

Introduction to Daniel's 70th Week

Welcome to the study of the Book of Revelation from the mindset of a Hebrew. This is Volume 3, Daniel's 70th week. In this study, we will primarily be covering Revelation chapters 6-19, but will briefly look at chapters 20 through 22 also. This passage of Scripture is about the finale of God's fierce **wrath** against sin and unrepentant sinners of Mankind. This period of time has commonly been called the "Tribulation." However, for we who are Believers in Christ, this passage of Scripture holds much hope: God will have His ultimate victory over darkness. He will fulfill all of His promises. Wrong will be righted. Those who oppose Him will have their day of judgment, and we will be the recipients of this new world He is preparing for us

The verses in Revelation chapters 1 through 3 were the discussion of Volume 1 of this study. In them, we examined the letters to the seven churches of Asia Minor. These letters are God's love letters to His Bride, the Church. In these letters, God instructs us, the Church, that there are certain things to which we need to pay close attention in our daily walk and witness: Christ should remain as our first love. Also, we are to remember to do the deeds we did when we were first Believers. If any of us suffers for our faith, we are not to fear: He is with us. Even if we are killed, we will go to be with Him. We are to think of our brothers and sisters in the faith first, above ourselves, and we are not to put stumbling blocks before them. We are not to commit acts of immorality and we are not to worship idols. We are to repent of wrong doing and complete the deeds God has given us to do. He tells us to keep His Word and not deny His Name. We are to remain vigilant in our allegiance to Him. All of these instructions will be helpful in our daily walk and witness and if we are called upon to testify or suffer for Christ.

In Volume 2, chapters 4-5 and 20-22 were covered. In these chapters, we looked at "heaven" through the eyes of John, the Revelator, who was also a Jew. We did this by studying the actual throne room scene in Heaven in Revelation 4 – 5 and Isaiah 6, and then the Garden of Eden and the OT Tabernacle as comparative types.

In between chapters 5 and 20, in Volume 3, we will see God's **wrath** upon sin unleashed on the earth and the earth dwellers, the Nation of Israel taking front and center on the world's stage, a huge harvest of souls for the Kingdom of God from the earth, Christ's second coming with His saints, and the establishment of the Millennial Kingdom on earth.

Now bring your attention to our God who loves everyone! He loves all of those in Turkey who are Muslims (99.99% of the people). He loved all of those who took part in the Nazi war machine during WWII. He even loved those who flew the two airplanes into the Twin Towers on 9/11. He will love those unbelievers who reject Him during the Tribulation period. He even loves you and me. However, we are all sinners and sin needs to be atoned for if we are to stand before a Holy God. If a sinful person would dare to stand before God without the blood covering of His Son Jesus, that person would be swallowed up in fire emanating from the Father. We escape this judgment when we

believe on the LORD Jesus Christ that He did atone for our sin on the cross, we repent of our sin, and we ask Him to be our Savior. God doesn't gloss over sin, but He shows mercy to all who are truly repentant and desire to obey Him.

Now, think on this: whether or not we are Believers or obstinate unbelievers, we are all sinners; we were all under the curse of death until Jesus came. God has been incredibly patient towards Mankind and his unbelief for as far back as when Adam and Eve first sinned. In Revelation 6, the sin of all Mankind has come to fullness and God will be bringing fierce judgment down on those who sin and refuse His salvation. This judgment will come in 7 seal judgments, 7 trumpet judgments, and 7 bowl judgments. This is the Day of the LORD. Even during these horrible days that awaits the inhabitants of this earth, God in His love, will reach out to save even more people who will repent and believe. This will be the biggest harvest of Believers of all time. Those who will not come to Him will be facing a severe and eternal judgment away from God. Those who do come to Him will experience Him forever in Heaven.

This is what Paul wrote in his letter to the **Romans 5:8**, "But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." The Scripture continues on to say in **Romans 5:9**, "Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from *the wrath of God* through Him." His desire for all of us is that we might recognize Him for who He is, repent of our sinfulness, and ask Jesus to be our Savior, to forgive us of our sin, and to escape the *wrath of God*. This is what **Ezekiel 18:23** quotes God as saying, "'Do I have any pleasure in the death of the wicked?' declares the Lord GOD, 'rather than that he should turn from his ways and live?'" And again, in **Ezekiel 18:32**, "For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone who dies, declares the Lord GOD. Therefore, repent and live."

Based on the above Scripture in Romans, it is the belief of most of Christianity that we, as Believers in Jesus Christ, will not undergo His Consuming Fire, *His wrath against sin*, because we have the forgiveness of our sins in our Savior Jesus Christ's shed blood on the cross. Based on Paul's teaching in 2 Thessalonians, we also will not be on this earth when God unleashes this fierce *wrath on the earth* and the *earth dwellers*.¹

However, we are still on this earth now and as long as we are here, we continue to sin on a daily basis and we need to keep that slate clean. We need to carry on in our lives as though He is coming back at any moment and that every moment in this life counts. We should strive to keep our thoughts, and our actions, and our speech pure. In addition, our hearts should literally break for those who do not know Him as Lord and Savior. This

¹ However, there are other Believers in Jesus Christ who believe that the events as they unfold in the narrative of the Tribulation Period in Revelation have already happened. They base their thoughts on the words of the angel in Revelation 1:3 and the words of Christ in Matthew 24 that speak to these events happening "soon." They believe that the Revelation was penned and circulated to the Believing Jews before 68 A.D. when Nero was emperor of Rome and before Titus Vespasian destroyed Judah and Jerusalem and scattered the Jewish people. We will look at these two viewpoints in more detail throughout the study.

knowledge should spur us on and make us all the more vigilant to get the message out to all Mankind, including and especially all of our family members and friends, those in our circle of influence.

Before we enter into this last volume of study into the book of Revelation. I would like you to read again this description of Jesus Christ in Revelation 1:12-18. It is written here below in order for you to mark it up in any way that helps you to retain the content. Pay attention. This picture of Jesus is terribly important to know for this study on Daniel's 70th Week.

“Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking with me. And having turned I saw seven golden lampstands, and in the middle of the lampstands I saw one like a son of man, clothed in a robe reaching to the feet, and girded across His chest with a golden sash. His head and His hair were white like white wool, like snow, and His eyes were like a flame of fire. His feet were like burnished bronze, when it has been made to glow in a furnace and His voice was like the sound of many waters. In His right hand He held seven stars, and out of His mouth came a sharp two-edged sword; and His face was like the sun shining in its strength. When I saw Him, I fell at His feet like a dead man. And He placed His right hand on me, saying, ‘Do not be afraid; I am the first and the last, and the living One; and I was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of death and of Hades.’”

Those seven golden lampstands are the seven churches (**1:20**). However, they are representative of the Seven Spirits of God, the Holy Spirit. The flames of the seven golden lampstands are never to be extinguished. They are to burn forever with the pure olive oil that fuels their fire. Jesus was pressed out on the cross, just like those olives were pressed out to give the olive oil for those lamps. Each of the seven churches of Revelation 2 and 3 were given a lampstand. On each of those seven lampstands, there were seven more lamps. In effect, each of the churches, were given the Holy Spirit. He would be their guiding light and God's presence in their midst.

Across Jesus' chest was a golden sash. This sash was probably the pattern God gave to Moses to present to Oholiab and Bezalel in the days after escaping Egypt, when they were fashioning garments for the high priest. This breastplate represented the 12 tribes of Israel in the 12 different stones set into the breastplate.

The white hair, like wool, reminds us of God's eternal nature. He has always been. He is, right now. He will always be. He does not change. Also, He holds all wisdom and knowledge in His person. His ways are always right. His ways are always best. We do not know everything. We need to be obedient to Him. We need to choose life by our obedience to Him even when it doesn't make any sense. If we love Him truly, we will obey Him.

Lastly, His eyes were like a flame of fire and His feet were like burnished bronze caused to glow in a fire. Bronze is the metal used to signify judgment as it is purified in the fire. My friends, my fellow brethren, and my sisters in Christ, Jesus is coming back the second time as the King, yes, but also as the *Shophet Tsaddiq*, the Righteous Judge of all the earth. His judgment will be final. His justice will be quick once He begins to judge. And His justice will be fair and righteous. Get your brain wrapped around this image of the Christ. He is worthy. He is the only One who is worthy to open the book of Revelation 4 and 5 and to break its seals. He came as the *Ga-al*, the Kinsman Redeemer. Jesus Christ paid the purchase price for His Bride. Only He is worthy to open the scroll that unfolds the Tribulation Period of time in the book of Revelation.

So, pay attention!

Wake up! Live with understanding rather than fear!

Our King is coming, the Judge of all the earth!

Choose life! Choose obedience to God!

Be equipped! Be prepared! Be strengthened! Be diligent!

Persevere! Know the things that will surely come to pass!

Make disciples of all Nations!

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