

BEWARE THE LAMB



THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST

Seals 5 & 6 - Rev 6:9-17

Rev. 6:1-8

[1] And I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seals, and I heard, as it were the noise of thunder, one of the four beasts saying, Come and see.

[2] 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.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Rev 6:9-17

[9] And when he had opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of them that were slain for the word of God, and for the testimony which they held:

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

[11] 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 fellowservants also and their brethren, that should be killed as they were, should be fulfilled.

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

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

[14] And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places.

[15] And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains;

[16] 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:

[17] For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?

REV 6 → OT Links

REV Old Testament

6:2 Zech 1:8; 6:3

6:4 Jer 25:29; Zech 1:8; 6:2

6:5 Jer 14:1,2; Zech 6:2

6:6 Lev 26:25-33; Ezek 4:10,11

6:8 Jer 15:2-3; 24:10; 29:17; Ezek 14:21;
Hos 13:14; Zech 6:3

6:12 Isa 50:3; Joel 2:10

6:13 Isa 34:4

6:14 Isa 34:4; Nahum 1:5

6:15 Josh 10:16; Ps 48:4-6; Isa 2:10-12, 19

6:16 Hos 10:8

6:17 Ps 76:7; Jer 30:7; Nahum 1:6;
Zeph 1:14-18; Mal 3:2

Rev 6:9-11 *'And when he opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of them who had been slain because of the testimony which they held. And they cried with a great voice saying, How long, O Sovereign Lord, the holy and true, dost Thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth? "And to each one was given a white robe, and it was said unto them that they should rest yet a little time, until the number of their fellow-bondslaves and their brethren that are about to be killed, even as they also had been, should be complete. (Free Translation)*

The 5th Seal: introduces a strange new scene, 'the' Alter in Heaven.

Rev. 8:5 And the angel took the censer, and filled it with fire of the altar, and cast it into the earth: and there were voices, and thunderings, and lightnings, and an earthquake.

Rev. 14:18 And another angel came out from the altar, which had power over fire; and cried with a loud cry to him that had the sharp sickle, saying, Thrust in thy sharp sickle, and gather the clusters of the vine of the earth; for her grapes are fully ripe.

the souls of them who had been slain because of the testimony which they held

Martyrs: Cf. Mt 24:9-26; Mk 13:9-20; Lk 21:12-24.

Gk: *martus* [lit: witness] >>> English word: MARTYR = One who, by his death, bears witness to the truth of the gospel.

Believers on earth are being killed for their faith

Matt 24:9 Mark13:9 Luke 21:18 Luke 21:12

Their murderers are still alive on earth. These martyrs lost their lives during the time of the first 4 seals; the early part of the Tribulation. They are part of the great multitude in 7:9ff.

Note: some believe they are the Old Testament saints, resurrected later (Dan 12:1).

Jesus warned a day was coming when those who killed christians would do so believing they were doing God's work *John 16:2*

Acts 17:11 1 Thes 5:21

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Enough, already...

Rev 6:9] *"And when he had opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of them that were slain for the word of God, and for the testimony which they held":*

A cry is heard from the martyrs slain thus far during the early days and years of the tribulation period.

for their faithfulness to the Word of God, and
for their testimony to His truth.

"All these are the beginning of sorrows. 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. And then shall many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another" (Matt. 24:8-10).

When the church believers are caught away, only unbelieving ecclesiasticism, 'religion' will be left in what will be called the church.

There will be some people after the true Church is raptured, who will then recognize that the Word of God is true and that there has been and still is a gigantic Satanic deception of Christendom.

These people will not be indwelt by the Holy Spirit, not new creations, born again since the Church age is over when the church is raptured.

They will believe as the Old Testament righteous believed and were saved.

They will now cling to the truth of God's Word and as a result they will be put to death.

Get with it, man...be cool...

In seeking to be modern and in tune with the times, many today have adopted old errors dressed in 'new' clothes, wearing modern masks, being new in name only.

The method used by those who fight creeds today is as old as the human race.

Gen 3.1 "Yea, hath God said?" Satan asked Eve in the Garden of Eden

Instead of taking what God has said as He said it, they challenge and reinterpret it to suit their own beliefs and desires. In an effort to be modern and relevant they water down the Gospel - adding to it and taking away from it until it is actually another gospel.

What had been the bride of the Christ; His representative on the earth has been removed. The 'church' that is left has now become the mistress of the world.

The basis for apostasy is mans effort to be relevant;

Claim that the truth is so old fashioned that modern man can't understand the words of truth.

It is the lack of knowledge of the Word of God that leads men into confusion.

Many, not knowing God's ways, therefore also do not know or recognize Satan's ways.

Because they do not know God's righteousness and fail to see Satan's brand of righteousness.

***Banks don't train their tellers to identify counterfeits,
they teach them to recognize legitimate, true currency.
Anything different is considered counterfeit...***

Enemy strategies

Many believe that Satan's work is to make good men bad, and bad men worse...but, he most often works to make men good

– by their own efforts in the sight of other men and in their own sight.

Satan urges men to do good, to be governed by a 'high moral code', to support all movements for the betterment of the race, to support ecclesiasticism, to enforce the morals of the community...

They will rally against civic and social injustice, national and international righteousness,

But, they have nothing to say about seeking after *'the righteousness of God which is by faith in Jesus Christ.'* (Rom 3.22)

They appeal to 'making something good of the yourself and the world around you,' to 'spread love and sunshine', -- TO BE TOLERANT !!

-- THE TRUTH IS THE LEAST TOLERANT THING IN EXISTANCE --

Therefore neither can they afford to tolerate God's truth – it condemns them, their efforts, their world view and their methods of attempting to create 'heaven on earth'.

Great Revival...

When all restraint is removed following the coming of Christ for His church; the saints, these advocates of "righteousness" will openly and freely kill those who stand for the Word of God and His testimony during these final years.

Men hate the Bible because as the written Word of God it reveals to us Christ, the one true, living, Word of God.

"The carnal mind is enmity against God" (Rom. 8:7).

They hate that Jesus Christ is God's only way, the truth and in Him only is life found. (*John 14:6*)

However, men do not and will not hate the world's idea of God.

This is the age-old conflict that God announced in the Garden of Eden.

"I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel" (Gen. 3:15).

This passage is actually the 1st clue that during the reign of Antichrist, the greatest revival that the world has ever seen will break out.

Even during these 7 years while God's Wrath is being poured out on the world because of its rejection of Christ, He will send His witnesses into the world and millions will respond and believe.

Millions will be saved during these seven years through the preaching of God's witnesses. It is a portion of those millions we see here 'under the altar in heaven.

Woe ! – not Whoa ! (at least not yet)

This is the true meaning of *"the gospel of the kingdom"* which *"shall be preached in all the world for a witness to all nations"* (*Matt. 24:14*).

Today, we preach the Gospel of grace: God's love and mercy...

The free offer of salvation is to all who will accept and acknowledge Jesus the Christ.

For those who do so God Himself will come to dwell in their hearts the moment they turn to Him.

But, the Gospel of the kingdom also contains the proclamation and warning that God will overthrow and condemn all that man has done to justify himself.

In doing so, He will establish by force, using a the rod of iron, the kingdom of God's rule upon the earth with Israel the center human government and Jesus the divine center and supreme ruler of it all – the Millenium...

Righteousness for which the world has so long waited is about to come upon the earth. The Lord Himself is about to appear.

This announcement is hope for those who are willing to bow their hearts before God,

But, it is a cry of doom to those who do not know, do not accept and do not obey the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

For a time, these will fall upon the witnesses of God's truth with brutal wrath.

Millions are killed for the refusal to renounce their new found faith in Jesus the one true Christ.

No one sleeps here !!

Rev 6:9] "And when he had opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of them that were slain for the word of God, and for the testimony which they held":

John sees their souls in Heaven; conscious and speaking; They are not in "soul-sleep".

1 Thes. 4:14-16 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even **so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him.** [15] 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 them which are asleep.** [16] 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:**

How can they both rise from the earth to meet Him and be brought with Him from Heaven?

These 'Souls' are conscious (not "sleeping").

Sleep in Scripture is applied only to the body of the believer; never to the soul.

When death comes to a believer, the soul and spirit depart from the body and immediately enter the presence of Christ.

Remember **Luke 16...** Lazerus and the rich man – **Why did Jesus tell that story ??**

Thus *"to be absent from the body"* is *"to be present with the Lord"* (II Cor. 5:8).

It is *"to depart, and be with Christ, which is far better"* (Phil. 1:23).

In Rev 6:9 it is shown that the tribulation saints, whose bodies have been killed on the earth, are also now in the presence of God.

Berean Call November 2005 Newsletter

Question:

In 2 Corinthians 1:8-10, Paul speaks of the hope he has of his future deliverance from the great trouble he had in Asia, deliverance by "God which raiseth the dead."

He expects to be delivered by the resurrection....Paul will rejoice with and over the Corinthians not when he goes to heaven but "in the day of the Lord Jesus," when the saints are resurrected.

He says that our confidence is in "Knowing that he which raised up the Lord Jesus shall raise up us also by Jesus, and shall present us with you...."

Answer:

In 2 Corinthians 1:8-10, Paul refers to trouble he had in Asia, from which he was delivered. This is past and accomplished, having nothing to do with the resurrection. He trusts also that the Lord will likewise deliver them from future troubles. His reference to "God which raises the dead" does not mean that deliverance from trouble in Asia will be deferred until he is raised from the dead-it is a recognition of God's great power.

The fact that Paul will rejoice "in the day of the Lord Jesus" because of the resurrection of the body in final victory over death does not even imply, much less say (as you suggest), that he will be in an unconscious state after his death and will not rejoice until that time.

Berean Call November 2005 Newsletter

Question:

Isn't it strange that if we are to "go to heaven" the Bible never explicitly says so?

Answer:

The Bible never speaks of our going to heaven? Are you suggesting that the "Father's house [of many mansions] to which Christ promised to take us (Jn 14:2,3) is not in heaven?! Paul's declaration that we will be caught up "to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord"(1Thes 4:17) does not say that Christ will take us to heaven?! Then where will we "ever be with the Lord"? I know you believe in the Rapture, so perhaps you mean that other than at the Rapture there is nothing about taking us to heaven.

Consider this: "...the beggar died, and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom [and] comforted" (Lk 16:22-25). Jesus told the believing thief, "Today shalt thou be with me in paradise" (Lk 23:43). Clearly, believers before Christ's resurrection were taken to the "paradise," where Abraham (and presumably all other believers) resided in conscious bliss. The fact that before Christ's ascension the place to which the believing dead went is distinguished from heaven is proof enough that upon death believers were always taken to a place of conscious existence. If all were unconscious until the Rapture, there would be no need to distinguish between where they went, then and now. Surely, Paul's declaration, "Absent from the body, present with the Lord [who we know is in heaven]" could only mean that "paradise" was emptied at the resurrection, and, from that time on, believers who died were not taken there but to heaven, as it is today.

Furthermore, Paul declares that those who "sleep in Jesus [i.e., who died with Christ] will God bring with him" (1 Thes 4:14) to be reunited with their resurrected bodies at the Rapture. "Bring with him" from where?

Obviously, from heaven, where they must have been with God and Christ. This again clarifies what Paul meant by "absent from the body, present with the Lord."

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Berean Call November 2005 Newsletter

Question:

It [the Bible] speaks often of the resurrection...of the...day of our Lord [and] of the dead who are described as sleeping, but never of anyone rejoicing in heaven.

Paul expected to be presented to the Lord on that day...[not] when he died and went to heaven.

Answer:

... no "rejoicing in heaven"?

Certainly those in heaven who "shall reign on the earth," as Christ promised His disciples, and who sing the new song in front of the throne unto the Lamb who was "slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation" (Rv 5:9) are rejoicing!

Will the marriage of the Lamb to His bride (Rv 19:7,8) be a somber affair, with no rejoicing?! The Bible says, "Let us be glad and rejoice . . . for the marriage of the Lamb is come!"

Perhaps you mean there will be no rejoicing in heaven before the Rapture. But David said, "In thy presence is fulness of joy..." (Ps 16:11). That sounds like rejoicing in heaven long before the Rapture.

Berean Call November 2005 Newsletter

Question:

He says, "If our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God...eternal in the heavens...our house which is from heaven..." (2 Corinthians 5:1,2).

Notice it is a house (resurrected body) FROM heaven, not IN heaven.

Answer:

The statement that our new bodies are "from heaven" doesn't mean they were formed in heaven but that they are created by the God from heaven.

Of course, we only get new bodies at the resurrection; but this doesn't mean that our souls and spirits, which are "absent from the body, and...present with the Lord" (2 Cor 5:8), have been unconscious in His presence.

What would be the point of being "present with the Lord" in an unconscious state?

Berean Call November 2005 Newsletter

Question:

And when did Paul expect this house from heaven to be given to him?...Verses 6-8: "whilst we are at home in the body, we are absent from the Lord...we are willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord."

From what Paul has said about the resurrection, the day of the Lord, his rejoicing on that day, being clothed with a resurrected body, to be "absent from the body...present with the Lord" is not to be in heaven immediately upon dying but in his new body at the resurrection....

Answer:

And why would Paul desire this with such passion?

To say that "absent from the body...present with the Lord" means "not in heaven immediately...but in [a] new body at the resurrection" makes no sense. How can we be "absent from the body" and at the same time be in a new body?! Clearly we must be present with the Lord during the time we are "absent from the body."

If Paul, at death, could only look forward to knowing nothing until the resurrection, why did he write: "For me to live is Christ, and to die is gain" (Phil 1:21)? To be unconscious and know nothing is gain compared with serving Christ? Why did he have "a desire to depart and to be with Christ" and call that "far better" if he would be unconscious until the resurrection?

Proof that "absent from the body, present with the Lord" means to be consciously in Christ's presence isn't confined to 2 Corinthians 5:6-8. ...Christ told the believing thief, "Today shalt thou be with me in paradise" (Lk 23:43). What would "paradise" mean to an unconscious person? Surely "paradise" was "Abraham's bosom," where the beggar Lazarus went upon dying (Lk 16:22). Abraham was conscious, as was "the rich man in hell." How will "the souls of them that were slain for the word of God [cry] with a loud voice" for vengeance upon those who killed them if they are unconscious (Rv 6:9-11) until their resurrection?

Question:

In verse 10 he says, "We must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ."

When will that be?

When Christ returns, raises our bodies and establishes His Kingdom: "...the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom..." (2 Timothy 4:1)!

Paul said he wished to be clothed with a new tabernacle...rather to be present with the Lord than in his present body.

The moment after Paul dies, the next thing of which he will be conscious is the return of Christ, the resurrection of the dead, and the gathering of the saints.

In all humility, I would suggest that those who use 2 Corinthians 5:6-8 to "prove" that the dead are conscious in heaven are twisting the scriptures.

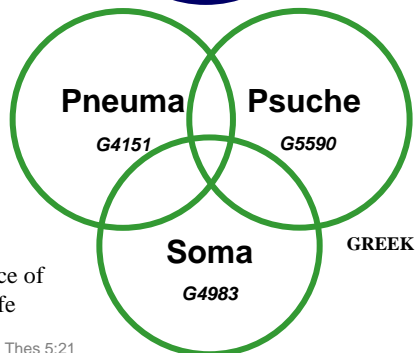
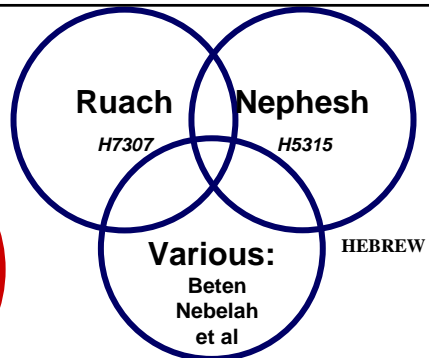
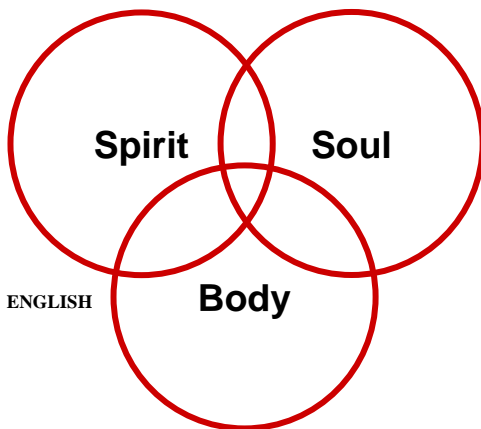
Answer:

That Christ "shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom" (2 Tim 4:1) does not refer to the "judgment seat of Christ" for the saints but to a judgment of the lost on earth when "before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them...as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats" (Mt 25:31-46).

The judgment of the saints for reward or loss takes place in heaven.

Obviously, that will have to be after the Rapture, when all the saints are there-but it doesn't mean that those who previously died are unconsciously "with Christ"!

The Architecture of Man



ζωή G2222 Zoe: source of life; everlasting life

נפש *Nephesh (Soul)* H5315

- Soul, self, life, creature, person, appetite, mind, living being, desire, emotion, passion

- Translated in the KJV:

• Soul(s, 's),	475	
• Life, Lives	118	
• Person(s),	30	
• Mind(s),	15	
• Heart(s, 's),	14	
• Self,	30	
(Him-, Them-, Your-, Her-, My-, Thy-, Man, Men, One, Own)		
• Body,	9	
• Creature,	13	(Beast, Fish)
• Desire,	21	
(Will, Would, Pleasure, Appetite, Lust, Angry, Discontented, Greedy)		
• Dead(ly),	14	
(Ghost, Mortally, Slay(eth),		
• Misc other uses	<u>8</u>	
Total KJV Occurrences:	749	

Acts 17:11 1 Thes 5:21

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נפש *Nephesh (Soul)* H5315

The Soul

Gen 35:18, 1 Kings 17:21. Etc.

- that which breathes, the breathing substance or being, soul, the inner being of man
- living being
- living being (with life in the blood)
- the man himself, self, person or individual
- seat of the appetites
- seat of emotions and passions

Acts 17:11 1 Thes 5:21

20



Nephesh (Soul) H5315

- 150 times in the Old Testament
- Adam's body was complete yet unanimated until God placed in it "the spirit of life" and he became a living "soul".

Gen 2:7 And the LORD God formed man [of] the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.



Nephesh (Soul) H5315

Rabbinic Literature

Understood the soul to be invisible and immortal

Josephus

All Jews except the Sadducees believed in the immortality of the soul

Eusebius

Doctrine of "soul sleep" was invented by 3rd Century heretics

ψυχή *Psuche* (Soul) G:5590

- LXX: translated Nephesh > Psuche in 785 out of 810 cases
- Never uses βίος (Bios G:979) the Greek word for physical life as an equivalent of Nephesh
 - Deliberately avoids equating the soul with mere physical life
- Our word “Psychology” is derived from Psuche

ψυχή *Psuche* (Soul) G:5590

Thayer Definition:

- 1) the breath of life; - of animals and of men
 - the vital force which animates the body and shows itself in breathing
 - that in which there is life; a living being, a living soul
- 2) the soul; the seat of the feelings, desires, affections, aversions (our heart, soul etc.)
 - the soul as an essence which differs from the body and is not dissolved by death

Soul(s),	58
Life, lives	41
Mind(s),	3
Heart(ily),	2
doubt,	<u>1</u>
Total KJV Occurrences:	105



Ruach (Spirit) H7307

- **Breath, wind**
- **God's Spirit, the Holy Spirit**
- **Angel's – good and evil**
- **Life in men**
- **Disembodied spirit's**
- **Disposition of attitude**
- **Seat of the emotions, mind and will**

Acts 17:11 1 Thes 5:21

25



Ruach (Spirit) H7307

(s)Spirit(s, ual),	232
Wind(s, y),	123
(Breath, tempest, whirlwind, blast, air)	
Mind,	6
Side(s),	6
Misc	<u>12</u>
Total KJV Occurrences:	379

Acts 17:11 1 Thes 5:21

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πνεῦμα *Pneuma* (Spirit) G:4151

- A movement of air; the wind; breath of nostrils or mouth; [“pneumatics” etc.]
- The spirit, i.e. the vital principal – life - by which the body is animated; the rational spirit, the power by which the human beings moves, feels, thinks, decides; often related to the soul;
- A spirit, i.e. a simple essence, devoid of all matter, and possessed of the power of knowing, desiring, deciding, and acting;
- A spirit higher than man but lower than God, i.e. an angel; used of demons, or evil spirits, as inhabiting the bodies of men;
- The 3rd person of the trinity, the God the Holy Spirit

Acts 17:11 1 Thes 5:21

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πνεῦμα *Pneuma* (Spirit) G:4151

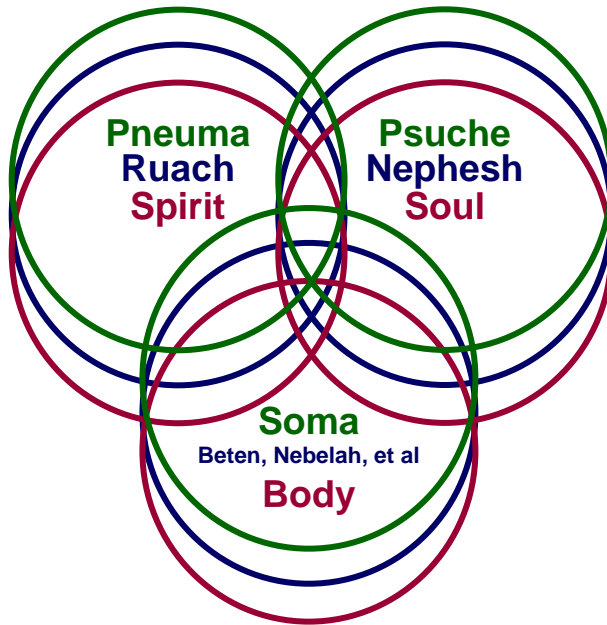
NT Usage:

- Spirit	137
- Holy Ghost	107
- Spirit (of Christ)	19
- Human (spirit)	49
- (evil) spirit	47
- Misc	<u>26</u>
	385

Acts 17:11 1 Thes 5:21

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The Architecture of Man



Greek
Hebrew
English

Acts 17:11 1 Thes 5:21

1Co 15:45 And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit. [Ge 2.7]

1Th 5:23 And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Heb 4:12 For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

1Co 15:34-58 ...44 It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body....

1Th 4:13-17 ...14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him....

Phi 1:23 For I am in a strait betwixt two, having a desire to depart, and to be with Christ; which is far better:

2Co 5:1-10 [cf. Matt 22.1-13] ... 6 Therefore we are always confident, knowing that, whilst we are at home in the body, we are absent from the Lord: 7 (For we walk by faith, not by sight:) 8 We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord....

Rev. 2:11 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; He that overcometh shall not be hurt of the second death.

Rev 20:6 Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: 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. 20:14 And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.

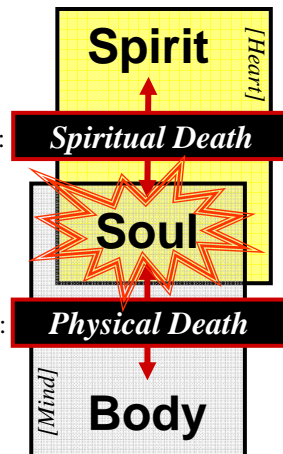
Rev. 21:8 But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.

Jude 1:12 These are spots in your feasts of charity, when they feast with you, feeding themselves without fear: clouds they are without water, carried about of winds; trees whose fruit withereth, without fruit, twice dead, plucked up by the roots;

A Paradigm of Death: Same Spirit, New Body

2nd Death:

1st Death:



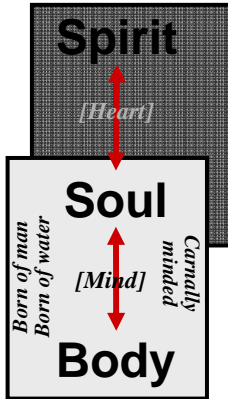
Acts 17:11 1 Thes 5:21

Rom 1:21 Because that, when they knew God, they glorified *him* not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened.

2Co 4:4 In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

Eze 36:26 A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh.

Psa 51:10 Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me.



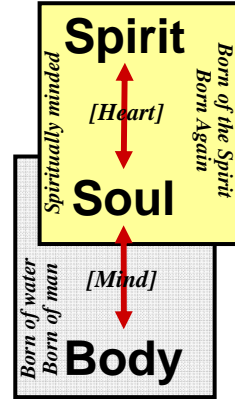
John 1:9 That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world.

John 3:19 And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.

John 8:12 Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.

John 12:46 I am come a light into the world, that whosoever believeth on me should not abide in darkness.

Phil 2:15 That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world;



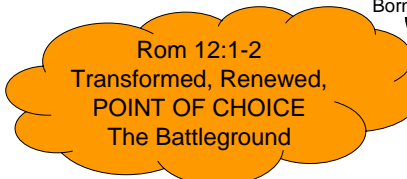
Romans 12:1-2 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. [2] And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

Acts 17:11 1 Thes 5:21

John 16:13-14

The Spirit of truth will:

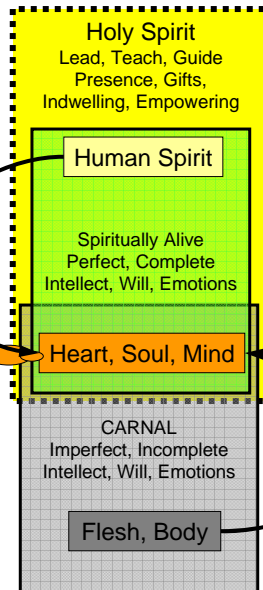
- Teach, reveal and guide you into all truth:
- He will speak and show you things to come.
 - He shall glorify the Lord Jesus



John 16:8

Holy Spirit convicts WORLD of:

- Sin – Discomforts, unsettles
- Righteousness – ‘filthy rags’
- Judgment – Guilt before God



Made Alive, Born Again

Rom 7

Reckoned Dead, Living Sacrifice

Acts 17:11 1 Thes 5:21

What's got you covered ??

Rev 6:9] "And when he had opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of them that were slain for the word of God, and for the testimony which they held":

"under the altar" is a figure of speech indicating that they have been justified by the sacrifice offered on the altar

Similar to David's plea,

"Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow" (Ps. 51:7).

Hyssop was that small Palestinian plant which hung beside the altar.

It was used by the priests who dipped it into the blood and

Sprinkled the people with it. (according to Levitical procedures [Lev 14](#)>)

When David cried to be purged with hyssop, it is not the 'herbal, medicinal' qualities of Hyssop he is pleading for but

rather to be declared clean due to the ceremonial, symbolic action of being sprinkled by the blood of the sacrifice from the altar.

It is one of the many, many Old Testament pictures of Christ's work on the cross.

What's got you covered ??

Rev 6:9] "And when he had opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of them that were slain for the word of God, and for the testimony which they held":

Don't think that John had a vision of an altar with souls peeping out from underneath.

The whole teaching of the Old Testament is that the altar was the place of the sacrifice of blood.

The figure of shed blood under the altar is taken from [Lev 4:17-18](#)

**To be "under the altar" is to be covered in God's sight
by the sacrifice offered on the altar.**

"under the altar" is a figure of speech indicating that they have been justified by the sacrifice offered on the altar

"under the altar": "bottom of the altar" in [Ex 29:12](#); [Lev 4:4, 17, 18, 25, 30](#).

"The Altar" is in heaven ([Heb 9:23-24](#)).

The earthly tabernacle/temple, it's utensils and trappings and it's ceremonies were patterned after those existing in heaven [Ex 25:40](#) [Ex 25:9](#) [Num 8:4](#) [Heb 8:5](#) [Heb 9:23](#)

Jesus Christ provided a final sacrifice for sin by dying on the cross.

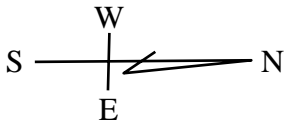
Heb 10:10 *By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.*

Heb 9:12 *Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us.*

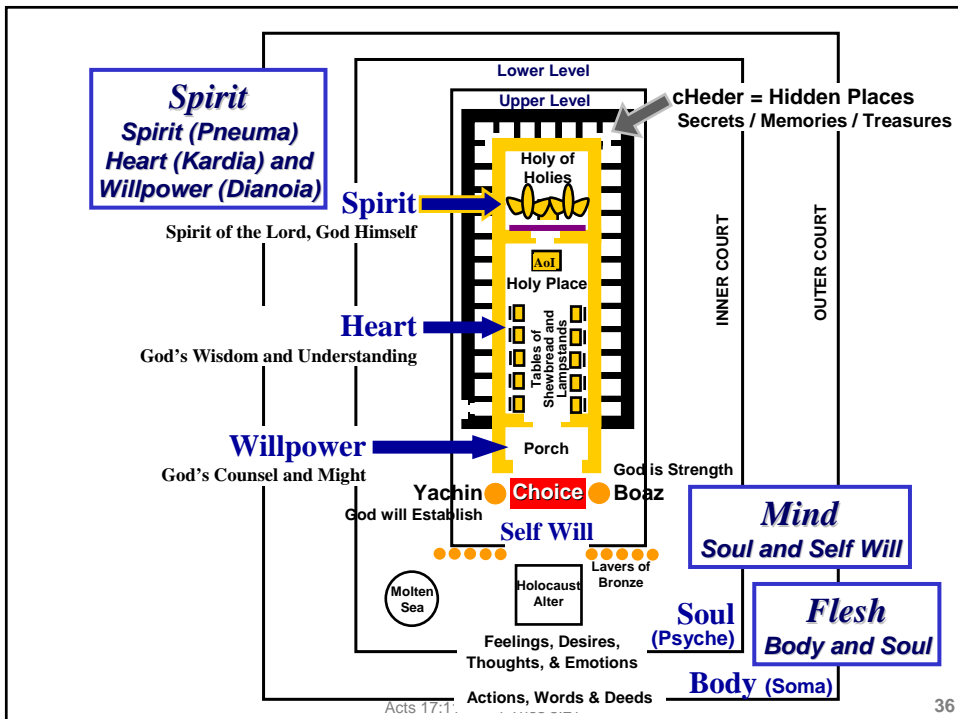
“SOLOMON’S TEMPLE”

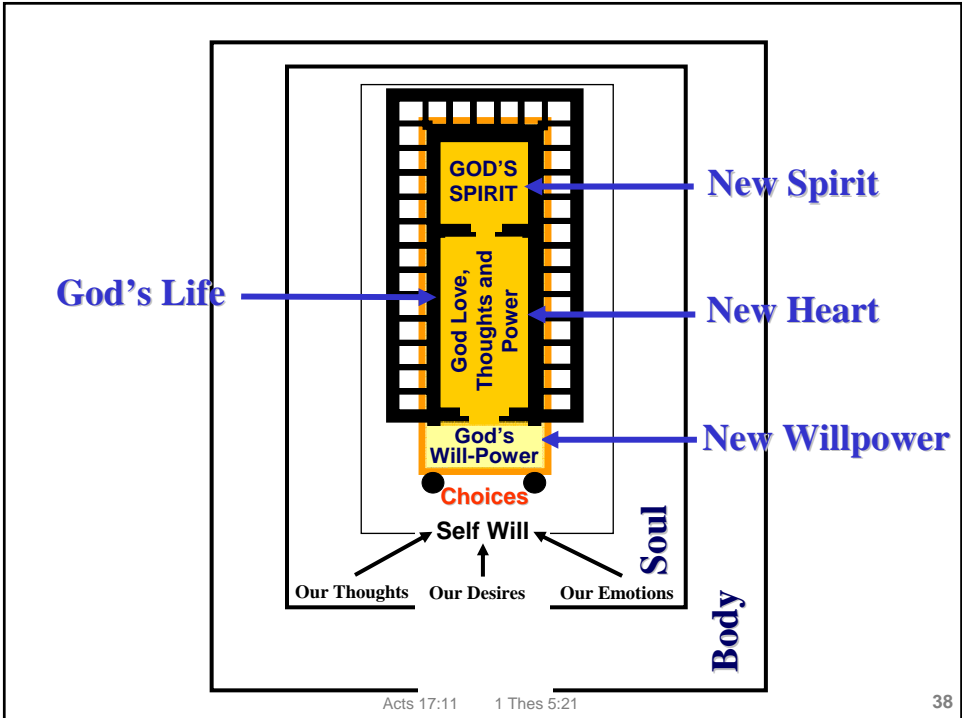
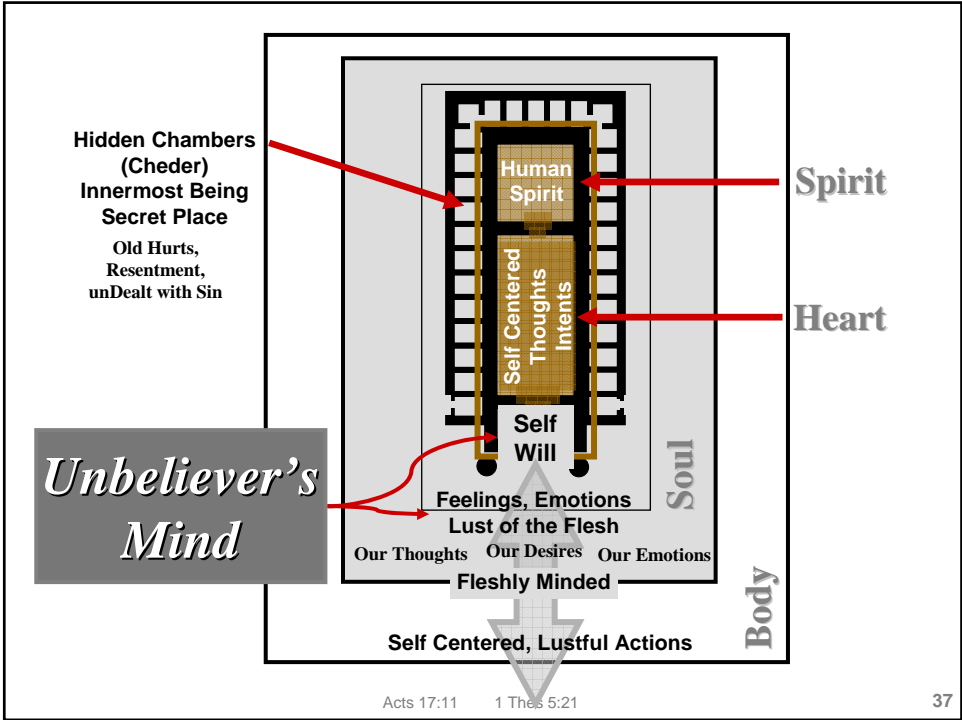
Designed by God
 1 Kin 6; 1 Kin 7:13-51;
 1Ch 28:11-19; 2 Chr 3-4

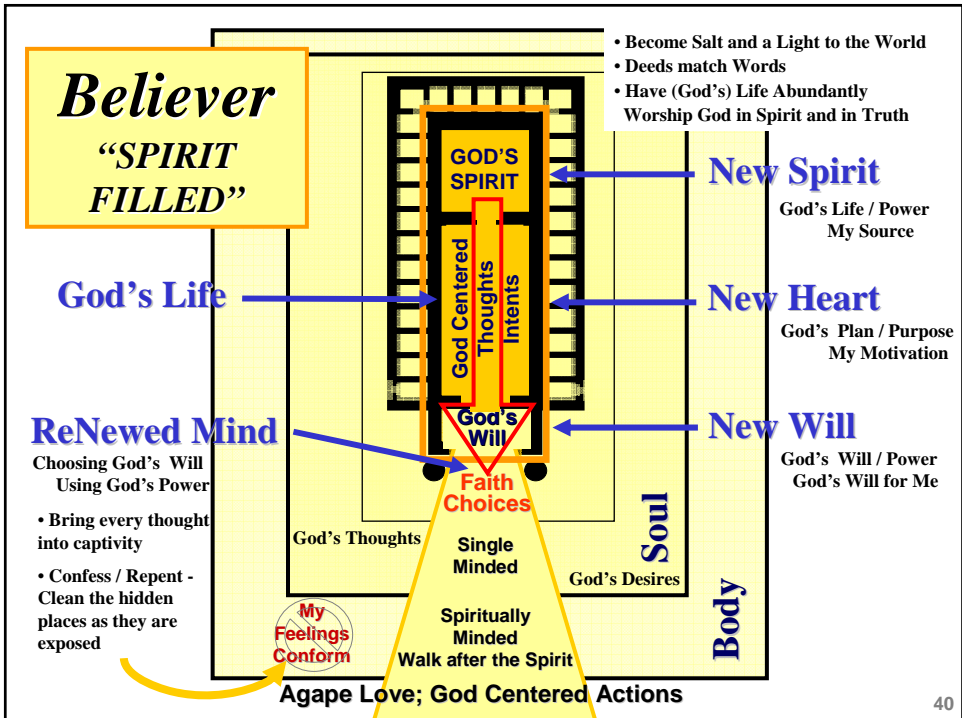
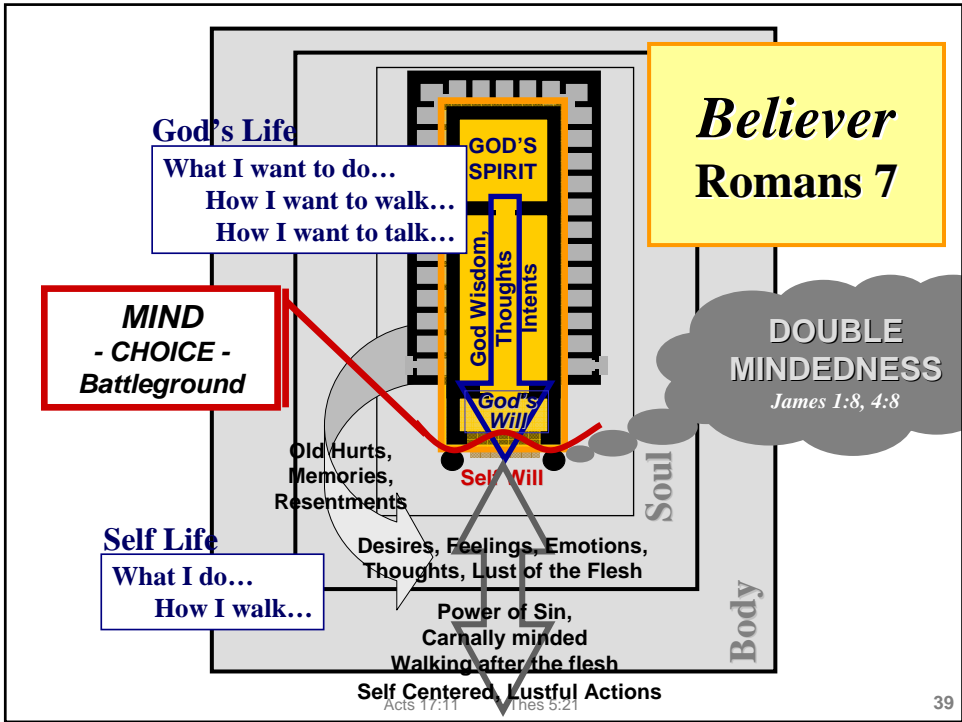
Pillars
 Yachin = God will establish
 Boaz = God is strength

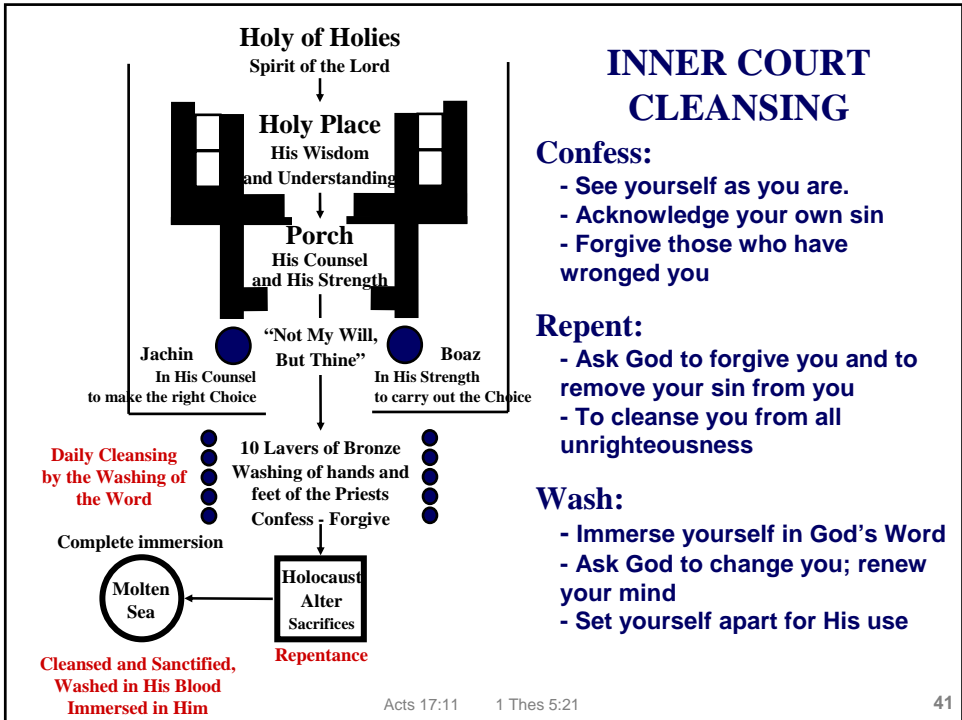


Acts 17:11 1 Thes 5:21









INNER COURT CLEANSING

Confess:

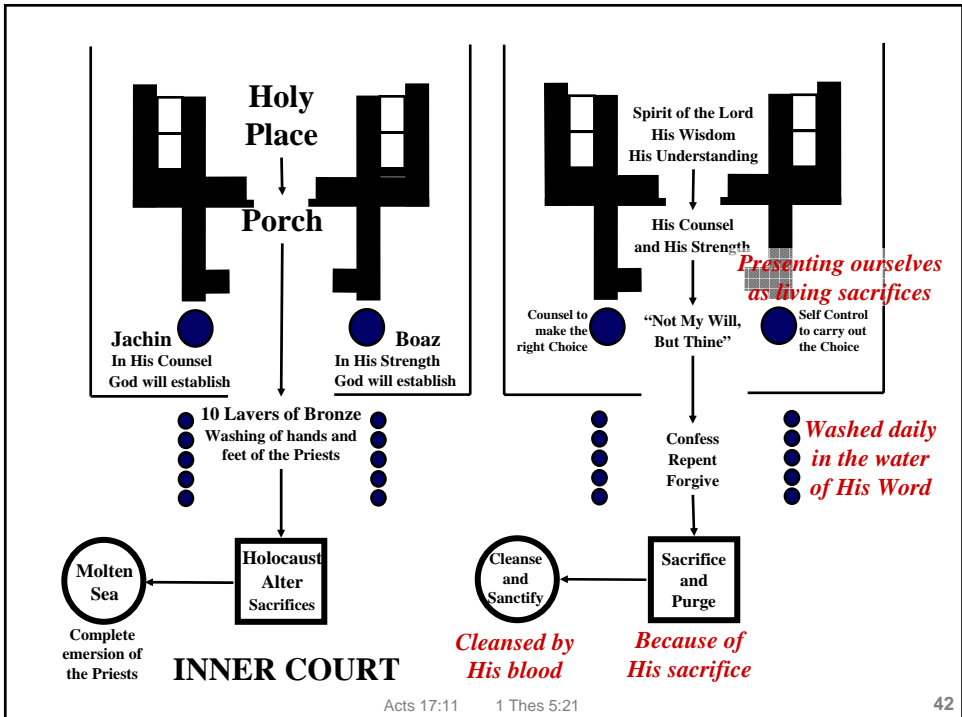
- See yourself as you are.
- Acknowledge your own sin
- Forgive those who have wronged you

Repent:

- Ask God to forgive you and to remove your sin from you
- To cleanse you from all unrighteousness

Wash:

- Immerse yourself in God's Word
- Ask God to change you; renew your mind
- Set yourself apart for His use



He did the work and still picked up the check

Rev 6:9] *“And when he had opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of them that were slain for the word of God, and for the testimony which they held”:*

These martyred witnesses are covered by the saving, sacrificial work of the Lord Jesus Christ

Adam and Eve were covered with coats of skins obtained by the first shedding of blood upon this earth.

These skins, provided by God, replaced the fig leaves they used as they tried to cover themselves with the work of their own hands.

God replaced this with a sacrifice of His own choosing which He provided and which required the shedding of blood to cover Adam and Eve's fallen state and condition.

Gen 3:7 And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons.

Gen 3:21 Unto Adam also and to his wife did the Lord God make coats of skins, and clothed them.

Bit by bit, all that man lost in Genesis is being regained for him by God's work and God's own hand in Revelation.

Rev 6:10] *“And they cried with a loud voice, saying, How long, O Lord, holy and true, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth?”*

These martyrs cry to God, Keep in mind, in the 'day of grace' is past...

Compare this cry for vengeance with Stephen's plea at the beginning of the 'Church Age'

"Lord, lay not this sin to their charge" (*Acts 7:60*).

These are calling out for the vengeance, the wrath of God to fall on those who are His enemies upon the earth.

"How long, O Lord?" has been the cry of God's suffering people throughout the ages (cf. *Ps 74:9-10; 79:5; 89:46; 94:3-4; Hab 1:2*).

Every time you pray

Mat 6:9-13 After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. 10 Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. 11 Give us this day our daily bread. 2 And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. 13 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

you echo their petition.

Blood of the son of Jehoiada at the hand of Joash (*2 Chr 24:22*);

Song of Moses (*Deut 32:43; 2 Kings 9:7*).

It is not personal revenge but a vindication of God's holiness and the establishment of God's kingdom and justice.

Rev 6:10] “And they cried with a loud voice, saying, How long, O Lord, holy and true, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth?”

It may appear that the enemy is winning, but God will have the last word.

The “Lord is holy and true”

Hatred of the world: Rom 8:7; Gen 3:15; Rev 12

Joh 3:20 For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved.

Joh 12:25 He that loveth his life shall lose it; and he that hateth his life in this world shall keep it unto life eternal.

Joh 15:19 If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you.

Joh 17:14 I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.

1Jo 3:13 Marvel not, my brethren, if the world hate you.

Pro 8:36 But he that sinneth against me wrongeth his own soul: all they that hate me love death.

1 Pe 3:10-12 For he that will love life, and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips that they speak no guile: 11 Let him eschew evil, and do good; let him seek peace, and ensue it. 12 For the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and his ears are open unto their prayers: but the face of the Lord is against them that do evil. .

Intolerance by the ungodly toward the godly is increasing, especially among the so-called “enlightened liberals” and those no truly committed and knowledgeable concerning God’s truth and the Gospel.

Acts 17:11 1 Thes 5:21

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More still to come ...

Rev 6:11 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.

Remember: The judgments falling on the earth during this final tribulation time are from God.

David sings prophetically of the time of the wrath of Jehovah

Psa 9:12 When he maketh inquisition for blood, he remembereth them: he forgetteth not the cry of the humble.

This cry of the martyrs is almost the last that will be heard from God’s saints. God will soon bring the agony of His people to an eternal end.

For now, He calls them to be patient. He knows and hears every cry from His own but, the timing of His judgment is fixed, It will come upon the world **but in God’s own time.**

2Pe 3:9 The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

All that is stored-up in God’s cup of wrath is about to be poured upon the earth, but not just yet...

God’s tells them that they should rest for a little season.

In *Revelation 20:4* these souls together with their fellow-servants are seen again:

*Rev. 20:4 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; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years.***

A career opportunity...

Notice that there are two different descriptions of the position and destiny of the tribulation saints during the millennium.

*Rev. 7:15 Therefore are they before the throne of God, and **serve him day and night in his temple**; and he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them.*

*Rev. 20:4 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; and **they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years**.*

They just don't get it – but, they will...

Notice that the persecutions come like ever increasing waves until:

"Except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved; but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened" (Matt. 24:22).

This 5th seal only exposes the first wave of martyred believers crying out to God for vengeance. He will not wait too long before sending in full fury and force.

Will those who have been fighting against God cease their enmity?

No!

Romans 8:7 Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.

John 3:19 And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.

Just as the plagues of Egypt caused Pharaoh's heart to harden, and the tasks of God's people were made more grievous,

Each persecution brings more judgment, and

Each judgment more persecution

All as the Holy Spirit takes out individuals from the world and as Satan hurts his power against them.

The end will come only with the coming of the One who shall break them with a rod of iron and dash His enemies to pieces like a potter's vessel.

10 Plagues of Egypt

- The Plague judgments were against the gods they worshipped (Num 33:4, Jude 1:10-14).
- They were a public display of power (Ex 9:16)
- They were a warning to other nations: Rahab, Josh 2:8-9; Philistines, 1 Sam 4:8; Gen 12:3.

Exodus:

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <p>1) Warning #1</p> <p>2) Warning #2</p> <p>3) (No warning)</p>

<p>4) Warning #3</p> <p>5) Warning #4</p> <p>6) (No warning)</p> <p>7) Warning #5</p> <p>8) Warning #6</p> <p>9) (No warning)</p> <p>10) Warning #7</p> | <p>EX 7:14-25</p> <p>EX 8:1-5</p> <p>EX 8:10-19</p>

<p>EX 8:20-24</p> <p>EX 9:1-7</p> <p>EX 9:8-12</p> <p>EX 9:18-35</p> <p>EX 10:1-20</p> <p>EX 10:21-29</p> <p>EX 11, 12</p> | <p>Waters turned to blood.</p> <p>Frogs on land, homes.</p> <p>Lice on persons (this prevented worship by their priests; 8:18). Magicians could not reproduce this one as they did three other times:</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">1) rods into serpents 7:12 (2 Tim 3:8);</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">2) water into blood, 7:22; and</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">3) frogs, 8:12. Compare with miracles by enemies (Rev 16:14).</p> <p>Flies on homes (Beelzebub = Fly God).</p> <p>Disease on Cattle.</p> <p>Boils, sores: man & beast.</p> <p>Thunder, hail.</p> <p>Locusts; > Pharaoh: "I have sinned."</p> <p>Darkness (3 days).</p> <p>Firstborn, Man and Beast. cf Ex 4:22, Israel = "firstborn."</p> |
|---|---|--|

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Patterns in the 10 Plagues

Other 10 Plague Patterns

1, 2, 3	Rod of Aaron	5, 6	Cattle involved
4, 5, 6	(No rod ?)	4, 7	Goshen exempted (8:22; 9:26)
7, 8, 9	Rod of Moses	3, 8	Admission by enemies
		2, 9	Darkness
		1, 10	Death

Why 10 plagues ?

God told Moses at the burning bush that Pharaoh would not truly yield until God had proven himself stronger than Egypt's gods and the Egyptians recognized it.

Exo 7:3-5 And I will harden Pharaoh's heart, and multiply my signs and my wonders in the land of Egypt. 4] But Pharaoh shall not hearken unto you, that I may lay my hand upon Egypt, and bring forth mine armies, and my people the children of Israel, out of the land of Egypt by great judgments. 5] And the Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD, when I stretch forth mine hand upon Egypt, and bring out the children of Israel from among them.

Each of the plagues attacked one of Egypt's gods.

Prophetic

- 1) Jacob's trouble; affliction: Isa 60:14; Jer 30:5-8.
- 2) Cry to God; heard: Jer 31:18-20.
- 3) God will command oppressors; let them go: Is 43:6
- 4) Two witnesses, with miracles before enemies: Rev 11:3-6.
- 5) Enemies will also perform miracles: Rev 13:14,15.
- 6) Sore judgments fall from God: Jer 25: 15, 6.
- 7) God will protect His people: Rev 7:4; 12:6; 14-16
- 8) Water turned to blood: Rev 8:8; 11:6; 16:4, 5.
- 9) Satanic frogs: Rev 16:13.
- 10) Plague of locusts: Rev 9:2-11.
- 11) Boils and blains: Rev 16:2.
- 12) Hailstones from heaven: Rev 8:7.
- 13) Darkness: Isa 60:2; Rev 16:10.
- 14) Hearts hardened: Rev 9:20, 21.
- 15) Death to multitudes: Rev 9:15.
- 16) Israel to be delivered: Zech 14:3, 4; Rom 11:26.

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You haven't seen anything yet !!

The 6th seal brings tremendous fright to the world but ...

still the world refuses to repent and recognize the one true God.

The breaking of the seals and reading of the scroll is only the introduction.

Once all the seals are broken, the rightful heir identified and the scrolls inheritance is read, the rightful heir – our Lord Jesus the Christ – the Lion and the Lamb waits as the Father sounds the final warning of the Trumpets and then pours out the Vials of His Wrath on the unbelieving, rebelling earth.

The Great Tribulation has not yet begun.

"All these are the beginning of sorrows" (Matt. 24:8).

This is only the first half of the seven years.

It is not until the middle of the period, when the abomination of desolation is seen, that the Great Tribulation really begins.

Many people speak of the Great Tribulation as the whole seven-year period.

It is really only the last three and a half years of the seven-year period.

By the time the trumpets are finished sounding, no one on earth has an excuse. All will know and recognize that this is a battle between the True God and His Christ and Satan and his anti-christ. All will be living as a clear open result of their choice regarding who they will serve and follow.

Who's tribulation is this anyway ?? Who's in charge here ??

Rev 6:11 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.

These martyrs are told that they must wait awhile for the judgment upon their enemies.

God has ordained the details in advance. He is in control.

No matter how difficult the situation, nothing can ever touch the believer unless it has passed through the will of God. God has a definite plan for the life of every one of God's children.

When God points out to Satan that Job is upright, Satan replies,

Job 1:10 "Hast not thou made a hedge about him?"

1 Cor. 10:13 There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.

Face all of your problems in the light of this truth.

1Pe 1:7. 13 That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ: ... Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ;

Rev 6:11] “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 fellowservants also and their brethren, that should be killed as they [were], should be fulfilled”:

Others will join them:

Rev 7:9 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;

Rev 7:13-14 And one of the elders answered, saying unto me, What are these which are arrayed in white robes? and whence came they? [14] 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.

Rev. 11:7 And when they shall have finished their testimony, the beast that ascendeth out of the bottomless pit shall make war against them, and shall overcome them, and kill them.

Rev. 12:11 And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death.

Rev. 14:13 And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them.

Rev. 20:4-5 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; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years. [5] But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection.

Rev 6:11] “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 fellowservants also and their brethren, that should be killed as they [were], should be fulfilled”:

The host of a wedding provided the wedding garments for the guests. Note the parable Jesus taught in **Matthew 22:1-13**

And Jesus answered and spake unto them again by parables, and said, [2] The kingdom of heaven is like unto a certain king, which made a marriage for his son,

[3] And sent forth his servants to call them that were bidden to the wedding: and they would not come. [4] Again, he sent forth other servants, saying, Tell them which are bidden, Behold, I have prepared my dinner: my oxen and my fatlings are killed, and all things are ready: come unto the marriage. [5] But they made light of it, and went their ways, one to his farm, another to his merchandise: [6] And the remnant took his servants, and entreated them spitefully, and slew them.

[7] But when the king heard thereof, he was wroth: and he sent forth his armies, and destroyed those murderers, and burned up their city. [8] Then saith he to his servants, The wedding is ready, but they which were bidden were not worthy. [9] Go ye therefore into the highways, and as many as ye shall find, bid to the marriage. [10] So those servants went out into the highways, and gathered together all as many as they found, both bad and good: and the wedding was furnished with guests.

[11] And when the king came in to see the guests, he saw there a man which had not on a wedding garment: [12] And he saith unto him, Friend, how camest thou in hither not having a wedding garment? And he was speechless. [13] Then said the king to the servants, Bind him hand and foot, and take him away, and cast him into outer darkness; there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

Rev 6:12-17 – The 6th seal is opened

12 *And I saw when he opened the sixth seal and*

*a great earthquake came to pass; and
the sun became black as sackcloth of hair; and
the full moon became as blood;
and the stars of heaven fell unto the earth as a fig tree casts its unripe figs when it
is shaken by a great wind; ",
and the heaven was rent asunder as a scroll rolling itself up and
every mountain and island were removed out of their places.*

*And the kings of the earth and the great and the military commanders and the rich and
the strong and every bondman and freeman hid themselves in the caves and in the rocks
of the mountains; and they say to the mountains and the rocks,*

*Fall upon us and hide us from the presence of the one that sits upon the throne and
from the wrath of the Lamb: 17 Because the great day of His wrath has come; and who
is able to stand?*

(Free Translation)

The first 4 seals were long term events and conditions upon 25% of the earth.
The 5th seal indicated great persecution among the believers on the earth.

The 6th seal is different.

It brings about a brief, intense judgment felt throughout the world.

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5 events prophetically associated with the end time and God's wrath

- 1) Earthquakes *Amos 8:8 Ezek 38:19 Joel 2:10 Haggai 2:6*
- 2) Sun and moon darkened *Amos 8:9 Isaiah 13:10 Isaiah 50:3 Ezek 32:7
Joel 2:31 Luke 23:45 Mark 13:24 Matt 24:29*
- 3) The falling of stars – this is especially terrible in Jewish thought as the heavens were a symbol of God's unchanging character, his reliability.
The stars may also represent angels or spiritual beings.
The Jews believed the stars symbolized living beings.
More likely this is a reference to the physical stars and bodies in the natural universe.
Isa 34:4 Matt 24:29
- 4) The folding up of the heavens as a scroll unrolled on a table, held at both ends.
The center splits and it rolls up upon itself toward each end.
Isaiah 13:13 Isa 34:4 Psalms 102:25-26
- 5) The moving of hills and islands
Jer 4:24 Nahum 1:5

The world in the midst of war, famine, pestilence, and violence will experience earthquakes, natural disasters, and cosmic phenomena for its remaining years.

Jesus indicated these would be 'the beginning of travail (sorrows)' *Matt 24:8*

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Rev 6:12] “And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and, lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood”:

The earthquake described here must be worldwide in scope - shaking the very foundations of the earth, affecting every land and sea.

The earth's crust is a fractured grouping of plates riding on a mantle about which science really knows very little.

Geophysicists still argue about plate tectonics and theory.

They can neither identify positively the cause of nor predict the occurrence of earthquakes and/or eruptions.

The fountains of the deep were opened and rearranged once before in history - at the great flood of Noah's time.

The great continental plates will begin to fracture and move causing a great worldwide earthquake and volcanic eruptions all over the earth.

Vast amounts of dust and steam and acidic gases into the atmosphere causing the sun to be blotted out and darkened and the moon to appear as blood red in color.

Joel 2:30-31

Zeph 1:15

Isa 13:9-10

Acts 17:11 1 Thes 5:21

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Earthquakes: Literal and Figurative

Rev 6:12] “And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and, lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood”:

Earthquakes (G4578: seismos KJV NT: 14) were fairly common and well known in Bible lands.

- Amos (1:1) dated his prophecy by an earthquake.
- Zechariah described the flight of the people before an earthquake in the time of King Uzziah (*Zech. 14:5*).

It is a great earthquake that John uses to describe the cataclysmic upheaval which is to take place when the Lord breaks the sixth seal.

- First of three earthquakes in Revelation (*Rev 6:12; 11:13; 16:18-19*).
- Literal earthquakes (*Ex 19:18; 20:18-19; 1 Kgs 19:11; Mt 27:51-52*).
- Earthquake(s), NT: 13 times (*Mat 27:54, Mat 28:2, Act 16:26, Rev 6:12, Rev 8:5, Rev 11:13 (2), Rev 11:19, Rev 16:18 (2); Mar 13:7-8 (2), Luk 21:11*
- Tempest, NT: 1 time (*Mat 8:24*);
- Earthquakes and sun turning dark (*Joel 2:2, 10, 30-31; cf. Mt 24:39; Mk 13:24, 25*).

Whether it is a literal earthquake or simply John's effort to communicate what he is seeing, the result and impact is devastating and real...

It is likely that the Holy Spirit is using the earthquake to point to something far more significant than a mere seismological disturbance.

The first time that the Greek word is used in the New Testament is in the story of the storm that arose when the Lord was asleep in the ship and the disciples were afraid.

"There arose a great tempest in the sea" (Matt. 8:24).

The classical use: Plato uses it of disturbances, disorders and commotion.

*Rev 6:12-14 And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and, lo, **there was a great earthquake**; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood; 13 And the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind. 14 And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places.*

Given the common use of the word, the context of the passage and related references in the Old Testament, the 'earthquake' may indicate, not just a shaking of the earth but the shaking of all political and ecclesiastical institutions of the day.

Isaiah speaks of the confusion that shall come upon the earth.

"Behold, the Lord maketh the earth empty, and maketh it waste, and turneth it upside down and scattereth abroad the inhabitants thereof . . . the land shall be utterly emptied, and utterly spoiled . . . the earth mourneth and fadeth away . . . the earth is utterly broken down, the earth is clean dissolved, the earth is moved exceedingly. The earth shall reel to and fro like a drunkard, and shall be removed like a cottage; and the transgression thereof shall be heavy upon it; and it shall fall, and not rise again...Then the moon shall be confounded and the sun ashamed..." (Isa. 24:1, 3, 4, 19, 20, 23).

"For the indignation of the Lord is upon all nations, and his fury upon all their armies; he hath utterly destroyed them, he hath delivered them to the slaughter. Their slain also shall be cast out, and their stink shall come up out of their carcasses, and the mountains shall be melted with their blood. And all the host of heaven shall be dissolved, and the heavens shall be rolled together as a scroll: and all their host shall fall down, as the leaf falleth off from the vine, and as a falling fig from the fig tree" (Isa. 34:2-4).

Rev 6:12] "And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and, lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood":

Star = gk: aster => any luminous body in the sky other than the sun or moon.

The stars that fall are most likely comets, meteors, meteorites or asteroids striking the earth. The things we today call 'falling stars' or 'shooting stars'

A great swarm begins to pummel the earth. Some of these are undoubtedly very large.

A major asteroid (or comet ??) is scheduled to strike Jupiter in with unknown effect.

The impacts of these 'stars' may be the catalyst that initiates the world wide earthquakes and eruptions.

Heaven = atmosphere appears to depart, roll back like a scroll

Isa 34:4

'Host of heaven' = common phrase used for stars, lights in the heavenlies; also used of the angels.

Ps 148:3-6

They will appear to be darkened.

The dust and debris in the atmosphere would driven by great winds would create a rolling appearance to those on the earth as wave after wave moves across the sky with each shock and impact.

Rev 6:12] "And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and, lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood":

There are other cosmic disturbances which will also occur following after the 6th seal (*Rev 8:12; 9:1-2; 16:8-9*).

Joel 3:2,9-15 describes the sun, moon, and stars darkened, etc., when the armies of the nations gather in Israel for war.

Mt 24:29-30 describes similar signs after the Great Tribulation.

Luke 21:25 (seismos = shaking): *Isa 24:1,3,4,19,23; 34:2-4* (vs 11: waste and void cf. Gap theory); *Ps 148:3-6; Heb 12:26-29; Hag 2:6; Joel 2:1, 10-12, 30-31; 3:15; Zeph 1:15; Isa 13:9-10; 34:2-4; Ezek 32:7-8*.

Moon = blood: *Mt 24:29; Joel 2:51*. "Nuclear winter"?

We will see more seismic and cosmic disturbances during "the wrath of God": *Rev 11:18; 14:10; 16:19; 19:15*.

We are not appointed to the "Day of wrath": *1 Thes 5:9; Ps 2; Heb 10:26-31*

This all points to this being a literal earthquake and literal cosmic events and impacts but it does not eliminate a figurative, symbolic meaning as well.

Rev 6:12-14 And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and, lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood; 13 And the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind. 14 And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places.

The references to the heavens, to the scroll and to the falling figs, the accompaniments of this great shaking are all phenomena that concern the sun, the full moon and the stars.

The Biblical use and explanation of these symbols is consistently used as symbols referring to authority.

The sun is spoken of as the ruler of the day, the moon and the stars the rulers of the night.

A collapse of supreme authority accompanied by a collapse of derived authority such as local, state, and all other governmental authority, we will begin to see a picture of the anarchy and terrors that are now coming on the earth.

Complete lawlessness, which had been held in restraint through thousands of years, is now breaking out across the face of the earth and around the globe.

And how simple this is in the light of modern discovery.

a few nuclear bombs (remember Seal #2) delivered in the right places and central governments would be destroyed, supreme authority would collapse.

We are told in the great revelation given through St. Paul to the Thessalonian church that the day of the Lord would not come until there had first come an apostasy and the man of sin, or rather the lawless one be revealed (Seal #1).

Rev 6:12-14 And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and, lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood; 13 And the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind. 14 And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places.

The heart of the passage is

"For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth will let, until he be taken out of the way, and then shall that Wicked be revealed" (2 Thess. 2:7, 8).

A mystery in the Scriptures is not something that is mysterious in the sense we use the word. It is something which has been secret in the councils of God and which because of His good pleasure He now has made known to His servants.

The presence of the principle of lawlessness working as a ferment in the midst of the world, restrained by the presence of the Holy Spirit in the Church, breaking forth after He is taken out at the rapture in the sense in which He came at Pentecost, is one of the great truths of the New Testament revelation.

The disappearance of central authority is not of great primary importance so long as local authority continues, but the stars, the symbols of local authority, fall like unseasonal fruit.

Unseasonal fruit shaken down by a Mighty wind

Rev 6:12-14 And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and, lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood; 13 And the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind. 14 And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places.

Unseasonal Fruit

In the warm climate of Palestine, the fig trees, after the harvest of the autumn crop, bud again in the winter.

From these buds come fruit that remains small and hard, the growth checked by the intermittent cold of winter.

When the warmth of spring finally comes and the sap begins to flow in the trees, all of this unseasonable fruit drops off in a shower.

Within a few days the trees are cleared to make ready for the true crop that follows.

Mighty Wind

A wind would hasten the fall of this unseasonal fruit, if the wind came at the right moment.

Mat 3:8-12 Bring forth therefore fruits meet for repentance: 9 And think not to say within yourselves, We have Abraham to our father: for I say unto you, that God is able of these stones to raise up children unto Abraham. 10 And now also the axe is laid unto the root of the trees: therefore every tree which bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. 11 I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire: 12 Whose fan is in his hand, and he will thoroughly purge his floor, and gather his wheat into the garner; but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.

Governments will fall like the wind-blown false fruits.

The wind is frequently the symbol of such a judgment.

It was a wind that blasted the seven lean ears in Egypt (*Gen. 41:6, 23*) the ungodly "are like the chaff which the wind driveth away" (*Ps. 1:4*).

heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together

*Rev 6:12-14 And the **heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together**; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places.*

Heavens departing as a scroll:

Is he talking about the speed of the clouds, or the motion of the sky, or it's appearance

Isa 34:4 (cf. Isa 13:6-13);

Heavens "stretched":

Isa 40:22; 42:5; 44:27; 45:12; 51:13; Jer 10:12; 51:15; Zech 12:1.

The term departed seems to indicate something greater than simply being 'obscured'

As the earth's crust plates shift and slide and are moved out of place the sky will appear to those below it to be moving in the opposite direction.

It may just appear as though it were actually leaving, as if it was being rolled up.

– Or –

The heavens – the sky may literally be changing in some way...

heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together

*Rev 6:12-14 And the **heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together**; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places.*

In a figurative sense, this may mean that no ecclesiastical, religious power remains by this point in time.

The true Church has been taken from the earth before these troubles began several years earlier. Those who remain have had such contempt and so little reverence for the true church they are not likely to have any respect for the 'church' that remains on the earth after the rapture.

Jude describes false religion:

Jud 1:12-13 These are spots in your feasts of charity, when they feast with you, feeding themselves without fear: clouds they are without water, carried about of winds; trees whose fruit withereth, without fruit, twice dead, plucked up by the roots; 13 Raging waves of the sea, foaming out their own shame; wandering stars, to whom is reserved the blackness of darkness for ever.

If 'heaven departing' is symbolic of the religion left on the earth at the time it collapses and as fast as a poster or photo or diploma which has been tightly rolled for years.

Open it and release it. It quickly snaps back into the form it had taken throughout the years.

Perhaps it is this rejection of the now false and empty religion that paves the way for the new beliefs and religion, instituted by anti-christ, led by his false prophet to be accepted by the masses so quickly.

Daniel 11:38 But in his estate shall he honour the God of forces: and a god whom his fathers knew not shall he honour with gold, and silver, and with precious stones, and pleasant things.

*Rev 6:12-14 And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and, lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood; 13 And the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind. 14 And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and **every mountain and island were moved out of their places.***

The mountain is the symbol of government.

Satan desired to "*sit also upon the mount of the congregation, . . . I will be like the most High*" (*Isa. 14:13, 14*)

When Christ returns He will be the "stone cut out without hands" that shall become a great mountain and "fill the whole earth" (*Dan. 2:35*)

Islands are mountain tops protruding from the water that covers them.

The islands are sometimes symbolic of smaller powers.

All will be affected, there will be no stability, no permanence.

Conditions become so terrible that men think that the famous "end of the world" has come.

Even today we hear people speak of some catastrophe with the phrase, "I thought the end of the world had come." "I thought it was the Apocalypse".

Many things must come to pass before the last great and terrible day of the Lord.

The previous Seal judgments reached some classes of people, but there have thus far been those who through personal wealth or good luck have been able to 'cushion the blow'.

But now every class is reached, from kings to slaves.

The disruption of all authority, accompanied by the natural phenomena, now fills every heart with fear and dismay.

The world's greatest prayer meeting...

Rev 6:15-17 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; 16 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: 17 For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand? .

Men have long known of the prophecies of Scripture and had them available.

They even today scoff at them just as the world scoffed at Noah's prophecies of impending judgment – until the rains came. *Gen 6-8*

The conditions and earthly situation is so chaotic that those who scoffed and rejected the truth recall the prophecies and expect God's coming judgment.

Notice however: There is no repentance, no prayer to God, do cry for mercy. There is nothing but terror and a desire to escape from the just judgment of God.

Whosoever calleth upon the Name of the Lord shall be saved,

there are many people who cry, Oh God, Oh God but without coming to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, recognizing that access to Him is only by the finished work of the Saviour.

there is no promise made to those who call upon the rocks and the mountains.

Though they say, "*the great day of his wrath has come,*" this is not true. Christ said, "*All these are the beginning of sorrows*" (*Matt. 24:8*).

What they have seen and experienced is no more than a shadow of the terrors which must yet come.

The world's greatest prayer meeting...

Rev 6:15-17 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; 16 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: 17 For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand? .

The martyrs cry, "Avenge us!" The unbelievers on the earth say, "Hide Us!" Kings hide in caves:

Isaiah 2:10-19

Enter into the rock, and hide thee in the dust, for fear of the Lord, and for the glory of his majesty. [11] The lofty looks of man shall be humbled, and the haughtiness of men shall be bowed down, and the Lord alone shall be exalted in that day. [12] For the day of the Lord of hosts shall be upon every one that is proud and lofty, and upon every one that is lifted up; and he shall be brought low: [13] And upon all the cedars of Lebanon, that are high and lifted up, and upon all the oaks of Bashan, [14] And upon all the high mountains, and upon all the hills that are lifted up, [15] And upon every high tower, and upon every fenced wall, [16] And upon all the ships of Tarshish, and upon all pleasant pictures. [17] And the loftiness of man shall be bowed down, and the haughtiness of men shall be made low: and the Lord alone shall be exalted in that day. [18] And the idols he shall utterly abolish. [19] **And they shall go into the holes of the rocks, and into the caves of the earth, for fear of the Lord, and for the glory of his majesty when he ariseth to shake terribly the earth.**

Josh 10:11-17

And it came to pass, as they fled from before Israel, and were in the going down to Bethoron, that the LORD cast down great stones from heaven upon them unto Azekah, and they died: they were more which died with hailstones than they whom the children of Israel slew with the sword. 12 Then spake Joshua to the LORD in the day when the LORD delivered up the Amorites before the children of Israel, and he said in the sight of Israel, Sun, stand thou still upon Gibeon; and thou, Moon, in the valley of Ajalon. 13 And the sun stood still, and the moon stayed, until the people had avenged themselves upon their enemies. Is not this written in the book of Jasher? So the sun stood still in the midst of heaven, and hasted not to go down about a whole day. 14 And there was no day like that before it or after it, that the LORD hearkened unto the voice of a man: for the LORD fought for Israel. 15 And Joshua returned, and all Israel with him, unto the camp to Gilgal. **16 But these five kings fled, and hid themselves in a cave at Makkedah.** 17 And it was told Joshua, saying, The five kings are found hid in a cave at Makkedah.

Barnhouse

Acts 17:11

1 Thes 5:21

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The world's greatest prayer meeting...

Rev 6:15-17 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; 16 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: 17 For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand? .

Note that as in Joshua's day men are seeking refuge in caves and mountains from the wrath of the Lamb.

They know about the Lamb, that they know the mercy which has been offered for so long in the past is being withdrawn and that 'the wrath of the Lamb' is taking its place.

But, "the carnal mind is enmity against God" (*Rom. 8:7*).

Men through the ages have cried,

"We will not have this man to reign over us" (*Luke 19:14*).

John 19:15 But they cried out, Away with him, away with him, crucify him.... We have no king but Caesar.

They now run to the desolate places of the earth to escape from His wrath just as they ran to every self indulgent excess to escape His grace.

Man will act in this way after the millennial reign of Christ

Rev. 22:11 He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still.

One of the characteristics of eternal punishment is that the conscience, the soul of man will never be stilled. "Their worm shall not die, neither shall their fire be quenched" (*Isa. 66:24*).

Barnhouse

Acts 17:11

1 Thes 5:21

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These events will clearly be recognized as being from the hand of God.

All men recognize that God's wrath is beginning to be poured out on creation.

Isa 13:6,8

Zeph 1:14

Joel 2:1,11

Micah 1:1-4

Mal 3:1-3 Hosea 10:8

The fear is universal, in all creation there is nowhere to hide *Gen 3:8*

Men flee to shelters constructed to protect them from nuclear attack and to the great natural caverns to escape the shower of stars and the impact devastation they cause.

Isaiah 2:21 To go into the clefts of the rocks, and into the tops of the ragged rocks, for fear of the Lord, and for the glory of his majesty, when he ariseth to shake terribly the earth.

Luke 23:30 Then shall they begin to say to the mountains, Fall on us; and to the hills, Cover us.

Men cry out for the very rocks they hope will protect them to fall on them and destroy them recognizing it is the wrath of the Lamb they are experiencing. It is God's hand at work in judgment.

Acts 17:11 1 Thes 5:21

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Rev 6:15-17 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; 16 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: 17 For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand? .

'The wrath of the Lamb' !!

Lambs are not associated with dispensing wrath.

This is a wrath motivated by a love of his own.

Pointed toward saving his own, not toward destroying others for the sake of destruction.

Revelation: The Lamb is being revealed to be the Lion...

The kings and dictators of the earth are not boasting and threatening now but are cowering and quivering.

The great shaking must cause many of the 'shelters' to collapse and crush those who had taken refuge in them.

Isa 2:10-19

It is stupid for a creation to think they can usurp and unseat it's creator.

Ps 2:1-5, 12

Acts 17:11 1 Thes 5:21

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Many, most in fact, believe and tremble but refuse to repent and turn to God for forgiveness and salvation

James 2:19 Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble.

After a few days things begin to seem to settle down. The earth reseats itself.
The stars stopped falling.

Isaiah 26:10 Let favour be shewed to the wicked, yet will he not learn righteousness: in the land of uprightness will he deal unjustly, and will not behold the majesty of the Lord.

Men emerge from their hiding places and began to rationalize the events.

"There must be natural explanations for what had occurred. Perhaps we were to quick to attribute this to God's wrath and judgment."

They set about to rebuild, becoming more firm and hard hearted toward God and His warnings.

Many however, believed and repented and were 'born again' fearlessly standing up, strong in their testimony and firm in their trust in the Lord Jesus and in the Word of God.

They quickly joined the martyred at the base of the alter in heaven as the persecution was renewed and intensified.

Acts 17:11 1 Thes 5:21

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Rev 6:17 "For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?"

Location, position, authority or wealth will not deliver anyone.

The people here are *impenitent*.

They would rather hide than run to Him in faith.

They are proof that judgment by itself does not change the human heart.

Rev. 16:9 And men were scorched with great heat, and blasphemed the name of God, which hath power over these plagues: and they repented not to give him glory.

Rev. 16:11 And blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores, and repented not of their deeds.

Rev. 16:21 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.

They will not only seek to hide from God, but will blaspheme Him as well

Later, they will take up arms against the Lord at Armageddon

Acts 17:11 1 Thes 5:21

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Rev 6 Our Response

We should be inspired with the urgency of our witness to the world:

Do you want our friends, our neighbors, to go through the terrible scenes here described?

Are you withholding the truth from those whose eternity can yet be altered?

John 3:36 He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.

* * *

Matthew 24:14 introduces the preaching of the Gospel of the Kingdom throughout the world, and this brings us to Revelation 7.

God will "seal" 144,000 Jews to share His Word with the world.

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.

The world will then witness the greatest revival ever yet seen.

Rev 6 Summary

Revelation 6

- 1] White horse rider (v.1-2)
- 2] Red horse - war (v.3-4)
- 3] Black horse - famine (v.5-6)
- 4] Pale horse - death (v.7-8)
- 5] Martyrs (v.9-11)
- 6] Worldwide chaos (v.12-17)

Matthew 24

- False Christs (v.4-5)
- Wars (v.6)
- Famines (v.7a)
- Death (v.7b-8)
- Martyrs (v.9)
- Worldwide chaos (v. 10-13, 29f)

Isa 23:9: The Lord of hosts hath purposed it, to stain the pride of all glory, [and] to bring into contempt all the honourable of the earth.