

Six Of The Seven Seals

1 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.

3 When the Lamb opened the second seal, I heard the second living creature say, "Come!" 4 Then another horse came out, a **fiery red one**. Its rider was given power to take peace from the earth and to make men slay each other. To him was given a large sword.

5 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**! Its rider was holding a pair of scales in his hand. 6 Then I heard what sounded like a voice among the four living creatures, saying, "A quart of wheat for a day's wages, and three quarts of barley for a day's wages, and *do not damage the oil and the wine!*"

7 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 by sword, famine and plague, and by the wild beasts of the earth.

9 When he opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of those who had been slain because of the word of God and the testimony they had maintained. 10 They called out in a loud voice, "How long, Sovereign Lord, holy and true, until you judge the inhabitants of the earth and avenge our blood?" 11 Then each of them was given a white robe, and they were told to wait a little longer, *until the number of their fellow servants and brothers who were to be killed as they had been was completed.*

12 I watched as he opened the sixth seal. There was a great earthquake. The sun turned black like sackcloth made of goat hair, the whole moon turned blood red, 13 and the stars in the sky fell to earth, as late figs drop from a fig tree when shaken by a strong wind. 14 The sky receded like a scroll, rolling up, and every mountain and island was removed from its place.

15 Then the kings of the earth, the princes, the generals, the rich, the mighty, and every slave and every free man hid in caves and among the rocks of the mountains. 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 stand?"



courtesy of www.symbolism-in-art.org

The rides are called forth by each of the living creatures and given their task by God Himself.

Luxury items will not be harmed, but the masses will starve.

Num 35:33-34

33 "Do not pollute the land where you are. Bloodshed pollutes the land, and atonement cannot be made for the land on which blood has been shed, except by the blood of the one who shed it. 34 Do not defile the land where you live and where I dwell, for I, the LORD, dwell among the Israelites."

Joel 2:10-11

Before them the earth shakes, the sky trembles, the sun and moon are darkened, and the stars no longer shine. The LORD thunders at the head of his army; his forces are beyond number, and mighty are those who obey his command. The day of the LORD is great; it is dreadful.

Who can endure it?

“What sinners dread most is not death, but the revealed presence of God.” (Swete)

The believer can stand in the face of this great wrath of God because Jesus already bore the wrath the believer deserved.

Zech 3:8-9

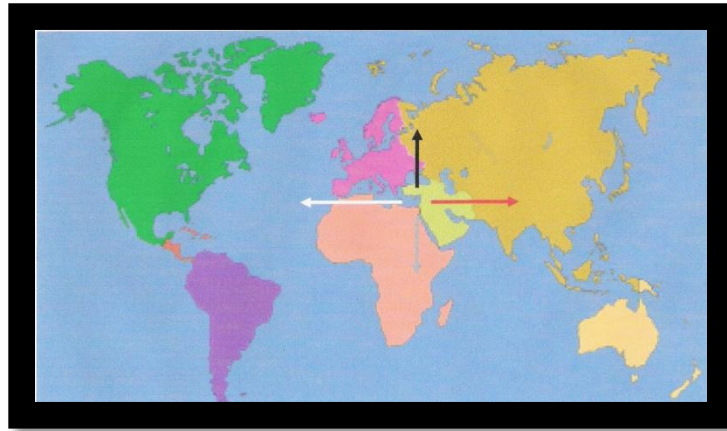
8 "Listen, O high priest Joshua and your associates seated before you, **who are men symbolic of things to come**: I am going to bring my servant, the Branch. 9 See, the stone I have set in front of Joshua! There are seven eyes on that one stone, and I will engrave an inscription on it,' says the LORD Almighty, 'and I will **remove the sin of this land in a single day.**

Zech 6:1-7

1 I looked up again-and there before me were four chariots coming out from between two mountains-mountains of bronze! 2 The first chariot had red horses, the second black, 3 the third white, and the fourth dappled-all of them powerful. 4 I asked the angel who was speaking to me, "What are these, my lord?"

5 The angel answered me, "These are the four spirits of heaven, going out from standing in the presence of the Lord of the whole world. 6 The one with the black horses is going toward the north country, the one with the white horses toward the west, and the one with the dappled horses toward the south."

7 When the powerful horses went out, they were straining to go throughout the earth. And he said, "Go throughout the earth!" So they went throughout the earth.



Zech 6:11-13

12 Tell him this is what the LORD Almighty says: 'Here is the man whose name is the Branch, and he will branch out from his place and build the temple of the LORD. 13 It is he who will build the temple of the LORD, and he will be clothed with majesty and **will sit and rule on his throne. And he will be a priest on his throne. And there will be harmony between the two.**'



The Seventh Seal

7:1 After this I saw four angels standing at the four corners of the earth, **holding back the four winds** of the earth to prevent any wind from blowing on the land or on the sea or on any tree. 2 Then I saw another angel coming up from the east, having the seal of the living God. He called out in a loud voice to the four angels who had been given power to harm the land and the sea: 3 "Do not harm the land or the sea or the trees until we put a seal on the foreheads of the servants of our God." 4 Then I heard the number of those who were sealed: 144,000 from all the tribes of Israel.

5 From the tribe of Judah 12,000 were sealed, from the tribe of Reuben 12,000, from the tribe of Gad 12,000, 6 from the tribe of Asher 12,000, from the tribe of Naphtali 12,000, from the tribe of Manasseh 12,000, 7 from the tribe of Simeon 12,000, from the tribe of Levi 12,000, from the tribe of Issachar 12,000, 8 from the tribe of Zebulun 12,000, from the tribe of Joseph 12,000, from the tribe of Benjamin 12,000.

9 After this I looked and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and in front of the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. 10 And they cried out in a loud voice:

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

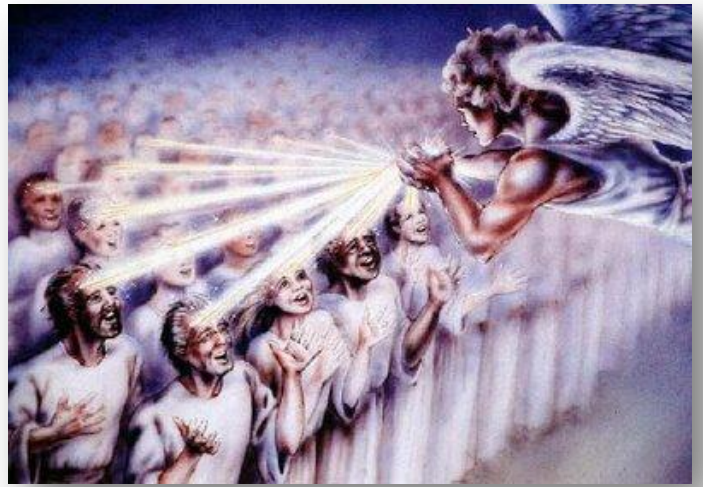
11 All the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures. They fell down on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, 12 saying:

*"Amen!
Praise and glory
and wisdom and thanks and honor
and power and strength
be to our God for ever and ever.
Amen!"*

13 Then one of the elders asked me, "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. 15 Therefore,

"they are before the throne of God and serve him day and night in his temple; and he who sits on the throne will spread his tent over them. 16 Never again will they hunger; never again will they thirst. The sun will not beat upon them, nor any scorching heat. 17 For the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd; he will lead them to springs of living water. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."



Ezek 9:3-6

Then the LORD called to the man clothed in linen who had the writing kit at his side 4 and said to him, "Go throughout the city of Jerusalem and put a **mark** (*tav*) on the foreheads of those who grieve and lament over all the detestable things that are done in it."

5 As I listened, he said to the others, "Follow him through the city and kill, without showing pity or compassion. 6 Slaughter old men, young men and maidens, women and children, but do not touch anyone who has **the mark** (*tav*). Begin at my sanctuary." So they began with the elders who were in front of the temple.

The seal is the Hebrew letter tau ("t," as in the shape of a small cross).



Tribe of Dan not mentioned. Joseph mentioned in place of Ephraim. See Tribes of Israel.

The seven seals may encompass all of the tribulation.

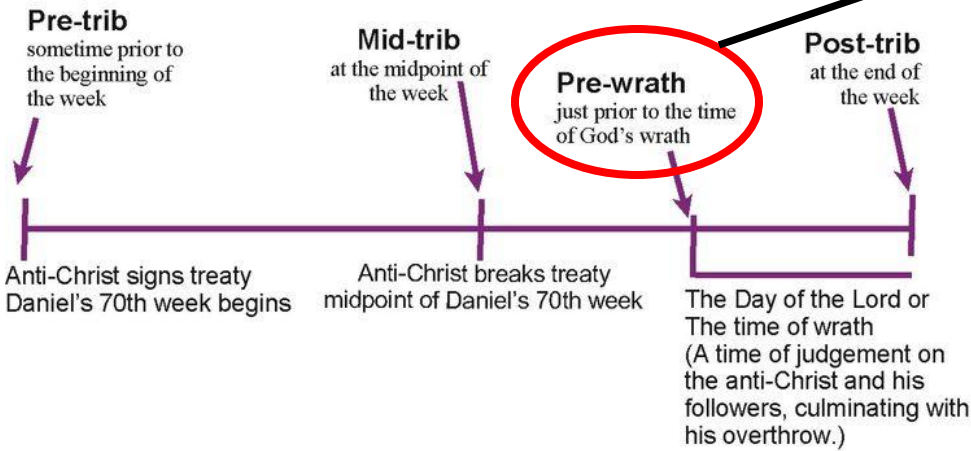
A large part of believers will go thru at least some tribulation.

Various Views on the Rapture and Seals/Trumpets/Bowls

There are many more views than these, but the most common are listed here. The main reason to cover these is to not be fooled if events don't happen in the order we choose to believe...the scripture leaves room for many interpretations.

In any case, what is clear is that judgment is coming and Jesus will come for his people and defeat evil once and for all time!

Four views on the timing of the rapture relative to the 70th week of Daniel



Charts on the Book of Revelation

45. Possible Interrelationships Among the Seals, Trumpets, and Bowls

I. Simultaneous Perspective

Seals	1		2		3		4		5		6		7
Trumpets	1		2		3		4		5		6		7
Bowls	1		2		3		4		5		6		7

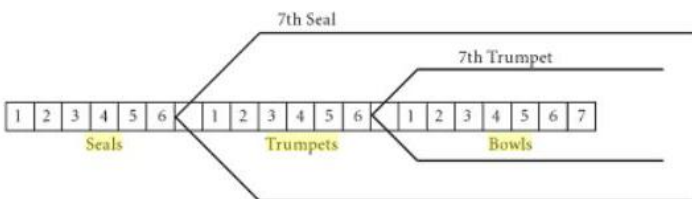
II. Sequential Perspective

Seals	1	2	3	4	5	6	7						
Trumpets								1	2	3	4	5	6
Bowls												1	2

III. Partial Recapitulation Perspective

Seals	1		2		3		4		5		6		7
Trumpets							1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Bowls										1	2	3	4

IV. Telescoping Perspective



TIMELINE OF THE SEVEN YEARS OF THE TRIBULATION

Jerusalem trampled by Gentiles for 3 1/2 years

COMET STRIKES THE EARTH (SATAN FALLS TO EARTH) (Satan's trademark of 1/3 destructions)

ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION at 3 1/2 Years

4 Prophets prophesy, are slain, an rise

2 Prophets prophesy, are slain, an rise

Sign of the Son of Man seen in the sky - Acturus supernus?

The world's armies gather at Armageddon to destroy Israel

Christ is joined on Mt Zion by the 144,000

JESUS RULES THE EARTH

1000 year reign of Christ begins

Satan is locked in the abyss. After the Millennium he is released and defeated for good. Great White Throne Judgment takes place and the wicked are cast into hell. The universe passes away and a new heaven and earth created. Saints enter the New Jerusalem to live forever.

Christ returns at Mt Sinai to rescue the Jews in the mountains of Jordan. He defeats the attacking armies and marches up the King's highway into Jerusalem. He slays the Beast with a single breath and destroys the world's armies massed at Armageddon

Shout of the Archangel - Christ on the clouds thrusts in His scythe - harvest of the Saints. Raptured Saints enter heaven victorious over the Beast and his number. The wedding of Christ and the Church takes place in heaven. The prayers of the martyred saints are answered as God pours the seven golden bowls of His wrath on the Beast's kingdom

Unable to destroy the Jews, Satan turns his full fury on the Church, decimating them and succeeding in stopping the spread of the Gospel. The time of the Gentiles ends as the full number of Gentile believers predetermined by God is reached. The Saints who remain and endure to the end of the Tribulation will be raptured at Christ's return

War in heaven between Satan and Michael is the result of the faithful preaching of the Gospel in the face of severe persecution. Satan is defeated

Satan, seeing he is thrown out of heaven, goes after Israel in a rage, but she flees to her prepared retreat for the second 3 1/2 years of the Tribulation

144,000 Jews are sealed by God on their foreheads to protect them from the violence and plagues of the Tribulation

The Great harlot, the western nations of "Christian" Rome, are betrayed and destroyed by the Beast in a day

The Antichrist rises out of the bloody wars of the tribulation and schemes his way into world domination. He is handed unprecedented power by the 10 nations in hopes he can bring peace.

The Beast's prophet turns his reign into a religious war on everyone who will not wear his mark of 666 and worship his statue

Christians are persecuted and martyred

God is seated on His throne the four living beings represent the creation. The 24 elders represent the 12 Patriarchs and 12 Apostles.

The altar before the throne represents God's justice and judgment. The Seven Spirits of God are the seven qualities of God's perfect being

Christ given scroll and opens the first of the seven seals

BEGINNING OF BIRTH PAINS

Sudden start of the Tribulation

Four Horseman - Conquest, War, Famine, Death Nations go to war, 1/4 of mankind dies (1.5+ billion)

1ST SEAL: CONQUEST

2ND SEAL: WAR

3RD SEAL: FAMINE

4TH SEAL: DEATH

5TH SEAL: MARTYRDOM

6TH SEAL: STARS FALL

7TH SEAL: SEVENTH SEAL - Plagues caused by Wormwood

1/3 water stars

1/3 seals die

1/3 man dies

5 months torture

1/3 man dies

THE SEVENTH AND LAST TRUMPET: RAPTURE AND RETURN OF CHRIST

THE SEVEN BOWLS OF GOD'S WRATH

1000 year reign of Christ begins

1ST SEAL: CONQUEST

2ND SEAL: WAR

3RD SEAL: FAMINE

4TH SEAL: DEATH

5TH SEAL: MARTYRDOM

6TH SEAL: STARS FALL

7TH SEAL: SEVENTH SEAL - Plagues caused by Wormwood

1/3 water stars

1/3 seals die

1/3 man dies

5 months torture

1/3 man dies

THE SEVENTH AND LAST TRUMPET: RAPTURE AND RETURN OF CHRIST

THE SEVEN BOWLS OF GOD'S WRATH

1000 year reign of Christ begins

Tribes	Rev 7:5-8 144,000	Gen 49	Dt 33	Ezekiel 48	
Judah	Judah	Judah, your brothers will praise you; your hand will be on the neck of your enemies; your father's sons will bow down to you. You are a lion's cub, O Judah; you return from the prey, my son. Like a lion he crouches and lies down, like a lioness—who dares to rouse him? The scepter will not depart from Judah, nor the ruler's staff from between his feet, until he comes to whom it belongs and the obedience of the nations is his. He will tether his donkey to a vine, his colt to the choicest branch; he will wash his garments in wine, his robes in the blood of grapes. His eyes will be darker than wine, his teeth whiter than milk.	Hear, O LORD, the cry of Judah; bring him to his people. With his own hands he defends his cause. Oh, be his help against his foes!	Yes	The tribe of Judah was allotted the territory which included Bethlehem, the home of Naomi's family, where Ruth married Boaz, and where David was born. Although Joshua won a battle against the king of Jerusalem, the Jebusites apparently recaptured the city and held it until King David captured it again and made it his capital (II Samuel, 6-10)
Reuben	Reuben	Reuben, you are my firstborn, my might, the first sign of my strength, excelling in honor, excelling in power. Turbulent as the waters, you will no longer excel, for you went up onto your father's bed, onto my couch and defiled it.	Let Reuben live and not die, nor his men be few.	Yes	The tribe of Reuben asked to be allowed to remain east of the Jordan, where there was good pasture for their flocks. They dispossessed the Moabites of some of their territory, but were often raided by surviving Moabites, Edomites, Ammonites, and Amalekites
Gad	Gad	Gad will be attacked by a band of raiders, but he will attack them at their heels.	Blessed is he who enlarges Gad's domain! Gad lives there like a lion, tearing at arm or head. He chose the best land for himself; the leader's portion was kept for him. When the heads of the people assembled, he carried out the LORD's righteous will, and his judgments concerning Israel.	Yes	The tribe of Gad also asked to be allowed to remain east of the Jordan. They too were often raided and invaded by surrounding nations, and were eventually carried away to captivity in Assyria
Asher	Asher	Asher's food will be rich; he will provide delicacies fit for a king.	Most blessed of sons is Asher; let him be favored by his brothers, and let him bathe his feet in oil. The bolts of your gates will be iron and bronze, and your strength will equal your days.	Yes	The tribe of Asher had access to the sea coast and one of the few regions where there were bays and harbors for ships, so they became sailors. They did not help in the fight against Sisera of Hazor
Naphtali	Naphtali	Naphtali is a doe set free that bears beautiful fawns.	Naphtali is abounding with the favor of the LORD and is full of his blessing; he will inherit southward to the lake.	Yes	The tribe of Naphtali was allotted the region to the west of Lake Galilee. Although Joshua had captured and burned the Canaanite fortified city of Hazor (Joshua 11:1-13) it evidently came back into power and was a problem to the Israelites until the time of the prophetess Deborah (Judges, chapters 4 & 5)
Simeon	Simeon	<i>Simeon</i> and Levi are brothers-- their swords are weapons of violence. Let me not enter their council, let me not join their assembly, for they have killed men in their anger and hamstringed oxen as they pleased. Cursed be their anger, so fierce, and their fury, so cruel! I will scatter them in Jacob and disperse them in Israel.	??	Yes	The tribe of Simeon was allotted territory within or alongside the territory of Judah, including the town of Beersheba. It seems that most of the Simeonites were either assimilated into Judah, or joined with the Northern Kingdom of Israel at the time of the Divided Kingdom, and were taken into exile from which they did not return
Levi	Levi	Simeon and <i>Levi</i> are brothers-- their swords are weapons of violence. Let me not enter their council, let me not join their assembly, for they have killed men in their anger and hamstringed oxen as they pleased. Cursed be their anger, so fierce, and their fury, so cruel! I will scatter them in Jacob and disperse them in Israel.	Your Thummim and Urim belong to the man you favored. You tested him at Massah; you contended with him at the waters of Meribah. He said of his father and mother, 'I have no regard for them.' He did not recognize his brothers or acknowledge his own children, but he watched over your word and guarded your covenant. He teaches your precepts to Jacob and your law to Israel. He offers incense before you and whole burnt offerings on your altar. Bless all his skills, O LORD, and be pleased with the work of his hands. Smite the loins of those who rise up against him; strike his foes till they rise no more.	Yes	

Tribes	Rev 7:5-8 144,000	Gen 49	Dt 33	Ezekiel 48	
Issachar	Issachar	Issachar is a rawboned donkey lying down between two saddlebags. When he sees how good is his resting place and how pleasant is his land, he will bend his shoulder to the burden and submit to forced labor.	Rejoice, Zebulun, in your going out, and you, <i>Issachar</i> , in your tents. They will summon peoples to the mountain and there offer sacrifices of righteousness; they will feast on the abundance of the seas, on the treasures hidden in the sand.	Yes	The tribe of Issachar was allotted territory which included the Valley of Jezreel, controlled by the fortified city of Megiddo. Many battles took place in the Valley of Jezreel. The Mountain of Megiddo, "Har-Megiddo" in Hebrew, has come into English as "Armageddon"
Zebulun	Zebulun	Zebulun will live by the seashore and become a haven for ships; his border will extend toward Sidon	Rejoice, <i>Zebulun</i> , in your going out, and you, <i>Issachar</i> , in your tents. They will summon peoples to the mountain and there offer sacrifices of righteousness; they will feast on the abundance of the seas, on the treasures hidden in the sand.	Yes	The tribe of Zebulun was allotted the hill country between the Galilee and the Mediterranean coast. Some of the important ancient highways passed through their territory
Benjamin	Benjamin	Benjamin is a ravenous wolf; in the morning he devours the prey, in the evening he divides the plunder.	Let the beloved of the LORD rest secure in him, for he shields him all day long, and the one the LORD loves rests between his shoulders.	Yes	The tribe of Benjamin was nearly wiped out by the other tribes (Judges, chapters 19, 20, & 21). However, they survived, and the first king of Israel, Saul, was a Benjamite from Gibeah. When the land was divided into two kingdoms after the death of Solomon, most of the Benjamites remained with the Judahites and formed the Southern Kingdom of Judah
Dan	??	Dan will provide justice for his people as one of the tribes of Israel. Dan will be a serpent by the roadside, a viper along the path, that bites the horse's heels so that its rider tumbles backward.	Dan is a lion's cub, springing out of Bashan.	Yes	The Danites were originally allotted territory by the sea coast, but they were unable to drive out the Philistines. They sent out a scouting party to find another suitable place to live, and eventually found a town called Laish, belonging to Sidon, but too far from Sidon for help. So the Danites burned the town and built another one which they called "Dan" (Judges, chapter 18). Dan was one of the northernmost cities of Israel. "From Dan to Beersheba" meant the whole of Israel. Dan is now an archaeological site, where the walls and city gate have been excavated, and where an inscription mentioning "the house (family) of David" has been found
Joseph	Joseph	Joseph is a fruitful vine, a fruitful vine near a spring, whose branches climb over a wall. With bitterness archers attacked him; they shot at him with hostility. But his bow remained steady, his strong arms stayed limber, because of the hand of the Mighty One of Jacob, because of the Shepherd, the Rock of Israel, because of your father's God, who helps you, because of the Almighty, who blesses you with blessings of the heavens above, blessings of the deep that lies below, blessings of the breast and womb. Your father's blessings are greater than the blessings of the ancient mountains, than the bounty of the age-old hills. Let all these rest on the head of Joseph, on the brow of the prince among his brothers.	"May the LORD bless his land with the precious dew from heaven above and with the deep waters that lie below; with the best the sun brings forth and the finest the moon can yield; with the choicest gifts of the ancient mountains and the fruitfulness of the everlasting hills; with the best gifts of the earth and its fullness and the favor of him who dwelt in the burning bush. Let all these rest on the head of Joseph, on the brow of the prince among his brothers. In majesty he is like a firstborn bull; his horns are the horns of a wild ox. With them he will gore the nations, even those at the ends of the earth. Such are the ten thousands of Ephraim; such are the thousands of Manasseh."		
Ephraim			Ephraim	Yes	The tribe of Ephraim was allotted territory in the mountainous central region of Canaan. Joshua was an Ephraimite, so he lived in this region. Shiloh was chosen as the first center for worship and administration (Joshua 18:1)
Manasseh	Manasseh		Manasseh	Yes	Half of the tribe of Manasseh wanted to stay on the east of the Jordan, because the country was good for grazing and they had herds of animals. The other half of the tribe decided to cross over the Jordan and settle in Canaan