

He Reigns . He Returns . He Wins!

# THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST

Revelation 7:1-17

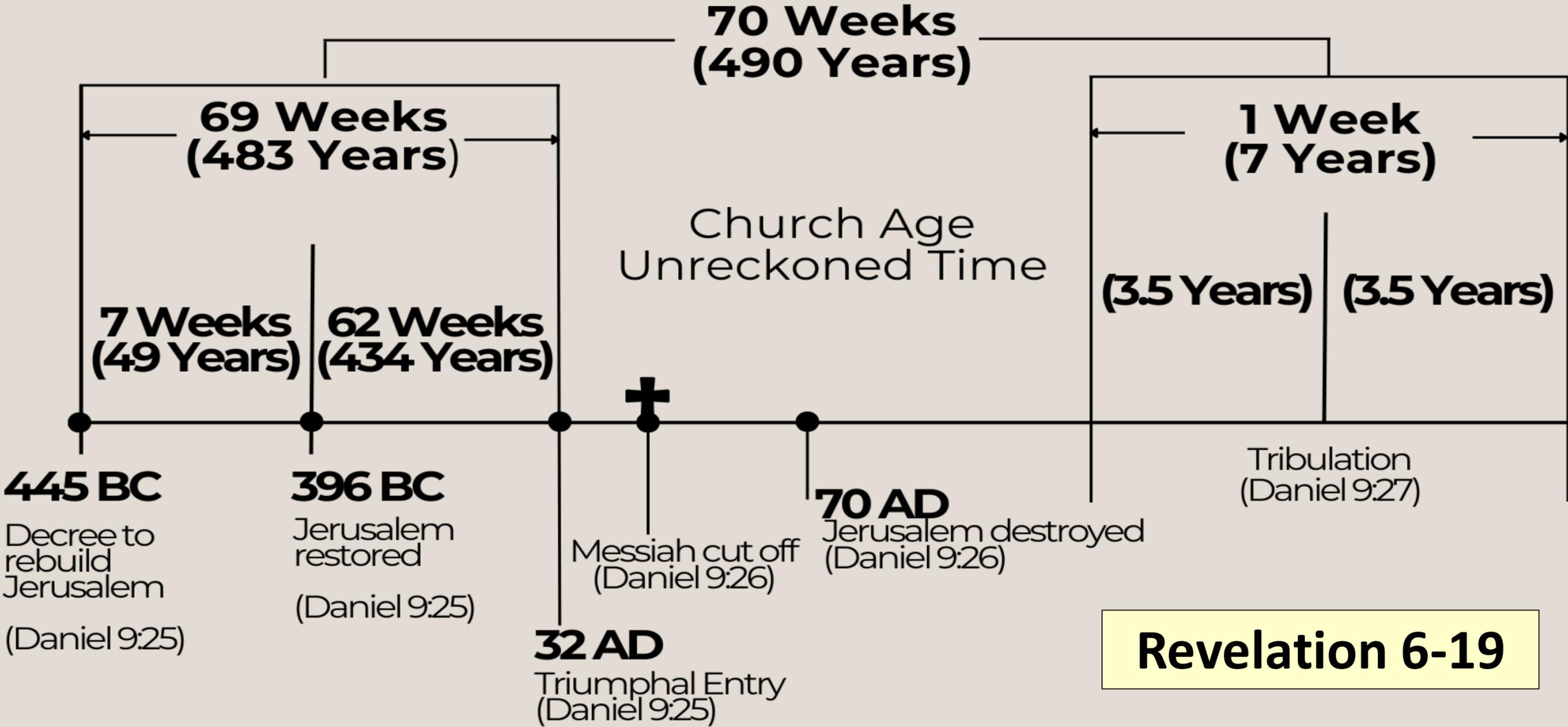
Mercy & Grace in the Midst of Wrath



“Who stands fast? Only the man whose final standard is not his reason, his principles, his conscience, his freedom, or his virtue, but who is ready to sacrifice all this when he is called to obedient and responsible action in faith and in exclusive allegiance to God- the responsible man, who tries to make his whole life an answer to the question and call of God. Where are these responsible people?”



# THE OLD TESTAMENT'S MOST AMAZING PROPHECY



<sup>15</sup> Then the kings of the earth and the great ones and the generals and the rich and the powerful, and everyone, slave and free, hid themselves in the caves and among the rocks of the mountains, <sup>16</sup> calling to the mountains and rocks, “Fall on us and hide us from the face of him who is seated on the throne, and from the **wrath of the Lamb**, <sup>17</sup> for the great day of their wrath has come, **and who can stand?**”

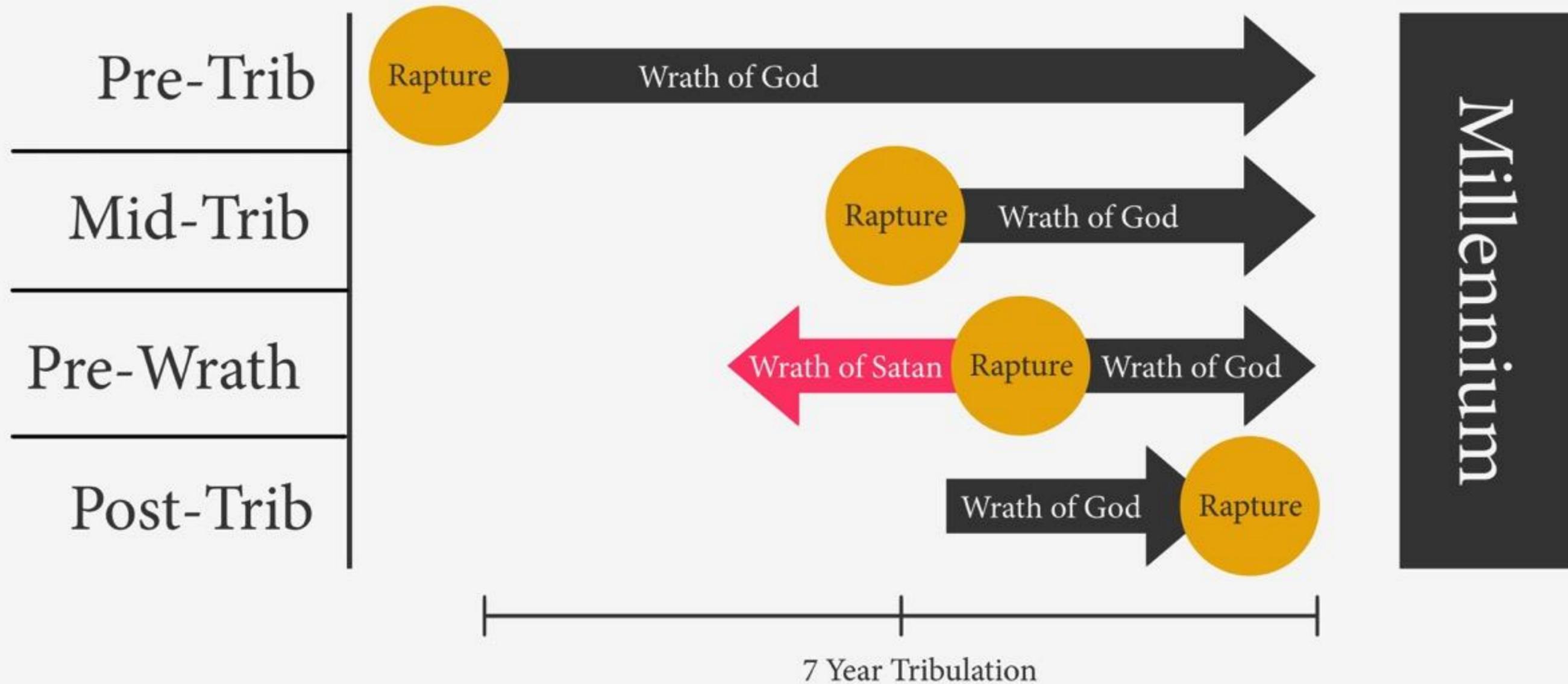
Revelation 6:15-17

<sup>19</sup> Write therefore the things that you have seen, those that are and those that are to take place after this.

Revelation 1:19

- The Vision of Christ. Revelation 1
- The Churches of Christ. Revelation 2-3
- The Consummation of Christ. Revelation 4-22

# 4 Views of the Timing of the Rapture



# Timeline

2nd Advent  
of Christ

Rapture of  
the Church

Tribulation

Peace  
Treaty

144,000  
Sealed  
6 Seals

Church Age

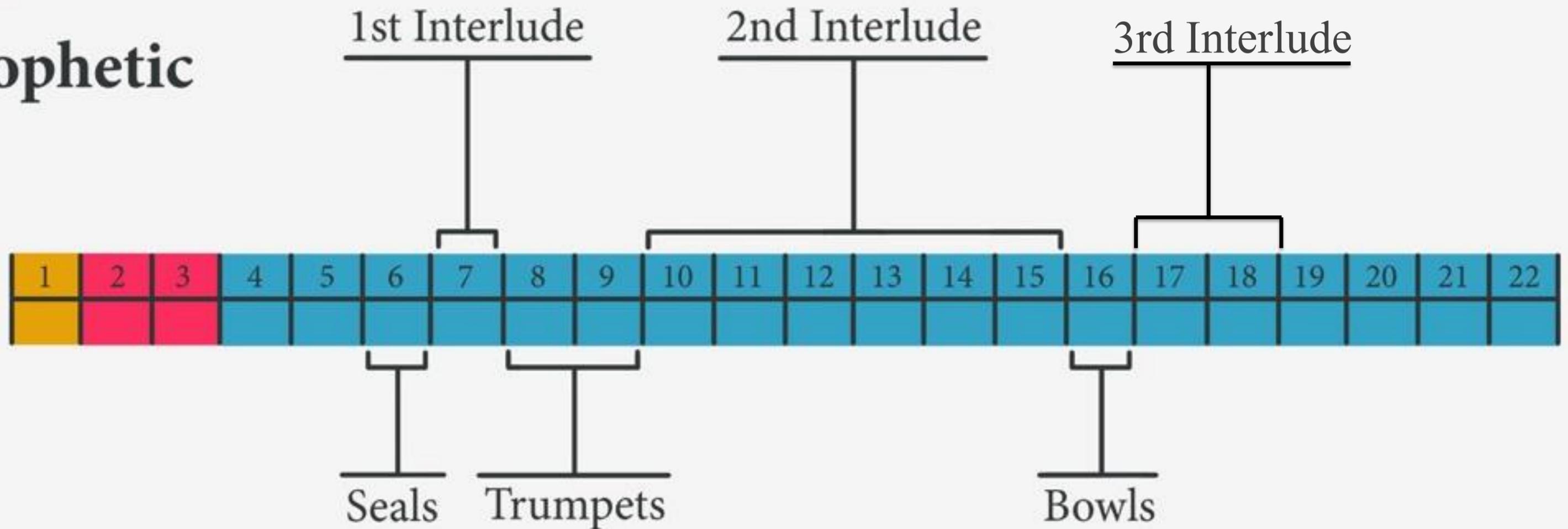


Preparation  
for  
Fulfillment

Fulfillment

# Timeline

- Past
- Present
- Prophetic



**I. Witness: The sealed Jewish saints on earth. 7:1-8**

**II. Worship: The multinational saints in heaven. 7:9-17**

<sup>1</sup>After this I saw four angels **standing** at the four corners of the earth, holding back the four winds of the earth, that no wind might blow on earth or sea or against any tree.

<sup>2</sup>Then I saw another angel ascending from the rising of the sun, with the **seal of the living God**, and he called with a loud voice to the four angels who had been given power to harm earth and sea, <sup>3</sup>saying, “Do not harm the earth or the sea or the trees, until we have **sealed the servants of our God** on their foreheads.”

And the LORD said to him, “Pass through the city, through Jerusalem, and put a mark on the foreheads of the men who sigh and groan over all the abominations that are committed in it.”

Ezekiel 9:4

<sup>2</sup>Then I saw another angel ascending from the rising of the sun, with the **seal of the living God**, and he called with a loud voice to the four angels who had been given power to harm earth and sea, <sup>3</sup>saying, “Do not harm the earth or the sea or the trees, until we have **sealed the servants of our God** on their foreheads.”

“In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were **sealed** with the promised Holy Spirit, 14 who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

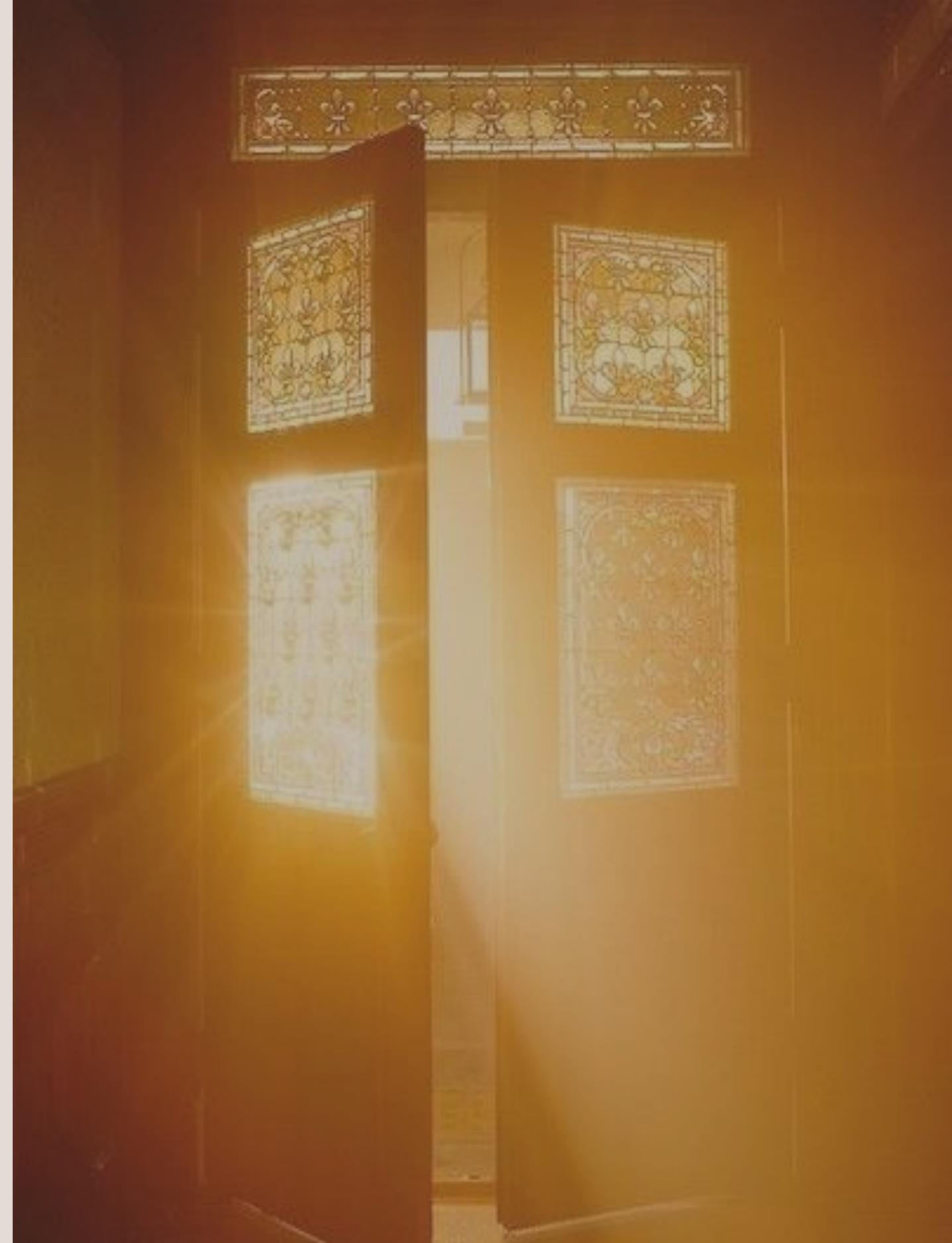
Ephesians 1:13–14

And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were **sealed** for the day of redemption.

Ephesians 4:30

Then I looked, and behold, on Mount Zion stood the Lamb, and with him 144,000 who had his name and his Father's name written on their foreheads.

Revelation 14:1



<sup>4</sup> And I heard the number of the sealed, 144,000, sealed from every tribe of **the sons of Israel**:<sup>5</sup>  
12,000 from the tribe of Judah were sealed, 12,000 from the tribe of Reuben, 12,000 from the tribe of Gad,<sup>6</sup> 12,000 from the tribe of Asher, 12,000 from the tribe of Naphtali, 12,000 from the tribe of Manasseh,<sup>7</sup> 12,000 from the tribe of Simeon, 12,000 from the tribe of Levi, 12,000 from the tribe of Issachar,<sup>8</sup> 12,000 from the tribe of Zebulun, 12,000 from the tribe of Joseph, 12,000 from the tribe of Benjamin were sealed.

...our God in this day, in that day, and in every day, has His faithful servants who are His possession and have His protection. As unfaithful as Israel has been, and as unfaithful as we have been, our God, on the other hand, is completely and utterly faithful. Having sealed us with the Holy Spirit, He maintains His covenant promises to His people. We find ourselves saved, safe, and secure. In the Lamb we have His stamp of approval!

Daniel L. Akin in **Exalting Jesus in Revelation**

# PARALLELS BETWEEN MATTHEW 24:4-14 & REVELATION 6-7

<b>Matthew 24</b>	<b>Revelation 6-7</b>
false Christs (24:4-5)	rider on the white horse (6:1-2)
wars and rumors of wars (24:6-7)	rider on the red horse (6:3-4)
famine (24:7)	rider on the black horse (6:5-6)
famines and plagues (24:7)	rider on a pale horse (6:7-8)
persecution on martyrdom (24:9-10)	martyrs (6:9-11)
terrors and great cosmic signs (Luke 21:11)	terror (6:12-17)
worldwide preaching of the gospel (24:14)	worldwide preaching of the gospel Ministry of the 144,000 (7:1-8)

# What about us?

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and **you will be my witnesses** in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth. -Acts 1:8

Missions is not the ultimate goal of the church. Worship is. **Missions exists because worship doesn't.** Worship is ultimate, not missions, because God is ultimate, not man. When this age is over and the countless millions of the redeemed fall on their faces before the throne of God, missions will be no more. It is a temporary necessity. But worship abides forever.

John Piper, Let the Nations Be Glad

<sup>9</sup>After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands,  
<sup>10</sup>and crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!"

<sup>11</sup>And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, <sup>12</sup>saying, “Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen.”

<sup>13</sup>Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, “Who are these, clothed in white robes, and from where have they come?” <sup>14</sup>I said to him, “Sir, you know.” And he said to me, “These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

<sup>15</sup>“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 shelter them with his presence. <sup>16</sup>They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat. <sup>17</sup>For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of living water, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”



"This is the end. For me, the

**BEGINNING**

of life."