

## I. THE CLIMAX OF THE END-TIME DRAMA: THE SECOND COMING OF JESUS

- A. The second coming is often thought of as an immediate event that occurs suddenly and concludes suddenly. This isn't true. It will be dramatic. It will take a considerable amount of time (30 days). And Jesus will not suspend human processes. He will return as a Jewish Man to establish a government in Jerusalem; and He will be covered in blood (Isa. 34:5-10; 63:1-6; Hab. 3:3-18; Zech. 9:14; Ps. 110:5-6; Deut. 33:2; Num. 24:17-19; Rev. 19:11-16).
- B. The second coming will have three "stations" or "stages." Jesus will (1) appear in the sky before (2) marching through the land in the Middle East before (3) marching into Jerusalem to destroy His enemies. In this session we're going to look at these three stages.
- C. Structurally, chronologically and exegetically the second coming **begins at the sounding of the seventh trumpet** (Rev. 11:15-19; 10:7; Mt. 24:29-31; 1 Thess. 4:16; 1 Cor. 15:51-52; 2 Thess. 2:1-3) and **concludes with the seventh bowl of wrath** (Rev. 16:17-21). The second coming and the dispensing of the 7 bowls of wrath occur simultaneously over a period of 30 days.

## II. JESUS APPEARS IN THE SKY

- A. The first stage of the second coming process is when Jesus appears in the sky (or "in the clouds") and commissions the angels to gather the elect in the rapture. It's critical that we understand the second coming and the rapture as the same event. There are only four passages in the Bible that speak explicitly about the rapture and all four say very clearly that it occurs at the last trumpet; which is the 7<sup>th</sup> trumpet; which is after the 1260 days of the Great Tribulation.

***"Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed – in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the Last Trumpet. For the Trumpet will sound, and the dead in Christ will be raised..." (1 Corinthians 15:51-52)***

***"The Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout with the voice of the archangel, and with the Trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first." (1 Thessalonians 4:16)***

***"Immediately after the Tribulation of those days...He will send His angels with a Great Sound of a Trumpet, and they will gather together His elect..." (Matthew 24:29-31)***

***"Concerning the coming of our Lord and our gathering together [Rapture] to meet Him....Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day will not come unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin [Antichrist] is revealed..." (2 Thessalonians 2:1-3)***

- B. The rapture of the Church initiates His Second Coming Procession as well as the taking over of every earthly government and institution as well as many other events that occur over a **30-day period** (compare the 1,260 days (3½ year) in Rev. 11:2-3; 12:6, 14; 13:5; Dan. 7:25; 9:27; 12:7 with the 1,290 days of Dan. 12:11). We must understand the significance of the last and 7<sup>th</sup> trumpet.

***“...in the days of the sounding of the Seventh Angel/Trumpet, when He is about to sound, the mystery of God would be finished, as He declared it to His servants the prophets.” (Revelation 10:7)***

***<sup>15</sup> The seventh angel sounded...loud voices in heaven, saying, "The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord...<sup>18</sup> The nations were angry, and Your wrath has come, and the time...that You should reward...the saints...and destroy those who destroy the earth. (Rev. 11:15-18)***

- C. Jesus' appearance in the sky will be sudden, dramatic and global in impact; hardly a secret event:

***<sup>7</sup> Behold, He is coming with clouds, and every eye will see Him...and all the tribes of the earth will mourn because of Him... (Rev. 1:7)***

***"Immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then will appear in heaven the sign of the Son of Man, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. And he will send out his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other. (Mat 24:29-31)***

### III. JESUS MARCHES ON LAND

- A. Isaiah saw Jesus marching through the nation of Jordan stained in the blood of His enemies

***1 Who is this who comes from Edom, with dyed garments from Bozrah (capital of Edom), this One who is glorious in His apparel, traveling in the greatness of His strength?-- "I who speak in righteousness, mighty to save." 2 Why is Your apparel red, and Your garments like one who treads in the winepress? 3...I have trodden them in My anger, and trampled them in My fury; their blood is sprinkled upon My garments, and I have stained all My robes. 4 For the day of vengeance is in My heart, and the year of My redeemed has come." (Isa. 63:1-4)***

***<sup>2</sup> The indignation of the LORD is against all nations, and His fury against all their armies; He has utterly destroyed them, He has given them over to the slaughter...<sup>5</sup> "For My sword...shall come down on Edom...for judgment. 6 The sword of the LORD is filled with blood...for the LORD has a sacrifice in Bozrah, and a great slaughter in the land of Edom...<sup>8</sup> For it is the day of the LORD's vengeance, the year of recompense for the cause of Zion. (Isa. 34:1-8)***

- B. Habakkuk saw Jesus marching through the Middle East in judgment and deliverance

***3 God came from Teman (in southern Edom), the Holy One from Mount Paran. His glory covered the heavens, and the earth was full of His praise. 5 Before Him went pestilence, and fever followed at His feet...<sup>7</sup> the land of Midian trembled (Arabian desert reaching into the Sinai Peninsula)...<sup>12</sup> You***

**marched through the land in indignation; You trampled the nations in anger. 13 You went forth for the salvation of Your people... (Hab. 3:3-13) <sup>1</sup>**

C. David saw Jesus filling the earth with dead bodies:

**<sup>5</sup> The Lord (Father) is at Your right hand; He (Jesus') shall execute kings in the day of His wrath. 6 He shall judge among the nations, He shall fill the places with dead bodies, He shall execute the heads of many countries. (Ps. 110:5-6)**

D. John saw Jesus covered in blood, tattoos and zeal to destroy His enemies:

**<sup>11</sup> Behold, a white horse. He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war...13 He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God. 14 And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses. 15 Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations...He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God...19 I saw the beast, the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against Him...20 The Beast was captured, and with him the False Prophet...these two were cast alive into the lake of fire burning with brimstone. 21 And the rest were killed with the sword which proceeded from the mouth of Him... (Rev. 19:11-21)**

E. John saw that at the 6<sup>th</sup> bowl being dispensed, masses of men bent on war would march towards Jerusalem. If the 7<sup>th</sup> Trumpet marked the replacing of world governments and the rapture, what are these people doing still alive and bent on "making war with the Lamb"? Jesus' procession on land is the only way to make sense of these passages.

**<sup>12</sup> The sixth angel poured out his bowl on the river Euphrates, and its water was dried up, so that the way of the kings from the East might be prepared. 13 I saw three unclean spirits like frogs coming out of the mouth of the dragon (Satan), out of the mouth of the beast (Antichrist), and out of the mouth of the false prophet. 14 They are spirits of demons, performing signs, which go out to the kings of the earth...to gather them to the Battle of that great day of God Almighty...16 They gathered them together to...Armageddon. (Rev. 16:12-16)**

F. The angel Gabriel told Daniel that the Abomination would remain standing in Jerusalem for 1290 days which is 30 days longer than the duration of the 1260 Tribulation:

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<sup>1</sup> **Mount Paran** is in the Sinai Peninsula, 30 miles south of Israel, and 130 miles north of Sinai. **Mount Seir** is the range from the S. of the Dead Sea to Elath, N. of the gulf of Akabah, on the E. of the Arabah. The distance from Mt. Sinai to Israel is 165 miles. It is an 11-day journey traveling 15 miles a day with flocks (Deut 1:2). **Teman** is a town in the southern part of Edom. **Midian** is the land east of the Dead Sea, that stretched to the south through the Arabian desert, reaching to parts of the Sinai Peninsula. It lay between Edom and Paran and it is in Arabia today.

***And from the time that the daily sacrifice is taken away, and the Abomination of Desolation is set up, there shall be 1,290 days. (Dan. 12:11)***

#### IV. JESUS MARCHES INTO JERUSALEM

- A. The conclusion of this age is Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem. He will gather all nations against Israel and will defend them as He marches into the city as the greater David. Upon arrival He will deliver the remnant of ethnic Jews who survived Jacob's Trouble (1/3 of the population; see Zech. 13:8-9).

***<sup>1</sup> Behold, the day of the LORD is coming...<sup>2</sup> For I will gather all the nations to battle against Jerusalem; the city shall be taken...half of the city shall go into captivity... <sup>3</sup> Then the LORD will go forth and fight against those nations...<sup>4</sup> In that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives... and the Mount of Olives shall be split in two... making a very large valley...<sup>5</sup> Then you shall flee through My mountain valley...Yes, you shall flee... Thus the LORD my God will come, and all the saints with You. (Zech. 14:1-5)***

- B. David saw the day that One who possessed the fullness of the earth as His own inheritance would enter Jerusalem as King; a King mighty in battle:

***Lift up your heads, O you gates (of Jerusalem)! And be lifted up, you everlasting doors! And the King of glory shall come in. <sup>8</sup> Who is this King of glory? The LORD strong and mighty, the LORD mighty in battle (Armageddon campaign). (Ps. 24:7-8)***

- C. John described this procession into Jerusalem as he saw it:

***<sup>11</sup> Behold, a white horse. He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war...<sup>13</sup> He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God. <sup>14</sup> And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses. <sup>15</sup> Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations...He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God...<sup>19</sup> I saw the beast, the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against Him...<sup>20</sup> The Beast was captured, and with him the False Prophet...these two were cast alive into the lake of fire burning with brimstone. <sup>21</sup> And the rest were killed with the sword which proceeded from the mouth of Him... (Rev. 19:11-21)***

- D. This is the day that Jesus prophesied of in Matthew 23:39:

***I say to you (governmental leaders in Jerusalem), you shall see Me no more till you say, "Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD!" (Mt. 23:39)***