little while longer, until the number of their fellow servants and their brethren who were to be killed even as they had been, would be **completed** also.

God's reply to their prayer:

1. They are given a white robe.

"white" – honor, dignity, righteousness, purity and holiness.

Rev 19:8

8 It was given to her to clothe herself in fine linen, bright and clean; for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints.

Rev 7:4,9,10,13,14,16

4 And I heard the number of those who were sealed, one hundred and forty-four thousand sealed from every tribe of the sons of Israel:

9 After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could count, from every nation and all tribes and peoples and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, and palm branches were in their hands;

10 and they cry out with a loud voice, saying,

"Salvation to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb."

13 Then one of the elders answered, saying to me, "These who are clothed in the white robes, who are they, and where have they come from?"

14 I said to him, "My lord, you know." And he said to me, "These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation, and they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

16 "They will hunger no longer, nor thirst anymore; nor will the sun beat down on them, nor any heat;

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2. They are asked to wait.

"In Myanmar, Christians are compelled at gunpoint to worship before a Buddhist shrine and robbed to provide moneys for erection of Buddhist temples. Where is God? In Indonesia, Christians are murdered with what appears to be legal sanction or even government complicity. Why is God silent? In Vietnam, Christians are imprisoned and the churches taxed inordinately, as is true for the Christians in China and in Cambodia. Why does God wait? In Saudi Arabia, the Church is severely restricted and Christians worship at risk of death since they are said to be insulting the prophet Mohammed. Why does God tolerate such injustice? In Nepal and in Pakistan and in Bangladesh, Christians are sentenced to death because they are Christians. Does God not care? In Somalia and in Ethiopia, Christian men are killed and Christian women are sold into slavery and prostitution. How long, O God? In Israel, Christians are discriminated against and Messianic Jews are denied citizenship because their faith is unpopular. Why, O God? In Greece and in Serbia and Russia, all Christians except the old line Orthodox Church are proscribed from open worship or practice of the Faith. Why does God delay judgement?"

- Mark Stark

"Why Does God Delay Judgment?"

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2. They are asked to wait.

- Shows He has a plan. These prayers God will use and answer in the Trumpet and Bowl judgments.
- Shows He has a purpose.
- That purpose involves the slaughter of a multitude of believers. The death of a believer is divinely appointed and never a waste.

Ps 116:15

5 Precious in the sight of the Lord

Is the death of His godly ones.

- There will be an end to the persecution when the number is complete. There's a predetermined number that are going to be killed.



**Civilla D. Martin
(1866-1948)**

Civilla Durfee Martin (1866-1948) was born in Nova Scotia and died in Atlanta, Georgia. Civilla was the daughter of James N. and Irene Harding Holden. She was a schoolteacher with modest musical training. She and her husband, Walter Stillman Martin (1862-1935), an evangelist, often wrote gospel songs for revival meetings. Walter Stillman Martin (1862-1935) was a Baptist minister who received his education at Harvard. This hymn that she wrote was composed while the Martins were spending several weeks as guests at the Practical Bible Training School at Lestershire, New York, where Mr. Martin was involved in helping the president of the school, John A. Davis, prepare a songbook. Mr. Martin was invited to preach at a church some distance from the Bible school. That Sunday morning, Mrs. Martin became suddenly ill, making it impossible for her to accompany her husband to his speaking engagement. Mr. Martin seriously considered cancelling his speaking assignment, since it would be needful for him to be gone from her for a considerable time. Just then, however, their young son spoke up and said, 'Oh Daddy, you don't have to stay home because of mother, God will take care of us'"



**Civilla D. Martin
(1866-1948)**

Walter Martin preached that Sunday and returned that evening to find his wife much improved. In fact, while he had been gone, she prepared a new text that was inspired by their son's statement just before her husband left that morning. Before retiring to bed that evening, Walter wrote the music to his wife's text. Civilla Martin describes the composition: "The hymn that I wrote was written on Sunday afternoon while my husband went to a preaching appointment. When he returned, I gave the words to him. He immediately sat down to his little Bilhorn organ and wrote the music. That evening, he and two of the teachers sang the completed song. It was then printed in the songbook he was compiling for the school." A text of Scripture that is at the foundation for this hymn is 1 Peter 5:7. "Casting all your cares on Him, for He cares for you." The hymn that she wrote . . .

GOD WILL TAKE CARE OF YOU

1. Be not dismayed whate'er
betide,
God will take care of you;
Beneath His wings of love abide,
God will take care of you.

Refrain

**God will take care of you,
Through every day, over all the
way;**

**He will take care of you,
God will take care of you.**

2. Through days of toil when heart
doth fail,
God will take care of you;
When dangers fierce your path
assail,
God will take care of you.

Refrain

3. All you may need He will
provide,
God will take care of you;
Nothing you ask will be denied,
God will take care of you.

Refrain

4. No matter what may be the test,
God will take care of you;
Lean, weary one, upon His breast,
God will take care of you.

Refrain



**Civilla D. Martin
(1866-1948)**

No doubt this hymn has encouraged hundreds of people over the years, in many varying situations. One well-known person to whom it meant a great deal was J.C. Penney of retail store fame. When the Great Depression of 1929 caused him a tremendous crisis in business, he developed serious anxiety and insomnia, as well as severe shingles, and eventually he was hospitalised. Drugs only worsened his condition, and his mental state deteriorated. He despaired of all hope, feeling that family and friends had deserted him. One morning he heard singing coming from the hospital chapel, and entered to listen to the music and the Scripture. He later said, "Suddenly something happened. I can't explain it. I can only call it a miracle. I felt as if I had been instantly lifted out of the darkness of a dungeon into warm, brilliant sunlight." From that day he ceased to worry, and called that event the most dramatic and glorious twenty minutes of his life. Did Civilla and Walter Martin ever learn of this profound effect of their song? Civilla lived from 1866 to 1948, so it is highly possible. How thrilled they would have been to have been so used by the Lord!