

THE REVELATION OF YESHUA HA MASIACH

Lesson 4

I. Turbulent times ahead

The following chapters will lead us down a very bumpy road towards Armageddon. We need to know how to navigate.

A. Keep the end in sight

At the end of his life Paul said :

2 Timothy 4:⁶⁻⁸

⁷ I have fought the good fight, **I have finished the race**, I have kept the faith. ⁸ Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing. NKJV

It was also this that helped him go through some of the toughest persecutions anyone has ever experienced: 2 Cor 11:22-28

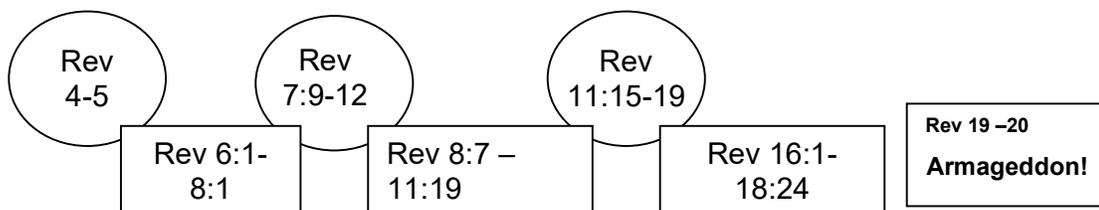
B. Notice the Markers

The events between Revelation 6 and Revelation 18 are given to us as markers, like distance markers on a road so that we can recognise how far we have left.

C. Navigation equipment

We have a spiritual G.P.S. (God's positioning system) – The Throne

To navigate through the Great Tribulation, we need to keep going back to the throne



When we go off course the GPS will recalibrate, going to the throne, in worship and prayer recalibrates our hearts and minds and we can get back on course

II. Chapter 7

A. Four angels commanded to restrain four winds (Verse 1-4)

Hebrew for wind/breath – “ruach”

Hebrew for spirit – “ruach”

- Four spirits that would bring destruction on the earth



Possible reference to 2 Thessalonians 2:7 For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only He who now restrains will do so until He is taken out of the way. NKJV

Possible an angel whom God has assigned to hold back the Anti-Christ until the right time.

B. The sealed of Israel

- Angel from the east rises to seal 144,000 of Israel

Seal is a mark of ownership (slaves in the past were marked by their owners)

1 Corinthians 6:19-20

Ephesians 1:13-14

Mark of the beast (666) counterfeit to the seal of the Holy Spirit

- Destruction is withheld until the 144,00 of Israel are sealed

Will only 144,000 of Israel be saved? No

Romans 11:25-26a

²⁶ And so **all Israel will be saved**, NKJV

Most likely Jewish believers anointed and sealed for a special purpose – the salvation of Israel.

Jewish salvation is vital for the Lord's return.

Church – Matthew 24:14

We miss Matthew 23:39

Matthew 23:37-39

³⁹ for **I say to you, you shall see Me no more till you say, 'Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!'**" NKJV

Jews must welcome Him back. How can they if they don't believe?

C. Saints at the throne (V9-17)

John sees the throne again, people dressed in white before the throne:

Revelation 7:9 all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, NKJV

Revelation 7:14 "These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation, and washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. NKJV

Believers from every nation who have been martyred stand before the throne of God. Martyrdom has begun and will continue.



III. 7th Seal

A. Incense & Prayers (Rev 8:1-5)

Angel takes fire from the altar (golden altar in the Holy Place) it is mixed the prayers of the saints, possibly the fallen martyrs

Throws it on the earth – great fires erupt (vengeance for the saints)

This releases the seven angels to sound the seven shofarim.

Shofar used in ancient times for several purposes including:

- Call to prepare for war
- Call to gather before the King
- Call to repentance
- Announcing the coronation of a new King.

B. First Trumpet (Rev 8:6-7)

Hail and fire – earth set ablaze

- Destruction of crops will result in famine

C. Second Trumpet (Rev 8:8-9)

Destruction of the seas including sea creatures and ships

- Shortage of food from the sea
- Destruction of shipping will result in disruption of supply chains and trade

D. Third Trumpet (Rev 8:10-11)

A plague on the fresh water sources, 1/3 of the world's fresh water destroyed, many people dies from poisoning

E. Fourth Trumpet (Rev 8:12-13)

Plague of darkness which will bring fear, depression, despondency upon people.

An angel that looks like an eagle – warns that the last three plagues will be even worse.

F. Fifth Trumpet (Rev 9:1-12)

A kind of pestilence affects only those who did not belong to God, John describes them as looking like locust which looked like horses with human faces and wearing crowns.

- Very strong spirits that had great power
- Their king is a spirit called Abaddon in Hebrew and Apollyon in Greek (destroyer)



G. Sixth Trumpet (Rev 9:13-21)

Four angels commanded to release the spirits that they have been holding back (Chapter 7)

This releases great wars on the earth, one third of the world's population die.

The purpose of these plagues:

They are similar to the plagues in Egypt, meant to show Pharaoh that God is greater than the gods of Egypt but people still cling to their gods.

Revelation 9:20-21

H. Eating the little scroll (Rev 10)

A mighty angel comes from heaven and roars like a lion, this roar releases seven thunders but John is not allowed to record what the seven thunders say.

John is commanded to take a scroll from the angel and eat it; it tastes sweet in his mouth but bitter when it enters his stomach.

We can only assume that this a prophecy that seems nice at first but when it is digested it is bad news.

John is then commanded to prophesy to the nations; thus, we have this book.

I. Two Witnesses (Rev 11:1-14)

God now sends two special envoys who have been given great power to defeat the enemy.

These are the two anointed ones who have a very special relationship with God.

Zechariah 4:2-3

Zechariah 4:14

- They will be strong witnesses for God but the world will hate them.
- They will be killed (by the Anti-Christ), people will rejoice and celebrate even giving gifts to each other.
- In three and a half days they will rise to the astonishment of people.
- They will be taken up to heaven by God.

J. Seventh Trumpet – Celebration in Heaven (Rev 11:15-19)

Trumpet announces Coronation

The culmination of history:

Revelation 11:15



All of heaven rejoices and worships Yeshua.

IV. Persecution of Israel (Chapter 12)

John takes us back into history to set the basis for the coming age of Anti-Christ and his persecution of God's people, Jews and Christians.

A. The Woman & The Dragon – Revelation 12:1-6

1. The woman

John describes a woman who is glorious, he is describing Israel; her glory is not her own but the glory of God, who dwelt among His people – Shekinah glory

A reference to the dream of Joseph (Genesis 35:9)

* Nothing to do with astronomy

12 Stars – twelve tribes

She is pregnant and gives birth to a son, who rules the nations and is taken up to God - Yeshua. (Yeshua born in Israel, ascended to the Father and will rule the nations)

2. The dragon – fiery red

- Seven heads – Rome/Roman government
- Tenth letter in Hebrew alphabet (alephbet) is “yod” which has the meaning of strength and power. So the beast has great power.
- His tail brought down a third of the stars; believed to be a reference to angels that followed Lucifer and became demons.
- He goes after the baby as it was born – Herod killing the children.

B. The fall of Lucifer – Revelation 12:7-9

John refers to the prophecy of Isaiah 14:12-15

- War between Lucifer's (Satan) his army and the army of God led by Michael.
- Lucifer loses the war and is cast out of heaven to earth, thus Satan has been working in this world since the beginning, even in the book of Genesis (serpent)
 - Yeshua referred to him as the “Prince of this world” (John 12:31, 14:30, 16:11)
 - Paul referred to him as the “Prince of the power of the air” (Ephesians 2:2)

C. Yeshua and His disciples overcome – Revelation 12:10-12

- John reminds his audience that Yeshua has triumphed over the devil – by His death and resurrection.
- The martyrs triumphed by their faith in Yeshua (blood), by continuing to share the gospel even at the cost of their lives.

Dying is winning: Philippians 1:21 For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain. NKJV

D. Persecution of Israel

This is a prophecy for the future: Israel is scattered in the nations



Satan goes after the Jewish people – release a flood against them. Not literal but a flood of anti-Semitic lies, e.g. MSM lies against Israel, the BDS movement etc,

The earth will swallow the flood – believers from the nations (earth) that will rise to stand on behalf of Israel and the Jewish people.

V. John's purpose

What is John's purpose in sharing all this?

To encourage the believers who were, are, and will be facing persecution to take heart that Yeshua is the victor and we can be victorious as well, if we do not fear but keep on sharing the gospel even in the face of persecution into death.

Revelation 12:¹¹And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death. NKJV

Matthew 10:²⁸ And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell. NKJV

