


THE REVELATION OF YESHUA HA MASIACH
PART 3

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I. Yeshua and the scroll

A. The declaration of heaven

Revelation 5:9-10
⁹ And they sang a new song: "You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, because you were slain, and with your blood you purchased men for God from every tribe and language and people and nation. ¹⁰ You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to serve our God, and they will reign on the earth." NIV

Yeshua is King over the nations including the Roman Empire

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B. Last days began in the first century

Acts 2:¹⁵⁻¹⁷
¹⁵ For these are not drunk, as you suppose, since it is only the third hour of the day. ¹⁶ But **this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel:** ¹⁷ **'And it shall come to pass in the last days,** says God, That I will pour out of My Spirit on all flesh; NKJV

Last days had begun

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II. Rapture

Definition: An event written about in the New Testament where in Yeshua returns out of the clouds and snatches away the believers starting with those who have already died and then all who are still alive. (1 Thessalonians 4:17-18)

A. Teachings from scripture

Pre- tribulation – secret rapture before the Lord returns

No explicit scripture

Revelation 4:1 – John representative of the church taken up to heaven.

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1. Yeshua's Teachings

The gathering will take place **after** the tribulation


Matthew 24:²⁹⁻³¹
²⁹ "Immediately **after the tribulation of those days** the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ³⁰ Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. ³¹ **And He will send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they will gather together His elect from the four winds,** from one end of heaven to the other. NKJV

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Mark 13:²⁴⁻²⁷
²⁴ "But in those days, **after that tribulation**, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; ²⁵ the stars of heaven will fall, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.
²⁶ **Then they will see the Son of Man coming in the clouds with great power and glory.** ²⁷ And then He will send His angels, **and gather together His elect from the four winds**, from the farthest part of earth to the farthest part of heaven.
 NKJV
 Heaven in Greek "ouranous"
 NT:3772 ouranos (oo-ran-os'); the sky; by extension, heaven (as the abode of God); by implication, happiness, power, **eternity**; specifically, the Gospel (Christianity): (Biblesoft's New Exhaustive Strong's Numbers and Concordance Copyright © 1994, 2003, 2006 Biblesoft, Inc. and International Bible Translators, Inc.)

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- The parable of the wheat and tares (weeds)


Matthew 13:³⁰ "Let both grow together until the harvest, and at the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, "First gather together the tares and bind them in bundles to burn them, but gather the wheat into my barn."
 NKJV
 Only one gathering - Revelation 14:14-20

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- His disciples would see the anti-Christ

Disciples' question
 Matthew 24:³ Now as He sat on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him privately, saying, "Tell us, when will these things be? And what will be the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?" NKJV
 Yeshua's response
 Matthew 24:¹⁵ "Therefore **when** you see the 'abomination of desolation,' spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place" (whoever reads, let him understand), ¹⁶ "then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains. NKJV
 "abomination of desolation" in the temple = Anti-Christ (2 Thessalonians 2:³⁻⁴)
 "When" not "If"

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- One out of two
 Matthew 24:⁴⁰⁻⁴²
⁴⁰ Then two men will be in the field: one will be taken and the other left.
⁴¹ Two women will be grinding at the mill: one will be taken and the other left. ⁴² Watch therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming. NKJV

Admonition to be alert

- Lengthy teaching

Matthew 24, Mark 13, Luke 21

If the church were to be raptured before the tribulation, he need not have done that


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B. Paul's teaching

- First Thessalonians

1 Thessalonians 4:¹⁵⁻¹⁸
¹⁵ **According to the Lord's own word**, we tell you that we who are still alive, who are left till the coming of the Lord, will certainly not precede those who have fallen asleep. ¹⁶ For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷ After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever. ¹⁸ Therefore encourage each other with these words.
 NIV
 The teaching is according to the Lord's own word (or teaching) –
 Matthew 24:²⁹⁻³¹, Mark 13:²⁴⁻²⁷


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The angel will signal this event with a sound of a trumpet (Shofar)

1 Corinthians 15:⁵¹⁻⁵²
⁵¹ Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed— ⁵² in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, **at the last trumpet**. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. NIV


7 trumpets in Revelation

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• Second Thessalonians
2 Thessalonians 2:¹ Now, brethren, concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our gathering together to Him NKJV


One event not two

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2 Thessalonians 2:³ Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day will not come unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition, NKJV

- > "that day" – the day of His return to earth
- > "fall away" – falling away from faith (apostasia – defection)

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2 Thessalonians 2:⁵⁻⁶
⁵ Do you not remember that when I was still with you I told you these things? ⁶ And now you know what is restraining, that he may be revealed in his own time. NKJV

"What is restraining" – pre-tribulationists interpret this as the Holy Spirit and the church being taken away to heaven.

It simply means moved out of the way

Pre-tribulationists say that people will still get saved during the tribulation, how can they, if the Holy Spirit is no longer here to convict them of sin?

Also who will preach the gospel if the church is removed?

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B. Origin of Pre-tribulation teaching
John Darby 1827

Early church taught endurance

Hebrews 12:¹ Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, NKJV

"Cloud of witnesses" – saints who have persevered in faith.

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1 Peter 2:²⁰ For what credit is it if, when you are beaten for your faults, you take it patiently? But when you do good and suffer, if you take it patiently, this is commendable before God. NKJV

"when" not "if"

James 1:²⁻⁴
² Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, ³ because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. ⁴ Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, NIV

Perseverance is a sign of maturity


In the seven letters in Revelation Yeshua promises blessings for those who will endure or overcome

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C. Examples from The Old Testament

- Lot and his family removed from Sodom (escape)
- Noah – preserved through the flood, not taken out of it.
- Exodus – Israel protected during 7 plagues
- Pre-trib – Goshen = heaven, but Egyptians lived there also (Exodus 3:¹²),
Canaan = heaven not Goshen
- Church in Philadelphia promised to be protected in persecution not removed from it. (Revelation 3:¹⁰)

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D. Modern witnesses

"There are some among us teaching that there will be no tribulation, that the Christians will be able to escape all this. These are the false teachers that Jesus warned us to expect in the latter days, most of them have little knowledge of what is going on all over the world. I have been in countries where Christians are already suffering terrible persecution. In China the Christians were told by American Bible teachers "don't worry, before the tribulation comes you will be raptured". Then came a terrible persecution, millions of Christians were tortured to death. Later I heard a bishop from China say sadly "we have failed, we should have made the people strong for persecution rather than tell them that Jesus would come first. Tell the people how to be strong in the persecution and how to stand when persecution comes, to stand and to not faint." (Corrie Ten Boom 1974)

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Pre-tribulation teaching lulls Christians to sleep

Ephesians 6:¹⁶ With this in mind, **be alert** and always keep on praying for all the saints. NIV

1 Thessalonians 5:⁶ So then, let us not be like others, who are asleep, but let us be **alert** and self-controlled. NIV

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III. Breaking the Seals

Yeshua breaks the seals not the devil

Exodus 9:¹³⁻¹⁴

¹³ Then the Lord said to Moses, "Rise early in the morning and stand before Pharaoh, and say to him, 'Thus says the Lord God of the Hebrews: "Let My people go, that they may serve Me," ¹⁴ for at this time I will send all **My plagues** to your very heart," NKJV

2 Chronicles 7:¹³ "When I shut up the heavens so that there is no rain, or command locusts to devour the land or **send a plague among my people**," NIV

Isaiah 45:⁷ I form the light and create darkness, I make peace **and create calamity**; I, the Lord, do all these things." NKJV

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Yeshua, the Lamb/Lion is the only one worthy to open the scroll not the enemy. Calamities happen when seals are broken

Ecclesiastes 1:⁹ That which has been is what will be, that which is done is what will be done, and there is nothing new under the sun. NKJV

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A. First Seal – conquest. (Rev 6:¹⁻²)

Wars and rumours of war Matthew 24:⁶

- Islam from the Middle-east to Spain
- European nations colonized many nations: Spain – Philippines, Dutch – Indonesia, Portugal – parts of India and Malaysia.
- The British Empire encircled the globe
- Two World Wars. In WWII Nazi Germany conquered all of Europe. Imperial Japan conquered most of Asia.
- Communist tried to conquer Korea and Vietnam
- Iraq – conquering Kuwait
- Still on-going China claiming the whole South China Sea

Future application – the Anti-Christ will conquer the nations

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B. Second Seal – Conflict on earth (Rev 6:3-4)

Revelation 6:⁴ "that people should kill one another" NKJV
Magnified on September 11 2001.

Airport security now is extra tight with all kinds of checks and with COVID19 another level of checks will be added.

Peace of mind lost with COVID19,

Violent protests around the world, from Hong Kong to United States etc.

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C. Third Seal – Scarcity (Rev 6:⁵⁻⁶)

Revelation 6:⁵ "I looked, and behold, a black horse, and he who sat on it had a pair of scales in his hand." NKJV

Revelation 6:⁶ "A quart of wheat for a denarius, and three quarts of barley for a denarius; and do not harm the oil and the wine." NKJV

Wheat & Barley – food
Scales – scarcity, rationing

Probable causes – Climate Change, pandemics, economic collapse.

Great Depression of 1929-33, Droughts in Australia caused great loss of crops and cattle.



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Revelation 6:^{6b} do not harm the oil and the wine

Great inequality – those who are in power and super wealthy will still enjoy luxuries.



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D. Fourth Seal – Widespread death (Rev 6:⁷⁻⁸)

Wars that would kill thousands

Pandemics, greater than COVID19.

Shortage of food and breakdown of basic public services.

All will pave the way for the ultimate dictator in this world;
Anti-Christ



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E. Fifth Seal – Martyrs (Rev 6:⁹⁻¹¹)

Matthew 24:⁹ "Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and kill you, and you will be hated by all nations for My name's sake." NKJV

God has kept them in a special place.

Martyrdom is a prevalent theme – "witness" in Acts 1:8 is the Greek word "marturo" from which is derived the martyr.

In the days of the Anti-Christ martyrdom of Jews and Christians will be rampant.

They are given white robes, symbolic of purity and good works (keep in mind for chapter 19)

The Lord tells them to wait because more are to be martyred



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F. Sixth Seal – Cosmic Disturbances (Rev 6:¹²⁻¹⁷) – Matthew 24:²⁹

- Great earthquakes
- Sun becomes dark
- Moon turns blood red
- Sky recedes
- Islands moved
- People become so fearful of God they would prefer to die than face God, the wrath of God has begun to be unleashed on the earth.

Break in the vision – John turns his sights to Israel



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We must change our focus

2 Peter 3:¹⁰⁻¹³

¹⁰ But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up. ¹¹ Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, ¹² **looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God**, because of which the heavens will be dissolved, being on fire, and the elements will melt with fervent heat? ¹³ Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells. NKJV




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Colossians 3:1-2
1 If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. 2 **Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth.** NKJV

1 John 3:2-3
2 Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. 3 **And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.** NKJV



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