

# The Book Of Revelation

**UNDERSTOOD  
AT LAST!**

By Robert Ardis

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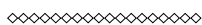
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# Preview:



**O**ver fifty years ago, a servant of Jesus Christ, Herbert W. Armstrong, presented to the public a 44-page booklet titled *The Book of Revelation...Unveiled at Last*. On the introductory page, Mr. Armstrong wrote:

The prophecies of the Book of REVELATION are revealed at last! The closed, sealed prophecies are opened. Here is a startling, eye-opening booklet vividly picturing the catastrophic events soon to bring the END OF THIS AGE!

His booklet did “peel back the curtain” and give the viewer a glimpse of the vitally important prophecies contained in the pages of the book of Revelation—but this peek at the future also produced as many questions as it gave answers. Questions such as:

1. **What and when is the Lord’s Day?**
2. **Are the Lord’s Day and the Day of the Lord’s Wrath the same event?**
3. **Who are the 144,000 Israelites who are “sealed” in Chapter 7?**
4. **Who are the 144,000 of Chapter 14, and are they in Heaven?**
5. **Who are those in Chapters 15 and 20 who overcome the beast and the false prophet, and are they actually in Heaven before the very throne of God?**
6. **When does the first trumpet angel sound?**
7. **When does the seventh angel sound his trumpet?**
8. **Where does the “marriage of the Lamb” take place?**
9. **Who performs the marriage of Christ to His wife?**
10. **Does the marriage take place in Heaven?**
11. **How long do the firstfruits remain with Christ “in the air” before returning with Him to take over the rule of planet Earth?**

12. Why does the King of Kings and Lord of Lords rule with “a rod of iron” during the Millennium?
13. Does everyone have access to God’s Spirit during the Millennium?
14. Why is Satan released from his prison at the end of the Millennium?
15. What is the ultimate fate of Satan and his demons?
16. What is the ultimate fate of Gog and Magog and the nations in the four quarters of the earth that attack Jerusalem headquarters after the Millennium?
17. When is the “lake of fire” ignited?
18. Does the Bible really teach a third resurrection?
19. How long is the Last Great Day?
20. Who is the “innumerable multitude” of Chapter 7?

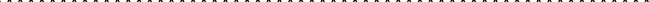
These are 20 questions that will be addressed in this booklet and answered either herein or in other Church of God’s Faithful (CGF) literature.

Fifty years ago, a portion of the book of Revelation was unveiled to Herbert Armstrong, but a half century later—TODAY—more understanding has been revealed, as will be seen in the pages of this book, for the TIME IS AT HAND!

It is also revealed that conditions nationally and worldwide will become more and more severe. The world is teetering on the rim of the greatest time of trouble ever in man’s history. But God has a WORK that will be done—the greatest WORK of GOD in New Testament times. I hope and pray that the Living Christ will make YOU a part of His WORK!

Therefore, whoever you are, whether former member of the Worldwide Church of God (WCG), or second or third generation relative of old-time members of the WCG, or someone who has never heard of the WCG or Herbert W. Armstrong, if God has opened your spiritual eyes, *you will now be able to UNDERSTAND the BOOK of REVELATION—and God’s plan for you!*

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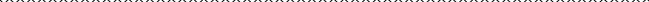
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## Foreword



In Chapter 12 of the book of Revelation, verse 9 is a warning statement given by Jesus Christ for any person considering a study of the Holy Bible:

**And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.**

Ask yourself: “Do I really believe that statement, that Satan has deceived the *entire* WORLD?” There are many people on this earth who sincerely believe that there is no such being as Satan the Devil. Nevertheless, Jesus Christ certainly *knows* Satan is very real. Jesus declares in Luke 10:18: “...I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven.” Do you believe Jesus Christ?

Thus, if Satan has been cast down to the earth, in WHAT WAYS has the world been deceived? A major deception is in education. Satan has successfully turned the minds of many (perhaps most) educators to the belief that an almighty creator God does not exist. The theory of evolution has been foisted upon a gullible world, and is believed and taught by the foremost universities and colleges of the western world! The theory of evolution permeates every vestige of society today!

But as we proceed in this writing, we will show from the Word

of God that Satan's greatest coup is that the entire WORLD has been deceived in its RELIGIOUS BELIEFS! Please do not be offended by this statement, but follow along as we explore this truth in the Word of God.

There are over ONE BILLION adherents to the ISLAMIC faith! Tragically, we have seen that some of those believers were so sincere in their religious belief that they would hijack jet-liners and fly them into the World Trade Center buildings, the Pentagon, and the Pennsylvania countryside, killing themselves and all the innocent passengers aboard, plus nearly 3,000 people in the attacked buildings. Here in the USA, we have no doubt that the hijackers were greatly deceived religious fanatics! And how about Islam as a whole—do you believe it is God's true religion or a huge *false* religion?

The largest organization of all the "Christian" religions is Roman Catholicism. They, too, number over ONE BILLION members. Also consider the approximately 500 MILLION Protestants who have left the "old mother Church" in "protest" because they disagreed with Roman Catholic doctrine. They have split and splintered into hundreds of fussing and fighting churches: Episcopalian, Lutheran, Methodist, Presbyterian, Baptist, Church of Christ, Nazarene, Holiness, Pentecostal, Jehovah's Witnesses, Seventh-day Adventist, and on and on and on, each disagreeing with the others on one issue or another. Have they ALL been deceived?

Can they ALL be right—or are they ALL wrong? Are you a member of one of these churches? Have you proven that YOUR church is THE true Church?

Jesus Christ stated that He would build His Church (Matt. 16:18). He most assuredly did not say He would build His *CHURCHES*—He said He would build His *CHURCH*—one Church! He also declares through the apostle Paul in I Corinthians 1:10:

**Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.**

It will be seen as we proceed that one of Satan's tactics is to cause division and disagreements to reap his deception.

Do you think it is possible for you, yourself, to be deceived? Are you DECEIVED NOW? If you are deceived, you probably would not



know it, would you?

Satan has deceived the world, but as we explore the book of Revelation, it will be shown that God Almighty has everything under control in His great plan for humanity. How much do you know about God's fantastic plan? Do you realize that He has created mankind to become exactly like His Son, Jesus Christ—and that you can actually be born into the family of God? Romans 8:28-29 is only one of many scriptures that divulge God's plan for those He has called:

**And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose. For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.**

Let me add two other sections of Holy Scripture that should intensify the thankfulness we should feel for just being able to study the Word of God and His righteous plan:

**But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept. For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. But every man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming (I Cor. 15:20-23).**

**And I looked, and, lo, a Lamb stood on the mount Sion, and with him an hundred forty and four thousand, having his Father's name written in their foreheads. These are they which follow the Lamb whithersoever he goeth...These were redeemed from among men, being the firstfruits unto God and to the Lamb (Rev. 14:1 and part of verse 4).**

Have you ever heard this as part of the plan of God? Well, there is much more—we have just started!

God has called, from all humanity since the creation of Adam, only 144,000 firstfruits! Realizing that this number is infinitesimal compared to the billions who have lived and died on planet Earth makes this calling the most exclusive of all invitations—and truly to be treasured.

In His plan, God had Jesus Christ, His mighty Son, build His one true Church, which was to be small and persecuted throughout history—

but the *gates of hell would not prevail against it* (Matt. 16:18).

## **The True Gospel Replaced**

We are almost ready to go to the book of Revelation; but first, some background information should be given for those of you who are not familiar with the work of Herbert W. Armstrong and the true Church of Jesus Christ—the Worldwide Church of God (WCG).

Jesus Christ absolutely did build His one true Church, and He, Himself, first taught the true Gospel—the Gospel of the Kingdom of God (Mk. 1:14)! But here is a little known fact, although it is plainly declared in the Bible: Within 100 years after Jesus Christ's death and resurrection, the true Gospel was *replaced* by a false gospel! The true Church continued down through history as a small, persecuted and despised Church struggling against Satan, his religion, and the world.

But finally, the time came in this dark and deceived world for the true Gospel to be restored, and Christ used Mr. Armstrong (and the WCG) as His human instrument to proclaim the true Gospel to the world. Over a period of 55 years, the Gospel of the Kingdom of God was proclaimed in power to all the nations on earth *as a witness*. Here, briefly, is the way it was done...

## **History Written and Prophecy Fulfilled**

The bleak times of the late 1920's and early 1930's were truly a period of great depression! Those were the early days of hopelessness due to the collapse of the national and world financial systems. The failure of the money markets brought most businesses and industries to a grinding halt, thus producing over 20% unemployment of the work force of the United States.

The farming industry also suffered! Landowners watched their formerly rich prairie lands reduced to an environmental disaster. The prairie skies were darkened day after day by wind-driven rolling clouds of dust from thousands of tons of rich topsoil being blown away, due to improper plowing, overworking of the soil, and drought.

During those grave dark days, God commissioned Herbert Armstrong to bring truth to this spiritually darkened and troubled world. The Gospel of the Kingdom of God, originally brought by Jesus Christ in His earthly ministry (Mk. 1:14), had become lost to all but a tiny few, within one hundred years after His death and resurrection!

Incredibly, the wonderful true Gospel message brought by the Son of God was cast aside and changed to a counterfeit message *about* a false Jesus. Our Lord had warned that we must “**take heed that no man deceive you, for many shall come in my name, saying I am Christ, and shall deceive many**” (Matt. 24:3-5). That statement was already tragically fulfilled in the apostle Paul’s day, as he wrote in Galatians 1:6-9:

**I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel: Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ. But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed.**

What Paul wrote about was just the beginning! The perversion of the true Gospel quickly spread throughout the Church. The solemn Passover service was changed to the pagan Easter! Talk about deception! What do chocolate rabbits and Easter eggs have to do with the Resurrection of the Savior of the world? The day of the Sun—Sunday—was substituted for the Holy Sabbath Day! Why was the Sabbath Day changed? Some very deceived church leaders teach that Jesus was crucified on Friday and resurrected on Sunday. Therefore, they keep Sunday instead of the holy seventh day! But have you ever tried to count three whole days and three whole nights between Friday and Sunday? Jesus said the only “sign” He would give that He was the Messiah was the “sign of Jonah.” Just as Jonah was in the great fish’s belly for three days and three nights, Jesus would be three days and three nights in the grave (Matt. 12:38-40).

Jesus’ name and the true Gospel were gradually blended with false doctrine from the pagan world. Why is “Christmas” celebrated on the 25th day of December, the pagan day representing the re-birth of the new SUN? That’s SUN, not SON! Appropriating the name of Jesus Christ to worldly holidays, watering down the Commandments of God, doing away with the Good News Jesus brought from God and replacing the message with a “gospel” about “another Jesus” (2 Cor. 11:4), became a part of Satan’s religious system, “Mystery Babylon” (Rev. 17:5). That evil system was soon considered by a deceived world as true “Christianity”—believe it or not!

In February of 1934, Herbert W. Armstrong began preaching the Gospel of the Kingdom of God on a tiny, 100-watt radio station,

KORE, in Eugene, Oregon. He also began writing powerful articles and copying them into his hand-powered, mimeographed “magazine,” called *The Plain Truth*. With only a handful of poor Church members, those were difficult days in the 1930’s and 40’s. And war was looming!

Adolf Hitler and Benito Mussolini had created a nationalistic fervor in Germany and Italy that eventually plunged the European continent, and then the entire world, into World War II.

During those days, Mr. Armstrong recognized from his studies in the book of Revelation that Nazi-dominated Europe was the immergence of the “sixth head” of the dreaded beast power of Revelation 17. By late 1944, it became apparent to him that “the sixth head” would receive “a deadly wound” and would be defeated by the combined allied armies of the free world!

The understanding of Revelation 17:10 was unveiled to Mr. Armstrong at the precise time when the prophecy was being fulfilled. **“And there are seven kings: five are fallen, and one is, and the other is not yet come; and when he cometh, he must continue a short space.”** (To understand this key scripture, study the chart on pages 48-49, which we have cited from Mr. Herbert Armstrong’s article in the June, 1952, *The Plain Truth* magazine, entitled, Who Is The “BEAST”?)

God’s apostle began proclaiming that, although Europe was devastated and Germany was being bombed into oblivion, Europe, dominated by the Roman Catholic Church, would rise again as the final resurrection of the “Holy” Roman Empire! Nazism was not eradicated—it went underground! Herbert Armstrong was ridiculed and laughed to scorn because of his message! World leaders in politics and the military declared that a united Europe would never rise again.

But, look at Europe today, 65 years later—united Europe is a reality, and the world is more deceived than ever before—just as the book of Revelation reveals (Rev. 12:9). Satan continues to deceive through his false religious system.

In retrospect, the deception can be seen to have infiltrated the Church by the end of the first century (see II Peter 2:1-3; Jude: 4; and III John 9-10)! This same worldwide deception has intensified to the state of affairs seen in the many different religions of today! Revelation 17:3-5 pictures the powerful and evil system of false “Christianity” through which Satan will force the world to worship him:

**So he carried me away in the spirit into the wilderness:  
and I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet coloured beast, full of**

**names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns. And the woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet colour, and decked with gold and precious stones and pearls, having a golden cup in her hand full of abominations and filthiness of her fornication: And upon her forehead was a name written, MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.**

### **The Mystery Revealed**

The explanation of this vision is given to the apostle John by an angel, as verse 7 explains: **“And the angel said unto me, Wherefore didst thou marvel? I will tell thee the mystery of the woman, and of the beast that carrieth her, which hath the seven heads and ten horns.”** Verse 9 states: **“And here is the mind which hath wisdom. The seven heads are seven mountains, on which the woman sitteth.”** The city of Rome sits astride seven mountains! Then verse 18 declares: **“And the woman which thou sawest is that great city, which reigneth over the kings of the earth.”**

Certainly, it should be recognized that Vatican City, in the center of Rome, aptly applies here. The Roman Catholic popes have at critical times in history ruled over the “kings of the earth”—and the great false prophet is prophesied to do so once again. These verses provide a partial description of the “BEAST” system that is evolving at this moment in Europe and will immerse the world in such great tribulation that if God did not soon intervene, there would be “no flesh saved (alive)” (Matt. 24:22 *Moffat*)!

(The mystery of “the two goats” of Leviticus 16, which ties directly into Satan’s evil system, is presented in our book, *Set Apart by Truth* on pages 97-111. It is recommended that the reader request a copy of the book or download it from [www.setapartbytruth.org](http://www.setapartbytruth.org).)

Revelation 13:4 adds more to the frightening picture of what is to come: **“And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, Who is like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him?”**

What a revealing question: **“Who is able to make war with him?”** What will happen to make the entire world stand in awe of the powerful, nuclear-powered united Europe, and make such a fearful statement? The BEAST will dominate the world for 42 months and cause the Great

Tribulation—but BEFORE the 42 months begin, another horrendous event will have occurred! This utterly incredible action will so shock the entire world that it will terrify the inhabitants of planet Earth and bring on the Great Tribulation. This event will also be fully explained a little later.

But at this point, the description of the great whore, Mystery Babylon, the mother of harlots and the abominations of the earth clearly identifies mother Rome and her Protestant daughters as the religious presence, in the near future, of the TEN-NATION United States of Europe. Europe will be united under one super dictator, the BEAST! With his evil companion, the “false prophet” (Rev. 16:13), the beast will unite Europe religiously, militarily, and politically, and will be in power for 42 months.

Nevertheless, God’s plan is proceeding right on schedule.

### For a Witness to ALL Nations

Eighty years ago, when spiritual darkness had descended over the entire earth, Christ brought His servant, Herbert Armstrong onto the world scene as a vital step in the plan of God. The Gospel went to the whole world as a witness to all nations during some very tumultuous times. Matthew 24:14 was prophesied to be fulfilled: “**And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.**” And by the time Mr. Armstrong died in 1986, it had been done.

After 55 long years, *the successful conclusion* of proclaiming the true Gospel was accomplished. *The spiritual Temple was completed.* The 144,000 firstfruits had been called! *All of the building blocks* were called and placed in position within the Temple (I Pet. 2:5 and Eph. 2:20-22). When Mr. Armstrong died, Satan attacked the Church with full fury.

Today, in this 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary year of Mr. Armstrong’s death, the spiritual Temple is in shambles from Satan’s attack. This is a type of the mother Church and her protesting daughters all over again; but this time, Satan has attacked and divided the *true* Church. It is split and splintered into 300+ divided and contentious churches. Only a small remnant remains as the one and only true Church, the CGF.

Satan has done a job! Those divided churches are pictured as the ten virgins in the parable in Matthew 25. Five of the virgins are classed as being wise and the other five as foolish—and they are all fast asleep

as of this writing in July, 2010.

Matthew 22:1-14 and Luke 14:16-24 contain two additional parables that describe the time of the *Midnight Cry*, when Christ is having His servants command the Church to come to the “first festivities” of the “wedding supper.” However, many of those given this most glorious and exclusive invitation do not appreciate their calling. They foolishly make excuses to not come!

Understand how serious the subject of these parables is. Christ is very angry! Here are *called and chosen* brethren, begotten by the Spirit of God to become firstfruits, who have stood in the light of truth, but have not held fast nor loved and appreciated the truth as they should. As these 25 years have passed, the *unwise virgins* are represented in the parables as those who take their eyes off of the goal of the Kingdom of God. Involvement with the world, incredibly, becomes more important to them than their fantastic calling.

Satan is able to distract these begotten brethren because they lack a long-lasting love for the truth; thus, they lose interest in their God-given invitation to become firstfruits in the family of God! They make excuses, but, in reality, they throw away their “crowns” (Rev. 3:11). Consequently, they must be REPLACED—replaced by those of the “streets and lanes of the city” (Lk. 14:21) or even by those from “the highways and hedges” (Lk. 14:23). Who these people are will be explained a little later.

God will have an exact number—no more and no less—of firstfruits, as stated plainly in the Word of God. Revelation 14:1-5 tells us that exact number who will become Spirit-born firstfruits at the sound of the last trumpet. Read these wonderful words again:

**And I looked, and, lo, a Lamb stood on the mount Sion, and with him an hundred forty and four thousand, having his Father’s name written in their foreheads. And I heard a voice from heaven, as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of a great thunder: and I heard the voice of harpers harping with their harps: And they sung as it were a new song before the throne, and before the four beasts, and the elders: and no man could learn that song but the hundred and forty and four thousand, which were redeemed from the earth. These are they which were not defiled with women; for they are virgins. These are they which follow the Lamb whithersoever he goeth. These were redeemed from among**

**men, being the firstfruits unto God and to the Lamb. And in their mouth was found no guile: for they are without fault before the throne of God.**

What an astonishing TRUTH! What a fantastic CALLING! What a marvelous INVITATION! To foolishly cast aside this invitation is tantamount to spitting in God's face! Yet some who do not treasure this most wonderful and exclusive summons to be a part of the 144,000 FIRSTFRUITS in the God family will lose their opportunity. Without vision, people certainly will perish (Prov. 29:18)!

Remember, the Gospel has already been proclaimed to the world, and the world is NOT being called at this time! Nevertheless, for anyone chosen as a "lively stone" (I Pet. 2:5), or even as a "pillar" (Rev. 3:12) member, who loses interest in God's magnificent plan, Luke 14:24 thunders out the warning: **"For I say unto you, that none of those men which were bidden shall taste of my supper."** They will be REPLACED!

In my opinion, those from the "streets and lanes of the city" represent any who have been exposed to the work of God. Perhaps they are second or third generation children of WCG members, or former co-workers, or subscribers to the *Plain Truth* magazine, or students of the *Ambassador College Bible Correspondence Course*. They could be some of the many thousands who heard or saw Mr. Armstrong on radio or television. With prior knowledge of the work of God, they would be candidates for replacements for those who carelessly "throw away their crowns." Are you one of these?

Those from the "highways and hedges" are a very select group that God has carefully observed and reserved for the special calling as replacements. God has them "waiting in the wings." Perhaps this is you!

Satan the Devil has deceived the world! Maybe he has deceived you, but as this booklet is presented, whoever you are, God Almighty has a very urgent message for you that can be UNDERSTOOD at LAST!

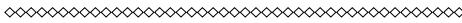


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## Chapter One:

# The Day of the Lord



**T**he Holy Bible IS the written Word of God! Jesus Christ IS the Living Word of God! And the mysterious book of Revelation, the last book in the Bible, is at last opened for our understanding. Comprehending the fantastic prophetic visions given in the book of Revelation is a wonderful gift, a blessing from God to those who seek to know what lies ahead in the story flow of this amazing document.

II Peter 3:18 tells us that we should “...**grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ...**” We must deeply desire to truly “grow in the knowledge”—the understanding of the Holy Bible—as revealed by our Lord and Savior, the Living Word of God. That certainly applies to the book of Revelation, too.

Verses 1, 10, and 11 of the first chapter of Revelation inform the reader of the definite fact that understanding comes through Jesus Christ, but at the appointed time for the particular truth to be revealed:

**The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him, to shew unto his servants things which must shortly come to pass; and he sent and signified it by his angel unto his servant John... [Therefore the apostle John exclaims:] I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet, Saying, I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last: and, What thou seest, write in a book, and send it unto the seven churches which are in Asia; unto**

**Ephesus, and unto Smyrna, and unto Pergamos, and unto Thyatira, and unto Sardis, and unto Philadelphia, and unto Laodicea.**

The book of Revelation is filled with descriptions of heavenly scenes, even in the very throne room of the Sovereign Ruler of the universe. There are images of strange spirit “creatures” and angelic beings that our human eyes have never beheld. And much is described symbolically which must be interpreted only by other plain scriptures to arrive at the correct meaning of the symbols. For example, in Chapter 1, verse 12, “seven golden candlesticks” are seen by John, and in verse 16, “seven stars” are observed in the right hand of the Living Christ.

It is not for us to interpret what these symbols represent, but to allow Christ to explain exactly what they are. Verse 20 gives the explanation:

**The mystery of the seven stars which thou sawest in my right hand, and the seven golden candlesticks. The seven stars ARE the angels of the seven churches: and the seven candlesticks which thou sawest ARE the seven churches.**

Therefore, as we explore this book that contains history written in advance, an amazing series of earth-shaking events are shown in a step-by-step chronological order, and we must allow what is presented in symbolism to be interpreted by other scriptures. In Chapters 2 and 3, the awe-inspiring plan of God Almighty begins to unfold as the apostle John describes the past history (the things he had seen) of the seven eras of God’s Church beginning in 31 AD, and then brings us to our present time and into the critical end-time prophetic fulfillment of the final TWO Churches (candlesticks).

To prove this point, let us jump ahead in the story and go all the way to Chapter 11, verses 2-3, where two powerful servants of Christ are brought on the world scene. The description of the TWO WITNESSES verifies that the last TWO Churches are in existence at the critical time of the VISIBLE return of Jesus Christ:

**And I will give power unto my two witnesses, and they shall prophesy a thousand two hundred and threescore days, clothed in sackcloth. These are the two olive trees, and the two candlesticks standing before the God of the earth.**

They are two prophets of God (v.10) who represent two churches—the final two Churches—Philadelphia and Laodicea.

In Chapters 4 and 5, John paints an astonishing picture of events that have recently occurred in Heaven (the things that are), but then swiftly proceeds into Chapter 6 and the opening of the seven seals (the future). The seals locked up understanding of the remainder of the book until this present time! As we begin this study, it is very important to realize that UNDERSTANDING of these future events would not be possible until the TIME when Christ opens the seals!

God's end-time apostle, Herbert Armstrong, had some portions of Revelation unveiled to him that have prepared the way for us to understand more at this time. But as Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God, begins to rip open the seals, important glimpses of the future are given—from the incredible days just ahead, involving the GREATEST WORK OF GOD EVER IN NEW TESTAMENT TIMES, on to the Millennium and on and on.

The Millennium is the 1000-year righteous reign of Jesus Christ in the WORLD TOMORROW. It is wonderful news. After the Millennium comes the Second Resurrection, known as the Last Great Day. All who have ever lived (“the rest of the dead;” see Rev.20:5) but have not had their opportunity for salvation will be raised to physical life during this time and given their chance to become part of the God family. Finally, the book of Revelation shows the successful completion of the PLAN OF GOD and the glorious coming of God the Father to make Earth His headquarters!

As the seals are ripped open, it is all laid out and ready for us to explore step-by-step, chapter by chapter.

### **Removing Misconceptions**

But first, we must have removed from our minds a preconceived idea that has prevented true understanding of the progression of events in this remarkable book of Revelation.

As already seen, the Revelation is given by God, Himself, to the Head of the Church, Jesus Christ, who then inspired the aged apostle John to record the vision for this precise time in history.

**Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand** (Rev. 1:3).

The writing of the book of Revelation was done while John was in exile on the Isle of Patmos during the mid-nineties of the first century

AD. But 1900 years ago in the mid-nineties is not the “*time at hand*” which Christ is having John describe! Nor is it the time of Herbert W. Armstrong’s ministry! Verse 10 is a key verse that identifies the very important TIME on which all the events in the entire book are focused— and it is actually the THEME of the book of Revelation! John exclaims: “**I was in the Spirit on the Lord’s Day**”...! Here in this one phrase is the THEME of the book.

The apostle John was projected in Spirit into the TIME of the “Lord’s Day,” or as more commonly stated throughout the Bible, “***the Day of the Lord***” that is written about in many prophecies in the Old and New Testaments. It is the TIME when God once again begins to intervene in the affairs of man. The *Lord’s Day* has nothing to do with Sunday or any day of the week. It is the TIME when man’s 6000 years of allotted time of going his own rebellious way has ended and the LORD’S DAY—ETERNITY—has begun once again!

Did you know of Herbert W. Armstrong before reading about him in this booklet? He was raised up as an instrument in the hand of Jesus Christ to begin the sixth era of the Church of God—Philadelphia (Rev. 3:7). The CGF believes he was the fulfillment of both the end-time Elijah (Mal. 4:5-6) and the end-time Zerubbabel (Zech. 4:9)! Herbert Armstrong taught the Church time and time again that when our forefather Adam sinned, he and his wife, Eve, were forced to leave the paradise of Eden. From the time of Adam’s sin, 6000 years were conferred upon their progeny to go their own way, subject to the Devil’s evil influence (see Gen. 3 and Mr. Armstrong’s final book, *Mystery of the Ages*—pages 120-121 paperback edition).

In God’s mercy, John is told to:

**Write the things which thou hast seen [history], and the things which are [things occurring now in the Day of the Lord], and the things which shall be hereafter [on and on into the future in the Day of the Lord] (v. 19).**

Thus, John is writing from the time period of the Day of the Lord, immediately *prior* to the opening of the seven seals which cover the entire book.

Please take careful note and understand that the *Day of the Lord* begins BEFORE any of the seven seals are opened. The idea of the *Day of the Lord* beginning AFTER two and a half years of the Great Tribulation, and AFTER the heavenly signs of the sixth seal, has been

a preconceived idea—a misconception—in our minds. Mr. Armstrong did not understand the fact that the *Day of the Lord* and the *Day of the Lord's Wrath* are TWO DIFFERENT EVENTS! Keep this essential statement in mind as we proceed.

Revelation 1:10 shows specifically that John is writing in the period of the *Day of the Lord*, BEFORE any of the *seven seals* are opened! The *DAY OF THE LORD'S WRATH* is the *seventh seal* that lasts only one year. This will be explained by the Word shortly.

### **The Day of the Lord**

The book of Revelation begins with John in vision in the *Day of the Lord*. The opening of the seven seals does not begin until Chapter SIX! And only Jesus Christ can open the seals and give *understanding* of the *things that have been seen, the things that are, and the things that shall be hereafter*.

Why have we thought that the *Day of the Lord* begins so much later than it actually does? Simply because we assumed the Day of the Lord and the Day of the Lord's Wrath were one and the same—but it will be proven that they are NOT the same.

### **Paul's and Peter's Writings**

The apostles Paul and Peter also write about the *Day of the Lord*! “**For yourselves know perfectly that the Day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night**” (I Thess. 5:2).

**But the Day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which** [notice the words, “in the which”] **the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up** (II Pet. 3:10).

It is obvious by the plain statements of both of these servants of Christ that the *Day of the Lord* will come secretly and suddenly (mankind being unaware) like “a thief in the night”! Peter also explains that when the *Day of the Lord* comes it will continue on and on forever, ***in the which*** all of the other prophesied events will happen! As already stated, the Great Tribulation, the one-year period of the Day of the Lord's Wrath, the Millennium, and the Last Great Day all will occur during the Day of the Lord *before* God the Father makes the earth His universe headquarters.

The apostles write in their own style the warning words of Jesus that He gave in His Olivet Prophecy:

**For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be** (Matt. 24:38-39).

Notice that conditions during the evil days of the faithful patriarch Noah, before the flood came, were a time of usual, routine activity—eating, drinking, marrying, giving in marriage—all things going along normally for that society! Then the flood burst upon them suddenly, unexpectedly—*as a thief in the night!*

Peter and Paul were inspired to write the scriptures above that describe the *Day of the Lord* coming as a “thief in the night”—no one expecting it to come! WHY? Why did we think the *Day of the Lord* would come AFTER the Great Tribulation, even though Revelation 1:10 states emphatically that John is “in the LORD’S DAY”? The reason is simple—Mr. Armstrong and the former Worldwide Church of God believed and taught it. But that teaching was a mistake—a misconception.

The TRUTH of the Day of the Lord and the Day of the Lord’s Wrath being TWO different events was NOT revealed fifty years ago—it was NOT God’s TIME to reveal it. It was NOT TIME for the TRUTH of the *Day of the Lord* to be understood UNTIL the precise TIME God determined for it to “*come as a thief in the night*”—and for *Jesus Christ to come secretly and suddenly to His Temple!*

Thus we believed a fallacy—a misconception! But NOW we know!

### **The VISIBLE Coming**

Now, observe what the apostle John is inspired to write in Revelation 1:7: “**Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him...**”!

Every eye shall see Him! This is stated so very plainly, so openly and honestly, but it appears to be contradictory to Peter’s and Paul’s declarations of the Day of the Lord coming as “a thief in the night.” When our Lord Jesus Christ VISIBLY returns, ALL eyes WILL see Him! That certainly does not describe the furtive actions of a thief in the night, does it?

The Bible is truth and never contradicts itself. So what can be understood by these seemingly opposing statements: “the Day of the Lord comes as a thief in the night”—but—“every eye shall see Him at His coming”?

What should be obvious to us is that these are TWO straightforward statements describing TWO different events!

The Day of the Lord has been confused with another important future event, the Day of the Lord’s Wrath (Rev. 6:17)! Let me repeat, John is already in the Day of the Lord in Chapter 1, verse 10. The seven seals are not opened until Christ rips them open one-by-one beginning in Chapter 6. And Christ’s visible RETURN is not until the completion of the seventh seal in Revelation 19! Please understand that vital point!

Study the following verses and see that the Day of the Lord’s Wrath is only a one-year period within the DAY OF THE LORD.

Isaiah 34:8: **“For it is the day of the LORD’S vengeance, and the year of recompences for the controversy of Zion.”**

Isaiah 61:2: **“To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all that mourn...”**

Isaiah 64:4: **“For the day of vengeance is in mine heart, and the year of my redeemed is come.”**

The Day of the Lord came as “a thief in the night”! That happened over twelve years ago! Can you believe that? And can you believe Jesus Christ came “suddenly to His Temple” at that time?

**Behold, I will send my messenger** [John the Baptist at Jesus’ first coming, and Herbert Armstrong at His second coming], **and he shall prepare the way before me: and the Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith the LORD of hosts** (Mal. 3:1).

Revelation 3:3:

**Remember therefore how thou hast received and heard, and hold fast, and repent. If therefore thou shalt not watch, I will come on thee as a thief, and thou shalt not know what hour I will come upon thee.**

## **Living in Bible Times**

At the conclusion of 6000 years of mankind going its own deceived



way, Jesus Christ came suddenly and found His Temple practically destroyed, with the “lively stones” (I Pet. 2:5), the building blocks, of the spiritual Temple scattered far and wide. The Day of the Lord came on the Feast of Trumpets of 1997. (The Feast of Trumpets is the fourth of God’s annual Sabbaths or Holy Days. These seven Holy Days present a picture of the plan of salvation and are observed at their prescribed time each year. They are commanded convocations for God’s people forever—see Leviticus 23.)

The Day of the Lord came suddenly and secretly like “a thief in the night,” and Christ came to His Temple, finding only the firm foundation, a few permanently attached stones representing those who had died in the faith, and still fewer “pillars,” remaining of the magnificent Temple, collectively called the Worldwide Church of God! Nevertheless, when He secretly returned, a great question and tremendous prophecy was fulfilled. Jesus had asked in Luke 18:8: “...**Nevertheless when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?**”

Yes! He did find faith in the tiny fledging church, the CGF! Therefore, He rewarded that faith with NEW TRUTH after NEW TRUTH—setting us apart by TRUTH (Jn. 17:17) and making us aware that He was, indeed, with us here in His tiny TRUE CHURCH. A continuous flow of NEW TRUTH was given to us as our HEAD had come to His Temple on the Day of the Lord. Then He, Jesus Christ, proceeded to OPEN the seven seals of the book of Revelation.

When Herbert Armstrong died on January 16, 1986, there were other very important prophecies that were fulfilled. (1) Satan attacked the Church. (2) The “man of sin” then caused the “falling away from truth” (II Thess. 2). (3) Mr. Armstrong was an end-time type of two men God had used in history, Elijah (Mal. 4:5) and Zerubbabel (Zech. 4:9).

I sincerely hope that you understand that we are living in BIBLE TIMES—exceedingly URGENT BIBLE TIMES, and fantastic prophecies are becoming reality!

At Herbert Armstrong’s death, the WCG represented the completed glorious Temple: “**The hands of Zerubbabel have laid the foundation of this house; his hands shall also finish it; and thou shalt know that the LORD of hosts hath sent me unto you**” (Zech. 4:9). All of the “lively stones” were set in the completed spiritual Temple as Mr. Armstrong completed his ministry.

And (4) miraculously, the Gospel of the Kingdom of God was proclaimed to the entire world as a witness to all nations. Mr. Armstrong

successfully fulfilled Matthew 24:14:

**And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.**

Strong's Exhaustive Concordance defines, numbers and translates the Greek word for "end" into English as:

G5056 telos tel'-os From a primary word τέλλω tellō (to set out for a definite point or goal); properly the point aimed at as a limit, that is, (by implication) the conclusion of an act or state (termination [literally, figuratively or indefinitely], result [immediate, ultimate or prophetic], purpose); specifically an impost or levy (as paid): - + continual, custom, end (-ing), finally, uttermost. Compare G5411.

In verse 3 of Matthew 24, the disciples asked for signs of the "end of the world." The word "end" in verse 3 is an entirely different Greek word than the one used in verse 14. In verse 3, Strong's defines and numbers another Greek word translated in English as "end": "G4930 sunteleia; soon-tel'-i-ah: From G4931; entire completion, that is, consummation (of a dispensation): - end."

Thus, it is obvious that "end" in verse 14 is declaring that the proclaiming of the Gospel to the world as a witness had come to an end—"the conclusion of an act or deed"—the successful completion of "the point aimed at"—"the goal"—had been achieved and a pivotal prophecy had been remarkably fulfilled. As this major milestone was accomplished, God the Father had called ALL of the remainder of the "lively stones" of the spiritual Temple through the servant of Jesus Christ, Herbert Armstrong! The glorious Temple represented by the Worldwide Church of God was completed—then Mr. Armstrong died!

The Old Testament prophet, Haggai, was inspired to pose this question for our time, today: **"Who is left among you that saw this house in her first glory? and how do ye see it now? is it not in your eyes in comparison of it as nothing?"** (Hag.2:3).

Observe the tiny remnant of the true Church today in comparison to the glorious Worldwide Church of God at its zenith at the time of Herbert Armstrong's death! However, verse 9 gives this magnificent promise: **"The glory of this latter house shall be greater than of the former, saith the LORD of hosts: and in this place will I give peace,**

saith the LORD of hosts.”

We will deeply examine this fantastic promise later!

## The Seven Churches

Come back to Revelation 1:10 again where it reveals that John has already been projected in Spirit INTO the Day of the Lord. Verse 4 makes it known that the entire book is addressed to the “seven churches of Asia.” The seven churches were literal churches, but they were not all of the Churches of God in Asia (Minor). These seven churches are singled out because they were on a common mail route and they had their own positive and negative characteristics. And it is essential to UNDERSTAND that their description is at the END of their respective eras!

Ephesus began strong and filled with love. However, false apostles and teachers on the inside, persecution by the state on the outside, and Christ not returning as many had expected, caused them to lose their first love.

Smyrna was very small, severely persecuted, but held fast—even to death. They are complimented for their perseverance in Revelation 2:9-10.

Pergamos was a city with a tremendously strong Roman influence that brought hardship to those Christians who “held fast to the faith” and to the Church of God name. They knew the Word of God, but allowed false doctrine to infiltrate the Church.

Thyatira is highly complimented, as verse 19 declares: **“I know thy works, and charity, and service, and faith, and thy patience, and thy works; and the last to be more than the first.”** But it is sternly cautioned about allowing doctrines of the world to contaminate the truth. Thyatira depicts a divided church—partly zealous in service to God, but also having members who practice satanic teachings.

Sardis inherited much truth from Thyatira, but moving from Europe to the United States allowed so much truth to be lost that it is pictured as a nearly dead church. Mr. Armstrong was raised up and was introduced to Sardis, the remnant of the true Church.

Philadelphia was established in the dark days of the Great Depression with the commission to take the Gospel of the Kingdom of God to all nations as a witness. As has been stated, Mr. Armstrong successfully accomplished that great task. Also, through the proclaiming of the Gospel by Mr. Armstrong’s ministry, the remaining building blocks of the spiritual Temple were called and the Temple was completed.

## **The Seventh Candlestick—Laodicea**

Laodicea was brought on the scene by the mighty Christ four years after Herbert Armstrong died. Gerald Flurry, a faithful “preaching elder” of the WCG, was astounded by the ministry and membership of the WCG who were rejecting the true Gospel and accepting false doctrines of this world. Mr. Flurry could see that Satan was up to his old tricks. Therefore, Christ commissioned Mr. Flurry to warn the WCG of what was taking place right before our bewildered eyes. The startling meaning of II Thessalonians 2 was revealed to Mr. Flurry and he fearlessly proclaimed the truth about what was occurring in the WCG.

He exposed the “man of sin,” Herbert Armstrong’s hand-picked successor who became the pastor-general of the WCG at Mr. Armstrong’s death. This individual very slyly began to cast truth aside and caused the great “falling away”! The APOSTASY had begun and II Thessalonians 2:1-3 became fulfilled prophecy:

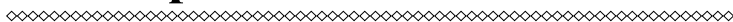
**Now we beseech you, brethren, by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by our gathering together unto him, That ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that the day of Christ is at hand. Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition...**

In a rapid series of events in late 1989, Mr. Flurry was fired from the WCG, and Christ ignited the seventh candlestick and gave it to him as the high priest of Laodicea. He had written a book titled Malachi’s Message to the Church of God Today (MM), which presented the prophet Malachi’s warning of a corrupt ministry and understanding of II Thessalonians 2. Gerald Flurry organized the Philadelphia Church of God (PCG), with headquarters in Edmond, Oklahoma in December 1989. He should have chosen the name Laodicean Church of God, but “Laodicea” carries an unpopular stigma that he did not want. Nevertheless, the PCG was the dynamic Laodicean work of Jesus Christ for seven years. That work really began when MM was mailed out on January 16, 1990, the fourth anniversary of Herbert Armstrong’s death.

The amazing recent history of the Church of God from the death of Mr. Armstrong to this 25th anniversary year is presented in our booklet, *The Midnight Cry*.

## Chapter Two:

# A Glimpse at the Heaven of God



**C**hapters 2 and 3 of Revelation give specific messages to the individual churches; then, in Chapter 4, John is taken in Spirit to the very throne room of God Almighty:

**After this I looked, and, behold, a door was opened in heaven: and the first voice which I heard was as it were of a trumpet talking with me; which said, Come up hither, and I will shew thee things which must be hereafter. And immediately I was in the spirit: and, behold, a throne was set in heaven, and one sat on the throne (Rev. 4:1-2).**

Chapters 4 and 5 provide description of God Almighty in His glorious brilliance, seated upon His vast throne, enveloped by an emerald-colored rainbow. The area of the throne room must be mind boggling to John, as he writes that it appeared as a “sea of glass.” And within the area of the throne were twenty-four “elders” with lesser thrones. These elders are apparently angelic beings of very high rank. Also, there before the throne were four “living creatures,” seraphim (see Isa. 6:2, 5)--angelic creatures similar to cherubim, but having six wings each, instead of four (see Ezek. 10).

The expanse of the throne room is immense and possibly in a more complex dimension than our human eyes can behold, as evidenced by the staggering number of angels around the throne, estimated by John to be in the millions:

**And I beheld, and I heard the voice of many angels round about the throne and the beasts and the elders: and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands (Rev. 5:11).**

The throne of God is the seat of all power in the universe:

**And out of the throne proceeded lightnings and thunderings and voices: and there were seven lamps of fire burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God (Rev. 4:5).**

But the central figure that appears before the Father in symbolic form is the Lamb of God:

**And I beheld, 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, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent forth into all the earth (v. 6).**

The Lamb of God is the only being who can receive the book from the hand of the Father and open the seven seals—and the understanding of them! The mighty events we read here have already happened, and the thumbnail sketch of the incredible sights and sounds and how it all proceeded are depicted in verses 9-10:

**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 [men] to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation; And hast made [them] unto our God kings and priests: and we [they] shall reign on the earth. And he [Jesus] came and took the book out of the right hand of him that sat upon the throne.**

This is such a vital point to understand! Jesus Christ came and took the BOOK from the hand of God Almighty and began to open the seven seals. The seals are opened in the Day of the Lord and could not be fully understood until that precise moment in time.

Before we come to Chapter 6, let me interject a warning statement to those few brethren who have known the truth of the Day of the Lord. Some have known that the Day of the Lord came “as a thief in the night” on the Feast of Trumpets of 1997, yet have rejected that truth, believing in their deceived minds that the Day of the Lord will not come until a

few days before the Great Tribulation begins! That group has blinded their minds to understanding the series of events that will happen as revealed by Christ to His faithful Church!

Here is a biblical fact—the events in the story flow of Revelation can ONLY be understood if a person has proven that the Day of the Lord comes first! The Day of the Lord begins BEFORE the SEALS are opened—thus, it is plain to see that UNDERSTANDING of the BOOK of REVELATION is given AFTER the Day of the Lord has begun!

Be sure you understand that statement!

Our pitifully deceived brethren who wait for the seals to be opened prior to the beginning of the Tribulation are denying most of the vital knowledge the true Church has taught them, and they will, frighteningly, awaken in the Tribulation (Rev. 12:17).

This is so important! It is imperative that you UNDERSTAND that the Day of the Lord MUST come before full UNDERSTANDING of the book of Revelation is given. In the closing verses of the final chapter of Revelation the same points are stressed:

- The TIME is at hand!
- The Day of the Lord has come!
- The seals have been opened:

**“And he saith unto me, Seal not the sayings of the prophecy of this book: for the time is at hand”** (Rev. 22:10). Verse 7 states: **“Behold, I come quickly: [His visible coming, Rev. 1:7] blessed is he that keepeth the sayings of the prophecy of this book.”**

The apostle John was so overawed at what was being shown him by the angel (Rev. 21:7), that he started to bow down to the angel. However, the angel said, **“... See thou do it not: for I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren the prophets, and of them which keep the sayings of this book: worship God.”**

Are you going to wait until the beast power brings great tribulation to the earth before you UNDERSTAND God’s revealed truth?

## Opening the Seals

Now we come to Chapter 6 and the first four seals. Mr. Armstrong gave us partial understanding of the seven seals. During his ministry he preached extensively on Matthew 24. In that chapter, Jesus Christ actually reveals the meaning of the seven seals in His Olivet Prophecy!

The disciples of Christ were anxious to understand when Christ would return and what would be the sign of His coming and the end of the “world.” In verses 4-5 He gives these signs: **“And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you. For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many.”** Christ’s first warning is about FALSE RELIGION! Many would come “in His name”—but would deceive many! Now observe how this warning is pictured by the first rider of the first seal:

**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. 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 (Rev. 6:1-2).**

Christ is pictured in Revelation 19:15 riding a white horse, but having a sharp sword—not a bow.

The next sign our Lord gives the disciples is in Matthew 24:6-7:

**And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom...**

This is a description of WAR—even WORLD WAR!

The second horseman of Revelation 6:3-4 fits the description of WAR:

**And when he had opened the second seal, I heard the second beast say, Come and see. 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.**

Jesus’ words continue in Matthew 24:7: **“...and there shall be famines...”** The third horseman portrays a scarcity of food—FAMINE:

**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. 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 (Rev. 6:5-6).**

In verse 7 of Matthew 24, Christ also told His disciples the fourth sign to watch for: “... **and pestilences...**” The sickly greenish color (see Strong’s #5514: chloros) of the fourth horse in Revelation 6:7-8 portends awful disease epidemics:

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

The Day of the Lord burst on the scene on October 1, 1997, and the fearsome four horsemen were released and are galloping to the completion of their gory task. Look around and think of the many unusual occurrences of the past twelve years. How many times have we heard the experts say that there has not been a storm or flood, fire, earthquake, drought, rainfall, snowfall—catastrophe after catastrophe—such as has been seen lately, in a hundred years? Fear of horrible disease pandemics are regularly in the news. Famine stalks many areas of the world. Unparalleled drug-related violence is occurring at an increasing momentum! War and threats of war—even nuclear war—are the headlines practically every day. And religious war is looming between “Christianity” and Islam.

The horsemen are riding, and multiple millions will die in the months ahead—before the Great Tribulation begins!

At this point let us notice a prophecy in Zechariah that will bring us to the conclusion of the horsemen’s ride.

**I saw by night, and behold a man riding upon a red horse, and he stood among the myrtle trees that were in the bottom; and behind him were there red horses, speckled, and white (Zech. 1:8).**

Here we see the rider of the red horse which in Revelation 6:3 is symbolic of war. With them are other red horses and red and white speckled horses. Apparently they symbolize wars, rumors of wars and religious war.

The rider reporting to an angel explains:

**And the man that stood among the myrtle trees answered and said, These are they whom the LORD hath sent to walk to and fro through the earth [Come and see]. And they answered the angel of the LORD that stood among the myrtle trees, and said, We have walked to and fro through the earth, and, behold, all the earth sitteth still, and is at rest (Zech. 1:10-11).**

This brings to mind an important question. If the first four seals have been opened and the horsemen have ridden out to accomplish their assigned tasks, how can the entire earth “sit still and be at rest” before the Great Tribulation occurs? These creatures represent war and religious war! Famine and pestilence aren’t represented here, but would not be far behind with what this scene portends.

Remember, at the conclusion of their ride, one-fourth of the population of the earth will lie dead! So, how is the earth “sitting still and at rest”?

Another prophet, Daniel, was inspired to write about the “time of the end” throughout his book, but especially in Chapters 11 and 12.

**And at the time of the end shall the king of the south push at him: and the king of the north shall come against him like a whirlwind, with chariots, and with horsemen, and with many ships; and he shall enter into the countries, and shall overflow and pass over (Dan. 11:40).**

Here are two other entities, the king of the north and the king of the south, and we need to understand just who they represent. Daniel’s Chapter 11 covers many years, beginning with the dividing of Alexander’s vast realm at his death in 333 BC. The empire was divided into four parts, one of them designated as the king of the north, another as the king of the south. Through the years, the geographical areas of these two “kings” have changed, and many different individuals have fulfilled their historic roles. Throughout the chapter, history is intertwined with prophecy.

Here I will insert a section from the CGF book, *Set Apart by Truth*, found on pages 80-81:

Two huge religious groups are nearing the prophesied time

when they will wage all-out war in a struggle to the death. These two world religions, “Christianity”—led by Roman Catholicism supported by many Protestant “daughter churches,” all united against a hated common enemy—will wage “holy” war against the Islamic religion, incited to fanatical zeal by “terrorist extremism”! Each of these religions has over a billion adherents, and they are destined to clash in the final battle between the king of the north and the king of the south.

On September 11, 2001 the first phase of this battle began when an Islamic terrorist group brought down the World Trade Center buildings in New York City. The king of the south “pushed” at the United States, a member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (with its headquarters in central Europe), which represents the king of the north. As time moves on, NATO will be absorbed into united Europe and will leave no doubt that they fulfill the prophecies of the king of the north.

The king of the south attacked on 9/11/2001. The whirlwind of war began and will soon become a fiery cataclysm destined to destroy one quarter of mankind! Daniel 11:40 states:

And at the time of the end shall the king of the south push at him: and the king of the north shall come against him like a whirlwind, with chariots, and with horsemen, and with many ships; and he shall enter into the countries, and shall overflow and pass over.

And the United States and its allied nations unleashed the “whirlwind” of war with, first, Afghanistan, and now Iraq, which is sucking Iran, Syria, and other Islamic nations into the vortex of all-out war.

Understand! The final thrust of the four horsemen will cause such monumental death and destruction that God will have His faithful quickly finish their rescue of the lost sheep trapped in the synagogue of Satan (Rev. 3:9) and will have a place of safety prepared for them before the fifth seal is opened. As the period of the 1290 days of Daniel 12:11 begins, it appears that the United States of America, most of the United Kingdom, and the nation of Israel will have already been destroyed by complete financial collapse, terrorist activities, war and famine (see Hosea 5:5 and Ezek. 5:12). God’s people must hurriedly wrap up the rescue work within 30 days and prepare for

departure to the place of safety. Verse 11 declares:

And from the time that the daily sacrifice [the true Church] shall be taken away [depart], and the abomination that maketh desolate set up, there shall be a thousand two hundred and ninety days.

(End quote)

Come back to Daniel 11:44:

But tidings out of the east and out of the north shall trouble him: therefore he shall go forth with great fury to destroy, and utterly to make away many.

And he really will! This is where Zechariah 1:5-8 comes in. The horseman reports that **“ALL the earth sits still and is at rest.”** Here is the reason WHY ALL is at rest! The king of the north—the coming beast power of united Europe—will have “utterly destroyed and made away many”! The king of the south, initially Islamic extremism, but then united in a jihad against the “infidels” of united Europe, will suffer near complete destruction. Nuclear, bacteriological, and chemical warfare apparently will be used to bring the death of ONE AND ONE HALF BILLION PEOPLE!

All the earth will “sit still and be at rest”—because they are in deathly FEAR of the BEAST! Revelation 13:3-4 explains this:

**And I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed [see the chart on page --] and all the world wondered after the beast. And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, Who is like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him?**

All the world fears the beast—and the horsemen have completed their ride! Next, the beast brings on the Great Tribulation! So, back to Revelation 6:9-11 and the opening of the seals:

**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: 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? 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.**

And Christ continues to identify the meaning of the seals in Matthew 24: **“Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name’s sake”** (v. 9). Then verses 21 and 29: **“For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be.”**

Yes! When united Europe has destroyed the king of the south and also some of the nations to the north and the east—then two and a half years of the wrath of Satan the Devil begin. But that awful period of time is prophesied to get even worse as the sixth and the seventh seals are opened by the mighty Christ:

**Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken... (v. 29).**

The sixth seal is indescribable in the terror it will cause the inhabitants of the earth:

**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. And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places. 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; 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...(Rev. 6:13-17).**

Also in the Olivet Prophecy, Jesus Christ presents the interpretation of the sixth and seventh seals:

**And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven [the heavenly signs] and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds [NOT AS A THIEF IN THE NIGHT] of heaven with**

**power and great glory. And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other (Matt. 24:30-31).**

Revelation 6:17 sums it up: **“For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?”**

## Chapter Three:

# The Synagogue of Satan



**W**e have covered quite a bit in the amazing book of Revelation, but there is much, much more to understand. A great deal of what we have studied has been from a historical perspective—that which you have seen. But where have our studies brought us in time?

First, let's realize that we are over twelve years into the Day of the Lord.

The first four seals have been opened and the four horsemen are rapidly fulfilling their assigned tasks! But they have not finished yet!

The world is in the period of “the beginning of sorrows” (Matt. 24:8)! World conditions will become intensely critical in the days ahead—worldwide financial crises, disagreement among nations, scarcity of food, upset weather and more “natural” disasters—before the conflagration of nuclear war between united Europe and the Islamic nations. Now is the time for any concerned individual who is witnessing the mounting problems in the world to cry out to God for guidance and help. Jesus Christ admonishes all to:

**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 (Lk. 21:36).**

Looming directly ahead in prophecy—that shall surely come to pass—is the completion of the four horsemen's ride and the staggering death toll of one-fourth of earth's population! However, that incred-

ible event is only the introduction to the entire world of the dominant BEAST POWER—UNITED EUROPE—that shall bring to pass the worst time of trouble ever on earth—the GREAT TRIBULATION! But the GOOD NEWS is that Christ will destroy the beast after forty-two months of horror on the earth.

The question was asked: “Where are we in prophetic time?” And the answer is: as of September 2010, prophetic time places us immediately BEFORE the four horsemen complete their ride—and the beginning of the Great Tribulation! These are exceedingly dangerous times in which we live. The great majority of the begotten of God are fast asleep in the synagogues of Satan—the split and splintered daughter churches of the former WCG. Satan is in an insane rage and is seeking to destroy all of them—and you and me! However, the very purpose of the first four seals—the four horsemen—is to keep all systems in their proper time frame—within the Day of the Lord, for once their ride ends, then...

**For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be. And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect’s sake those days shall be shortened (Matt. 24:21-22).**

The major work of the tiny CGF is directly ahead—while there is time—to awaken our sleeping brethren. This is seen in Matthew 25 where the parable of the ten virgins—five wise and five foolish—is presented. They must be awakened out of their deep slumber by the MIDNIGHT CRY that “the Bridegroom HAS COME!”

Only the CGF has this UNDERSTANDING! The BRIDEGROOM HAS COME! The DAY OF THE LORD came as a “thief in the night” over twelve years ago, and now the midnight hour has come, and the CRY is being sounded by the CGF. As of now, the CRY can hardly be heard, but it soon will become a thunderous roar that will awaken all of our brethren, and the wise shall come.

Our Lord has been conducting a crucial test that involves only a short amount of time. This test that is being conducted right now—as the horsemen ride—is to determine who His faithful “special treasure” is—those called to be “pillar” members in the spiritual Temple.

**Then they that feared the LORD spake often one to another: and the LORD hearkened, and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared the**



**LORD, and that thought upon his name [see Rev. 3:8]. And they shall be mine, saith the LORD of hosts, in that day [the DAY OF THE LORD] when I make up my jewels [special treasure] and I will spare them [from the Great Tribulation] as a man spareth his own son that serveth him (Mal. 3:16-17).**

To be specially scrutinized by the Lord of Hosts, Jesus Christ, is indeed a crucial test, but what a HIGH HONOR!

**Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me: and the Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith the LORD of hosts [and He did come on the Feast of Trumpets of 1997]. But who may abide the day of his coming? and who shall stand when he appeareth? [#7200; this should read “discerns,” as verse 18 is translated]...Then shall ye return, and discern [#7200] between the righteous and the wicked, between him that serveth God and him that serveth him not (Mal. 3:1-2, 18).**

The Living Christ is HERE—in the Day of the Lord—discerning who are to be His faithful pillars. Revelation 3:12 declares this fantastic position offered to the few faithful: **“Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God...”**

Now continue in verse 4 of Malachi 3:

**For he is like a refiner’s fire, and like fullers’ soap: And he shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver: and he shall purify the sons of Levi [the ministry of the scattered churches, including the Laodicean ministers] and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the LORD an offering in righteousness...**

The Great Tribulation is the end result of mankind going his own way, deceived by Satan, his ministers, and man’s own carnal mind, which is hostile against God’s perfect Law (Rom. 8:7). The first two and a half years of the Tribulation can be described as Satan’s wrath and his evil attempt to destroy mankind.

**And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, Who is like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him? And there**

**was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and power was given unto him to continue forty and two months. And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme his name, and his tabernacle, and them that dwell in heaven. And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them: and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations (Rev. 13:4-7).**

God does not want any of His people to suffer the horrors of the Tribulation, so He has prepared a place of protection for those “accounted worthy to escape.”

Revelation 3:10 and 12:6,14 offer this wonderful promise:

**Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation [the Great Tribulation] which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth... And the woman [the Church—see 12:1-5] fled into the wilderness, where she hath a place prepared of God [a place of safety] that they should feed her there a thousand two hundred and threescore days...And to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness, into her place, where she is nourished for a time, and times, and half a time [same as 1260 days or 42 months] from the face of the serpent.**

Only the called, chosen and faithful of God—His one true Church—will be accounted worthy to be taken to the place of safety for the three and a half years of the Tribulation and the Day of the Lamb’s Wrath. Verse 17 of Revelation 12 substantiates that statement:

**And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.**

Verse 17 is proof positive that a person can keep the Commandments and understand prophecy, but if he is not a part of the one true Church, the Great Tribulation awaits him!

Hebrews 10:24-25 is another warning that there is only one true Church:

**And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and**

**to good works: Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together** [we must all be together in the one true Church—not divided into 300 or more churches and groups] **as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching** [and now the DAY is here].

## **The Synagogues of Satan**

Thus, before the horsemen complete their ride, and the three and a half years of horror begin, there is an extremely important work to be done! Jesus Christ, through His tiny faithful Church, will rescue the begotten of God who are fast asleep in the “synagogue of Satan.” What is the “synagogue(s) [#4864; singular or plural] of Satan” and where did this awful term come from?

We will study this question and thoroughly explain it. It is vitally essential that the truth about the synagogue of Satan be known!

We have stated that our sleeping brethren must be awakened. This will be the greatest work of the New Testament Church, and it lies directly before us! For the true Church to account ourselves worthy to escape all that shall come to pass, we need to be preparing for the thousands of our brethren who will be “given” to us by Christ. Jesus Christ is building His spiritual Temple once again and we of the CGF are being readied as PILLAR members. PILLARS must be able to support tremendous stresses and still stand—firmly planted on the true foundation (Eph. 2:20).

**Behold, I will make [#1325; give] them of the synagogue of Satan, which say they are Jews, and are not, but do lie; behold, I will make [#4160] them to come and worship before thy feet, and to know that I have loved thee (Rev. 3:9).**

It is plainly seen in the above scripture that the expression or designation “synagogue of Satan” comes from Jesus Christ, Himself. Revelation 3:9 will be referred to several times in this writing.

The following section is copied from a portion of the CGF article that is available on our website titled “The Synagogue of Satan.”

- In the history of the world’s “Christian churches” there exists the old mother church, the Roman Catholic Church, and her Protestant daughter churches. Today, history has

repeated itself in a modern version of this. We can see this in the Worldwide Church of God (WCG), as the “old mother church” and her 300+ split and splintered “protesting daughter churches,” which have come about since the death of Herbert W. Armstrong. The major difference in this comparison, though, is that most of those making up the splits and splinters from the WCG are begotten brethren who have God’s Spirit, but are snared in these churches.

Some of these contentious divisions of the WCG collectively call themselves “the Churches of God.” However, Christ said He would build His Church—His one true Church (Matt. 16:18)!

Thus, shouldn’t this question be asked: “If Christ has only one true Church, who would these hundreds of split and splintered churches belong to?” If they are not Christ’s churches, wouldn’t they belong to Satan—even though the people in those churches have God’s Spirit? Wouldn’t this awful title, synagogue of Satan, given by Jesus Christ, apply to them? The split and splintered churches erroneously state, “We are the Churches of God!” They should know that Christ has only one true Church; thus, wouldn’t it be more accurate for them to state, “We are the churches of god,” using little “c” and little “g”—meaning synagogue of Satan!

But they do not want to admit that!

**Behold, I will make (#1325, give) them of the synagogue of Satan, which say they are Jews, and are not, but do lie; behold, I will make them to come and worship before thy feet, and to know that I have loved thee (Rev. 3:9).**

Most of the splits from the WCG are offended by us as we state Christ’s words and label them as the synagogue of Satan. They and some from the split and splintered churches claim the synagogue of Satan are those “Christian” churches of the world, now including the WCG, which has become just another Protestant denomination.

Most commentaries view the synagogue of Satan of Revelation 2:9 and 3:9 as the Jewish religion contemporary with the apostles’ writings of the epistles of the New Testament. Other

commentaries, in referring to the synagogue of Satan, infer it is the Papacy, or the “man of sin,” or the “anti-Christ,” etc.—but they do not know the truth.

Ask yourself: Why would Christ give the unconverted churches of the world to His faithful Philadelphians—the CGF? This is a little ridiculous when it is thought out! There exist today over one billion Roman Catholics, and there are approximately 500 million Protestants. Thus if the synagogue of Satan is the “Christian” churches of the world—How many of this 1½ billion would Christ give to His true Church?

The Bible is very plain that there shall be only 144,000 firstfruits at the First Resurrection (Rev.14:3-4). The 144,000 firstfruits include all of those God has called in Old Testament times all the way back to righteous Abel, plus those of the New Testament from Pentecost of 31 AD to the modern times in which we live. Why would God give His faithful Church a part of this massive number of people (1½ billion) who know nothing of the plan of God—and then offer them safety in the “place He has prepared” (see v. 9-10), and an opportunity to qualify for only 144,000 positions?

The churches of the world are not being called at this time—they are not the synagogue of Satan! Revelation 3:9 states that the synagogue of Satan will come and worship (God) at our feet! Those who know the new truth of The Deep Things of God can understand from Holy Scripture that the work of the 144,000 firstfruits under Christ is to rule as kings and priests over planet Earth during the Millennium. The firstfruits will rule in righteousness, replacing Satan and his evil demons and their influence over mankind. Our rule under the King of Kings and Lord of Lords will be just the opposite of Satan’s wicked rule! We will teach God’s law of love, and influence the world to live according to the ways of God.

Revelation 3:9 has nothing to do with the world’s churches! God is not calling the world at this time—He is concerned with the thousands of His begotten children trapped in the synagogue of Satan, the “churches of god,” unfaithful Philadelphians!

However, if these unfaithful Philadelphians are begotten children of God, aren’t they Christians? Romans 8:14-17 tells us this:

**For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God. For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father. The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together.**

The Bible never contradicts itself! And certainly there can be no contradiction within a single verse like Revelation 3:9, so who makes up the synagogue of Satan?

Before answering the question, we should also address another point of speculation brought out by the counterfeit church that has recently split off from the CGF. In their “Statement of Belief” they claim that: “Baptized members who have returned to the Babylonish system and doctrines of the world form part of the mother Church and Protestant daughters which are biblically referred to as synagogue of Satan.”

Is that statement true? Again ask the logical question: “Why would God give to His faithful Church a group that has rejected the truth of God, specifically the true Gospel, the Sabbath and Holy Days, and who have accepted the trinity doctrine and the pagan holidays, and follow the world’s teachings?” Why would God have them come and “worship at our feet”? That is not biblical! (See Luke 14: 16-24 and Heb. 10:25-27.)

Consider the following:

- Christ said He would build His Church—not churches (Matt. 16:18). Thus if Christ has a Church, it is only one Church—one true Church! Therefore, when we observe the 300+ splits and splinters of the former WCG, who are divided and in disagreement on many issues, the question must be asked, “Who do they belong to?” And the logical answer is, “If they are not Christ’s churches, they must be Satan’s churches—the synagogues of Satan”!

Yet these churches of god are made up of those who are begotten of God, those who are “children of God” (Rom.

8:14-17). Comparing the churches of God today with the Churches mentioned in the New Testament, it is seen in early Church history that in each geographical area, most were in agreement, in one accord, under the original apostles and Paul. This was true also of the WCG under Mr. Armstrong, until the 1970's when the Mystery of Iniquity began to creep in. In the latter epistles of Paul, Peter, and John it is evident that discord and factions were becoming commonplace among the Churches of God. (See II Tim. 4:2-4; II Pet. 2:1-2; III John 1:9-10)

- See also II Timothy, Chapter 3, especially verses 1 and 13-14. Study also the seven Churches of Revelation 2 and 3, and notice the different factions existing within the individual churches. Notice also that the begotten brethren of the synagogues of Satan are not the main problem! Jeremiah 50:6 is only one of many scriptures that identify the ministers of these churches as the trouble:

**My people hath been lost sheep: their shepherds have caused them to go astray, they have turned them away on the mountains: they have gone from mountain [the larger splits] to hill [smaller splits], they have forgotten their resting place [as of now they do not know where Christ's one true Church is located].**

- The split churches are lost in 1986 with no growth in the “knowledge of Christ”—no new truth that I am aware of—since the death of Mr. Herbert Armstrong (II Peter 3:18).
- The split and splintered churches are pictured in Matthew 25 as the ten virgins—five wise and five foolish—all fast asleep! But God has not given up on them! They will all be awakened by the ANNOUNCEMENT of the Midnight Cry that the Bridegroom came as “a thief” in 1997, and it is time for the “sleeping virgins” to respond. They must quickly go forth to meet Him in the “place” from which the “cry” is emanating—the true Church.
- Understand this! The Bridegroom and the wedding

festivities in the parable in Matthew 25 can not be taking place in Heaven. The “unwise virgins” are human beings and will not be able to “knock on the door” in Heaven (see Matt. 7:21)! As they scurry from one place to another, they take too long and will be locked out of the place of safety! They are proven “unworthy” to escape and must qualify during the Great Tribulation (See verses 21-23 and Matt. 25:10-12).

- The “foolish virgins,” whose “lamps are gone [or going] out,” also possess God’s Spirit, although it is apparently at a very low ebb. And they have the increased problem of trying to “buy oil” to determine, through God’s Spirit, where the true Church is and hurriedly get to the wedding to “meet the Bridegroom.” But they will take too long in their investigation of where the one true Church is located—although the Midnight Cry will be sounding forth as a signal to them.
- Mr. Flurry, the Laodiceans, AND the counterfeit, breakaway church will have “oil to sell,” thereby creating more confusion for the “foolish virgins.”
- The “foolish virgins,” who have God’s Spirit, are not allowed into the wedding festivities—but God still does not give up on them—they must qualify during the most difficult of times, the Great Tribulation, as stated above (see Rev. 15:2 and 20:4). Those who overcome (Rev. 12:11) will be part of the bride and the 144,000 firstfruits.
- Ask yourself, “What is a Christian?” Simply stated, a Christian is one who follows Christ (I Jn. 2:6)! Nevertheless, the begotten brethren of the synagogue of Satan are sound asleep (or blind, as the Laodiceans are described), and have been led astray by their ministers, instead of following Christ. But again, God has not given up on them. He will GIVE to us a number of them. They will not have a choice—Christ says He will GIVE them to us, and in the last phrase of Revelation 3:9, He says He will MAKE them come and “worship at our feet.” They are part of the “lively stones” that must be added to the spiritual Temple when we,



A CHART SHOWING PROPHECIES OF REIGN OF GENTILE KINGDOMS						
Dan. 2 The IMAGE	Daniel 7 The FOUR BEASTS (State) (Church)	Dan. 8 The RAM and GOAT	Revelation 13 The BEAST and IMAGE (State) (Church)	Rev. 17 BABYLON and BEAST	SYMBOL KEY	The EVENTS Fulfilled in HISTORY
Head of GOLD v. 32, 38	1st BEAST like LION v. 4				1st HEAD of prophetic BABYLON	The CHALDEAN EMPIRE (Babylon) 625-538 B.C.
Breast and arms of SILVER v. 32, 39	2nd BEAST (BEAR) v. 5	RAM with 2 horns v. 3, 4, 20			2nd HEAD of prophetic BABYLON	The PERSIAN EMPIRE (Medo-Persia) 558-330 B.C.
Belly and thighs of BRASS v. 32, 39	3rd BEAST (LEOPARD) 4 heads v. 6	HE GOAT with great horn and 4 notable ones v. 5-8, 21, 22			3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th HEADS of prophetic BABYLON	GREECE, under Alexander the Great and four divisions, began 333-31 B.C.
Legs of IRON v. 33, 40-43	4th BEAST strong like IRON with 10 HORNS v. 7, 23, 24		The BEAST with 7 HEADS and 10 HORNS v. 1, 2		7th HEAD of prophetic BABYLON, with ten HORNS	THE ROMANS EMPIRE, 31 B.C. - A.D. 476, in 2 divisions West and East
			The DEADLY WOUND v. 3			Fall of the ROMAN EMPIRE A.D. 476
	1st HORN (plucked by roots)		1st HORN		These three horns, destroyed at behest of	The VANDALS A.D. 429-533
	2nd HORN (rooted up)		2nd HORN		Pope, fill the "Transition Age" (Myers)	The HERULI, Odoacer's Government, A.D. 476-493
	3rd HORN (rooted up)		3rd HORN			The OSTROGOTHS A.D. 493-554

Chart from June, 1952, *The Plain Truth*, Who Is The "BEAST"?

						2 horned “LAMB” “DRAGON” and “IMAGE” v. 11-18	SCARLET WOMAN who rode the BEAST v. 1, 2	Ruled the beast, so called BABYLON the GREAT	ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH and PAPACY, “image” of Roman Empire government
						← 554-1814 = 1260 Years Beast Continued →			
	4th HORN				1st of remaining 7 horns DEADLY WOUND HEALED (to continue 1260 years) v. 5		1st HEAD of BEAST (healed) ridden by Scarlet woman	Since the “Great Whore”, never rode any of the 7 heads of the 1st 4 beasts, but did mount and ride the last 7 horns	“IMPERIAL RESTORATION” of empire by Justinian, A.D. 554. He recognized supremacy of the Pope, submitted to him
	5th HORN				2nd of remaining 7 HORNS		2nd HEAD ridden by woman	of Daniel’s 4th beast, it follows that the last 7 horns of Dan. 7 and Rev. 13 are the 7 HEADS of Rev. 17 (5 fallen)	FRANKISH KINGDOM Began 774. Charlemagne crowned by Pope 800 A.D.
	6th HORN				3rd of remaining 7 HORNS		3rd HEAD ridden by woman		HOLY ROMAN EMPIRE (German head), Otto the Great crowned by Pope, 962
	7th HORN				4th of remaining 7 HORNS		4th HEAD ridden by “BABYLON”		HAPSBURG dynasty (Austrian head), Charles V crowned by Pope, 1520
	8th HORN				5th of remaining 7 HORNS		5th HEAD ridden by woman		NAPOLEON’S KINGDOM (French head), crowned by Pope, 1805
In 1814, just 1260 years after “deadly wound” was healed, the “HOLY ROMAN EMPIRE” was dissolved. “So closed a government that dated from Augustus Caesar” (West, p. 377).									
	9th HORN				6th of remaining 7 HORNS		6th HEAD ridden by woman	(One IS) Rev. 17:10	ITALY, united by Garibaldi, 1870 to 1945
The Ten TOES	10th HORN				7th and last HORN	Beast ascends out of the pit	7th head and ten HORNS	(One yet to come)	Revived ROMAN EMPIRE, by 10 kingdoms with one leader.

Chart from June, 1952, *The Plain Truth*, Who Is The “BEAST”?

the pillars, have been set and qualified.

- **“Behold, I will make them of the synagogue of Satan, which say they are Jews, and are not, but do lie...”** They say they are “spiritual Jews” (Rom. 2:28-29), or Christians, but they are not following Christ; they are asleep in a 1986 time warp. Therefore, their statement is untrue—it is a lie (so says Christ)! They have been led astray by the false ministers. They are not of the one true Church of Christ—they are of the synagogue of Satan! And if Christ’s words are offensive to you, be careful!
- I repeat, God has not given up on any of these—He will never leave us nor forsake us. But if we are not diligent, we can lose our crowns by the deception of deceived men (Rev. 3:11 and Eph. 4:14).

(It is suggested that the reader go to our website and download the January 2010 *Midnight Cry* magazine. The cover asks the question: “The Rising of Europe and the Beast—Is It Satan’s Clever Distraction?” The question is answered in the article: [The Kingdom IS at Hand.](#))

- Christ tells us, through the apostle Paul, that there should be no divisions among us (I Cor. 1:10), but there will be those among us who cause “heresies” for the express purpose of proving those who are faithful (I Cor. 11:19). This is plainly seen in the Church today!
- (End quote)

### Where to Now?

Daniel 12:12 declares: “Blessed are those who wait...” and that is what we are doing now...waiting! We are waiting for Christ to open the door and awaken the sleeping virgins with the MIDNIGHT CRY! They must be awakened BEFORE the horsemen complete their ride.

Verse 9 of Daniel 12 tells us: **“And he said, Go thy way, Daniel: for the words are closed up and sealed till the time of the end.”** Well, we have come to the “time of the end” and are now in the Day of the Lord. When Jesus Christ is satisfied with His selection of pillars, He will then bring in the other lively stones, the “wise virgins.” But the

“foolish virgins,” as part of the lively stones, must be proven in the fires of the Great Tribulation.

**Many shall be purified, and made white, and tried [144,000 firstfruits will be at the First Resurrection, as pure as chaste virgins] but the wicked shall do wickedly: and none of the wicked shall understand; but the wise shall understand (v. 10).**

### **The Greatest Work in New Testament Times!**

“The wise will understand.” However, for them to understand today, they must first be awakened from their deep spiritual sleep, as the parable of the ten virgins signifies (Matt. 25:1-14). The CGF, as God’s one true Church, is being tested for the position of pillars for the spiritual Temple. Tremendous pressures by trials, troubles, and persecution have been brought to bear upon this tiny Church, testing our faith, and qualifying us to be pillars. Once we have been proven, Christ will bring forth the other “building blocks,” the “lively stones,” for the construction of the Temple.

The Midnight Cry must thunder forth to awaken our sleeping brethren before the Great Tribulation begins. “The Bridegroom has come—go you out to meet Him”—the Kingdom of God is at Hand—the Day of the Lord has come—WAKE UP!

Thousands of our brethren are asleep in the synagogues of Satan—and the Laodiceans are spiritually blind. They are begotten children of God and are in mortal and immortal danger. They must be rescued while there is time! We have “sighed and cried” (Ezek. 9:4) for them; thus, at the time appointed Christ will give us the POWER to wake them up!

Matthew 10:1 and 6-8 shows HOW Christ conducted His ministry when He was here in the flesh. He “changes not,” so He will use us in the same manner to complete this great rescue work:

**And when he had called unto him his twelve disciples, he gave them power against unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all manner of sickness and all manner of disease. But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. And as ye go, preach, saying, The kingdom of heaven is at hand. Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out Devils: freely ye have received, freely give.**

Let me emphasize Revelation 3:9 once again!

**Behold, I will make them of the synagogue of Satan, which say they are Jews, and are not, but do lie; behold, I will make them to come and worship before thy feet, and to know that I have loved thee.**

Never before in history has there been such a huge number of begotten brethren that are in such danger! Jesus Christ is very concerned for us, and them, too! He will make a part of the synagogue of Satan, the “wise virgins,” come to us. The “wise” and the “foolish” virgins at this present time are spiritually asleep. However, the above scriptures plainly show that they all will be awakened and the “wise” will hurriedly come to the CGF. The “foolish” will be distracted by “those who have oil to sell” [the Laodiceans] and wait too long in coming; thus, they must be proven during the horrors of the Great Tribulation.

Each of us who have been called and chosen must be watching and praying that we may be worthy to escape all that shall come to pass and to be absolutely faithful to the end. It is strongly indicated that quite a number of the called and chosen will not be faithful, will “throw away their crowns,” and will be REPLACED!

The Midnight Cry is sounding forth today in a wee, small voice, but it will soon THUNDER forth with the same POWER of miracles, signs, and wonders that Jesus Christ gave to the early Church, as written in Matthew 10:1 and 6-8, quoted above. The CGF will fulfill the signs of Mark 16:17-18:

**And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out Devils; they shall speak with new tongues; They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.**

The true Church, and the called and chosen of the synagogues of Satan, who are the “lost sheep of the house of Israel,” and are also the “sleeping virgins” and the “lively stones,” with the REPLACEMENTS, must be awakened and gathered to make ourselves “worthy” for the place of safety, and to make ourselves ready to become the WIFE of Christ.

Our work will be a prelude to the work of the Two Witnesses! This is WHY this work will be the greatest work in New Testament times.

And it must begin soon, considering Hosea 5:5:

**And the pride of Israel doth testify to his face: therefore shall Israel and Ephraim fall in their iniquity; Judah also shall fall with them.**

The United States, Britain, and Israel will be destroyed by financial collapse and internal chaos, terrorism, and famine, even as the Great Tribulation begins!

But as of now, we are waiting and must keep ourselves in spiritual readiness.

There are others who are waiting, too. But those who are stubbornly “waiting” for their Day of the Lord to come immediately before the Great Tribulation will be part of the “foolish virgins” and cannot understand until they find themselves in the great “time of trouble.”

### **Numbered Days**

Time will pass! Our rescue work shall be done and the horsemen will complete their ride before the 1260 days of the Great Tribulation begins. And those who are counted worthy will enter into the place prepared for their safety. Now notice Daniel 12:11:

**And from the time that the daily sacrifice [the true Church] shall be taken away [depart] and the abomination that maketh desolate set up, there shall be a thousand two hundred and ninety days.**

Here described is a 1290-day period of time—30 days longer than the 1260 days! Therefore, the events detailed in this verse happen 30 days before the beast brings fear and tribulation to the entire earth for 1260 days—and ends the four horsemen’s ride! And let’s mention here that we are in an interesting seven-year period that began on the Feast of Trumpets of 2008! We WATCH and WAIT and KNOW that God does things right on time!

Remember also, the utter unbridled violence that causes great worldwide fear is created by the king of the north (united Europe) completely destroying the king of the south (the Islamic nations of the Middle-East, and also some of the nations to the north and east) in an all-out 30-day nuclear war.

Again, Revelation 6:8 states that one-fourth of the population of the earth will be killed, and at that time, the forces of united Europe will

surge into the nation of Israel. The city of Jerusalem will be surrounded and the BEAST will be a reality.

Luke 21:20-22 adds the following:

**And when ye shall see Jerusalem compassed with armies, then know that the desolation thereof is nigh. Then let them which are in Judaea [Who are they?] flee to the mountains; and let them which are in the midst of it depart out; and let not them that are in the countries enter thereinto. For these be the days of vengeance, that all things which are written may be fulfilled.**

Matthew 24:15-16, 21-22 states:

**When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation [What is that?] spoken of by Daniel the prophet [in Dan. 8:12-13 and 12:11] stand in the holy place [Jerusalem is NOT a holy place...see Rev. 11:8] (whoso readeth, let him understand:) Then let them which be in Judaea [Who are they?] flee into the mountains... For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be. And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened.**

There is much to be plainly understood from those scriptures! They will be thoroughly expounded as we proceed, but before we come to the event-filled 30-day period before the Great Tribulation, let me state the following: No other time in the violent history of man will be equal to the worldwide horror that is rapidly approaching—and Satan the Devil is greatly anticipating it! He knows his time is short and will do all that his wicked mind can devise and implement to destroy mankind and thwart the plan of God. Yet, the world has no idea of what is coming, and the “churches of god” are fast asleep. They must be AWAKENED—and Christ realizes this more than we do!

For me to even state that these churches are asleep would most likely be offensive to them. The “churches of god” have been taught about the coming Great Tribulation for years and years, but they do not understand all that has happened in the past twenty-five years. Many of these churches are oblivious to the fact that the man of sin has already come, that the falling away from truth has occurred, that Gerald Flurry

was raised up as the leader of Laodicea, and that the Day of the Lord came nearly thirteen years ago!

They believe, as was taught 50 years ago, that II Thessalonians 2 and Revelation 13 are describing the same prophecies—but they are not. So, while these churches wait for the Roman Catholic pope to take the role of “the man of sin” to sit in the “Temple of God” (as they mistakenly view II Thessalonians 2), they are confusing the “man of sin” prophecies with those of the great false prophet of Revelation 13! They fail to understand that the man of sin has already come and has “sat,” or ruled, in the “Temple”—the Church of God (I Cor. 3:16 and II Cor. 6:16). That man who became Pastor-General of the WCG at Mr. Armstrong’s death caused the “great falling away from truth” as seen now in the protestant-appearing WCG and the hundreds of disagreeing splits from the “mother church.”

The “churches of god” also refuse to recognize that Gerald Flurry was raised up by Christ to head His Laodicean work. That work gave us the warning we needed to come out of the confusion of the man of sin’s doctrines and to follow Jesus Christ and His servant, Gerald Flurry, into the newly formed Philadelphia Church of God. Mr. Flurry was one of a very few who recognized Satan’s growing influence over the WCG, and he was the most vocal in warning and exposing what was happening in the WCG.

The “churches of god” are the synagogues of Satan, the lost sheep of the House of Israel, the sleeping “virgins,” and are in a 1986 “time warp,” having no “growth in the knowledge of Jesus Christ” since Herbert Armstrong’s death. And when we write of “growing in knowledge,” we mean growing in NEW UNDERSTANDING of the Bible. The churches have been lulled to sleep by the ministers they follow.

### **The Place of Safety**

A vital point which the “churches of god” have not yet understood is the location of the place of safety. God has prepared a place for His faithful Philadelphians to be protected from the evil days of the Tribulation. The urgent need of a place of safety cannot be overly emphasized—and only those proven worthy to escape will be in that special place prepared by God. Jesus Christ states very clearly that the Great Tribulation will be the worst time of trouble EVER to come upon mankind—upon the whole creation!

Ezekiel describes some of the time of great trouble in Chapter 7,



verses 1-10 of his book:

**Moreover the word of the LORD came unto me, saying, Also, thou son of man, thus saith the Lord GOD unto the land of Israel; An end, the end is come upon the four corners of the land. Now is the end come upon thee, and I will send mine anger upon thee, and will judge thee according to thy ways, and will recompense upon thee all thine abominations. And mine eye shall not spare thee, neither will I have pity: but I will recompense thy ways upon thee, and thine abominations shall be in the midst of thee: and ye shall know that I am the LORD. Thus saith the Lord GOD; An evil, an only evil, behold, is come. An end is come, the end is come: it watcheth for thee; behold, it is come. The morning is come unto thee, O thou that dwellest in the land: the time is come, the day of trouble is near, and not the sounding again of the mountains. Now will I shortly pour out my fury upon thee, and accomplish mine anger upon thee: and I will judge thee according to thy ways, and will recompense thee for all thine abominations. And mine eye shall not spare, neither will I have pity: I will recompense thee according to thy ways and thine abominations that are in the midst of thee; and ye shall know that I am the LORD that smiteth.**

The Great Tribulation, including the Day of the Lord's Wrath, is being expressed in those verses. Chapter 5 depicts some of the grisly details of the Tribulation, and verse 10 paints this gruesome picture:

**Therefore the fathers shall eat the sons in the midst of thee, and the sons shall eat their fathers; and I will execute judgments on thee; and the whole remnant of thee will I scatter unto all the winds.**

Cannibalism is the lowest act of depravity to which a person can sink and illustrates how evil and desperate the days of the Great Tribulation will be.

A place of safety will be urgently needed by the people of God!

For any who believe that the place of safety is Petra—you need to open your Bibles and study. The place of safety is not the ancient, rose red city of Petra located in the modern nation of Jordan, although that has been taught for nearly sixty years. Holy Scripture states plainly that

the area of Jordan, originally named Edom, is destined to be utterly destroyed!

Jeremiah 49:17-18 records this sure prophecy:

**Also Edom [where Petra is located] shall be a desolation: every one that goeth by it shall be astonished, and shall hiss at all the plagues thereof. As in the overthrow of Sodom and Gomorrah and the neighbour cities thereof, saith the LORD, no man shall abide there, neither shall a son of man dwell in it.**

Isaiah 34:5-6 adds the following:

**For my sword shall be bathed in heaven: behold, it shall come down upon Idumea, [Greek for Edom] and upon the people of my curse, to judgment. The sword of the LORD is filled with blood, it is made fat with fatness, and with the blood of lambs and goats, with the fat of the kidneys of rams: for the LORD hath a sacrifice in Bozrah [the ancient capitol city of Edom] and a great slaughter in the land of Idumea.**

Petra will be a place of slaughter—not a place of safety.

The CGF has been given a strong indication of where the place of safety will be. Request or download our article titled “Where Is the Place of Safety?” and our booklets *The Midnight Cry*, *The Apostasy*, and *Petra: Place of Safety or Place of Slaughter?* This literature will supply details of events mentioned above. Also request or download the booklet, *Whoso Reads...Let Him Understand*, which reveals another amazing fulfillment of prophecy. *Whoso Reads...* discloses the stunning turn of events that identify Gerald Flurry as the abomination standing in the Holy Place!

### **Laodicea Becomes Lukewarm to the Work of God**

Mr. Flurry labored mightily for seven years warning of the falling away from truth, but only a few brethren, and none of the leading WCG ministers, joined with him in his efforts. Then after seven years, with membership lagging and tithes and offerings beginning to decline, Gerald Flurry made two serious blunders!

First, he illegally printed and distributed a large number of Herbert Armstrong’s book, *Mystery of the Ages (MOA)*, thereby infringing on

the copyright held by the WCG. This precipitated a six-year, costly legal battle between the PCG and the WCG, concluding in a victory for the WCG. However, after winning the battle, the WCG sold the copyrights of MOA and 18 other WCG books, booklets and literature to the PCG for \$2 million. That negotiation could have been made at the beginning, before Mr. Flurry transgressed the copyright, but he had refused and made the statement that he would not negotiate with demons! However, after six years of “fighting his brother” (I Cor. 6:1-8 and Matt.5:19) and spending approximately \$4 million on court costs and lawyer fees, he did negotiate with the WCG.

Gerald Flurry’s second huge mistake was yielding to his own vanity and, incredibly, proclaiming that he was THAT PROPHET. Of course, that title belongs only to Jesus Christ (Acts 3:20-24)! Satan wants very badly to have God Almighty’s title as Ruler of the Universe (Isa. 14:14). Therefore, just as Satan is shown in Isaiah 14 and Ezekiel 28 as having greatly influenced and actually possessing the King of Babylon and the Prince of Tyre, he influenced Gerald Flurry to take the title of THAT PROPHET. Gerald Flurry, who exposed the man of sin sitting in the Temple of God, has now, himself, become the abomination standing in the Holy Place!

Mr. Flurry stands as the high priest of the Laodicean Church and is still in the “inner court”—the Holy Place:

**And he brought me into the inner court [the Holy Place] of the LORD’S house, and, behold, at the door of the temple of the LORD, between the porch and the altar, were about five and twenty men, with their backs toward the temple of the LORD, and their faces toward the east; and they worshipped the sun toward the east. Then he said unto me, Hast thou seen this, O son of man? Is it a light thing to the house of Judah that they commit the abominations which they commit here? (Ezek. 8:16-17).**

Let me say again: powerful prophecies are being fulfilled at a very rapid pace these days, and it must be understood that there are physical and spiritual applications to some of these prophecies. We read Matthew’s and Luke’s versions of conditions leading up to the Great Tribulation:

- The “abomination of desolation” would stand in the “Holy Place.”

- Jerusalem would be surrounded by armies and then the desolation thereof is nigh.

For decades it was taught by the WCG, and today is still taught by the scattered churches and the PCG, that the beast's armies will enter into and surround Jerusalem, thus bringing "desolation" to the area. That is true, but the prophecy of the man of sin of II Thessalonians 2 being a part of this is totally incorrect! The beast and the false prophet will set up a "tabernacle" or temple (Dan. 11:45) and will become a physical type of the "abomination of desolation." Anyone residing in Jerusalem at that time is warned to flee to the mountains.

Remember, the spiritual type of the "abomination" is standing in the Holy Place now in the person of the high priest of Laodicea, Gerald Flurry, with his blasphemous claim of being That Prophet. Anyone who understands this fact should immediately flee to the "mountain" of God's true Church (See Isa. 2:2-3, which supplies the interpretation of "mountain" and what it symbolizes). The "Holy Place" is in the inner court of the spiritual Temple, and Gerald Flurry is standing there as "the abomination" (Ezek. 8:16).

### **Warning Signs Being Ignored**

No one seems to realize the seriousness of these signs—the man of sin has already sat in the Temple of God, AND the abomination is now standing in the Holy Place. Those who awaken and understand these signs must hurriedly flee to the "mountain of God"—His true Church. The Kingdom of God is at Hand!

Read again Revelation 3:9:

**Behold, I will make them of the synagogue of Satan, which say they are Jews, and are not, but do lie; behold, I will make them to come and worship before thy feet, and to know that I have loved thee.**

As we wait, making sure we ourselves are ready, we highly anticipate the reality of that scripture. Jesus Christ will give us the wherewithal to THUNDER forth the Midnight Cry that will shake the churches of god into alert wakefulness. Matthew 25:6 is the wee Cry the CGF has been issuing for over twelve years. But this will dramatically change to a THUNDEROUS ROAR at the proper time. How this will be done we are not sure. We know Christ changes not (Heb. 13:5). Therefore, we expect that, in the same manner as He performed His ministry in

the flesh, using tremendous MIRACLES, SIGNS and WONDERS, this POWER will be given to His faithful Church to complete His work in the near future (see I Cor. 12, especially v. 28).

Holy Scripture surely indicates that the Head of the Church will give POWER to His faithful to awaken the “sleeping virgins” in the same way He gave POWER to His original disciples and the seventy when He sent them forth:

**But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. And as ye go, preach, saying, The kingdom of heaven is at hand [the Day of the Lord has come]. Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out Devils: freely ye have received, freely give (Matt. 10:6-8).**

These MIRACLES will awaken our brethren, and our MESSAGE will cause the wise to “trim their lamps” and hurriedly come to us.

Satan will have his “false ministers” and “false Christs” attempt to duplicate many of the miracles that our Lord will perform through His Church. Satan did the same thing in opposition to Moses and Aaron when they stood before Pharaoh, and he will do “miracles” in the near future, too. Matthew 24:24 is Jesus’ warning to each of us:

**For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect.**

However, the great difference between Christ’s work and Satan’s deception will be the MESSAGE. The true Church will be proclaiming the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand—the Day of the Lord is here—NOW! Therefore, the prophecies of the book of Revelation can be UNDERSTOOD NOW!

This GREATEST WORK IN NEW TESTAMENT TIMES will happen! THOUSANDS of our brethren will come (they will have no choice—they will be “given” to us) and worship God at our feet! God’s faithful Church, led by Jesus Christ, shall be the mighty PILLAR members of the spiritual Temple, and the thousands to be brought in will be the LIVELY STONES! And this number will include hundreds of specially called and chosen people from the streets and lanes of the city and those from the highways and hedges! Christ will bring all of the scattered pieces together to form the spiritual Temple. Some will be proven before the Great Tribulation and will be taken to the place of

safety—the other parts of the holy Temple not proven worthy to escape must be “molded and fashioned” in the image of Christ in the terrible “fire” of the Great Tribulation.

**And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone; In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord: In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit (Eph. 2:20-22).**

The prophet Haggai adds this fantastic promise:

**The glory of this latter house shall be greater than of the former, saith the LORD of hosts: and in this place will I give peace, saith the LORD of hosts (Hag. 2:9).**

Many awesome, premier events have come and gone while the synagogues of Satan have been fast asleep: the man of sin has made his appearance; the great falling away has taken place; the Day of the Lord has come; the abomination stands in the Holy Place. And now, very soon, the GATHERING of God’s people—the WISE—shall take place. **“Now we beseech you, brethren, by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by our gathering together unto him”** (see II Thess. 2:1-3).

Request a copy or download our booklets: *The Midnight Cry*, *Petra—Place of Safety...or Place of Slaughter*, and our 160-page book, *Set Apart by Truth*.

At this juncture in this presentation, let’s pause and see where we are. We have hit the highlights in Revelation 6—the opening of the first SIX SEALS! The first four seals are the four horsemen, symbolic of false religion, war, famine, pestilence and death. The fifth seal depicts the terrible Great Tribulation. The sixth seal is a thumbnail description of the terrifying heavenly signs. Thus, before we come to the opening of the seventh seal, it would be appropriate to look at the chapters in the book of Revelation that are not in time order, or are, as Mr. Armstrong called them, “inset chapters.”

## Chapter Four:

# Things to Come!



**J**esus Christ, before He came in the flesh, had existed eternally as the WORD! He was with God and He was God and is still God, the Son, the Living Word of God today (Jn. 1:1-3, 14 and 19:13). In John 16:13, Christ gives us another exciting promise:

**Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.**

We are studying the book of Revelation, which takes us, in the stream of time, from a brief, consolidated depiction of the ancient world empires of Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, and Rome, through the seven eras of the true Church from 31 AD, to the present time in the Day of the Lord! And as John 16:13 states, “**...the Spirit of truth...will show you things to come.**”

As we continue this study into the book of Revelation, we will be vividly shown, in chronological order, “things to come,” from the immediate present and the end of Satan’s world, into the 1000 years of the World Tomorrow, then beyond the 1000 years of the Last Great Day to that glorious day when Christ, as King of Kings, will deliver up the Kingdom to God, even the Father... (I Cor. 15:24) and planet Earth will be universe headquarters.

Revealing “things to come” is not a difficulty to God whatsoever.

In fact, this is stated by Isaiah 46:9-10:

**Remember the former things of old: for I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like me, declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure...**

Thus we are viewing, through the Word of God, “things to come”! The Revelation is written in chronological order, except when Christ inspires an “inset” chapter or portion of a chapter to provide details and clarification about a particular subject. In this study we must carefully determine where the insets apply in time order.

In Chapter 1, the theme of the book is presented, and John is projected into our time, today. What we read about from verse 10 is NOW and the past twelve years, as the Day of the Lord began on October 1st 1997. Chapters 2 and 3 are the historical/prophetic depiction of the seven stages of the true Church from its beginning to its condition in the Day of the Lord. Chapters 4 and 5 take us in vision into the very throne room of God Almighty. Chapter 6 is a continuation of the activity in Chapter 5, and also occurs during the Day of the Lord. Christ has begun removing the seven seals from the scroll; thus, its understanding is open to us, although only the first four seals, the ride of the four horsemen, are actively occurring at this time.

### **Prelude to the Lord’s Wrath**

It will not be long until our Lord permits the reality of the Great Tribulation (the fifth seal) and the supernatural heavenly signs (the sixth seal) to impact the earth. Two and a half years will slowly drag by as rebellious mankind suffers horribly. Immediately following those two and a half years (Matt. 24:31), there is a pause before the intensity of the dreadful happenings is greatly multiplied by the DAY of the LORD’S WRATH!

We should pause here before we go to the scriptures describing the Day of the Lord’s Wrath. It will be best to go back to Daniel’s prophecies and follow the details leading up to the time period he calls “the end,” the Great Tribulation, and the “time, times, and a part of time,” which takes us into the Day of the Lord’s Wrath.

Notice “the time of the end” in the following verses:

**And at the time of the end shall the king of the south push**



**at him** [this happened on 9/11/01 when the Islamic terrorists brought down the World Trade Center buildings] **and the king of the north shall come against him like a whirlwind, with chariots, and with horsemen, and with many ships; and he shall enter into the countries, and shall overflow and pass over** (Dan. 11:40).

Next, Daniel 12:1,4:

**And at that time** [the time of the end] **shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble** [the Great Tribulation] **such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book...But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end:** [We are in the Day of the Lord and the time of the end] **many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased.**

**And one said to the man clothed in linen, which was upon the waters of the river, How long shall it be to the end of these wonders? And I heard the man clothed in linen, which was upon the waters of the river, when he held up his right hand and his left hand unto heaven, and swore by him that liveth for ever that it shall be for a time, times, and an half** [a part or portion] **and when he shall have accomplished to scatter the power of the holy people, all these things shall be finished** (vv. 6-7).

**And he said, Go thy way, Daniel: for the words are closed up and sealed till the time of the end** [They are opened to the CGF now]...**But go thou thy way till the end be: for thou shalt rest, and stand in thy lot at the end of the days** [The “end of the days” is at the First Resurrection] (vv. 9, 13).

These verses make it clear that certain detailed events will happen at “the time of the end” before the Great Tribulation!

- The whirlwind of war will escalate into all-out warfare.
- Many countries will be conquered: Egypt, Libya, Ethiopia and the glorious land (Israel).

- Jordan and Lebanon will be allied with the king of the north—the beast (see Psalm 83)!
- Verse 44 of Daniel 11 states that reports from the north (Russia) and the east (the populous Asian nations) will provoke the king of the north to strike these nations also. This event may also be a type of the fifth trumpet plague.
- The four horsemen end their ride at this point, as over one billion people have died. Fear of the beast will stifle any resistance to the rule of united Europe!
- Those “worthy” to escape will be taken to the place of safety (Dan. 12:11).
- At that time the king of the north becomes the beast, then he and the false prophet will make their headquarters in Jerusalem (Dan. 11:45). See also Luke 21:20.
- The Two Witnesses are brought on the scene as the prophets of God.
- And at that time the 42 months of the Great Tribulation begin (Rev. 13:5).

### **The Wrath of the Lamb**

Now we are ready to proceed into the one-year period of the Wrath of the Lamb!

**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; 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 (Rev. 6:15-17)?**

Zephaniah has a similar warning!

**The great day [this should be “A” great day] of the LORD is near, it is near, and hasteth greatly, even the voice of the [A] day of the LORD: the mighty man shall cry there bitterly. That day is “A” day of wrath, “A” day of trouble and distress,**

**“A” day of wasteness and desolation, “A” day of darkness and gloominess, “A” day of clouds and thick darkness, “A” day of the trumpet and alarm against the fenced cities, and against the high towers. [When these verses are compared with the time of routine activity described in Matthew 24:37-39, it is obvious that the Day of the Lord and the Day of the Lord’s Wrath are two different events.] And I will bring distress upon men, that they shall walk like blind men, because they have sinned against the LORD: and their blood shall be poured out as dust, and their flesh as the dung (Zeph. 1:14-17).**

As previously explained, the seventh seal is the momentous one-year of the Day of the Lord’s Wrath, culminating in the return of Christ, and the Resurrection and gathering of His firstfruits. The seventh seal is also known as the seven trumpet plagues, with the seventh (last) trumpet being the signal for the visible return of Jesus Christ, the First Resurrection, and the pouring forth of the seven last plagues.

### **First Citizens of the World Tomorrow**

Now Revelation, Chapter 7:

**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. 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, Saying, Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads. 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 (vv. 1-4).**

There is nothing really difficult to understand in verses 1-8. Here described are 144,000 repentant Israelites, 12,000 from each tribe, gathered from all over the earth after enduring two and a half years of great tribulation. They are to be sealed with the Spirit of God, as all of God’s chosen are sealed, as is declared in Ephesians 1:13 and 4:30:

**In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of**

**truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise... And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.** (See also II Cor. 1:22 and II Tim. 2:19.)

A true Christian has been called to repentance by God the Father (Rom. 2:4), then is baptized and has hands laid upon him, thereby receiving the Holy Spirit, which is the begetting of eternal life (Acts 2:38-39 and Heb. 6:2). Therefore, the 144,000 Israelites will apparently be brought to the place of safety to be baptized by the ministry of Christ, and have hands laid upon them and receive God's Holy Spirit!

The 144,000 Israelites, as fruit of the Two Witnesses' ministry and God's mercy, are given welcomed protection from the last year of the Great Tribulation, the "Wrath of the Lamb," in the one and only place of safety that Christ has prepared. The faithful of God will have been there two and a half years and will have prepared to receive this vast number of people.

The 144,000 Israelites are NOT Philadelphians or Laodiceans! They are NOT called as firstfruits for the First Resurrection! They are called and chosen as the first citizens of the World Tomorrow—a holy nation. They are to be THE EXAMPLE to all other nations in the Millennium. They will be the first ministers of God in the World Tomorrow (see Isa. 61). Perhaps they will have the responsibility to care for the children of the faithful who will have ascended to meet Christ at the sound of the last trumpet.

Ancient Israel was called to be God's model nation (Ex. 19:6), but failed to do so. The true Church today is "the Israel of God" (Gal. 6:16) and a type of "holy nation" (I Pet. 2:9). And yet God's purpose shall be totally fulfilled through the 144,000 Israelites—they will be the model for all nations in the World Tomorrow.

### **A View of the Completed Plan of God**

Now in verse 9 of Revelation 7, we come to a remarkable inset that presents an awe-inspiring picture of the successful completion of the plan of God.

**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 (vv. 9-10).**

This section of Holy Scripture is totally outside the story flow of the book of Revelation, and is inserted here in Chapter 7 for a very special reason. Notice that this innumerable number of “people” is standing before the throne of Almighty God and before the Lamb.

In the past, verse 14 has been the source of misunderstanding about when this scene actually occurs:

**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.**

At first glance it appears that this tremendous number of people has come out of THE Great Tribulation and is standing before God. But how could this be, when it is plainly revealed in Revelation 14:1-5 that only 144,000 will be in the First Resurrection? So, who are these people, this “great multitude which no man could number,” and how can they be standing before the Father, God Almighty? What is being revealed here?

The explanation of this inset section of Holy Scripture has been thoroughly explained on pages 80 and 81 in our booklet *The Deep Things of God*. These pages are copied below:

The Greek word for great is *megas*, Strong’s #3173, defined as: exceedingly, great, high, large, loud... The Greek word for tribulation is *thlipsisi*, Strong’s #2347, meaning: pressure, afflicted [-tion], anguish, burdened, persecution, tribulation, trouble.

Now observe how these words are used in several other scriptures:

- Matthew 24:21: **“For then shall be great [3173] tribulation [2347], such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be.”**
- Mark 13:19: **“For in those days shall be affliction [2347], such as was not from the beginning of the creation which God created unto this time, neither shall be.”**

- Acts 7:11: **“Now there came a dearth over all the land of Egypt and Chanaan, and great [3173] affliction [2347]: and our fathers found no sustenance.”**
- II Corinthians 8:2: **“How that in a great [3173] trial of affliction [2347], the abundance of their joy and their deep poverty abounded unto the riches of their liberality.”**
- Revelation 2:22: **“Behold, I will cast her into a bed, and them that commit adultery with her into great [3173] tribulation [2347], except they repent of their deeds.”**
- John 16:33: **“These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation [2347]...”**
- Acts 14:22: **“Confirming the souls of the disciples, and exhorting them to continue in the faith, and that we must through much tribulation [2347] enter into the kingdom of God.”**

Matthew 24:21 and Mark 13:19 are unmistakably referring to the most awful time of trouble ever to come upon mankind: the ONE and ONLY Great Tribulation! However, Acts 7:11 makes it very obvious that the same expression, great tribulation, is used to vividly portray conditions in the patriarch Joseph’s day over 35 centuries ago! In the apostle Paul’s day, 1900 years ago, the Corinthian Christians were experiencing great tribulation. And Revelation 2:22 shows that a condition of great tribulation was manifested in the time of the Thyatira era, approximately five centuries ago. Our Lord was emphatic in His statement in John 16:33 that Christians will have tribulation! Acts 14:22 declares that Christ’s disciples enter the Kingdom of God through much tribulation! Therefore, Revelation 7:14 expresses the same plain truth stated by the scriptures we have just reviewed. The elder who is speaking to John is saying (paraphrased), “This INNUMERABLE MULTITUDE has entered into the Kingdom of God through much trial and affliction.” From righteous Abel to the last person qualifying during the Last Great Day, everyone will suffer trial, affliction, tribulation, persecution, and trouble in their efforts to be born

into the God family. Plain and simple!

Revelation 7:9-17 is a PREVIEW OF THE SUCCESSFUL CREATION OF AN INNUMERABLE MULTITUDE OF GOD-BEINGS!

God our Father is coming to make His abode on planet Earth after the Last Great Day when Jesus Christ has everything in readiness for Him. It is during this Last Great Day that the King of Kings and Lord of Lords shall proclaim, on behalf of God Almighty, the words of Isaiah 45:22-24:

**Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am God, and there is none else. I have sworn by myself, the word is gone out of my mouth in righteousness, and shall not return, that unto me every knee shall bow, every tongue shall swear. Surely shall one say, in the Lord have I righteousness and strength: even to him shall men come; and all that are incensed against him shall be ashamed.**

(End quote)

That is the complete explanation of this wonderful new truth as copied from our *Deep Things of God* booklet. But let's add I Corinthians 15:24-28 as a summation of this fantastic new understanding!

**Then cometh the end** [the completion (#5056) of the plan of God], **when he** [Jesus Christ] **shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father; when he** [Christ] **shall have put down all rule and all authority and power. For he** [Christ] **must reign, till he** [Christ] **hath put all enemies under his feet. The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death. For he** [God the Father] **hath put all things under his** [Christ's] **feet. But when he** [Christ] **saith all things are put under him** [Christ], **it is manifest that he** [God] **is excepted, which did put all things under him** [Christ]. **And when all things shall be subdued unto him** [Christ], **then shall the Son also himself be subject unto him** [God Almighty] **that put all things under him** [Jesus Christ], **that God may be all in all.**

I hope you can thrill to that magnificent truth and realize that this wonderful knowledge could not be understood until the seven seals were opened—and they were not opened until the Day of the Lord

began! This revealed truth is inserted at this point in the book of Revelation immediately prior to the beginning of the “Lord’s Wrath” for the encouragement of those in the place of safety. The condition of the earth and the solar system during these last days of the Great Tribulation will be so affected that God presents a preview of His completed plan for the confidence and encouragement needed even in the place of safety.

### **More NEW TRUTH**

Verses 9-17 of Revelation 7 are completely removed from the story flow, but Chapter 8 returns to the story flow and brings us to the seventh seal and the looming horrors of the Day of God’s Wrath. Things will become so terrifying on earth and throughout the solar system (see Rev. 6:10-17 and Isa.13:9-10) during that final year, that God in His great mercy has this section of Holy Scripture inserted to describe the successful completion of His plan—before His wrath is poured out upon the earth.

Let us remember also that Christ will have His Two Witnesses conducting their powerful ministry, directly opposing the beast and the false prophet. God’s prophets will proclaim to the entire ravaged world, for three and a half years, the same message the CGF teaches today—the Kingdom of God is at hand! They will be backed up by the POWER of God to perform mighty miracles, signs, and wonders. They will be a type of Moses and Aaron! The Two Witnesses are symbolized by the Philadelphia candlestick and the Laodicean candlestick, AND are the official representatives of God Almighty and Jesus Christ, their Lord and King!

Revelation 11:3-6 tells us:

**And I will give power unto my two witnesses, and they shall prophesy [#4395] a thousand two hundred and three-score days, clothed in sackcloth** [Will they actually wear sackcloth, or is sackcloth only a symbol of a prophet?]. **These are the two olive trees** [Olive oil is symbolic of God’s Spirit; therefore, it follows that the two olive trees would represent the source of the oil—God and Christ] **and the two candlesticks** [Churches] **standing before the God of the earth. And if any man will hurt them, fire proceedeth out of their mouth, and devoureth their enemies** [God’s protection will be upon the



Two Witnesses for 1260 days] **and if any man will hurt them, he must in this manner be killed. These have power to shut heaven, that it rain not in the days of their prophecy [#4394] and have power over waters to turn them to blood, and to smite the earth with all plagues, as often as they will** [Apparently God will have His two servants call down the first six of the trumpet plagues].

## God's Holy Days and the Seventh Seal

Revelation 8:1-6 introduces us to the seven trumpet angels. From verse 6 through all of Chapter 9 the first through the sixth trumpet angels sound their trumpets and bring forth their plagues. But let us not forget that, as we study the remarkable book of Revelation, we are being given understanding of the plan of God.

God and Christ are consistent in all their ways, and the seven annual Holy Days picture the plan of salvation. The Passover is not a "Holy Day," but it is the most solemn ceremony observed by the Church. The Passover symbolizes Jesus Christ as the Lamb of God sacrificed for the sins of the world (I Cor. 5:8). Christ was put to death on Passover day!

The wave offering was commanded to be observed on the first day of the week during the Days of Unleavened Bread. Jesus fulfilled the wave offering as the first of the firstfruits at the exact time when the wave offering had been commemorated for nearly 15 centuries. The seven Days of Unleavened Bread depict the lifelong struggle a true Christian must endure as he seeks the Kingdom of God. Being forgiven of past sins through the Passover sacrifice, a Christian then strives to keep sin out of his life, trying to live as our Savior did. The first and seventh days of the Days of Unleavened Bread are annual Holy Days (Lev. 23).

The third annual Holy Day is the Feast of Firstfruits, or Pentecost, observed 50 days from the wave offering and picturing the early spring harvest of firstfruits.

The other four annual Holy Days also picture a vital part in the plan of salvation and they all occur in the seventh month of the sacred calendar. The Feast of Trumpets, the fourth Holy Day, portrays the point in time we have reached in this writing: the Day of the Lord's Wrath and the sounding of the seven trumpets.

Each year, as we observe these holy convocations, we act out the

plan of salvation.

The Day of the Lord's Wrath is composed of seven trumpet plagues—and the seventh trumpet plague is composed of the seven last plagues. The blowing of the seven trumpets is pictured by the Feast of Trumpets, which occurs on the first day of the seventh month. The first day of the seventh month also depicts the finished re-creation of planet Earth and symbolizes the Day of the Lord that lasts for eternity.

By following God's pattern and the tremendous meaning contained in each Holy Day, it is likely that the first angel sounds his trumpet on the Feast of Trumpets, producing an earth-shaking plague that destroys one-third of all trees, and all green grass will be burned up (Rev. 8:7).

Remember, when the first trumpet sounds, two and a half years of great tribulation has already been endured. Food and clean water are in extreme scarcity!

The second angel sounds on the Day of Atonement, with his plague turning one-third of the seas into blood, resulting in the death of one-third of all the creatures in the sea, and the destruction of one-third of all ships. The seas, as a source of food, are terribly affected (v. 8-9).

The third angel sounds on the First Day of the Feast of Tabernacles, affecting one-third of the fresh water of the earth. This plague will turn the waters to "wormwood," killing many men (v.10-11). Neither man nor animal can exist without pure water.

The fourth angel sounds his trumpet on the Last Great Day, causing the entire solar system to be seriously affected. One-third of the sun, moon, and stars will be darkened (v. 12).

There are upwards of 6 months between the Last Great Day and the First Day of Unleavened Bread. One cannot imagine the total suffering, misery and turmoil being experienced on planet Earth. One-third of all lakes, rivers, streams and other sources of fresh water will be rendered poisonous. Smoke, dust, and smog will blanket the earth, hiding the sun! There will be very little fresh air. One-third of the seas will turn to nasty, filthy, stinking blood. The skies will be further darkened and have a strange appearance, as planet Earth reels upon its orbit (see Isa. 24:5-6). The physical, emotional, and mental anguish is worse than at anytime in history. Matthew 24:21 will be fulfilled to the maximum!

After those terrible three weeks and the ear-splitting blasts of the four trumpets, as they sound one after another, then there is silence! But not for long! More trouble is coming, and another mighty angel makes this announcement:

**And I beheld, and heard an angel flying through the midst of heaven, saying with a loud voice, Woe, woe, woe, to the inhabitants of the earth by reason of the other voices of the trumpet of the three angels, which are yet to sound (v.13)!**

### **Woe Unto the Earth**

Now we come to the fifth and sixth trumpet angels! The fifth angel sends forth his trumpet blast on the First Day of Unleavened Bread.

**And the fifth angel sounded, and I saw a star fall from heaven unto the earth: and to him was given the key of the bottomless pit. And he opened the bottomless pit; and there arose a smoke out of the pit, as the smoke of a great furnace; and the sun and the air were darkened by reason of the smoke of the pit (Rev. 9:1-2).**

There is much symbolism in this chapter and care must be taken to obtain the true meaning of the symbolism. We read earlier that Revelation 1:20 gives Christ's interpretation that a "star" represents an angel! A number of versions of the Bible render verse one as follows: "When the fifth angel blew his trumpet, I saw a star that had fallen to earth from the sky. The star was given the key to the shaft of the bottomless pit" (ISV). We have also seen from Luke 10:18 that Christ said He saw Satan as lightening fall from Heaven.

Rev. 20:1 also mentions an "angel" and the "bottomless pit":

**And I saw an angel** [The "angel" John sees here in Chapter 20 is most likely the mighty Christ] **come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years...**

The "fallen star" of verse 1 could be Satan himself, and God allows him to open the "bottomless pit." This is during the time of the Wrath of God, and the releasing of a multitude of demons will bring WOE upon the earth!

Verses 3-5 describe more of this plague:

**And there came out of the smoke locusts upon the earth: and unto them was given power, as the scorpions of the earth have power. And it was commanded them that they should**

**not hurt the grass of the earth, neither any green thing, neither any tree; but only those men which have not the seal of God in their foreheads. And to them it was given that they should not kill them, but that they should be tormented five months: and their torment was as the torment of a scorpion, when he striketh a man.**

Let's recall the statement in Revelation 13:4 that all nations of the earth will stand in awe and deep fear of united Europe (the beast).

**And they worshipped the dragon [Satan] which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, Who is like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him?**

Verses 13-21 of Revelation 9 bring us to the sixth angel sounding his trumpet on the seventh day of Unleavened Bread. Described here is a staggering number of armed men (200 million) who are finally ready to "make war with the beast." Undoubtedly, this vast army is made up of the nations of the Far East and possibly Russia. Earlier we stated that Daniel 11:44 could very well be a type of what is being portrayed here in Revelation 9.

The blitzkrieg warfare issued by the king of the north (united Europe) against the king of the south, apparently causes the nations of the east and north to threaten retaliation against Europe.

**Tidings from the east and the north troubled him, thus he went forth with great fury to destroy and to utterly make away many (Dan. 11:44).**

This seems to be a former "type and an end-time anti-type" of the ghastly occurrences of the fifth and six trumpet plagues!

The awful destruction hurled forth by united Europe will crush all resistance against them and bring on the 42-month rule of the beast, and the Great Tribulation. Now as we come to this point in Chapter 9, we have come to the last six months of the Great Tribulation and of the Day of the Lord's Wrath!

## **Demons**

But, what happens to precipitate a deadly strike by the beast upon the eastern nations? Notice that the weaponry used by the beast does "not hurt the grass or any green thing" (v. 4)! Why? At that time, during the "cloudy and dark" Day of the Lord's Wrath, food must be in extreme

scarcity; consequently, this is a demon-inspired FOOD WAR!

Revelation 9:11 states:

**And they had a king over them, which is the angel of the bottomless pit, whose name in the Hebrew tongue is Abaddon, but in the Greek tongue hath his name Apollyon.**

Satan, before he sinned, was the anointed cherub, Lucifer, who had charge of one-third of all of the angels. When he foolishly rebelled against God, he was cast down to the earth with the evil angels who followed him and they became demons. II Peter 2:4 declares,

**For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell [Strong's #5020 tartaroo] and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment...**

Thus, we see an extremely evil demon (Apollyon—the destroyer), which God has kept imprisoned until that very moment, heading up the beast's armies who are preparing for battle with the “men of the east” (Ezek. 25), led by four other extremely wicked ‘angels’ that are bound in the Euphrates river (Rev.9:14-15). Satan is still the very evil “godfather” of the demons, but those who are “bound” in the pit and in the Euphrates are fiercely wicked “hit-men” that have existed in “chains of darkness.” This will indeed be a WOEFUL time when they are released!

Chapter 9 provides a glimpse of a time of horror as yet unparalleled in history, when one-third of mankind will be killed or immobilized for about five months. God is using Satan and his demons to demonstrate the end result of rebelliousness toward God.

And Jesus Christ is preparing to rid planet Earth of all evil by man and demon!

**And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet. For they are the spirits of Devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty (Rev. 16:13-14).**

But before we come to the battle of that Great Day of God Almighty, there are other details that must be explained.



mighty Angel that John sees here is the Lord Himself, Jesus Christ. Please request our booklet or download it from our website.

Nevertheless, in this section of this presentation it must be clearly understood which angel is actually sounding in verse 7 of Chapter 10—the seventh trumpet angel or the seventh Church angel!

**And the angel which I saw stand upon the sea and upon the earth lifted up his hand to heaven, And sware by him that liveth for ever and ever, who created heaven, and the things that therein are, and the earth, and the things that therein are, and the sea, and the things which are therein, that there should be time no longer [What does that mean?] But in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, [Which angel?] when he shall begin to sound, the mystery of God [What is that?] should be finished [?] as he hath declared to his servants the prophets (vv. 5-7).**

Chapters 10 and 11 are one continuous vision until verse 14, where the story flow begins once again. Let's jump ahead to Revelation 11:3 to get the time setting of Chapters 10 and 11:

**And I will give power unto my two witnesses, and they shall prophesy a thousand two hundred and threescore days, clothed in sackcloth.**

The 1260-day period of the Two Witnesses' ministry happens mostly during the 42-month reign of terror of the beast power. During this same time, those accounted "worthy" to escape will be taken to the place of safety where they will await the visible return of Christ and the First Resurrection. But the main point here is that Revelation 10 and 11 bring us back to Chapter 1, before any of the seals are opened. This is where they fit in the story flow of the book of Revelation, but this presents the following vital questions:

- Is the seventh Church angel or the seventh trumpet angel about to "sound" in Revelation 10:7?
- Do Church angels actually "sound"?
- What is the mystery of God that shall be finished?

Some of this may be repetitious, but it is necessary as we seek clear understanding. The apostle John is projected in vision into the Lord's Day, into God's time, after 6000 years of man's time has come to an

end. Verse 6 of Revelation 10 states the fact that “time shall be no more.” This means man’s time shall be no more! Plain and simple!

Revelation 10 fills in this wonderful, vital information. Man’s 6000 years of time is over and done—now God’s time resumes again! That brings us back to Chapter 1, verse 10, and John being in the Spirit on the Lord’s Day. It’s the Lord’s Day—God’s time has resumed! Man’s time had ended and John was projected into God’s time! The time element is further identified as during the “days [plural] of the voice of the seventh angel, when he shall begin to sound” (v. 7).

Please notice the description of the other trumpet angels as they “sound” in Revelation 8, verses 7, 8, 10, and 12, and Chapter 9, verses 1 and 13. Nothing is mentioned concerning “in the days of the voice...” of the other six trumpet angels, “...when they are about to sound.” No! It is simply stated in each verse that they “sounded”! And in Chapter 11, verse 15: “And the seventh [trumpet] angel sounded...” Therefore, in verse 6 of Revelation 10, “in the days of the voice of the seventh angel” is referring to the days of the seventh Church angel, the Laodicean era. Be sure you understand this vital point!

That is the answer to our main question, but let’s prove this further.

The sounding takes us back to Revelation 1:10, before the opening of any of the seals. As previously stated, the “voice” of Gerald Flurry and the Laodicean Church was a wee sound to the WCG for seven years. Mr. Flurry was commissioned by Christ to trumpet a powerful warning to the Church of God, which was turning away from the doctrines of God (Ezek. 33:1-6). That is why Mr. Flurry named his Church magazine *The Philadelphia Trumpet*. Mr. Flurry knew that Isaiah 58:1 said, **“Cry aloud, spare not, lift up thy voice like a trumpet, and shew my people their transgression, and the house of Jacob their sins.”**

The Church angels must sound their messages, too! The messages to the seven Churches in Revelation 2 and 3, in each case begin with the words, **“...unto the angel of the church in [of]...[all seven locations].”** The closing to each of the Church messages is: **“He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.”**

Revelation 3:7 declares: **“And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write...”** The sixth candlestick/Church began as God commissioned Herbert W. Armstrong to “prepare a people for the Lord” (Isa. 40:3 and Luke 1:17) and to TRUMPET the Gospel of the Kingdom of God to the world as a witness to all nations (Matt. 24:14).

Revelation 3:14 states: **“And unto the angel of the church of**



**the Laodiceans write...**" The seventh candlestick/Church began as God commissioned Gerald Flurry to sound a warning to the "people prepared for the Lord" about turning from the doctrines of God. For seven years, with a wee, weak voice and the message of Malachi in his book *Malachi's Message*, he struggled to warn the WCG. But he became impatient and unwise, and veered from his commission. He impetuously seized, printed, and distributed *Mystery of the Ages*, which was copyrighted by the WCG. This action initiated a six-year court battle with the WCG. This legal conflict of brother against brother changed his focus from his true commission of warning God's Church. But Mr. Flurry knew how to keep his followers excited and stirred up, and in great zeal the Laodiceans rallied to sound—but not to the Church. Instead, they would take MOA to the entire world.

Thus, the days of the voice of the seventh angel in 1997 became a TRUMPET blast as Gerald Flurry determined to take MOA to the greatest audience possible! The emphasis on the message of Malachi to the WCG and the daughter churches became second in importance.

The beginning of the sounding of the Laodicean trumpet would occur at the point when "time shall be no more"—in the Lord's Day of Revelation 1:10—before any of the seven seals were opened. The Day of the Lord began precisely at the end of man's 6000 years of allotted time on the Feast of Trumpets, October 1, 1997. And at the same time, the meaning of Revelation 10 was revealed to God's faithful Philadelphians, the CGF.

**And I saw another mighty angel [Jesus Christ] come down from heaven, clothed with a cloud: and a rainbow was upon his head, and his face was as it were the sun, and his feet as pillars of fire: And he had in his hand a little book open: and he set his right foot upon the sea, and his left foot on the earth...(Rev. 10:1-2).**

Notice in verse 2 that the "Little Book" is open in the mighty Angel's right hand. The "Little Book" was open and the message it contained was given to the Church of God's Faithful, the Church of Jesus Christ! Thus the sixth candlestick began to burn brightly once again!

Revelation 10:7 states that at that exact time "the Mystery of God shall be finished" (Strong's #5055). The same Greek word rendered here as "finished," is used as "accomplished" in other New Testament verses. For example, Luke 18:31:

**Then he took unto him the twelve, and said unto them, Behold, we go up to Jerusalem, and all things that are written by the prophets concerning the Son of man shall be accomplished.**

The greatest “Mystery of God” is not the Gospel message, as many scholars assume. It is not the Gospel of the Kingdom of God. If it were, the secret would have already been revealed when Herbert Armstrong “restored all things” (concerning the true Gospel) and took the Gospel to the entire world.

But Revelation 10:7 occurs during the Day of the Lord—and then the “Mystery of God” would be finished!

The greatest “Mystery of God” was the secret that only God the Father knew! The great secret, the “Mystery,” was the time when He would send Jesus Christ back to this earth. Mark 13:32 states this:

**But of that day and that hour knows no man, no, not the angels which are in heaven, neither the Son, but the Father (only).**

See also Matthew 24:36. This is the great Mystery that was accomplished as 6000 years of man’s allotted time ended and the Day of the Lord came as a thief in the night (I Thess. 5:2 and II Pet. 3:10).

That was the message of the Little Book open in the hand of the mighty Christ! The great announcement—the Day of the Lord had come—man’s time was ended—and Christ had come suddenly to His Temple!

The apostle John, 1900 years ago, was projected in vision into the Day of the Lord, and Jesus Christ actually came suddenly, like a thief, to His Temple as the Day of the Lord began. We believe this occurred on the Feast of Trumpets, 1997, as the understanding of the Day of the Lord and the Day of the Lord’s Wrath being two different events was revealed on that date. Revelation 10 fills in details relating to when the Day of the Lord would occur—and the mystery of Christ’s secret return to His Temple would happen.

### **When Does the Seventh TRUMPET Angel Sound?**

It takes time for the accomplishment of the many prophecies revealed by “eating” and digesting the prophetic contents of the Little Book. The realization that the Day of the Lord has come and that the Day of the Lord’s Wrath is different event, opens up many of the other

prophecies of the Bible. Understanding has been given to the CGF since we were given the Little Book! “Prophesying again” and measuring the Temple of God takes time—the time in which we live today—God’s time!

The seventh trumpet angel will not sound until after the Two Witnesses are killed and the sounding of the Philadelphia and Laodicean candlesticks (Churches) that they represent has been completed (see Rev. 11:3). The powerful ministry of the Two Witnesses (the final “sounding” of the sixth and seventh CHURCH angels) will be completed three and a half days before the visible return of Christ for the firstfruits (Rev. 1:7) on the Feast of Firstfruits—Pentecost. However, their “prophecies,” which will be the “testimony of Christ” revealed as “the spirit of prophecy,” (Rev. 19:10) will continue on even after their death.

### **The Two Witnesses**

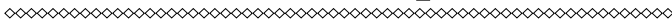
Understand! The Two Witnesses will proclaim powerful prophecies of what is in store for the entire world. They will be types of Moses and Aaron as they called down the plagues of God on ancient Egypt. But the Two Witnesses will thunder these warning prophecies to the entire world. Perhaps God will have them reveal the meaning of the seven thunders during their 1260-day ministry!

The Word of God says the world will watch as their dead bodies lie in the streets of Jerusalem for three and a half days! However, the world will behold their Resurrection at the sound of Christ’s voice and the blast of the seventh trumpet! The return of Christ for His firstfruits will be seen by all the earth (Rev. 11:7-15 and Rev. 1:7)!

And this brings us back to the story flow of Revelation—this book of history written in advance, inspired by the One who knows the end from the beginning.

## **Chapter Six:**

# **The Seventh Trumpet Sounds**



We have followed the pattern of the Holy Days for the sounding of the seven trumpet angels. The first trumpet will be blown on a future Feast of Trumpets, marking the beginning of the dreadful one-year Day of the Lord's Wrath. The earth will have been ravaged by Satan's wrath for two and a half years, but the Day of God's Wrath is contained in the trumpet plagues that will bring about the conclusion of man's Satan-inspired rebellion against God.

As the seventh trumpet is about to sound let's review what has happened and where this brings us in time.

The land area, the fresh water lakes, streams and rivers, and the very air that people must breathe has all been terribly affected by the first four trumpet plagues. Millions of people have died! Food and water are in such extreme short supply that the next two trumpet plagues will grip the entire world with demon-influenced WAR, described as the first two WOES, in which over one-third of mankind [another 1½ billion people] is destroyed!

The first trumpet sounds on the Feast of Trumpets.

The second trumpet sounds on the Day of Atonement.

The third trumpet sounds on the First Day of the Feast of Tabernacles.

The fourth trumpet sounds on the Last Great Day.

Then there is a pause for approximately six months!

Then the fifth trumpet, the first WOE, sounds on the First Day of

Unleavened Bread.

The sixth trumpet, the second WOE, sounds on the Last Day of Unleavened Bread.

Then the seventh trumpet, the third WOE, sounds on the first day of the week, FIFTY days after the day of the wave offering during the Days of Unleavened Bread. Therefore, the seventh trumpet—the last trumpet—blows on the Feast of Firstfruits—the Day of Pentecost!

Revelation 11:14-18 states:

**The SECOND WOE is past; and, behold, the THIRD WOE cometh quickly. And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever. And the four and twenty elders, which sat before God on their seats, fell upon their faces, and worshipped God, Saying, We give thee thanks, O Lord God Almighty, which art, and wast, and art to come; because thou hast taken to thee thy great power, and hast reigned. And the nations were angry [Under Satan and the evil demons, the nations will be so deceived and angry that they prepare to fight against the King of Kings, Jesus Christ] and thy wrath is come, [The seventh trumpet plague IS the seven last plagues and the THIRD WOE. In them is “filled up the wrath of God” (Rev. 15:1)] and the time of the dead, that they should be judged, and that thou shouldest give reward unto thy servants the prophets, and to the saints [at the First Resurrection] and them that fear thy name, small and great; and shouldest destroy them which destroy the earth.**

The seventh and final trumpet sounds on the Day of Pentecost—the Feast of Firstfruits! That trumpet blast is the signal for the visible return of Jesus Christ—not to take rule of the earth just yet, but to gather His bride at the First Resurrection!

### Scripture-by-Scripture

In a step-by-step procedure the Scriptures show the rapid sequence of events that follow the sounding of the “last trump” (1Cor. 15:52)!

Beginning moments before the trumpet sounds, the Two Witnesses will be lying dead, but they will have told the world that they will be resurrected at the end of three and a half days:

**And after three days and an half the Spirit of life from God entered into them, and they stood upon their feet; and great fear fell upon them which saw them. And they heard a great voice from heaven saying unto them, Come up hither. And they ascended up to heaven in a cloud; and their enemies beheld them. 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 to the God of heaven. The second woe is past; and, behold, the third woe cometh quickly. And the seventh angel sounded... (Rev. 11:11-15)**

**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 (Rev. 1:7).**

**And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other (Matt. 24:30-31).**

**Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed (I Cor. 15:51-52).**

**For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent [precede] them which are asleep. For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord (I Thess. 4:15-17).**

**Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish (Eph. 5:25-27).**

**To him who is able to keep you from falling and to bring you faultless and joyful before his glorious presence---to the only God our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, might, and authority, from all ages past, and now, and forever and ever! Amen (GNB) (Jude: 24-25).**

**And they sung as it were a new song before the throne, and before the four beasts, and the elders: and no man could learn that song but the hundred and forty and four thousand, which were redeemed from the earth. These are they which were not defiled with women; for they are virgins. These are they which follow the Lamb whithersoever he goeth. These were redeemed from among men, being the firstfruits unto God and to the Lamb. And in their mouth was found no guile: for they are without fault before the throne of God (Rev. 14:3-5).**

### **Without Spot or Blemish**

It is very clear that our Lord Jesus Christ comes at the sound of the last trumpet blast and gathers the firstfruits, His bride! Notice carefully that He does NOT take over the rule of the earth at this time, but He takes His bride and presents her without spot or blemish to the Father, God Almighty—in Heaven. And this is NOT the “rapture”—this is pure SCRIPTURE!

This remarkable truth is seen in type in the observance that took place on the fiftieth day after the wave offering ceremony as recorded in Leviticus 23. The wave offering was presented to God on the first day of the week during the Days of Unleavened Bread and, without doubt, pictures Jesus as the First of the firstfruits (see also John 20:15-17). Then, on the Feast of Firstfruits the high priest waved two loaves of carefully prepared and baked leavened bread from the early grain harvest. These two loaves represented the firstfruits of the early harvest

to be presented to God.

In Exodus 19, on the Day of Pentecost, the Feast of Firstfruits, Moses presented ancient Israel, arrayed in their clean clothes, to the Eternal as He came down on Mt. Horeb/Sinai—and the Eternal married Israel.

In the story flow of the book of Revelation, this is what occurs again in type before Jesus, as the King of Kings and Lord of Lords, takes rule of planet Earth. The marriage of the Lamb to His Church is performed before He comes back to the earth (Rev. 19:8).

At the mighty blast of the last trumpet, the firstfruits rise to meet Christ in the air and then proceed to the Heaven of God's throne. Revelation 11:19 tell us:

**And the temple of God was opened in heaven, and there was seen in his temple the ark of his testament: and there were lightnings, and voices, and thunderings, and an earthquake, and great hail.**

Chapter 12 is an inset composite section of Scripture that gives details of very special events from the birth of Jesus to the Church in the place of safety. Chapter 13 is also an inset chapter. It provides information, in symbolism, involving the beast, the false prophet, and the image of the beast. Chapter 14, verses 1-5 bring us back to the story flow of Revelation, with the first glorious picture of Jesus Christ with His bride, the 144,000 firstfruits, singing praises to God the Father! A very similar scene of the victorious firstfruits before the throne of God is in Chapter 15: 2-5:

**And I saw as it were a sea of glass mingled with fire: and them that had gotten the victory over the beast, and over his image, and over his mark, and over the number of his name, stand on the sea of glass, having the harps of God. And they sing the song of Moses the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying, Great and marvellous are thy works, Lord God Almighty; just and true are thy ways, thou King of saints.**

But verse 1 continues the story flow from Revelation 11:15-19: **“And I saw another sign in heaven, great and marvellous, seven angels having the seven last plagues; for in them is filled up the wrath of God.”** Notice that another important event which is part of



the seventh trumpet is shown here. Here we see seven other angels that have a unique responsibility. They have charge of the seven last plagues which represent the total fulfillment of the Day of the Lord's Wrath!

### **The Seven Last Plagues and a Warning for Us Today**

Remember, at this point in time the last trumpet has sounded on the Day of Pentecost during the one-year Day of the Lord's Wrath! That one full year which began on the Feast of Trumpets will not be complete until the next Feast of Trumpets! There is an average of 110 days between Pentecost and Trumpets. Consequently, there will be about 110 days during which the seven last plagues are poured out upon the wicked of the earth. And during these days, the firstfruits will be in Heaven with Jesus Christ, God the Father and the holy angels.

Chapter 16 of Revelation describes the misery and suffering of the wicked during the 110 days of the seven last plagues, but also, verse 15 is interjected for anyone reading this today: **"Behold, I come as a thief [and he has come!] Blessed is he that watcheth, and keepeth his garments, lest he walk naked, and they see his shame."**

At the very end of the book of Revelation, similar interjections are seen as warnings for us today:

Revelation 22:7: **"Behold, I come quickly: blessed is he that keepeth the sayings of the prophecy of this book."**

Revelation 22:12-13: **"And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last."**

These verses at the end of this wonderful book refer us again to the beginning of the book. In Chapter 1, verse 3 we are told: **"Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand."**

The time is at hand, and it has been a blessing to read and UNDERSTAND the "things that are written therein"! But beyond the last plague, the best is yet to come.

Let's come to the graphic description of the very last plague in Revelation 16:16-21:

**And he gathered them together into a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armageddon. And the seventh angel poured out his vial into the air; and there came a great voice out**

**of the temple of heaven, from the throne, saying, It is done. And there were voices, and thunders, and lightnings; and there was a great earthquake, such as was not since men were upon the earth, so mighty an earthquake, and so great. 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. And every island fled away, and the mountains were not found. And there fell upon men a great hail out of heaven, every stone about the weight of a talent: and men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail; for the plague thereof was exceeding great.**

Revelation 17 and 18 are inset chapters supplying additional information about Satan's evil system. The great whore, Satan's mystery religion called Babylon the Great, and the beast will suffer utter destruction very quickly.

Chapter 19 brings us to the fantastic scenes taking place in Heaven, as Christ makes the final preparations to return to the earth to establish the Kingdom of God.

## Chapter Seven:

# The Kingdom of God

As we come to Chapter 19, I would like to copy portions from our booklet *The Feast of Trumpets or the Day of Pentecost...Which?*, pages 24-25, which take up the story flow of Revelation from the events in the throne room of God:

Revelation 19:1 states: “And after these things...” After what things? The things we have just read about—and the things that are set to happen!

The presentation of the firstfruits to God (Jude 24).

- The 144,000 firstfruits with Christ on the Heavenly Mt. Zion (Rev. 14:1-5)
- The pouring out of the seven last plagues during the 110 days of our orientation in HEAVEN (Rev.16).
- Preparations for the coronation of Christ as King of Kings and Lord of Lords (Dan. 7:14).
- Preparations for the marriage of Christ to the firstfruits, the Church, the bride (Rev. 19:7).
- Preparations for the great wedding supper (Rev. 19:9).

Continue in Revelation 19:1: “...I heard a great voice of **much people** [# 3793: multitude, company, people] **in heaven...**” Much people in Heaven! We have read right over this plain scripture in the past!

**...Saying, Alleluia; Salvation, and glory, and honour,  
and power, unto the Lord our God: For true and  
righteous are his judgments: for he hath judged**

**the great whore, which did corrupt the earth with her fornication, and hath avenged the blood of his servants at her hand. And again they said, Alleluia (Rev. 19:1-2).**

Verse 3 describes the results of the seven last plagues being poured upon Satan's system: **"And her smoke rose up for ever and ever."**

**And the four and twenty elders and the four beasts fell down and worshipped God that sat on the throne, saying, Amen; Alleluia. And a voice came out of the throne, saying, Praise our God, all ye his servants, and ye that fear him, both small and great. And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude [# 3793], and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunderings, saying, Alleluia: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth. Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come (Rev. 19:4-7).**

Verse 9 reads: **"And he saith unto me, Write, Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb..."**

Now let's stop right here. The MARRIAGE of the LAMB has come! Can our minds grasp just a tiny bit of this? Can we get this into our minds? Can we see this? God the Father has planned the MARRIAGE of HIS SON! If we can imagine the most grand and splendid, magnificent event, any glorious occasion, the pageantry of a worldly coronation, or the most inspiring wedding ceremony ever, complete with the highest quality of music and thrilling singing, it would all pale into insignificance compared to what God has planned for His Son and the bride—the firstfruits!

Most surely, God in all His Glory will perform the ceremony. The holy angels will sing—and Christ will be magnificent! And this glorious event will become a reality. **"But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him"** (I Cor. 2:9).

We are not told whether the coronation of Christ takes place before or after the wedding. However, as we read beyond verse 10, Christ does not appear as the Lamb of God anymore, but as KING of KINGS and LORD of LORDS (vv.11-16). Also, from the wording of verse 7, it appears that the wedding and the wedding supper have already taken place:

**...And his WIFE [# 1135 wife, not # 3565, bride] has made herself ready. And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints (Rev 19:8).**

As you read the description of the WIFE, do you think about a crown, a beautiful wedding dress and a long train? That is not the way the WIFE is arrayed. As we proceed you will see what this actually means.

(End Quote)

### **King of the Earth**

All things will be made ready! Then the newly coroneted King of Kings will be in full command and will lead His armies into battle—the Battle of that Great Day of God Almighty (Rev. 16:14)!

**And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself. And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God. And the armies which were in heaven [certainly including the WIFE] followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean [this is how the WIFE is dressed]. And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God (Rev. 19:11-15).**

Satan and his armies are puny in the face of the LORD of HOSTS!

**And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him that sat**

**on the horse, and against his army. 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 worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone. And the remnant were slain with the sword of him that sat upon the horse, which sword proceeded out of his mouth: and all the fowls were filled with their flesh (vv.19-21).**

And Satan's time is up! A mighty angel [this might be Christ] grabs him by the scruff of his neck and casts him into the bottomless pit and locks him in for 1000 years!

**And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years, And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season (Rev. 20:1-3).**

The book of Zechariah in the Old Testament brings out more details about the victorious Christ and His becoming the world Ruler.

The first part of Zechariah 14:4 and the last phrase of verse 5 tell us:

**And his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east, and the mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst thereof toward the east and toward the west...and the LORD my God shall come, and all the saints with thee.**

Verses 9 and 16 continue:

**And the LORD shall be king over all the earth: in that day shall there be one LORD, and his name one... And it shall come to pass, that every one that is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem shall even go up from year to year to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, and to keep the feast of tabernacles.**

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## **The Millennium**

Once again, back to Revelation 20 for the story flow!

**And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands** [These are the few who were ‘unwise’ and ‘unworthy’, who were not taken to the place of safety; yet through God’s mercy, they overcame during the Great Tribulation—see Rev. 12:11 and 15:2-4] **and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years...Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection** [The 144,000 firstfruits] **on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years** (Rev. 20:4, 6).

The Scriptures state that “they lived and reigned with Christ for a thousand years”! But please UNDERSTAND—the firstfruits that reign with Christ as His wife will be born at the Resurrection into the family of God as GOD-BEINGS!

I John 3:2 promises: **“Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.”** We will be in Christ’s likeness, His image! King David, a man after God’s own heart, was inspired to write in Psalm 17:15: **“As for me, I will behold thy face in righteousness: I shall be satisfied, when I awake, with thy likeness.”**

And the apostle Paul tells us that Christ is in the image of God: **God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds; Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high** (Heb. 1:1-3).

Let’s add Romans 8:29 to this list that describes us in the family of God: **“For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be**

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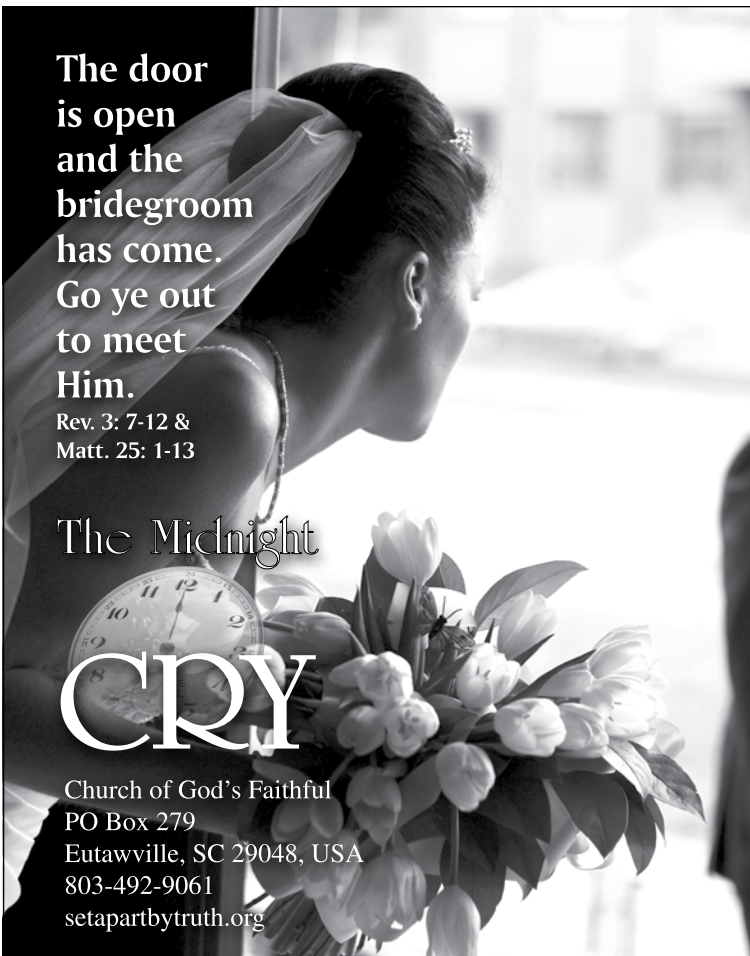
**conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.”**

Therefore, dear reader, whoever you are, whether old-time former Worldwide member out there among the scattered churches, or someone from the “highways and hedges,” I hope the information laid out in this booklet has stirred your zeal for God’s plan, and has been an eye-opener for you. Please UNDERSTAND that you have read much NEW TRUTH in this presentation, and God does not give His secrets to false prophets: **“The secret of the LORD is with them that fear him; and he will shew them his covenant”** (Psa. 25:14).

There is much, much more to cover in Chapters 20, 21, and 22 that will take us to the end of the Millennium, the releasing of Satan from his prison, the deception of Gog and Magog, the Second Resurrection, and to Christ presenting the Kingdom to God the Father. However, that is future! As of now, you have been given information that is vital to you at this very dangerous and urgent present time. The horsemen are riding and the Tribulation is imminent.

We asked 20 questions in the “Preview” section of this booklet and have answered only eight of them. The remaining answers are contained in the literature we have recommended to you; thus, I hope you will continue your studies. Please, request the literature or download it and let me know if I can help you in your UNDERSTANDING of the will of our Father and Christ our Lord.





The door  
is open  
and the  
bridegroom  
has come.  
Go ye out  
to meet  
Him.

Rev. 3: 7-12 &  
Matt. 25: 1-13

## The Midnight CRY

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PO Box 279  
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**Are you a part of the "WOMAN" or the "REMnant" of  
Revelation 12:14,17? Your life depends on the answer!**

But where is the WOMAN? And how will she be found?

The answer is found in Christ's parable of the Ten Virgins in Matthew 25. The time has come for God's people to read, understand, and heed Matthew 25:6 - The Midnight Cry.

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