

The Revelation of Jesus Christ Chapter 13

Then the dragon became furious with the woman and went off to make war on the rest of her offspring, on those who keep the commandments of God and hold to the testimony of Jesus.

Revelation 12:17

13:1 And he stood on the sand of the sea and I saw a beast rising out of the sea, with ten horns and seven heads, with ten diadems on its horns and blasphemous names on its heads.

And the angel said to me, "The waters that you saw, where the prostitute is seated, are peoples and multitudes and nations and languages. Revelation 17:15

Rising out of the sea can be translated as rising out of the masses of people.

Satan will call the beast out of the sea of humanity.

After this I saw in the night visions, and behold, a fourth beast, terrifying and dreadful and exceedingly strong. It had great iron teeth; it devoured and broke in pieces and stamped what was left with its feet. It was different from all the beasts that were before it, and it had ten horns. Daniel 7:7

Revelation 13 & Daniel COMPARISON!

by Revelation Scriptures.com

1/2 of Revelation 13 is quoting from Daniel!

	Daniel	Revelation 13
"Beast" from "Sea"	Daniel 7:2-3	Revelation 13:1
"10 Horns"	Daniel 7:7-8, 20, 24	Revelation 13:1
"Blasphemy" &	Daniel 7:8,11,20,25	Revelation 13:1
"Speaking Great Things"	Daniel 11:36	Revelation 13:5-6
"Leopard" / "Bear" / "Lion"	Daniel 7:4-6	Revelation 13:2
"Great Power" (Source)	Daniel 8:24	Revelation 13:2
"42 Months" or 31/2 Years	Daniel 7:25, 11:7	Revelation 13:5
"Conquer Saints"	Daniel 7:21,25, 8:24	Revelation 13:7
Global Domination & Authority	Daniel 7:23	Revelation 13:7
"Captivity""Sword""Flame""Plunder"	Daniel 11:33	Revelation 13:10
"Worship" "Image" or "Die"	Daniel 3:6, 15	Revelation 13:15



Antichrist is coming, so now many Antichrists have come.

Therefore we know that it is the last hour. 1 John 2:18

John is writing his epistle in the first century, yet saying it is the last hour. Why?

Because the Messiah has come! It is the last hour because there is nothing on God's agenda that needs to happen for Christ to return.

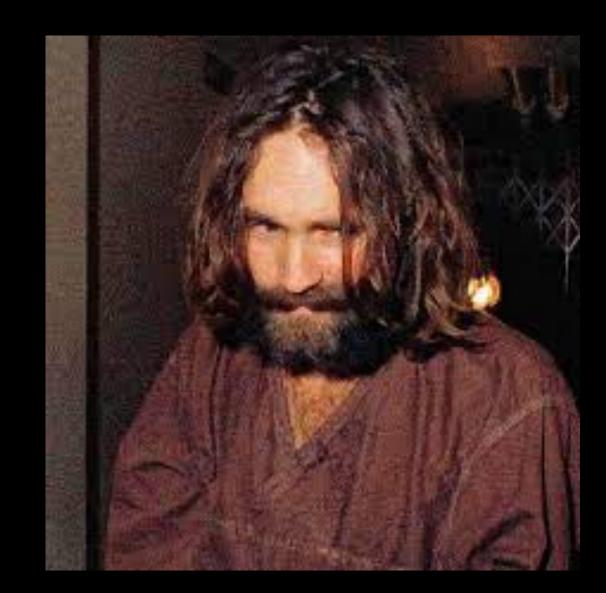
John tells us that there is another reason we know it's the last hour because the Messiah came, but also because false christs have appeared.



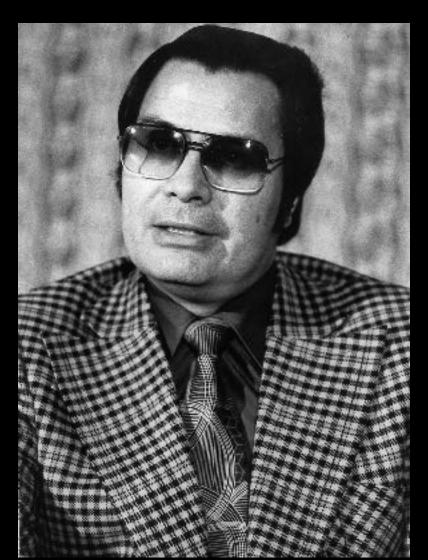
6 Many will come in my name, saying, 'I am he!' and they will lead many astray. Mark 13:6

Jesus said you can expect false christs.
They will be against Christ, but subtly they will attempt to take the place of Christ.

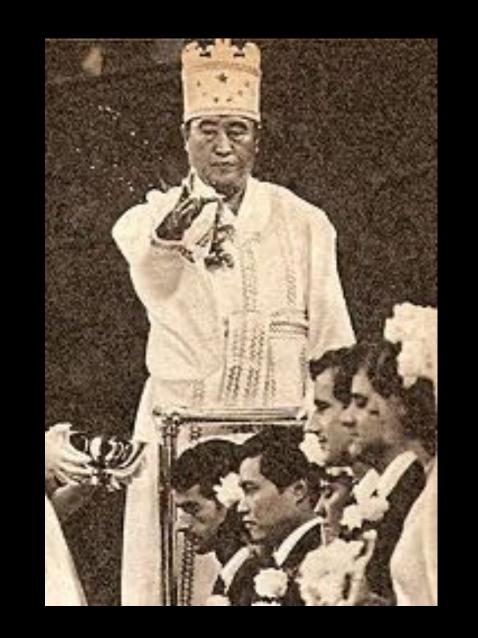
Charles Manson claimed to be Christ....



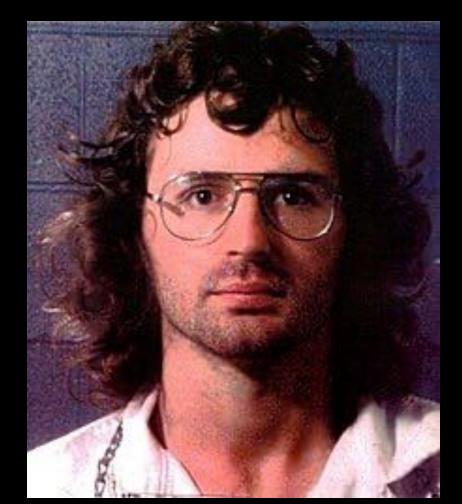
Jim Jones claimed to be Christ....



Sun Myung Moon's followers believed him to be the Messiah and the Second coming of Christ...



David Koresh claimed to be the final prophet and "the Son of God, the Lamb"



If you Google for those who have claimed to be Christ, you will come up with a very long list.

20th century [edit]

- John Hugh Smyth-Pigott (1852–1927). Around 1890 Smyth-Pigott started leading meetings of the Agapemonite cc as his second wife and she had three children named Glory, Power and Hallelujah.^[12] The house which may have neo-gothic style. It is currently the home of the television presenter Vanessa Feltz and was previously the home of died in 1956.^[14] Her funeral in 1956 was the only time when outsiders were admitted to the chapel.^[15]
- Haile Selassie I (1892–1975) did not claim to be Jesus and disapproved of claims that he was Jesus, but the Rast Second Coming. He embodied this when he became Emperor of Ethiopia in 1930, perceived as confirmation of the Testament, who is also expected to return a second time to initiate the apocalyptic day of judgment. He is also call members.^[16]
- Ernest Norman (1904–1971), an American electrical engineer who co-founded the Unarius Academy of Science ir archangel named Raphael.^[17] He claimed to be the reincarnation of other notable figures including Confucius, Mo Great.^[18]
- Krishna Venta (1911–1958), born Francis Herman Pencovic in San Francisco, founded the WKFL (Wisdom, Know late 1940s. In 1948 he stated that he was Christ, the new messiah and claimed to have led a convoy of rocket ship after being suicide bombed by two disgruntled former followers who accused Venta of mishandling cult funds and
- Jesu Oyingbo (1915–1988), a Nigerian man who proclaimed himself to be Jesus Christ returned. [19][20]
- Ahn Sahng-hong (1918–1985), a South Korean who founded the World Mission Society Church of God in 1964, w
 Church of God teach that Zahng Gil-jah is "God the Mother", who they explain is referred to in the Bible as the New Father.^[21]
- Sun Myung Moon (1920–2012), believed by members of the Unification Church to be the Messiah and the Second
 ("Unificationists") consider Sun Myung Moon and his wife, Hak Ja Han, to be the True Parents of humankind as th
- Jim Jones (1931–1978), founder of Peoples Temple, which started off as an offshoot of a mainstream Protestant s
 reincarnation of Jesus, Akhenaten, the Buddha, Vladimir Lenin and Father Divine in the 1970s.^[24] He organized a
 himself after the murders were done.
- Marshall Applewhite (1931–1997), an American who posted a Usenet message declaring, "I, Jesus—Son of God– Heaven's Gate religious group committed mass suicide on March 26, 1997 to rendezvous with what they thought v
- Charles Manson (1934–2017), American criminal, cult leader, and songwriter. [28]
- Yahweh ben Yahweh (1935–2007), born as Hulon Mitchell Jr., a black nationalist and separatist who created the N
 "God, Son of God". He could have only been deeming himself to be "son of God", not God, but many of his follows
 conspiracy to commit murder and sentenced to 18 years in prison.^[31]
- Laszlo Toth (1938–2012), Hungarian-born Australian who claimed he was Jesus Christ as he vandalized Michelan
- Wayne Bent (1941–), also known as Michael Travesser of the Lord Our Righteousness Church. He claims: "I am to convicted on 15 December 2008 of one count of criminal sexual contact of a minor and two counts of contributing."
- Ariffin Mohammed (1943–2016), also known as "Ayah Pin", the founder of the banned Sky Kingdom in Malaysia ir followers to have been the incarnation of Jesus, as well as Shiva, and the Buddha, and Muhammad.^[36]
- Mitsuo Matayoshi (1944–2018) was a conservative Japanese politician, who in 1997 established the World Econo himself lesu Matayoshi. According to his program he will do the Last Judgment as Christ but within the current pol
- Tony Quinn (1944

), an Irish businessman, whose followers believed him to be Jesus Christ. [39][40]
- Hogen Fukunaga (1945–) founded Ho No Hana Sanpogyo, often called the "foot reading cult", in Japan in 1987 af reincarnation of Jesus Christ and Gautama Buddha.^[41]
- José Luis de Jesús (1946–2013), Puerto Rican founder, leader and organizer of Growing in Grace based in Miami 2007.^[42]



Down through the ages, a great amount of energy has been spent to identify the Antichrist. Here are some guesses -



Oliver Cromwell	Judas Iscariot
The Pope (AD991)	Moshe Dayan
Pope Leo	John F. Kennedy
Pope Gregory IX	Henry Kissinger
Adolf Hitler	Caesar Nero
Caligua	Antiochus Epiphanes
Mikhail Gorbachev	Barak Obama



And when they have finished their testimony, the beast that rises from the bottomless pit will make war on them and conquer them and kill them, Revelation 11:7

The beast rises from the bottomless pit.

The beast is the Antichrist!

He is Satan's image walking around in the flesh.

He is the counterfeit to Christ!

He is imitating Christ.

Christ was God in man.

The Antichrist is Satan in man.



And the ten horns that you saw are ten kings (or ten kingdoms) who have not yet received royal power, but they are to receive authority as kings for one hour, together with the beast.

Revelation 17:12

Generally regarded as ten confederations of a European Common Market which will arise in or before the tribulation period.



2And the beast that I saw was like a leopard; its feet were like a bear's, and its mouth was like a lion's mouth. And to it the dragon gave his power and his throne and great authority. Remember the beasts from the book of Daniel! This is how God sees this beast, just like in the Book of Daniel.





The first was like a lion and had eagles' wings. Then as I looked its wings were plucked off, and it was lifted up from the ground and made to stand on two feet like a man, and the mind of a man was given to it. Daniel 7:4



This is the kingdom of Babylon. Babylon was depicted as a lion because it's the king of the jungle and Babylon was the king of the world at that time.





And behold, another beast, a second one, like a bear. It was raised up on one side. It had three ribs in its mouth between its teeth; and it was told, 'Arise, devour much flesh.' Daniel 7:5

The Persian Empire 539-332 BC

The bear represented Medo-Persia, because the bear is strong and massive and the Medo-Persians could amass an army greater than anyone else and they were very, very strong. No one could withstand them.



The bear raised is raised up on it's side.

The lopsided stature represents Persia as it soon overshadowed the Medes in the kingdom.





After this I looked, and behold, another, like a leopard, with four wings of a bird on its back. And the beast had four heads, and dominion was given to it. Daniel 7:6



The leopard, represents the Macedonian Kingdom, or Greece, because like a leopard it would swiftly take over the world. Alexander the Great and his conquests bear witness to that.



The leopard and wings represent the swiftness with which Alexander the Great conquered.

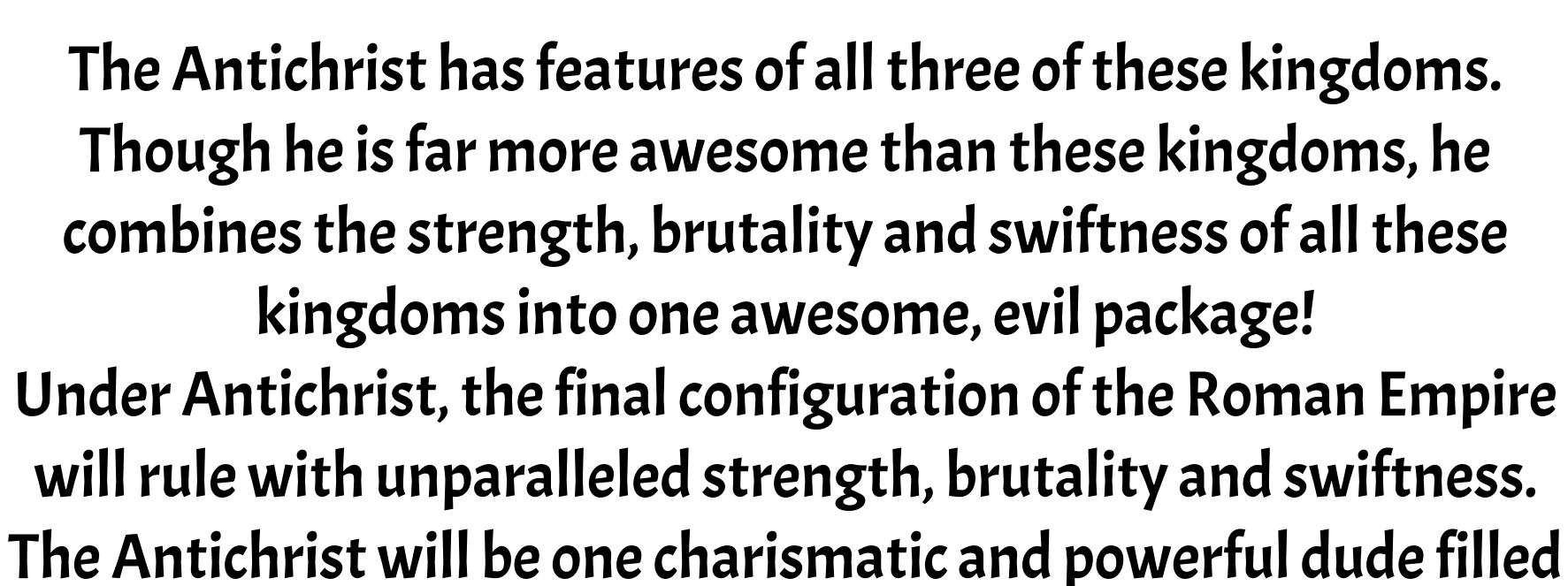
It was written of Alexander that "he was impetuous and fierce in his warlike expeditions as a panther after his prey, and came on his enemies with that speed as if he flew with a double pair of wings."

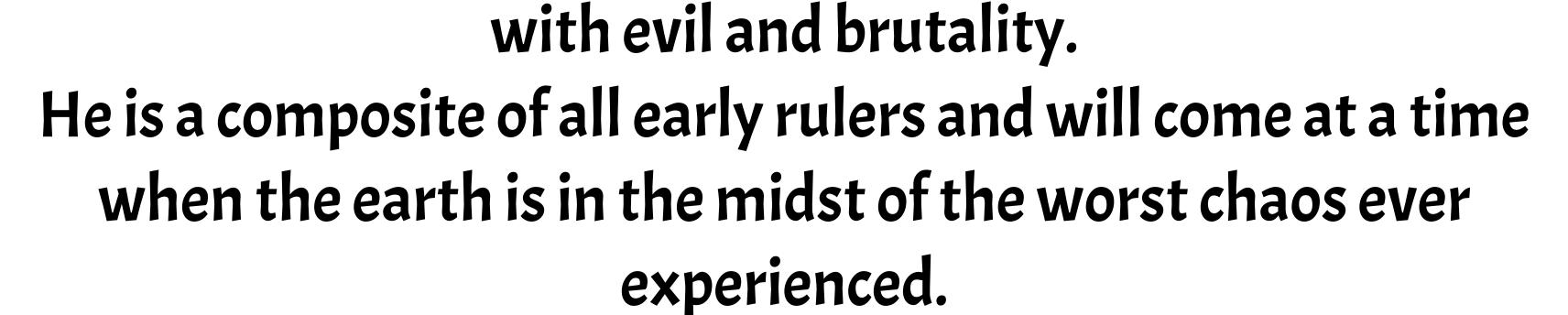


Three animals are used to describe the Antichrist.

A leopard, which speaks of swiftness.

A bear, which speaks of strength, a lion which speaks of fierceness and tenacity.





People will follow him blindly out of exasperation and exhaustion.

He is the political beast.



Daniel saw first a lion, and then a bear, then a leopard, because he's looking at it from behind looking to the future.



John sees it in reverse order.

Those kingdoms have already happened.

But now he sees this final kingdom, seven heads, ten horns, which represent nations because God told Daniel they represent individual nations that will come at the end of times in a confederacy together.

It means world dominance.

The Antichrist will take a ten nation confederacy and revive the old Roman Empire, single-handedly as the designated world executive, and the world will marvel that this guy could do this thing so quickly.



The Antichrist will be an intellectual genius and a great orator.

I considered the horns, and behold, there came up among them another horn, a little one, before which three of the first horns were plucked up by the roots. And behold, in this horn were eyes like the eyes of a man, and a mouth speaking great things and about the ten horns that were on its head, and the other horn that came up and before which three of them fell, the horn that had eyes and a mouth that spoke great things, and that seemed greater than its companions.

Daniel 7:8, 20



The Antichrist will be a master politician.

In his place shall arise a contemptible person to whom royal majesty has not been given. He shall come in without warning and obtain the kingdom by flatteries. Daniel 11:21

The Antichrist will be a commercial wizard.

By his cunning he shall make deceit prosper under his hand, and in his own mind he shall become great. Without warning he shall destroy many. And he shall even rise up against the Prince of princes, and he shall be broken—but by no human hand.

Daniel 8:25



The Antichrist will be a military genius.

He shall honor the god of fortresses instead of these. Daniel 11:38

The Antichrist will be a religious, charismatic person.

who opposes and exalts himself against every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, proclaiming himself to be God.

2 Thessalonians 2:4



In the Antichrist you have an intellectual genius, an outstanding orator, a master politician, a commercial wizard, a military mastermind and a religious leader like none other.

But!!!! The Antichrist will be a physically attractive person!

and the ten horns that were on its head, and the other horn which came up, before which three fell, namely, that horn which had eyes and a mouth which spoke pompous words, whose appearance was greater than his fellows. Daniel 7:20 (NKJV)



3One of its heads seemed to have a mortal wound, but its mortal wound was healed, and the whole earth marveled as they followed the beast.

Satan is of a mind to replicate the death and resurrection of the two witnesses.

So he arranges for the beast to be mortally wounded in the head, probably fakes the beast's death, and brings him back to life!

All the peoples of the world now rush to follow this great leader because, among other things, he has the ability to resurrect himself.

But, he is a fake and will ultimately find himself as one of the first two inhabitants of hell!



How will he do it?
Any NCIS lovers?
Remember Kate?
(Sasha Alexander)



But!
Sasha
Alexander rose
again to play
Maura Isles in
the series
Rizzoli & Isles!

That's
Hollywood
folks!

rizzoli & isles





4 And they worshiped the dragon, for he had given his authority to the beast, and they worshiped the beast, saying, "Who is like the beast, and who can fight against it?" Satan has always wanted to be worshipped..... And he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." Matthew 4:9 and this is obviously Satan's golden hour. Notice the worship and the words Who is like the beast... This is another thinly-veiled attempt by Satan to imitate God. Consider the following verses....



Who is like you, O LORD, among the gods? Who is like you, majestic in holiness, awesome in glorious deeds, doing wonders? Exodus 15:11

All my bones shall say, "O LORD, who is like you, delivering the poor from him who is too strong for him, the poor and needy from him who robs him?" Psalm 35:10

To whom then will you liken God, or what likeness compare with him? Isaiah 40:18

"To whom will you liken me and make me equal, and compare me, that we may be alike? Isaiah 46:5

Who is a God like you, pardoning iniquity and passing over transgression. Micah 7:18



Speaking of this Antichrist, we read in Daniel 11:36-

"And the king shall do as he wills. He shall exalt himself and magnify himself above every god, and shall speak astonishing things against the God of gods.



The Antichrist will exalt himself above all of the gods on the earth.

John Phillips put it this way, he will appear as the Messiah of the Jews, the Madi of the Muslims, the Krishna of the Hindus, he will be the ideal of the humanists, he will be the Christ of the apostate Christendom, the mantra of the eastern mystics and a war-weary, famine-ravished, disease-ridden, plagueinfested, panic-stricken world will hail him.



5 And the beast was given a mouth uttering haughty and blasphemous words, and it was allowed to exercise authority for forty-two months.

The beast will reign for 42 months. He also has a big mouth. I considered the horns, and behold, there came up among them another horn, a little one, before which three of the first horns were plucked up by the roots. And behold, in this horn were eyes like the eyes of a man, and a mouth speaking great things.

Daniel 7:8



6 It opened its mouth to utter blasphemies against God, blaspheming his name and his dwelling (could be the tabernacle in the temple or his heavenly dwelling), that is, those who dwell in heaven (that's us, folks).

For 42 months this beast will be spouting curses against the God of heaven, His dwelling and the church in heaven.

Why do you think the beast is cursing the church in heaven?

Do you think anyone has forgotten the rapture?



⁷Also it was allowed to make war on the saints and to conquer them. And authority was given it over every tribe and people and language and nation,

The saints are those living in the great tribulation period.

He was able to conquer them and put them to death.

Satan is now totally focused on the earth.

He has been thrown down from heaven.

He is the ruler of the earth and is not constrained by the Holy Spirit who is in heaven with the church.

For 42 months, he has unbridled authority over every tribe and people and language and nation.

"Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and put you to death, and you will be hated by all nations for my name's sake. Matthew 24:9



8 and all who dwell on earth will worship it, everyone whose name has not been written before the foundation of the world in the book of life of the Lamb (the saints who will survive into the millennium) who was slain (Christ).



These are the darkest hours in the history of the world. - J Vernon McGee

The Antichrist will be a vicious and sadistic ruler. Here's what we know from scripture -



He kills 2/3rd of all the Jews	Revelation 13
He conquers the city of Jerusalem	Zechariah 14
He slaughters myriads of gentiles	Revelation 13
He wears out the Saints of the Most High	Daniel 7:25



olf anyone has an ear, let him hear: 10 If anyone is to be taken captive, to captivity he goes; if anyone is to be slain with the sword, with the sword must he be slain. Here is a call for the endurance and faith of the saints.

Satan has full sway.

The saints (Jew and Gentile) will be taken captive and slain with the sword.

They are called to endurance and faith.

If anyone has an ear, let him hear:

Truth will still be available for anyone who will listen.

11 Then I saw another beast rising out of the earth 11 It had two horns like a lamb and it spoke like a dragon.





Then I saw another beast rising out of the earth (gē).

This beast is the false prophet and is called out of the land of Israel. He would have to be because this beast is a Satanic messiah and if the Jews were truly going to listen to him and follow him, their longawaited messiah, then he would have to be from Israel. This will be the Antichrist's righthand man.

Olive Tree Enhanced Strong's Dictionary

γῆ

STRONG'S NUMBER: g1093

Dictionary Definition

g1093. $\tilde{\eta}$ $g\bar{e}$; contracted from a primary word; seil; by extension a region, or the solid part or the whole of the terrene globe (including the occupants in each application): — country, earth(-ly), ground, land, world.

AV (252) - earth 188 land 12, ground 18, country 2, world 1, earthly + <u>g1537</u> + <u>g3588</u> 1;

- I. arable land
- II. the ground, the earth as a stand-



11 It had two horns like a lamb (a fake christ) and it spoke like a dragon (it was articulate and convincing as it spoke the gospel of Satan).

Then if anyone says to you, 'Look, here is the Christ!' or 'There he is!' do not believe it. 24 For false christs and false prophets will arise and perform great signs and wonders, so as to lead astray, if possible, even the elect. Matthew 24:23-24

The first beast was a political leader.

This second beast is an imitator of Christ.

He is a <u>religious</u> leader.

He comes like a docile lamb which would reinforce the fact that he's a spiritual leader.



So you've got the dragon which is Satan, we saw him in Chapter 12.

You have the beast, the first beast out of the sea, which is the Antichrist, a political ruler.

Now you have the false prophet, which is the beast out of the land.

So we have a counterfeit trinity.

And even as Jesus always pointed toward the Father, the Antichrist points toward the dragon.

And even as the Holy Spirit always points toward Jesus Christ, the false prophet points the world toward the Antichrist.

A satanic trinity.



12 It exercises all the authority of the first beast in its presence, and makes the earth and its inhabitants worship the first beast, whose mortal wound was healed.

The false christ has the same authority as the first beast.

He will preach convincingly and lead the first apostate church in the worship of the beast.

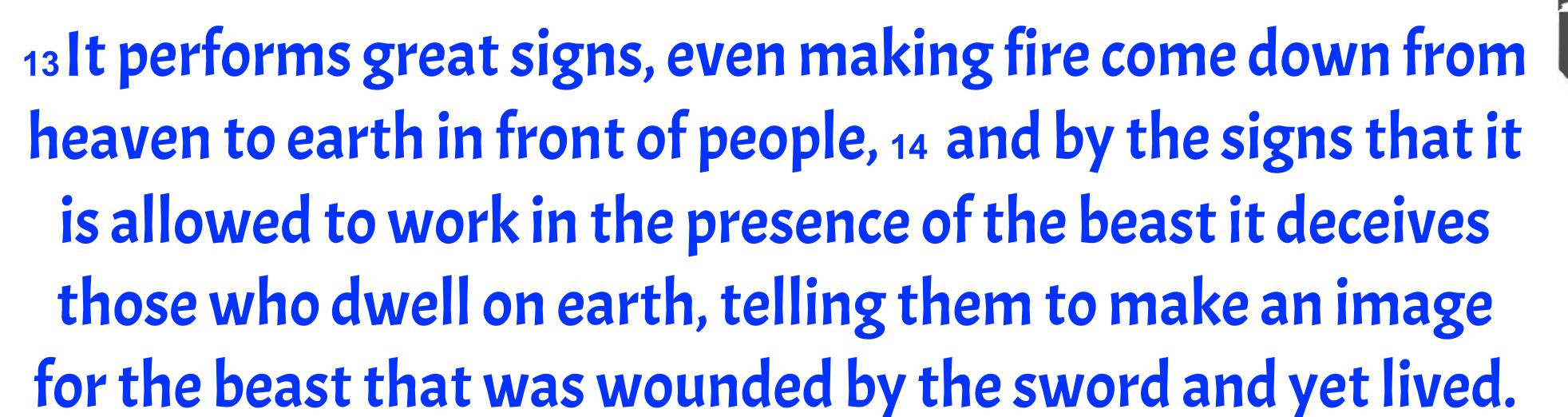
He will bring together a universal worship system to deceive the world.

See that no one leads you astray. For many will come in my name, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and they will lead many astray.

Matthew 24:4



Let no one deceive you in any way. For that day will not come, unless the rebellion comes first, and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction, and with all wicked deception for those who are perishing, because they refused to love the truth and so be saved. 2 Thessalonians 2:3, 10 The second beast will exalt the first beast to a place of worship. They are fake healers and miracle workers.



Hollywood will love this guy.

He is a master of special effects.

He imitates Elijah by bringing fire down to earth just as the two witnesses used fire from heaven to destroy those who come against them in Revelation 11.

He imitates God when God destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah.





Then Pharaoh summoned the wise men and the sorcerers, and they, the magicians of Egypt, also did the same by their secret arts. For each man cast down his staff, and they became serpents. But Aaron's staff swallowed up their staffs. Exodus 7:11-12

The world will be taken in by the false prophet.

The people will forget that Pharaoh had magicians and those that practiced the black arts as well.

The beast will have satanic power.

During the tribulation period people will be looking for a deliverer.



There will be so many catastrophes.

People will be wide open for anything.

This guy comes along as perhaps the greatest false prophet ever,

perhaps the greatest orator ever, wordsmith ever.

He can sway the world, he can mold men's minds and thoughts, as a potter would mold so much clay.

He'll be crafty, gifted.

And he comes under the guise of a lamb.



15 And it was allowed to give breath to the image of the beast, so that the image of the beast might even speak and might cause those who would not worship the image of the beast to be slain. "Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and put you to death, and you will be hated by all nations for my name's sake. Matthew 24:9 The image of this beast will be a sight to see! Since I don't believe that Satan can "give breath", this might be the most advanced robotics the world has known!

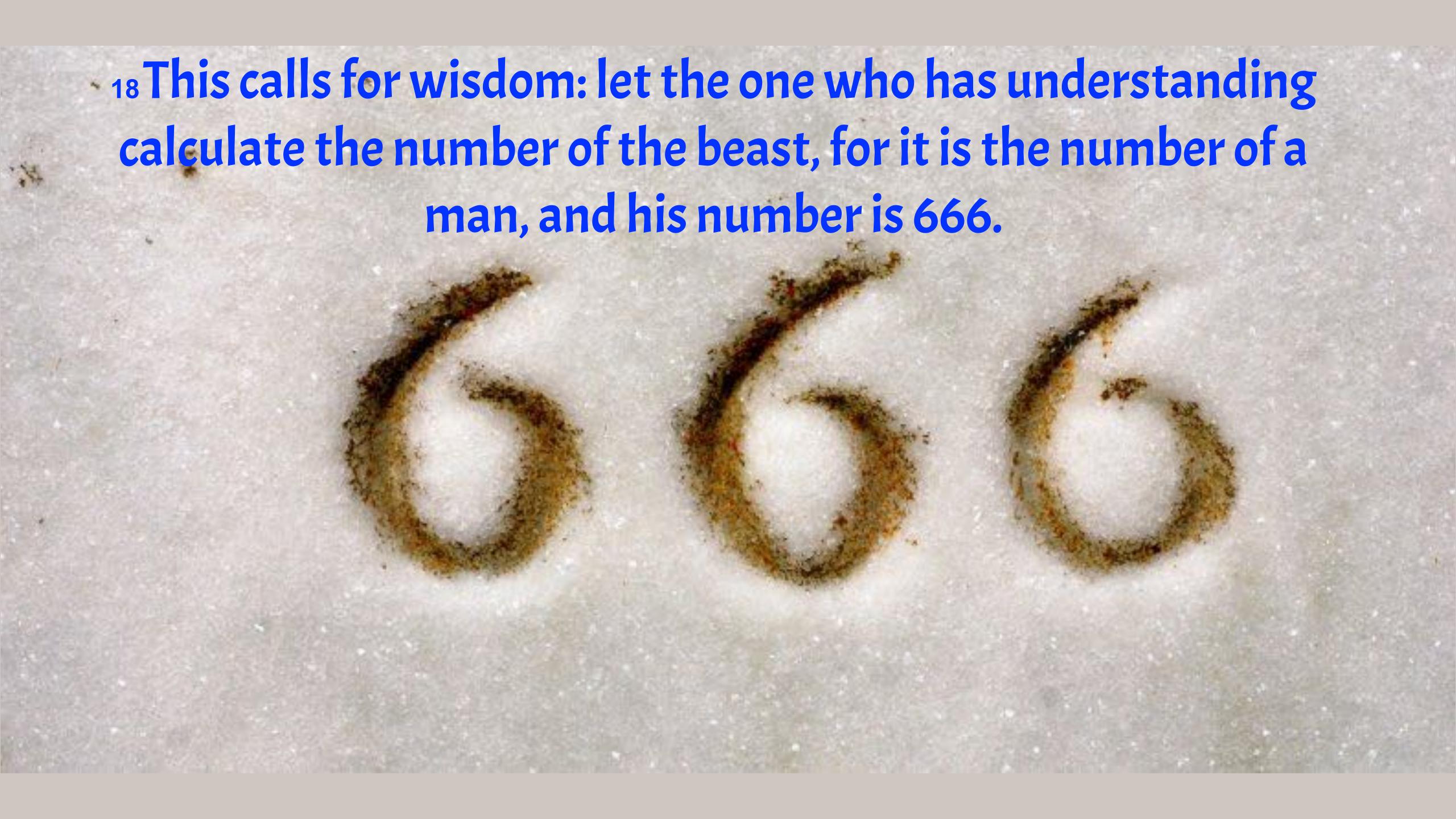


16 Also it causes all, both small and great, both rich and poor, both free and slave, to be marked on the right hand or the forehead, 17 so that no one can buy or sell unless he has the mark, that is, the name of the beast or the number of its name. In the economy of the false prophet, religion and business are wedded.

Down through history, slaves, soldiers, and even Jews have been branded.

This mark, however, is not like getting your hand stamped at the museum.

This mark results in an eternity of agony.



"Wisdom" has been accumulating for centuries regarding the "calculation" of the number of the beast.

However, we are no closer to "understanding" than the first readers of Revelation.

6 is the number for man (man was created on the 6th day). It is a possibility that only the people going through this period of tribulation will have the "wisdom" to calculated the "number of the beast".



The Revelation of Jesus Christ Chapter 14



Chapter 14 brings to a conclusion the material found in chapters 12 through 14.



Chapter 12 deals with the important characters of the period, chapter 13 with the evil rulers of the period, and chapter 14 with the ultimate triumph of Christ.

Revelation is not chronological, but is rather a panorama.

It prepares the way for the climax that begins in chapter 15.



Chapter 14 is a series of pronouncements and visions assuring the reader of Christ's ultimate triumph and the judgement of evil.

Much of the chapter is prophetic of events that have not yet taken place, but in the context are now impending.



We've covered some tough territory! <u>Chapter 12</u>

Satan appearing as a dragon, wanting to destroy everything God loves
Satan hating the Jewish people
Satan hating the believers throughout history
Satan fighting with the woman who is with child

War in heaven between Michael and Satan Satan turned loose upon the whole earth



Chapter 13

The beast out of the sea having seven heads, ten horns - the political leader The beast out of the earth who looks like a lamb but speaks like a dragon - the false prophet The mark of the beast. Anyone refusing the mark is killed



All of the horrible things that John has seen, all of the wickedness, it must've worn on him over a period of time. It could wear on anyone, even if you are an apostle like John But Now, Some encouragement! Another deep breath (or breathless) pause!



God will now take John through it all to the very end of the tribulation period right before the millennium and we see a picture of the Lamb,

who is the Shepherd at the same time, shepherding His people, the Jewish remnant, 144,000 standing on Mount Zion.



The ultimate winner will not be the dragon, the first beast, or the second beast.

It will be the Lamb.

God's Lamb.

God's Son.

And He will stand on Mount Zion.

He'll take the 144,000 Jews that we read about a few chapters ago and not one of them will be lost



Chapter 13	Chapter 14
The beast out of the sea The beast out of the earth	The Lamb!
False religion	True religion
Idolatry everywhere	Worship everywhere
The mark of the beast	God's mark
The number is "666"	The number is 144,000



There are seven visions in Chapter 14, and we begin with the vision of the Lamb and the 144,000.

1 Then 100ked, 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.

It's refreshing after all that we have read so far to see a lamb, to see Jesus standing.

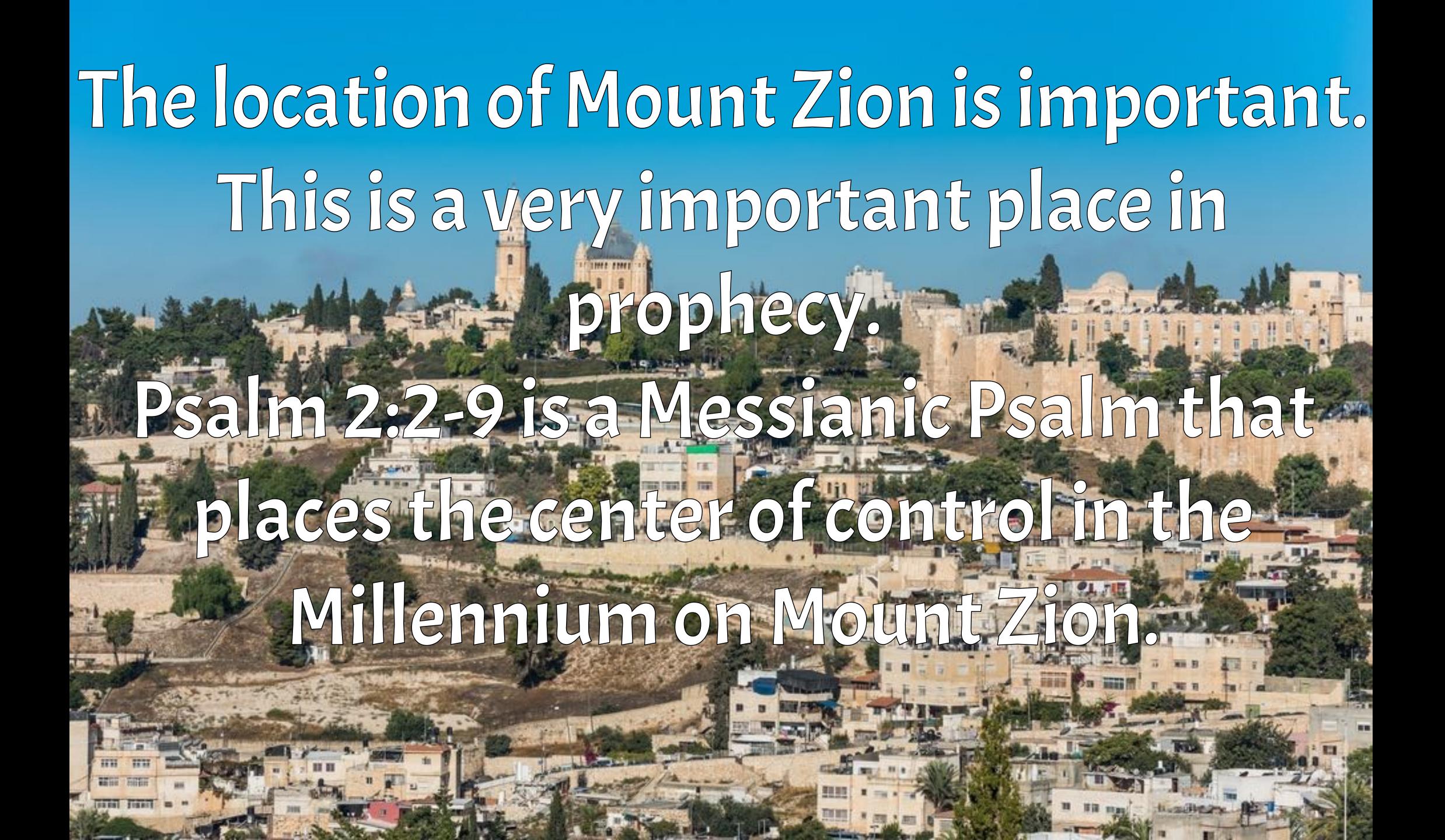
We have seen the false worship of the beast.

We have seen the false prophet.

We have seen those who have worshiped the beast and the false prophet and have been taken in by this false system during the tribulation period.

Now we see the Lamb standing with His own after it's all over.

Through all the evil to the very end when the Lamb has now come back to the earth and He stands on Mount Zion.





The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the Lord and against his Anointed, saying,

"Let us burst their bonds apart and cast away their cords from us." He who sits in the heavens laughs; the Lord holds them in derision. Then he will speak to them in his wrath, and terrify them in his fury, saying,



"As for me, I have set my King on Zion, my holy hill." I will tell of the decree: The Lord said to me, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you. Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage, and the ends of the earth your possession. You shall break them with a rod of iron and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel."

Psalm 2:2-9



If you were Jewish, especially if you were a Messianic Jew, your heart would leap at this because every Jew in history has looked forward to the time when the Messiah would return and rule from the literal Mount Zion, in literal Jerusalem with His people. And here He does it. It's the prediction that everything the prophets have spoken will come to pass.



144,000! Not 139,999! This incredible force has come through the great tribulation, not by hiding, but prominently displaying the mark of God on their foreheads.



They defied Satan and would not take his mark.

They were sealed in Chapter 6 and completed their mission.

They now stand joyfully with the Lamb upon Mount Zion!

They stood with the Lamb! The Lamb has been central to this book!

FAMILY BIBLE CHURCH

Chapter 5

The Lamb slain

The Lamb worshipped

Chapter 6

The Lamb feared

The wrath of the Lamb

Chapter 7

The Lamb glorified

Chapter 14

The Lamb vindicated



In Chapter 14:1, we see the 144,000 who have completed their work of evangelism on earth and now stand on Mount Zion with the Lamb, about to receive their reward for their faithfulness in walking after God and completing the work of worldwide revival that God had given them to do! They have come through the tribulation ALL OF THEM!



These are the 144,000 of Chapter 7! 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 I heard the number of the sealed, 144,000, sealed from every tribe of the sons of Israel: Revelation 7:3-4



Now why is Jesus pictured as a lamb? The Lamb is the symbol of Jesus Christ because of sacrifice.

If you were Jewish and you thought of a lamb, you'd think of the temple.

You wouldn't think of humility or some docile creature as much as you would think of a docile creature being killed for sin.



²And I heard a voice from heaven like the roar of many waters and like the sound of loud thunder.

The voice was none other than that of Jesus!

John would have definitely recognized it.
his feet were like burnished bronze, refined in a furnace, and his voice was like the roar of many waters. Revelation 1:15



2 The voice I heard was like the sound of harpists playing on their harps, Whenever you see a reference to harps or harpists in the Old Testament, it is usually with joy or praise or worship. The harp was associated with joy. The lyre, the harp, was used to proclaim joy in worship.

There is a notable exception.



By the waters of Babylon, there we sat down and wept, when we remembered Zion. On the willows there we hung up our lyres. For there our captors required of us songs, and our tormentors, mirth, saying, "Sing us one of the songs of Zion!" How shall we sing the Lord's song in a foreign land? Psalm 137:1-4 There is no joy.....





3 and they were singing a new song before the FAMILY BIBLE CHURCH throne and before the four living creatures and before the elders. No one could learn that song except the 144,000 who had been redeemed from the earth.

We know that heaven rejoices when a person gets saved!

Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance. Luke 15:7

3 and they were singing a new song before the throne and before the four living creatures and before the elders. No one could learn that song except the 144,000 who had been redeemed from the earth. The four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each holding a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. And they sang a new song, saying, "Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation, Revelation 5:8b-9





The elders and four living creatures sang a "new song" that was unique to their redeemed experience!

The 24 elders were redeemed by the blood of the Lamb and taken out in the rapture.



The 144,000 have their own unique redemption experience having been sealed and living through the Great Tribulation, even after having been in the crosshairs of Satan himself.



Chronologically, the song John hears is a hymn of praise in heaven during the time of the great tribulation, but the same song is echoed by the 144,000 who stand triumphantly on Mount Zion after the tribulation.

As is true of the rest of the vision in this chapter, the chronological order is not maintained, but rather different subjects are brought into view pertaining to the general theme of God's ultimate triumph.

David Jeremiah suggests that you can organize Chapter 14 around the angels.



Verse 6	Then I saw another angel
Verse 8	Another angel, a second, followed,
Verse 9	And another angel, a third, followed them
Verse 15	And another angel
Verse 17	Then another angel
Verse 18	And another angel

Each angel comes to make an announcement of another event in prophecy.



4It is these who have not defiled themselves with women, for they are virgins. It is these who follow the Lamb wherever he goes.

According to Walvoord, the reference to virginity can refer to abstinence from marriage in the critical days of the tribulation when a normal marital life for a person true to God is impossible,

OR to spiritual purity by not being defiled by love of the world or compromise with evil in a morally filthy world!



In Isaiah 37, Israel is refered to as The virgin, the daughter of Zion. In 1 Corinthians 11, Paul writes Oh, that you would bear with me in a little folly—and indeed you do bear with me. For I am jealous for you with godly jealousy. For I have betrothed you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ.



Christians are called to stay undefiled and spiritually pure.

That's how we overcome.

We surrender to Him and to Him alone.



⁴These have been redeemed from mankind as firstfruits for God and the Lamb,

Again, according to Walvoord, the term "firstfruits" seems to refer to the beginning of a great harvest - here to the beginning of the millennial kingdom.

The 144,000 are the godly nucleus of Israel that is the token of the redemption of the nation and the glory of Israel that is to unfold in the kingdom.





They were pure in their ministry.

No spiritual adultery.

This large number has been kept utterly clean from the false religion of the great tribulation.

They are blameless in contrast to apostates who are described as "blots" or "blemishes" in 2 Peter 2:13. suffering wrong as the wage for their wrongdoing.

They count it pleasure to revel in the daytime. They are blots and blemishes, reveling in their deceptions, while they feast with you.



Verse 6	Then I saw another angel
Verse 8	Another angel, a second, followed,
Verse 9	And another angel, a third, followed them
Verse 15	And another angel
Verse 17	Then another angel
Verse 18	Andanotherangel



⁶Then I saw another angel flying directly overhead, with an eternal gospel to proclaim to those who dwell on earth, to every nation and tribe and language and people. John sees another angel, the first of several in this Chapter, flying overhead, literally in mid-heaven with the eternal Gospel to preach to the world.

This angel is flying in mid-heaven. This word refers to the apex of the sun at noon day, the time when the sun is at its greatest visibility. In the original language means that the angel is flying continually, constantly flying, as if to say hovering over earth's atmosphere for everyone to eventually see and hear. It's the greatest message he preaches. This is an ageless and eternal gospel in the sense that God's righteousness is ageless.

This is the gospel that has been always preached.

It's the Good News of Jesus Christ and it provides the means of everlasting life, salvation,

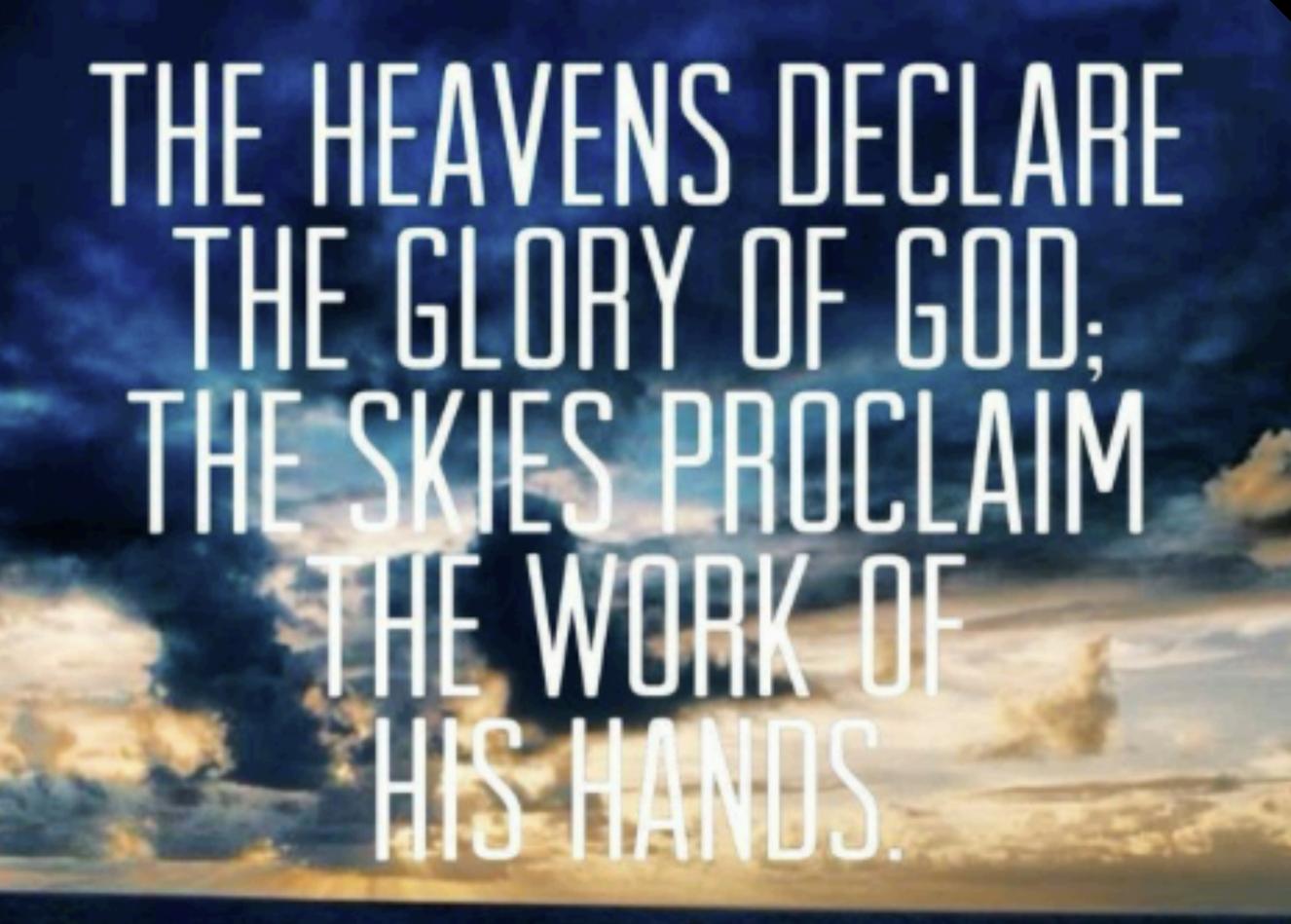
entrance into the everlasting kingdom.

It's the gospel that never changes and all of the people that we have failed to reach in our lifetime or in successive generations' lifetimes, every group, every tongue, and every nation will be able to hear this angel.

And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come. Matthew 24:14



With a loud voice, the angel demands the worship of God as creator! In the great tribulation, evolution will be taught more profoundly than even today because there will be no Godly churches on earth to refute it!



PSALMS 19:1



Verse 6	Then I saw another angel
Verse 8	Another angel, a second, followed,
Verse 9	And another angel, a third, followed them
Verse 15	And another angel
Verse 17	Then another angel
Verse 18	And another angel



⁸Another angel, a second, followed, saying, "Fallen, fallen is Babylon the great, she who made all nations drink the wine of the passion of her sexual immorality."

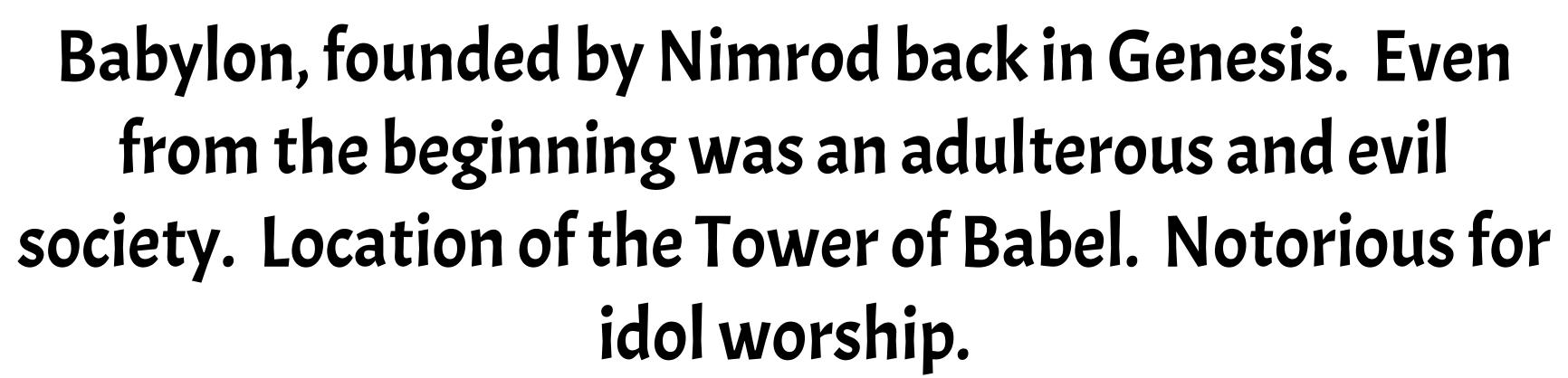
The first announcement of the final overthrow of both the city and and the system known as Babylon.

This system literally deceives and intoxicates the whole world.



But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them.

2 Corinthians 4:3-4



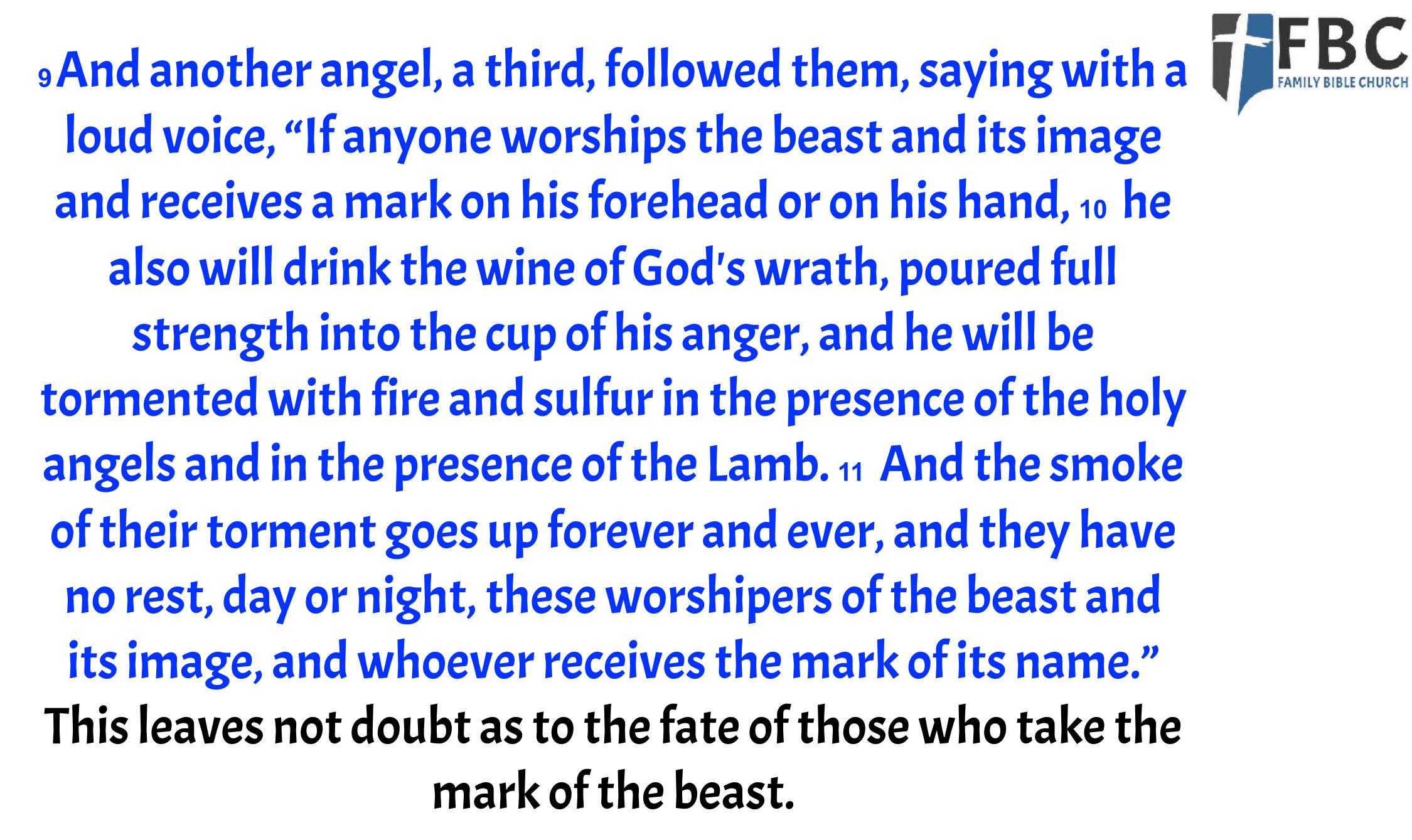


And behold, here come riders, horsemen in pairs!"
And he answered, "Fallen, fallen is Babylon; and all
the carved images of her gods he has shattered to the
ground." Isaiah 21:9

A drought against her waters (speaking of Babylon), that they may be dried up! For it is a land of images, and they are mad over idols. Jeremiah 50:38 Babylon is God's name for the world-system of the beast.



Verse 6	Then I saw another angel
Verse 8	Another angel, a second, followed,
Verse 9	And another angel, a third, followed them
Verse 15	And another angel
Verse 17	Then another angel
Verse 18	And another angel





They've rejected the witness of 144,000, the two witnesses who do miraculous signs, all of the martyrs whom they've killed, the first angel who proclaims the everlasting gospel, and now this third angel comes and basically proclaims that if you persist in drinking the cup of the wine of her fornication,

if you want to continue to drink of this system,
God will give you another cup.
It will be the cup of His wrath,
the cup of His judgment.



The destiny for people who reject Jesus
Christ during the tribulation will be the
exact same destiny of those who reject
Jesus Christ at any other time and that will
be hell.



Worship the beast, and be damned by God
-orWorship God, and be damned by the beast.
- Dr. David Jeremiah





that is, untempered by the mercy and grace of God; and these worshipers are declared to be "tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb." The same Scripture which assures all Christians of the love of God and the grace of God as extended to those who trust in Christ is unequivocal in its absolute statements of judgment upon the wicked."

- Walvoord



Anyone disposed to discredit the Biblical teaching on the eternal destiny of the wicked should be reminded that Jesus and His beloved disciple said more in regard to this doctrine than all the remaining contributors to the New Testament record.



This is supported by the fact that Jesus referred to hell (gehenna) eleven out of the twelve occurrences, made twelve out of nineteen references to hell fire, and used other similar expressions more than any other person in the New Testament.



The righteousness of God is as uncompromising as the love of God is infinite. The love of God is not free to express itself to those who have spurned Jesus Christ. Their torment is not a momentary one, for it is described in verse 11 as continuing forever, literally "into the ages of ages," the strongest expression of eternity of which the Greek is capable.

-J.B. Smith

12 Here is a call for the endurance of the saints, those who keep the commandments of God and their faith in Jesus.



13 And I heard a voice from heaven saying, "Write this: Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on." "Blessed indeed," says the Spirit, "that they may rest from their labors, for their deeds follow them!"

There will be Christians who keep the commandments of God and their faith in Jesus coming out of the great tribulation into the millennium.



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, and crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" Revelation 7:9-10

There is a special blessing for those who die in the Lord from now on.



There's a tremendous contrast between the followers of the beast and those who die in the Lord. The followers of the beast will be tormented forever and ever.

They'll have no rest.



Those who die in the Lord will rest from their labors.

Better to follow the Lamb for a thousand years than the Antichrist for three-and-a-half years.

In verse 12, we're told that many tribulation believers will have to suffer and pay the ultimate price for their faith in Jesus Christ.



These saints were too early for the Kingdom and came to Christ too late for the rapture.

This announcement was to confirm their blessing!



14Then I looked, and behold, a white cloud, and seated on the cloud one like a son of man, with a golden crown on his head, and a sharp sickle in his hand.

The Son of man, Jesus, is described here with a sharp sickle.

We will discover that the harvest is ripe. This will be descriptive of a grain harvest.



This imagery would be very common to anyone living in Israel because the people lived off the land.

Many of the Jewish festivals were agrarian in nature.

The harvest of wheat was a harvest of SEPARATION!

The harvesting of the earth.

This is a time of judgment!



John the Baptist said-

"I baptize you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." Matthew 3:11-13



Verse 6	Then I saw another angel
Verse 8	Another angel, a second, followed,
Verse 9	And another angel, a third, followed them
Verse 15	And another angel
Verse 17	Then another angel
Verse 18	And another angel



15 And another angel came out of the temple, calling with a loud voice to him who sat on the cloud, "Put in your sickle, and reap, for the hour to reap has come, for the harvest of the earth is fully ripe." 16 So he who sat on the cloud swung his sickle across the earth, and the earth was reaped.

The harvest is personally supervised by Jesus Christ.



This should not come as a surprise-For as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, so also the Son gives life to whom he will. For the Father judges no one, but has given all judgment to the Son, that all may honor the Son, just as they honor the Father. Whoever does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent him. John 5:21-23



"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and gathered fish of every kind. When it was full, men drew it ashore and sat down and sorted the good into containers but threw away the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Matthew 13:47-49



The first time Jesus came to the earth, He came as a servant.

When He returns, He will return as a sovereign King!

The first time Jesus came to the earth, He came as one obeying.

When He returns, He will return as one commanding!



The first time Jesus came to the earth, He came alone to live with a Jewish couple in an obscure town.

When He returns, He will return with all the angels of heaven and will rule over all the earth!



The first time Jesus came to the earth, He came in humility.

When He returns, He will return in glorious majesty!

The first time Jesus came to the earth, He came to seek and save the lost.

When He returns, He will return to judge and condemn the lost!

The first time Jesus came to the earth, He came as the sower.

When He returns, He will return as the reaper!

for the hour to reap has come, for the harvest of the earth is fully ripe." Revelation 14:15b

This is a harvest of separation!

The word ripe in Greek is xērainō.

The harvest of the earth is over ripe!

ξηραίνω

STRONG'S NUMBER: g3583

Dictionary Definition

g3583. ξηραίνω *xērainō*; from 3584; to desiccate; by implication, to shrivel, to mature: — dry up, pine away, be ripe, wither (away).

AV (16) - wither away 6, wither 5 dry up 3, pine away 1, be ripe 1;

- to make dry, dry up, wither
- 2. to become dry, to be dry, be witheredA. of plants

He put another parable before them, saying, FBC "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field, but while his men were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared also. And the servants of the master of the house came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have

weeds?' (continued)





He said to them, 'An enemy has done this.' So the servants said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' But he said, 'No, lest in gathering the weeds you root up the wheat along with them. Let both grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, "Gather the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn."" Matthew 13:24-30

Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples came to him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. The field is the world, and the good seed is the sons of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil. The harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are gathered and burned with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. (continued)

The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will gather out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all law-breakers, and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear. Matthew 13:36-42



Darnel [Lolium temulentum, a.k.a., poison darnel or cockle] usually grows in the same production zones as wheat and is considered a weed. The similarity between these two plants is so extensive that in some regions, cockle is referred to as "false wheat". It bears a close resemblance to wheat until the ear appears. The ears on the real wheat are so heavy it makes the entire plant droop downward, but L. temulentum, whose ears are light, stands up straight. The wheat will also appear brown when ripe, whereas the darnel is black. When the Lolium matures, the spikelets turn edgeways to the rachis, where the wheat spikelets remain as they grew previously.





The "servants" would not have been able to tell the weeds from the wheat. Ripping up the darnel could also damage the wheat because they grew so closely together. But the experienced "reapers (harvesters)" at the end of the age would be able to distinguish them easily.



The earth is dry.

It's withered.

It's over ripe.

It's time for the reaper.



Verse 6	Then I saw another angel
Verse 8	Another angel, a second, followed,
Verse 9	And another angel, a third, followed them
Verse 15	And another angel
Verse 17	Then another angel
Verse 18	And another angel



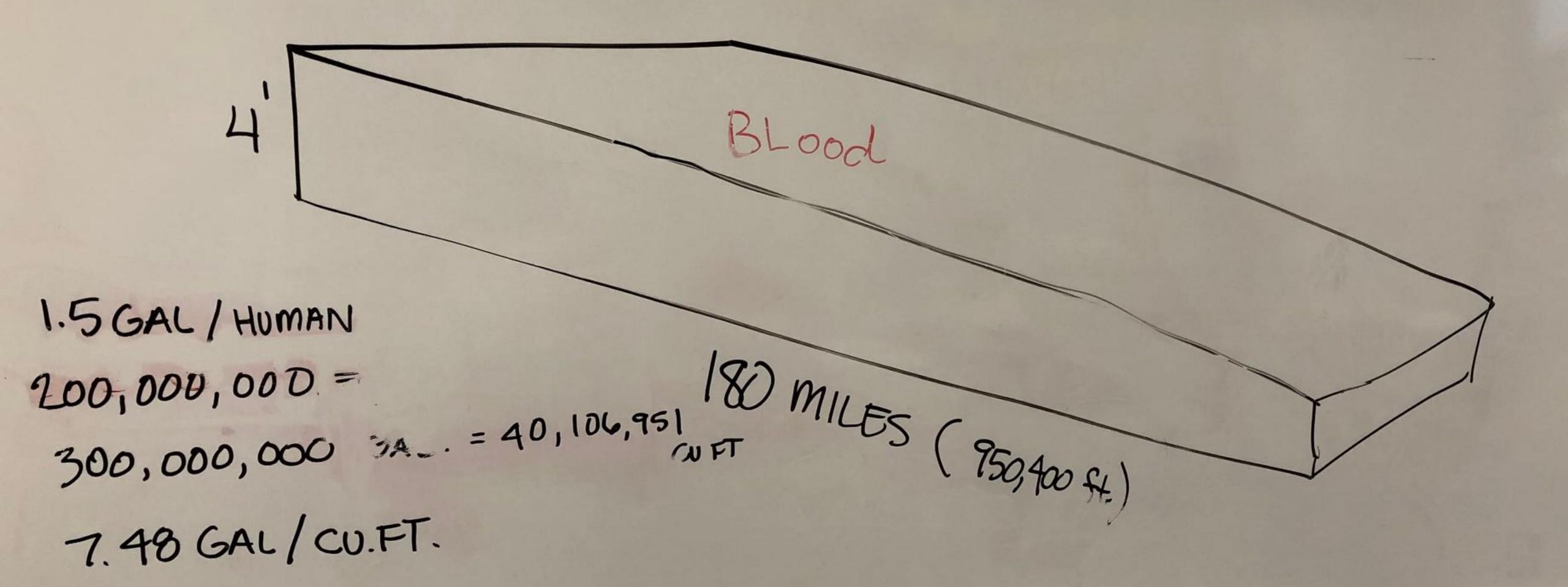
17 Then another angel came out of the temple in heaven, and he too had a sharp sickle. 18 And another angel came out from the altar, the angel who has authority over the fire, and he called with a loud voice to the one who had the sharp sickle, "Put in your sickle and gather the clusters from the vine of the earth, for its grapes are ripe."



19 So the angel swung his sickle across the earth and gathered the grape harvest of the earth and threw it into the great winepress of the wrath of God. 20 And the winepress was trodden outside the city, and blood flowed from the winepress, as high as a horse's bridle, for 1,600 stadia.



This is a harvest of the grapes. This is a harvest of destruction!





The weeds and the wheat have been separated in Verse 16 (Matthew 13:30)..... this is Armageddon! The final judgement of the world! The Christians are all gone and all that's left are those that need to be judged by God!



Megiddo is a tell, an ancient hilltop settlement, in northern Israel near Kibbutz Megiddo.

Revelation mentions an apocalyptic battle at Armageddon, a name derived from the Hebrew "Har Megiddo" meaning "Mount of Megiddo".

Har Megiddo = Armeggedon



Hasten and come, all you surrounding nations, and gather yourselves there. Bring down your warriors, O Lord. Let the nations stir themselves up and come up to the Valley of Jehoshaphat; for there I will sit to judge all the surrounding nations.



Put in the sickle, for the harvest is ripe. Go in, tread, for the winepress is full. The vats overflow, for their evil is great. Multitudes, multitudes, in the valley of decision! For the day of the Lord is near in the valley of decision.



For the day of the Lord is near in the valley of decision. The sun and the moon are darkened, and the stars withdraw their shining. The Lord roars from Zion, and utters his voice from Jerusalem, and the heavens and the earth quake. But the Lord is a refuge to his people, a stronghold to the people of Israel. Joel 3:12-16



For thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: The daughter of Babylon is like a threshing floor at the time when it is trodden; yet a little while and the time of her harvest will come." Jeremiah 51:33

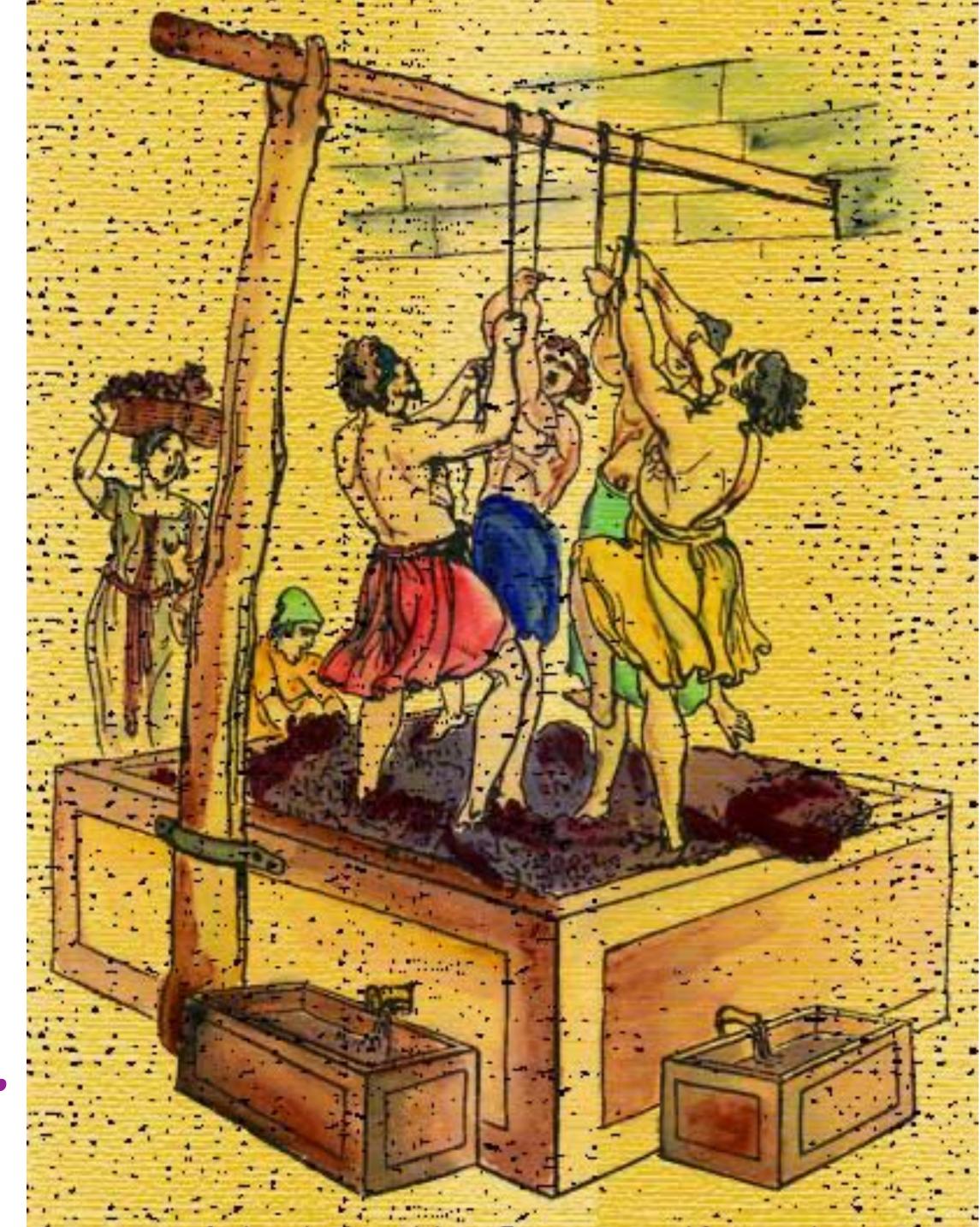
"I have trodden the winepress alone, and from the peoples no one was with me;

I trod them in my anger and trampled them in my wrath; their lifeblood spattered on my garments,

and stained all my apparel
For the day of vengeance was in my
heart,

and my year of redemption had come.

Isaiah 63:3-4





Then I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse! The one sitting on it is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he judges and makes war. His eyes are like a flame of fire, and on his head are many diadems, and he has a name written that no one knows but himself. He is clothed in a robe dipped in blood, and the name by which he is called is The Word of God. (continued)



Verse 6	Then I saw another angel
Verse 8	Another angel, a second, followed,
Verse 9	And another angel, a third, followed them
Verse 15	And another angel
Verse 17	Then another angel
Verse 18	And another angel



18 And another angel came out from the altar, 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 witness they had borne. They cried out with a loud voice, "O Sovereign Lord, holy and true, how long before you will judge and avenge our blood on those who dwell on the earth?" Revelation 6:9-10



When the Lamb opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven for about half an hour. Then I saw the seven angels who stand before God, and seven trumpets were given to them. And another angel came and stood at the altar with a golden censer, and he was given much incense to offer with the prayers of all the saints on the golden altar before the throne, (continued)



and the smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints, rose before God from the hand of the angel. Then the angel took the censer and filled it with fire from the altar and threw it on the earth, and there were peals of thunder, rumblings, flashes of lightning, and an earthquake. Revelation 8:1-5



Twice a day, morning and evening, in the Old Testament, in the tabernacle and the temple, it was a time for sacrifice.

The priest would go to the outer altar, the brass altar where there was always a fire, and he would take fire from the brass altar and put it into the incense censer and let the incense, the prayers of the Saints, rise up.



This angel comes out from the altar and has power over fire and declares -"Put in your sickle and gather the clusters from the vine of the earth, for its grapes are ripe." This time of judgement is in answer to the prayers of God's people. "Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done"!



19 So the angel swung his sickle across the earth and gathered the grape harvest of the earth and threw it into the great winepress of the wrath of God. 20 And the winepress was trodden outside the city, and blood flowed from the winepress, as high as a horse's bridle, for 1,600 stadia.

We talk about Armageddon in terms of a battle, but it's not really a battle, it's a winepress.