

REVELATION CHAPTERS 6 & 7

Paragraphs have been numbered for ease of reference.

THE FIRST SEVEN CHAPTERS of Revelation covers the period of time --**FROM JOHN'S DAY TO THE TRIBULATION** The Previous class covered chapters 1 thru 5

CHAPTER 6 --TABLE OF CONTENTS OF THE FUTURE

1. **Verse 1 The 1st Seal**--And I saw when **THE LAMB OPENED ONE OF THE SEALS**, and I heard, as it were the noise of thunder, and one of the four beasts saying, Come and see."

2. **REV.6:2** "And I saw, and **BEHOLD A WHITE HORSE**; and he that sat on him had a bow; and a crown was given unto him: and he went forth conquering, and to conquer."

3. **THIS IS THE FIRST OF THE FAMOUS FOUR HORSEMEN OF THE APOCALYPSE** who ride forth here in chapter six. "Apocalypse" is simply another name for Revelation, but it they means the same thing- 'to uncover.' God uses these four horsemen to "uncover" His own viewpoints on religion, war and economics.

4. The main reason why this and every chapter in Revelation that deals with Man's System is pdraped in such heavy symbolism is because **GOD'S VIEWS ARE SO EXTREMELY ANTI-SYSTEM THAT IF THE ENEMIES OF THE TRUTH HAD EVER BEEN ABLE TO PROVE WHAT THIS WAS ACTUALLY SAYING, THEY WOULD HAVE BURNED EVERY COPY LONG AGO**. But since the game is almost over and the End is at hand, God is letting the cat out of the bag and giving the world the whole truth and letting the chips fall where they may--so God help US to be able to take it.

5. It doesn't say here who the first horseman is, but we find another picture of someone on "a white horse" in chapter 19. The verse in Chapter 6 and these verses in Chapter 19, are the only verses in the Bible that refer to someone riding a white horse. "and **HE THAT SAT UPON HIM (THE WHITE HORSE) WAS CALLED FAITHFUL AND TRUE... AND HIS NAME IS CALLED THE WORD OF GOD**"--**WHO OF COURSE, IS JESUS** (JN.1:14) And following Him are the armies of Heaven (the resurrected saints) who are also riding white horses as they come down from heaven to defeat the forces of the Antichrist and take over the world at the Battle of Armageddon. (Rev.19:11-14)

6. In Psalm 7 verses 12&13, we find that Jesus' weapon is His bow or His Word he hath bent his bow, and made it ready...he ordaineth his arrows against the persecutors. And Jesus is the One Who has the "crown" or right to rule this world and will soon destroy His enemies who are resisting it and usurping His throne. Therefore **THIS WHITE HORSE COULD ONLY BE JESUS AND HIS FOLLOWERS, THE "CHURCH"**, as they are the only ones in this world who "went forth into all the world" conquering and to conquer it, SPIRITUALLY, heart by heart, still to this day, with the Love of God. "Who is he that overcometh the world,(conquers it) but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?" (1Jn.5:5) All these other seeming conquerors were, and are actually being overcome and conquered by the world and its "lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the pride of life." (1Jn.2:16) And the church will soon, with Christ, physically conquer the world and rule it for a thousand years! And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth....and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years. (Rev.5:10; 20:4)

7. **The 2nd Seal In verses :3,4** --"And when he had opened the second seal, I heard the second beast say, Come and see. **And THERE WENT OUT ANOTHER HORSE THAT WAS RED**: and power was given to him that sat thereon to take peace from the earth, and that they should kill one another: and there was given unto him a great sword." Well, who does this sound like? What takes "peace from the earth"?--**WAR! THIS RED HORSE SYMBOLIZES WAR**, the military and their war machines.

8. **THE HORSE'S COLOUR IS VERY APPROPRIATE, REPRESENTING ALL THE BLOOD SHED IN MAN'S HELLISH WARS**--wars for which God is not responsible, but which come from the pride, prejudices and avarice of man's own greedy heart. "From whence come wars and fightings among you?" James asks, "Come they not hence, even of your lusts." (Jam.4:11) The "great sword" given to him certainly symbolizes the great "improvements" in war machines and the greater frequency and greater extent of wars since the prophecy was given.

9. **The 3rd Seal**—Verses 5&6 "And when he had opened the third seal, I heard the third beast say, Come and see. **And I BEHELD, AND LO A BLACK HORSE; AND HE THAT SAT ON HIM HAD A PAIR OF BALANCES IN HIS HAND.** And I heard a voice in the midst of the four beasts say, A measure of wheat for a penny; and three measures of barley for a penny; and see thou hurt not the oil and the wine." The value of a "penny" in John's day represented an entire day's labour, as is seen in the parable of Jesus where all the labourers worked for "a penny a day." (**Mat.20:2**) A "measure" equals about one quart and ordinarily a penny could have purchased fifteen to twenty measures. Therefore, **FOOD BEING SOLD IN SUCH SMALL QUANTITIES FOR AN ENTIRE DAY'S WAGES INDICATES FOOD SHORTAGE OR FAMINE, AND ALSO RESULTANT POVERTY FOR THE BUYER,** as it is costing him everything he has just to buy his daily bread. And again, Even the colour of the horse itself represents famine. "Our skin was black like an oven" Jeremiah said, "because of the terrible famine." (Lam.5:10)

10. "Oil and wine," however, throughout scripture are synonymous with abundance or luxury. The fact that they were "hurt not" indicates a situation where **WEALTH AND LUXURY ARE EXISTING ALONGSIDE FAMINE AND POVERTY;** not an unusual situation today to say the least.

11. This inequality in the world's wealth, however, was not created by God. True, He does many times stop the rain or smite the harvest to scourge nations in order to get them to repent, but believe it or not, **THE MAJORITY OF FAMINE AND ITS RESULTANT POVERTY IS CREATED BY MAN HIMSELF** through his wars and greed!

12. When God originally made the world, before anybody was rich or poor, everybody had about the same amount of land and food and things with which to build their houses, beasts to plow and carry burdens, etc. What happened then, was that **A FEW BEGAN LEARNING A LOT OF EVIL THINGS CALLED MAN'S "WISDOM"** and they began tricking, robbing, lying to and killing others so that they could get more than their share. The people who began doing this became known as the rich and powerful. These are the big multi-millionaire manufacturing merchants and money manipulators, or ruling classes of the world today.

13. Could this black horse's rider with the "pair of balances in his hand" symbolise these rich merchants? Yes! Only **ONE OTHER VERSE IN ALL THE BIBLE PICTURES A MAN HOLDING BALANCES IN HIS HAND: Hosea 12:7** "He is a merchant, the balances of deceit are in his hand: he loveth to oppress." (Hos.12:7) Another Prophet, Amos, also said that these merchants "set forth wheat, making the **ephah (or measure) small**, and the **shekel (or price paid) great**, and falsifying the balances by deceit...that swallow up the needy, even to make the poor of the land to fail." (Am.8:4-6)

"Inflation" is today's most visible fulfillment of these verses. In the 20th century, merchants and bankers finally succeeded in removing paper money from being backed by Gold or Silver. It became worth only whatever "experts" said it was worth. Now, when poor people earn more money, or get a higher salary, they are in no better condition because all the rich have to do is raise the prices.--Inflation! In the 60's, you could buy 4 loaves of bread for one dollar. Today, (2015) one loaf of bread costs 2 dollars. The amount (the "ephah") is smaller, and the price (the "shekel") is higher!

14. The black horse, then, represents famine and poverty **maintained by the rich** capitalists, of whom the rich, recognised system church is comprised in great number. **THIS HORSE IS THE DRIVING SPIRIT RESPONSIBLE FOR TODAY'S ECONOMIC SITUATION-** a ghastly paradox in which children starve to death in Africa and Asia while giant food corporations dump grain into the ocean to keep prices artificially high!

15. **The 4th Seal**—Verses 7&8 "And when he had opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth beast say, Come and see. And I looked and **BEHOLD A PALE HORSE: AND HIS NAME THAT SAT ON HIM WAS DEATH, AND HELL FOLLOWED WITH HIM.** And power was given unto them over the fourth part of the earth, to kill with sword, and with hunger, and with death, and with the beasts of the earth."

16. **IN THE ORIGINAL GREEK THE WORD FOR "PALE" ALSO MEANS A SICKLY YELLOWISH-GREEN COLOUR LIKE THE VERY COLOUR OF DEATH ITSELF,** which is the Devil's due, and hell follows it for all his children. According to God's laws, because of the disobedience of all from Adam on down, we all have to die because of disobedience and sin. Death is the penalty of physical sin and we all have to suffer the penalty of physical death.

17. The Devil is like the executioner; Paul said that Satan "had the power of death" (Heb 2:14) **ALTHOUGH THE DEVIL GETS TO FULFILL THE LAW TO EXECUTE US AND TAKE OUR LIFE PHYSICALLY, THE MOMENT THAT WE, AS CHRISTIANS, DIE WE'RE INSTANTLY FREED SPIRITUALLY.** At death the Devil's children go to Hell to be with their father, and we go to Heaven to be with ours.

18. The Devil, with God's permission, executes death over all the earth, not only on land but in the sea and air! But here it says death and Hell only had power over 1/4 of the earth. **So THIS MUST REPRESENT SOMETHING MORE THAN LITERAL DEATH AND THE HELL** that follows for Satan's followers. It becomes pretty clear what it represents, though, when you consider two facts:

1) that one quarter of the habitable Earth (excluding Antarctica) consists of land, and
2) the land is where we find "all the kingdoms of the world" which Satan said were "delivered unto me." (Lk.4:5,6)

19. This Death and Hell of the fourth seal must therefore represent not just literal death and Satan's 'underground' spiritual Hell, but also his 'surface' operation, or his control over the governments in this world--his Hell on Earth. **TO BE A FOLLOWER OF SATAN (AND IT'S EITHER HIM OR GOD) IS A LIVING DEATH AND HELL-ON-EARTH RIGHT NOW!**

20. The devil's power over the kingdoms of this world and his relationship with its rulers are so close that **REVELATION PICTURES SATAN AND HIS KINGS AS ALMOST IDENTICAL TWINS**. The devil is presented as a "dragon, having seven heads and ten horns" (Rev.12:3,9), and the government as "a beast...having seven heads and ten horns" (Rev.13:1; Dan.7:17).

21. And you may find this shocking, but **GOD WOULD RATHER EVEN HAVE COMMUNISM, OR ROME, OR GREECE, OR BABYLON OR ANY KIND OF ANTI-GOD, ANTI-CHRIST, DEVIL-INSPIRED PAGAN GOVERNMENT RULE THAN HAVE NO GOVERNMENT AT ALL!** Because when there is no government, then absolute iniquity and absolute horror of sin reigns rampant like in the days of Noah. So there has to be some government to keep law and order and to keep iniquity somewhat in check so the Strong and the Weak can co-exist. And Since they won't have God's government, then He has to give them some form of the Devil's government. So we have had the beast and dragon working together and ruling the world from Egypt till today!

22. **JESUS SAID SATAN WAS "A MURDERER FROM THE BEGINNING."** (Jn.8:44) That is exactly how he runs his kingdoms: killing with "sword" (war), with hunger (famine), with death (all kinds,) and with beasts of the earth literally, physically, as Rome did in the coliseum, or spiritually through "wolves in sheep's clothing" as Jesus called them.-- systemite false prophets or politicians who devour you with lying words. (Mt.7:15)

23. **THIS PALE HORSE OF THE FOURTH SEAL, THEN, REPRESENTS THE DEVIL'S RULE IN THE KINGDOMS OF THIS WORLD.** He designs them, man builds them, and their end is death and Hell--total destruction both now and forever!

24. **REV.6:9-11 The 5th Seal**--"And when he had opened the fifth seal, **I SAW UNDER THE ALTAR THE SOULS OF THEM THAT WERE SLAIN FOR THE WORD OF GOD**, and for the testimony which they held: And they cried with a loud voice, saying, How long, O Lord, holy and true, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the Earth? And white robes were given unto every one of them; and it was said unto them, that they should rest yet for a little season, until their brethren, that should be killed as they were, should be fulfilled."

25. **FIRST COMES THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WHITE HORSE'S MESSAGE** and the conquest of many souls. **THEN THE OPEN REJECTION BY THE UNBELIEVERS—the followers** of the other three horsemen, crystallizes into open antagonism resulting in these "souls of them that were slain for the Word of God." This is the way it's been all throughout history!

26. **THESE MARTYRS, THOUGH, ARE ACTUALLY GOD'S EXCEPTIONS, JUST EXAMPLES OF THE DEDICATION OF HIS WITNESSES.** The majority of God's Children have usually lived to help carry on the work. But even they too must "die daily" as Paul said, because choosing God's Will over our own is literally "dying to Self" serving Jesus really kills your pride, your self, your selfishness, your egotism, and may even cause some considerable physical sacrifice and strain. So really, all of God's true Children are slain for their testimony.

27. This seal shows us that Man's System will continue to persecute and kill God's Children until the time ordained by God for the last saint to be slain should be fulfilled. Then **HE WILL AVENGE AND VINDICATE HIS PROPHETS BY POURING OUT HIS HORRIBLE, VIOLENT WRATH UPON THE WICKED**, described under the next seal.

28. **REV.6:12-17 The 6th Seal--"AND I BEHELD WHEN HE HAD OPENED THE SIXTH SEAL, AND, LO, THERE WAS A GREAT EARTHQUAKE;** and the Sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the Moon became as blood; And the stars of heaven (or meteors) fell unto the earth...And the heaven departed as a scroll...and every mountain and island were moved out of their places.

29. "And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains; And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of Him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb: For **THE GREAT DAY OF HIS WRATH IS COME;** and who shall be able to stand?"

30. Here we have the ultimate goal of 6,000 years of history: **THE GLORIOUS SECOND COMING OF THE LAMB OF GOD, JESUS CHRIST (Jn.1:29)** to mete out His violent wrath upon the wicked and rescue the saints of all ages by the miracle of the Resurrection and Rapture.

31. Despite all the wrath of bestial man against the Children of God, the day is coming "when **THE LORD JESUS SHALL BE REVEALED FROM HEAVEN WITH HIS MIGHTY ANGELS,** in flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, that obey not the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ." (2Th.1:7,8)

32. And when He comes, John said, "**EVERY EYE SHALL SEE HIM,** and they also which pierced Him (even in Hell those who crucified Him will be able to see Him coming): and all kindreds of the Earth shall wail because of Him." (Rev.1:7)

33. "And then shall He send His angels, and **SHALL GATHER TOGETHER (RESURRECT AND RAPTURE) HIS ELECT** (the saints) from the four winds, from the uttermost part of the Earth to the uttermost part of Heaven." (Mk.13:27)

34. What we have actually seen, then, under these six seals is a panorama of history from John's day up to the very end. Then, **AT THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST, THE WHITE HORSE AND THE RESURRECTED MARTYRS EMERGE AS VICTORS OVER THE OTHER THREE HORSEMEN:** the kings (pale horse), the rich men (black horse), and the captains (red horse). This is also presented in more detail in Rev.16 and 19.

35. **IN FACT EACH ONE OF THESE SIX SEALS ARE REALLY ONLY CAPSULE HISTORIES ON CHARACTERS THAT THE VISION IS YET TO COVER,** or rather uncover, in greater detail throughout the remainder of the Revelation. In other words, these first six seals are a "Table of Contents" for the rest of the vision. The following gives each seal and the main chapters, or parts of chapters, where they are more greatly expounded: **you can take a screen shot of it and keep it** where you can refer to it in any of your later studies.

SEAL	-- SUBJECT	-- CHAPTERS
1	Church & Jesus :	11; 12; 14; 19-22
2	War & Military :	9; 19:19
3	Capitalism & Rich :	13:11-16; 17; 18
4	Rulers & Satan :	13; 19:19-21; 20:7-15
5	Martyrs :	7; 12:11; 13:7; 20:4
6	Wrath & Rapture:	7; 11:15-18; 15; 16; 18; 19

36. Though the characters under each of the first five seals were around before the Ascension of Christ, the Biblical picture both here and elsewhere is that **EACH OF THESE FORCES TOOK ON GREATER POWER SOME TIME AFTER THE ASCENSION.**

37. **THE CHILDREN OF GOD RECEIVED GREATER POWER ON THE DAY OF PENTECOST,** seven days after the Ascension when they were baptised with the Holy Ghost. Just as Jesus had told them, "Ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you." (Ac.1:8) **THE FORCES OF EVIL ALSO RECEIVED GREATER POWER AT THIS TIME,** as Paul said, "evil men and seducers (the Red, Black and Pale horsemen) shall wax worse and worse." (2Tm.3:13)

38. Jesus predicted in His famous Endtime discourse of Matthew.24 that **THERE WOULD BE AN INCREASE IN WAR, FAMINE, PESTILENCE AND EARTHQUAKES, LEADING EVENTUALLY TO "AFFLICTION, SUCH AS WAS NOT FROM THE BEGINNING OF THE CREATION,"** and that these calamities would get so bad that "except that the Lord had shortened those days, no flesh should be saved: but for the elect's (or Christians') sake, whom He (God) hath chosen, He hath shortened those days." (Mt.24:7,21,22; Mk.13:19,20) In other words, Jesus was saying that one day man would reach such an impasse that letting him continue unchecked would result in the destruction of everyone on Earth. However, **WHEN MAN FINALLY REACHES THAT SUICIDAL POINT, HE SAID GOD WOULD SHORTEN THE DAYS,** which in the Greek literally means to stop the days, or stop those days of man's suicidal attempts to destroy the Earth. And the way God will stop it, Jesus said, was by His own Second Coming to punish the evil doers, take over the world, and rule it the way God wants.

39. **ONLY WITHIN THE LAST THIRTY YEARS HAS THE HUMAN RACE DEVELOPED THE POTENTIAL TO DESTROY ITSELF.** The military (Red Horse) have their nuclear bombs, satellites and intercontinental missiles. In fact, they right now have enough atomic bombs to over kill the earth's entire population several times. The rich (Black Horse) in their pursuit of the almighty dollar are finally succeeding in polluting the entire earth--a by-product of modern technology! The rich (especially the U.S.) have been responsible for starting this century's great wars, and their hoarding and wasting of their riches is threatening another one! And it is their unchecked greed which will be responsible for the worldwide famine, that even the scientists are predicting will occur, *that will happen as a result of Man's plundering the earth's resources for monetary gain.*

40. Meanwhile governments (Pale Horse) have become bestial monsters destroying whole nations in their pursuit of power, and martyring whole nationalities, races and creeds who don't agree with them or their devilish policies!--Yes, **TODAY MAN HAS ALMOST FINALLY REACHED THAT HORRIBLE TIME WHICH JESUS SAID WOULD IMMEDIATELY PRECEDE HIS SECOND COMING.** However, the worst is not here yet. So Unfortunately, the coming of Christ is NOT going to happen any minute, like some Preachers insist! **HE IS COMING SOON, BUT HE'S NOT COMING BEFORE ALL THE SIGNS ARE FULFILLED WHICH MUST PRECEDE HIS COMING.**

41. As the Apostle Paul said, "Now we beseech you, brethren, by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by our gathering together (Resurrection and Rapture) unto Him." (Notice he said "the coming," showing there is only one coming to rapture the Church, not two.) "That ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word nor by letter as from us (nor, we might add, from some churchy false prophets of today) as that the day of Christ is at hand!" (2Th.2:1,2) in other words, **DON'T LET ANYBODY DECEIVE YOU INTO BELIEVING THAT THE DAY OF CHRIST OR THE SECOND COMING AND RAPTURE OF THE CHURCH CAN HAPPEN AT ANY TIME BECAUSE IT IS NOT "AT HAND!"**

42. "For that day shall not come, except there come a **FALLING AWAY FIRST, AND THAT MAN OF SIN BE REVEALED**, the son of perdition; Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshiped; so that he as God, sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God...That Wicked...whom the Lord shall destroy with the brightness of His Coming!" (2Th.2:3,4,8)

43. This means that **THE DAY OF CHRIST, WHICH WILL CUT OFF OR SHORTEN THESE AND THE COMING DAYS OF HORRIBLE EVIL, CANNOT HAPPEN TILL TWO THINGS COME FIRST.**

1) **The falling away**, which in the Greek means 'apostasy' or departing from the faith. This has been happening throughout all church history, but in these last days it will become, and is becoming, greater.

2) **The "man of sin" has to be revealed.** This is the man commonly referred to throughout Bible prophecy as the **ANTICHRIST; THE ENDTIME WORLD DICTATOR.**

44. It says in **Daniel 9:27, HE WILL MAKE A COVENANT WITH MANY OF THE RELIGIOUS PEOPLE** of the world for one "week" or seven years,--each day representing a year. (See Daniel 9 class.)

45. During the first 3 1/2 years, he will allow them to have their religious freedom. **BUT IN THE "MIDST OF THE WEEK," AFTER 3 1/2 YEARS, HE WILL BREAK THE COVENANT**, causing their religious freedom to cease and setting up an "abomination of desolation"--an idol or image of himself--and demanding all to worship it or be killed.

46. Jesus said, "**WHEN YE THEREFORE SHALL SEE THE ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION, SPOKEN OF BY DANIEL THE PROPHET, STAND IN THE HOLY PLACE** (the soon-to-be-built Jewish Temple on Mt. Moriah, Jerusalem), then shall be great tribulation such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be."(Mt.24:15,21)

47. When will you see it?--In the midst of the week, or seven years, Dan.9:27! **THIS GREAT TRIBULATION, THEREFORE, WILL BEGIN IN THE "MIDST OF THE WEEK"** and will continue throughout the remaining 3 1/2 years of the "seven year" covenant!--"Until the consummation (or completion of the seven years), and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate."

48. **AND "THAT DETERMINED" IS THE WRATH OF GOD** which Revelation describes as seven vials poured upon the wicked, and which begins at the Second Coming of Christ, when He gathers together, or Raptures, His saints.

49. All that to say this: **THERE ARE SOME DEFINITE SPECIFIC EVENTS THAT HAVE TO TAKE PLACE BEFORE CHRIST CAN COME BACK.** There is this seven-year Covenant, for one, and the Abomination of Desolation resulting in 3 1/2 years of Great Tribulation of the Church, for another. There is the Antichrist world dictator who must yet arise to place this Abomination, which means we need a world government, which means it's very likely that we've got another World War yet to go!

50. **ALL OF THESE EVENTS MUST HAPPEN BEFORE THE EVENTS DESCRIBED UNDER THE SIXTH SEAL, THE WRATH AND SECOND COMING, CAN OCCUR.** Since these first six seals present the whole span of history from the Ascension to the Second Coming, they are in a sense like God taking a camera and doing a real quick "pan" of history from the beginning to the very end, just like they often do in movies to give the setting for the story they are about to tell us.

51. **THEN WITH THE SEVENTH SEAL, WHICH OPENS IN THE EIGHT CHAPTER, GOD TAKES HIS CAMERA AND ZOOMS IN FOR A CLOSE-UP** of the last few years of this period, the central theme of the Revelation containing the story of the Great Tribulation, the Second Coming, and the ushering in of Christ's Millennial Kingdom on earth.

52. **CHAPTER SIX, THEN, IS A TABLE OF CONTENTS OF THE MAIN CHARACTERS** yet to be uncovered in the remainder of the Revelation, and it's all presented as a brief summary of history from the Ascension to the Second Coming of Christ!

CHAPTER 7 --SAINTS SEALED FOR GREAT TRIBULATION

53. **THE SEVENTH SEAL WHICH BEGINS THE GREAT TRIBULATION IS SOON TO BE OPENED IN CHAPTER 8.** But before it happens, God is going to "seal His saints" in order to preserve His Children, His witnesses during the Tribulation period, so that they'll not be hurt by His judgments against the wicked.

54. **REV.7:1-4** "And after these things I (John) saw four angels...holding the four winds of the earth. ... And I saw another angel ascending from the east, having the seal of the living God: and he cried with a loud voice to the four angels, to whom it was given to hurt the earth and the sea, Saying, Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads.... And **THERE WERE SEALED AN HUNDRED AND FORTY AND FOUR THOUSAND OF ALL THE TRIBES OF THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL.**"

REV.7:5-8 Verses 5-8 list the names of the twelve tribes of Israel, 12,000 from each tribe being sealed.

55. **THESE 144,000 WHICH RECEIVE THE SEAL OF GOD ARE NOT PHYSICAL ISRAEL.** THEY ARE THE TRUE SPIRITUAL ISRAEL. As the Apostle Paul said, "They are not all Israel, which are of Israel.... That is They which are the children of the flesh, these are not the children of God: but the children of **the promise** are counted for the seed." Rom.9:6-8 ("**The promise**" is Salvation by faith in Jesus. This includes both Gentile AND Jew,--anyone saved by faith in Jesus.)

56. **THESE 144,000 ARE THE SAME 144,000 OF REVELATION CHAPTER 14, WHO "FOLLOW THE LAMB WHITHERSOEVER HE GOETH."** In other words, they obey and follow, and if you think Israeli Jews are obeying the Lamb, you need to take another look at how they are mistreating their neighbours, the poor Palestinian refugees, a large number of whom are Christians!

57. **REV.7:9-14 THE 144,000 ARE THE LEADERS OF "THE GREAT MULTITUDE, WHICH NO MAN COULD NUMBER,** of all nations, and kindreds, and peoples, and tongues...which came out of Great Tribulation." --In the original that means the Great Tribulation that precedes the Second Coming of Christ!

58. Whether the 144,000 is a symbolic or literal number we don't know, but we do know this: **THEY WILL BE GOD'S CADRE, His staff Officers, DURING THAT HORRIBLE TRIBULATION PERIOD TO LEAD THE REST OF THE CHURCH THROUGH IT** and to stand up and witness against the Antichrist System unto the very end.

59. **THE DEVIL, WHO IS THE GREAT COUNTERFEITER, IS GOING TO BE OUT SEALING HIS CHILDREN TOO** at this time, putting a mark in their right hand or forehead, which is the famous **MARK OF THE BEAST** (the Antichrist dictator and his government)--666. (Rev.13:15) And all those who refuse to bow down to him will be killed.

60. **REV.7:15-17** So though the 144,000 are going to be sealed against being hurt by God's judgments on the wicked, **THE WICKED, THEMSELVES, ARE GOING TO BE HURTING THEM, OR TRYING TO, AND EVEN KILLING SOME OF THEM. BUT TO DIE FOR CHRIST IS GAIN** and they shall stand "before the throne of God, and serve Him day and night in His temple...and they shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more;...and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes."

61. **BUT WHOSOEVER SHALL RECEIVE THE MARK OF THE BEAST, "THE SAME SHALL DRINK OF THE WINE OF THE WRATH OF GOD**, which is poured out without mixture...and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb...and the smoke of their torment ascendeth up forever and ever"! (Rev.14:9-11)

62. **WHOSE BRAND ARE YOU GOING TO TAKE?**