

the book of

REVELATION

sermon series

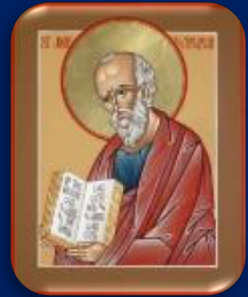


Dr. Andy Woods

Senior Pastor – Sugar Land Bible Church

President – Chafer Theological Seminary

Answering Ten Questions



- 1) What is the title – Revelation of Jesus Christ
- 2) Who wrote it? – John
- 3) Where was it written from? – Patmos
- 4) To Whom was it written? – The Seven Churches
- 5) When was it written? – A.D. 95
- 6) How is it organized (outline)? – 3 part outline
- 7) How was it delivered – Seven steps
- 8) Why was it written? – Encouragement and holiness
- 9) What is it about? – Jesus' final victory
- 10) What makes the book different? – OT relationship

Prologue (Rev. 1:1-8)

- I. Title (1a)
- II. Chain of Communication (1b-2)
- III. Blessing (3)
- IV. Author (4a)
- V. Audience (4b)
- VI. Greeting (4c)
- VII. Source (4d-5a)
- VIII. Subject (5b-8)



Revelation 1:19

“Therefore write the things which you have seen, and the things which are, and the things which will take place after these things [meta tauta].”



Revelation 1:19

- Seen (Chapter 1)
- Are (Chapters 2–3)
- After these things (Chapters 4–22)



Revelation 1:19

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Nov 2003

Revelation 1:19

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- Are (Chapters 2–3)
- After these things (Chapters 4–22)



The 7 Churches in Revelation

Rev. 1:11



DESCRIPTION OF THE SEVEN CHURCHES

Revelation 2–3

CHURCH	SCRIPTURE	DESCRIPTION
Ephesus	2:1-7	Loveless
Smyrna	2:8-11	Persecuted
Pergamum	2:12-17	Compromised
Thyatira	2:18-29	Corrupt
Sardis	3:1-6	Dead
Philadelphia	3:7-13	Missionary
Laodicea	3:14-22	Man-centered

Revelation 1:19

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Revelation 1:19

“Therefore write the things which you have seen, and the things which are, and the things which will take place after these things [meta tauta].”



Revelation 4:1

“After these things [meta tauta] I looked, and behold, a door standing open in heaven, and the first voice which I had heard, like the sound of a trumpet speaking with me, said, ‘Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after these things [meta tauta].’”



“After These Things”

(Rev. 4–22)

- A. Before the Tribulation (4–5)
- B. During the Tribulation (6–19)
- C. After the Tribulation (20–22)
 - 1. Kingdom (20:1-10)
 - 2. Great White Throne Judgment (20:11-15)
 - 3. Destruction of the Earth (21:1)
 - 4. New Heaven and New Earth (21–22)



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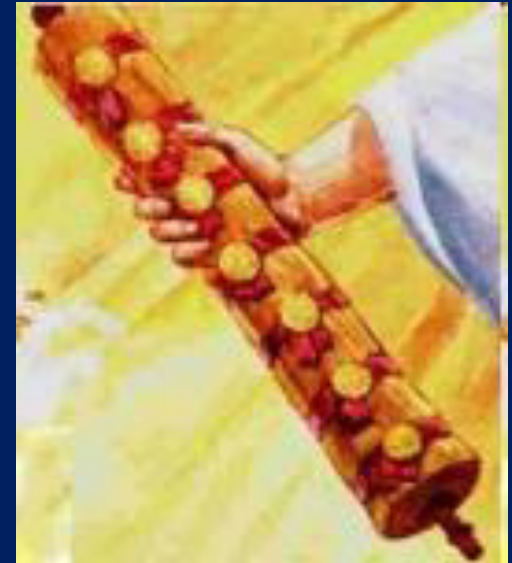


Comparing Revelation 4 & 5

Chapter	Revelation 4	Revelation 5
God-head Member	Father	Son
Role	Creator	Redeemer
Reason for Worship	Role in Creation (4:11)	Role in Redemption (5:9, 12)

Revelation 5:1-14

- I. An observation (5:1)
- II. A question (5:2)
- III. An investigation (5:3)
- IV. A lamentation (5:4)
- V. A consolation (5:5a)
- VI. A manifestation (5:5b-6)
- VII. A reception (5:7)
- VIII. A reaction (5:8-14)



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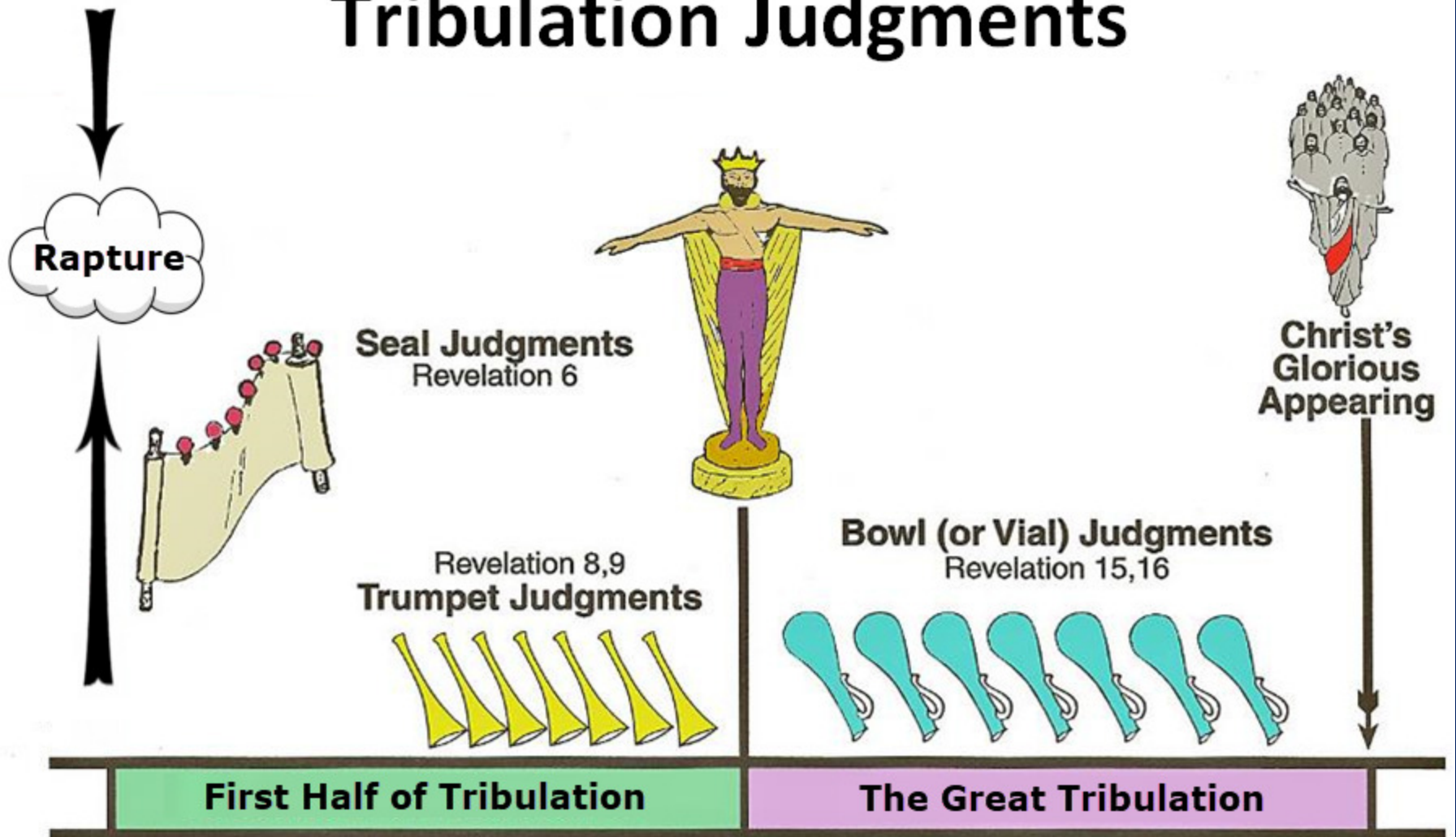
2. Great White Throne Judgment (20:11-15)

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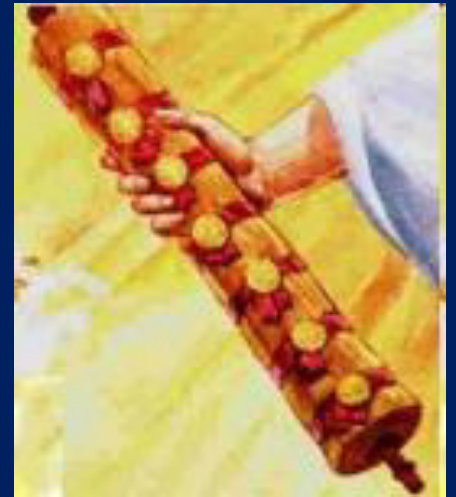


Tribulation Judgments



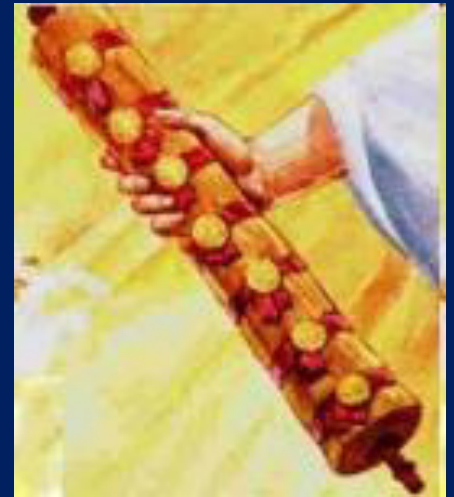
1st Six Seals (Revelation 6)

1. 6:1-2 – Advent of antichrist
2. 6:3-4 – War
3. 6:5-6 – Famine
4. 6:7-8 – Death
5. 6:9-11 – Martyrdoms
6. 6:12-17 – Cosmic disturbances



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Recapitulation

View that judgments overlap

Seals: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Trumpets: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Bowls: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Telescoping

7th judgment releases 1st in next series

Seals: 1 2 3 4 5 6 **7**

Trumpets: **1** 2 3 4 5 6 **7**

Bowls: **1** 2 3 4 5 6 7



5 Non-Chronological Parenthetical Insertions

1. Rev 7-144,000 Jews
2. Rev 10:1–11:14-Announcement of no more delay and the two witnesses
3. Rev 12–14-Israel's flight, two beasts, six scenes of hope
4. Rev 16:13-16-Gathering of the nations to Armageddon
5. Rev 17:1–19:6-Babylon's fall

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5 Non-Chronological Parenthetical Insertions

Seals (Rev 7) 144,000 JEWS

1 2 3 4 5 6 ↓ 7

Trumpets (Rev 10–11) No Delay; 2 Witnesses

1 2 3 4 5 6 ↓ 7 (Rev 12–14) Israel's flight

Bowls (Rev 16:13-16) Armageddon

1 2 3 4 5 6 ↓ 7 (Rev 17–18) Babylon falls

The Coming Spiritual Awakening

(Rev. 7:1-17)

I. The Instruments (7:1-8)

A. Their sealing (7:1-3)

B. Their number (7:4)

C. Their lineage (7:5-8)

II. The Awakening (7:9-17)

A. Salvation's quantity (7:9)

B. Salvation's praises (7:10-12)

C. Salvation's timing (7:13-14)

D. Salvation's provisions (7:15-17)



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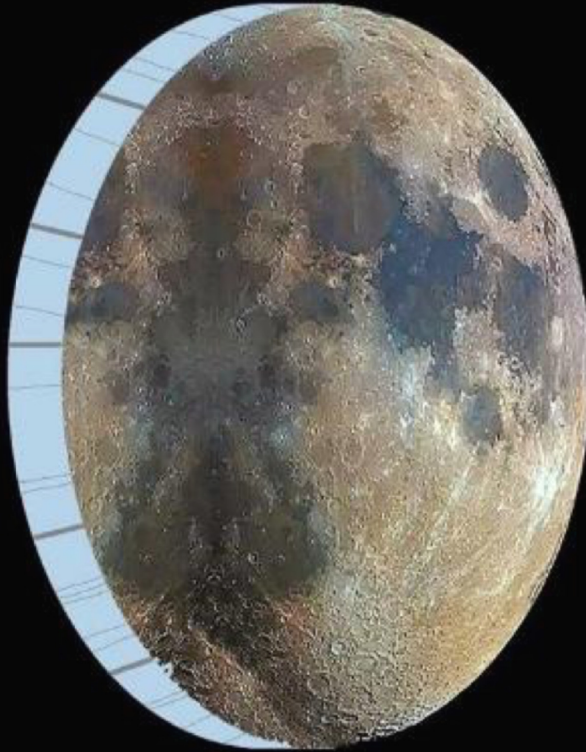
B. Salvation's praises (7:10-12)

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**I'M GOING TO START A
FLAT MOON SOCIETY**



**WE'LL BE CALLED
THE LUNATICS**

Sheldon W. Kolms

Literal Interpretation

One Meaning

Plain Literal

The literal interpretation is the explicit assertion of the words—DENOTATIVE

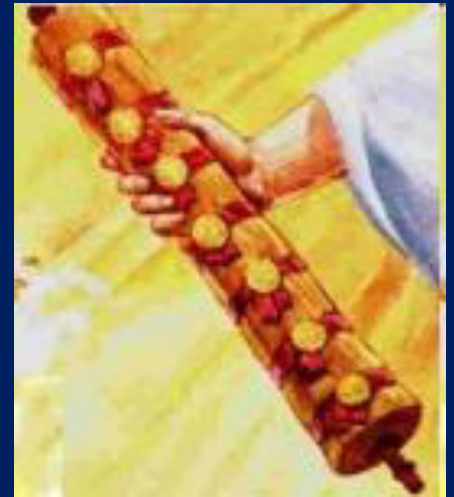
Figurative Literal

The literal interpretation is the specific intention of the figure—CONNOTATIVE

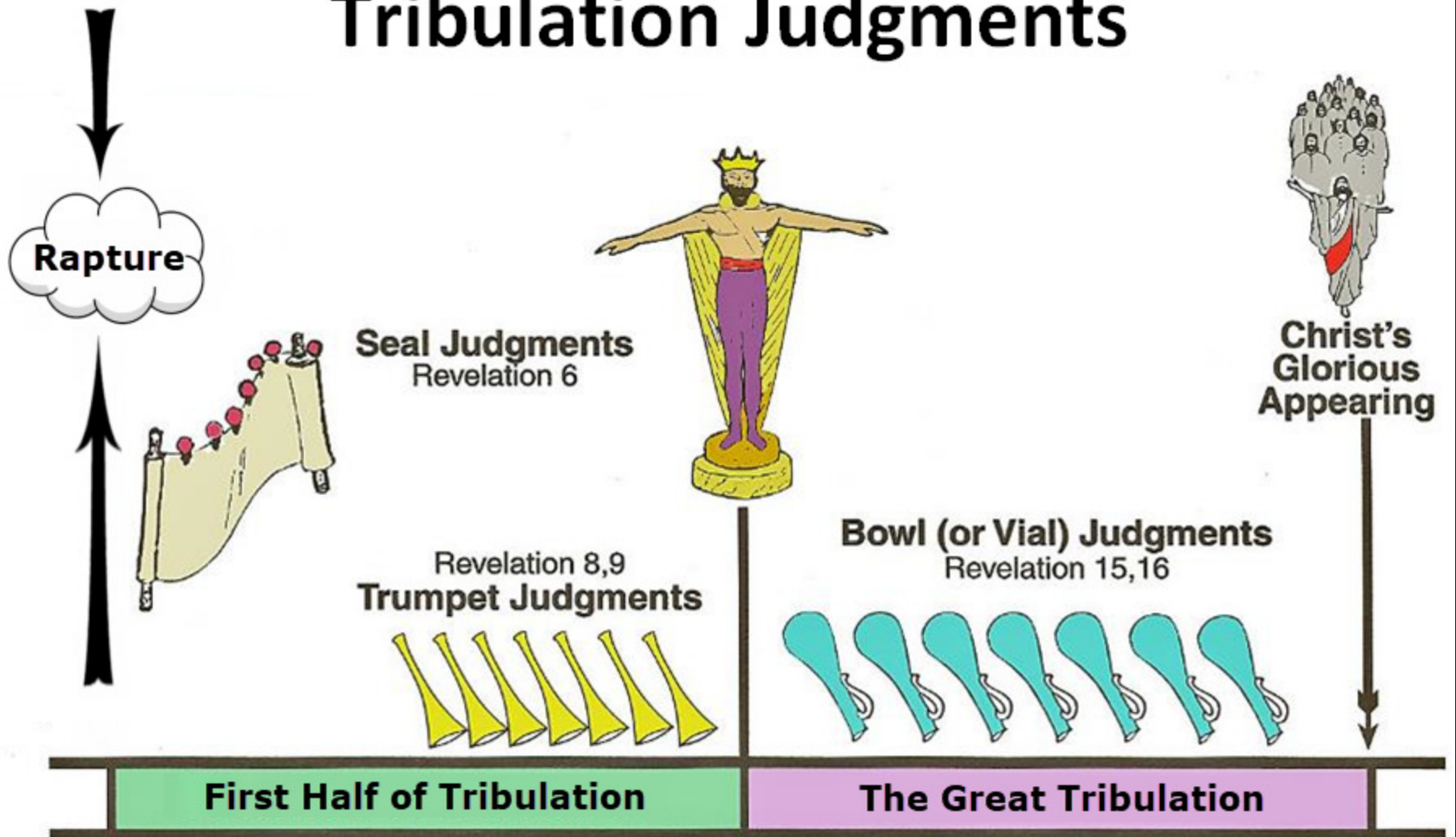
Chart by Earl Radmacher

1st Six Seals (Revelation 6)

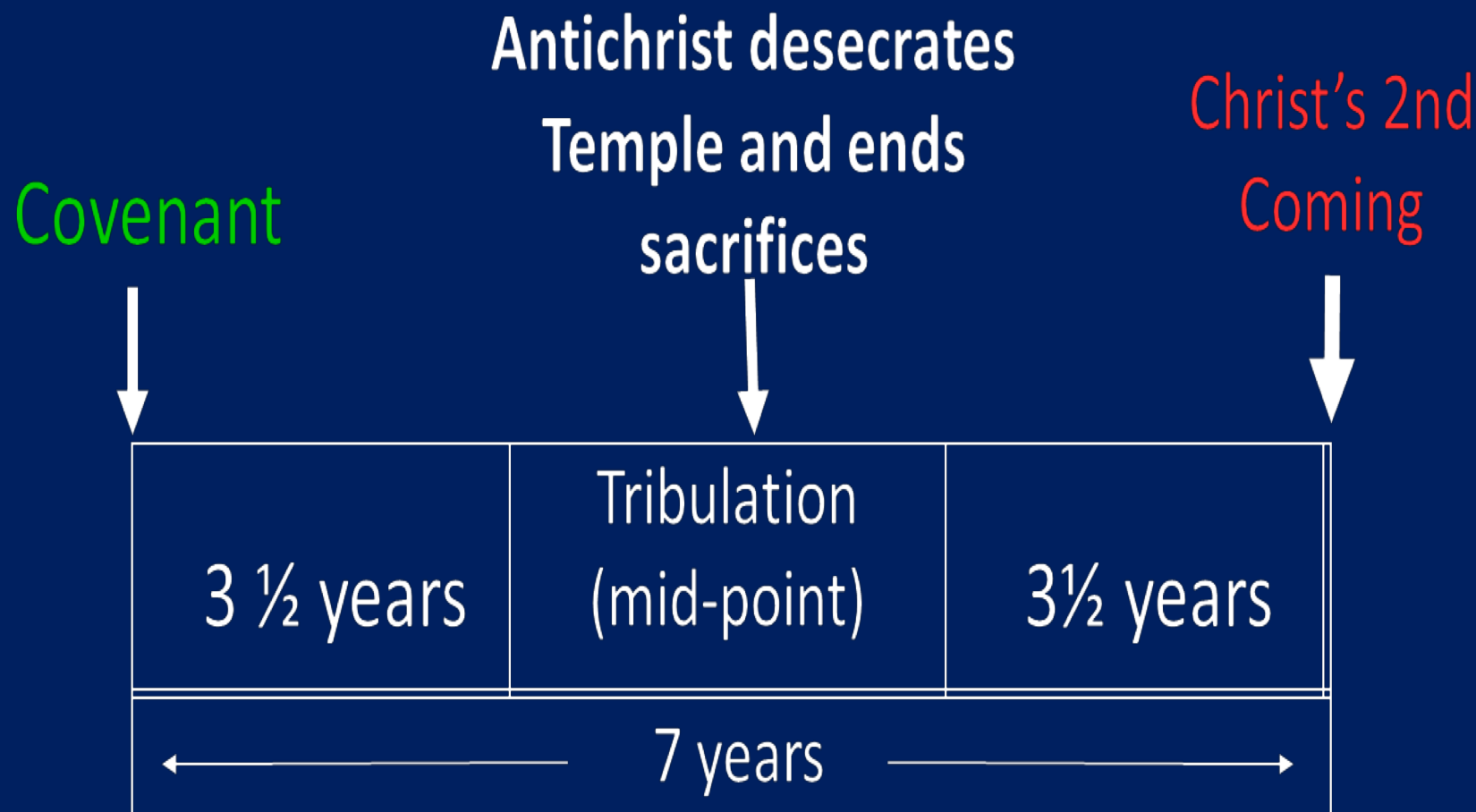
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Tribulation Judgments



DAN 9:27 OVERVIEW OF TRIBULATION PERIOD



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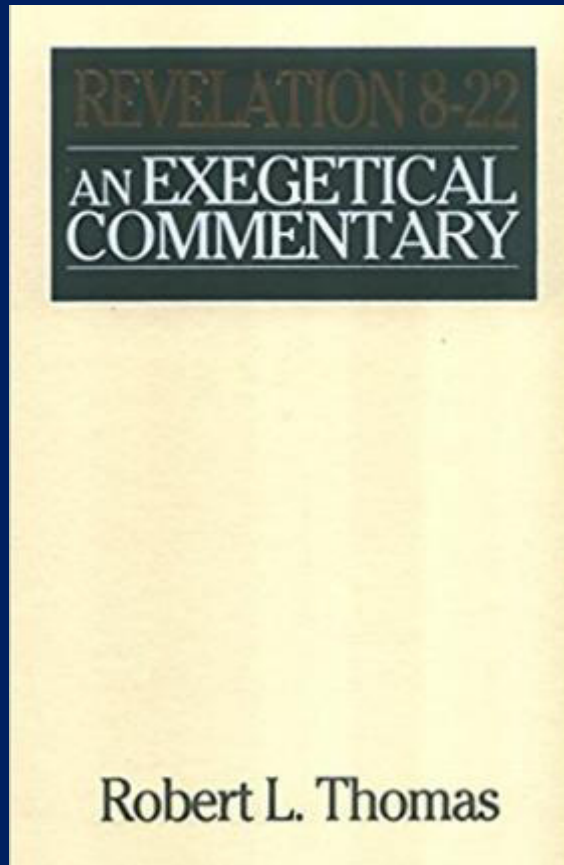
C. Salvation's timing (7:13-14)

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Robert Thomas

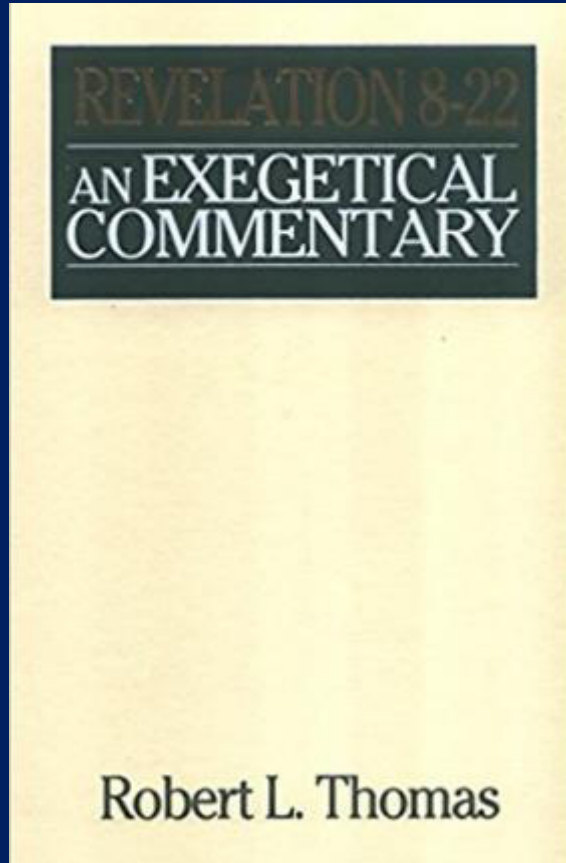
Revelation 8 to 22: An Exegetical Commentary
(Chicago: Moody Press, 1992), 408.



Robert Thomas observes that, "no number in Revelation is verifiably a symbolic number."

Robert Thomas

Revelation 1 to 7: An Exegetical Commentary
(Chicago: Moody Press, 1992), 40.



“Of the 404 verses in the Apocalypse, 278 allude to the OT Scripture. No other NT writer uses the OT more than this. Yet the book is marked by an entire absence of formal quotations from the OT.”



Divided Kingdom

Israel's Judgments

- Division of the kingdom in 931 B.C. (1 Kgs. 12)
- Assyrian judgment in 722 B.C. (2 Kgs. 17)
- Babylonian captivity in 586 B.C. (2 Kgs. 25)



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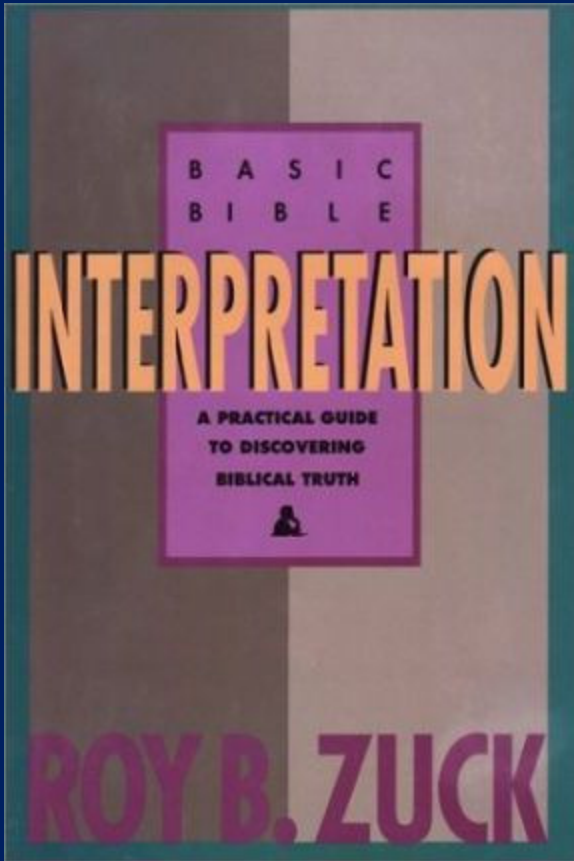
2 Timothy 2:13

“If we are faithless, He remains faithful, for He cannot deny Himself.”



Roy Zuck

Basic Bible Interpretation, 146, 187.



“when John wrote that 144,000 will be sealed...there is no reason not to take these numbers in their normal, literal sense...Since the tribal names are literal and not symbolic, there is no reason to take the numbers symbolically.”

Revelation 1:19

- Seen (Chapter 1)
- Are (Chapters 2–3)
- After these things (Chapters 4–22)



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THE DIVISION
OF LAND IN
MILLENNIUM

DAN

ASHER

NAPHTALI

MANASSEH

EPHRAIM

REUBEN

JUDAH

LEVITE'S
PORTION
PRIEST'S
PORTION
JERUSALEM

CHRIST'S PORTION

BENJAMIN

SIMEON

ISSACHAR

ZEBULUN

GAD

Mediterranean Sea

Euphrates
River

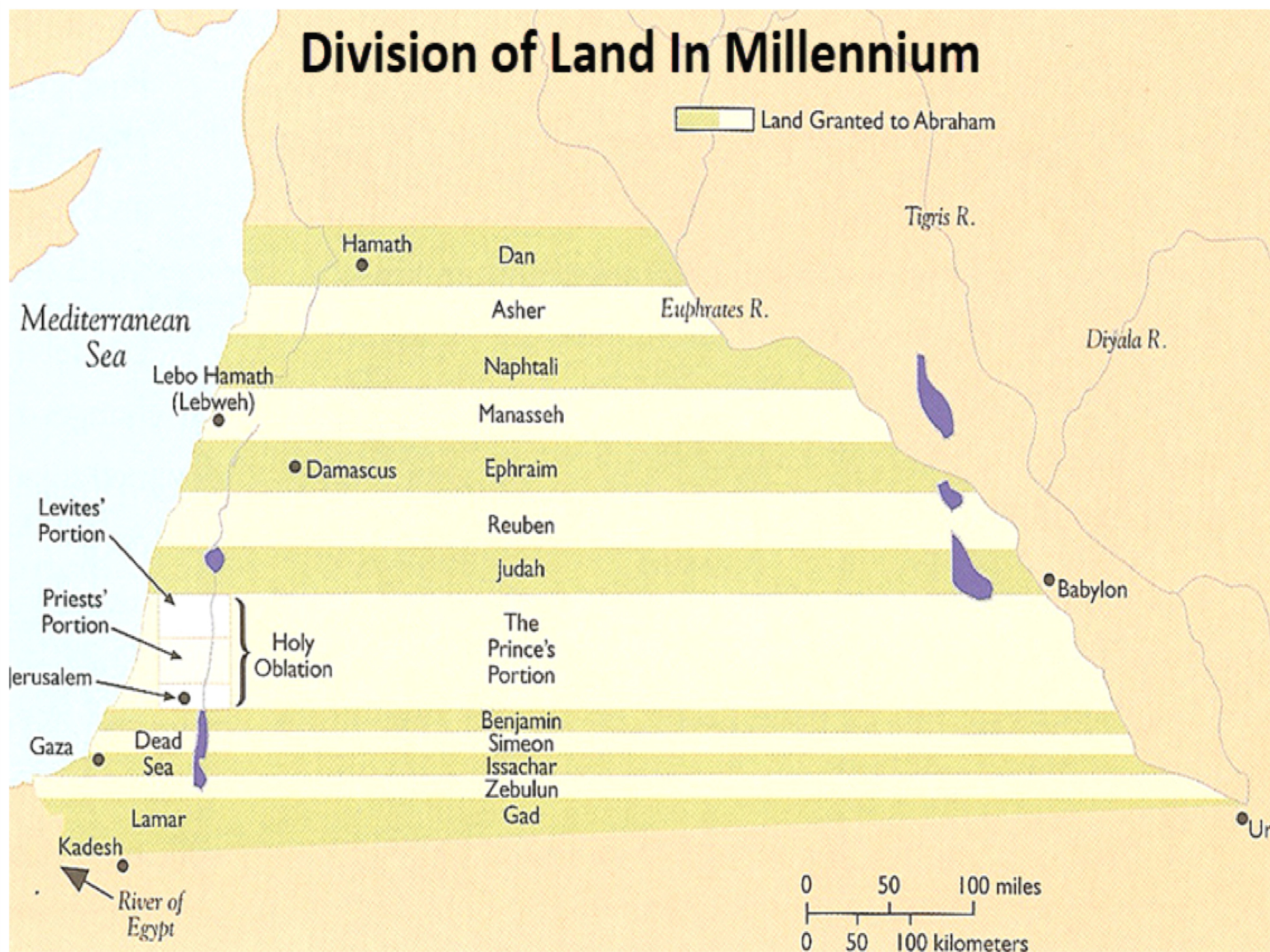
Tigris
River

Chebar
River

Pers
Sea

Division of Land In Millennium

Land Granted to Abraham



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Distinctions Between 144,000 & Multitude

■ Revelation 7:1-8

- Numbered
- Jews
- Sealed
- Sealed before the Tribulation

■ Revelation 7:9-17

- Innumerable
- All nations
- Slain
- Converted out of the Tribulation



Genesis 12:3

“And I will bless those who bless you, And the one who curses you I will curse. And in you all the families of the earth will be blessed.”



God's Work Through Israel

- Revelation 7 – 144,000 Jews
- Revelation 11 – Two Jewish witnesses
- Revelation 12 – Israel flees
- Revelation 20:9 – Jerusalem in the kingdom
- Revelation 21:12 – 13-Gates of the eternal city



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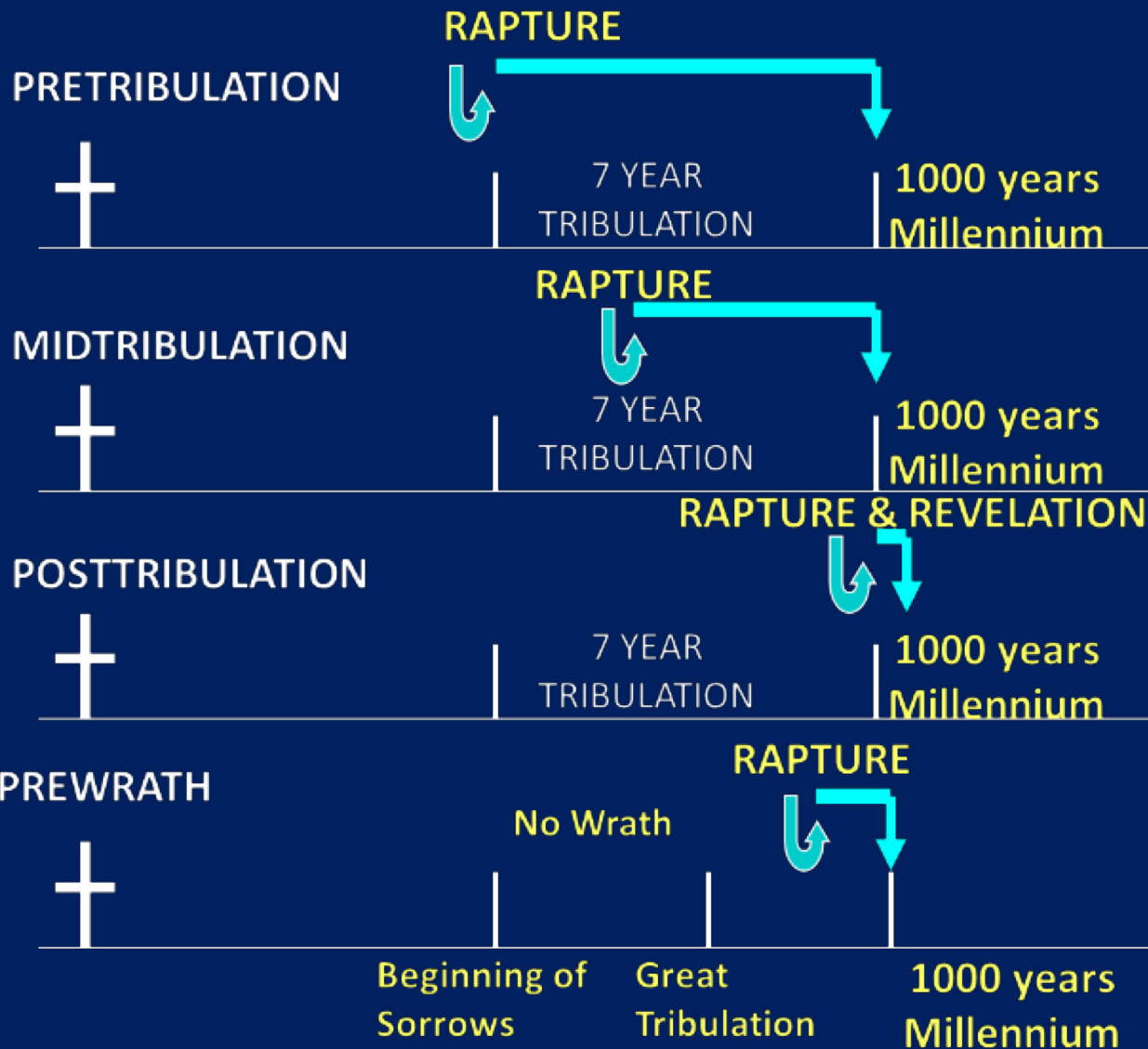


When Will the Rapture Take Place Relative to the Tribulation Period?

- Pre-tribulation rapture theory
- Mid-tribulation rapture theory
- Post-tribulation rapture theory
- Pre-wrath rapture theory
- Partial rapture theory



RAPTURE VIEW COMPARISON



PRETRIBULATION
MIDTRIBULATION
POSTTRIBULATION
PREWRATH

MATT 24 / REV 6 PARALLELS

Prediction	Birth pangs (Matt 24)	Seal judgments (Rev 6)
False Christ	24:5	6:2
War	24:6	6:3-4
Famine	24:7	6:5-6
Death	24:6-7	6:7-8
Martyrs	24:9-13	6:9-11
Earthquakes	24:7	6:12-17
Evangelism	24:14	7:1-9

Promise to the Overcomers

Rev 3:21

“He who overcomes, I will grant to him to sit down with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne.”



Comparing Revelation 4 & 5

Chapter	Revelation 4	Revelation 5
God-head Member	Father	Son
Role	Creator	Redeemer
Reason for Worship	Role in Creation (4:11)	Role in Redemption (5:9, 12)

1 John 5:4-5

“⁴ For whatever is born of God overcomes the world; and this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. ⁵ Who is the one who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?”



Romans 8:37

“But in all these things we overwhelmingly conquer [*hypernikaō* , present tense] through Him who loved us.”



Conquerors
<<Romans 8:37<<



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B. Salvation's Praises (Rev. 7:10-12)

1. By Gentiles (7:10)
2. By angels, elders, 4 living creatures (7:11-12)



B. Salvation's Praises (Rev. 7:10-12)

1. By Gentiles (7:10)

2. By angels, elders, 4 living creatures (7:11-12)



Revelation 11:15

¹⁵ “Then the seventh angel sounded; and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, ‘The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ; and He will reign forever and ever.’”



B. Salvation's Praises (Rev. 7:10-12)

1. By Gentiles (7:10)
2. By angels, elders, 4 living creatures (7:11-12)



1. Twenty-Four Elders

(Rev. 4:4)

A. Church

1. Crowned (2:10)
2. Clothed in White (3:5)
3. Redeemed (5:8-10)
4. Enthroned (3:21)
5. Elders (1 Tim. 3:1-7)
6. Kingdom of Priests (Rev. 1:6)
7. Twenty-four (Rev. 1:6)



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C. Salvation's Timing

(Rev. 7:13-14)

1. Question (7:13)
2. Answer (7:14)



C. Salvation's Timing

(Rev. 7:13-14)

1. Question (7:13)

2. Answer (7:14)



C. Salvation's Timing

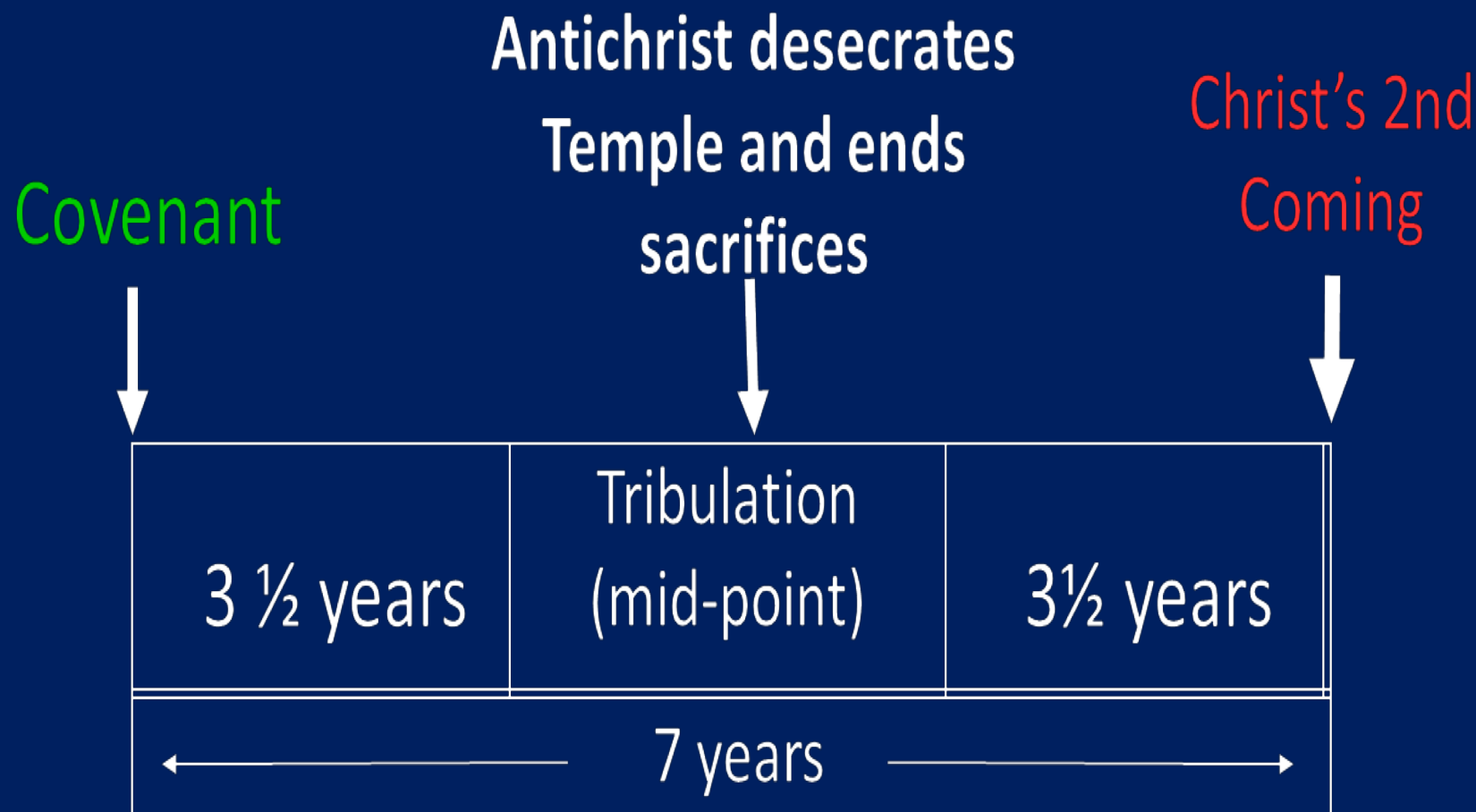
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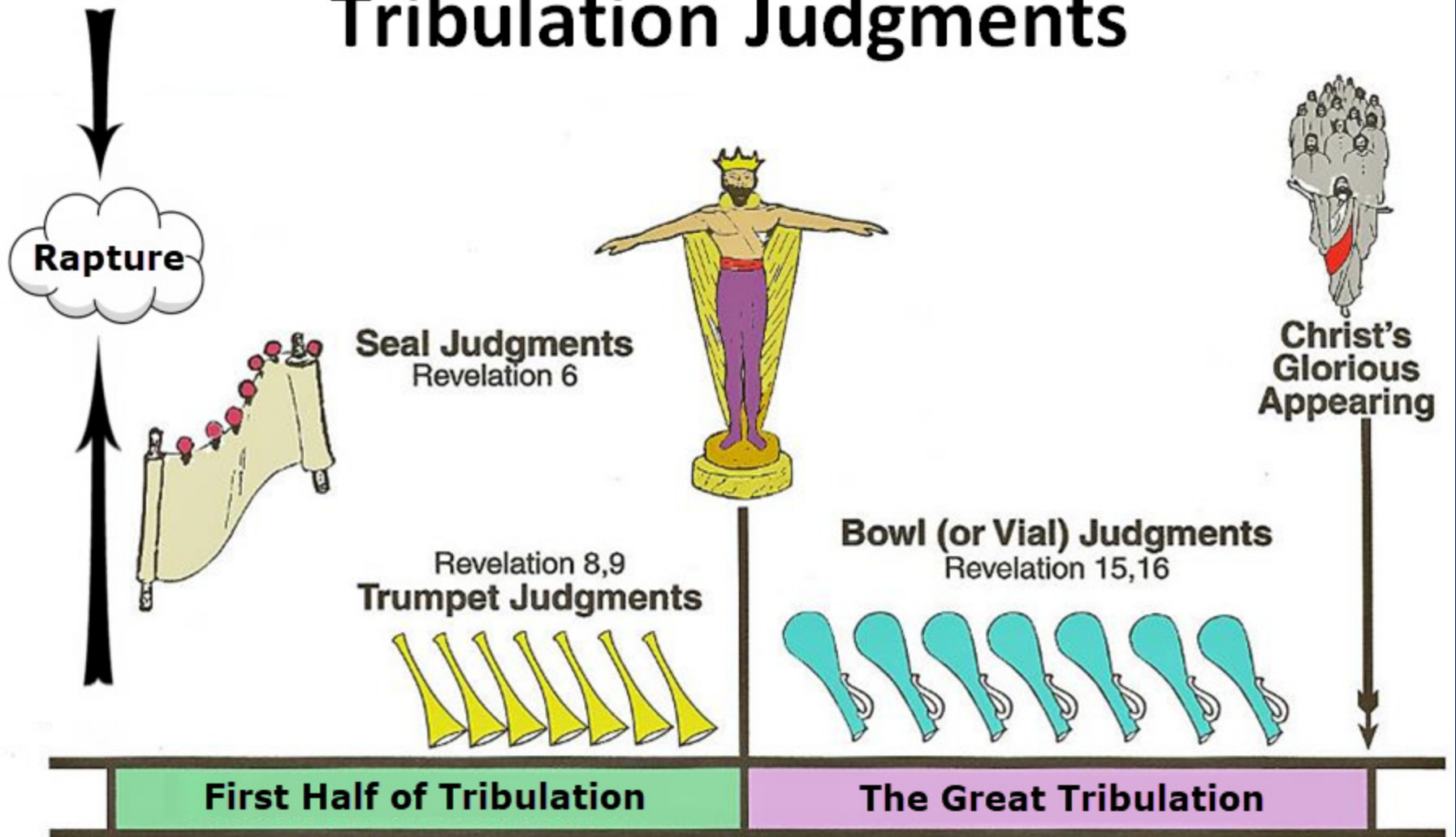
2. Answer (7:14)



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C. Salvation's Provision

(Rev. 7:15-17)

1. Their service (7:15)
2. Their satisfaction (7:16)
3. Their shepherd (7:17)



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1. Their service (7:15)
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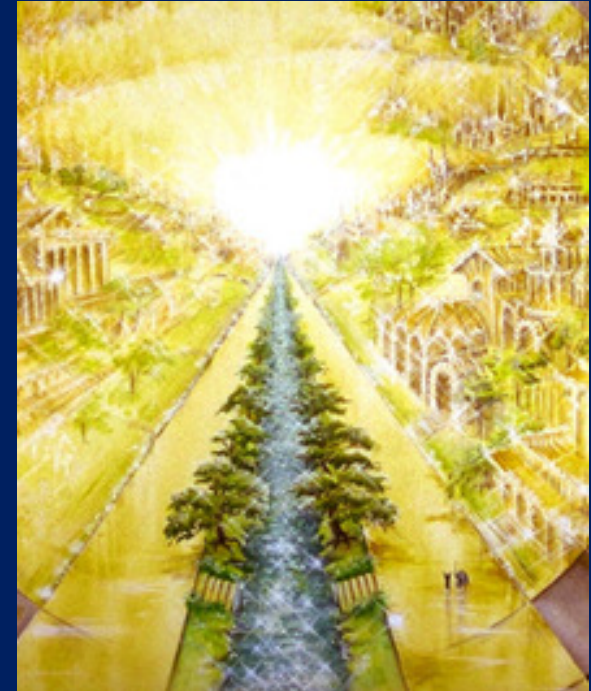
C. Salvation's Provision (Rev. 7:15-17)

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Eternal State is Future

- No Satan (Rev 20:10)
- No sea (Rev 21:1)
- No death, crying, or pain (Rev 21:4)
- No Sun (Rev 22:5)
- No Moon (Rev 21:23)
- No night (Rev 21:25)
- No evil (Rev 21:27)
- No curse (Rev 22:23)



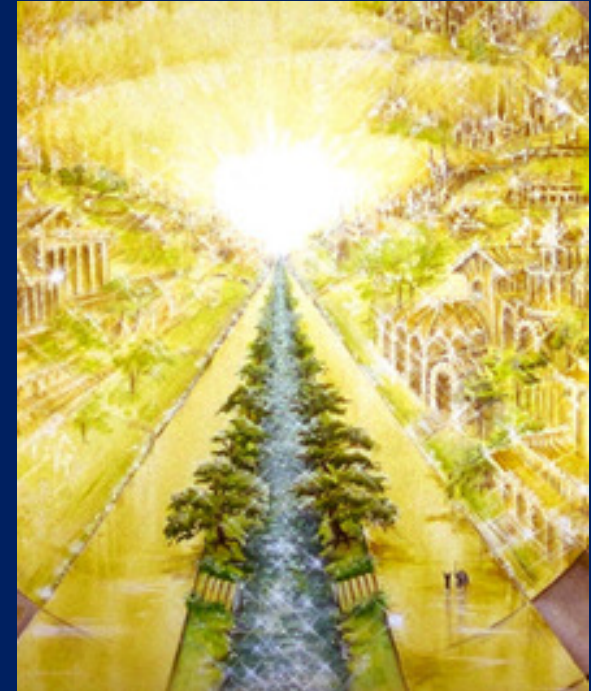
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- No curse (Rev 22:23)



Revelation 21:4

“and He will wipe away every tear from their eyes; and there will no longer be any death; there will no longer be any mourning, or crying, or pain; the first things have passed away.”



Conclusion

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“The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace.” (NIV)