For the great day of His wrath has come, and who is able to stana?"

Revelation 6:17

Wonderful, Merciful Saviour

Selah

YOU ARE AWESOME IN THIS PLACE

ABBA FATHER



Sh'ma Yisrael, Adonai Eloheinu Adonai Echad Baruch Shem k'vod malchutto, I'olam va'ed

Hear, O Israel: the LORD is our God.
The LORD is One.
Blessed be the name of His glorious kingdom for ever and ever.













1: CONQUEST

2: WAR

3: ECONOMIC COLLAPSE

4: DEATH



REVELATION FELTBOARD: Chapter 6

⁹ When He opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of those who had been slain for the word of God and for the testimony which they held. ¹⁰ And they cried with a loud voice, saying, "How long, O Lord, holy and true, until You judge and avenge our blood on those who dwell on the earth?"

REVELATION FELTBOARD: Chapter 6

- ¹¹ Then a white robe was given to each of them; and it was said to them that they should rest a little while longer, until both the number of their fellow servants and their brethren, who would be killed as they were, was completed.
- 12 I looked when He opened the sixth seal, and behold, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became like blood.
 13 And the stars of heaven fell to the earth, as a fig tree drops its late figs when it is shaken by a mighty wind.

REVELATION FELTBOARD: Chapter 6

¹⁴ Then the sky receded as a scroll when it is rolled up, and every mountain and island was moved out of its place. 15 And the kings of the earth, the great men, the rich men, the commanders, the mighty men, every slave and every free man, hid themselves in the caves and in the rocks of the mountains, 16 and said to the mountains and rocks, "Fall on us and hide us from the face of Him who sits on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb! 17 For the great day of His wrath has come, and who is able to stand?"

⁹ When He opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of those who had been slain for the word of God and for the testimony which they held. 10 And they cried with a loud voice, saying, "How long, O Lord, holy and true, until You judge and avenge our blood on those who dwell on the earth?"



"Rest a little while longer."





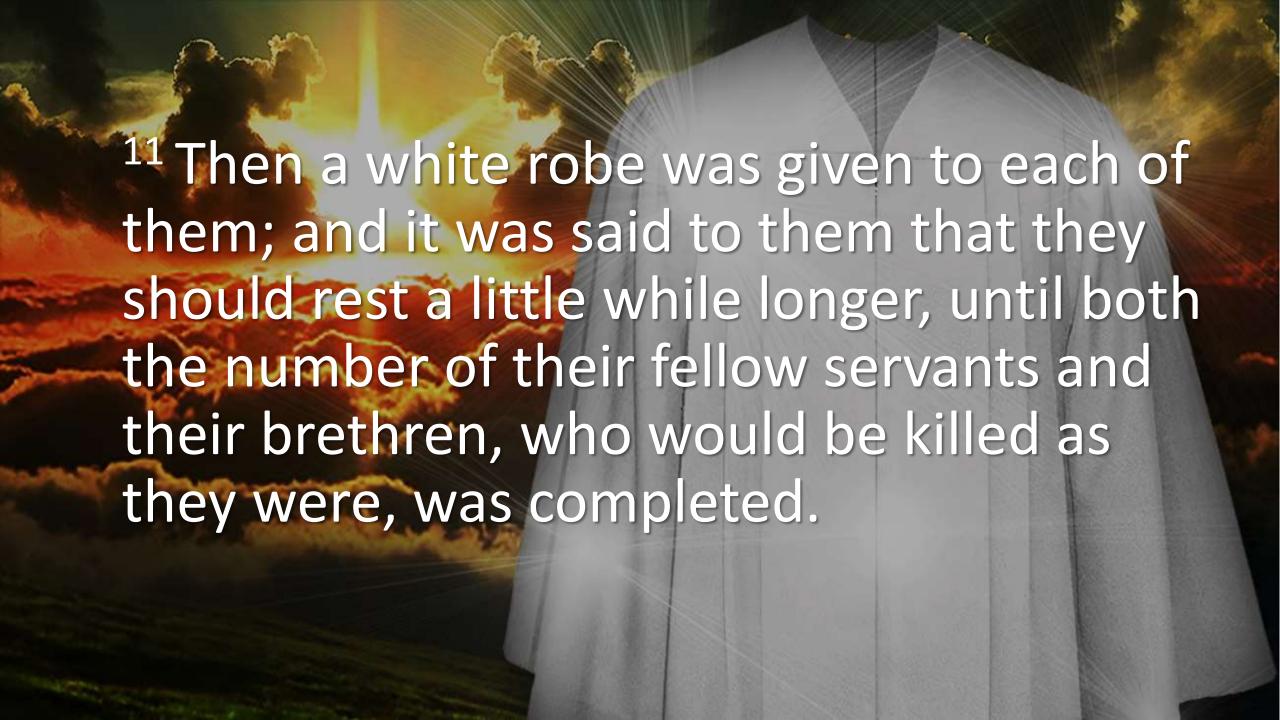
- 5th seal about persecution/massive martyrdom of believers
- Those "under the altar" those who have died for their faith during Tribulation. Referred to as "Tribulation saints."
- Completely separate "group" of believers from "Body of Messiah." Notice <u>NOT referenced as the Church</u> in any way. This is not the Bride.

- "slain for the word of God" Yeshua is the Word of God! (John 1:1) Killed because of unwavering faith in Him, and their testimony. Word of God also entire plan of redemption. Didn't shy away from openly claiming allegiance to Him and to the divine revelation of God.
- Scene in heaven. Martyred saints quite **conscious**, **alert and aware**. "Under altar" may indicate protection after their deaths. They are waiting.
- They want vengeance! Know God has promised it. When will He finally do it?

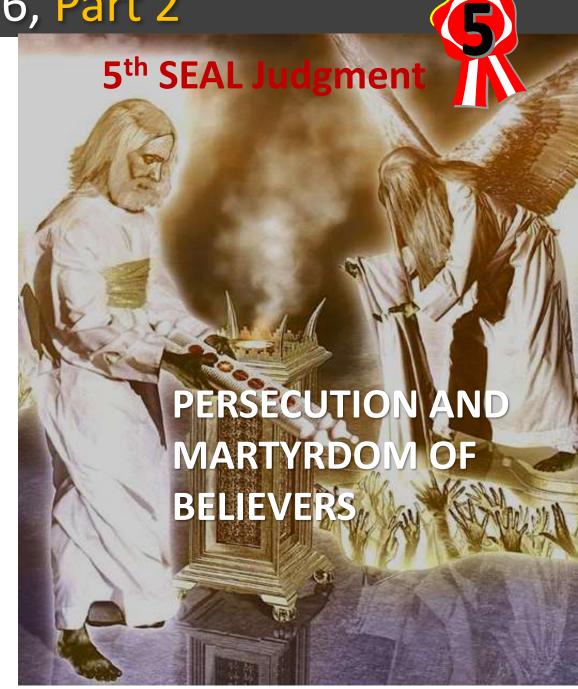
- Don't want personal vengeance/revenge. Calling for God's vindication, completion of His plan.
- Same cry "How long" through centuries by other believers. Most of us today asking the same thing! [Habakkuk's cry: "O LORD, how long shall I cry, And You will not hear? Even cry out to You, "Violence!" And You will not save." (1:1)]
- With these judgments, moving from time of grace, to time of judgment on earth.



- "those who dwell on the earth" literally, "inhabitants of the earth." 20X in Revelation. The lost!
- Does not refer to those who live on earth, but to those who have made earth their final home. They do not hope for heaven. Have rejected God's offer of eternity with Him. Used only of lost.
- Great harvest of souls during Tribulation.
 Unfortunately, many, perhaps most, will be martyred.



- "white robe" = symbol of believer's righteousness (Messiah's righteousness covering us). Given only after belief in Jesus.
- Many more martyrs will join souls under altar.
- Many scriptures in OT support theme of persecution in end times.





²¹ "I was watching; and the same horn was making war against the saints, and prevailing against them, ...²⁵ He shall speak pompous words against the Most High, Shall persecute the saints of the Most High,...And shall intend to change times and law. Then the saints shall be given into his hand For a time and times and half a time."

(Daniel 7:21, 25)

It was granted to him to <u>make war with the saints and to overcome them</u>. (Revelation 13:7)



5th SEAL Judgment



 NOTICE Daniel's reference to "For a time and times and half a time." (7:25)

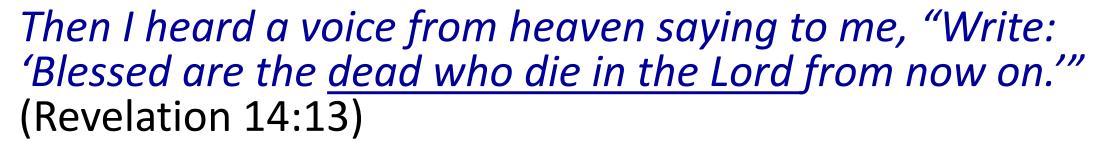
Time = 1 year

Times = 2 years

Half a time = ½ year

TOTAL? 3 ½ years!

5th SEAL Judgment



And it shall come to pass in all the land," Says the LORD, "That two-thirds in it shall be cut off and die, But one—third shall be left in it: I will bring the one—third through the fire, Will refine them as silver is refined, And test them as gold is tested.

They will call on My name, And I will answer them. I will say, 'This is My people'; And each one will say, 'The LORD is my God.'" (Zechariah 13:8-9)

¹² I looked when He opened the sixth seal, and behold, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became like blood. 13 And the stars of heaven fell to the earth, as a fig tree drops its late figs when it is shaken by a mighty wind. ¹⁴ Then the sky receded as a scroll when it is rolled up, and every mountain and island was moved out of its place.





MAJOR catastrophic things happening to earth now (6th seal).

- great earthquake
- sun became black as sackcloth of hair
- moon became like blood
- stars of heaven fell to the earth (like hard figs)
- sky receded as a scroll
- every mountain and island moved

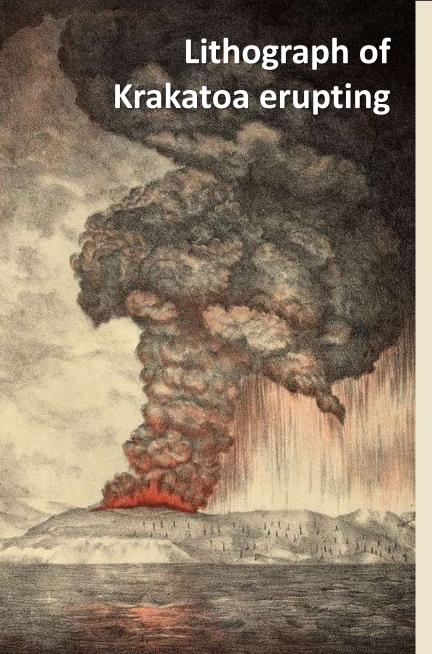


- First thing on list = earthquake. Quakes very common on earth, but not like those during Tribulation.
- Earthquakes mentioned 7 times in Revelation. (of course!). This is the first of the 7.
 - 6:12 As the 6th seal is opened
 - 8:5 As angel throws censer of fire to earth
 - 11:13 Following death of 2 witnesses, will kill 7,000 people, 1/10 of Jerusalem will collapse
 - 16:18 As 7th angel pours out last bowl judgment

6th SEAL Judgment

COMMENTARY: "Perhaps the most concerning earthquake mentioned in Revelation is the one described in Revelation 16:18. "Then there came flashes of lightning, rumblings, peals of thunder and a severe earthquake. No earthquake like it has ever occurred since mankind has been on earth, so tremendous was the quake." The idea of an earthquake of unheard of magnitude is not good news. Massive earthquakes in the past have done incredible damage. The 2010 earthquake in Haiti is estimated to have killed nearly 320,000 people, and the 1976 Tangshan earthquake killed anywhere from 243,000 people to over 655,000. Both of these, however, pale in comparison to the Shaanxi earthquake of 1556. That quake alone killed almost 1 million people. For a new earthquake to surpass this one is a terrible thought." (beliefnet.com, article by Stephanie Hertzenberg)

- 11:13 As temple in heaven opened
- Word "earthquake" (Greek = seismos) used 7 times, but only 5 events are listed (2X 11:13, and 2X 16:18)
- "Stars of heaven fall to earth" like "late figs"
 (untimely, hard as rocks) reference to meteors, other
 things falling from heavens?
- Planet's **weather, environment decaying**. More of this in next judgments. <u>Becomes harder to survive</u>.
- Earth's balance?

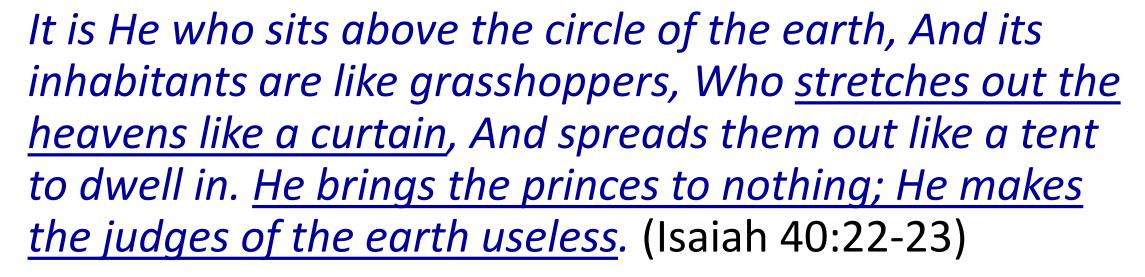


- 6th seal about hardness of human hearts, God's subsequent wrath
- Great earthquake, <u>first of 5</u> earthquakes in Revelation
- "sun black, moon like blood.." 1883, Krakatoa, killed 36,000, global temps
 > 5 years, weather chaotic. Sun + moon dark/ash – moon appeared as "blood"



- "sky receded as a scroll when it is rolled up" wait a minute!...can we survive past this?
- Merely 6th seal judgment, or <u>preview of final</u> one??
- Easy to see why some believe this is an overview.





The One who "stretched out the heavens" is El Shaddai. No one more powerful... No one with more authority and strength. At His will, those same heavens will indeed be "rolled up like a scroll..."



Thus says God the Lord, Who created the heavens and stretched them out, ...(Isaiah 42:5a)

I have made the earth, And created man on it. I—My <u>hands—stretched out the heavens</u>, And all their host I have commanded. (Isaiah 45:12)

And you forget the LORD your Maker, Who <u>stretched</u> out the heavens... (Isaiah 51:13a)

- NKJV = "sky receded"; KJV = "heaven departed";
 Greek = apochōrizō = to rend apart; to separate,
 depart (asunder).
- The one who stretched them out, will roll them up again like a scroll.
- What does this mean? We don't know.
- If literal, atmosphere removed, life cannot exist on earth. Does this mean the end of earth before it is recreated? We don't know.



6th SEAL Judgment

- Does it mean some great revelation of the divine when sky is rolled up? We don't know.
- Lots of speculation!!

• <u>But when does this happen?</u> Now, at 6th seal, or at end of judgment period, before earth recreated?

WE DON'T KNOW. But it will surely happen.



Look how people respond...

15 And the kings of the earth, the great men, the rich men, the commanders, the mighty men, every slave and every free man, hid themselves in the caves and in the rocks of the mountains, 16 and said to the mountains and rocks, "Fall on us and hide us from the face of Him who sits on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb! 17 For the great day of His wrath has come, and who is able to stand?"



6th SEAL Judgment

The mountains quake before Him, The hills melt, And the earth heaves at His presence, Yes, the world and all who dwell in it. Who can stand before His indignation? And who can endure the fierceness of His anger? His fury is poured out like fire, And the rocks are thrown down by Him. (Nahum 1:5-6)

All the host of heaven shall be dissolved, And the <u>heavens</u> shall be rolled up like a scroll; All their <u>host shall fall down</u> As the leaf falls from the vine, And as <u>fruit falling from a fig tree</u>. (Isaiah 34:4)



- Sound familiar? Amazing how <u>Revelation ties together</u> <u>everything else</u> in scripture.
- Inhabitants of the earth would rather beg hills and mountains to fall on them instead of running and falling down before the only One who can save them.
- Truly unregenerate heart of mankind. LAMB they are terrified of would rather save them!



- t
- Mountains often symbol for nations and governments.
- Mountains being moved here may be a literal reference, or symbolic of God wiping away resistance to Him in nations and governments.
- Question remains, is this the end... or just the beginning of the end? Prelude perhaps, a "sneak peak?" An overview? Stay tuned...



- Either way, <u>dramatic changes</u> on earth and in heavens as judgments continue. <u>Creation in chaos</u>.
- "Kings of the earth, great men, rich men, commanders, mighty men, every slave, every free man..." all-inclusive list...government, powerful, rich, military, influential, and just ordinary folks.
- Group of 7 types = entire unsaved population of earth.

- Terrified of "Him who sits on the throne, and the wrath of the Lamb" – any question WHO this is???
- Note! They KNOW who is causing total chaos on earth. Revelation 9:21..."And they did not repent..." Hard hearts!
- Major differences between 2 groups of people Verse 10, martyrs crying out to God ("avenge us!"), in verse 16-17 the wicked crying out to the earth, "Hide us."
 Who/what is listening?

- Reveals truly hardened hearts against God.
- "What sinners dread most is not death, but the revealed presence of God." (Swete)
- True paradox: "The wrath of the Lamb" This gentle creature? Yes!
- "Who is able to stand?" NO ONE! Who can hide? NO ONE!





- Wicked of earth ("inhabitants of the earth") later will blaspheme God and attempt to go to war against Him.
 Talk about a "vain thing!" (Psalm 2)
- "the great day of His wrath" most likely not a literal 24-hour day, but a season.
- Period of time in OT referenced as the "Day of the Lord." (not a good day!) "season" or time of judgment.

What, exactly, is "the Day of the Lord?"

The earth quakes before them, The heavens tremble; The sun and moon grow dark, And the stars diminish their brightness. ¹¹ The LORD gives voice before His army, For His camp is very great; For strong is the One who executes His word. For the day of the LORD is great and very terrible; Who can endure it? JOEL 2:10-11

• Just one of dozens of passages about the **DAY OF THE LORD.** Sounds like what we've read in Revelation!

The book of Revelation IS that day... want a good idea of what will happen during Tribulation and return of Messiah? Read about the "day of the LORD" in scripture.

Look up Scriptures containing the phrase "the day of the LORD" (literally, Day of YHWH) [NOTE: It is also referenced in other terms like "that great day" or merely "the Day," etc.]

"The sun shall be turned into darkness, And the moon into blood, Before the coming of the great and awesome day of the LORD." (Joel 2:31)

"Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision! For the <u>day of the LORD</u> is near in the valley of decision." (Joel 3:14)

The Day of the LORD (YHWH)

- If you read the dozens of scriptures that address the "day of YHVH" ("day of the LORD") you will note, once again, Revelation ties all scripture together.
- Many other references to "this day" ... all of them bear same descriptions. Is this a good day? It depends on whose side you are on!
- Want to know what will happen during the Tribulation? Scriptures use following descriptions...

- Destruction
- Fear
- Pain
- Sorrow
- Cruel
- Wrath
- Fierce anger
- Desolation
- Vengeance
- Blood, warfare
- Devastation
- Alarm

- Clouds, darkness
- Sword
- Gloominess
- Thick darkness
- Great, very terrible
- Awesome
- Battle, captivity
- Wailing
- No brightness
- Bitterness
- Dreadful

...and

No escape

To name a few....

In general this is what will happen:

- Man will be humbled
- YHWH will be exalted

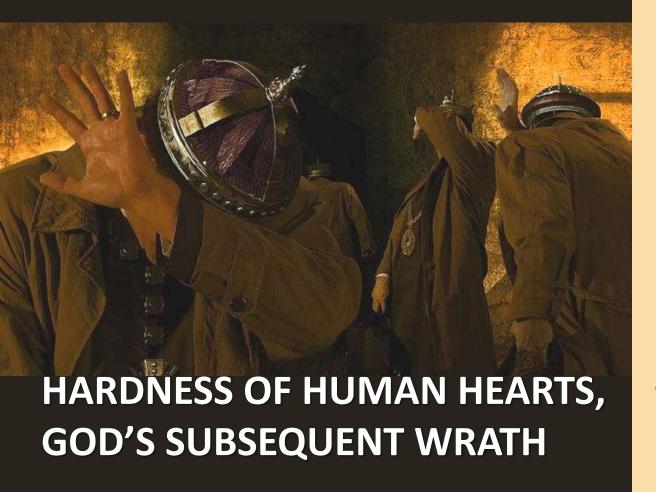
The Day of the LORD (YHWH)

- "Day of the LORD," God now in charge, not man.
- "Day of the <u>LORD"</u> (day of YHWH) <u>no longer the day of man!
 </u>
- End of "man's day" will be when Jesus steps down on the Mount of Olives, splitting it in two.
- Eventually the Lamb will reign, forever!

COMMENTARY: "The "Day of the Lord" is the Biblical term describing the culmination of the last days of world history as we have known it — specifically, it refers to the actual, physical, literal Second Coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. This is the time when Jesus Christ wins the Battle of Armageddon and the Battle of Jerusalem and then His feet literally touch down on the Mount of Olives, splitting the mountain into two, as foretold by the Prophet Zechariah. The Day of the Lord is described throughout the Scriptures as a day of darkness, gloom, distress and judgment for the nations. The Day of the Lord sets into motion the setting up of the Millennial Kingdom in which Jesus Christ will reign from a new Temple in Jerusalem for a literal 1,000 year period, as described in the Book of Revelation." (Joel Rosenberg)

- All happening in 6th seal = **familiar OT prophecies**. Amos, Ezekiel, Joel, Isaiah, even Psalms, filled with last days prophecies, *some of which happen here*.
- Everything unsaved mankind worshipped, trusted, knew and exalted in this earth is <u>now dissolving</u>. Removed and taken away. Now what or whom will they trust??
- Remember, we interpret God's word in a literal sense.
 10 literal plagues in Egypt (Exodus), and events here also literal.

Likely all literal...



- Overview conditions throughout:
 - Conquest
 - Wars, Bloodshed
 - Economic disaster
 - Pestilences, Disease, Death
 - Martyred saints
 - Cataclysmic earth events
- ENDING with lost destroyed, heaven and earth recreated

• Jesus told disciples about end time: 6th SEAL Judgment "For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places. All these are the beginning of sorrows." (Matthew 24:7-8 entire chapter)

He predicted:

- World conquests
- Wars
- Famines
- Pestilences
- Earthquakes
- Martyrdom
- Signs in the heavens

Precisely what we see in opening of seal judgments.

First part of Tribulation has begun. How much time it covers is not clear. Perhaps the entire 7 years.

- Seal judgments may be seen as a grand overview, a stunning way to introduce overall conditions present in the Tribulation.
- May be introduced during time Jesus called "beginning of sorrows" (Greek phrase known to indicate beginning of a woman's labor pains), likely first half of Tribulation (1,260 days, 3 ½ years, 42 months, a time, times and half a time, etc.)



TRIBULATION

(7 years, Daniel 9:27, "70th week")

"time, times, and half a time"

3 ½ Years

3 ½ Years

2nd Coming

"beginning of sorrows"



"Great Tribulation"

"Abomination of Desolation"







• When Jesus spoke to His disciples about this time, he made this statement: "For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places. All these are the beginning of sorrows." (Matthew 24:7-8 entire chapter)

Here He predicted:

- World conquests
- Wars
- Famines
- Pestilences

- Earthquakes
- Martyrdom
- Signs in the heavens

Precisely what we see in opening of the seal judgments.

Tribulation has begun. How much time seals take up not clear.

TRIBULATION

3 ½ Years

3 ½ Years

"beginning of sorrows"

6 SEAL



STILL TO COME

"time, times, and half a time"

"Abomination of Desolation"

Jesus' words in Matt 24:7-8

- World conquests
- Wars
- Famines
- Pestilences
- Earthquakes Judgments
- Martyrdom
- Signs in the heavens

"Therefore when you see the 'abomination of desolation,' spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place" (whoever reads, let him understand), "then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains... For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be. (Matthew 24: 15-16, 21)

COMMENTARY:

"The first six seals are a "Summary of the judgments distributed over the whole book; a brief summary of what will occur in 'the day of the Lord,' up to the time of His actual Apocalypse or Unveiling in chapter 19." (Bullinger)

Many see the judgments as non sequential, but more parallel (running together and concurrently at times). More on this later!





- Just like the throne room reminds us of the splendor, power and sovereignty of God's throne and His plan, chapter 6 prepares us for the horrible ongoing conditions of the Tribulation.
- Looked at together, offer stark and startling contrast of inhabitants of heaven, and inhabitants of the earth!

Chapter concludes with perhaps the greatest question of Revelation, or any book in scripture for that matter:

"For the great day of His wrath has come, and who is able to stand?"

Yevarekh-kha Adonai veyishmerekha May the LORD bless you and keep you

Ya'er Adonai panav elekha vihunneka

May the LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you

Yissa Adonai panav elekha viyasem lekha shalom.

May the LORD lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

