

The Rapture Revelation

The Great Escape: Jesus at the Doorstep

Acknowledgments

I would once again like to thank my wife Marisa for helping me to write and edit this book. I also wish to thank my Pastor, Richard Adams for his constant encouragement. Finally, I wish to dedicate this book to the Lord Jesus and the memory of my Mother and Father who recently passed away. They are missed every day and were prayer warriors and encouragement to everyone that they knew.

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Preface

This book serves as a sequel to our first book on prophecy, *"Revelation Unleashed,"* which was a read-through commentary on the entire book of Revelation. Naturally, the subject of the Rapture was discussed there, as it was encountered within the passages of the book of Revelation. "The Rapture Revelation," however, is a more detailed look the Rapture itself and all the events that will commence on that day. In fact, we will show how the Rapture is only one aspect of the First Day of the Lord's Wrath.

The purpose of this sequel is to encourage the saints, warn a sleeping church and to open the eyes to anyone else who will listen.

Once again, we will use the Holy Scriptures as our main text. We will look at what's going on the world today and how it fits in with what is next on Gods prophetic agenda. This book will also have some charts, which will help us identify where we are living in the bigger picture of the timeline, within the last of the last days.

Since The apostle Peter proclaimed the last days had started way back in his time, two thousand years ago, and they did, it's not a stretch at all for us to be able to identify who the final generation is. This "final generation" will also see the end of all things and the new beginning under the rule of Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior as he will rule and reign this world for a thousand years with his saints as well.

With the world and our own country the USA going in the direction that it is, it's not difficult at all to see we are in fact that final generation and there are many other authors, one such is Dr. Michael Evans, who has proclaimed this boldly in his book with the same title. "The Final Generation –Jesus is coming soon" that he wrote in 2012.

I began writing this short book in 2016, with most of it already written, this most recent Covid-19 plague, spurred me on to finally releasing it. But so much else has happened, this is the kind of book were just like the Bible, the end times prophesies will always be relevant, especially as we see them unfolding before our very eyes.

Introduction

Latest Prophetic Headlines

Meteors flashing across the sky and exploding just overhead recently in Michigan, another explodes in Russia shaking buildings, breaking thousands of windows, and injuring over one thousand resembling what a bomb would do. Another one hits a man in India and kills him. But “there is nothing to see here folks move along” as Howie Carr, who is a local radio personality here in New England, would say.

No longer are these falling star fragments seen afar off in telescopes and by star gazers a few times a year in what's called a meteor shower, or the occasionally shooting star. No, instead they are coming closer and closer to us all the time and now exploding in balls of fire right before our very eyes. Might these occurrences and other signs be leading to something bigger?

Great Escape

The bible proclaims much on this subject. One such scripture we will be looking at closer later is in 1 Thessalonians 5:3 it reads: *“While people are saying, “We have peace and we are safe,” they will be destroyed quickly. It is like pains that come quickly to a woman having a baby. Those people will not escape.”*

A fair question to ask here is, what are they not escaping? What exactly will they be destroyed by? Have you noticed how much peace and safety is being mentioned by all our leaders especially since 9-11? Are there others who will escape? Yes, some will, let's look at the next verse of the same chapter:

4” But you, brothers and sisters, are not in darkness so that this day should surprise you like a thief.

And verse nine of the same chapter. *“For God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ.”*

Day of God's Wrath

We will be looking closely at where this day of wrath begins in the sequence of other biblical events. It might not be where you thought it was.

We see more earthquakes to add to the record setting, chart busting earthquakes that we started to see on the increase since the year 2000. Earthquake swarms which used to be rarer, are starting to become far more commonplace. Swarms can be hundreds of smaller earthquakes closer together and within a very short amount of time giving the feeling of constant shaking of the ground for days or even weeks. But “there is nothing to see here folks move along”.

Worldwide “protests” which are really nothing more than riots, volcanoes, wars and threats and rumors of wars, famines, inflation, **disease**, tsunamis which cause tidal waves, extreme weather of all kinds. All these things are on the uptick and increase in both intensity and numbers and are occurring at rates never seen before in the history of mankind. In many cases these happenings are literally off the charts. But “there is nothing to see here folks move along”.

Tolerance for sinful lifestyles are now accepted, but little tolerance for the ones who stand for moral standards. Hate, cruelty, disrespect of children to their parents, lovers of money, braggarts, and the proud all are on parade. They say evil things against others and refuse to forgive, they gossip and refuse to control themselves. They hate what is good and turn against their friends and do foolish things without thinking. They are conceited and love pleasure instead of God. They act as if they serve God, but do not have his power. This is a paraphrase from second Timothy chapter 3 and it even tells us that in the last days there will be many troubles because of the way people are acting. But “there is nothing to here folks move along”.

Some would say all these things have always been going on and there is nothing new going on, while they know that’s not completely accurate. Most of us in fact, can remember a more decent time just as little as 50 years ago, when our society was the opposite of what we see going on today. So, are all these things leading to something bigger? Is there an end to the madness and degradation of a society who at one time followed the tenets of biblical principles?

Yes, there is an event that is about to happen any day now that will so change the world, it will be shaken to its very foundations. It will make what happened on 09-11-2001, and the Corona Virus, look like a mere blip on the radar of events. It will so transform it forever, that when it happens, people will shudder and shake with fear. They will run and yell to the rocks and mountains to fall on them, for not only just what happened and what they saw, but also for what's coming afterward.

This event will happen soon and to take it lightly is to perhaps even miss it. Not miss it because it won't be seen, known or be a secret, but miss it because you weren't ready for it, or expecting it, or didn't understand all that it entails.

Many people have heard about it already, or just parts of it, from books or movies, but they have put to the side or the back of their minds and try not to think about, because in some respects, it's not the most pleasant event for the ones who aren't ready for it. On the other hand, there will be another group of people who are indeed ready for it, looking for it and expecting for it to happen any day. They are the sign watchers and there is an army of them all over the world.

The first great and terrible day of the Lords wrath (yes there is more than one) and we will be looking at both more closely, encompasses many details which you may have never heard of. It is a massive day of prophetic cataclysmic and apocalyptic events that all collide at once. At the same time Luke 21:35-36 very clearly proclaims the following and it will be a common theme that we keep returning to because it's so powerful.

*“For as a snare shall it come on all them that dwell on the face of the whole earth.
36 Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to **escape all these things that shall come to pass**, and to stand before the Son of man.” (KJV)*

This first day of Gods wrath, which is described in Rev 6:12-17, is almost upon us and when it happens, it will change everyone's life in an instant. Some will be changed for the better, but the majority will unfortunately be changed for the worst at least temporarily. Hopefully for some, they will be given a second chance to make things right with the God who made everything and controls everything and is about to lead us into the last of the last days of mankind as we know it.

It's interesting to hear from a recent USA world leader on what's been happening in our world recently. “We are seeing every night on the television news what’s like a nature hike through the Book of Revelation. These climate-related extreme weather events have convinced most people that the scientists have been right for a long time. We have to address this.”

The sad part is, though he sees what's going on, he fails to recognize why it's really happening and who to credit it to. Al Gore, the former VP knows what he sees on the news, and so should we, but he thinks excess man-made carbon is the problem. Anyone who really knows their Bible, knows the real truth, and it’s not AL’s “inconvenient truth” as his book describes.

In a roundabout way he's telling us he thinks that some things in Revelation are happening right now and he is partially correct in that part. But his answer to fixing the problem is incorrect the answer is quite simple but ignored by him and many. It's not a sin to drive an SUV or fly in a private jet or whatever other carbon producing piece of man-made technology can produce. The blame here is being heaved on the wrong culprit.

It is the real sins of man, murder, hate, sexual perversions, adultery and we could list so many more that is the problem. In fact, 2 Timothy 3:1-2 says this: *“Remember this! In the last days there will be many troubles, 2 because people will love themselves, love money, brag, and be proud.....”*

It's the way we act and live that's the problem. It's man behavior not the mode of transportation we choose. Because we refuse to repent of sin that things are getting and will get much worse. If we would truly repent of our sinful lifestyles, then our land would be healed and our enemies who are now within as well as without, would be held in check by God himself, just like he has done in the past.

In fact, going back to Revelation the answer is found there as well. God sends the judgements then proclaims numerous times “and they still would not repent”. Yet that's all God requires. Simple answer, yet we refuse it. So instead the signs will increase leading us up to the first day of Gods “extreme wrath” as I call it.

The signs are everywhere, ongoing and magnifying daily. But along with his soon to be seen wrath, will also be shown his great mercy. Is wrath and mercy possible within the same context? Yes, It absolutely is and will be. The reality is, God could just wipe all mankind out because of our defiance of his law as he did back in Noah's day or Sodom and Gomorrah’s. It is his right as

creator. Instead he will give many the chance through one last testing period to see if they can get it right with their creator. Revelation 3:10, Luke 21:36 and other scripture in parts speaks of some who will be kept from the coming wrath and not have to go *through it, instead they will escape it!*

Is God maniacal or sick to be sending us sign after sign, which will soon become major creation changing revelatory events? No just the opposite. God wishes that all mankind would be saved because he loves his creation. But his patience is running out and time as we know it is running out.

We are in fact the final generation that will witness the end of things as we know it. Are you ready for what's about to take place? If not, you can be ready it's all up to you.

A Literal Interpretation

Our approach to scripture in this book will be like our last book, very literal (because that's how all previous prophecy was fulfilled) and very "big picture" or in other words we will be incorporating many scripture passages to give us a more complete picture and accurate timeline of events that we believe will soon be occurring. Too many teachers today are taking license with scripture and having it fit into their agenda instead of letting the scripture teach on its own. Since there is a severe punishment for that in Rev 22:18, we are careful to not add to or subtract from what the scriptures say by themselves.

Prophecy is one of those doctrines unlike many others in the bible, where they can't always be fully understood line by line. Instead many passages must be put together from many parts of the bible to give the complete picture and proper timeline.

CHAPTER ONE

MANY PROOFS

Time flies, 9-11-01 was just 19 years ago. Not only did Americas enemies attack her and were allowed to by God, but also another amazing thing happened...people flocked back to church, but alas it was very short lived. It appeared for a time that America might wake up from its spiritual slumber, but it wasn't to be. We didn't repent of our wicked ways and turn to the Lord. Instead we went the other direction, we are farther away from the Lord now then we have ever been.

So, what will it take next time to wake us up when 9-11 wouldn't do it, and it appears that Covid-19 might not do it either? I would submit to you it will take an event and day far worse, that will make 9-11 and the Corona virus look small in comparison. I would submit to you the next big event will be the one we read about in revelation 6:12. This passage reads:

“Then I watched while the Lamb opened the sixth seal, and there was a great earthquake. The sun became black like rough black cloth, and the whole moon became red like blood. 13 And the stars in the sky fell to the earth like figs falling from a fig tree when the wind blows. 14 The sky disappeared as a scroll when it is rolled up, and every mountain and island was moved from its place.

15 Then the kings of the earth, the rulers, the generals, the rich people, the powerful people, the slaves, and the free people hid themselves in caves and in the rocks on the mountains. 16 They called to the mountains and the rocks, “Fall on us. Hide us from the face of the One who sits on the throne and from the anger of the Lamb! 17 The great day for their anger has come, and who can stand against it?”

But what many don't understand is, there will be much more going on during this amazing world altering day. It is in fact the Rapture event which we now will be looking at more closely. If you have never heard of the Rapture of the church, then we will set this up here.

Just like the word trinity, which can't be found in the bible, but describes the triune God in three persons, the father, the son and the Holy Spirit, the term “Rapture” describes another premise. The word is derived from the Latin word “raptu” and the Greek word “harpazo” which means: to seize, carry off by force to seize on, claim for one's self, or to snatch out, be caught up or away.

We see a partial description of this in 1 Thess 4:17: *“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.”(KJV)*

It should be obvious that this scripture is describing an incredible event that apparently a growing number of people don't want any part of, but it will happen, nonetheless. Jesus said it will happen when people least expect it. Of course, Jesus was speaking about those who aren't looking for, or don't care about it one way or the other. This will be most of the world and half the church as described in Matthew 25: 1-13. This passage describes some people who "know the bridegroom," but are asleep spiritually when he returns. They will be left behind for the testing period known as the last great tribulation, which will last approx. seven years long. For others (the five wise virgins), it will be overdue, welcomed and expected.

Scriptural proof and faith are all anyone needs to really know, that they know, that they know, there is a supernatural "Rapture" event and that's it's going to happen soon and in our lifetimes. It's not difficult to see and identify the signs that are going all around us and to see they are exactly what Jesus described in the books of Matthew, Mark, Luke and others. Of course, it's natural to ask when is Jesus coming, who wouldn't want to know that? While it's a natural question to ask, the answer comes in two parts:

1. No one can know the *exact hour or day* of Jesus soon return not even Jesus himself only God the father knows. Matthew 24:36 reads: "*But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only.*" (KJV)
2. While no one can know the exact hour or day, Jesus said we can know when he is at the doorstep. So, it is incumbent on us to know what general timeframe he is speaking about. Matthew 24:33 reads in the KJV. "*So likewise, ye, when ye shall see all these things, **know that it is near, even at the doors**.*"

If no one knows exactly when this will occur except God the father, then it should go without saying that when it does happen, it's going to be a surprise if not a shock to most people. In fact, we are told again in scripture it will be a surprise. 1Thess 5:2 reads: "*for you know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night*"(NIV).

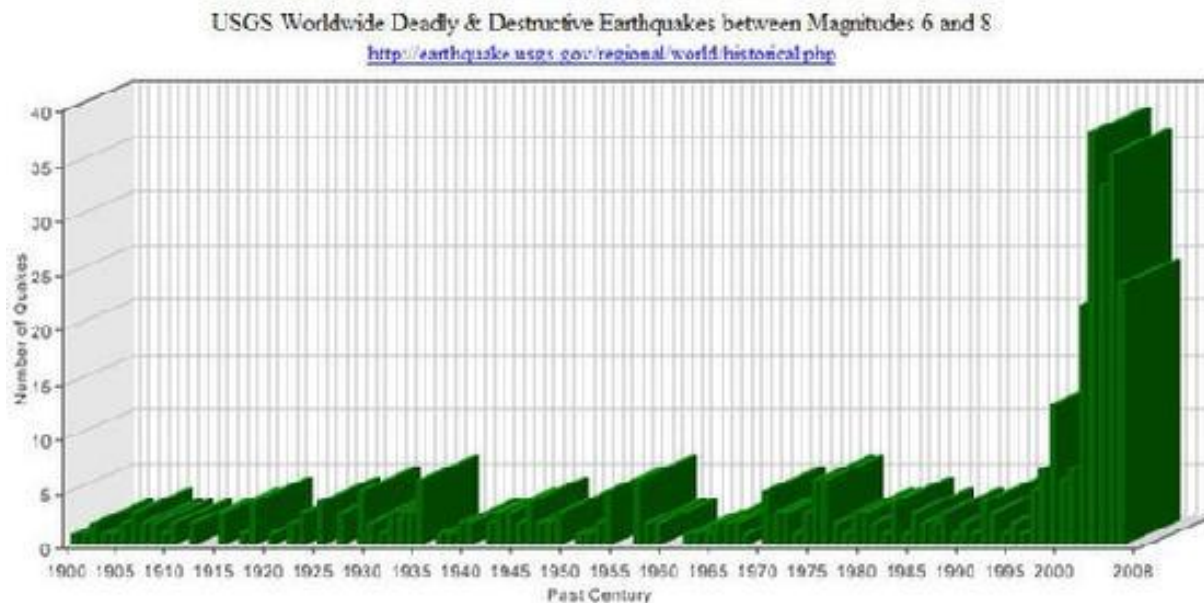
What do we know about thieves? They do their deeds without notice and they always surprise the persons house they are going to rob. They don't announce their coming, for if they did certainly the victims would be ready for them.

The following charts all show the trend of the prophetic signs as actual proof that they are increasing and coming to a head. This first chart was not a chart I made myself, instead the US geological survey who monitors global earthquakes made it in 2008. I apologize for it being blurry, as it used to be an interactive chart but the significant things to note here are that major earthquakes were a relatively flat line from the year 1900 to 2000, then all of a sudden they shot up and almost went off the chart.

So, what did the US geological survey do with it? They nixed it. You won't find it in many places other than my website www.realchristian.net. I was able to capture it and copy it before they did away with it. Do you think perhaps the Lord himself helped me in this endeavor? I absolutely believe he did. I was at the right place at the right time, but not by chance. (Also, our website has our previous book which can be downloaded and read for free).

We must ask ourselves why would the agency who compiled this chart from their own records do this? Would it be to hide the obvious and the truth from the public, that the earthquakes are literally going off the charts? Of course, that's why they did it. Plus, it proves biblical end times prophecy, which they don't believe in because sadly, most climate scientists aren't Godly, they are mainly atheist. The fact is the very next year in 2009, the earthquakes shot up to a number never seen before, to 160! This would have been way off their own chart. Not that in between 2000 and 2008 were insignificant. In fact, those were also historic and record breaking up to that point.

But what's interesting is, instead of them tracking in between 2009 and 2015 as I have done, they just did away with their own chart, because it's too shocking.

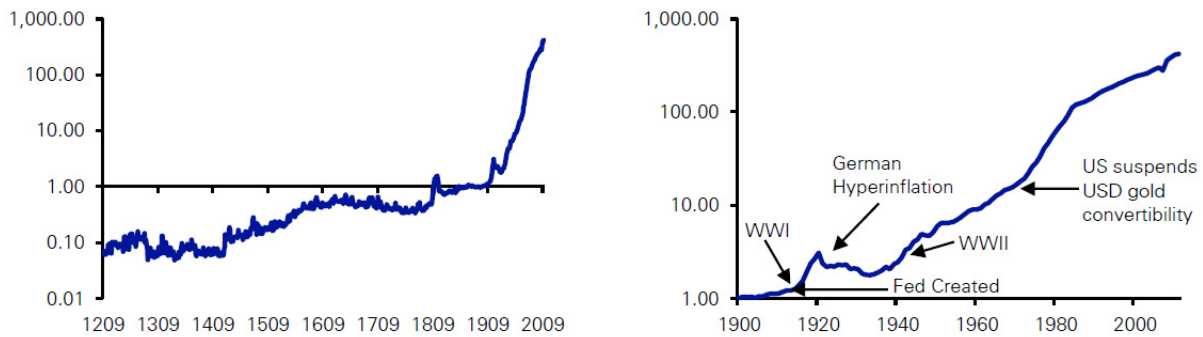


Above is the USGS original chart, below is mine. I simply kept it going the way they should have if they weren't trying to hide the truth from the public. The last days earthquakes leading up to the big one at the 6th seal, are spoken about in Matt. chapter 24, Luke chapter 21 and Rev. Chapter 6. They are all leading to the big one coming soon as described in Rev 6:12: “*Then I watched while the Lamb opened the sixth seal, **and there was a great earthquake.** The sun became black like rough black cloth, and the whole moon became red like blood.*” Verse 13 continues: “*And the stars in the sky fell to the earth like figs falling from a fig tree when the wind blows. 14 The sky disappeared as a scroll when it is rolled up, **and every mountain and island was moved from its place.**”*



This next chart is looking at the uptick on inflation.

Figure 18: Global Median Inflation Series since 1209 (left) and 1900 (right)

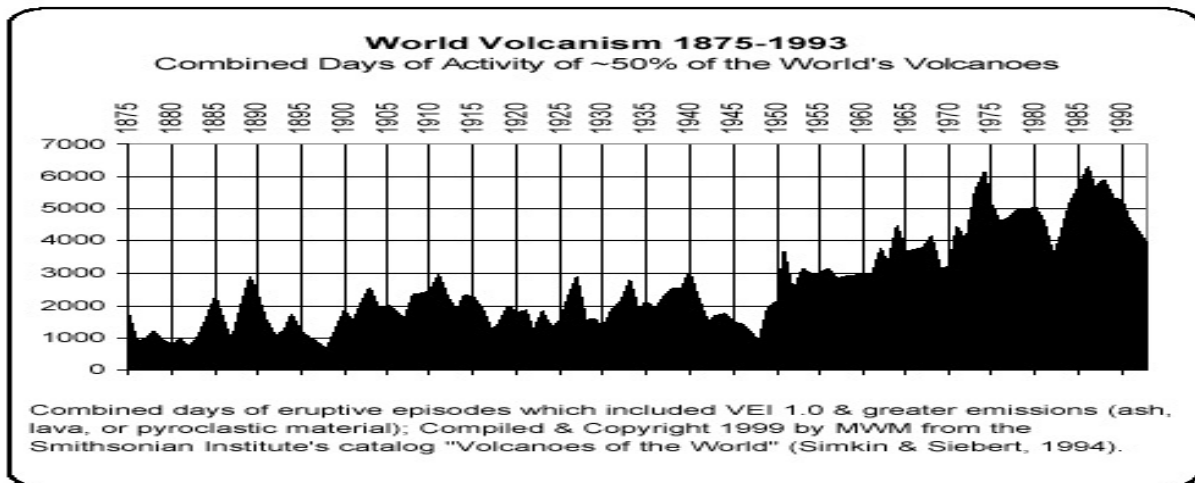


Source: Deutsche Bank, GFD

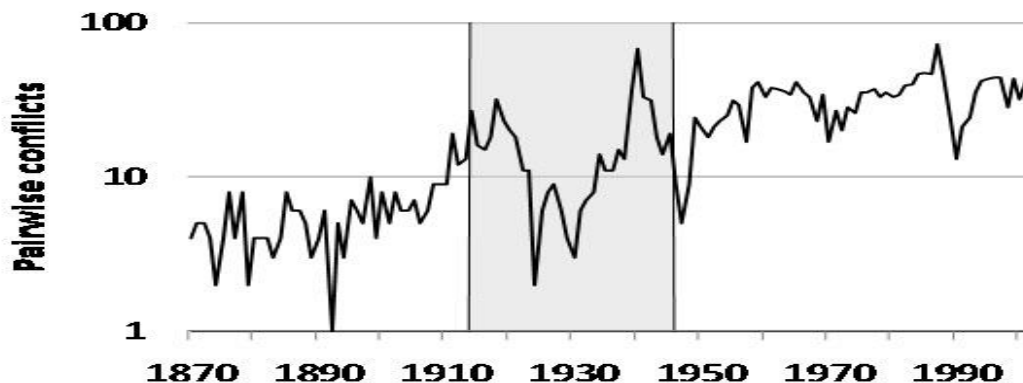
This chart on inflation matches and proves an open third seal of Revelation. Revelation 6:5-6
“When the Lamb opened the third seal, I heard the third living creature say, “Come!” I looked, and there before me was a black horse, and its rider held a pair of scales in his hand. 6 Then I heard something that sounded like a voice coming from the middle of the four

living creatures. The voice said, “A quart of wheat for a day’s pay, and three quarts of barley for a day’s pay, and do not damage the olive oil and wine!” (NCV).

Notice how this passage is describing inflation more than it is famine. It speaks of what a day’s wage will buy. Famine is identified and called out specifically in the fourth seal. Now on this chart below, while volcanoes aren’t specifically called out in scripture certainly many times, they accompany at least a shaking of the earth and seismic activity much like an earthquake.



This chart below is showing the uptick in global conflicts which the bible identifies as wars and rumors of wars and kingdoms rising against kingdoms. Again Jesus speaks of these in both Matthew chapter 24 and Luke chapter 21, as signs of not only his soon return, but also calls it the “beginning of sorrows”. We have more info on wars on the rise on our website.



Certainly the increase of wars, riots and murders of all kinds prove an open second seal which is simply a removal of peace from the earth. Rev 6:3-4 *“When the Lamb opened the second seal, I heard the second living creature say, “Come!” 4 Then another horse came out, a red one. Its rider was given power to take away peace from the earth and to make people kill each other, and he was given a big sword”*. When these evidences are seen and everyone sees them going on all the time , it proves they are open.

On the martyrdom front the following statistics come from the late David B. Barrett, Todd M. Johnson and the Center for Study of Global Christianity at Gordon Conwell theological seminary. Todd M. Barrett and Todd M. Johnson said from AD 30 to 2000, 70 million Christians died as martyrs. Most of those martyrs were not in ancient times. There were 45 million Christian martyrs in the 20th century. Today every five minutes, a Christian dies for their faith and as we know this is not except for the rare occurrence, happening in the USA, although that could change anytime.

Why is Martyrdom relevant to this study? Because of how it connects to the fifth seal of Revelation. It should be obvious that if 45 of the 70 million martyred have died within the last 100 years or so, and the previous 25 million happened over the previous 1900 years, that it could also be charted and shown that it's almost “off the charts” in their occurrence much like the earthquakes, signs in the heavens, riots, roar and fury of the sea(tsunamis, hurricanes, tornadoes), inflation, murders, disease, death by animal attacks and wars/conflicts. All signs of what? Jesus soon return naturally.

Revelation 6:9-11 says: *“When the Lamb opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of those who had been killed because they were faithful to the word of God and to the message they had received. 10 These souls shouted in a loud voice, “Holy and true Lord, how long until you judge the people of the earth and punish them for killing us?” 11 Then each one of them was given a white robe and was told to wait a short time longer. **There were still some of their fellow servants and brothers and sisters in the service of Christ who must be killed as they were. They had to wait until all of this was finished.**”*

Question: does this describe the beginning of Martyrdom, somewhere in the middle, or the end of Martyrdom? The answer is simple, it describes the opening of the seal plain and simple. Since we know for a fact that Martyrdom began in earnest with Jesus disciples and apostles, we know this earl was broken/opened long ago. What it doesn't describe is a future event only. It says all the following: some were already killed when John the Revelator saw this vision, more had to be killed and they had to wait till their number was complete.

And what do we know about the numbered seals, trumpet judgements and vials/ bowls judgements? They are numbered one through seven each for a reason, order and sequence! No one can take any of them out of order and say for instance, the fifth seal happens before the first etc. Also no one can say (without punishment from God himself), that the trumpets happen before the seals etc. It's the 7 seals, then the 7 trumpets, then finally the 7 bowls. Are

there some teachers taking these out of order as they please today? Yes, absolutely and far too many.

For example, I had a friend who had no problem taking these out of order and he said they all just happen at the end and all on one day. Problem with that is many, but in just one trumpet judgement alone:(the stinging locusts of the fifth trumpet judgement of Rev 9:1-11), it takes a full five months for that judgement to start and end. Yes, in fact people will be tormented for five long months! This judgement alone renders positions like my friends to be invalid.

But what are all these proofs and signs for? To simply tell us and show us that Jesus return is imminent. The immanency of his return has always been there since even Jesus day, because he could have started any of these last days signs at any time in history. It is now obvious that we are the chosen generation that will see the end of all things.

Matthew 24:32-34 proclaims the following in this regard:

“Learn a lesson from the fig tree: When its branches become green and soft and new leaves appear, you know summer is near. 33 In the same way, when you see all these things happening, you will know that the time is near, ready to come. 34 I tell you the truth, all these things will happen while the people of this time are still living.”

Occasionally we will be repeating scriptures we already have quoted to see how they connect with other scriptures and other versions. In the KJV we see similar wording but focusing on verse 33 we see an interesting description: *“when ye shall see all these things, know that it is near, **even at the doors.**”*

“Even at the doors” tells us we can know when he's just about here, not the day or hour, but certainly the generation and perhaps even the year. We will discuss this further in the next chapter and see why the more time goes along, the more we can see that time is running out for mankind.

So, the meteor activity which is also on the uptick with all the other natural disasters plus the riots, wars, inflation, disease, animal attacks and the way people are acting badly are all culminating at the same time. Look what Jesus said about the **increase** of wickedness here in Matthew 24:10-13:

*“At that time many will turn away from the faith and will betray and hate each other, 11 and many false prophets will appear and deceive many people. 12 Because of the **increase** of wickedness, the love of most will grow cold.”*

All these things are signaling the soon return of Jesus, because we are undoubtedly the final generation.

CHAPTER 2

The final generation because.....

Since Jesus gave us the markers whereby, we can identify the last generation, then it behooves us to sit up and pay attention when they are occurring and it's unfolding. A commonsense question that needs to be asked and answered here is, why do a growing number of “watchers at the wall” see this as the final generation?

The charts we just saw in the previous chapter are a huge reason and sign(s), in and of themselves. Matching those with Jesus words in both Matthew chapter 24 and Luke chapter 21, is where we find many of the clues. Starting with Matthew chapter 24 we first will look at why Jesus gave this dissertation which is one of the longest he ever gave, what questions he was answering and who the message was meant for.

Verse one starts: *“As Jesus left the Temple and was walking away, his followers came up to show him the Temple’s buildings. 2 Jesus asked, “Do you see all these buildings? I tell you the truth, not one stone will be left on another. Every stone will be thrown down to the ground.”*

3 Later, as Jesus was sitting on the Mount of Olives, his followers came to be alone with him. They said, “Tell us, when will these things happen? And what will be the sign that it is time for you to come again and for this age to end?”

So, they ask Jesus basically one question in three parts. The first question they had was when the temple will be torn down, since Jesus said this is what would happen. From history we know that the temple was torn down in 70AD by the Romans, so this has been fulfilled already. The final tribulation temple which they have plans to build right now, will begin soon. But let's look at part two of their question. They ask: “what will be the sign for you to come again and for this age to end?”

Sounds like a simple question doesn't it? But the answer Jesus gives is anything but simple and not only does he answer that question, he also goes onto to answer other questions that weren't asked of him but have been asked since by others. Sometimes Jesus gave simple short answers to people's questions and other times he gave very lengthy answers even incorporating a story otherwise known as a parable along with the answer(s). He does the same thing here. Jesus goes on with what's called the “Olivet discourse”, because he gave it on the mount of Olives.

His answer spans two chapters consisting of ninety-seven verses! This takes approx ten minutes to read, so imagine for a moment what they were thinking when the asked him for one sign, but instead Jesus gave them many plus no less than four parables incorporated within all of this. One thing to note before we get deep into this is, they did not ask for a definite order of events, because they probably didn't even know fully what they were asking and we will also see Jesus did not give a definite order, in fact we will see he skips around

quite a bit and isn't as concerned about the order as we are today. In fact, for those who look for a definite order of events here, you will be confused and disappointed until you realize the book of Revelation puts all this in perspective and in perfect order. Jesus obviously knew Revelation was still to be written through his servant John and that was where all these things could be plugged into and be more fully understood and with a definite order.

So, what I want us to notice here and what we don't want to do, is interject our own suppositions or timelines yet. Many go off the rails when they attempt to find definite and final order to what Jesus is saying. He answered their questions at the time they were asked. He didn't answer our questions today of which are, what order does all this stuff happen? They asked what the sign was of his coming, then he told them there were many, not just one. They also asked about the end of the age and again he gave many.

Now I will show you proof from this text itself that Jesus skipped around in the order of end time events continuing in verse four:

4 Jesus answered, "Be careful that no one fools you. 5 Many will come in my name, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and they will fool many people.

Since Jesus made this statement there have been countless false Christ's that have lived and died started their own religions etc. this is already fulfilled and ongoing.

*6 You will hear about wars and stories of wars that are coming, but don't be afraid. These things must happen before the end comes. 7 Nations will fight against other nations; kingdoms will fight against other kingdoms. There will be times when there is no food for people to eat, **and there will be earthquakes in different places.** 8 These things are like the first pains when something new is about to be born.*

Wars and rumors of wars since Jesus day have done nothing but increase in numbers and intensity. The same with famines and earthquakes as we saw earlier, so it's easy to see these are fulfilled but also ongoing. Also, many of these signs are written about in the first five seals of Revelation. Seals two, three, four and five all describe these same things. War, murder, famines, inflation, disease and Martyrdom in the next passage.

9 "Then people will arrest you, hand you over to be hurt, and kill you. They will hate you because you believe in me. 10 At that time, many will lose their faith, and they will turn against each other and hate each other. 11 Many false prophets will come and cause many people to believe lies. 12 There will be more and more evil in the world, so most people will stop showing their love for each other.

Verses twelve certainly is speaking of divorce and other ways people don't show love for one another the way they once did, which is at all-time highs as well.so this too is fulfilled and ongoing. Continuing with verse 13:

13 "But those people who keep their faith until the end will be saved." To note here is simply not only is he speaking of the end of the age, but it should be obvious he is also

speaking of whatever your end might be. Since God is in control of all things, he also numbers our days. We won't all be beheaded during the tribulation period, some died back then, some died today, and some will die in the future and at the mass beheading of tribulation saints during the final testing period. We don't all see the same end. Continuing:

14 "The Good News about God's kingdom will be preached in all the world, to every nation. Then the end will come."

This one verse is a proof of sorts that he wasn't going in particular order, though we also have Revelation as proof, because this is fulfilled at the end of the tribulation period by the gospel Angel who preaches the good news for the final time. It is seen in Revelation 14:6, which occurs approx one week before revelation 19 and the battle of Armageddon. If he was going in a definite order, he would have ended his entire answer/dissertation with this verse, but instead he continues with something that happens in the middle of the tribulation period otherwise known as the desecration of the temple by the antichrist.

15 "Daniel the prophet spoke about 'a blasphemous object that brings destruction.' [a] You will see this standing in the holy place." (You who read this should understand what it means.) 16 "At that time, the people in Judea should run away to the mountains. 17 If people are on the roofs[b] of their houses, they must not go down to get anything out of their houses. 18 If people are in the fields, they must not go back to get their coats. 19 At that time, how terrible it will be for women who are pregnant or have nursing babies! 20 Pray that it will not be winter or a Sabbath day when these things happen and you have to run away, 21 because at that time there will be much trouble. There will be more trouble than there has ever been since the beginning of the world until now, and nothing as bad will ever happen again. 22 God has decided to make that terrible time short. Otherwise, no one would go on living. But God will make that time short to help the people he has chosen.

Then he repeats himself below as he mentioned a similar topic about false prophets, teachers and Christ's in verses 4,5 and 11.

23 At that time, someone might say to you, 'Look, there is the Christ!' Or another person might say, 'There he is!' But don't believe them. 24 False Christs and false prophets will come and perform great wonders and miracles. They will try to fool even the people God has chosen, if that is possible. 25 Now I have warned you about this before it happens.

Again, all this has been happening the last 2000 years, but then he transitions into a big sign of him being seen in the air by everyone.

*26 "If people tell you, 'The Christ is in the desert,' don't go there. If they say, 'The Christ is in the inner room,' don't believe it. 27 **When the Son of Man comes, he will be seen by everyone,** like lightning flashing from the east to the west. 28 Wherever the dead body is, there the vultures will gather.*

So, what is the one big sign if there is one of his return and the end of the age? It's the Rapture event. This is a big deal because once people see him in the air it's too late for most. What we are about to see here is a description of the Rapture event, NOT the actual physical second coming of Jesus on white horseback with the armies of heaven on white horseback as described in Revelation chapter 19.

There are no armies described here instead its angels gathering people up from the earth. There is no talk here of war and or the antichrist. Because he is taking about the Rapture here. Many in the church have mistakenly connected this passage to the 2nd coming and Armageddon. He just said he will be seen by everyone and an accompanying sign(s) are:

29 *“Soon after the trouble of those days, ‘the sun will grow dark, and the moon will not give its light. The stars will fall from the sky. And the powers of the heavens will be shaken.’* Jesus was also quoting here Isaiah 13:10; 34:4. **(Also even more important is this is described at the sixth seal of Revelation! Because that's where it occurs in the sequence.)**

30 *“At that time, the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky. Then all the peoples of the world will cry.* **(Again, seen fulfilled and seen at the sixth seal)**

*They will see the Son of Man coming on clouds in the sky with great power and glory. 31 **He will use a loud trumpet to send his angels all around the earth, and they will gather his chosen people from every part of the world.**”*

It's so powerful and exciting, but again notice: no armies, horses or talk of war, only angels gathering his elect. Now look at the following and ask yourself this question. If the elect were just gathered by angels (harpadzo Rapture) and they were, why is this next:

32 *“Learn a lesson from the fig tree: When its branches become green and soft and new leaves appear, you know summer is near. 33 In the same way, when you see all these things happening, you will know that the time is near, ready to come.*

Because he's answering the end of the age question here and he's speaking mainly to Jews in Matthew, most of whom will miss the Rapture. The Rapture is one of the signs of the beginning of the end, along with the breaking of the sixth seal. To those left behind and the Jews especially, it's a very loud and clear sign that not only was the Rapture talk true, but also God is in control and some will be spared the rest of the testing(tribulation period). But where else do we see that some will be spared? Both Revelation 3:10 and Luke 21:36 along with 1 Thess 4:16 and 2 Thess.

In Revelation 3:10 Jesus is speaking to the church of Philadelphia at that time and to today's end time church it reads:

*“You have obeyed my teaching about not giving up your faith. **So, I will keep you from the time of trouble that will come to the whole world to test those who live on earth.**”*

Remember earlier we said, Jesus could have started all these end time signs we see now, back then in his time, or in any century, this is how the revelatory letters apply to the seven

churches he was writing to then and they also apply to the final generation. To “*keep you from*” something means to keep someone from physically being there. If you keep your child from going to school, they aren't there naturally. Luke 21:36 also confirms this.

*“So be ready all the time. **Pray that you will be strong enough to escape all these things that will happen** and that you will be able to stand before the Son of Man.”*

To escape something is like being kept from, it means to physically not be there. We know that this is accomplished through the Rapture event before Gods wrath begins. Continuing in Matthew:

*34 I tell you the truth, **all these things** will happen while the people of this time are still living. 35 Earth and sky will be destroyed, but the words I have said will never be destroyed.*

So now we ask what are all these things? The answer is simple, everything Jesus just described in the entire chapter so far, which is also undeniable proof that since some will escape all these things, that is referring to a pre-tribulation, pre-wrath Rapture.

Some folks misidentify where Gods wrath begins in end times prophecy. But It's not hard to discern or find because it's found again in very clear scripture, in Revelation 6:16-17 which is part of the sixth seal.

*“They called to the mountains and the rocks, “Fall on us. Hide us from the face of the One who sits on the throne and **from the anger (wrath in the kjv), of the Lamb! 17 The great day for their anger(wrath)has come,** and who can stand against it?”*

What day has started here? The first day of Gods wrath. So then does the wrath start when some say it does, in the middle of the tribulation or at the desecration of the temple by the antichrist period? NO! It starts when scripture says it does. When does the great tribulation begin? The people of earth proclaim it for themselves, because it is so awesome in many regards and its common sense. The appearance of the antichrist later on and his antics are a continuation of the wrath, not its start.

But notice who else they are crediting this start to. Not just God the father on the throne, they also know here and proclaim that it is Jesus “the lambs” day!

Let's see how Thessalonians also adds to the scenario giving us an even bigger picture in 1 Thess 4:16-17:

*“The Lord himself will come down from heaven with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trumpet call of God. And those who have died believing in Christ will rise first. 17 **After that, we who are still alive will be gathered up with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air.** And we will be with the Lord forever.”*

Simple question. Does this sound like and have the same language of what we just read in Matthew 24:30-31? Of course, it does! Why? Because it's describing the same event. The Rapture!

If you see scripture on the doctrine of love in the bible in many different books, can you put them altogether to form a bigger doctrine of the subject on love? Yes of course and this is what good students, teachers and preachers of the word do already. So then why don't they do the same with end times prophecy? To not do it causes confusion and many times conflict from within the Christian community. The subheading of Matthew 24:36 reads:

When Will Jesus Come Again?

*36 "No one knows when that day or time (**the Greek says hour**) will be, not the angels in heaven, not even the Son. Only the Father knows. 37 When the Son of Man comes, it will be like what happened during Noah's time. 38 In those days before the flood, people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving their children to be married, until the day Noah entered the boat. 39 They knew nothing about what was happening until the flood came and destroyed them. It will be the same when the Son of Man comes. 40 Two men will be in the field. **One will be taken, and the other will be left.** 41 Two women will be grinding grain with a mill. **One will be taken, and the other will be left.***

If you have never read or seen the books/movies called the "left behind" series, certainly they didn't make up the premise on their own. It came right from here. Whether we like it or not, the Rapture will allow some to escape early while the others will clearly be left behind to be tested during the tribulation period. We also see a description here of what people will be doing when Jesus gathers his elect. It is describing a prior of normality and everyday life. People worrying, eating, marrying just as they did in Noah's day when the flood came and destroyed them. Is there ever chaos during normal life i.e.: virus, sickness, famine, inflation? Of course, we know there is tribulation or trouble in most peoples lives at one time or another.

Also, there is another picture here of some escaping Gods wrath, Noah and his family were gathered into the boat and taken away from the wrath. Also, in Luke chapter 17, we see another expansion of this same thought with added detail. So just as Matthew 24 and Luke chapter 21 are nearly mirror passages coming from two different men but describing the same teaching, so also Luke 17:24-36 mirrors Matthew 24:36-41 with added detail. I will highlight the added words in Luke that are not contained in Matthew, which obviously makes them very important.

*24 "When the Son of Man comes again, he will shine like lightning, which flashes across the sky and lights it up from one side to the other. 25 But first he must suffer many things and be rejected by the people of this time. 26 When the Son of Man comes again, it will be as it was when Noah lived. 27 People were eating, drinking, marrying, and giving their children to be married until the day Noah entered the boat. Then the flood came and killed them all. 28 **It will be the same as during the time of Lot. People were eating, drinking, buying, selling,***

planting, and building. 29 But the day Lot left Sodom, fire and sulfur rained down from the sky and killed them all. 30 This is how it will be when the Son of Man comes again.

Question: Where else do we see fire raining down from the sky as it did in lots day? At the 6th seal in the form of falling stars. Falling stars = asteroids/meteors and those is the simplest form are fireballs.

31 “On that day, a person who is on the roof and whose belongings are in the house should not go inside to get them. A person who is in the field should not go back home. 32 Remember Lot’s wife. 33 Those who try to keep their lives will lose them. But those who give up their lives will save them. 34 I tell you, on that night two people will be sleeping in one bed; one will be taken and the other will be left. 35 There will be two women grinding grain together; one will be taken, and the other will be left. [36 Two people will be in the field. One will be taken, and the other will be left.]”

Again, to note here. No talk of war, or anyone on horseback as in Revelation chapter 19. He is talking about the day of the Rapture/6th seal/First day of God’s wrath/ and the beginning of the tribulation period. They are all the same incredible day! And no one will have to guess when it will start. It will be obvious to everyone.

Now since the time of tribulation is called a testing period, it tells us that some will pass, and some will fail the test. We read about those who fail in Revelation starting around the sixth seal and continuing to the completion of the wrath which can once again be found in scripture. Revelation 15:1 reads:

*“Then I saw another wonder in heaven that was great and amazing. There were seven angels bringing seven disasters. **These are the last disasters, because after them, God’s anger is finished.**”*

So, we see clearly in scripture when God wrath begins, which was at the sixth seal and where it ends after the last 7 bowl/vial judgements. And as far as how long the wrath lasts in total, in our book “Revelation Unleashed” we discussed and showed that the 7 year tribulation period is slightly longer than 7 years, probably closer to 7-1/2 years in total, but still can be called the 7 year tribulation, for ease of understanding.

Jesus told us there would be tribulation in our lives of many sorts and the word tribulation simply means “troubles” or suffering. So not everyone will have to go through this official last testing period when they might be going through their own suffering today. Many have already been Martyred and we all know some who have suffered and died in their own way as God chose, whether it's from sickness, disease, murder, war, animal attacks as can also be seen described in the fourth seal of Revelation 6:7-8. It reads as follows:

*“When the Lamb opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth living creature say, “Come!” 8 I looked, and there before me was a pale horse. Its rider was named death, and Hades was following close behind him. **They were given power over a fourth of the earth to kill people by war, by starvation, by disease, and by the wild animals of the earth.**”*

Of course, we know these things are already going on, because of not only what we can see with our own eyes, but also, we know all five of the first five seals have been broken already and have been for some time. People already die of these methods; it's just more pronounced in the days we are living in.

To these people they don't need an official start of the last 7-year tribulation, to be in some sort of tribulation of their own. Now let's continue in Matthew:

42 "So always be ready, because you don't know the day your Lord will come. 43 Remember this: If the owner of the house knew what time of night a thief was coming, the owner would watch and not let the thief break in. 44 So you also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at a time you don't expect him."

This is certainly speaking of the way Jesus will be gathering his elect. We have heard from other scripture he will come with the surprise of a thief and he will. Though we have many signs showing us this is certainly the generation of his return, we still don't know and never will know, the exact day or hour. So even to those fervently looking for and expecting his return, it will be a surprise while at the same time expected. In fact, some, me included, thought he would have Raptured his elect by now, but there is even scripture that covers that scenario. The scenario and wording coming up in chapter 25, that the bridegroom Jesus, might be delayed.

Back to Matthew:

*45 "Who is the wise and loyal servant that the master trusts to give the other servants their food at the right time? 46 When the master comes and finds the servant doing his work, the servant will be blessed. 47 I tell you the truth, the master will choose that servant to take care of everything he owns. 48 **But suppose that evil servant thinks to himself, 'My master will not come back soon,' 49 and he begins to beat the other servants and eat and get drunk with others like him? 50 The master will come when that servant is not ready and is not expecting him. 51 Then the master will cut him in pieces and send him away to be with the hypocrites, where people will cry and grind their teeth with pain."***

There are some in the church who the bible labels "weeds and goats", who will be judged in the end. They are the hypocrites and fake Christians who mock the real Christians at every turn and want to tell us to not be so heavenly minded that we can't be any earthly good. It almost sounds spiritual and Satan has been known to twist scripture and requote it to mean something else than what it was originally intended.

They also specialize in saying sexual immorality and many other types of sin, is ok in the church and Jesus won't judge it because of the scripture "judge not lest ye be judged". They completely ignore the other scripture that says to throw evil people out of the church because of the harm they cause in the church. Judge not lest ye be judged, is speaking of final condemnation and condemning another person before God is done with them. Because we don't know where that line is, we aren't to judge. But to not judge sin in the church is equally

as bad. But in the end all hypocrites and liars will be punished in everlasting torment in the lake of fire. Not a pleasant thought, nor one that is hardly mentioned in many churches today but will always remain true. There are many there already and lots more on their way unfortunately. This is just another reason for us to never neglect so great a salvation, and to work out our own salvation in both fear(reverence) and trembling.

Then in chapter 25 of Matthew, Jesus gives us another parable of what it will be like when he returns. We already know it will be a day of shock and awe and it will be when people least expect it and with the surprise of a thief where some are taken, and others left behind. Now let's look at what the picture is like in the church.

CHAPTER 3

Half the church not ready

Chapter 25 of Matthew continues where Jesus is again describing what it's going to be like when he comes again. And he uses a picture and story of ten bridesmaids.

“At that time the kingdom of heaven will be like ten bridesmaids who took their lamps and went to wait for the bridegroom. 2 Five of them were foolish and five were wise. 3 The five foolish bridesmaids took their lamps, but they did not take more oil for the lamps to burn. 4 The wise bridesmaids took their lamps and more oil in jars. 5 Because the bridegroom was late, they became sleepy and went to sleep.

6 “At midnight someone cried out, ‘The bridegroom is coming! Come and meet him!’ 7 Then all the bridesmaids woke up and got their lamps ready. 8 But the foolish ones said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, because our lamps are going out.’ 9 The wise bridesmaids answered, ‘No, the oil we have might not be enough for all of us. Go to the people who sell oil and buy some for yourselves.’

*10 “So while the five foolish bridesmaids went to buy oil, the bridegroom came. The bridesmaids who were ready went in with the bridegroom to the wedding feast. Then the door was closed and locked. 11 “Later the others came back and said, ‘Sir, sir, open the door to let us in.’ 12 **But the bridegroom answered, ‘I tell you the truth, I don’t want to know you.’***

13 “So always be ready, because you don’t know the day or the hour the Son of Man will come.

What's to note here is first of all this is how it was back then with Jewish customs in reference to how they got married. The bridegroom would surprise the bride, so she had to be ready and not get caught off guard. This picture here is simply showing 10 bridesmaids who all knew the groom, in this case the groom is Jesus. But they are not all ready for him to show up. It's not a picture of the world, it's unfortunately a picture of approx half the worldwide church.

Under the umbrella of the church we have many denominations none of which Jesus originally set up, including the Catholic Church. They claim to be the original, but they aren't. They started in the second century, the original church started in the first century and simply called themselves Christians. Labels and denominations started soon after the original patriarchs i.e.: 12 disciples and apostles died.

It never takes long for people to veer off course and forget what they were taught. They even began to veer off course while the disciples who started the church were still alive. This is what approx half the New Testament is dedicated to, correcting errors within the church.

Is it any wonder here 2000 years later, that there are so many denominations that claim Christ as their head? This is what the story of half the bridesmaids not being ready is all about. Half the church doesn't really know Jesus the way they claim to. They have turned Jesus into a god they have concocted, instead of following him the way the disciples did. Repentance of sin isn't preached sadly in many churches today, but that's the only way to heaven.

Notice what Jesus said to the 5 foolish bridesmaids who weren't ready for his coming. They said, let us into the marriage feast, but he said, "I don't want to know you". They knew of him, but he didn't want to know them because of their lukewarmness and their un-readiness. This is a picture of half the church being left behind at the Rapture event but trying to knock on heaven's door and say let us in too.

Unfortunately, they will have to endure the testing period of the last great tribulation period too, like the rest of the world.

Matthew chapter 25 continues with Jesus giving other examples of what the kingdom of heaven is like, from verses 14-29, he describes three servants who were given money, which also has been noted by some to also resemble talents or gifts he has given everyone. To one he gave a lot, one he gave less and another he gave the lowest amount, but he still expected something back from even the one he gave little to.

What this means is, just because you may not be rich, this doesn't mean you have an excuse to bury your talent like the one who didn't have as much as the others. If you are rich, he expects you to invest your money in the kingdom and work of God. Christian or not, God is the one who gives people riches and talents or giftings. So, the parable is simply saying God requires an accounting to all who have been given talents and that is speaking to all of us.

In fact, the one who had little and did nothing with it, Jesus was very angry with. Verse 30 says: "*Then the master said, 'Throw that useless servant outside, into the darkness where people will cry and grind their teeth with pain.'*"

This is a definite picture of hell, which is the ultimate punishment for anyone. Then Jesus finishes his discourse of end times with a picture of the final judgement in verses 31-46:

31 "The Son of Man will come again in his great glory, with all his angels. He will be King and sit on his great throne. 32 All the nations of the world will be gathered before him, and he will separate them into two groups as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. 33 The Son of Man will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left.

34 "Then the King will say to the people on his right, 'Come, my Father has given you his blessing. Receive the kingdom God has prepared for you since the world was made. 35 I was hungry, and you gave me food. I was thirsty, and you gave me something to drink. I was alone and away from home, and you invited me into your house. 36 I was without clothes,

and you gave me something to wear. I was sick, and you cared for me. I was in prison, and you visited me.'

37 "Then the good people will answer, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and give you food, or thirsty and give you something to drink? 38 When did we see you alone and away from home and invite you into our house? When did we see you without clothes and give you something to wear? 39 When did we see you sick or in prison and care for you?' 40 "Then the King will answer, 'I tell you the truth, anything you did for even the least of my people here, you also did for me.'

41 "Then the King will say to those on his left, 'Go away from me. You will be punished. Go into the fire that burns forever that was prepared for the devil and his angels. 42 I was hungry, and you gave me nothing to eat. I was thirsty, and you gave me nothing to drink. 43 I was alone and away from home, and you did not invite me into your house. I was without clothes, and you gave me nothing to wear. I was sick and in prison, and you did not care for me.'

44 "Then those people will answer, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or alone and away from home or without clothes or sick or in prison? When did we see these things and not help you?'

45 "Then the King will answer, 'I tell you the truth, anything you refused to do for even the least of my people here, you refused to do for me. 46 "These people will go off to be punished forever, but the good people will go to live forever."

Again we see a picture of hell here, were those who didn't do anything with what they were given and especially those who did nothing for others in need, will be sent to hell which is the second death, which is much worse than physical death.

For those who think you don't have to do anything in the kingdom of God and can be selfish with what they have been given, they are sadly mistaken. This in many ways shows the importance of James 2:20-26 which reads:

*20 "You foolish person! Must you be shown that faith that does nothing is worth nothing? 21 Abraham, our ancestor, was made right with God by what he did when he offered his son Isaac on the altar. 22 So you see that Abraham's faith and the things he did worked together. His faith was made perfect by what he did. 23 This shows the full meaning of the Scripture that says: "Abraham believed God, and God accepted Abraham's faith, and that faith made him right with God." And Abraham was called God's friend. 24 **So you see that people are made right with God by what they do, not by faith only.***

25 Another example is Rahab, a prostitute, who was made right with God by something she did. She welcomed the spies into her home and helped them escape by a different road. 26 Just as a person's body that does not have a spirit is dead, so faith that does nothing is dead!"

There are many within the church that are doing nothing for the gospel, they will be the ones who are soon left behind at the Rapture event to see if they can get it right during the last testing period known as the great tribulation period.

Now to note here is, Matthew was written to the Jews especially, we will look at a mirror passage in Luke, though much shorter, where there is similar language, with a few added scriptures that aren't in Matthew. This is because Luke was written especially for the Gentiles, which is simply non-Jewish people. So, let's look at Luke now and I will only highlight the things that are different than Matthew. It should be obvious that Jesus is speaking about the same exact event(s) that he was talking about in Matthew chapters 24 & 25, so then the scriptures which are different will really help in completing the bigger picture or doctrine if you will on the Rapture and physical second coming fulfilled later on in Revelation.

If you weren't aware that there are two phases to Jesus second coming, it should be very clear to you when we are done with this study.

Luke 21:5: "Some people were talking about the Temple and how it was decorated with beautiful stones and gifts offered to God. But Jesus said, 6 "As for these things you are looking at, the time will come when not one stone will be left on another. Every stone will be thrown down."

7 They asked Jesus, "Teacher, when will these things happen? What will be the sign that they are about to take place?"

I'm highlighting this because what's different here is, they asked only two questions instead of three in Matthew. Also, Jesus isn't answering them on the mount of olives, he's giving this answer right at the temple. They are asking here when will the temple be torn down (we now know it was in AD 70, by the Romans), and what will be the sign (they are only asking for one sign) that these things will happen. What's missing from Matthew is, they didn't ask if this had anything to do with the end of the age.

But Jesus knew what had to be written and reported concerning all these things, so he takes the opportunity to answer questions they didn't even ask, similar to Matthew, but also adding additional info to the bigger picture, i.e.: like that some of them can escape the coming troubles.

*8 Jesus said, "Be careful so you are not fooled. Many people will come in my name, saying, 'I am the One' and, 'The time has come!' But don't follow them. 9 When you hear about wars **and riots**, don't be afraid, because these things must happen first, but the end will come later."*

We are living in a time when we have never seen so many riots and protests that turn into riots. These are happening all over the world and now in the USA.

*10 Then he said to them, "Nations will fight against other nations, and kingdoms against other kingdoms. 11 In various places there will be great earthquakes, **sicknesses**, and a lack of food. **Fearful events and great signs will come from heaven.***

New diseases and sickness are cropping up all the time. It seems as soon as we get one under control or cured, another two or more new ones take its place along with food supplies being tainted with all sorts of pathogens which are harmful. This also has the effect of making inflation worse. Fearful events and great signs in the heavens are also going on all the time now. Certainly, the terrorist attacks that happen more than ever fulfill this scripture. In fact, one translation the NASB calls these fearful sights “terrors”.

12 “But before all these things happen, people will arrest you and treat you cruelly. They will judge you in their synagogues and put you in jail and force you to stand before kings and governors, because you follow me. 13 But this will give you an opportunity to tell about me. 14 Make up your minds not to worry ahead of time about what you will say. 15 I will give you the wisdom to say things that none of your enemies will be able to stand against or prove wrong. 16 Even your parents, brothers, relatives, and friends will turn against you, and they will kill some of you. 17 All people will hate you because you follow me. 18 But none of these things can really harm you. 19 By continuing to have faith you will save your lives.

20 “When you see armies all around Jerusalem, you will know it will soon be destroyed. 21 At that time, the people in Judea should run away to the mountains. The people in Jerusalem must get out, and those who are near the city should not go in. 22 These are the days of punishment to bring about all that is written in the Scriptures. 23 How terrible it will be for women who are pregnant or have nursing babies! Great trouble will come upon this land, and God will be angry with these people. 24 They will be killed by the sword and taken as prisoners to all nations. Jerusalem will be crushed by non-Jewish people until their time is over.

*25 “There will be signs in the sun, moon, and stars. On earth, nations will be afraid and confused because of the roar and fury of the sea. 26 People will be so afraid they will faint, wondering what is happening to the world, because the powers of the heavens will be shaken. 27 Then people will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. 28 **When these things begin to happen, look up and hold your heads high, because the time when God will free you is near!**”*

Certainly, meteors crashing and exploding like bombs in our atmosphere now and getting closer and closer all the time, fulfills signs in the heavens along with more and more ufo sightings all the time. Many of the ufo sightings are similar, in that they are seen as simply white lights many times moving slowly then speeding up then taking off like a rocket.

Some have even seen angels’ wings in the clouds and taken video of these things and can be seen on youtube. It is my strong belief that what is being seen is in fact the angelic host getting ready to stage something big, like will be witnessed at the 6th seal of Revelation. I have some clips on our website as well, www.realchristian.net, but of interest to me was the sighting seen over the dome of the rock in Jerusalem a few years ago.

I do believe the angelic host is setting up targets that will be taken out at the sixth seal much like the military targets that are taken out by missiles. God's missiles are simply fragments of stars that will be seen falling to earth at the sixth seal. Let's look at the scriptures that mention this incredible event now. In the next chapter we will see especially how Jesus references other scriptures to form a more complete teaching on the subject, from Isaiah and other passages. This is because they are all describing the same day and event. The Rapture, the sixth seal and the first day of the wrath.

CHAPTER 4

A Bigger Picture

Other Scriptures	Revelation- Sixth Seal Passage
<p><u>Isaiah 13</u></p> <p><i>10 The stars will not show their light; the skies will be dark. The sun will grow dark as it rises, and the moon will not give its light.</i></p> <p><u>Matthew 24</u></p> <p><i>29 “Soon after the trouble of those days, the sun will grow dark, and the moon will not give its light. The stars will fall from the sky.</i> <i>And the powers of the heavens will be shaken.’ (Jesus references Isaiah 13:10; 34:4)</i></p> <p><i>30 “At that time, the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky. Then all the peoples of the world will cry. They will see the Son of Man coming on clouds in the sky with great power and glory. 31 He will use a loud trumpet to send his angels all around the earth, and they will gather his chosen people from every part of the world.</i></p> <p><u>Isaiah 34</u></p> <p><i>4 The sun, moon, and stars will dissolve, <u>and the sky will be rolled up like a scroll.</u> The stars will fall like dead leaves from a vine or dried-up figs from a fig tree.</i></p>	<p><u>Revelation 6</u></p> <p><i>“12. Then I watched while the Lamb opened the sixth seal, and there was a great earthquake. The sun became black like rough black cloth, and the whole moon became red like blood. 13 And the stars in the sky fell to the earth like figs falling from a fig tree when the wind blows. <u>14 The sky disappeared as a scroll when it is rolled up,</u> and every mountain and island was moved from its place.</i></p> <p><i>15 Then the kings of the earth, the rulers, the generals, the rich people, the powerful people, the slaves, and the free people hid themselves in caves and in the rocks on the mountains. 16 They called to the mountains and the rocks, “Fall on us. Hide us from the face of the One who sits on the throne and from the anger of the Lamb! 17 The great day for their anger has come, and who can stand against it?”</i></p>

In these passages, Isaiah 34, Matthew 24 and Revelation 6, we see the similar language and events happening, because they are describing the same event and day. The moon and sun

growing dark, stars dissolving (fragments), then falling to earth. Sky being rolled up like a scroll. Why? So that Jesus can be seen more clearly and by everyone. The powers of the heavens shaken = worldwide earthquake.

Then the peoples of the earth will cry = they called to the rocks and mountains to fall on them and proclaimed what day it is: The great day of their (God the father and Jesus the lamb's wrath.)

If this isn't enough evidence for you that the Rapture occurs at the 6th seal, we have even more in chapter 7 of Revelation, which is still part of the 6th seal. After the sealing of the 144,000 Jewish males for evangelistic duties during the tribulation, we see a picture of a great multitude in heaven praising God. And we are told where they came from.

Rev. 7:9 says with John continuing the vision he was given: *"After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one can count, from every nation, tribe, people and language standing before the throne and the lamb."*

Then in verse 13, we see where this group came from.

*"Then one of the elders asked me, (he asked John), these in white robes—who are they and where did they come from? 14. I answered, "sir you know" And he said, "**These are they who have come out of the great tribulation; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the lamb.**" (NIV)*

There is no guessing here its very clear, if we are to ask the commonsense question, what part of the tribulation did they come out of, it's answered twice. Some people love to substitute and add a word here that's just not there. They add the word *through*. But since it doesn't say they came *through*, instead they came out of, we only need to know what part of the tribulation this is. We were just told earlier in the seal; this is the start. *"For the great day of their wrath has come..."* Scripture itself proves the pre-wrath and pre-tribulation Rapture of the ready.

Continuing in Luke 21:29: *Then Jesus told this story: "Look at the fig tree and all the other trees. 30 When their leaves appear, you know that summer is near. 31 In the same way, when you see these things happening, you will know that God's kingdom is near.*

32 *"I tell you the truth, all these things will happen while the people of this time are still living. 33 Earth and sky will be destroyed, but the words I have spoken will never be destroyed.*

34 ***"Be careful not to spend your time feasting, drinking, or worrying about worldly things. If you do, that day might come on you suddenly, 35 like a trap on all people on earth. 36 So be ready all the time. Pray that you will be strong enough to escape all these things that will happen and that you will be able to stand before the Son of Man."***

37 During the day, Jesus taught the people in the Temple, and at night he went out of the city and stayed on the Mount of Olives. 38 Every morning all the people got up early to go to the Temple to listen to him.”

Here are some more scriptures speaking of the same thing. In many cases we can see scriptural language connect to another. It results in forming a bigger more descriptive picture. Notice the highlighted key words in both passages that match.

<p>1Thessalonians 4:16-17</p> <p><i>The Lord himself will come down from heaven with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trumpet call of God. And those who have died believing in Christ will rise first. 17 After that, we who are still alive will be gathered up with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And we will be with the Lord forever. 18 So encourage each other with these words.</i></p>	<p>Matt 24:31</p> <p><i>He will use a loud trumpet to send his angels all around the earth, and they will gather his chosen people from every part of the world.</i></p>
	<p>Revelation 1:10</p> <p><i>On the Lord’s day I was in the Spirit, and I heard a loud voice behind me that sounded like a trumpet.</i></p>

Notice what's not there. No armies of heaven, no one on white horseback and no talk of war of any kind. Like as in Revelation chapter 19. Also, Jesus in these passages is gathering up people from the earth in the air, but not touching down on earth at all. He and his angels are staying in the air. Now some more Rapture scriptures:

<p>Revelation 1:7</p> <p><i>7 Behold, He is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see Him, even those who pierced Him; and all the tribes (nations) of the earth will mourn over Him [realizing their sin and guilt, and anticipating the coming wrath]. So it is to be. Amen. (AMP)</i></p>	<p>Revelation 6:16</p> <p><i>16 They called to the mountains and the rocks, “Fall on us and hide us from the face of him who sits on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb! 17 For the great day of their wrath has come, and who can withstand it?”(NIV)</i></p>
<p>1 Corinthians 15:51-52</p> <p><i>51 But look! I tell you this secret: We will not all sleep-in death, but we will all be changed. 52 It will take only a second—as quickly as an eye blinks—</i></p>	<p>Matt 24:31</p> <p><i>31 He will use a loud trumpet to send his angels all around the earth, and they will gather his chosen people from every part of the world.</i></p>

<p>when the last trumpet sounds. The trumpet will sound, and those who have died will be raised to live forever, and we will all be changed.</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">2 Peter 3:10</p> <p><i>10 But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The skies will disappear with a loud noise. Everything in them will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything in it will be exposed.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Revelation 6:14</p> <p><i><u>14 The sky disappeared as a scroll when it is rolled up,</u> and every mountain and island was moved from its place.</i></p>

So, as we can see by these examples, there is much that connects Rapture scriptures together, but also, we can see a lot more going on than just people being gathered up into the sky. It is in fact the start of the great tribulation seen as the first day of Gods wrath as proclaimed by the people of earth in Revelation 6:16-17.

No one person will have to tell anyone that the last great tribulation has started, or the wrath is officially here, EVERYONE will know it. It will be seen along with everyone seeing Jesus gather his elect into the air, which is why they will be crediting this horrible day to the father God and his son Jesus. In fact, if it weren't for the Rapture event that must kick this day off, no one would credit the worldwide earthquake and falling star fragments along with everything else, to God at all. If it wasn't for Jesus literally being seen by everyone, they would just credit this like they do everything else, to climate change, global warming or what have you. By this time, they would be blaming everyone except for themselves, for missing what they rejected.

It will be so terrible, so awesome and obvious coupled with Jesus being seen, at least temporarily even the evil people of earth will finally be crediting something to God. Unfortunately, this is what it will take for that to happen, since 9-11 and so many other terrorist attacks are all attributed to the wrong people and motives. Since truth for the most part, is no longer sought in our culture and we would rather believe a lie, this is what it will take to wake people up. This truly will be the final great awakening. Unfortunately, even after this, many will still turn from their newfound faith, to worship the antichrist later, because they won't be willing to endure the testing and suffering that the final tribulation will bring.

The only ones who will be protected from the suffering and testing will be the ones who were especially sealed for this time... the 144,000 Jewish evangelists. This is a different type of seal. We are sealed when we are saved to salvation and it can't be taken from us, we can only give it up by turning from the faith. But we are not protected from any type of suffering or martyrdom in this life. Why people would believe otherwise, is like believing a false prosperity doctrine.

We saw in 1 Thess 5:9, that we (real ready Christians), haven't been appointed to suffer his wrath, plus we also have Rev 3:10, and Luke 21:36 telling us we will escape.

So now let's put everything together. If the Rapture happened today or tomorrow, it would likely look like this coming from the scriptures, we just covered.

All these things we see in the news everyday: disease (the latest virus), riots (protests), earthquakes, meteors, signs in the heavens, wars and rumors of wars, roar & fury of the sea, famines, inflation, false prophets/ teachers, people saying they know the day and the hour (date setters), apostasy in the church and wickedness increasing are all leading to the big day. It begins like this:

Jesus gathers his elect into the air, "in the twinkling of an eye" but perhaps even before this or all in the same moment, Jesus rolls back the sky "as a scroll". This also will make a loud noise when it occurs. This will "expose the earth" and Jesus will be seen even more clearly than if the atmosphere were in the way. This alone will cause worldwide accidents and destruction from the many modes of transportation that the Raptured saints will be controlling and involved in.

Then a massive worldwide earthquake occurs shaking "every island and mountain", at the same time God's missiles start to descend in the form of star fragments causing multitudes of worldwide fires and destruction worldwide. (God will also likely take out the "dome of the rock" mosque in Jerusalem with one of these fragments. This will allow Israel to easily start building the final temple, since this is the spot where it needs to go.)

People will be screaming, mourning and calling for the "rocks and mountains to fall on them to hide them from God's and Jesus wrath". The 5 foolish virgins (half the church), will be calling to Jesus to take them too, but they obviously will be left behind. "One will be taken the other left" will be fulfilled here as well as all the other scriptures we have discussed.

This incredible day of real shock and awe like no one has ever seen, will be shown over and over again on the news and God will give the people of earth approx. 3-1/2 years to get over the initial shock, to rebuild, though there will be so much destruction not everything won't likely be able to be rebuilt in 3-1/2 years.

The enemies of Israel at this point are going to be very afraid of what just happened, so in response they will certainly allow the temple to be built and the 7-year peace treaty to be signed by many countries plus the antichrist. However, the antichrist still likely won't be identified for who he is, until he receives a head wound that will either kill him, or nearly kill him. If he is killed, he will resurrect like Jesus did, because he will be allowed to by God, to fulfill scripture.

When the seventh seal is broken we see a pause in the wrath for what the bible says is a half hour, but what we know about this testing period known as the tribulation is, it lasts for about "one hour", the hour of trouble as God calls it.

We won't get into the rest of Revelation here, we do that in Revelation Unleashed, but we know from other passages in the bible the tribulation last approx., 7 to 7-1/2 years, but Rev. 3:10 says we will be kept from “the hour of trial that will test the whole world”. Obviously if it was only actually 30 min or 60 min no one would notice it.

With God a day “is as a thousand years and a thousand years a day”, so to him time isn't nearly as important as it is to us.

Once this sixth seal and Rapture occur, now we go from a time where no more normal life will be experienced as it was before. Now it will be survival mode for everyone. Also, there is no more coming as a thief or coming with any sort or surprise. It will then become very easy to see the evidences of the trumpet judgements and vial/bowl judgements as they occur and will be checked off like a laundry list. Even the actual physical second coming of Jesus at Revelation chapter 19, will be able to be figured out even to the day, once the antichrist goes in and desecrates the temple. 3-1/2 years later Jesus returns with the armies of heaven to destroy his enemies and set up his earthly kingdom. Finally, peace will come to earth.

Let's now look at Revelation 19:11 and other like passages to see the stark differences from Rapture scriptures. This event is the last day of Gods wrath.

<p><i>Rev.19:11 Then I saw heaven opened, and there before me was a white horse. The rider on the horse is called Faithful and True, and he is right when he judges and makes war. 12 His eyes are like burning fire, and on his head are many crowns. He has a name written on him, which no one but himself knows. 13 He is dressed in a robe dipped in blood, and his name is the Word of God. 14 The armies of heaven, dressed in fine linen, white and clean, were following him on white horses.</i></p>	<p><i>Zechariah 9:13: I will use Judah like a bow and Ephraim like the arrows. Jerusalem, I will use your men to fight the men of Greece. I will use you like a warrior's sword. 14 Then the Lord will appear above them, and his arrows will shoot like lightning. The Lord God will blow the trumpet, and he will march in the storms of the south.</i></p>
	<p><i>Revelation 6:1-2: I watched as the Lamb opened the first of the seven seals. Then I heard one of the four living creatures say in a voice like thunder, “Come!” 2 I looked, and there before me was a white horse! Its rider held a bow, and he was given a crown, and he rode out as a conqueror bent on conquest.</i></p>

These scriptures are partial descriptions of the actual physical 2nd coming of Jesus. There are many more in both the old and new testaments, but because this book is about the Rapture, we

aren't going to dive deep into that study. We talk about that in more depth in our book: *"Revelation Unleashed"*.

Conclusion

We are running out of time as we know it. Regardless of who the president may be and speaking of the current president, we are excited to see President Trump, accepting of Jesus and of the gospel being preached right from the white house. He is also a friend of Israel and whoever blesses Israel is blessed, likewise whoever curses Israel will be cursed.

But Jesus said this final generation who sees the beginning of the birth pangs, will also be the ones to see the end of all things. This means it all happens in a relatively short amount of time. Being that a biblical generation is 40-70 years, that puts us approximately in the middle of this final generation that likely started around the year 2000, when the earthquakes started going off the charts. However, this doesn't mean this generation has to run the entire 40- or 70-years course, it only means everything must happen sometime during this generation.

Every earthquake, virus and meteor and all the other increasing signs get us closer to the first day of Gods wrath. But along with wrath comes mercy. Gods mercy is unlike anything man can understand. Gods wrath is coming because it is written in Gods word and every word must come to pass exactly as it is written.

The important thing through all of this is being ready to meet our heavenly father the Creator and controller of everything. God uses both evil and good for his purposes. He didn't make evil and he can't be tempted, evil chose its own path. But scripture says he can use evil for his good. We even see this at play in Revelation towards the end of time as we know it, when the remaining people on earth who have accepted the mark of the beast and worship the antichrist. Before this,

they were given multiple chances to repent of their sins after seeing the power of God on display through numerous plagues.

In the end we all choose our own way, or we choose Gods plan. If we choose Gods plan, we will be happy after all the suffering. It will be worth it all for those who endure to the end. But everyone's end is different. We don't all have to live through the last great tribulation period. Some will escape "all these things" before the concentrated wrath begins, the remaining will indeed have to endure through much pain and suffering, to obtain their salvation.

But perhaps today is the day that God is choosing for you to depart this earth though a myriad of ways God sees fit. Whether we die from sickness or some accident, God orders it. To be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord, if you are on his side.

Are you ready for what's coming? Are you ready spiritually? This is the most important decision in all of life. Nothing else really matters in the light of eternity. In the twinkling of an eye life is about to change for the world. Be ready.

