

(Compiled by Samson Warner and the MO-Ed. Dept.)

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THE SEVEN TRUMPETS OF TRIBULATION

Chapters 8-14

1. "WHEN THEY SHALL CRY PEACE AND SAFETY' THEN SUDDEN DESTRUCTION COMETH UPON THEM as travail upon a woman with child and they shall not escape." All of this false preaching of peace throughout the world today, this seeking and talking of peace, is the immediate prelude of the most horrible war and destruction that the world has ever known--a war that will bring about the end of all things and the Second Coming of Christ and which was predicted over 1900 years ago!

2. WE GET OUR FIRST GLIMPSE INTO THIS SOON-COMING HORROR WITH THE OPENING OF THE SEVENTH SEAL IN CHAPTER 8 OF THE BOOK OF REVELATION. The first six Seals of the Seven-Sealed Book of the Future opened in Chapter 6 presented a brief, general outline of history from John's day up to the Second Coming of Christ.

3. With the opening of the Seventh Seal, **THE PROPHECY NOW ZOOMS IN FOR A CLOSE-UP, DETAILED ACCOUNT OF THE LAST FEW YEARS OF HISTORY** and its main events and characters who dominate the Endtime scene just prior to the Second Coming of Jesus Christ!

CHAPTERS 8 & 9 THE SIX TRUMPETS

4. "And when He had opened the Seventh Seal, **THERE WAS SILENCE IN HEAVEN ABOUT THE SPACE OF HALF AN HOUR.**" (8:1)

5. God shuts up when the world refuses to listen any more. After God has warned and warned the wicked and they still won't listen, won't obey, but instead they persecute and kill His mouthpieces, His Prophets that are giving them His message, then **GOD SHUTS UP BECAUSE IT'S NOT TIME FOR WORDS ANYMORE--IT'S TIME FOR THE ROD!** God is through speaking and His judgments are about to fall!

6. **GOD'S PROPHETS FIRST WARN THE WICKED, GIVING THEM GOD'S MESSAGE.** Some repent, but then the others, irritated by the truth of the Prophets' words, begin to persecute the Prophets and shut their mouths to stop God's message. Then God lowers the **BOOM**. This is the way it's been throughout all history and no doubt why we have the silence in Heaven before God brings upon the world the most horrible chastisements it has ever known.

7. "And I (John) saw the seven angels which stood before God; and to them were given seven trumpets ... **AND THE SEVEN ANGELS ... PREPARED THEMSELVES TO SOUND.**" (8:2,6)

8. Under this Seventh Seal we have seven angels with Seven Trumpets. I like to call them Seven Trumpets of Tribulation because **THE THINGS THAT HAPPEN WHEN THESE TRUMPETS ARE BLOWN SURELY SOUND LIKE THE DESCRIPTION OF THE AWFUL, GREAT TRIBULATION PERIOD** which Jesus said would just precede His Second Coming.

9. "For then," Jesus said, "shall be Great Tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be," and **"IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE TRIBULATION OF THOSE DAYS ... THEY SHALL SEE THE SON OF MAN COMING** in the clouds of Heaven with power and great glory." (Mt.24:21,29-31)

10. **"AND THE FIRST ANGEL SOUNDED**, and there followed HAIL AND FIRE MINGLED WITH BLOOD, and they were cast upon the Earth: and **THE THIRD PART OF TREES WAS BURNT UP**, and ALL GREEN GRASS WAS BURNT UP." (8:7)

11. Now science used to say, "Oh, how could that ever happen-a third of the trees and all the earth's grass burnt up-how could that happen?" Now they know, don't they? Now we all know that **BY THE ATOMIC, HYDROGEN AND COBALT BOMBS, IT'S CERTAINLY POSSIBLE!**

12. If a multi-megaton bomb were exploded just over New York City or Chicago or any major city, **IT WOULD LITERALLY SUCK UP HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF TONS OF DEBRIS, INCLUDING THOUSANDS OF BODIES, INTO ITS RAGING INFERNO**, casting them back on the earth as debris and fallout, many of the heavier pieces of concrete falling as gigantic hail stones, and just as it says here: "hail and fire mingled with blood (all those bodies) were cast upon the earth."

13. **"AND THE SECOND ANGEL SOUNDED** and as it were a **GREAT MOUNTAIN BURNING WITH FIRE WAS**

CAST INTO THE SEA: and the third part of the sea became blood; And the third part of the creatures which were in the sea, and had life, died; and the third part of the ships were destroyed." (8:8,9)

14. This great mountain could be the literal sinking of some great land mass into the ocean. **WORLDWIDE ATOMIC WAR COULD TRIGGER MASSIVE EARTHQUAKES** such as this world has never seen! The Lord has given many of us prophecies that such earthquakes will happen, such as Southern California falling in the ocean, and this may be it!

15. Where there are earthquakes these days there's always fire from bursting gas mains, etc., and **ONE ON SUCH A SCALE AS THIS MAY EVEN RESULT IN VOLCANIC ACTIVITY**. And California is certainly mountainous--"a great mountain burning with fire was cast into the sea." And the "third part of the sea became blood."

16. How could a great land mass falling into the ocean turn a third part of it into blood, causing many creatures in the sea to die and destroying a third of the ships? Well, the ships being destroyed is easy: **HUGE TIDAL WAVES OVER TWO AND THREE HUNDRED FEET HIGH** would do the trick for sure.

17. As for the sea becoming blood, a phenomenon known as "red tide" where the sea turns red has happened in many parts of the world. **IT OCCURS WHEN A CERTAIN TYPE OF PROTOZOAN BECOME OVER ABUNDANT IN THE OCEAN; THEY TURN THE WATER A REDDISH COLOUR AND RELEASE ENOUGH POISON TO KILL MANY FORMS OF OCEAN LIFE**. The ideal conditions for a "red tide" are after a heavy rainfall which releases minerals and nutrients from the land into coastal waters, or which could also occur on a world scale after a land mass of this size fell into the sea!

18. "And the THIRD ANGEL sounded, and **THERE FELL A GREAT STAR FROM HEAVEN**, burning as it were a lamp, and it fell upon the third part of the rivers, and upon the fountains of waters; And the name of the star is called Wormwood: and the third part of the waters became wormwood; and many men died of the waters, because they were made bitter (or poison)." (8:10,11)

19. **COULD THIS BE A COMET, THE WATERS BEING POISONED BY GASSES FROM ITS TAIL?** Halley's Comet is due back in 1986, which according to the "70 Years Prophecy" (Letter No.156) [may be] about the time of the signing of the seven year covenant marking the last seven years of world history before the Coming of Christ. Comets are always signs of woe and doom as the old German poem says:

"Eight things there be a comet brings,
When on high it doth horrid range:
Wind, famine, plague and death to kings,
War, earthquake, floods and direful change!"

20. This comet, besides bringing plague and death itself, must also be **A SIGN OF THE EVEN MORE HORRIBLE PLAGUES YET TO COME** upon the Earth as a result of the Trumpets yet to be blown!

21. "And the FOURTH ANGEL sounded, and **THE THIRD PART OF THE SUN WAS SMITTEN, AND THE THIRD PART OF THE MOON, AND THE THIRD PART OF THE STARS**; so as the third part of them was darkened, and the day shone not for a third part of it, and the night likewise." (8:12)

22. In a world where tons of debris have been sucked up into the atmosphere by atomic blasts, and in a world where all the "green grass is burnt up" (or parched brown by the intense heat), resulting in gigantic, worldwide dust storms, **THIS FOURTH TRUMPET SOUNDS LIKE THE TYPE OF VISIBILITY YOU COULD EXPECT TO HAVE**.

23. Science has only realised that this type of global destruction was possible since the beginning of the atomic age in 1945, but John saw it nearly 2,000 years ago--and many other Prophets envisioned it before him! Two of the most outstanding predictions are in the Old Testament. **BOTH PREDICT THE ATOMIC WAR AS ONE OF THE SINGS WHICH OCCURS BEFORE OR AT THE "DAY OF THE LORD."**

24. "And I will shew **WONDERS IN THE HEAVENS AND IN THE EARTH, BLOOD, AND FIRE, AND PILLARS OF SMOKE** (like the huge pillars of the A- Bombs full of blood and fire) ... before the great and terrible day of the Lord come." (Joel 2:30,31)

25. "And this shall be the plague wherewith the Lord shall smite all the people that have fought against Jerusalem; (in other words, the Antichrist forces who will be fighting against God's true city of peace, you and I who accept the Prince of Peace, Jesus, will get the following plague:) **THEIR FLESH SHALL CONSUME AWAY WHILE THEY STAND UPON THEIR FEET, AND THEIR EYES SHALL CONSUME AWAY IN THEIR HOLES**, and their tongue shall consume away in their mouth." (Zech.14:12)

26. This is exactly what happened to the poor, innocent civilians at Nagasaki and Hiroshima: **THOUSANDS VAPORIZED**

ON THE SPOT AS THEY STOOD UPON THEIR FEET. Hundreds more were permanently blinded, even at considerable distance from the blast, as the prisms of their eyes focusing on the fireball acted like tiny magnifying glasses, so intensifying the heat that their eyeballs literally cooked in their sockets, or as the Prophet said, "consumed away in their holes!"--And America will reap what she sowed.

27. **THESE FIRST FOUR TRUMPETS MAINLY SHOW THE EFFECT OF GOD'S JUDGMENTS ON NATURE**, though, of course, many men die as a result. In order, the Trumpets affected:

- 1) the earth,
- 2) the sea,
- 3) the rivers, and
- 4) the Heavens.

28. **THE NEXT THREE TRUMPETS AFFECT MAN HIMSELF**, as the angel warns in the next verse, "Woe, woe, woe, to the inhabiters of the earth by reason of the other voices of the Trumpet of the other three angels, which are yet to sound!" (8:13)

29. "And the **FIFTH ANGEL** sounded, and I saw a star fall from Heaven unto the earth: and to him was given the key of the bottomless pit." (9:1) And when he opened it, **SMOKE AND LOCUSTS CAME UP OUT OF THE PIT**. These locusts are different from any locusts I have ever seen or any accounts of locust plagues that I have ever heard about.

30. They have shapes like horses prepared for battle, and faces like men, hair like women, crowns of gold, teeth like lions, and breast plates like iron. Their wings sound like the noise of chariots and many horses running to battle and their tails sting like scorpion tails. **THEY HAVE A KING OVER THEM WHICH IS THE ANGEL OF THE BOTTOMLESS PIT, WHOSE NAME IS ABADDON OR APOLLYON (MEANING DESTROYER)--SATAN?**

31. **THEY WILL TORTURE MEN FOR FIVE MONTHS WITH THEIR SCORPION STINGS** and "in those days men shall desire to die but death shall flee from them." It's interesting to note here that the Great Flood prevailed upon the earth for 150 days or five months. (Gen.7:24) In Rev.12:15 it says the dragon or Devil is going to cast out a flood of lies to try to destroy the Church, but he fails.

32. Could this horrible plague of these locusts led by Apollyon or Satan be symbolic of this flood of lies that Satan unleashes to devour as locusts all the earth's population and torment with the torture of their scorpion stings those who resist? Whether you interpret this literally or symbolically, one thing's for sure: that **DURING THAT TERRIBLE TIME OF TRIBULATION THERE WILL BE TERRIBLE MONSTERS IN THE WORLD** (human and otherwise) ... monsters who are going to devour and slaughter and kill and sting and slay and persecute whom? Only the wicked!

33. Believe it or not, **THESE TERRIBLE TRUMPETS OF TRIBULATION AND HORRIBLE MONSTERS ARE ALL ON OUR SIDE** (that is, if you're a real Christian)! If you're going through the Tribulation, don't worry about'em cause they won't bother you, only the wicked. All of these terrible events are not going to be happening to you, but only to the wicked, as it says in the ninth Chapter, fourth verse.

34. These locusts are commanded that "they should not hurt the grass of the earth (this may show a time lapse between the First and Fifth Trump if grass is grown back), neither any green thing, neither any tree; but **ONLY THOSE MEN WHICH HAVE NOT THE SEAL OF GOD IN THEIR FOREHEADS**." (9:4)

35. **THE WICKED WILL BE THE ONES WHO ARE GIVING YOU TROUBLE**, but God will be giving them so much trouble through these plagues, keeping them so busy that they won't be able to give you too much trouble.

36. **THIS IS SIMILAR TO WHAT HAPPENED TO THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL WHEN THEY WERE IN THE LAND OF EGYPT** under the dictatorship of their anti-Christ pharaoh. When the ten curses of God fell on Egypt, were the Israelites also cursed by the plagues? No, they didn't affect them at all; only the Egyptians were cursed.

37. Likewise during the Tribulation period, God protects His saints from His plagues upon the wicked! Remember, in preparation for this period in the seventh Chapter, God told the angels to "Hurt not the earth ... till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads." (7:3) **GOD SEALS HIS SERVANTS AGAINST HIS JUDGMENTS WHICH ARE DIRECTED ONLY AGAINST THE WICKED!** But some Christians, because of their foolish neglect of God and His warnings, will be caught in these judgments; don't let it be you!

38. "One woe is past; and behold, there come **TWO WOES MORE** hereafter. And the SIXTH ANGEL sounded." (9:12,13)

39. Under this seal the "**FOUR ANGELS** which are bound in the great river Euphrates" are loosed. These four angels "**WERE PREPARED FOR AN HOUR, AND A DAY, AND A MONTH, AND A YEAR, FOR TO SLAY THE THIRD PART**

OF MEN." (9:14,15) This may be how long it will take to kill them, or it may show that they have a definite time set by God in which they will appear.

40. "And the number of **THE ARMY OF THE HORSEMEN WERE TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND THOUSAND:** and I heard the number ... and thus I saw the horses in the vision, and them that sat on them." (9:16,17)

41. A thousand thousands equal a million, so two hundred thousand thousand is two hundred million! **THE FOUR ANGELS OF THE EUPHRATES MUST REPRESENT THE SPIRITUAL FORCES BEHIND THIS ARMY**, the greatest army the world has ever seen. Consider the fact that all the forces of the nations involved in World War II didn't exceed 75,000,000!

42. The number sounds pretty literal, but some of this must certainly be symbolic, as it says these horsemen have "breastplates of fire, and of jacinth, and brimstone" and that "**THE HEADS OF THE HORSES WERE AS THE HEADS OF LIONS; AND OUT OF THEIR MOUTHS ISSUED FIRE AND SMOKE AND BRIMSTONE" WHICH KILLED THE THIRD PART OF MEN.**" (9:17,18)

43. Warfare using explosives didn't come into use until the 14th century and John surely knew nothing about it. But the picture here seems to certainly symbolise this type of warfare, **ESPECIALLY MODERN MECHANIZED WARFARE WHEN THE RIDERS' "MOUNTS," SUCH AS TANKS, PLANES, etc., shoot out of their "mouths fire and smoke and brimstone.**" (9:18) Another thought is that this tremendous army could represent the **SPIRITUAL** legions of Satan, setting out to slay a third of mankind with full demon possession, thus condemning them to spiritual death. It says "the Devil, as a roaring **LION**, walketh about seeking whom he may **DEVOUR**." (1Pet.5:8) And he devours people with his lies which are like fire--"fiery darts," Paul called them. (Ep.6:16) But either way, war or demons, it's going to be hell!

44. Remember, **THESE PLAGUES ARE GOING TO BE DIRECTED AGAINST THE WICKED**--those who hate Jesus and persecute His Children. And we know they're wicked because of the last two verses of Chapter nine. "And the rest of the men which were not killed by these plagues yet repented not of the works of their hands, that they should not worship devils, and idols. ... Neither repented they of their murders, nor of their sorceries, nor of their fornication, nor of their thefts." (9:20,21)

45. Because so many people confuse these Trumpets of Tribulation with the Vials of God's Wrath in Rev.16, we would like to now compare these two periods. Just to state it briefly, how would you compare them? First of all, I'd say the main difference is that in the Wrath of God you find that **ALL** the seas turn to blood, **ALL** the rivers and fountains of waters are turned to blood, **ALL** the sun is darkened, **ALL** life in the sea died, and so on. **EVERYTHING SEEMS TO BE TOTAL DESTRUCTION WHEN THE SEVEN VIALS OF GOD'S WRATH ARE POURED OUT.**

46. But here **UNDER THE TRIBULATION TRUMPETS THERE IS ONLY A PARTIAL DEATH**, and a partial cursing, and a partial woe: a third part of the trees burnt, a third part of the seas become blood, etc. **THE WRATH OF GOD IS MUCH MORE SEVERE IN FALLING UPON THE WICKED WHO ARE LEFT BEHIND** when the Church is taken away at the Coming of Christ at the end of the Great Tribulation.

47. It can't be proven beyond a shadow of a doubt that these Trumpet judgments signal the beginning of the final 3-1/2 years before the Coming of Christ. **JESUS HIMSELF SAID THE LAST 3-1/2 YEARS WOULD BEGIN WHEN THE ANTICHRIST BROKE THE SEVEN YEAR RELIGIOUS COVENANT** by placing his own image in the soon-to-be-built Jewish Temple in Jerusalem and substituting it for the worship of God. Daniel the Prophet said this would occur in the very midst of the Seven-Year Covenant, or after 3-1/2 years, leaving 3-1/2 to go.

48. **MAYBE THE UNPARALLELED WORLDWIDE PERSECUTION OF HIS CHILDREN THAT BEGINS DURING THE LAST 3-1/2 YEARS IS THE REASON GOD LETS THESE TRUMPETS SOUND AT THAT TIME** and lets these horrible judgments fall.

49. One other possibility is that some of these Trumpets may occur before the signing of the seven year religious covenant. **THEY MAY BE WHAT IS RESPONSIBLE FOR BRINGING ABOUT THE GREAT CONFUSION** or the fall of the present world order that leads up to the rise of the Anti-Christ and the signing of the Seven-Year Covenant or peace pact.

50. One thing for certain, **THEY OCCUR BEFORE THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST WHICH HAPPENS AT THE SEVENTH OR LAST TRUMP**! And they have not happened yet--as of July 1976. And they will be blown soon because we are definitely living near the time of Christ's Coming. All the signs point to it. Get ready--the first Trumpet may sound **TOMORROW!**

CHAPTER 10 ANNOUNCEMENT OF SEVENTH TRUMP

51. **THIS CHAPTER IS JUST LIKE AN INTERLUDE OR INTERMISSION.** The curtain closes temporarily on the vision of the future and an angel steps out on the scene to make a big announcement. He is quite impressive, coming down from

Heaven, clothed with a cloud, a rainbow upon his head, with a face like the sun and feet like pillars of fire. He has a little open book in his hand and he sets his right foot on the sea and his left foot on the earth.

52. "And when he had cried, **SEVEN THUNDERS UTTERED THEIR VOICES.**" (10:3) And do you know what they said? Well, if you do I wish you'd tell me, because just as John "was about to write" what they said, he heard a voice from Heaven saying ... "**SEAL UP THOSE THINGS WHICH THE SEVEN THUNDERS UTTERED,** and write them not." (10.4) And we have never found out what it was. If you do, please drop us a line.

53. The main announcement, though, that this mighty M.C. makes, or rather, the one that helps us in our understanding of the future, is in the sixth and seventh verses of this Chapter. And that is, "That there should be time no longer: But **IN THE DAYS OF THE VOICE OF THE SEVENTH ANGEL, WHEN HE SHALL BEGIN TO SOUND, THE MYSTERY OF GOD SHOULD BE FINISHED.**" (10:6,7)

54. This Seventh Trump is not blown in this Chapter and nothing about the future happens here. **THIS IS MERELY AN ANNOUNCEMENT**, that when this last Trumpet is sounded, time will be no longer and the mystery of God shall be finished.

55. **THIS "MYSTERY" WHICH IS TO BE FINISHED AT THE SEVENTH TRUMP REFERS TO THE CHURCH.** Paul called it

- 1) "The mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God!" And it was
- 2) "That the Gentiles should be fellow-heirs (with the Jews), and of the same body."
- 3) "For we are members of His body, of His flesh, and of His bones. ... This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the Church." (Ep.3:9 ; 3:6 ; 5:30,32)

56. **THE MYSTERY BEING FINISHED, THEN, IS THE COMPLETION OF THE CHURCH AT THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST** when He gathers together His Church by the miracle of the Resurrection and Rapture. In Matthew Chapter 24, the Lord said that his Coming to "gather together" His Church would be accompanied by a trumpet. "And He shall send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together His elect (or the saints)." (Mt.24:31)

57. And Paul, in another of his predictions, **IS VERY SPECIFIC AS TO WHICH TRUMP IT WILL BE WHEN THE GATHERING TOGETHER TAKES PLACE** and the mystery of God, the Church, is completed: "Beloved, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep (die and remain in the grave), but we shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, **AT THE LAST TRUMP** (or Seventh Trump): for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed (receive immortal bodies)." (1Cor.15:51,52)

58. This mystery of God, then is you and me, **THE CHURCH, AND AT THE LAST OR SEVENTH TRUMP, IT IS GOING TO BE FINISHED**. At one sudden, supernatural, miraculous mighty stroke of God, His Church will be instantly and supernaturally completed! God will wave His magic wand of power and presto!--The finished Church will be caught up into Heaven in the Rapture!

59. After the prediction of the Seventh Trump, John is told to "take the little book which is open in the hand of the angel. ... And I went unto the angel, and said unto him, Give me the **LITTLE BOOK**," but the angel replied, "**TAKE IT, AND EAT IT UP**." (10:8,9) This shows we have to do our part in exercising our own faith to receive revelations.

60. When John consumes the "little book" the angel tells him, "**THOU MUST PROPHECY AGAIN BEFORE MANY PEOPLES, AND NATIONS, AND TONGUES, AND KINGS.**" (10:11) **SO THIS "LITTLE BOOK" OBVIOUSLY MUST BE A BOOK OF PROPHECY**, possibly referring even to John's prophecy here which is an "open" book as it says "Seal not the sayings of the prophecy of this book: for the time is at hand." (Rev.22:10)

61. This book has certainly prophesied to millions of people of all nations and tongues down through history. Or **IT MAY EVEN BE A REFERENCE TO SOME OF THE LITTLE BOOKS WE OURSELVES PRODUCE**--they couldn't get much smaller, that's for sure, and they certainly are prophesying to many peoples, nations, tongues and kings!

CHAPTER 11 TWO WITNESSES

62. "And there was given me a reed like unto a rod: and the angel stood, saying **RISE, AND MEASURE THE TEMPLE OF GOD, AND THE ALTAR, AND THEM THAT WORSHIP THEREIN**. But the court which is without the temple leave out, and measure it not; for it is given unto the Gentiles; and the holy city shall they tread under foot forty and two months." (11:1,2)

63. The Prophet Daniel predicted that the Antichrist and his Gentile or unsaved armies would not only invade Jerusalem, the "holy city," but that he would also pollute the temple itself. So **THIS VERSE MUST NOT REFER TO A PHYSICAL TEMPLE, SINCE THE TEMPLE HERE IS UNTOUCHED**.

64. The temple here is divided into two parts:

- 1) the temple itself, and
- 2) the court.

Solomon's temple was also divided into two parts:

- 1) a small inner court containing the temple and the altar of burnt offerings where only the priests could enter, and
- 2) a large outer court where the people worshipped.

So **THIS SPIRITUAL TEMPLE THAT JOHN WAS TO MEASURE SEEMS TO SYMBOLISE TWO TYPES OF BELIEVERS**, the first composed of the true, dedicated followers of the Lord, His priests who serve Him continually, fellowshiping with Him in the temple of His Spirit and sacrificing their lives on the altar of His service. (Rom.12:1)

65. **THE OUTER COURT AND ITS OCCUPANTS SEEM TO SYMBOLISE THE VAST MAJORITY OF THE CHURCH**--the big, external, visible Church System, professing to be Christians, but neither spending time in the temple of His Spirit nor sacrificing their lives and dying daily for Him.

66. **ONLY THE ONES WHO HAVE THE FAITH AND THE HEALING AND THE MIRACLE POWER OF GOD ARE GOING TO SURVIVE THE COMING HORRIBLE TRIBULATION PERIOD**--those forty-two months or last 3-1/2 years when the Devil-inspired forces of the AC will tread under foot God's spiritual Holy City--the Church.

67. Maybe the inner court which is protected from destruction for 3 1/2 years could be symbolic of GOD'S TWO WITNESSES whom nothing shall hurt until they've finished their testimony at the end of 3 1/2 years.

68. **AND WHAT IS THE ROD THAT JOHN USED** to measure the temple and them that worshipped therein? IT'S THE WORD--"the rod of HIS MOUTH"! (Is.11:4) Without the spirit it seems weak and dead like a weak reed, but when God anoints it by His spirit it becomes the living fiery rod of power and authority of God and the measure or rule that we must judge ourselves by if we are to be part of the temple and worship therein.

69. **HE GIVES THIS ROD TO HIS PROPHETS**--like John here and others like Paul, Martin Luther, and your Prophet for today. Either you submit to their rod and are blessed, or you resist it and fall by the wayside!

70. "And I will give power unto My TWO WITNESSES, and they SHALL PROPHECY A **THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED AND THRESCORE DAYS**, CLOTHED IN SACKCLOTH." (11:3) Again we have the time period of the Great Tribulation: Verse two gave it as forty-two months and here it is 1260 days, both equal to 3-1/2 years.

71. These **TWO GREAT WITNESSES** that prophesy during these 3-1/2 years of Great Tribulation ARE CALLED "**THE TWO OLIVE TREES, AND THE TWO CANDLESTICKS** standing before the God of the Earth." (11:4)

72. This is an obvious reference to an OLD TESTAMENT PROPHECY IN ZECHARIAH CHAPTER 4 which describes a candlestick with seven pipes and seven lamps, and two olive branches which, through two of the golden pipes, empty the golden oil out of themselves, and it says that "**THESE TWO OLIVE BRANCHES** which, through the TWO GOLDEN PIPES (or candlesticks) empty the golden oil (or Spirit) out of themselves ... ARE THE **TWO ANOINTED ONES**, THAT STAND BY THE LORD OF THE WHOLE EARTH."(Zech.4:12-14)

73. AN "**ANOINTED ONE**" THROUGHOUT SCRIPTURE REFERS TO THE PROPHETS WHOM GOD ANOINTED WITH HIS SPIRIT to lead His people, and later in the 11th Chapter it even refers to these two witnesses as "two Prophets" But what is a candlestick? In Revelation 1:20, it says that "**THE SEVEN CANDLE STICKS WHICH THOU SAWEST ARE THE SEVEN CHURCHES!**"

74. **SO A SCRIPTURAL INTERPRETATION OF WHO THESE TWO WITNESSES ARE SHOWS US THAT THEY ARE TWO PROPHETS AND TWO CHURCHES**, or bodies of believers. Even though it's all just one Church, the Lord has set up different levels of service, as He did in both the New Testament, "first apostle, secondarily prophets," etc. (1Cor.12:28), and the Old Testament, Kings and priests.

75. **THESE TWO WITNESSES COULD THEREFORE BE LIKENED TO THE TWO TRIBES THAT GOD CHOSE IN OLD TESTAMENT TIMES TO LEAD HIS PEOPLE** and to represent Him to the people. These were **THE TRIBE OF LEVI, THE PRIESTS, AND THE TRIBE OF JUDAH, THE KINGS**.

76. If these two witnesses are somehow representing these two tribes, it would also fit into the 144,000 of Chapter 7 who will be sealed to go through this Great Tribulation, Remember they were 12 tribes of 12,000 each, including these leadership tribes of Levi and Judah. These tribes represent the new nation of spiritual Israel, which is being restored today in the Children of God. This would mean that **TWO TRIBES OF 24,000 WOULD LEAD THE OTHER TEN TRIBES OF 120,000**. (See Letter No.331A:49 .)

77. And since these two witnesses are called two candlesticks, **THEY MUST ALSO HAVE SOMETHING TO DO WITH THE TWO GOOD CANDLESTICKS OR CHURCHES** of Chapters 2 and 3, Smyrna and Philadelphia. The candlesticks represent the Church, of which we are the final and ultimate manifestation.

78. Now there are all kinds of heavy parallels you can get off this, but the main thing it shows is just that **THESE TWO WITNESSES ARE THE LEADERS OF THE NATION OF SPIRITUAL ISRAEL, OR THE CHURCH.**

79. The Lord in "Bible Study" (see Letter No.96:20) has promised us, the Children of God, leadership over the rest of the Church, so **SOME OF US WILL DEFINITELY BE THOSE TWO WITNESSES!** Who else do you know of besides the Children of God who prophesy in sackcloth and whose message is gone out around the World?

80. As for the two Prophets themselves, who knows? **THEY MAY BE TWO MEN, OR MAN AND WIFE, OR EVEN TWO WOMEN;** it doesn't say!

81. These witnesses will be so powerful that **"IF ANY MAN WILL HURT THEM, FIRE PROCEEDETH OUT OF THEIR MOUTH, AND DEVoureth THEIR ENEMIES:** and if any man will hurt them, he must in this manner be killed." (11:5) These witnesses must certainly be the worshippers in the temple that are not tread upon by the Gentiles, and the reason may be because they are afraid to touch them. They're afraid of being cremated if they did.

82. Moses and Elijah both called fire down upon their enemies (Lev.10:1,2 & 2Kg.1:10,11). However some say the fire here is symbolic, that it symbolises their fiery words, as the Lord said of Jeremiah, "I will make My Words in thy mouth fire." (Jer.5:14) However, the next verse describing the power these witnesses have to hurt the earth makes **THIS FIRE COMING OUT OF THEIR MOUTH SOUND PRETTY LITERAL.**

83. "These have power to shut Heaven, that it rain not in the days of their prophecy: and have power over waters to turn them to blood, and to smite the earth with all plagues, as often as they will." (11:6) Remember the Second Trump? It turned the waters to blood. **COULD IT BE THAT THESE PROPHETS HAVE SOME INFLUENCE OVER THE TRUMPET JUDGMENTS-AS MOSES DID WITH THE GREAT PLAGUES OF EGYPT?**

84. They will have tremendous God-given power over the elements and tremendous protection from their enemies, but **FINALLY THEY ARE KILLED, "WHEN THEY SHALL HAVE FINISHED THEIR TESTIMONY."** Then "the beast that ascendeth out of the bottomless pit (the Devil in the AC) shall make war against them, and shall overcome them, and kill them." (11:7)

85. **THIS BEAST THAT KILLS THEM IS THE ANTICHRIST AND HIS FORCES**, his bestial government. In Revelation it doesn't call the beast the Antichrist; that terminology is mentioned only in one of the epistles of John (see 1Jn.2:18,22). Daniel refers to him as the "little horn," "fierce king," "vile person" (Dan.7:8 ; 8:23 ; 11:21); Ezekiel calls him "Gog" (Ezk.38:2); Paul calls him the "son of perdition" and "the Wicked" (2Thes.2:3,8). And John simply refers to him throughout Revelation as "the beast."

86. But whatever title is used, **THEY ALL DESCRIBE ONE PERSON WHO IS TO APPEAR AT THE END OF THE AGE TO RULE THE EARTH AND PERSECUTE THE SAINTS JUST BEFORE THE COMING OF CHRIST.** For the sake of unity, this figure, however named, is popularly referred to as the Antichrist, and since it is the name by which most people know him, we use it throughout our study of revelation.

87. **"AND THEIR DEAD BODIES WILL LIE IN THE STREET OF THE GREAT CITY, WHICH SPIRITUALLY IS CALLED SODOM AND EGYPT, WHERE ALSO OUR LORD WAS CRUCIFIED"** And the whole earth, "Kindreds and tongues and nations shall see their dead bodies three days and an half, and shall not suffer their dead bodies to be put in graves. And they that dwell upon the earth shall rejoice over them, and make merry, and shall send gifts one to another; because these two prophets tormented them that dwelt on the Earth." (11:8-10)

88. What is the great city where our Lord was crucified? You mean these two Prophets shall lie in the streets of Jerusalem? Well, **JERUSALEM WILL BE THE WORLD CAPITAL OF THE ANTICHRIST GOVERNMENT, SO IT COULD BE THAT THEY FINALLY GET IT THERE.** (See Daniel 11:45.)

89. But Jesus wasn't actually crucified inside of Jerusalem, He was crucified "without the camp." (Heb.13:13) **EVEN THOUGH THIS "GREAT CITY" COMPRISES JERUSALEM, IT INCLUDES A MUCH LARGER AREA THAN JUST IT ALONE.**

90. In Rev.17 we find that **BABYLON IS THE NAME OF "THAT GREAT CITY, WHICH REIGNETH OVER THE KINGS OF THE EARTH."** And "in her was found the blood of prophets, and of saints, and of all that were slain upon the earth." (

91. What, then, is this "great city" that is responsible for the deaths of all God's saints, Prophets, and all the slain of the earth, and that rules over kings? **IT IS THE WORLDWIDE CITY SYSTEM OF COMMERCIALISM**, composed of churches, banks, and all other "religions" based on the love of money and serving the god of materialism. (This is more fully revealed in Chapters 17 and 18.)

92. **THIS FALSE RELIGIOUS SYSTEM OF MAMMON WORSHIP HAS BEEN RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DEATHS OF ALL THE SAINTS AND PROPHETS** from the days of Egypt and its priest of On to the Catholic Inquisitions of the Middle Ages, on down to today's various political religions around the world.

93. But it says here that the beast or government kills the two Prophets. True, but **THE FALSE CHURCH SYSTEM OR RELIGIOUS SYSTEM ALWAYS WORKS WITH THE FALSE GOVERNMENT**-always-and gets them to do its dirty work. Who slew Jesus really? We say the Romans, but actually the false church of His day, the Jewish Scribes, Pharisees and Hypocrites, incited the government to kill Him.

94. And that's what they'll do to these Prophets. But after their bodies have lain in the streets "three days and an half, **THE SPIRIT OF LIFE FROM GOD ENTERED INTO THEM**, ... And they ascended up to Heaven in a cloud." (11:11,12)

95. **THIS HAPPENS AT THE VERY END OF THE TRIBULATION**, obviously, because they prophesy, it says specifically in the third verse, 3-1/2 years. And they were dead only 3-1/2 days and then they were raised. So it seems that their resurrection and rapture occur at the same time as everybody else's: at the end of the Great Tribulation when Jesus returns!

96. There are many references to the Rapture in these Chapters dealing with the Endtime period. There was a reference to it in the sixth Chapter, tenth Chapter, here in the eleventh Chapter, and finally it is described again in the fourteenth Chapter. However, **IT'S ONLY ONE GREAT RESURRECTION AND RAPTURE**; there are just many facets of it.

97. Revelation follows a definite, orderly sequence of events, but **IT FREQUENTLY TAKES ONE ASPECT AND GIVES US THE ENTIRE HISTORY OF THE SUBJECT FROM ITS BEGINNING TO ITS END** then jumps back into the main flow and continues with its story.

98. **THIS IS WHAT IT HAS DONE HERE WITH THE TWO WITNESSES**, showing us the great witnessing they're going to do during the Tribulation, then how they are killed but resurrected only 3-1/2 days later as God wins the final victory in the End. Then the story gets back into the mainstream in the fifteenth verse, where we have a reference to the great Rapture and Resurrection of the entire Church.

99. **And the SEVENTH ANGEL sounded** and there were **GREAT VOICES IN HEAVEN**, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of His Christ; and He shall reign for ever and ever." (11:15)

100. "And the four and twenty elders, which sat before God on their seats, fell upon their faces" and praised God because "Thou hast taken to Thee Thy great power, and hast reigned. And the nations were angry, and **THY WRATH IS COME, AND THE TIME OF THE DEAD, THAT THEY SHOULD BE JUDGED**, and that Thou shouldest give reward unto Thy servants the prophets, and to the saints ... **AND SHOULDEST DESTROY THEM WHICH DESTROY THE EARTH.**" (11:16-18)

101. Now what was the last time we recall hearing a Trumpet sounded?-All the way back in the thirteenth verse of the ninth chapter. Then there was **A REFERENCE TO THE SEVENTH TRUMP IN THE TENTH CHAPTER**, seventh verse, as to what would happen when it sounded, **AND HERE WE HAVE IT!**

102. The two main events that happen at the Seventh Trump are,

- 1) **"THY WRATH IS COME"** and
- 2) **"THOU SHOULDEST GIVE REWARD UNTO THY SERVANTS."**

According to Paul (remember we discussed this in the tenth Chapter, seventh verse), at the last Trump Christ comes and the saints will be resurrected, raptured, and we which are alive will be changed and raptured with them. (See 1Cor.15:51,52 .)

103. **THE DEAD WHO ARE JUDGED HERE AT THE SEVENTH TRUMP ARE THE LIVING DEAD (THOSE WHO HAVE RECEIVED JESUS)**. It is the time of the judgment of the saints of all ages at the judgment seat of Christ after His Second Coming. "For we (Christians) must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body ... good or bad." (2Cor.5:10)

104. **BUT THE WICKED WHO ARE LEFT BEHIND ON EARTH AT THE RESURRECTION REALLY GET IT**. God's Wrath finally comes upon the Anti-Christ nations-those who have polluted the earth with their wars, factories, churches and

bestial governments! And He finally destroys "them which destroy the earth!" (11:18)

CHAPTER 12

CHURCH IN TRIBULATION

105. The two main characters of this Chapter are "**A WOMAN CLOTHED WITH THE SUN**, and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars," and "**A GREAT RED DRAGON**, having seven heads and ten horns." (12:1,3) Both of these "wonders" are appearing "in Heaven," so **THIS IS MORE OR LESS A SPIRITUAL LOOK INTO THINGS** that will happen during the End.

106. "And the dragon stood before the woman which was ready to be delivered, for to devour her child as soon as it was born, And **SHE BROUGHT FORTH A MAN CHILD, WHO WAS TO RULE ALL NATIONS with a rod of iron**: and her child was caught up unto God, and to His throne." (12:4,5)

107. **THE WOMAN HERE REPRESENTS THE CHURCH**, who throughout Revelation is called "the bride, the Lamb's wife." (Rev.19:7 ; 21:9) The Church consists not only of the New Testament but also the Old Testament believers. Moses and the Children of Israel are called "the church in the wilderness." (Ac.7:38)

108. THIS PROPHETIC PORTRAIT OF A WOMAN GIVING BIRTH TO A MAN CHILD:

- 1) is based on the literal birth of Christ;
- 2) has had many intermediate spiritual fulfillments both before and after Christ;
- 3) will have one ultimate spiritual fulfillment. This is all explained below.

109. 1)Literal fulfillment: **MARY, WHO WAS PART OF THE CHURCH (OR WOMAN), WAS USED BY GOD TO BRING FORTH JESUS, THE MAN CHILD**. Immediately after His birth the Dragon or Devil through King Herod tried to devour Him by ordering the slaughter of all children under two years old. (Mt.2:16) And Jesus has been caught up to God's throne to rule all nations. (Mk.16:19)

110. 2)intermediate spiritual fulfillment: **THIS ALSO REPRESENTS THE CHURCH OF ALL AGES GIVING SPIRITUAL BIRTH** to new revolutionary movements of dropout saints. They overcome the world by 'dropping out' and becoming as little children that they might enter the kingdom of Heaven, suffering that they might reign with Christ. (Mt.18:3 ; 2Tm.2:12 ; 1Jn.5:5) As Jesus said, "To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with Me in My throne ... (and) to him will I give power over the nations, And he shall rule them with a rod of iron ... even as I received of My Father." (Rev.3:21 ; 2:26,27)

111. 3)Ultimate spiritual fulfillment Since this Chapter is dealing with the Endtime, **THIS WOMAN MUST FINALLY REPRESENT THE ULTIMATE CHURCH HERSELF**, the one who will live in this Endtime period--the Children of God! Her seed, then, must represent the purest revolutionary dropouts of all history--the children born in this revolutionary movement, the ones who will be the complete overcomers and rule all things!

112. The next verse proves that **THIS WOMAN OR CHURCH IS LIVING IN THE ENDTIME**. "And the woman fled into the wilderness, where she hath a place prepared of God, that they should feed her there a thousand two hundred and threescore days." (12:6) Just as specifically as it could possibly be, there is your three-and-a-half years of Tribulation again.

113. Now if the woman is the hero or heroine of this Chapter, **WHO IS THE VILLAIN? IT'S THE DRAGON**, who in verse three tried to devour her child as soon as it was born.

114. There was one woman who stood up in a class of mine and began telling how she got a wonderful revelation on who this great red dragon was. She said, "You just take a look at some of the flags and banners used by the Chinese in their demonstrations, yellow banners with great red dragons on them; That great red dragon is China." I asked that poor dear woman, "**WOULD YOU MIND READING THE NINTH VERSE?**"

115. "**AND THE GREAT DRAGON WAS CAST OUT, THAT OLD SERPENT, CALLED THE DEVIL**, and Satan." (12:9) Just as plain as day. She was absolutely dumbfounded. In fact, she walked right out of the class and never came back because she had made such a fool of herself. It's amazing how people can screw things up simply because they don't read the passage carefully.

116. "**THE DRAGON WITH HIS SEVEN HEADS AND TEN HORNS BEARS A GREAT RESEMBLANCE TO THE BEAST** (or government) with seven heads and ten horns of the thirteenth Chapter **BUT HE IS NOT THE BEAST**. It says in the second verse of the thirteenth Chapter that "the dragon gave him (the beast) his power, and his seat, and great authority," so they are two distinct but very similar personalities.

117. In other words, **THE ANTI-CHRIST GOVERNMENT OF THIS WORLD IS PRACTICALLY ONE AND THE SAME WITH THE DEVIL HIMSELF**. And God allows it in order that we should have some kind of order, even if the Devil runs

it.

118. From verses 1 to 6 we have a capsule history of the Church up to the time she flees into the wilderness for 1260 days. **VERSES 7 THROUGH 14 NOW GIVE US A LITTLE MORE DETAILED EXPLANATION** of why she flees into the wilderness.

119. "And **THERE WAS WAR IN HEAVEN**: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels, And he prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in Heaven. **AND THE GREAT DRAGON WAS CAST OUT**, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: **HE WAS CAST OUT INTO THE EARTH**, and his angels were cast out with him." (12:7,9)

120. The scriptures teach that **SATAN AND HIS FOLLOWERS FELL FROM THEIR FIRST ESTATE OR POSITION AT THE BEGINNING OF CREATION**. (For how the Devil fell, see Ezekiel Chapter 28 and Isaiah Chapter 14 .) However Satan still continued to have access to Heaven and the Lord's throne. In the Book of Job, written a couple of thousand years after Creation, it says "the sons of God came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan came also among them." He then began to accuse Job to the Lord like a prosecuting attorney. (See Job 1:6-11 .)

121. So the Devil has been in Heaven a long time, even after he rebelled against God. But now, at the very end, he finally gets the gate and he's cast out of Heaven to the earth. **HE COMES DOWN AND POSSESSES AND EMPOWERS THE ANTICHRIST, WHO WILL THEN BECOME LITERALLY THE DEVIL IN THE FLESH**, accusing the saints face to face and making war against them.

122. "**AND THEY OVERCAME HIM BY THE BLOOD OF THE LAMB, AND BY THE WORD OF THEIR TESTIMONIES**; and they loved not their lives unto the death. ..." (12:11) Even as he is overcoming the saints physically by killing them, they will be overcoming him spiritually by keeping their faith even unto death.

123. "Therefore rejoice, ye Heaven, and ye that dwell in them. Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and of the sea! For **THE DEVIL IS COME DOWN UNTO YOU, HAVING GREAT WRATH, BECAUSE HE KNOWETH THAT HE HATH BUT A SHORT TIME** (only 3-1/2 years). (12:12)

124. "And when the dragon saw that he was cast out unto the earth, **HE PERSECUTED THE WOMAN** which brought forth the man child. And to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle, that **SHE MIGHT FLY INTO THE WILDERNESS**, into her place, where she is nourished for a time, and times, and half a time, from the face of the serpent." (12:13,14)

125. Well, there it is again, a time, times and a half, 3-1/2 times; **THERE'S YOUR THREE-AND-A-HALF YEARS OF TRIBULATION** spoken of in the sixth verse as 1260 days, and now in the fourteenth again. Is God going to care for and "nourish," or feed, His Church during that terrible time of Tribulation? Absolutely! Even if He has to drop manna out of Heaven or cause angels to feed us, even as He did for the children of Israel and many of the Prophets in their wildernesses.

126. This "wilderness" may be some specific location, such as Petra. **MORE THAN LIKELY, THOUGH, IT REPRESENTS THE TOTAL SEPARATION OF THE CHURCH FROM THE SYSTEMS OF THE WORLD DURING THE LAST FEW YEARS**. Many will become martyrs and die for their faith to be a witness to others, but God will care for the Church and there will still be multitudes to meet Jesus when He returns.

127. "**AND THE SERPENT CAST OUT OF HIS MOUTH WATER AS A FLOOD AFTER THE WOMAN**, that he might cause her to be carried away of the flood." (12:15) The Word of God is called "the water of the Word" and if someone is filled with the Spirit and witnessing God's Truth, the Bible says, "out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water." (Jn.7:38)

128. Well, if living water of Truth comes out of our mouths, what comes out of the Devil's? Dead water. **HIS WATER, HIS WORD, IS ALWAYS LIES**, "When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own; for he is a liar, and the father of it." (Jn.8:44)

129. **SO HE CASTS AFTER HER A FLOOD OF LIES, LYING PROPAGANDA TO TRY TO SWALLOW HER UP**. And believe you me, an awful lot of Christians have just about been swallowed up by this deluge of lies such as evolution, and even some of the lies of atheistic materialism. In the long run, though, if they are really saved and want the truth, God will have mercy on them and bring them to the truth.

130. **THE ONES WHO REALLY SWALLOW THESE LIES, THOUGH, ARE THOSE WHOM "GOD SHALL SEND ... STRONG DELUSION, ...** that they all might be damned because...they received not the love of the truth." (2Th.2:10-12) Who is that? The unsaved.

131. It says here, "the earth helped the woman, **AND THE EARTH OPENED HER MOUTH, AND SWALLOWED UP THE FLOOD WHICH THE DRAGON CAST OUT OF HIS MOUTH**." (12:16) The earth is a type of the worldly people and the

very fact that they are swallowing all these lies ought to help us realise they're not the truth! "They (Devil's prophets) are of the world (or earth, the System): therefore speak they of the world, and the world (the Systemites) heareth them." (1Jn.4:5)

132. **THE DEVIL WANTS TO BE GOD AND HE WANTS THE WORLD TO WORSHIP HIM.** When he finally possesses the AC, it says in Daniel that he abolishes all other worship and he sets himself up as God and demands the world to worship him or die. The Devil in the AC will at first try to flatter and tempt the woman to worship him with his lying promises, but being rejected he will then set out to kill her.

133. **"AND THE DRAGON WAS WROTH WITH THE WOMAN, AND WENT TO MAKE WAR** with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ." (12:17)

CHAPTER 13 **ANTICHRIST & FALSE PROPHET**

134. "And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and **SAW A BEAST RISE UP OUT OF THE SEA**, heaving seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns." (13:1)

135. **THESE SEVEN HEADS LITERALLY REPRESENT SEVEN OF THE GREAT WORLD EMPIRES**, from Egypt on down to the final AntiChrist kingdom. **THE TEN HORNS ARE TEN KINGS of the End** who cooperate with the Antichrist for a short time and "receive power as kings one hour with the beast." (See Rev. chapter 17)

136. The fact that crowns are upon the ten horns show that **THIS PROPHECY IS DEALING WITH THE TIME WHEN THESE KINGS ARE IN POWER**--or with the final AC government itself.

137. Though it is the final AC government that the rest of Chapter 13 deals with, God is showing us by this beast with seven heads that **THE ANTICHRIST GOVERNMENT HAS ALWAYS BEEN IN EXISTENCE FROM THE BEGINNING**. It's all the same beast, although it has manifested its ugly head in the seven major governments of the world: Egypt, Assyria, Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, Rome, Antichrist. Whatever government it is, it's all part of the same beast, all part of the Devil's governments.

138. This beast looks "like unto a leopard" with "feet like a bear" and a "mouth as the mouth of a lion," all beasts that Daniel saw in his vision representing different great kingdoms of man. (See Dan.7:17.) This shows us that **THIS FINAL BEAST WILL BE THE ULTIMATE FULFILLMENT OF MAN'S GOVERNMENTS, A COMBINATION OF THE "BEST" QUALITIES OF EACH**. Man's final government will be his ideal and ruled by the Devil himself through their ideal leader the AC. For "the dragon (Devil) gave him (AC) his power, and his seat, and great authority." (13:2)

139. "And I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death; and **HIS DEADLY WOUND WAS HEALED**: and all the world wondered after the beast ... which had the wound by a sword, and did live." (13:3,14)

140. **ONLY ONE OTHER VERSE IN SCRIPTURE TALKS OF ONE OF THESE HEADS OR NATIONS BEING WOUNDED BY A SWORD**. "And I will put my sword into the king of Babylon's hands, but I will break Pharaoh's (Egypt's) arms and he shall groan before him with the groanings of a deadly wounded man." (Ezk.30:24)

141. From what the Lord has shown us through my mother's **WARNING PROPHECY** predicting the "Great Confusion to come out of Memphis, Egypt," from our studies of Daniel 8 , which pinpoint the AC's geographical location as Egypt, and from what the Lord showed us in "The Phoenix" (Letter No.276), it looks as if some modern King of Egypt will be broken by Babylon's, or America's, sword, but he will be revived again to lead the world. **THIS RESURRECTION OF THE AC, WHO WAS "WOUNDED UNTO DEATH AND DID LIVE," COULD POSSIBLY BE A SUPPOSED MIRACLE OF SOVIET SCIENCE**, because from many other prophecies it is evident that the AC comes to total power in Russia, and it is the Russians who today are rapidly advancing into the field of scientific witchcraft such as investigating in ESP, phantoms, hallucinations, apparitions, etc. (See "Solaris" and "More on Solaris," Letters No.271 and 271B .)

142. **THE DEVIL IS GOING TO DEMONSTRATE HIS SUPERNATURAL POWER BY EXPLAINING THAT THIS POWER IS PURELY "SCIENTIFIC" POWER**. He's going to say it's not spiritual, because the whole world has been so de-spiritualised and de-religionised they will no longer accept anything "spiritual" or "religious" as being "scientific" or true.

143. "And all the world wondered after the beast. And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast." (13:3,4a) **IN WORSHIPPING THIS BEAST THEY MAY OR MAY NOT KNOW IT, BUT THEY'RE WORSHIPPING THE DEVIL**. And they said, "Who is like unto the beast? Who is able to make war with him?" (13:4)

144. In the ways of the world, might is right, and **WAR IS THE ULTIMATE OF ALL MAN'S ENDEAVORS**; man at his best is man at his worst, which is **WAR. THIS GUY IS THE TOP WARMONGER!** And everybody worships him for it.

145. **"THERE WAS GIVEN HIM A MOUTH SPEAKING GREAT THINGS AND BLASPHEMIES."** (13:5a) This description of the AC's big mouth was also used by Daniel in his various descriptions of the Antichrist. (Dan.7:8,11,20,25 ; 11:36)

146. **"AND POWER WAS GIVEN UNTO HIM TO CONTINUE FORTY AND TWO MONTHS."** (13:5) Daniel said for "a time and times and the dividing of time." (Dan.7:25) The Lord couldn't be any more specific about the length and duration of the Tribulation period. And the main reason is so that we will know it's only going to last so long and then it will be over. PTL!

147. Jesus said, speaking of the Tribulation, "Except that the Lord had shortened those days, no flesh should be saved: but **FOR THE ELECTS' SAKE (OR THE SAINTS), WHOM HE HATH CHOSEN, HE HATH SHORTENED THE DAYS.**" (Mk.13:20)--3-1/2 Years and no longer!

148. "And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God. ... And it was given him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them." (13:6,7) My God! There are so many of these scriptures that sound just like Daniel's prophecies about this same period. (See Dan.7:21 ; 8:24 ; 12:7 .) **WHY WOULD GOD DEVOTE ALMOST TWO ENTIRE BOOKS, PLUS MULTITUDES OF OTHER PROPHECIES THROUGHOUT THE BIBLE, JUST TO THESE FEW YEARS OF THE ENDTIME?** Do you think He doesn't want us to be deceived along with the rest of the world? Do you think He wants us to be prepared?

149. **THE BEAST IS GOING TO OVERCOME THE CHURCH COMPLETELY, AS FAR AS HER TEMPORAL POWER IS CONCERNED--its buildings, organisations and money. And many many will suffer as martyrs. Will you be ready?**

150. **"AND POWER WAS GIVEN HIM OVER ALL KINDREDS (RACES), AND TONGUES (LANGUAGES), AND NATIONS. AND ALL THAT DWELL UPON THE EARTH SHALL WORSHIP HIM**, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world." (13:7,8) Do you "dwell upon the earth" or is your "conversation (life) in Heaven"? (Ph.3:20) Are you written in the Lamb's Book of Life? Are you one of the saved whose names are written in Heaven? (LK.10:20) It's either Jesus or the Devil--take your choice--'cause that's what it's gonna come to. "If any man have an ear, let him hear." (13:9)

151. The AC is going to be the greatest dictator the world has ever known, but he'll get his reward, for "he that killeth with the sword must be killed with the sword. Here is the patience and the faith of the saints." (13:10) **JESUS HIMSELF WILL KILL THE AC WITH HIS SWORD AND HE SHALL TAKE OVER THE EARTH AND WE SHALL REIGN WITH HIM FOREVER.** Just keep that in mind when they try to force you to deny your faith!

152. "And I beheld another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb, and he spake as a dragon." (13:11) In Revelation Chapter 19 verse 20, **THIS SECOND BEAST IS CALLED THE "FALSE PROPHET." JUST AS JESUS HAD JOHN THE BAPTIST, SO THE ANTICHRIST WILL HAVE HIS FORERUNNER** to "prepare the way of the Devil."

153. **"AND HE CAUSETH THE EARTH AND THEM WHICH DWELL THEREIN TO WORSHIP THE FIRST BEAST, WHOSE DEADLY WOUND WAS HEALED.** And he doeth great wonders, so that he maketh fire come down from Heaven on earth in the sight of men." And by these miracles which will be done in the name of "Science," he "deceiveth them that dwell on the earth ... saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast." (13:12-14)

154. **"AND HE HAD POWER TO GIVE LIFE UNTO THE IMAGE OF THE BEAST**, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed." (13:15)

155. **THIS IMAGE OR IDOL OF THE BEAST WAS CALLED BY DANIEL THE "ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION,"** which would be set up in a temple which is yet to be built by the Jews in Jerusalem on Mt. Moriah where the Dome of the Rock now stands. **IT WILL UNDOUBTEDLY BE THE LONG-FORETOLD SUPER COMPUTER** that the scientists are working feverishly to complete--possibly a world network of computers with a central HQ in Jerusalem.

156. It says that **THE FALSE PROPHET "CAUSETH ALL, BOTH SMALL AND GREAT, RICH AND POOR, FREE AND BOND TO RECEIVE A MARK IN THEIR RIGHT HAND, OR IN THEIR FOREHEADS"** (13:6)--A mark?--Some **TINY ELECTRODE or ADVANCED ELECTRONIC MARKING** that would hook up all those who received it to a gigantic universal brain? Don't laugh, because over the last four decades those dear, dedicated witch-doctors have been working on just that very thing in their laboratories. The technology to do it is already there, all they need is the right conditions: a totalitarian world dictatorship to put it into effect.

157. **THE RESULTS, THEY SAY, WOULD BRING A TRUE UTOPIAN SOCIETY: NO MURDER, STEALING OR RAPE, BECAUSE EVERYBODY WOULD BE MONITORED** and the minute the **BRAIN** detected any "abnormal" behavior in anybody's brainwave pattern, inhibitory signals would be sent out by the computer, blocking any "abnormal" actions. It would be a beautiful Heaven on Earth--which man has created with his own hands through the "image of the beast."

158. "And that **NO MAN WILL BE ABLE TO BUY OR SELL, SAVE HE THAT HAD THE MARK**, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name." (13:17) The time will come when money will no longer be used as a medium of exchange. Instead, **THE MONEY MEDIUM OF EXCHANGE WILL BE REPLACED WITH A REMARKABLE CREDIT SYSTEM** in which every person in the world who belongs to the system will have a credit number, this mark of the beast, without which he can neither buy nor sell, and by which he is accredited in his governmental account with the value of whatever goods or services he produces and to which he can charge the goods and services that he needs!

159. **EVERY MEMBER OF THE WORLD SYSTEM WILL BE BRANDED OR TATTOOED WITH THE MARK OF THIS FINAL BESTIAL ANTI-GOD WORLD GOVERNMENT.** Instead of bowing down to the paper pigs of paper money they will have a new god, a new money system, and be branded by the Beast like cattle for the slaughter. They will be forced to worship the Beast and his image, or be killed.

160. **THIS IMAGE OF THE BEAST WILL DEFINITELY HAVE SOMETHING TO DO WITH THE MONEY SYSTEM, EVEN IF IT IS A NEW MONEY SYSTEM,** "for the love of money is the root of all evil." (1Tim.6:10) Money (or credit systems like this one will be) is made by the government and it really represents the power of the beast (king or government). As Jesus said, "Shew me a PENNY. Whose IMAGE and superscription hath it? They answered and said, Caesar's." (Lk.20:24) And Caesar was the BEAST of his day, the sixth head of the seven-headed Beast.

161. Therefore, "Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the **NUMBER OF THE BEAST**: for it is the number of a man; and his number **IS SIX HUNDRED THREEScore AND SIX**"--666. What that means, I don't know exactly. Some theories are:

- 1) Six is the number of man, as man was created on the sixth day. Three 6's indicate a trinity, which would indicate man trying to play God or trying to be perfect.
- 2) The so called Jewish star of David may not be the star of David at all, but being 6-pointed it could be a symbol of the Antichrist.
- 3) In many of the ancient languages, the letters of their alphabets were also used as numbers, so it may be that the letters in the Antichrist's name will numerically add up to 666. It may not be any of these or it may be all three. You mathematicians keep your pads and pencils handy, in any event.

CHAPTER 14 **THE RAPTURE**

162. **THIS CHAPTER BRINGS US TO THE END OF THE TRIBULATION AND THE GREAT CONCLUSION OF ALL HISTORY**, the Second Coming of Christ and the Rapture and Resurrection of the Church. "And I looked, and, lo, **A LAMB** stood on the Mount Sion, and with Him **AN HUNDRED FORTY AND FOUR THOUSAND**, having His Father's name written in their foreheads." (14:1)

163. When John the Baptist saw Jesus, he exclaimed, "Behold the Lamb of God," (Jn.1:29) so **THIS LAMB IS JESUS AND THESE 144,000 ARE THE SAME ONES WE SAW BACK IN CHAPTER 7 WHO WERE BEING SEALED IN THEIR FOREHEADS** to go through the Tribulation. They are God's mountain men who have climbed the "hill of God--MT. ZION"--a mountain of spiritual victory over the world.

164. "And I heard the voice of harpers harping with their harps." (14:2) Sounds like some of the Children of God must be there with their guitars. "**AND THEY SUNG AS IT WERE A NEW SONG**" which only they could sing. (14:3) David said he sang a "new song ... even praise unto our God." (Ps.40:3) The old church of today really is singing only to itself, worshipping itself and its own religious ceremonies, not God. But **GOD'S NEW, YOUNG BRIDE IS GOING OUT SINGING UNTO GOD**, and about His kind of religion and His judgments that are soon to fall.

165. **THESE 144,000 "ARE THEY WHICH WERE NOT DEFILED WITH WOMEN"--THE WOMEN OF REV.17, THE GREAT CITY SYSTEM OF IDOLATRY, THE 'WHORE' AND HER HARLOTS**--"for they are virgins (separated only unto the Lord, utterly dedicated to Him--His virgins, His Bride, pure in Spirit.)" This is all spiritual, not physical. "These are they which follow the Lamb whithersoever He goeth." (14:4)

166. "**THESE WERE REDEEMED FROM AMONG MEN**, being the firstfruits unto God and to the Lamb." (14:4) This doesn't mean they are raptured first, but that they are **SEPARATED FROM AND ABOVE ALL THE REST**. "And in their mouth was found no guile"--no traditional false doctrines--"for they are without fault before the throne of God," perfect by His Grace in the eyes of God before His throne. (14:5)

167. Jesus said, "**THIS GOSPEL OF THE KINGDOM SHALL BE PREACHED IN ALL THE WORLD FOR A WITNESS UNTO ALL NATIONS**; and then shall the end come." (Mt.24:14) And in this Chapter, still talking of the Tribulation, John says, "**I SAW ANOTHER ANGEL FLY IN THE MIDST OF HEAVEN, HAVING THE EVERLASTING GOSPEL TO PREACH UNTO THEM THAT DWELL ON THE EARTH, AND TO EVERY NATION**, and kindred, and tongue, and people."

(14:6)

168. **COULD THIS ANGEL BE ONE OF THE HELPERS OF THE CHILDREN OF GOD** who empowers and protects them as they carry the Gospel message to every kindred, tongue and nation in these last days? "Are they (angels) not all ministering spirits, sent to minister for them who shall be heirs of Salvation?" (Heb.1:14) **So THIS ANGEL COULD BE A PART OF THE SPIRITUAL FORCES BEHIND US-MAYBE THEIR LEADER!** This same angel proclaimed "with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to Him; for the hour of His judgment is come: and worship Him that made Heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters." (14:7)

169. What is the Earth worshipping these Last Days instead of God the Creator? They are worshipping man himself and the creation! By following the false, damnable, devilish lie of evolution, Darwin's fairy tale of self-determination or natural selection, which literally means you can have a part in your own creation and decide what you're going to be, they are actually saying that the creation made itself, man made himself, therefore man is God. **TODAY'S RELIGION IS A RELIGION OF MAN WORSHIP AND OF THE CREATION ITSELF** as embodied in "science falsely so called," (1Tim.6:20)

170. **A LOGICAL MIND LOOKS AT A MACHINE AND KNOWS THERE HAS TO BE A MACHINIST BEHIND IT.** A logical mind looks at a watch and knows there has to be a watchmaker. But stupid idiots look at creation which is a billion times more complex a machine than anything ever invented by man, and they say it just made itself. **FOOLS! "THE FOOL HATH SAID IN HIS HEART, THERE IS NO GOD.** They are corrupt, they have done abominable works." (Ps.14:1)

171. They say, "God is dead"--worship science. "God is dead"--we control our destiny, so abort your baby. "God is dead"--worship your automobile, your home and television set. "Do your own thing." **BUT THE LAST MESSAGE TO THE WORLD IS GOING TO BE "FEAR GOD, AND GIVE GLORY TO HIM; FOR THE HOUR OF HIS JUDGMENT IS COME:** and worship Him that made Heaven, and Earth, and the sea, the fountains of waters." (14:7)

172. "And there followed another angel, saying, BABYLON IS FALLEN, IS FALLEN, that great city, because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication." (14:8) Babylon, the worldwide city of merchant materialism that has corrupted the earth, is fallen. What kind of fall is it? Babylon's total physical destruction happens, as described in Chapter 18, during the Wrath of God. **PARTS OF BABYLON (LIKE THE U.S.) WILL FALL PHYSICALLY BEFORE THAT FOR SURE, BUT THIS IS MAINLY TALKING ABOUT BABYLON'S FALL TO TOTAL DECADENCE AND DEPRAVITY.**--This is its total spiritual fall.

173. **THERE ARE NOW MANY CHRISTIANS WHO AT THE MOMENT ARE IGNORANTLY TRAPPED IN THIS FALSE SYSTEM--BUT THEY WILL SOON HAVE TO COME OUT--OR STAY IN IT AND RECEIVE THE MARK OF THE BEAST.** Because soon all the false religious systems from banks to churches will be totally cooperating with the Anti-Christ government--even as they are already beginning to do now. If a person is a true Christian, he's going to have to drop out! Sooner or later they are going to have to get out of the System.

174. **IF THEY DON'T DROP OUT, THEY ARE NOT CHRIST'S AND THEY WILL BE ON THE RECEIVING END OF THE THIRD ANGEL'S MESSAGE.** "And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand, The same shall drink of the wine of the Wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of His indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb." (14:9,10)

175. **"AND THE SMOKE OF THEIR TORMENT ASCENDETH UP FOR EVER AND EVER; AND THEY HAVE NO REST DAY NOR NIGHT, WHO WORSHIP THE BEAST AND HIS IMAGE**, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name." (14:11) Whew! How about that? The followers of the beast are really gonna get it, the Wrath of God, and Hell-fire! That's why, in the next verse, it says "Here is the patience of the saints" (14:12) we know what God is going to do to all who receive the mark, therefore we can endure everything they give us for not taking it.

176. "And I heard a voice from Heaven saying unto me, Write, **BLESSED ARE THE DEAD WHICH DIE IN THE LORD FROM HENCEFORTH** (must be going to be a lot of martyrs at that time.): Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them." (14:13) What is death to the Christian? To die, as Paul said, is "to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord." (2Cor.5:8) When we die we go to be with Jesus and we'll get our reward. **DEATH IS OUR GRADUATION--IT'S SOMETHING TO LOOK FORWARD TO, NOT SOMETHING TO FEAR.**

177. Now we come to the most outstanding event of the whole Chapter. "And I looked, and behold a white cloud, and upon the cloud, one sat like unto the Son of man (Jesus), having on His head a golden crown, and in His hand a sharp sickle. And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to Him that sat on the cloud (Jesus), **THRUST IN THY SICKLE (TALKING TO JESUS NOW), AND REAP: FOR THE TIME IS COME FOR THEE TO REAP; FOR THE HARVEST OF THE EARTH IS RIPE,** And He that sat on the cloud thrust in His sickle on the earth; and the earth was reaped." (14:14-16)

178. Just a few related scriptures immediately show us what the harvest is. "**THE HARVEST IS THE END OF THE WORLD; AND THE REAPERS ARE THE ANGELS.**" (Mt.13:39) "And then they shall see the Son of Man coming in the clouds. ... And then shall He send His angels (the sickle?), and shall gather together His elect from the four winds, from the uttermost part of the earth to the uttermost part of Heaven." (Mk.13:26,27)

179. JESUS IS THE TRUE VINE, AND THIS PART OF THE ENDTIME HARVEST SHOWS JESUS AT HIS SECOND ADVENT COMING TO REAP THE FRUIT OF THE TRUE VINE, HIS CHILDREN.

180. If you follow the order of events, then **IMMEDIATELY AFTER THIS GATHERING OF THE SAINTS WOULD HAVE TO FOLLOW THE JUDGMENT AND THE WRATH OF GOD UPON THE WICKED LEFT BEHIND.** Does it? Just read and see! "And another angel came out of the temple which is in Heaven, he also having a sharp sickle. 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." (14:17,18)

181. "**AND THE ANGEL THRUST IN HIS SICKLE INTO THE EARTH, AND GATHERED THE VINE OF THE EARTH** (notice it doesn't call this the harvest, but the vine), and cast it into the great wine press of the **WRATH OF GOD.**" (14:19)

[No paragraphs numbered 182-191 in the printed copy.]

192. **THE CHURCH MAY SUFFER A LITTLE TRIBULATION**, a little spanking from the Lord once in a while, **BUT THEY'RE NOT GOING TO GO THROUGH THE WRATH OF GOD.** "For God hath not appointed us to wrath." (1Th.5:9) Only the wicked, only those who have totally rejected Jesus and have been persecuting His Prophets, are reserved for this fate.

193. "**AND THE ANGEL THRUST IN HIS SICKLE, ... AND GATHERED THE VINE OF THE EARTH;** and cast it into the great winepress of the wrath of God. And the winepress was trodden without the city, and blood came out of the winepress, even unto the horse bridles, by the space of a thousand and six hundred furlongs." (14:19,20) Whew! That's some Wrath. 1600 furlongs--do you know how far that is? Over two hundred miles! **A RIVER OF BLOOD 200 MILES LONG!** Think of it!! Whether you think it's symbolic or not, it certainly is talking about a horrible slaughter.

194. **IN THE FOLLOWING CHAPTERS 15-19**, which we'll study in our next section, we will get a detailed description of this period--where the **WRATH OF GOD IS POURED OUT UPON THE WICKED, THE MOST HORRIBLE THINGS YOU COULD EVER READ ABOUT IN ALL HISTORY!**

195. So that's the middle section of Revelation. Isn't it amazing how John could have predicted all this--the great atomic war and one world government, etc.? Any honest thinking person can see it coming now--but John saw it **1900 YEARS** ago! Just shows you that **IT HAD TO BE GOD SPEAKING, AND NOT JUST JOHN.**

196. **IT REALLY SHOWS US HOW GOD IS IN CONTROL OF EVERYTHING**--"all the world's a stage"--and God is the director. Our only hope, then, is to be following the "good guys" script, 'cause in this production all the "bad guys" really get wiped out.

197. How do you do that? How do you become one of the "good guys or gals"? Simply by **ASKING JESUS INTO YOUR LIFE AND FOLLOWING HIM!** It's easy--you can do it today! And if you need help, we'd love to help you in any way we can. Just visit one of our Colonies near you or drop us a line. Do it today, tomorrow may be too late!

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