

1. Today in our study of Revelation, we will be looking at the portion of scripture that often draws the most attention when studying end time events, “The Great 7 Year Tribulation.”
 - a. **Daniel 12:1** tells us the tribulation will be a time unlike anything this world has ever seen before.
2. But before we dive into the doom, gloom, and fireworks, I think it’s important for us to remember...
 - a. **Bible prophecy is not meant to scare you but prepare you.**
 - i. **Jesus return is a reality!**
 - b. **We are blessed when we read Revelation.**
 - i. **Revelation 1:3 God blesses the one who reads the words of this prophecy to the church, and He blesses all who listen to its message and obey what it says, for the time is near.**
3. So, as we dive into this, here is a simple layout of Revelation.
 - a. Last week I broke into 4 Main Sections, this week I have broken those sections down into more detailed segments. **(Show Slide)**
 - i. Revelation 1-3: Church Age (present age).
 - ii. Revelation 4:1-2 “Caught Up” Rapture of the Saints.
 - iii. Revelation 4-5: Worship in Heaven.
 - iv. Revelation 6-18: The Great 7 Year Tribulation.
 - v. Revelation 19-20: Defeat of Satan and all Evil.
 - vi. Revelation 21-22: New Heaven and Earth.
 - b. **(Show Slide) SIMPLE End Time Event Timeline.**
 - i. I want to show you this, because I believe we, who love and live for Christ, will be in heaven when the events take place upon the earth during the great tribulation.
 1. So, let’s jump into the scene **IN HEAVEN Revelation chapter 5:1-7.**
 2. The significance of this scene is vital to understand because it reminds us of who is in control!
4. **Read Revelation 5:1-7.**
 - i. right hand = ultimate power and authority.
 - b. **The 7 sealed scroll contains the writing of God’s complete plan and destiny of the world.**
 - i. This scroll contains the end judgements upon all evil and the eternal inheritance of the body of Christ.

- c. **No heavenly angel, or natural human can break the seal. It's specifically addressed to Christ and Christ alone.**
 - i. **All authority has been given to Christ in heaven and on earth!** (Matthew 28:18)
 - ii. Christ is the only way, truth, and life.
 - 1. **Revelation is the revealing of Christ from High Priest to King of Kings!**
 - a. From lamb to lion!
 - d. So when Jesus breaks the Seven sealed scroll, THEN the systematic judgements of the great tribulation begin.
 - i. These judgements are broken into groups of 7's.
 - 1. 7 Seals, 7 Trumpets, 7 Bowls.
5. **7 Seals.** (Revelation 6-8)
- a. The First four seals contain 4 riders upon a colored horses that ride throughout the tribulation period.
 - b. **1st Seal: The Conqueror on the White Horse.** (Rev. 6:2)
 - i. **This is Not Christ, but the Anti-Christ!**
 - ii. Look at these details...
 - 1. This rider has a crown, BUT Jesus has many crowns. (Rev. 19:12)
 - 2. This rider carries a bow (political conquest), BUT Jesus carries a sword. (Rev. 19:15)
 - iii. **Satan always attempts to appear as an angel of light.** (2 Cor. 11:14)
 - 1. **But Satan is the great deceiver and father of lies.**
 - iv. The Anti-Christ, the lawless man (1 Thess. 5:3), will gather many nations together to sign a "peace treaty" with Israel.
 - 1. **Dan. 9:27** The moment this treaty is signed, the tribulation begins.
 - c. **2nd Seal: The Firey Red Horse.** (Rev. 6:4)
 - i. International War and violence.
 - ii. Nations will be wiped out.
 - 1. **Daniel 7:8,24, Daniel 8:24-25, Daniel 11:21,24** Bible prophecy the anti-Christ will completely destroy 3 of the 10 nations who originally supported him.
 - a. Why? The Anti-Christ is not a peaceful person. The enemy comes to steal, kill, and destroy.

- d. **3rd Seal: The Black Horse. (Rev. 6:5)**
 - i. Famine, poverty, and economic collapse due to global war.
 - ii. We complain about how prices are inflated now... **Revelation 6:6 a loaf of bread will cost an entire day's wage.**
 - 1. The luxury of oil and wine will be available but not affordable.
 - a. This is all part of the Anti-Christ system in the tribulation.
 - iii. Because guess what...in **Revelation 13:16-18**, about mid-point of tribulation, you will not be able to buy, unless you take the mark of the beast.
 - 1. **But those who take the mark of the beast do not have their names written in the book of life!** (Rev. 14:9-10)
- e. **4th Seal: The Pale Horse. (Rev. 6:8)**
 - i. Death and Hades following this rider...it's the image of the Grim Reaper and Grave digger.
 - 1. The pale horse is widespread death.
 - ii. **Revelation 6:8** ¼ of the world population will die due to global war, starvation, and economic collapse.
 - 1. Perspective...8 billion = 2 billion dead.
 - a. **MANY people will die during the tribulation unprepared to meet God.**
 - b. It's a good time to ask yourself, AM I READY?
- f. **5th Seal: The Cries of the Martyrs. (Rev. 6:9)**
 - i. People will be saved during the great tribulation, but at a great cost.
 - 1. Christians will be beheaded for their faith.
 - ii. Martyrs also might be those who found out they were following religion rather than having a relationship with Christ and weren't prepared at the rapture when he came.
 - 1. **Revelation 7:14** Then he said to me, "These are the ones who died in the great tribulation. They have washed their robes in the blood of the Lamb and made them white."
 - a. We don't know! But we do know people will still be saved during this horrible time upon the earth.

- g. **6th Seal:** Natural and Cosmic Destruction. (Rev. 6:12)
 - i. **Great Earthquake.**
 - ii. **Dark Sky** – volcanic eruptions that shoot vast amounts of ash and gas into the upper atmosphere causing the sun to be darkened and the moon to appear blood red.
 - iii. **Stars Falling-** asteroids falling from the sky and hitting the earth.
 - iv. **Sky Receding** – nuclear explosions.
 - 1. Notice God gets peoples attention but not their allegiance.
 - 2. Rather than repent and run to God, they run and hide in caves from the one upon the throne.
 - h. **7th Seal:** **The 7th Seal contains the next series of judgements, 7 Trumpets.**
 - i. But what is amazing about this seal is that all of Heaven becomes silent!
 - ii. Think about that for a moment because it just shows us how horrible it will be during the tribulation.
 - 1. Heaven is in awe and suspense for what has taken place and what lies ahead. (Rev. 8:1)
6. **7 Trumpets.** (Revelation 8-9)
- a. The trumpet judgements are natural, supernatural, and cosmic signs of devastation and destruction.
 - b. **1st Trumpet:** Hailstone and fire mingled with Blood. (Rev. 8:7)
 - c. **2nd Trumpet:** Great Mountain burning with fire. (Rev. 8:8)
 - d. **3rd Trumpet:** Asteroid falls and pollutes 1/3 of rivers. (Rev. 8:10)
 - e. **4th Trumpet:** 1/3 of Sun, moon, stars are darkened. (Rev. 8:12)
 - f. **5th Trumpet:** The bottomless pit opened releasing demonic spirits, to attack and torment people. (Rev. 9:1)
 - i. People will seek death but not find it!
 - g. **6th Trumpet:** Fallen angels in the Euphrates are loosed that go out and kill 1/3 of all humans on the earth. (Rev. 9:14-16)
 - i. These Spirits are what Paul called principalities (Ephesians 6:12).
 - ii. Principalities are the highest-ranking demonic angel.
 - 1. They reside and rule over nations.

2. **Daniel 10:11-13** God heard Daniel's prayer immediately but the prince of the kingdom of Persia (demonic principality) fought in the Spiritual realm for Daniel to receive what he prayed for.
 - iii. Who are these fallen angels? See **Daniel 7** and **Revelation 13**
 1. Lion = Babylon
 2. Bear = Media – Persia
 3. Leopard = Greece
 4. Non-Descriptive = Rome
 - a. Anti-Christ reestablishes old ancient kingdom of the middle east territory.
 - iv. **But what is most shocking, no one repents!**
 1. **Revelation 9:20-21.**
 - h. **7th Seal: Concludes the trumpet judgements and transitions into the 7 Bowl Judgements.**
7. **7 Bowls. (Revelation 16)**
- a. **The bowl judgements are the most severe, God's wrath poured out. (Rev. 16:1)**
 - i. Some speculate the last 3 ½ years but the bible is not specific. We just know throughout the 7-year great tribulation, the judgments gets progressively more severe.
 - b. **1st Bowl:** Boils and sores break out upon those who receive the mark of the beast. (**Rev. 16:2**)
 - c. **2nd Bowl:** Seas turned into blood, killing all within them. (**Rev. 16:3**)
 - d. **3rd Bowl:** Fresh water and springs turn to blood, cutting off water supply. (**Rev. 16:4**)
 - e. **4th Bowl:** Increased heat from the Sun! (**Rev. 16:8-9**)
 - i. This will be unlike anything global warning scientists have ever seen.
 - f. **5th Bowl:** Total darkness consumes the land of the anti-Christ. (**Rev. 16:10**)
 - i. Similar what happened to Pharoah in Egypt (**Exodus 10:21-23**)
 - g. **6th Bowl:** 1,800 Mile River Euphrates dries up so that armies of many nations can cross for battle.

i. We know this is the end battle of Armageddon. (Rev. 16:12-16)

1. Fun fact: Euphrates River has already begun drying up in parts and places in the middle east.

h. **7th Bowl:** The greatest earthquake this world has ever seen followed by 100-pound hail falling from the sky! (Rev. 16:18, 21)

8. Closing.

a. **Studying the events that will soon take place in the tribulation are not meant to be a scare tactic, but a prepare tactic.**

i. Jesus is returning! He is coming at a day and hour no man knows. (See Matthew 24:36)

b. Revelation is to remind and prepare our hearts to stand before Jesus Christ because both righteous and un-righteous will be judged.

i. My prayer for each of you here today is to stand before Christ and hear the words well done my good and faithful servant. (see Matthew 25:14-30)