THE TRILOGY

Guillermo Yacante Afonso

Rediscovering the prophecies.

The Trilogy, digital version.

This book will always be available to the Church for free.

To be freely shared, as long as it reaches the one who corresponds.

Autor: Yacante Afonso, Guillermo.
Título: The Trilogy: Rediscovering the prophecies.
Edición: 1^m edición.
Editor: Yacante Afonso, Guillermo.
Lugar y fecha de edición: Caleta Olivia, 2022.
Formato y páginas: Libro digital, PDF ; 87 p.
Archivo digital: Descarga.
Traducción de: Guillermo Yacante Afonso.
Temática: 1. Profecías Bíblicas. / 2. Antiguo Testamento. / 3. Nuevo Testamento.
I. Título. CDD 220.04

ISBN 978-987-88-6154-8

Index

I – Restoring the doctrine of the post-tribulation rapture	1
"But God hath not appointed us to wrath but to" - Shh	1
God has been showing us this from the beginning	2
We have to pay attention to the Bible, and to history	3
Exposing the doctrine clearly	3
Putting the finishing touch on it	5
II – Emphasizing the doctrine of the post-tribulation rapture	6
The Lord Jesus Christ made it understood	6
So what about ^{[insert capricious} questioning here]	7
Understanding Daniel's seventy weeks well	8
Deciphering the discourse of the Mount of Olives	. 10
III – History Revealed	19
About the author	19
What the study is about	20
What is historicism?	20
The purpose of Revelation	20
Revelation has a predominant symbolic factor	. 21
The Kingdoms of the Book of Daniel	. 21
Who is the antichrist?	25
The Vision of the Ram and the He Goat	. 26
The Prophecy of the Kings of the North and the South	. 28
Introduction to Revelation	. 39
The Letters to the Seven Churches	. 40
Revelation doesn't always maintain a direct timeline	. 44
The Scroll and the Lamb	. 44
The Seals	45
The Trumpets	49
The Angel and the βιβλαρίδιον [<i>Bibliaridion</i>]	. 55
The Two Witnesses	. 56
The Woman and the Dragon	. 60
The Two Beasts	62

The Lamb and the 144,000	68
The Three Angels	68
Harvesting the Earth and Trampling the Winepress	69
Seven Angels with Seven Plagues	69
The Seven Bowls of God's Wrath	70
The Judgement of the Great Whore	71
The Fall of Babylon	74
Praises in Heaven	75
The Marriage Supper of the Lamb	75
The Rider on the White Horse	75
The Thousand Years	76
The Final Judgement	77
A New Heaven and a New Earth	77
The New Jerusalem	78
Jesus is Coming Soon	79

Links



Link to the considered to be the fourth work:

Links to free download all the files: Not available in this file.

Ι

Restoring the doctrine of the post-tribulation rapture

by Guillermo Yacante Afonso

I begin this work in order to present the foundation and evidence that the Christian Church must face the tribulations that precede the return of the Lord Jesus Christ. It also proposes to deny the erroneous interpretations that suggest that the rapture will take place before the persecution of the end times.

This work is born from a heart that loves God and the brothers, and my greatest motivation in writing this article is to serve the Church by helping her to understand precisely the truth of what is going to happen. This can not only prevent possible cognitive dissonances, misplaced questionings, doubts; and in the worst of cases, capricious reproaches to the Lord when things did not turn out as expected; but it can also grant peace and security of heart to the believer, knowing that God has clearly communicated these things from the beginning, and therefore can know in advance the future.

The first thing I want to remind the reader is that as Christians we have received salvation and eternal life from the Lord; therefore, having such a victory, that our feeling be to want to show off for him, glorify him by doing his will, and that our thanksgiving be to endure until the end.

And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them. [*Revelation 14:13*]

This verse that I shared speaks in its context about the blessedness of the brethren who will die for having kept the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus. And let's pay attention to the detail of the patience of the saints being mentioned.

But, what would that patience consist of?

That patience will consist in that when the last antichrist has put the whole world under economic and social extortion, the saints then present do not consent. And among those saints we could be you and me.

"But God hath not appointed us to wrath but to..." - Shh...

It amazes me how many times I have heard such a thing. That 1 Thess. 5:9 be quoted as if talking about the wrath of God. It is very easy to understand that the wrath of God and suffering Christian martyrdom are two totally different things. Of course God frees us from the wrath to come, that is why he first suffered on the cross, and then when he returns he will catch up from the Earth those Christians who will have remained alive.

Having cleared this point, let's move on.

God has been showing us this from the beginning

All of us who have studied the Bible should come to the conclusion that history rhymes: the arrogance of Nebuchadnezzar and that of the antichrist; the days of Noah and the present times; Israel in the desert, and life in congregation, (how some make it to the promised land, but others don't).

Likewise, when three specific events happened we were notified in advance of some details of the rapture and the return of the Lord. These events were the flood in the days of Noah, the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah in the days of Lot, and the crossing of the Red Sea after Israel's departure from Egypt.

It is the Lord himself who compared the end times to the days of Noah:

But as the days of Noah were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. [Matthew 24:37]

The point I want to make is that the ark, which symbolized Christ, was boarded by all who were saved **the same day** the flood began. God shut the door and the ark rose as the world flooded.

The flood must be understood as the wrath of God, because it was. And the very word of God shows that it is an analogy of the final wrath:

[...] Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished: But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men. [2 Peter 3:6-7]

In this way, it is understood that at the end of time, when God returns to judge the world, he will save the few Christians who will have survived, and then immediately he will destroy the sinners. Thus it is seen that the return of the Lord and the rapture of the Church are two events immediately continued one by the other.

Regarding the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah, we get the same idea: the rapture takes place immediately before the wrath of God, but after living on Earth had become a very difficult thing.

We know that the Lord told Abraham that if only ten righteous were found in Sodom he would not destroy the city. And knowing what happened next, we understand that there were not even ten righteous.

And delivered just Lot, vexed with the filthy conversation of the wicked: (For that righteous man dwelling among them, in seeing and hearing, vexed his righteous soul from day to day with their unlawful deeds;) [2 Peter 2:7-8]

It can practically be said that there was only one righteous, Lot. And God sent angels to the house of Lot to escort him and his relatives safely out of the city before God rained fire and brimstone on it. According to the mercy of God towards Lot, the angels took his wife, his two daughters and him by the hand and led them out of the city. Thus they were raptured and did not take part in the punishment of the sodomites.

And as regards the crossing of the Red Sea, it is known that Israel was cornered between the shore and the army of the Egyptians, who were running after them to kill them. This is a shadow of what is going to be the situation of the Church in the near future. The Egyptians represent the unconverted, and Israel represents the Church; which I imagine the reader already knew. The story is completed by remembering that the Lord, by miracle, first saved Israel, and immediately destroyed the Egyptians. So far I have shared suggestions of how the tribulation precedes the rapture; but now let me show you how it should be something normal for us to think that it should be so.

We have to pay attention to the Bible, and to history

For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for his sake; [*Philippians 1:29*]

Verily, verily, I say unto you, That ye shall weep and lament, but the world shall rejoice: and ye shall be sorrowful, but your sorrow shall be turned into joy. [*John 16:20*]

[...] In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world. [*John 16:33*]

And when they had preached the gospel to that city, and had taught many, they returned again to Lystra, and to Iconium, and Antioch, Confirming the souls of the disciples, and exhorting them to continue in the faith, and that we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God. [*Acts* 14:21-22]

Historically, the people of God have always had affliction. It is believed that almost all the apostles suffered violent deaths; then, during the first centuries the Roman emperors tried to exterminate the Christians; when the papal empire arrived, the idea did not change, and so the centuries passed, and two millennia as well. While such violence seems to have lessened in the recent centuries, this is a subjective observation of someone who has lived a lifetime in the western society. What must be known is that the Israel of God is going to be cornered again. Because if many of the Christians who came before us suffered marginalization, persecution, and death, for having remained faithful to the Lord; why should we be evaded from giving such a testimony? Because if there was any reason it would be understood; but this is not the case, but quite the opposite.

Exposing the doctrine clearly

The time has come to deal with the central passages of the doctrine in question. Let us begin.

Behold, I shew 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 trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. [1 Corinthians 15:51-52]

Let's go gathering premises. From this passage, the following conclusions can be drawn:

- The rapture will take place after the sounding of the final trumpet.
- At the same time, the Christians who would have already died will be resurrected incorruptible.

But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words. [1 Thessalonians 4:13-18]

So:

- When the Lord returns, the dead in Christ will rise first.
- The Christians which *would be alive and had remained* (pay attention to that way of saying it), will be caught up together with those who were resurrected to meet the Lord Jesus in the air.

I hope it is better understood now. By now it should be clear that the return of the Lord, the first resurrection, and the rapture of the Church all together belong to the same event. Still, we've got a lot of things to see. This is a doctrine that from the beginning was easy to understand and well received by the Church; but as the centuries passed, specifically from the 16th century onwards, poisonous interpretations gradually began to be infiltrated that came to hinder the understanding of the Church as it happens today.

Do you understand what I mean? If the Church was conditioned to not know how to interpret Revelation as it corresponds, and does not understand the already fulfilled prophecy of the seventy weeks of Daniel, and does not know how to decipher the discourse of the Mount of Olives; how could she understand that the rapture is not "before the tribulation"? And other possible factors were not mentioned; such as that it may be more pleasant to the ear to hear that the Church leaves before things get ugly; or the factor that people in general do not study or read; or the most worrying: that misused and mismanaged technology has plunged many Christians into spiritual decay and slumber.

Putting the finishing touch on it

In order to finish and keep this article short and concise, I proceed to put it its finishing touch. If the Word clearly says that the rapture happens after the sound of the final trumpet, we can ask ourselves: Which is that trumpet?

And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever. And the four and twenty elders, which sat before God on their seats, fell upon their faces, and worshipped God, Saying, We give thee thanks, O Lord God Almighty, which art, and wast, and art to come; because thou hast taken to thee thy great power, and hast reigned. And the nations were angry, and thy wrath is come, and the time of the dead, that they should be judged, and that thou shouldest give reward unto thy servants the prophets, and to the saints, and them that fear thy name, small and great; and shouldest destroy them which destroy the earth. And the temple of God was opened in heaven, and there was seen in his temple the ark of his testament: and there were lightnings, and voices, and thunderings, and an earthquake, and great hail. [*Revelation 11:15-19*]

And the angel which I saw stand upon the sea and upon the earth lifted up his hand to heaven, And sware by him that liveth for ever and ever, who created heaven, and the things that therein are, and the earth, and the things that therein are, and the sea, and the things which are therein, that there should be time no longer: But in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he shall begin to sound, the mystery of God should be finished, as he hath declared to his servants the prophets. [*Revelation 10:5-7*]

So, if there should be time no longer after the sounding of the seventh trumpet, that means that the present age is ended and the millennial reign of Christ begins, (later being eternal as well).

Look, the chronological order of the judgments of Revelation is as follows:

First the seven seals are opened. Then, the first 6 (six) trumpets sound. The seventh trumpet is left for last, and the seven bowl judgments proceed. Then, after the seven bowls have been poured out, the seventh trumpet sounds, indicating the consummation, that is: the return of the Lord Jesus Christ, the first resurrection, the rapture of the saints, and the wrath of God towards sinners.

Now I give rise to a different subject, but inherently connected to the one already seen. I want the reader to know that the book of Revelation has been in process of fulfillment since the first century AD. This is why at this point most of the trials have already taken place. This is what I meant with because the theology of the Church is so entangled it is difficult for her to understand what everyone held until a few centuries ago. I hope that after this reading, whoever has seen that he had been believing something wrong will be more careful from now on and review if the beliefs he has have biblical support. The subtlety of futurism is deceptively dangerous. And I myself who write this believed in the same doctrine of premature rapture that very probably the reader had also been upholding. And I also believed in the doctrine of the futuristic apocalypse. And in the doctrine of the very rare and bizarre 70th week of Daniel. A lot of juggling that is. But I expect to see a lot of noble attitudes, and few - or none - "conflicts of interest", for not saying stubbornness.

For the love of the Church I make an off-topic. I wanted to express my most urgent warning to the reader that in no way agrees to be vaccinated against covid-19. Know that these vaccines are a Trojan horse and are only intended to modify human genetics, sterilize, make sick, and kill the population. If the devil promotes them; please, make yourselves aware.

This article is not for indiscriminate sharing but only for confirmed Christians; take care of the brother who wrote it.

II

Emphasizing the doctrine of the post-tribulation rapture

by Guillermo Yacante Afonso

After finishing my previous article on this topic I realized that a considerable amount of biblical passages and related questions had been left out, so I decided to do this new work in order to cover them and further consolidate the position.

The Lord Jesus Christ made it understood

Immediately after the distress of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from the sky, and the heavenly bodies will be shaken. Then will appear the sign of the Son of Man in heaven. And then all the peoples of the earth will mourn when they see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven, with power and great glory. And he will send his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of the heavens to the other. [Matthew 24:29-31]

When Jesus Christ returns to this world, he will do so in the company of his angels, whom he will send to gather his chosen ones; the latter being the rapture of the Church.

Once again but now in this work, I am going to expose that the return of the Lord and the rapture happen at the same time. They are inseparable. The passage above is a quote from the words of Jesus when he spoke in the Mount of Olives. Those words were part of his answer to a question they asked him. Let's see which it was:

And as he sat upon the mount of Olives, the disciples came unto him privately, saying, Tell us, when shall these things be? and what shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world? [*Matthew 24:3*]

This verse shows us that the topic discussed is the coming of the Lord and the end of the world.

Then:

E There is talk about the coming of the Lord.



 \bigotimes It is said that it will mark the end of this age.



It is mentioned that this is when the angels will go to gather the elect.

BANG!

- ¿What?

Let's keep going.



When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory: And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats: And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left. [*Matthew 25:31-33*]

I know that it is common to find who believes that those who will return with the Lord will be those who had been raptured previously, (according to the doctrine of the premature rapture), but nowhere it is said that, but that they are angels.

So what about [insert capricious questioning here]

Already at this point the doctrine is confirmed. Between the previous article and what goes on in this, the reader must already have **of himself** quite the picture. Because either he is a person who has a clear conscience and understands things, or he is a stubborn one who better is one letting him off continue to believe whatever he wants, because for some reason the Lord could be disallowing his understanding.

There are some questions that are valid to want to consult and see how they fit with this interpretation. In fact, <u>all questions</u> are valid if they follow the principle of wanting to know the truth and not to hold onto a rotten pacifier. That's the thing. Every question from now on must be dealt with in terms of seeing how it fits with the already immovable position that has been outlined.

For example, And at what time would the marriage supper of the Lamb be celebrated?

The marriage supper of the lamb is a beautiful language that communicates that when the Lord Jesus Christ returns, the revenge and vindication of his people will take place. And his own too. It is called a supper because it is written that all the fowls of the heavens will be filled with the flesh of the sinners. The latter being a metaphor that speaks about the satisfaction to be had. (Read Rev. 19: 9-21)

And how would we locate the Judgment Seat of Christ on this timeline?

I have not found a specified time for the Judgment Seat of Christ. It is presumed to be after we have died or been raptured. The Judgment Seat of Christ is intended to be our honor giving act, fully presided over by the Lord. As it is in a sense a court, it can be thought that it will be a public act; which is why in that case it would take place after the beginning of the Millennium. That way, the entire number of saints, (which is yet to be completed today), would have gathered in the presence of the Lord. The second possibility is that it happens individually (face to face), after the death of each believer. Although I think it goes more for the first option. (Read 1 Cor. 3:10-15; Rom. 14:10; 2 Cor. 5:10)

What did you say about Daniel's seventieth week in the previous article? That I didn't understand.

I said that it is a very strange and bizarre doctrine. Because the teaching that the 70th week of Daniel will take place in the future is an illogical artifice. If all the other weeks happened one after another without any interruption, why should there be a gap of almost two thousand years between the number 69 and the number 70? There's no reason but that something had to be invented in order to lead the Christians to rest on their laurels.

Precisely this way it was formed the poisonous doctrine that leads the people to think that "first the rapture", "then the 3 and a half years of Tribulation", and then "the last 3 and a half years of Great Tribulation". But it cannot be like that, if the Lord already said that of the day and hour of his return does not know either man or angel. The worst thing is that the Church was led to think that the passage

speaks of the antichrist when in reality it is talking about Jesus. See the level of heresy? And I believed that; practically the same as everyone.

Understanding Daniel's seventy weeks well

The prophecy of the seventy weeks is found in the book of Daniel, chapter 9. Precisely between the verses 20 and 27. But the reading must be taken up at least from the beginning of the chapter. This way it can be understood that Daniel was praying to God because he recognized that the seventy years of the desolations of Jerusalem had come to an end. For this reason he begged God for mercy on the people of Israel and the city of Jerusalem; so that He would restore the people and forgive their sins. In this way we know that he did not ask for knowledge about the end times, or details about the antichrist.

Continuing with the reading, it could be seen that sent by God, the angel Gabriel appeared to Daniel while he was still praying. The reason for his appearance was to teach him the next things that were to happen regarding the people of Israel and the city of Jerusalem.

What Gabriel spoke about will be shared below:

[...] O Daniel, I am now come forth to give thee skill and understanding. At the beginning of thy supplications the commandment came forth, and I am come to shew thee; for thou art greatly beloved: therefore understand the matter, and consider the vision. Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city, to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy. Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the Messiah the Prince shall be seven weeks, and threescore and two weeks: the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times. And after threescore and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off, but not for himself: and the people of the prince that shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary; and the end thereof shall be with a flood, and unto the end of the war desolations are determined. And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make it desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate. [*Daniel 9:22-27*]

Let's make the premises clear:

- From the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the Messiah the Prince, 69 weeks were determined. (7 + 62 = 69)
- There is talk of a timeline comprised in total of 70 weeks.
- After week 69 the Messiah was to die.
- [Then] the people of the prince that should come would destroy the city and the sanctuary.
- In the 70th week [the Messiah] would confirm the covenant with many, and in the middle of that week he would cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease.
- [Later,] for the overspreading of abominations, He would make [the city] desolate, even until the consummation, and that which was determined would be poured upon the desolate.

Now having all the premises clear, let's move on to see how the seventy weeks have already been fulfilled.

The weeks that have been mentioned, as surely the reader already knew, are weeks of years. Thus, each week is made up of seven years, resulting in a period of 490 years. We know that the starting point of this period was to be the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem. This happened in 457 BC in the seventh year of the reign of Artaxerxes I, king of Persia. (Read Ezra 7: 11-28)

Cyrus II, called the Great, was the one who began the process of rebuilding the Jewish community in Jerusalem, mostly by granting permission to rebuild the temple. But the starting point of the period in question is considered to be the moment when the commandment was given to **restore** Jerusalem, (restoring the sovereignty of the judicial, military, civic and religious power), and to **build** Jerusalem, (building the plaza and the wall). This occured the seventh year of the reign of Artaxerxes I, which took place in the year 457 BC.

Something that I did not mark previously between the items is that *the street would be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times*. Times were troublous by decision of Artaxerxes I himself, and they remained so until the second year of the reign of Darius II. (Read Ezra 4: 1-24)

The Messiah the Prince was anointed by the Holy Spirit and publicly recognized as the Son of God by God the Father in AD 26, after being baptized in the waters of the Jordan River. This event marked the beginning of the 70th week, when He began his ministry. In the middle of this week, that is, three and a half years later; he suffered death on the cross and satisfied the guilt of our sins. That's how <u>He</u> made cease the sacrifice and the oblation of the law that was given to Moses.

Regarding that the people of the prince who was to come would destroy the city and the sanctuary, we can understand that it was Israel who destroyed the city of Jerusalem and the temple. This must be understood like this because the same prophecy teaches that because of the overspreading of abominations of the Jewish people the desolation sent by the Messiah whom they rejected was going to befall them. I also omitted a detail that I am now going to mention. Scripture goes on to say: "and the end thereof shall be with a flood, and unto the end of the war desolations are determined." This talks about the flood of Roman troops that besieged Jerusalem in AD 70. It was in that same year that the destruction of the city and the temple took place, which was a decisive event in the so-called First Judeo-Roman War that lasted between 66 and 73 AD. Until the end of the war the desolations lasted. And even in a secular way the Jews can be found guilty of the destruction of Jerusalem and the temple, since the war was started by themselves and that is why it is also called the Great Jewish Revolt. In addition, the Jewish combatants rejected the offer to negotiate the cessation of hostilities that commander Titus had presented, (who was himself a prince too, be it worth the clarification). For this reason also the historian Flavius Josephus, who witnessed the events, wrote: "This was the end of Jerusalem, a city of great magnificence and fame among all mankind, caused by the madness of the seditious."

The Lord was crucified on Nisan 14th, on a fourth day of the week that we call wednesday. It was a wednesday in AD 30 before sunset. Keep in mind that sunset determines when one day ends and another begins. The date probably translates to April 3rd AD 30. Nisan 14th marked the beginning of the Passover, and Nisan 15th marked the beginning of the seven days of unleavened bread. The 15th of Nisan itself was considered a shabat even though it did not coincide with a seventh day, which is saturday. All these details are given to facilitate the understanding of those who might believe that the Lord was crucified on a friday. The Lord Jesus, after having exhaled the spirit, descended into Sheol, where he stayed for three days and three nights. This happened from Nisan 15th to Nisan 17th. This way the Lord rose again on Nisan 18th, this being a sunday, first day of the week, in the time that we could have still seemed to be saturday night.

(Read Lev. 23: 4-8; Jn. 19:31; Mt. 12: 38-40; Jn. 20: 1-23)

As we have seen, in the middle of the 70th week, the Lord caused the sacrifice and the oblation to cease. But after having suffered on the cross, there was still left the other half of the week to pass. What the prophecy mentions is that during the last week the Messiah would confirm his covenant.

Thus it was that the covenant of redemption was confirmed through the ministry of Jesus, especially through his sacrifice, and later through the preaching of the gospel carried out by his disciples; who gave priority to Israel until the moment when Stephen was stoned. Immediately after this event, which took place in AD 33, the 70th week came to an end, and Daniel's 70-week prophecy was also completely fulfilled.

But let's remember that this was a work about the rapture!

I told you that many doctrines were intertwined. Thus the basis of the doctrine of the pre-tribulation rapture is the futuristic way of interpreting the 70th week of Daniel, which has already been proven false.

It is still convenient that another topic be exposed, which has a lot to do with what has been said so far.

Deciphering the discourse of the Mount of Olives

This is going to be an important and even more complex study, but it's necessary to leave the job well done.

One day, when the Lord was leaving the temple he told his disciples that there would not be left a stone upon another that would not be thrown down. Then, being on the Mount of Olives, Jesus answered the question of when these things would be, and what sign there would be of his coming and of the end of the age.

From his answer we will see that there are two ways of interpreting the facts, and that both must be sustained. One interpretation circles around the First Judeo-Roman War, which was previously discussed; which took place between 66 and 73 AD, in which war Jerusalem and the temple were destroyed. And the other parallel interpretation applies to the future return of the Lord Jesus Christ as we all know it: after his appearance in the skies, in the company of his angels, prepared to judge the world; but after having put his Church at safe.

Of the four narratives of the gospel, three bore witness to these words of Jesus on the Mount of Olives, and they are those of Matthew, Mark and Luke. Let's start by reading the Scriptures as they are first.

Matthew is quoted.

And Jesus went out, and departed from the temple: and his disciples came to him for to shew him the buildings of the temple. And Jesus said unto them, See ye not all these things? verily I say unto you, There shall not be left here one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down. And as he sat upon the mount of Olives, the disciples came unto him privately, saying, Tell us, when shall these things be? and what shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world? And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you. For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many. And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places. All these are the beginning of sorrows. Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake. And then shall many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another. And many false prophets shall rise, and shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved. And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all

the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come. When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:) Then let them which be in Judaea flee into the mountains: Let him which is on the housetop not come down to take any thing out of his house: Neither let him which is in the field return back to take his clothes. And woe unto them that are with child, and to them that give suck in those days! But pray ye that your flight be not in the winter, neither on the sabbath day: For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be. And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened. Then if any man shall say unto you, Lo, here is Christ, or there; believe it not. For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect. Behold, I have told you before. Wherefore if they shall say unto you, Behold, he is in the desert; go not forth: behold, he is in the secret chambers; believe it not. For as the lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. For wheresoever the carcase is, there will the eagles be gathered together. Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken: And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other. Now learn a parable of the fig tree; When his branch is yet tender, and putteth forth leaves, ye know that summer is nigh: So likewise ye, when ye shall see all these things, know that it is near, even at the doors. Verily I say unto you, This generation shall not pass, till all these things be fulfilled. Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away. But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only. But as the days of Noah were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. Then shall two be in the field; the one shall be taken, and the other left. Two women shall be grinding at the mill; the one shall be taken, and the other left. Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come. But know this, that if the goodman of the house had known in what watch the thief would come, he would have watched, and would not have suffered his house to be broken up. Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh. Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his lord hath made ruler over his household, to give them meat in due season? Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing. Verily I say unto you, That he shall make him ruler over all his goods. But and if that evil servant shall say in his heart, My lord delayeth his coming; And shall begin to smite his fellowservants, and to eat and drink with the drunken; The lord of that servant shall come in a day when he looketh not for him, and in an hour that he is not aware of, And shall cut him asunder, and appoint him his portion with the hypocrites: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth. [Matthew 24:1-51]

Let's continue with the reference of Mark.

And as he went out of the temple, one of his disciples saith unto him, Master, see what manner of stones and what buildings are here! And Jesus answering said unto him, Seest thou these great buildings? there shall not be left one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down. And as he sat upon the mount of Olives over against the temple, Peter and James and John and Andrew asked him privately, Tell us, when shall these things be? and what shall be the sign when all these things shall be fulfilled? And Jesus answering them began to say, Take heed lest any man deceive you: For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many. And when ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars, be ye not troubled: for such things must needs be; but the end shall not be yet. For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be earthquakes in divers places, and there shall be famines and troubles: these are the beginnings of sorrows. But take heed to yourselves: for they shall deliver you up to councils; and in the synagogues ye shall be beaten: and ye shall be brought before rulers and kings for my sake, for a testimony against them. And the gospel must first be published among all nations. But when they shall lead you, and deliver you up, take no thought beforehand what ye shall speak, neither do ye premeditate: but whatsoever shall be given you in that hour, that speak ye: for it is not ye that speak, but the Holy Ghost. Now the brother shall betray the brother to death, and the father the son; and children shall rise up against their parents, and shall cause them to be put to death. And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake: but he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved. But when ye shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing where it ought not, (let him that readeth understand,) then let them that be in Judaea flee to the mountains: And let him that is on the housetop not go down into the house, neither enter therein, to take any thing out of his house: And let him that is in the field not turn back again for to take up his garment. But woe to them that are with child, and to them that give suck in those days! And pray ye that your flight be not in the winter. For in those days shall be affliction, such as was not from the beginning of the creation which God created unto this time, neither shall be. And except that the Lord had shortened those days, no flesh should be saved: but for the elect's sake, whom he hath chosen, he hath shortened the days. And then if any man shall say to you, Lo, here is Christ; or, lo, he is there; believe him not: For false Christs and false prophets shall rise, and shall shew signs and wonders, to seduce, if it were possible, even the elect. But take ye heed: behold, I have foretold you all things. But in those days, after that tribulation, the sun shall be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, And the stars of heaven shall fall, and the powers that are in heaven shall be shaken. And then shall they see the Son of man coming in the clouds with great power and glory. And then shall he send his angels, and shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from the uttermost part of the earth to the uttermost part of heaven. Now learn a parable of the fig tree; When her branch is yet tender, and putteth forth leaves, ye know that summer is near: So ye in like manner, when ye shall see these things come to pass, know that it is nigh, even at the doors. Verily I say unto you, that this generation shall not pass, till all these things be done. Heaven and earth shall pass away: but my words shall not pass away. But of that day and that hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels which are in heaven, neither the Son, but the Father. Take ye heed, watch and pray: for ye know not when the time is. For the Son of Man is as a man taking a far journey, who left his house, and gave authority to his servants, and to every man his work, and commanded the porter to watch. Watch ye therefore: for ye know not when the master of the house cometh, at even, or at midnight, or at the cockcrowing, or in the morning: Lest coming suddenly he find you sleeping. And what I say unto you I say unto all, Watch. [Mark 13:1-37]

Finally, let's read the testimony that Luke gave. He presented two parts. The one cited first probably occurred during the trip to Jerusalem and not on the Mount of Olives. I say this because of the context. It is also very likely that the Lord has said these things more than once and in more than one place. That is my opinion, and I think it is also supported by the passage from Matthew 10, verses 16 to 25.

Below is the testimony of Luke.

And when he was demanded of the Pharisees, when the kingdom of God should come, he answered them and said, The kingdom of God cometh not with observation: Neither shall they say, Lo here! or, lo there! for, behold, the kingdom of God is within you. And he said unto the disciples, The days will come, when ye shall desire to see one of the days of the Son of man, and ye shall not see it. And they shall say to you, See here; or, see there: go not after them, nor follow them. For as the lightning, that lighteneth out of the one part under heaven, shineth unto the other part under heaven; so shall also the Son of man be in his day. But first must he suffer many things, and be rejected of this generation. And as it was in the days of Noe, so shall it be also in the days of the Son of man. They did eat, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noah entered into the ark, and the flood came, and destroyed them all. Likewise also as it was in the days of Lot; they did eat, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they builded; But the same day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven, and destroyed them all. Even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of man is revealed. In that day, he which shall be upon the housetop, and his stuff in the house, let him not come down to take it away: and he that is in the field, let him likewise not return back. Remember Lot's wife. Whosoever shall seek to save his life shall lose it; and whosoever shall lose his life shall preserve it. I tell you, in that night there shall be two men in one bed; the one shall be taken, and the other shall be left. Two women shall be grinding together; the one shall be taken, and the other left. Two men shall be in the field; the one shall be taken, and the other left. And they answered and said unto him, Where, Lord? And he said unto them, Wheresoever the body is, thither will the eagles be gathered together. [Luke 17:20-37]

And as some spake of the temple, how it was adorned with goodly stones and gifts, he said, As for these things which ye behold, the days will come, in the which there shall not be left one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down. And they asked him, saying, Master, but when shall these things be? and what sign will there be when these things shall come to pass? And he said, Take heed that ye be not deceived: for many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and the time draweth near: go ye not therefore after them. But when ye shall hear of wars and commotions, be not terrified: for these things must first come to pass; but the end is not by and by. Then said he unto them, Nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: And great earthquakes shall be in divers places, and famines, and pestilences; and fearful sights and great signs shall there be from heaven. But before all these, they shall lay their hands on you, and persecute you, delivering you up to the synagogues, and into prisons, being brought before kings and rulers for my name's sake. And it shall turn to you for a testimony. Settle it therefore in your hearts, not to meditate before what ye shall answer: For I will give you a mouth and wisdom, which all your adversaries shall not be able to gainsay nor resist. And ye shall be betrayed both by parents, and brethren, and kinsfolks, and friends; and some of you shall they cause to be put to death. And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake. But there shall not an hair of your head perish. In your patience possess ye your souls. And when ye shall see Jerusalem compassed with armies, then know that the desolation thereof is nigh. Then let them which are in Judaea flee to the mountains; and let them which are in the midst of it depart out; and let not them that are in the countries enter thereinto. For these be the days of vengeance, that all things which are written may be fulfilled. But woe unto them that are with child, and to them that give suck, in those days! for there shall be great distress in the land, and wrath upon this people. And they shall fall by the edge of the sword, and shall be led away captive into all nations: and Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled. And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring; Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken. And then shall they see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh. And he spake to them a parable; Behold the fig tree, and all the trees; When they now shoot forth, ye see and know of your own selves that summer is now nigh at hand. So likewise ye, when ye see these things come to pass, know ye that the kingdom of God is nigh at hand. Verily I say unto you, This generation shall not pass away, till all be fulfilled. Heaven and earth shall pass away: but my words shall not pass away. And take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares. For as a snare shall it come on all them that dwell on the face of the whole earth. Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man. And in the day time he was teaching in the temple; and at night he went out, and abode in the mount that is called the mount of Olives. And all the people came early in the morning to him in the temple, for to hear him. [Luke 21:5-38]

To begin to trace the first interpretation, which has already been fulfilled, it is necessary to identify the context in which the discourse of the Mount of Olives was spoken. We know that the Messiah was about to stop the sacrifice and the oblation being He the person sufficient to redeem humanity from the guilt of sin. Therefore after the crucifiction, the law given to Moses was fulfilled and brought to an end. Then the ancient temple was no longer necessary, but rather it was to remove it. So the Jews who rejected the Lord rejoiced in the stumbling block, clinging to and embracing what they believed to be understanding well; and so they continued to exercise the ancient use of the temple, sacrificing animals and wanting to perpetuate the already old covenant. In this and many other ways they became the object of the wrath of God.

To fully understand how this prophecy can also be applied to past events, it is necessary to decipher in what sense the Lord also uses the terms the *coming of the Son of Man* and the *end of the world*.

Let's read some words that the Lord said a few days before prophesying on the Mount of Olives.

[...] Verily I say unto you, That there be some of them that stand here, which shall not taste of death, till they have seen the kingdom of God come with power. [*Mark 9:1*]

So the Lord said that in the days of that same generation present the kingdom of God would come with power. This **obliges us** to seek an explanation that satisfies such a need of answer. Of course, to appeal to the traditional thought that the coming of the kingdom of God is the one that will take place in our future in this case is not feasible. The Lord used a special language to make known to his disciples the things that were to happen soon; and the use of the same language also prevented such dignity from reaching the snouts of dogs. This is the same reason why the book of Revelation has its special literary style.

I still want to emphasize this point, because if the reader understands that the term *the coming of the Son of Man* <u>must be</u> interpreted in a special way too, then what I have been marking begins to have an important credibility.

Verily I say unto you, There be some standing here, which shall not taste of death, till they see the Son of man coming in his kingdom. [*Matthew 16:28*]

But when they persecute you in this city, flee ye into another: for verily I say unto you, Ye shall not have gone over the cities of Israel, till the Son of man be come. [*Matthew 10:23*]

But Jesus held his peace, And the high priest answered and said unto him, I adjure thee by the living God, that thou tell us whether thou be the Christ, the Son of God. Jesus saith unto him, Thou hast said: nevertheless I say unto you, Hereafter shall ye see the Son of man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of heaven. [*Matthew 26:63-64*]

But then, how is it explained that the Lord is seen sitting at the right hand of God, and coming in the clouds of heaven?

They have to be understood as metaphors.

I'm going to leave it clear one more time. This prophecy has two applications at the same time. So the traditional way of applying it to today future events also remains. But now the interpretation applicable to the 1st century AD is being traced.

So seeing the Lord sitting at the right hand of the power of God means acknowledging Him as exalted by God the Father. And he coming in the clouds of heaven refers to his judgment having come.

Following the logic: the sun, the moon, the stars, and the powers of the heavens are also presented as metaphors. So the angels, and even the eagles.

Already surely counting with the attention of the reader, I would like now to present the explanation from beginning to end. I comment that I am going to make the parallelism with the reference of Matthew 24 so that the comparison can be followed.

The first thing that the Lord did was to warn the disciples to not be deceived. An example of this is that they did not think of imposing the kingdom of God by the sword. Then he warns them that false christs would come; that is, false saviors, perverse leaders. Those false christs deceived many people at that time, and the Bible shows the cases of Simon the sorcerer and the false prophet Bar-Jesus, also called Elymas. There are also documents that mention more cases, such as that of Dositheos the Samaritan. And all these that have been mentioned so far were after the year 30 AD.

Hearing of wars and rumors of wars was inescapable due to the insurrections and seditions that took place within the Roman Empire, as well as due to the wars that were declared between different nations. Precisely an immediate antecedent to the siege of Jerusalem in the year 70 was the violent deaths of the Roman emperors Nero, Galba, Otho, and Vitellius in just eighteen months. In addition, the Romans were at war with the Parthian Empire in the days of the kings Vardanes I and Vologases I. And when war was declared, sometimes it was not carried out, but only remained as a threat or rumor. The Romans also had conflict with the Celts in Britain due to the insurrection led by Boudica. Until now, everything that was named took place before the year 70 AD. This way we find that nation also rose against nation and kingdom against kingdom.

Regarding that there would be plagues, famines and earthquakes in different places, all this also happened; in a literal aspect. The long period of wars and social instability suggests food shortages. And the Bible once clarifies the time:

And in these days came prophets from Jerusalem unto Antioch. And there stood up one of them named Agabus, and signified by the Spirit that there should be great dearth throughout all the world: which came to pass in the days of Claudius Caesar. [*Acts 11:27-28*]

Epidemics are often associated with malnutrition. And the historian Flavius Josephus documented a pestilence in Babylon around the year 40, and Tacitus another in Italy around the year 66. There are many mentions of earthquakes: in Smyrna, Laodicea, Rome, Pompeii, Colosse, Apamea of Phrygia, Hierapolis, Crete, Achaia, Syria and Macedonia.

All things said before were beginning of sorrows. As the year 66 approached, the tribulations worsened in Judea. And making reference to the fact that the people would deliver the disciples to be afflicted and to kill them, and that they would be hated of all nations for the name of Jesus; we know that that's how it has been since the beginning. But with the date of Jerusalem's destruction approaching, most of the Lord's first disciples were being killed, and many people pretending Christianity then stumbled and handed over those who were true, and hated those who were holy. And the false prophets began to appear as the apostles went parting to be with the Lord.

Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood. For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock. Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them. [*Acts 20:28-30*]

And because iniquity did abound, the love of many waxed cold. As the First Judeo-Roman War was imminent, the so-called Sicarii emerged from among the Zealots, (who advocated for a Judea free from Rome). This faction caused terror among the same citizens, since they murdered anyone who apparently of them was an apostate or collaborator of the Roman government. Thus it was that between the religious and political pressure those times turned out to be of great danger for the Christians of Judea; who were forced to exercise extreme caution. Certainly among the unconverted and the false believers distrust ruled the heart, and likewise coldness the spirit.

And after the Gospel had been preached throughout all the Roman world, then the end came. The Great Jewish Revolt began in AD 66; the same year in which it could have easily ended as well. Jerusalem was surrounded that year by the Roman armies under the command of Gaius Cestius Gallus, who ordered it to be camped outside to suggest surrender. Thus for three days Jerusalem was surrounded by armies, and the Christians well knew that this was the cue from God to immediately flee to the mountains. And the Zealots in the city prevented the peace agreement proposed by the Romans from being negotiated. Therefore, on the fourth day the forces broke into the city. Such was the advance they made that they cornered the inhabitants in the area of the temple. But the same general who was subject to Cestius, and many cavalry officers had been bribed and corrupted by price by the Roman procurator of Judea in order to prolong the war.

And when the city was about to be taken, something happened. The Jews who wanted to surrender made their proposal known, to open the door of the fortified compound in which they were and put an end to the war. But Cestius was suspicious of them and did not accept. Surprisingly after this, he moved the troops out of the city. And as they retreated on the way to the Mediterranean Sea, they were attacked by the Zealots, who marking a historical fact killed a number similar to an entire legion in a single battle.

The warning from the Lord allowed the Church to recognize the presence of the abomination of desolation surrounding Jerusalem, and to escape safely to the mountainous region of Perea; precisely until she reached a city called Pella, in Decapolis.

Regarding that the days would be shortened to allow the chosen ones to survive, the explanation has to do with the siege of Jerusalem in the year 70, in which it was destroyed. We must bear in mind that a siege could last days, months, or years. And Jerusalem at that time was solidly fortified and with provisions to sustain herself for years. But if the siege had prolonged to such an extent, the surrounding towns and villages would have suffered also, even reaching the saints who had taken refuge 80km (50 miles) away from Jerusalem. It was thus that the days of the siege were shortened by means of the internal conflicts that occurred between the Zealots and the pacifists, conflicts that even led the guerrillas themselves to set fire to the supplies of the city in order to force everyone to take up arms. But what happened was that they began to kill each other, thus becoming an easy target for the Romans. This way God left the anathemas given to the sword, starvation, and fire; for which the siege did not even reach the fifth month. At the end of time, the city was found completely destroyed, and the temple swept away without one stone remaining on top of another.

And there are still more details that should be settled. The Lord said that as the lightning that comes from the east and appears to the west, so would the coming of the Son of Man be. The same was also true when the Roman army approached Jerusalem from the eastern side. Furthermore, one of the three legions involved was the so-called *Legio XII Fulminata*, which is translated as *Thunderbolt Twelfth Legion*. And when the Lord mentioned that where the carcase was, there the eagles would gather; he was also referring to the Roman armies, who carrying eagle-like insignias, encircled the filth of a sinful people who had laid upon themselves the blame for the death of the Lord just to see him crucified.

And immediately after the tribulation that began in AD 66, the high priests were being killed, the Sanhedrin disarmed, and many rabbis killed or scattered. This is how the sun and the moon were darkened, and the stars fell from heaven. The powers of the heavens were shaken when the Jewish leadership came in remembrance of the Lord. And then with power and great glory the Son of Man manifested his judgment on that unbelieving generation. But earlier he had sent messengers to protect his Church. Because the Christian leaders well understood the signal of warning, and as with the sounding of a shofar, they sounded the alarm and began the flee to the mountains.

It has already been seen how indisputably this prophecy can be applied to the times of the first century. But for now to connect with the idea of the future rapture, it also corresponds to present the interpretation that applies the same words to later events.

Approaching the time of the literal return of the Lord, which today is close to imminent; many false christs, false saviors and false religions began to appear. Although Roman Catholicism is a sect that originated in a very distant time, this is not the case with the so-called Jehovah's Witnesses, Mormons, or Adventists, who emerged in the 19th century. And in the twentieth century we know that the two world wars took place, among many other warlike conflicts. Along with these events were developing pests such as yellow fever, bubonic plaque, typhus, cholera, smallpox, malaria, influenza, measles. There were many cases. There were also famines in Ireland, India, the Soviet Union, Ethiopia, Spain, Cambodia and North Korea. All this considering the period of years between 1800 and 1999. But the world population at the end of that period had multiplied six times what it was at the beginning. There were earthquakes as always, but more people were affected by them. And with the coming of the Lord even closer, we will find ourselves given up to be afflicted, being killed and hated of all nations for the name of Jesus. And of course under pressure, as it happened in the past, many false brothers will show their true faces and despise the true ones. But the Gospel of the Kingdom will be preached in all the world, and in all nations given the testimony of the cross of Christ. Then after this; the end will come. And like a lightning bolt, so the Lord will come; without us knowing the day or the hour, but when everyone already sees the storm. And like a flash of lightning, so everyone will see him; because His return will not go unnoticed. He will come accompanied by his angels whom he will send to gather the elect; those who will have remained, and immediately the fowls will gather over the sinners.

And he saith unto me, Write, Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb. And he saith unto me, These are the true sayings of God. [*Revelation 19:9*]

And I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the fowls that fly in the midst of heaven, Come and gather yourselves together unto the supper of the great God; That ye may eat the flesh of kings, and the flesh of captains, and the flesh of mighty men, and the flesh of horses, and of them that sit on them, and the flesh of all men, both free and bond, both small and great. And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him that sat on the horse, and against his army. And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone. And the remnant were slain with the sword of him that sat upon the horse, which sword proceeded out of his mouth: and all the fowls were filled with their flesh. [*Revelation 19:17-21*]

And remembering that the rapture will take place immediately after the first resurrection, then we understand that by that time all the saints in history will be united with the Lord. Already with our bodies transformed, and also in the company of the angels, we can understand that we will be those fowls that will be filled with the justice of God.

As you could see, the explanation has already begun to interweave with the book of Revelation. And indeed it is all related. But it seems to me that if the reason of this work was to conclude the explanation of why the rapture will be after the tribulation, the need to prove it has already been more than met. The book of Revelation deserves a separate work, totally dedicated to tracing the historicist interpretation of it.

But now I want to delve more into the reason that led me to do this work:

The Church needs to know this.

And particularly because I want her to be, (me included), prepared to face the things that will come and those that already are. Brothers, with the hearts filled with the peace and the joy that the Lord gives, we also have to take care of organizing ourselves and make sure that no one will lack anything. Soon we will not be able to buy or sell. So it goes without saying that we are called for <u>ORGANIZATION</u> and **self-sufficiency**.

Marked the end of the matter, as in the previous work, I ask that the file be not shared indiscriminately. The holy to the saints. God keep blessing you.

III

History Revealed

by Guillermo Yacante Afonso

This is undoubtedly the most serious work I have ever set out to do. And I consider both what would be the consequences of delivering a badly done work, and what would be the fruits of sharing a well done one, that honors the Word of God and lays the foundation for the Church to begin to order its doctrine and to unite. Because that thing of being such a large number of different congregations because some think one thing and others think another already seems to me that it has to be ending. In addition, there is not even one single denomination that does things well at all. So it is necessary for us Evangelicals to unite accordingly; united on the basis of the same God we love, but also on the basis of the same understanding of the Bible; because it has been seen that otherwise it is impossible. And I also leave clear that this is closed among evangelicals. Because only we know and can know the truth. So we better know it completely, and not in parts.

Having already said the purpose of the work, no doubt that it will be left well done. And the same those which may follow; if the Lord will, like the other two that preceded. But something I hadn't done so far was to introduce myself, and I think it is good that I do so recognizing that a sensitive issue has just been touched; in addition that the caliber of the topic to be discussed is a very important one.

About the author

My name you already know. At the time of writing this I am 25 years old, and I have been a Christian for seven years. From the beginning I read the Bible, and also thank God I was always true to him. I never despised His Word, and when I understood something, I tried to apply it. I always congregated, even though in the process of finding a good place I passed through a huge number of different congregations. Because after suffering dozens of disappointments, only in the fifth year I found a worthy place in Comodoro Rivadavia. And although they do not believe exactly the same as me, dignity goes through something else and that is what I found in the *Iglesia Cristiana Evangélica de Km. 5*.

Continuing with my presentation; I had a good education going to a bilingual school of eight hours a day, I grew up in a family of European culture (Spanish, work culture), and as you know, I met the Lord when I was quite young. But I want to clarify that my competence does not go through those things, but through how I have been towards God. Still, I think the above also influences and that's why I mentioned it. But if I wanted to recommend myself, I would do it the following way.

When the Lord made me understand something, I abode. And having abided; I also passed the message. Because out of love for God, when I saw something being done wrong in the congregation, I went directly to the leaders, and always keeping the forms I made my position known to them. Yet I was amazed at the such irreverence I encountered, seeing also lack of suitability, and even sometimes complete lack of support from God, as seen in the cases of women who seek to usurp the authority of men.

I was never ashamed to stand up for what I knew was right, and so I also found that makeshift people immediately call such things legalism. So they throw the baby along with the bath water. But was I ever wrong? Yes, doctrinally sometimes. Did I commit sins? Yes, many. But all things that have already been put in order and cannot hinder the way for me to do this work with authority.

What the study is about

This is the study of the book of Revelation. Its meaning will be explained based on the historicist school of interpretation. Clarifying that even within it there are different points of view, I will present what I have confirmed. If I had to admit that I don't know about something, I would say, "I don't know", rather than be filling gaps with inconsistencies. There is commitment on the part of the writer; but of course, the reader is also called upon to undertake his own research.

What is historicism?

The historicist school of interpretation holds that the prophecy of the book of Revelation has been progressively being fulfilled since the time it was given to the apostle John in the first century AD. Of course, the whole prophecy has not been fulfilled yet but must be consummated. But also much progressed taking into account that more than nineteen hundred years have passed.

But historicism should not be confused with preterism, which teaches that all Revelation was fulfilled in the first century, that being clumsiness. And although there are variants within preterism, there is not much difference either.

And the third position that is brought to the case is the futuristic one, (which is the majorly taught today in churches), which sees in the book of Revelation a narrative that practically did not begin to happen yet, but that would be fulfilled almost entirely in few years.

That said, it suggests a lot to know what the historicist position has to say. Because preterism doesn't last a round, and futurism is also full of holes regarding common sense and basic questions. Speaking of my case now: I believed in the futuristic position when it was the only thing I had heard up to that point. Then, knowing that historicism only from its approach made more sense, I was inspired to investigate it. I want to recall that it was already seen in the previous work how that of the supposed four hundred years of silence of the intertestamental period is very relative and questionable; because the seventy weeks of Daniel were developing. And now, will we still go to think that God was silent for almost two thousand years? No brothers, the two cases are similar. Just as before the seventy weeks were unfolding, so for more than nineteen centuries the book of Revelation has been in development.

The purpose of Revelation

The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him, to shew unto his servants things which must shortly come to pass; and he sent and signified it by his angel unto his servant John: Who bare record of the word of God, and of the testimony of Jesus Christ, and of all things that he saw. Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand. [*Revelation 1:1-3*]

God wanted the Church from the beginning to know the things that must shortly come to pass. And that shortly is relative, because what would be shortly for the first Christians, today is history. But the things that must shortly come to pass from our point of view can also be known by Scripture itself, if we first recognize where we are on the timeline.

Revelation has a predominant symbolic factor

The essence of the book is not literal interpretation. And this for a clear reason: the same person who inspired it is the same person who said "*give not that which is holy unto the dogs, neither cast ye your pearls before swine*". The dignity of such a portion of the Word of God does not correspond to vile sinful souls. And of course, I refer to those who never proceed and will never proceed to repentance, as I hope it has been understood.

In addition, it would have been very reckless and unwise to say in the times of the Roman Empire that the figure of the emperor would have to be removed from the middle, (which the apostle Paul did not do when he wrote to the brothers of Thessalonica). That's an example of how certain things, of explicitly being expressed and then reaching out to the wrong people, can lead to misunderstandings, resentment, and further persecution against the Church. And it should also be borne in mind that there are many things that today would generate that if they reached those who do not correspond. That is why if I said it in previous works, much more in this one I say it: do not share this file with just anyone, take care of yourself, and me.

The Kingdoms of the Book of Daniel

Before I move on to the explanation of Revelation, I would like to discuss first the book of Daniel. The latter on two occasions mentions 5 (five) different kingdoms, always maintaining the correlativity and chronological order of them. The first four kingdoms represent pagan kingdoms. But the fifth is clearly the kingdom of the Lord Jesus Christ. Let's look at the basis of this:

The king answered and said to Daniel, whose name was Belteshazzar, Art thou able to make known unto me the dream which I have seen, and the interpretation thereof? Daniel answered in the presence of the king, and said, The secret which the king hath demanded cannot the wise men, the astrologers, the magicians, the soothsayers, shew unto the king; But there is a God in heaven that revealeth secrets, and maketh known to the king Nebuchadnezzar what shall be in the latter days. Thy dream, and the visions of thy head upon thy bed, are these; As for thee, O king, thy thoughts came into thy mind upon thy bed, what should come to pass hereafter: and he that revealeth secrets maketh known to thee what shall come to pass. But as for me, this secret is not revealed to me for any wisdom that I have more than any living, but for their sakes that shall make known the interpretation to the king, and that thou mightest know the thoughts of thy heart. Thou, O king, sawest, and behold a great image. This great image, whose brightness was excellent, stood before thee; and the form thereof was terrible. This image's head was of fine gold, his breast and his arms of silver, his belly and his thighs of brass, His legs of iron, his feet part of iron and part of clay. Thou sawest till that a stone was cut out without hands, which smote the image upon his feet that were of iron and clay, and brake them to pieces. Then was the iron, the clay, the brass, the silver, and the gold, broken to pieces together, and became like the chaff of the summer threshingfloors; and the wind carried them away, that no place was found for them: and the stone that smote the image became a great mountain, and filled the whole earth. This is the dream; and we will tell the interpretation thereof before the king. Thou, O king, art a king of kings: for the God of heaven hath given thee a kingdom, power, and strength, and glory. And wheresoever the children of men dwell, the beasts of the field and the fowls of the heaven hath he given into thine hand, and hath made thee ruler over them all. Thou art this head of gold. And after thee shall arise another kingdom inferior to thee, and another third kingdom of brass, which shall bear rule over all the earth. And the fourth kingdom shall be strong as iron: forasmuch as iron breaketh in pieces and subdueth all things: and as iron that breaketh all these, shall it break in pieces and bruise. And whereas thou sawest the feet and toes, part of potters' clay, and part of iron, the kingdom shall be divided; but there shall be in it of the strength of the iron, forasmuch as thou sawest the iron mixed with miry clay. And as the toes of the feet were part of iron, and part of clay, so the kingdom shall be partly strong, and partly broken. And whereas thou sawest iron mixed with miry clay, they shall mingle themselves with the seed of men: but they shall not cleave one to another, even as iron is not mixed with clay. And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall stand for ever. Forasmuch as thou sawest that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it brake in pieces the iron, the brass, the clay, the silver, and the gold; the great God hath made known to the king what shall come to pass hereafter: and the dream is certain, and the interpretation thereof sure. [*Daniel 2:26-45*]

The following conclusions are summarized:

- King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon came up with a vision of a human statue composed of different elements, which was then destroyed by a stone that crumbled it in such a way that not even its dust remained. But the stone remained, which made a mountain filled the whole earth.
- The head of the image was fine gold, and represented Babylon.
- The breast and arms were silver, and represented the post-Babylonian kingdom, which would be inferior.
- The belly and thighs were made of brass and represented the third kingdom, which would dominate over the whole earth.
- The iron legs represented the fourth kingdom, which would crumble and break everything.
- And his feet and fingers, part of iron and part of clay, represented a divided kingdom, which would partly be strong, and partly weak. And this kingdom, though divided, would be united by human alliances.
- In the days of those kings, the God of heaven would raise up the eternal kingdom of the Lord Jesus Christ.

The second part in which these five kingdoms are mentioned is cited below.

In the first year of Belshazzar king of Babylon Daniel had a dream and visions of his head upon his bed: then he wrote the dream, and told the sum of the matters. Daniel spake and said, I saw in my vision by night, and, behold, the four winds of the heaven strove upon the great sea. And four great beasts came up from the sea, diverse one from another. The first was like a lion, and had eagle's wings: I beheld till the wings thereof were plucked, and it was lifted up from the earth, and made stand upon the feet as a man, and a man's heart was given to it. And behold another beast, a second, like to a bear, and it raised up itself on one side, and it had three ribs in the mouth of it between the teeth of it: and they said thus unto it, Arise, devour much flesh. After this I beheld, and lo another, like a leopard, which had upon the back of it four wings of a fowl; the beast had also four heads; and dominion was given to it. After this I saw in the night visions, and behold a fourth beast, dreadful and terrible, and strong exceedingly; and it had great iron teeth: it devoured and brake in pieces, and stamped the residue with the feet of it: and it was diverse from all the beasts that were before it; and it had ten horns. I considered the horns, and, behold, there came up among them another little horn, before whom there were three of the first horns

plucked up by the roots: and, behold, in this horn were eyes like the eyes of man, and a mouth speaking great things. I beheld till the thrones were cast down, and the Ancient of days did sit, whose garment was white as snow, and the hair of his head like the pure wool: his throne was like the fiery flame, and his wheels as burning fire. A fiery stream issued and came forth from before him: thousand thousands ministered unto him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him: the judgment was set, and the books were opened. I beheld then because of the voice of the great words which the horn spake: I beheld even till the beast was slain, and his body destroyed, and given to the burning flame. As concerning the rest of the beasts, they had their dominion taken away: yet their lives were prolonged for a season and time. I saw in the night visions, and, behold, one like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him. And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed. I Daniel was grieved in my spirit in the midst of my body, and the visions of my head troubled me. I came near unto one of them that stood by, and asked him the truth of all this. So he told me, and made me know the interpretation of the things. These great beasts, which are four, are four kings, which shall arise out of the earth. But the saints of the most High shall take the kingdom, and possess the kingdom for ever, even for ever and ever. Then I would know the truth of the fourth beast, which was diverse from all the others, exceeding dreadful, whose teeth were of iron, and his nails of brass; which devoured, brake in pieces, and stamped the residue with his feet; And of the ten horns that were in his head, and of the other which came up, and before whom three fell; even of that horn that had eyes, and a mouth that spake very great things, whose look was more stout than his fellows. I beheld, and the same horn made war with the saints, and prevailed against them; Until the Ancient of days came, and judgment was given to the saints of the most High; and the time came that the saints possessed the kingdom. Thus he said, The fourth beast shall be the fourth kingdom upon earth, which shall be diverse from all kingdoms, and shall devour the whole earth, and shall tread it down, and break it in pieces. And the ten horns out of this kingdom are ten kings that shall arise: and another shall rise after them; and he shall be diverse from the first, and he shall subdue three kings. And he shall speak great words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time. But the judgment shall sit, and they shall take away his dominion, to consume and to destroy it unto the end. And the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people of the saints of the most High, whose kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey him. Hitherto is the end of the matter. As for me Daniel, my cogitations much troubled me, and my countenance changed in me: but I kept the matter in my heart. [Daniel 7:1-28]

- Daniel had a vision about four great and different beasts rising from the Mediterranean Sea.
- The first beast was like a lion and had eagle's wings. Then its wings were plucked and the beast raised and stood up like a man. He was also given a man's heart.
- The second beast was like to a bear and stood on one side more than the other. And he had three ribs between his teeth in his mouth. And he was told to get up and devour a lot of meat.
- The third beast was like a leopard with four wings of a fowl on its back. This beast also had four heads and was given dominion.

- The fourth beast was dreadful and terrible, and strong exceedingly. It had great iron teeth, and devoured and brake in pieces; and stamped the residue with the feet of it. This beast was very different from the previous ones.
- Also the fourth beast had ten horns. And from among those ten came up a little horn, before the whom three of the previous were plucked up by the roots. This little horn had eyes like the eyes of a man and a mouth that spoke great things.
- Later, thrones were cast down and God sat together with his servants.
- But the little horn continued to speak great words.
- Then they slain the beast and his body was destroyed and given to the burning flame.
- As concerning the rest of the beasts, they had their dominion taken away, yet their lives were prolonged for a season and time.
- Then, dominion, glory, and a kingdom were given to the Lord Jesus Christ to rule eternally.
- The little horn had been waging war on the saints and even prevailing against them, until the Ancient of days came, and judgment was given to the saints of the most High.
- The ten horns of the fourth beast represent ten kings, and the little horn is another king but different from the others.
- In addition to wearing out the saints of the most High, the little horn would think of changing times and laws. And they would be delivered into his hand until time, and times, and the dividing of time.

It can be seen that the nobility of the symbols used in both cases tends to be reduced. In the first case: fine gold, silver, bronze, and iron; but then the iron begins to mix with miry clay. And in the second case: lion with eagle wings, bear, leopard with fowl wings, and the fourth beast a dreadful and terrible beast.

The first kingdom was the Babylonian Empire. God humiliated Nebuchadnezzar II for his pride and vainglory, and tore the kingdom from him having wounded him with insanity during the appointed time. After those seven years his sanity was restored and in that way he was given a man's heart. Later his kingdom was also restored to him.

The second kingdom was the Medo-Persian Empire, which devoured Babylon, Lydia, and Egypt. The outstanding part of the Empire was Media.

The third kingdom was the Greek Empire, which under the command of Alexander III of Macedon, (known as the Great), quickly conquered the epicenter of the world in question. The four wings and four heads represent the later subdivision of the Empire between the successors Cassander, Lysimachus, Seleucus, and Ptolemy.

The fourth kingdom is the Roman Empire, which was characterized by being fierce and inhuman. Developing it came to be divided into two fractions, having the Empire separated its western part from its eastern part.

And when there were ten kings in the Roman Empire, the eleventh, whom we know as the antichrist, rose among them. And before the antichrist fell three kings of the previous.

The last manifestation of the Roman Empire will consist of what is known as the New World Order. This restructuring of the world will be based on the alliance that will be carried out between different states that recognize themselves as being under the authority of the antichrist. But it turns out that people who don't think alike can't totally agree, and mostly when they don't share the same religion. That is why the kingdom will be partly weak; but it will also be partly strong, because it will be united on the basis of interests that matter to everyone: that there be peace and security. But it will be a very dark phase in the history of mankind, because the purpose of such a ruse will be the morbidity of world domination and human slavery, which is recognized the desire of the devil.

A detail to note is that when talking about iron mixed with clay, in Hebrew the root of all conjugations of the verb mix is *arab*. That is, the word seems to suggest that the Arabs will be involved in the alliance, as is to be expected. But not only they will be involved, but nations around the whole world. What the mixture of iron and clay communicates is the unnatural communion between elements that are not compatible.

Now we approach an essential detail of the work.

Who is the antichrist?

Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world. Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God: And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world. [*1 John 4:1-3*]

The spirit of the antichrist, that is, his mentality, was already at work in the world when John wrote.

Now we beseech you, brethren, by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by our gathering together unto him, That ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that the day of Christ is at hand. Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God. Remember ye not, that, when I was yet with you, I told you these things? And now ye know what withholdeth that he might be revealed in his time. For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth will let, until he be taken out of the way. And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming: Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness. [2 Thess. 2:1-12]

It was warned in advance that the Lord Jesus Christ would return only after the falling away had occurred first, and the antichrist had manifested. Such a man of sin and son of perdition would oppose and rise up against anything that was called God or was the object of worship. He would even pose as God in a temple supposedly dedicated to God.

But by the time Paul was writing, something was stopping the manifestation of the antichrist. And that something the Thessalonians already knew what it was. But in writing Paul did not make it known for the forementioned reasons.

The office of the Roman emperor made it impossible for the antichrist to assume for reasons of power. But removed from the middle, or rather subdued, in the year 538 AD the antichrist assumed power.

So already seeing the reader the silhouette of who the antichrist is, I want to say something first.

The antichrist **is not one man**, but he is always one at a time.

So the antichrist is the office of pope of the Roman Catholic Church. And today, at the time of this work being published, the antichrist in charge is an Argentine Jesuit. And it's not to be proud. My opinion, and practically being sure I say it, is that he is not going to be the last antichrist, but that there will be at least one more successor. I think that it's not feasible for Bergoglio to preside over the New World Order.

And having clarified this, there are still things to deal with in the book of Daniel.

The Vision of the Ram and the He Goat

In the third year of the reign of king Belshazzar a vision appeared unto me, even unto me Daniel, after that which appeared unto me at the first. And I saw in a vision; and it came to pass, when I saw, that I was at Shushan in the palace, which is in the province of Elam; and I saw in a vision, and I was by the river of Ulai. Then I lifted up mine eyes, and saw, and, behold, there stood before the river a ram which had two horns: and the two horns were high; but one was higher than the other, and the higher came up last. I saw the ram pushing westward, and northward, and southward; so that no beasts might stand before him, neither was there any that could deliver out of his hand; but he did according to his will, and became great. And as I was considering, behold, an he goat came from the west on the face of the whole earth, and touched not the ground: and the goat had a notable horn between his eyes. And he came to the ram that had two horns, which I had seen standing before the river, and ran unto him in the fury of his power. And I saw him come close unto the ram, and he was moved with choler against him, and smote the ram, and brake his two horns: and there was no power in the ram to stand before him, but he cast him down to the ground, and stamped upon him: and there was none that could deliver the ram out of his hand. Therefore the he goat waxed very great: and when he was strong, the great horn was broken; and for it came up four notable ones toward the four winds of heaven. And out of one of them came forth a little horn, which waxed exceeding great, toward the south, and toward the east, and toward the pleasant land. And it waxed great, even to the host of heaven; and it cast down some of the host and of the stars to the ground, and stamped upon them. Yea, he magnified himself even to the prince of the host, and by him the daily sacrifice was taken away, and the place of the sanctuary was cast down. And an host was given him against the daily sacrifice by reason of transgression, and it cast down the truth to the ground; and it practised, and prospered. Then I heard one saint speaking, and another saint said unto that certain saint which spake, How long shall be the vision concerning the daily sacrifice, and the transgression of desolation, to give both the sanctuary and the host to be trodden under foot? And he said unto me, Unto two thousand and three hundred days; then shall the sanctuary be cleansed. And it came to pass, when I, even I Daniel, had seen the vision, and sought for the meaning, then, behold, there stood before me as the appearance of a man. And I heard a man's voice between the banks of Ulai, which called, and said, Gabriel, make this man to understand the vision. So he came near where I stood: and when he came, I was afraid, and fell upon my face: but he said unto me, Understand, O son of man: for at the time of the end shall be the vision. Now as he was speaking with me, I was in a deep sleep on my face toward the ground: but he touched me, and set me upright. And he said, Behold, I will make thee know what shall be in the last end of the indignation: for at the time appointed the end shall be. The ram which thou sawest having two horns are the kings of Media and Persia. And the rough goat is the king of Grecia: and the great horn that is between his eyes is the first king. Now that being broken, whereas four stood up for it, four kingdoms shall stand up out of the nation, but not in his power. And in the latter time of their kingdom, when the transgressors are come to the full, a king of fierce countenance, and understanding dark sentences, shall stand up. And his power shall be mighty, but not by his own power: and he shall destroy wonderfully, and shall prosper, and practise, and shall destroy the mighty and the holy people. And through his policy also he shall cause craft to prosper in his hand; and he shall magnify himself in his heart, and by peace shall destroy many: he shall also stand up against the Prince of princes; but he shall be broken without hand. And the vision of the evening and the morning which was told is true: wherefore shut thou up the vision; for it shall be for many days. And I Daniel fainted, and was sick certain days; afterward I rose up, and did the king's business; and I was astonished at the vision, but none understood it. [*Daniel 8:1-27*]

We can understand that the two-horned ram represents the Medo-Persian Empire, where the horn that was higher than the other symbolizes Media. The ram pushed westward, northward and southward. Respectively representing the oppression of Babylon, Lydia and Egypt.

But then, from the west approached a he goat that had a notable horn between his eyes. The latter smote and stamped upon the ram, and broke his two horns. And then the he goat waxed very great. But when he was strong, his great horn was broken, and for it came four notable ones in the direction of the four winds of heaven.

We continue to remember what we have already seen: Alexander the Great on behalf of the Greek Empire prevailed over the Medon-Persians, but being at his greatest strength, (and being quite young as well), died unexpectedly. Later his Empire was divided between Cassander, Lysimachus, Seleucus and Ptolemy.

From one of those four notable horns came a little horn that grew greatly to the south, to the east, and to the pleasant land of Israel. And it waxed great, even to the host of heaven; and it cast down some of the host and of the stars to the ground, and stamped upon them. He magnified himself even to the prince of the host, and by him the daily sacrifice was taken away, and the place of the sanctuary was cast down, (that is, dishonored). And a host was given him against the daily sacrifice by reason of transgression, and it cast down the truth to the ground; and it practised, and prospered. And the vision concerning the daily sacrifice, and the transgression of desolation to give both the sanctuary and the host to be trodden under foot was to last 2,300 days, and then the sanctuary would be cleansed.

Then we know that from one of the four kingdoms of the division of the Greek Empire the little horn was to come out. But we must recognize that this little horn is different from the one discussed in the previous chapter. It is another protagonist although the same symbology is used. Because the one in the previous chapter was in the fourth beast, which represents the Roman Empire. But the one seen now came out of one of the four Hellenistic kingdoms.

Thus it was that from the kingdom of the Seleucid dynasty arose Antiochus IV, self-named *Theos Epiphanes* in his delirium. This monarch dishonored the Jewish priests and leaders, even killing some of them, (remember how the Olivet discourse was also interpreted). And he also sinned against God by preventing the daily sacrifice of the law given to Moses. And he still sullied the temple of Jerusalem wanting to dedicate it to his idol Zeus. And many Jews betrayed the faith and even their own countrymen. From the beginning of the transgression of desolation until the day on which the sanctuary was cleansed, 2,300 days passed. That period began in 171 BC, and ended in 164 BC. The starting point was the so-called transgression of desolation, which was the assassination of the legitimate high priest Onias III in the context of the struggle for the usurpation of office. About halfway through the period, the abomination of desolation was placed in the temple, (which was the installation of the statue of Zeus in it). And the end of the 2,300 days was the celebration of the rededication of the temple, originating Hanukkah.

As had been prophesied, Antiochus IV was broken without hand, because God Himself wounded him causing him severe intestinal pains and died in fetid misery.

The Prophecy of the Kings of the North and the South

To complete the interpretation of the book of Daniel it would only be necessary to deal with the prophecy that the angel gave him while he was on the banks of the Tigris River.

In the third year of Cyrus king of Persia a thing was revealed unto Daniel, whose name was called Belteshazzar; and the thing was true, but the time appointed was long: and he understood the thing, and had understanding of the vision. In those days I Daniel was mourning three full weeks. I ate no pleasant bread, neither came flesh nor wine in my mouth, neither did I anoint myself at all, till three whole weeks were fulfilled. And in the four and twentieth day of the first month, as I was by the side of the great river, which is Hiddekel; Then I lifted up mine eyes, and looked, and behold a certain man clothed in linen, whose loins were girded with fine gold of Uphaz: His body also was like the beryl, and his face as the appearance of lightning, and his eyes as lamps of fire, and his arms and his feet like in colour to polished brass, and the voice of his words like the voice of a multitude. And I Daniel alone saw the vision: for the men that were with me saw not the vision; but a great quaking fell upon them, so that they fled to hide themselves. Therefore I was left alone, and saw this great vision, and there remained no strength in me: for my comeliness was turned in me into corruption, and I retained no strength. Yet heard I the voice of his words: and when I heard the voice of his words, then was I in a deep sleep on my face, and my face toward the ground. And, behold, an hand touched me, which set me upon my knees and upon the palms of my hands. And he said unto me, O Daniel, a man greatly beloved, understand the words that I speak unto thee, and stand upright: for unto thee am I now sent. And when he had spoken this word unto me, I stood trembling. Then said he unto me, Fear not, Daniel: for from the first day that thou didst set thine heart to understand, and to chasten thyself before thy God, thy words were heard, and I am come for thy words. But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me one and twenty days: but, lo, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me; and I remained there with the kings of Persia. Now I am come to make thee understand what shall befall thy people in the latter days: for yet the vision is for many days. And when he had spoken such words unto me, I set my face toward the ground, and I became dumb. And, behold, one like the similitude of the sons of men touched my lips: then I opened my mouth, and spake, and said unto him that stood before me, O my lord, by the vision my sorrows are turned upon me, and I have retained no strength. For how can the servant of this my lord talk with this my lord? for as for me, straightway there remained no strength in me, neither is there breath left in me. Then there came again and touched me one like the appearance of a man, and he strengthened me, And said, O man greatly beloved, fear not: peace be unto thee, be strong, yea, be strong. And when he had spoken unto me, I was strengthened, and said, Let my lord speak; for thou hast strengthened me. Then said he, Knowest thou wherefore I come unto thee? and now will I return to fight with the prince of Persia: and when I am gone forth, lo, the prince of Grecia shall come. But I will shew thee that which is noted in the scripture of truth: and there is none that holdeth with me in these things, but Michael your prince. Also I in the first year of Darius the Mede, even I, stood to confirm and to strengthen him. And now will I shew thee the truth. Behold, there shall stand up yet three kings in Persia; and the fourth shall be far richer than they all: and by his strength through his riches he shall stir up all against the realm of Grecia. And a mighty king shall stand up, that shall rule with great dominion, and do according to his will. And when he shall stand up, his kingdom shall be broken, and shall be divided toward the four winds of heaven; and not to his posterity, nor according to his dominion which he ruled: for his kingdom shall be plucked up, even for others beside those. And the king of the south shall be strong, and one of his princes; and he shall be strong above him, and have dominion; his dominion shall be a great dominion. And in the end of years they shall join themselves together; for the king's daughter of the south shall come to the king of the north to make an agreement: but she shall not retain the power of the arm; neither shall he stand, nor his arm: but she shall be given up, and they that brought her, and he that begat her, and he that strengthened her in these times. But out of a branch of her roots shall one stand up in his estate, which shall come with an army, and shall enter into the fortress of the king of the north, and shall deal against them, and shall prevail: And shall also carry captives into Egypt their gods, with their princes, and with their precious vessels of silver and of gold; and he shall continue more years than the king of the north. So the king of the south shall come into his kingdom, and shall return into his own land. But his sons shall be stirred up, and shall assemble a multitude of great forces: and one shall certainly come, and overflow, and pass through: then shall he return, and be stirred up, even to his fortress. And the king of the south shall be moved with choler, and shall come forth and fight with him, even with the king of the north: and he shall set forth a great multitude; but the multitude shall be given into his hand. And when he hath taken away the multitude, his heart shall be lifted up; and he shall cast down many ten thousands: but he shall not be strengthened by it. For the king of the north shall return, and shall set forth a multitude greater than the former, and shall certainly come after certain years with a great army and with much riches. And in those times there shall many stand up against the king of the south: also the robbers of thy people shall exalt themselves to establish the vision; but they shall fall. So the king of the north shall come, and cast up a mount, and take the most fenced cities: and the arms of the south shall not withstand, neither his chosen people, neither shall there be any strength to withstand. But he that cometh against him shall do according to his own will, and none shall stand before him: and he shall stand in the glorious land, which by his hand shall be consumed. He shall also set his face to enter with the strength of his whole kingdom, and upright ones with him; thus shall he do: and he shall give him the daughter of women, corrupting her: but she shall not stand on his side, neither be for him. After this shall he turn his face unto the isles, and shall take many: but a prince for his own behalf shall cause the reproach offered by him to cease; without his own reproach he shall cause it to turn upon him. Then he shall turn his face toward the fort of his own land: but he shall stumble and fall, and not be found. Then shall stand up in his estate a raiser of taxes in the glory of the kingdom: but within few days he shall be destroyed, neither in anger, nor in battle. And in his estate shall stand up a vile person, to whom they shall not give the honour of the kingdom: but he shall come in peaceably, and obtain the kingdom by flatteries. And with the arms of a flood shall they be overflown from before him, and shall be broken; yea, also the prince of the covenant. And after the league made with him he shall work deceitfully: for he shall come up, and shall become strong with a small people. He shall enter peaceably even upon the fattest places of the province; and he shall do that which his fathers have not done, nor his fathers' fathers; he shall scatter among them the prey, and spoil, and riches: yea, and he shall forecast his devices against the strong holds, even for a time. And he shall stir up his power and his courage against the king of the south with a great army; and the king of the south shall be stirred up to battle with a very great and mighty army; but he shall not stand: for they shall forecast devices against him. Yea, they that feed of the portion of his meat shall destroy him, and his army shall overflow: and many shall fall down slain. And both of these kings' hearts shall be to do mischief, and they shall speak lies at one table; but it shall not prosper: for yet the end shall be at the time appointed. Then shall he return into his land with great riches; and his heart shall be against the holy covenant; and he shall do exploits, and return to his own land. At the time appointed he shall return, and come toward the south; but it shall not be as the former, or as the latter. For the ships of Chittim shall come against him: therefore he shall be grieved, and return, and have indignation against the holy covenant: so shall he do; he shall even return, and have intelligence with them that forsake the holy covenant. And arms shall stand on his part, and they shall pollute the sanctuary of strength, and shall take away the daily sacrifice, and they shall place the abomination that maketh desolate. And such as do wickedly against the covenant shall he corrupt by flatteries: but the people that do know their God shall be strong, and do exploits. And they that understand among the people shall instruct many: yet they shall fall by the sword, and by flame, by captivity, and by spoil, many days. Now when they shall fall, they shall be holpen with a little help: but many shall cleave to them with flatteries. And some of them of understanding shall fall, to try them, and to purge, and to make them white, even to the time of the end: because it is yet for a time appointed. And the king shall do according to his will; and he shall exalt himself, and magnify himself above every god, and shall speak marvellous things against the God of gods, and shall prosper till the indignation be accomplished: for that that is determined shall be done. Neither shall he regard the God of his fathers, nor the desire of women, nor regard any god: for he shall magnify himself above all. But in his estate shall he honour the God of forces: and a god whom his fathers knew not shall he honour with gold, and silver, and with precious stones, and pleasant things. Thus shall he do in the most strong holds with a strange god, whom he shall acknowledge and increase with glory: and he shall cause them to rule over many, and shall divide the land for gain. And at the time of the end shall the king of the south push at him: and the king of the north shall come against him like a whirlwind, with chariots, and with horsemen, and with many ships; and he shall enter into the countries, and shall overflow and pass over. He shall enter also into the glorious land, and many countries shall be overthrown: but these shall escape out of his hand, even Edom, and Moab, and the chief of the children of Ammon. He shall stretch forth his hand also upon the countries: and the land of Egypt shall not escape. But he shall have power over the treasures of gold and of silver, and over all the precious things of Egypt: and the Libyans and the Ethiopians shall be at his steps. But tidings out of the east and out of the north shall trouble him: therefore he shall go forth with great fury to destroy, and utterly to make away many. And he shall plant the tabernacles of his palace between the seas in the glorious holy mountain; yet he shall come to his end, and none shall help him. And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book. And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever. But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased. Then I Daniel looked, and, behold, there stood other two, the one on this side of the bank of the river, and the other on that side of the bank of the river. And one said to the man clothed in linen, which was upon the waters of the river, How long shall it be to the end of these wonders? And I heard the man clothed in linen, which was upon the waters of the river, when he held up his right hand and his left hand unto heaven, and sware by him that liveth for ever that it shall be for a time, times, and an half; and when he shall have accomplished to scatter the power of the holy people, all these things shall be finished. And I heard, but I understood not: then said I, O my Lord, what shall be the end of these things? And he said, Go thy way, Daniel: for the words are closed up and sealed till the time of the end. Many shall be purified, and made white, and tried; but the wicked shall do wickedly: and none of the wicked shall understand; but the wise shall understand. And from the time that the daily sacrifice shall be taken away, and the abomination that maketh desolate set up, there shall be a thousand two hundred and ninety days. Blessed is he that waiteth, and cometh to the thousand three hundred and five and thirty days. But go thou thy way till the end be: for thou shalt rest, and stand in thy lot at the end of the days. [Daniel 10-12]

Let's go with the premises:

- An angel of God went to Daniel to let him know what was to happen to Israel in the latter days. Because the vision would be for many days.
- There would stand up yet three kings in Persia, and the fourth would be far richer than they all.
- The fourth king in question would stir up all against the realm of Grecia.
- A mighty king would stand up, that would rule with great dominion, and do according to his will.
- But after he had risen, his kingdom would be broken, and divided toward the four winds of heaven; not to his posterity, nor according to his dominion which he ruled; for his kingdom would be plucked up, even for others beside those.

OK, let's clear these points first.

Daniel received this vision in the third year of the reign of Cyrus II, king of Persia. This translates to 556 BC (if not 555 BC). Of the four Persian kings mentioned, Cyrus II was the first. Cambyses II, Smerdis and Darius I subsequently succeeded to the throne. It was this Darius the king who was to be far richer than the previous ones, and who also raised the Persians against the Greeks giving rise to the First Persian Invasion of Greece.

Then, in 336 BC, Alexander III of Macedon rose up, who after his rapid conquests died unexpectedly in 323 BC. Having left neither a clear nor a legitimate heir, the Greek Empire ended up dividing itself among those outside his house, called the diadochi or successors.

Continuing with the summary:

- The king of the south would be strong; and one of his princes would be strong above him, and have dominion; and his dominion would be a great dominion.
- In the end of years they would join themselves together, for the king's daughter of the south would go to the king of the north to make an agreement. But she wouldn't retain the power of the arm; neither would he stand, nor his arm; but she would be given up, and they that would have brought her, and he that would have begat her, and he that would have strengthened her in those times.
- But out of a branch of her roots one would stand up in his estate, which would go with an army, and would enter into the fortress of the king of the north, and would deal against them, and would prevail.
- And would also carry captives into Egypt their gods, with their princes, and with their precious vessels of silver and gold; and he would continue more years than the king of the north. So the king of the south would come into his kingdom, and would return into his own land.
- But his sons would be stirred up, and would assemble a multitude of great forces: and one would certainly come, and overflow, and pass through: then he would return, and be stirred up, even to his fortress.

- And the king of the south would be moved with choler, and would go forth and fight with him, even with the king of the north: and he would set forth a great multitude; but the multitude would be given into his hand.
- And when he would have taken away the multitude, his heart would be lifted up, and he would cast down many ten thousands: but he would not be strengthened by it.

The southern kingdom is that of the Ptolemaic dynasty of Egypt. And his first king, Ptolemy I, named Soter, became strong. But one of his sons, Ptolemy II Philadelphus, became strong above him. After years, having war with the kingdom of the north, (which was that of the Seleucid dynasty), Ptolemy II Philadelphus wanted to make peace with his rival Antiochus II. To that end he gave his daughter Berenice Syra for wife; although it did help nothing to end the war. Later, Antiochus II was poisoned by that which was his first wife, whom he had repudiated to accommodate to the conditions of the contract with Berenice. And soon after, Berenice and her young son, who was to succeed to the throne, were also poisoned to death.

After the death of the king of the south Ptolemy II Philadelphus, his son Ptolemy III Euergetes assumed the reign. The latter, being the brother of the murdered Berenice Syra, and therefore uncle of the poisoned child, undertook the so-called Third Syrian War against the king of the north; which he managed to defeat by taking the main cities in Syria and Mesopotamia. And according to the prophecy, Ptolemy III Euergetes entered Egypt having taken from the northern kingdom the idols and precious objects he found. Because he took the gold he found; and the idols they found again. Because the Persians centuries ago had taken from Egypt those simulacra that were then in Seleucid territory.

But the sons of the late king of the north were enraged, and these were Seleucus II Callinicus and Antiochus Hierax, (sons of his first wife). And although these two were divided among themselves and even had wars between them, Seleucus II managed to regain the Syria and Mesopotamia that had previously belonged to his dynasty. After a few years, the new king of the south Ptolemy IV Philopator, presenting battle in the Fourth Syrian War defeated the then king of the north Antiochus III. After the war ended, Ptolemy IV Philopator ruled for about ten years in peaceful conditions until a revolt broke out in Egypt and he died under unclear circumstances.

- Then the king of the north would return, and would set forth a multitude greater than the former, and would certainly go after certain years with a great army and with much riches. And in those times many would stand up against the king of the south: also the robbers of the people of Israel would exalt themselves to establish the vision; but they would fall.
- So the king of the north would come, and cast up a mount, and take the most fenced cities: and the arms of the south would not withstand, neither his chosen people, neither would there be any strength to withstand. But he that would come against him would do according to his own will, and none would stand before him; and he would stand in the glorious land of Israel, which by his hand would be consumed.
- He would also set his face to enter with the strength of his whole kingdom, and upright ones with him; and he would give him the daughter of women, corrupting her: but she would not stand on his side, neither be for him.
- After this he would turn his face unto the isles, and would take many: but a prince for his own behalf would cause the reproach offered by him to cease; without his own reproach he would cause it to turn upon him.
- Then he would turn his face towards the fort of his own land: but he would stumble and fall, and not be found.
- Then would stand up in his estate a raiser of taxes in the glory of the kingdom: but within few days he would be destroyed, neither in anger, nor in battle.
- And in his estate would stand up a vile person, to whom they would not give the honour of the kingdom: but he would go in peaceably, and obtain the kingdom by flatteries.
- And with the arms of a flood they would be overflown from before him, and would be broken: also the prince of the covenant. And after the league made with him he would work deceitfully: for he would go up, and would become strong with a small people.
- He would enter peaceably even upon the fattest places of the province; and he would do that which his fathers hadn't done, nor his father's fathers; he would scatter among them the prey, and spoil, and riches: and he would forecast his devices against the strong holds, even for a time.
- And he would stir up his power and his courage against the king of the south with a great army; and the king of the south would be stirred up to battle with a very great and might army; but he would not stand: for they would forecast devices against him. They which fed of the portion of his meat would destroy him, and his army would overflow: and many would fall down slain.

Then the king of the north, Antiochus III; seeing the weakness of the kingdom of the south waged the Fifth Syrian War. At that time many rose up against Ptolemy V, because not only did he have to deal with internal conflicts, but also Philip V of Macedon allied himself with the king of the north and declared war on him. And when the army of the king of the south appeared, he was overcome and could not defend the territory of Palestine.

Ptolemy V, being forced to make peace with Antiochus III, agreed to cede the region of Coele-Syria and take for wife Cleopatra I Syra, daughter of the king of the north; which he proposed him in order to turn her against him. But his plan did not succeed because she eventually ended up defending the sovereignty of the Seleucid dynasty.

And Antiochus III conquered coastal areas of the Mediterranean Sea and the Persian Gulf. But by venturing into the shores of Asia Minor, Antiochus became *persona non grata* to the then Roman Republic; which wished to seize control of that region. And advancing Antiochus even into Greece, when his armies were in conflict with the Macedonians, they were attacked and defeated by the Romans in the Battle of Thermopylae in 191 BC. Thus the king of the north was humiliated by the consul of the Roman Republic, then Manius Acilius Glabrio. After this, Antiochus III returned to his land, where he was killed when he was found trying to steal the treasures of the temple of Baal to obtain resources.

Later in the kingdom of the north, Seleucus IV Philopator took over. This man wanted to take over the riches of the temple of God in Jerusalem, and sending for that his legate Heliodorus, the latter found himself severely prevented from doing so. Because by appearing in the temple the angel of Yahveh (that is, the Lord Jesus Christ), accompanied by two angels deterred the collector. And only saved by the intercession of the high priest, Heliodorus could survive. After returning to Seleucus, it is believed that he murdered the king. The sure thing is that Seleucus IV Philopator did not die in battle.

Then succeeded to the throne Antiochus IV Epiphanes. This vile person was not the rightful heir of his father, but coming from Greece he plotted to share the kingdom with his little brother, who later "passed away". The kingdom of the south then declared the Sixth Syrian War; but advancing these to Seleucid land they were defeated by the forces of Antiochus IV. And the king of the north raided Egypt, defeating and even capturing king Ptolemy VI Philometor, who was his nephew. And when the kingdom of the south was divided among itself, Ptolemy reached a pact with Antiochus in which he acknowledged submitting to the interests of the Seleucid Empire in order to remain as a puppet ruler. But a few months later the Ptolemaic dynasty reorganized and made peace with each other, also repudiating the previous agreement with Antiochus. So the latter went to Egypt deceptively. Because his communicated intention was to restore the kingdom to Ptolemy VI and remove his younger brother from the middle. And having great victories, Antiochus IV was capturing the fortresses; but on his way to the capital Alexandria, he was intercepted by an emissary of the Roman Republic, which was an ally of Egypt. That man, making him see the shadow of the Italian armies over him convinced Antiochus to end the war.

But although the Ptolemaics had managed to get rid of the external threat, the family conflicts remained. Ptolemy VI Philometor was again betrayed by Ptolemy VIII Physcon his brother, and even a courtier of his rose up against him. That's how those who used to feed of the portion of his meat destroyed him. The army of Ptolemy VI Philometor was destroyed after the repeated rebellions and disloyalties, so that the king had to take refuge in Cyprus. Now the last portion of the prophecy remains; which is summarized as follows:

- Both of these king's hearts would be to do mischief, and they would speak lies at one table; but it wouldn't prosper: for yet the end would be at the time appointed. Then he would return into his land with great riches; and his heart would be against the holy covenant; and he would do exploits, and return to his own land.
- At the time appointed he would return, and go toward the south; but it would not be as the former, or as the latter. For the ships of Chittim would go against him: therefore he would be grieved, and return, and have indignation against the holy covenant: he would even return, and have intelligence with them that forsake the holy covenant.
- And arms would stand on his part, and they would pollute the sanctuary of strength, and would take away the daily sacrifice, and they would place the abomination that maketh desolate. And such as do wickedly against the covenant he would corrupt by flatteries: but the people that do know their God would be strong, and do exploits. And they that understand among the people would instruct many: yet they would fall by the sword, and by flame, by captivity, and by spoil, many days. Now when they would fall, they would be helped with a little help: but many would cleave to them with flatteries. And some of them of understanding would fall, to try them, and to purge, and to make them white, even to the time of the end: because it would be yet for a time appointed.
- And the king would do according to his will; and he would exalt himself, and magnify himself above every god, and would speak marvellous things against the God of gods, and would prosper till the indignation be accomplished: for that that was determined would be done. Neither would he regard the God of his fathers, nor the desire of women, nor regard any god: for he would magnify himself above all. But in his estate he would honour the god of forces: and a god whom his fathers knew not he would honour with gold, and silver, and with precious stones, and pleasant things. He would do so in the most strong holds with a strange god, whom he would acknowledge and increase with glory: and he would cause them to rule over many, and would divide the land for gain.
- And at the time of the end the king of the south would push at him: and the king of the north would go against him like a whirlwind, with chariots, and with horsemen, and with many ships; and he would enter into the countries, and would overflow and pass over. He would enter also into the glorious land, and many countries would be overthrown: but Edom, Moab and the chief of the children of Ammon would escape out of his hand. He would stretch forth his hand also upon the countries: and the land of Egypt wouldn't escape. But he would have power over the treasures of gold and of silver, and over all the precious things of Egypt: and the Libyans and the Ethiopians would be at his steps.
- But tidings out of the east and out of the north would trouble him: therefore he would go forth with great fury to destroy, and utterly to make away many. And he would plant the tabernacles of his palace between the seas in the glorious holy mountain; yet he would come to his end, and none would help him.
- And at that time Michael would stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of Israel: and there would be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time the people of Israel would be delivered, every one that would be found written in the book.

- And many of them that would have been sleeping on the dust of the earth would awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. And they that be wise would shine as the brightness of the firmament: and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever.
- Many would run to and fro, and knowledge would be increased.
- The end of those wonders would be for a time, times, and a half. And when he would have accomplished to scatter the power of the holy people, all those things would be finished.
- Those words would be closed up and sealed till the time of the end.
- Many would be purified, and made white, and tried; but the wicked would do wickedly, and none of the wicked would understand, but the wise would understand.
- And from the time that the daily sacrifice would be taken away, and the abomination that maketh desolate set up, there would be 1,290 days.
- Blessed would be that who waiteth, and cometh to the day 1,335.

After the war ended, Ptolemy VI Philometor and Antiochus IV met to negotiate peace. And while they were at the same table, each in his heart plotted mischief against the other, while pretending to promise each other conveniences. But they did not prosper because the end was yet to be at the time appointed.

Antiochus IV returned to his land with great riches; but in those days a revolt had broken out in Judea against the priesthood which he had previously accommodated. Aware of this, and angry against the Jewish religion, he had many people killed in Jerusalem and his priest restored.

As already seen, at the appointed time Antiochus IV returned to Egypt; and wanting to take the kingdom of the south, ships from Cyprus went against him. At the same event, the Roman ambassador Gaius Popillius Laenas intimated the cessation of the war. Grief-stricken and angry, Antiochus IV undertook the return to Syria, in which he heard of the sedition in Jerusalem. He then returned to Judea and had intelligence with those who forsook the holy covenant. He employed troops which polluted the sanctuary, and removed the daily sacrifice. And they put the abomination that maketh desolate, which was the arming of an altar to Zeus along with the laying of his statue, and the sacrifice of a pig on the altar of incense. With flattery Antiochus seduced the apostates; but the people faithful to God made exploits and did not prevaricate, although for some days many of those wise men were killed.

I want to say something about the protagonists of this prophecy. It was already seen that the term king of the south came representing members of the Ptolemaic dynasty. And also the king of the north members of the Seleucid dynasty. But what each title says is that one would reign in the south, and another in the north. The important issue is not that one is the Ptolemaic dynasty and the other the Seleucid, but that Israel was in the middle of the conflict between the two kings near the time of the coming of the Messiah. Now it will be seen that the king of the north is not limited to Seleucid members.

The king who did his will and exalted himself above all things was Herod I, known as the Great. This man ruled over Judea and was the one in office when the Lord Jesus Christ was born. Herod's parents professed the Jewish religion, but he did not care about the God of Israel. And not only that, but he also wanted to kill him. Because when he knew about his birth, he sent to kill all the children under the age of two in Bethlehem and her surroundings. That is why he didn't regard the desire of women; because the desire of women are their children.

But he did honor the idol of forces, the one he wanted to please in order to maintain his power and increase it even: the consul/emperor Octavian Caesar. In honor of him he gave Caesarea its name and renamed Samaria Sebaste, (which is Greek equivalent to the Latin *augustus*), and also dedicated temples to him and gave him gifts. Thus he made himself with the most strong holds such as the Herodion and Masada at that time, feats of architecture.

And making a parenthesis, the Scripture says that at the end of time the king of the south would push at the king of the north. This also occurred during the rule of Herod I, which we remember was subject to the Roman Republic. Therefore, the king of the north could also be considered the then consul Octavian Caesar. Because after a while, the king of the south who pushed at Octavian was Mark Antony, an ally of Cleopatra VII Philopator, who was the last monarch of the Ptolemaic dynasty. But Herod betrayed Octavian, favoring Mark Antony in this conflict known as the fourth civil war of the Roman Republic. For first pushing Mark Antony at Octavian Caesar, whom he dishonored for having repudiated his sister; in addition to having seriously failed in military campaign; the Roman Senate agreed to go to war. And according to the prophecy, the war was not characterized by battles between infantry forces, but between naval ones and mounted army. And after defeated the forces of the king of the south, Herod begged Octavian for forgiveness; who not only forgave him, but also proclaimed him king over Judea.

And after the Battle of Actium in Greece, the Roman armies going after Mark Antony and Cleopatra took the route of the Levant. In this way they passed through the provinces that had revolted, bringing order and "inspiring deterrence". Judea also got the message. But the lands of Edom, Moab, and the chief of the children of Ammon were not defeated, if even confronted. And arriving in Egypt, they defeated the kingdom of the south, which ended up becoming a Roman province after the death of Mark Antony and Cleopatra VII. And Octavian took over the riches that the Ptolemaic dynasty had accumulated for centuries, which facilitated his approval to eventually become the first Roman emperor. Later he also took the treasures of Libya and the land of Kush in expeditions to Africa around 20 BC.

But regaining Herod I the office of the king of the north, when he heard tidings out of the east and out of the north, he was troubled. For when the wise men of the east arrived, they communicated the birth of the King of the Jews; and Herod, understanding that the end of his kingdom was coming, despaired and ordered the children to be killed. Not long after, came the end of Herod; because while he was in his palace in Jericho, (between the Mediterranean Sea, Jerusalem, and the Dead Sea), he died after years of suffering a horrendous plague that consumed him alive.

At that time, but advanced to the year 30; when the Lord Jesus Christ died on the cross, a great earthquake occurred. By that earthquake the graves were opened and many bodies of the saints which slept arose. But those bodies remained lifeless until the resurrection of the Lord. Immediately after exhaling the spirit, the Lord descended into Sheol where He consolidated the condemnation of those who had been unbelievers in the days of Noah, (who were already in torments), and also preached the gospel to those who had died holding the faith in the God who would deliver them from the power of sin. These saints were already at rest, and when the Lord went up to heaven he took them with him. And after three days and three nights, the Lord raised the first, being the firstborn from the dead; for after him those believers who had been removed from their graves were resurrected. These resurrections are known as the firstfruits. In this way it is seen how many of those who slept in the dust of the earth were awakened; some for eternal life, and others for shame and everlasting contempt.

And at that time when the people of God were delivered, the archangel Michael stood up.

And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels, And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven. And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him. And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night. And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death. Therefore rejoice, ye heavens, and ye that dwell in them. Woe to the inhabiters of the earth and of the sea! for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time. And when the dragon saw that he was cast unto the earth, he persecuted the woman which brought forth the man child. [*Revelation 12:7-13*]

As you can see, here connected the books of Daniel and Revelation. It will be understood later.

Those who were wise shone as the brightness of the firmament, and they that turned many to righteousness, as the stars for ever and ever. Many of these wise men ran to and fro teaching the science of salvation, which is the knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ.

And when Daniel, being exiled in Babylon, asked when the prophecy would end, the angel expressed that the last period of the prophecy would be for a time, times, and a half. Which translates into three and a half years; but that the Israelites must first return to their land.

The angel also said that the space of time that would exist from the time the daily sacrifice was removed until the abomination that maketh desolate would be 1,290 days. And that blessed would be that which waited and came to the day 1,335.

This last part is about the end of this prophecy. The removal of the daily sacrifice and the abomination that maketh desolate of which have just been spoken of are not the same as those seen before, which happened in the times of Antiochus IV. This is proven by seeing that the Lord Jesus Christ in the year 30 appealed to the knowledge of the abomination of desolation when he prophesied about a then future event. Thus it is recognized that using the same terms it is spoken of two different events. And let's consider this: it was already seen that the term little horn was used in two different prophecies to speak of different protagonists, so there have been also two different abominations that maketh desolate and cessations of sacrifice in the book of Daniel.

The explanation is the following: as seen in the previous work in which the explanation of the seventy weeks of Daniel was included, in the year 66 AD manifested that abomination of desolation that were the Roman armies under the command of Gaius Cestius Gallus. The 1,290 days began when the armies surrounded Jerusalem and ended when the daily sacrifice was removed. But this removal or cessation of the daily sacrifice is literal, and it is not spiritually symbolic as the one expressed in the prophecy of the seventy weeks. The 1,290 days in question happened approximately between the end of the year 66 AD and mid-70 AD. About the cessation of the daily sacrifice, the historian Flavius Josephus wrote the following:

"And now Titus gave orders to his soldiers that were with him to dig up the foundations of the tower of Antonia, and make him a ready passage for his army to come up; while he himself had Josephus brought to him, (for he had been informed that on that very day, which was the seventeenth day of Panemos, the sacrifice called "the Daily Sacrifice" had failed, and had not been offered to God, for want of men to offer it, and that the people were grievously troubled at it,)" (Flavius Josephus. Wars of the Jews, Book VI)

After 1,335 days in total, that is, a month and a half after the cessation of the daily sacrifice, the siege of Jerusalem came to an end and for that reason blessed was he which had "waited" and made it up there. This means, blessed the one who survived.

"And thus was Jerusalem taken, in the second year of the reign of Vespasian, on the eighth day of the month Gorpiaios." (Flavius Josephus. Wars of the Jews, Book VI)

So this is how I wanted to face the explanation of Revelation, because understanding the book of Daniel first, then everything is understood easier. I mean, let's get the futurism out of the way.

Introduction to Revelation

The apostle John was in exile on an island of the Aegean Sea called Patmos for having beard record of the word of God and of the testimony of Jesus Christ. At that time, John was taken in spirit into the presence of the Lord with the purpose of receiving a message, to then return and communicate it.

[...] write in a book, and send it unto the seven churches which are in Asia; unto Ephesus, and unto Smyrna, and unto Pergamos, and unto Thyatira, and unto Sardis, and unto Philadelphia, and unto Laodicea. [*Revelation 1:11*]

Write the things which thou hast seen, and the things which are, and the things which shall be hereafter; The mystery of the seven stars which thou sawest in my right hand, and the seven golden candlesticks. The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches: and the seven candlesticks which thou sawest are the seven churches. [Revelation 1:19-20]

We see that John was to write in a book the things which he had already seen, and those that were present at that moment, and those that were to be thereafter. And the Lord Himself gave the interpretation of the symbols.

The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches. That is, their messengers.

The seven golden candlesticks are the seven churches.



Ephesus

Pergamos

Thyatira

Philadelphia Laodicea

The Letters to the Seven Churches

The aforementioned churches of Asia Minor represent seven stages through the which the Christian Church is to pass from its beginning until the return of the Lord. Each letter communicates trends and events characteristic of each moment, and the order in which they are mentioned corresponds to the chronology of preponderance.

The Era of Ephesus

The era of Ephesus was made up of the first Christians. This was an era characterized by a great love for God and a sincere interest in pleasing him; even despite the price. The brothers who starred in it were those who knew the Lord personally, as well as those who lived until about the middle of the third century. But still, these brothers received a wake-up call; for they eventually left the zeal for the work of God, and he had to correct them. Pretty much all the message given to the angel of Ephesus is quoted below; that is, the message given to those who were bishops during that era.

I know thy works, and thy labour, and thy patience, and how thou canst not bear them which are evil: and thou hast tried them which say they are apostles, and are not, and hast found them liars: And hast borne, and hast patience, and for my name's sake hast laboured, and hast not fainted. Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love. Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent. But this thou hast, that thou hatest the deeds of the Nicolaitanes, which I also hate. [*Revelation 2:2-6*]

They probably left their first love because, expecting a humanly prompt coming of the Lord, they were confused after the destruction of Jerusalem in the year 70 and that the Lord had not literally returned. That is my opinion because it has already been seen that the prophecy of the Olivet discourse has two parallel fulfillments: one in the short term, and another in the long term. And the brethren of that time did not even imagine that it was still about two millennia before the Lord returned. In fact, there are writings of brothers of that time that show how they took for days the numbers that referred to years.

The Era of Smyrna

After having suffered some waves of Roman persecution, the Church entered the era of Smyrna. This period extended until the year 313 AD, but it was not characterized as a stop or a decrease in savagery. The name Smyrna derives from the spice called myrrh, which is a tree bark with aromatic and medicinal properties, but to be used it had to be first ground finely in a mortar. Our brothers of the era of Smyrna raised to God a sweetsmelling savour by facing manly the persecutions that still aggravated upon them. The ten days of tribulation were those ten years of the persecution of Diocletian. (from 303 to 313 AD)

I know thy works, and tribulation, and poverty, (but thou art rich) and I know the blasphemy of them which say they are Jews, and are not, but are the synagogue of Satan. Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life. [*Revelation 2:9-10*]

The Era of Pergamos

The city of Pergamos had a peculiar religious building. It was not a temple per se, but an altar. A construction that closely resembled a throne, having stairs that led to a terrace surrounded by porticoes between the which sacrifices were made. That altar exalted the Greek religion, which being a false mythological explanation the devil used it to give free rein to idolatry and filth in that society, just as he did analogously in others.

This era developed from the beginning of the fourth century to 538 AD. The brethren of that time stood firm in the faith; but the period ended with the assumption of power of the antichrist, and in the process, sinful communion with those of the doctrine of Balaam was permitted; those who did "religious favors" in exchange for incentives and practiced and taught fornication and idolatry. The believers also communed with those who held the doctrine of the Nicolaitanes; which had already organized. Because in the message to Ephesus, works of Nicolaitanes were mentioned, but now they had already doctrine formed.



I know thy works, and where thou dwellest, even where Satan's seat is: and thou holdest fast my name, and hast not denied my faith, even in those days wherein Antipas was my faithful martyr, who was slain among you, where Satan dwelleth. But I have a few things against thee, because thou hast there them that hold the doctrine of Balaam, who taught Balac to cast a stumblingblock before the children of Israel, to eat things sacrificed unto idols, and to commit fornication. So hast thou also them that hold the doctrine of the Nicolaitanes, which thing I hate. Repent; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will fight against them with the sword of my mouth. [*Revelation 2:13-16*]

The term nicolaite should be understood based on its etymology; because it does not refer to a man named Nicholas, but the Greek words *nike* and *laos* are combined to mean "victor of the people". These Nicolaitanes victors and defeaters of the people were those who promoted Roman Catholicism even before it was called that.

The fact of importance that happened in the year 538 was the giving of authority to the pope over all churches, *(as the emperor said).* This occurred in the days of Justinian I and first benefited Pope Vigilius.

The Era of Thyatira

Having assumed power the antichrist, the era of Thyatira began. This period spanned nearly a millennium, ending in 1514. The brothers of this era were the first to coexist with the head of the Roman Catholic Church in its maximum despotism. Yet their good works abounded, and all the more so as the years passed. To some extent. The problem that this Church had was not having sufficiently contended with the Catholic clergy, and thus allowed many believers to be entangled in the traps of the Romanists.

I know thy works, and charity, and service, and faith, and thy patience, and thy works; and the last to be more than the first. Notwithstanding I have a few things against thee, because thou sufferest that woman Jezebel, which calleth herself a prophetess, to teach and to seduce my servants to commit fornication, and to eat things sacrificed unto idols. And I gave her space to repent of her fornication; and she repented not. Behold, I will cast her into a bed, and them that commit adultery with her into great tribulation, except they repent of their deeds. And I will kill her children with death; and all the churches shall know that I am he which searcheth the reins and hearts: and I will give unto every one

of you according to your works. But unto you I say, and unto the rest in Thyatira, as many as have not this doctrine, and which have not known the depths of Satan, as they speak; I will put upon you none other burden. But that which ye have already hold fast till I come. [*Revelation 2:19-25*]

The brothers of the era of Thyatira tolerated that Roman Catholicism, which dared to call itself Church, taught and seduced Christians to embrace religious syncretism and commit idolatry. The Jezebel who was the wife of King Ahab was an adulterous and fornicating woman; and in her arrogance she had also determined to put to death the servants of God. And just as in mirror, the Catholic clerics played their own role of Jezebel.

The Western Roman Empire had dissolved in 476 AD; and the era of Thyatira began during the year 538. This is why the Eastern Roman Empire began to have greater influence over Catholicism and it was a Byzantine emperor who empowered the papacy. After not having chastened the children of the whore, and after having despised the patience of God, in the year 1453 the city of Constantinople was besieged and taken by the Ottoman Turks.

The Era of Sardis

The era of Sardis extended from 1514 to 1798. And what happened in each year? Let's read the message first.

[...] I know thy works, that thou hast a name that thou livest, and art dead. Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die: for I have not found thy works perfect before God. Remember therefore how thou hast received and heard, and hold fast, and repent. If therefore thou shalt not watch, I will come on thee as a thief, and thou shalt not know what hour I will come upon thee. Thou hast a few names even in Sardis which have not defiled their garments; and they shall walk with me in white: for they are worthy. [*Revelation 3:1-4*]

In 1514, a session of the Fifth Lateran Council was held in May. It was intended to put an end to the theological discrepancies and strengthen the authority of the pope. Therefore it was an ecumenical council and there were brothers present. These brothers, called to present opinion were afraid and remained silent in the face of the abuses and heresies of the pope. For this reason it was considered that they, the witnesses against, were dead. The great testifying against Roman Catholicism had begun during the era of Thyatira and extended until the end of the era of Sardis. These two churches were the two witnesses that will be seen later. Likewise, in the context of the year 1514, both the Scriptures and the brothers of Thyatira can be considered witnesses; because the latter had to make known the former. But being both burned in the fire, those of Thyatira feared and transgressed the conscience before God.

After three and a half years, in November 1517, the Protestant Reformation began, which returned the voice and life to the true Christians, who had to come back stronger than ever to proclaim the truth of the gospel and expose the lies of Rome. The era of Sardis ended in 1798, when the autocratic reign of the antichrist came to an end.

The Era of Philadelphia

Then began the era of Philadelphia, a beautiful period in the history of the Christian Church. The brothers who formed it were those who participated in founding churches and carrying the gospel to all parts of the world. This was a period characterized by the doctrinal purity of believers, coupled with decorum and respect for the Word of God. The era of Philadelphia ended in the early twentieth century.

I know thy works: behold, I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it: for thou hast a little strength, and hast kept my word, and hast not denied my name. Behold, I will make them of the synagogue of Satan, which say they are Jews, and are not, but do lie; behold, I will make them to come and worship before thy feet, and to know that I have loved thee. Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth. Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown. [*Revelation 3:8-11*]

These holy and beloved people for whom many of us benefit today, had the door open from God to settle in various parts of the world where the gospel did not easily arrive before. And because of the love that God also had for them, he kept them from the hour of temptation that was to come upon all the world, which was left for the time of the Laodiceans.

The Era of Laodicea

The era of Laodicea had surely already begun in the 50's of the twentieth century. This era started in a somewhat normal world, but it will end up in an unlivable world. We know that the twentieth century advanced bringing technological innovations that were very favorable to human life. But there were not only technological innovations, but also cultural ones. And when the two factors came together for the worse, the Church found herself compromised, and eventually conformed to a sinful standard of mindset and behavior. Doctrinal purity dissolved as so did the character, authority to speak, decorum, and social order. Generally, believers were brought into a state of incongruity between faith and conduct, and also advancing the era they became quite useless to instruct and guide the brethren who had just come out of a dark and disordered world.

I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot. So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth. Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked: I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see. As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent. Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me. [*Revelation 3:15-20*]

Not only did this Church take the Lord's worst rebuke, but it was also not praised for anything. Let's remember that they are general terms, but that differences are also exceptions.

The Laodiceans believe they know how the things are, *they think themselves rich*, they believe that they can dress as they please; that the one who puts the limits is a "religious person". How incoherent they are even in the words they use. But the problem has been widespread, it's something of the time and affects more than Christians. Men lost masculinity, becoming irresponsible fat men who do not take care of being up to the demands. They lost the authority by not marking the difference with the female gender. They collapsed morally, they didn't react yet; and women ran them over. Women, confused by the lack of suitable leadership, in their desperation they put on the men's pants, and then in the morbidity they did not want to leave them. They became involved in lifestyles and professions that did not belong to them, and contributed to the decline of society.

And the so-called believers living lives of pagans, going to undress on the beaches because it's the custom; men joining alone with women as if they were eunuchs; parents allowing anything, and doctrine deviating and becoming a recipe for the chaos that it is intended to be brought.

But that is why I write these works, so that many brothers and sisters may be served, and that whoever has to react, in time do so. We are all called in this era to buy freely from God the gold tried in the fire that is the study of His word with its subsequent obedience; and also to keep ourselves properly clothed with the custom of holiness. And when both things come together they are an eyesalve that allows to understand the Bible.

God chastens and scourges everyone He loves, and He calls us to be zealous after repenting if necessary. And to be zealous means that we care about the Word of God, and that we keep it first, and then make it known and be kept. That at least from now on it is left VERY CLEAR who are **dogs** infiltrated in the congregation; and who are people saved but that will be saved as "by favor"; and who are people that will enter the presence of God in full glory having manifested that they are the ones that love God the most.

Having seen the meaning of the seven churches, let's move forward with the study.

Revelation doesn't always maintain a direct timeline

The title says it all. Now, how do I base it?

Remembering that the book is written in such a way that it is not understood by those who approach it out of simple curiosity because the History Channel talked about it. This Scripture is only for Christians, and it was already seen that it had to survive turbulent times.

Just because Revelation isn't strictly chronological doesn't mean that the narrative is messy. There are layers, we could say. It takes a point in time, extends and cuts. Then it returns to another time, extends and cuts again.

An example of Revelation not maintaining a direct chronological narrative is that chapter 11 ends by talking about the return of the Lord, but chapter 12 begins by describing the birth of Christ and the Church.

The Scroll and the Lamb

Taken to heaven, the apostle John had a vision of God the Father sitting on his throne, which was surrounded by his servants, the twenty-four elders and the four beasts.

And I saw in the right hand of him that sat on the throne a book written within and on the backside, sealed with seven seals. And I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, Who is worthy to open the book, and to loose the seals thereof? And no man in heaven, nor in earth, neither under the earth, was able to open the book, neither to look thereon. And I wept much, because no man was found worthy to open and to read the book, neither to look thereon. And one of the elders saith unto me, Weep not: behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, hath prevailed to open the book, and to loose the seven seals thereof. And I beheld, and, lo, in the midst of the throne and of the four beasts, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent forth into all the earth. And he came and took the book out of the right hand of him that sat upon the throne. [*Revelation 5:1-7*]

Then the Lord Jesus Christ, being the only one worthy, took from the right hand of God the Father the book that was sealed with seven seals.

The Seals

The First Seal

And I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seals, and I heard, as it were the noise of thunder, one of the four beasts saying, Come and see. And I saw, and behold a white horse: and he that sat on him had a bow; and a crown was given unto him: and he went forth conquering, and to conquer. [*Rev. 6:1-2*]

The beginning of the opening of the book, by the meaning of the seals, places us in the time of the Roman Empire. Opened the first seal, it was seen a white horse and its rider carrying a bow. The rider was given a crown and went forth conquering and to conquer.

The meaning of the first seal is the continuous victories and conquests of the Roman Empire. A rider carrying a weapon on a white horse, with a crown, represents a military parade after an important victory, which was the custom in those times. The fact that it was a bow what the rider was carrying seems to suggest the wide scope of the conquests.

The Second Seal

And when he had opened the second seal, I heard the second beast say, Come and see. And there went out another horse that was red: and power was given to him that sat thereon to take peace from the earth, and that they should kill one another: and there was given unto him a great sword. [*Revelation 6:3-4*]

It is important to clarify that the opening of a seal that was preceded by another doesn't mean that the effect of the previous one had ended, but that they can accumulate. That is, the ordinal ascent only indicates that one consequence began to be effected after another had already begun to be effected as well.

Political and social instability followed. The use of the term *the earth* is contextual, applied to the *earth of the Roman Empire*. In this case placing us at the end of the second century, during the reign of Commodus began a period in which for approximately ninety years the Empire was plagued by civil war. During that time there were 36 emperors including Commodus, whom almost all had violent deaths; whether by poisoning, strangulation, lynching, sword, or suicide.

The Third Seal

And when he had opened the third seal, I heard the third beast say, Come and see. And I beheld, and lo a black horse; and he that sat on him had a pair of balances in his hand. And I heard a voice in the midst of the four beasts say, A measure of wheat for a penny, and three measures of barley for a penny; and see thou hurt not the oil and the wine. [*Revelation 6:5-6*]

The judgment of the third seal indicates economic crisis. This consequence originated in the early third century during the reign of Caracalla. This man, motivated by an enormous greed, and with the excuse of needing resources, seriously aggravated the tax burden of the people. He even extended the citizenship to some who did not have it so that he could simulate a reason to demand more from them.

The tax collectors went in swarms, and with the eventual lack of coins, they began to accept grain, oil and wine. But the exactors would have for similar to the value of a denarius a measure of wheat or three measures of barley. A denarius was in itself the pay of a day laborer, and missing the coins, the conversion they made was plunder. What was translated as measure refers to a measure of volume and not weight. The measure of wheat that was accepted instead of a denarius was equivalent to 2L

(70oz), and that of barley to 6.5L (230oz). But the oil and wine were not damaged because their *conversion rates to denarius* were reasonable.

The Fourth Seal

And when he had opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth beast say, Come and see. And I looked, and behold a pale horse: and his name that sat on him was Death, and Hell followed with him. And power was given unto them over the fourth part of the earth, to kill with sword, and with hunger, and with death, and with the beasts of the earth. [*Revelation 6:7-8*]

Later death approached the Roman Empire. And over the fourth part of it was sent war slaughter, famine, epidemics, and even animals that preyed on them. God was punishing the Romans for their mistreatment of the Christians; mistreatment they perpetrated for centuries, until the end. And in the middle of the third century the oppressors were having to deal with the recurrent invasions of the Germanic tribes; and with the hunger that was caused by the excessive tax burden and the insufficient production of food; because the farmers were fleeing to the cities in search of protection. And to this were added the epidemic diseases that were caused in large part by the poor nutrition. And even God sent against them the beasts, which multiplying attacked the people.

The Fifth Seal

And when he had opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of them that were slain for the word of God, and for the testimony which they held: And they cried with a loud voice, saying, How long, O Lord, holy and true, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth? And white robes were given unto every one of them; and it was said unto them, that they should rest yet for a little season, until their fellowservants also and their brethren, that should be killed as they were, should be fulfilled. [*Revelation 6:9-11*]

Opened the fifth seal we find ourselves in the time of the era of Smyrna; in which those brothers suffered great persecution. This happened at the beginning of the fourth century, between the years 303 and 313 AD. The Romans had been blaming their misfortunes on the Christians because they did not participate in the idolatry of the populace. But the cause of their misfortunes were their constant sins. But even the Romans continued to make the situation worse, because in the year 303 began the Great Persecution of Diocletian. This one extended until the reign of Maxentius; which was defeated in civil war by the armies of Constantine I. In the year 313, Constantine, together with Licinius (the latter was Roman emperor of the East), signed the Edict of Milan; which officially promulgated the end to the Christian persecution and granted effective right of tolerance.

The Sixth Seal

And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and, lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood; And the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind. And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places. And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains; And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb: For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand? [*Revelation 6:12-17*]

We already have experience with this type of interpretation. The symbols used are a great earthquake, the sun darkening, the moon reddening as blood, the stars of heaven falling unto the earth and other dystopian metaphors that communicate the fall of the Roman Empire. The earthquake symbolizes political-social disorder; the darkening of the sun speaks about the end of the Roman emperor's sovereignty; the reddening of the moon and the stars falling unto the earth speak of the loss of the authority of the Senate and the leaders; and the heaven departing like a scroll when it is rolled together speaks of the loss of sovereignty over the vast Roman territories.

If anyone had a hard time accepting that the prophecy be interpreted like this, it would honestly call my attention. I did not enter into apologetics before so that the explanation would not be distorted with passages of the Bible that do not have much to do; such as speaking about the family of Jacob around two thousand BC. But to support the idea I'm going to do it.

And Joseph dreamed a dream, and he told it his brethren: and they hated him yet the more. And he said unto them, Hear, I pray you, this dream which I have dreamed: For, behold, we were binding sheaves in the field, and, lo, my sheaf arose, and also stood upright; and, behold, your sheaves stood round about, and made obeisance to my sheaf. And his brethren said to him, Shalt thou indeed reign over us? or shalt thou indeed have dominion over us? And they hated him yet the more for his dreams, and for his words. And he dreamed yet another dream, and told it his brethren, and said, Behold, I have dreamed a dream more; and, behold, the sun and the moon and the eleven stars made obeisance to me. And he told it to his father, and to his brethren: and his father rebuked him, and said unto him, What is this dream that thou hast dreamed? Shall I and thy mother and thy brethren indeed come to bow down ourselves to thee to the earth? And his brethren envied him; but his father observed the saying. [*Genesis 37:5-11*]

The Bible provides the rules of interpretation and explains itself. There are even other examples in books of the Old Testament, which suggests that the understanding of the prophecies in code are for those who engage in in-depth studies of the Word. Me personally, I understood this because I found an exegesis on the subject; for my thinking came shaped to the futuristic explanations and I didn't have the habit of reading most of the books of the prophets of the Old Testament.

One more thing. That Revelation is predominantly symbolic means that literal aspects may be present as well, but that being the minority case. And regarding the last thing that was seen, there were literal aspects; for nearing the fall of the Roman Empire there were at least one solar eclipse and one blood moon; and we will also see other literal fulfillments later.

The 144,000 Sealed

And after these things I saw four angels standing on the four corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth, that the wind should not blow on the earth, nor on the sea, nor on any tree. And I saw another angel ascending from the east, having the seal of the living God: and he cried with a loud voice to the four angels, to whom it was given to hurt the earth and the sea, Saying, Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads. And I heard the number of them which were sealed: and there were sealed an hundred and forty and four thousand of all the tribes of the children of Israel. Of the tribe of Juda were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Reuben were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Simeon were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Manasses were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Simeon were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Levi were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Simeon were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Zabulon were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Joseph were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Benjamin were sealed twelve thousand. [*Revelation 7:1-8*]

We see that the passage begins by saying *and after these things*. And what was it before? Before it was communicated that the Roman Empire had its night coming. And let's remember that there were brothers who were living in the areas involved. The purpose of the sealing of the saints, of the *symbolically 144 thousand*, was to recognize them as property of God; I do not know whether to protect them physically, but to manifest the approval of God over them. The number 144,000 is shown as the result of the multiplication of the 12,000 sealed from each of the 12 spiritual tribes of Israel, people of God.

And what will I say now? That we Christians are Israel? Yes.

Since the beginning of the Christian era we are the Israel of God. Even before the Christian Church existed as such, the Israelites were not those who descended biologically from Jacob, but those who obeyed the faith like Abraham. The spiritual side of the term must be considered, (which is not the case with many other demonyms), because Israel was not a people of the heap. The Epistle to the Romans deals with this subject.

The Great Multitude in White Robes

After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands; And cried with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb. And all the angels stood round about the throne, and about the elders and the four beasts, and fell before the throne on their faces, and worshipped God, Saying, Amen: Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and thanksgiving, and honour, and power, and might, be unto our God for ever and ever. Amen. And one of the elders answered, saying unto me, What are these which are arrayed in white robes? and whence came they? And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple: and he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them. They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat. For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes. [*Revelation 7:9-17*]

These brothers who were comforted in the presence of God are those who faced the Great Persecution during the era of Smyrna. And the fact that they were of all nations, kindreds, people and tongues is explained by showing that precisely the Roman Empire was made up of that. These brothers were worthy of a special recognition between the pages of the book of Revelation.

The Seventh Seal and the Golden Censer

And when he had opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven about the space of half an hour. And I saw the seven angels which stood before God; and to them were given seven trumpets. And another angel came and stood at the altar, having a golden censer; and there was given unto him much incense, that he should offer it with the prayers of all saints upon the golden altar which was before the throne. And the smoke of the incense, which came with the prayers of the saints, ascended up before God out of the angel's hand. And the angel took the censer, and filled it with fire of the altar, and cast it into the earth: and there were voices, and thunderings, and lightnings, and an earthquake. [*Revelation 8:1-5*] The opening of the seventh seal, which was the last, was related to an extensive silence in Heaven. And seven angels were seen, each with a trumpet. And when the memory of the prayers of the saints came into the presence of God, an eighth angel filled the censer with fire of the altar and cast it into the earth. Then there were voices, and thunderings, lightnings, and an earthquake.

The Trumpets

And the seven angels which had the seven trumpets prepared themselves to sound. [Revelation 8:6]

The First Trumpet

The first angel sounded, and there followed hail and fire mingled with blood, and they were cast upon the earth: and the third part of trees was burnt up, and all green grass was burnt up. [*Revelation 8:7*]

The sound of the first trumpet announced the invasion of the Visigoths, which between the years 395 and 410 devastated the third part of the Roman Empire. That third is determined by also considering the eastern part. The Visigoths, led by Alaric I, were applying the military policy of scorched earth in their path. This strategy consists of destroying any resource that may be of use to the enemy, and that is why they set fire not only houses and buildings, but also trees and vegetation. The hail itself represents a violent precipitation, which is what the Germanics were. But as said before, there could be literal aspects.

After the death of the emperor who maintained good diplomatic relations with the Visigoths, these invaded the territories of Thrace and Macedonia. And they also found it easy to cross their chariots through the Danube River; for there being an unusually cold winter, part of it froze.

And just as the Visigoths advanced, so did God lent help by eventually bringing down hail. Hail that could weigh 3kg (6.5lb), and that he would put for hat to the one he wanted. The Visigoths also sounded their trumpets when they went to the charge of the Romans, and thus everything maintained its clear relationship with the words of the prophecy.

The Second Trumpet

And the second angel sounded, and as it were a great mountain burning with fire was cast into the sea: and the third part of the sea became blood; And the third part of the creatures which were in the sea, and had life, died; and the third part of the ships were destroyed. [*Revelation 8:8-9*]

A large mountain symbolically represents a kingdom, as seen in the book of Daniel. Jeremiah 51:25 agrees. The sea usually represents a multitude of people, but in this case, it also maintains a literal reference with the sea, because ships are mentioned.

The sound of the second trumpet led the Vandals, another Germanic tribe, to undertake maritime and coastal attacks against the Roman Empire. Those of this tribe, (from which the adjective vandal is born), intercepted and assaulted ships, and also sacked Rome in the year 455. In the process they destroyed a third of the ships of the Roman Empire along with their crew.

The Third Trumpet

And the third angel sounded, and there fell a great star from heaven, burning as it were a lamp, and it fell upon the third part of the rivers, and upon the fountains of waters; And the name of the star is called Wormwood: and the third part of the waters became wormwood; and many men died of the waters, because they were made bitter. [*Revelation 8:10-11*]

The river zone of the third part of the Roman Empire was razed by Attila the Hun and his armies. That man was that great star that fell burning as it were a lamp, and later made the waters bitter. Most of the battles were fought alongside rivers that rise in the Alps; and that had two effects. One was that many bodies were often left decomposing on the banks of the rivers that were supposedly of drinking water. And the other; that many agricultural areas were also left without anyone to work them. The consequences were poisoning and famine, not counting the looting that occurred at the same time.

Attila, like a shooting star, passed by making himself noticed but immediately disappearing. As he prepared to invade Roman Gaul in 451, Halley's Comet was seen in the sky. Unexpectedly, Attila died less than two years later on the night he added himself one more wife.

The Fourth Trumpet

And the fourth angel sounded, and the third part of the sun was smitten, and the third part of the moon, and the third part of the stars; so as the third part of them was darkened, and the day shone not for a third part of it, and the night likewise. [*Revelation 8:12*]

The sound of the fourth trumpet consummated the fall of the Western Roman Empire. The damage caused to the luminaries meant the eclipse of the political structure of the Empire. This event occurred in the year 476, and had as a figure Odoacer, leader of the Heruli.

And I beheld, and heard an angel flying through the midst of heaven, saying with a loud voice, Woe, woe, woe, to the inhabiters of the earth by reason of the other voices of the trumpet of the three angels, which are yet to sound! [*Revelation 8:13*]

It is to note that an angel made a particular comment about the next trumpet blows that were yet to be. And it wasn't exactly a lament; but an expression.

Remembering that the Western Roman Empire had already fallen, the world was then at the beginning of the Middle Ages.

The Fifth Trumpet

And the fifth angel sounded, and I saw a star fall from heaven unto the earth: and to him was given the key of the bottomless pit. And he opened the bottomless pit; and there arose a smoke out of the pit, as the smoke of a great furnace; and the sun and the air were darkened by reason of the smoke of the pit. And there came out of the smoke locusts upon the earth: and unto them was given power, as the scorpions of the earth have power. And it was commanded them that they should not hurt the grass of the earth, neither any green thing, neither any tree; but only those men which have not the seal of God in their foreheads. And to them it was given that they should not kill them, but that they should be tormented five months: and their torment was as the torment of a scorpion, when he striketh a man. And in those days shall men seek death, and shall not find it; and shall desire to die, and death shall flee from them. And the shapes of the locusts were like unto horses prepared unto battle; and on their heads were as it were crowns like gold, and their faces were as the faces of men. And they had hair as the hair of women, and their teeth were as the teeth of lions. And they had breastplates, as it were breastplates of iron; and the sound of their wings was as the sound of chariots of many horses running to battle. And they had tails like unto scorpions, and there were stings in their tails: and their power was to hurt men five months. And they had a king over them, which is the angel of the bottomless pit, whose name in the Hebrew tongue is Abaddon, but in the Greek tongue hath his name Apollyon. [Revelation 9:1-11]

A suggestion to understand the prophecy well is to not be trying to "visualize" the descriptions when they are clearly marking a symbolic meaning. Here the one who wanted to be literal would find himself saying strange things.

The complexity of this passage merits that the premises be listened to.

- A star would fall from heaven unto the earth, and to the fifth angel would be given the key of the bottomless pit, which he would open.
- Later, so much smoke would rise from the pit, that the sun and the air would be darkened by reason of that smoke.
- And out of the smoke would come locusts upon the earth, which would be given power as the scorpions of the earth have power.
- They would be commanded that they should not kill, but torment only those men which did not have the seal of God in their foreheads.
- And those who they tormented, would be tormented five months with the torment of a scorpion when he strikes a man. And in those days men would seek death, but death would flee from them.
- The shape of the locusts would be like unto horses prepared unto battle; and on their heads would be as it were crowns like gold; their faces would be as the faces of men; they would have hair as the hair of women; their teeth would be as the teeth of lions; they would have breastplates as it were breastplates of iron; the sound of their wings would be as the sound of chariots of many horses running to battle; they would have tails like unto scorpions, and there would be stings in their tails; and their power would be to hurt men five months.
- They would have a king over them, that would be the angel of the bottomless pit, whose name in the Hebrew tongue is Abaddon, and in the Greek tongue Apollyon.

This passage first communicates the origin of Islam, the Muslim religion.

Tradition says that Muhammad undertook a spiritual retreat to a cave in Arabia as he used to; but being there; in the year 610, a special event occurred. Muhammad was approached by a spiritual being. Spiritual; but also physical. A demon. Which harassed the man and forced him to recite the verses that he would later include in the Qur'an. Greatly disturbed, Muhammad returned home; and being quite confused, his wife came to the aid of her cousin; which practiced a certain religion. This man approached and lent his interpretation of the things that happened, and of the messages that Muhammad received; but for the worse, because he ended up directing him to write what he ended up writing. And of the man, called Waraqah; it can be safely said that he was a priest of a catholicoid religion.

The star that fell from heaven could be considered that demon that ended up posing as the archangel Gabriel; but I think it could also be considered to be Muhammad, the founder of Islam. What is certain is that from the cave of Hira came the black smoke of Islam and its doctrine.

That smoke *darkened the sun and the air*. Yes, because Catholics didn't like the competition. The Roman Empire had fallen, but not the Catholic Empire. But just as Islam hindered the Catholic religion, so it also hindered those who preached the true gospel among the Arabs.

From the smoke, that is, from Islam, or with Islam, certain locusts came out. These men as we already know, would be in their essence Arabs. And we have here marked a period of time. There would be certain operation for five months. Five months means 150 years, by the multiplication of 5x30.

When Muhammad died in 632, the Arabs undertook conquests outside their peninsula, coming to have dominion in the Levant, Spain, North Africa, in the Caucasus, Mediterranean islands and Mesopotamia. A hundred years later they were put a limit after the Battle of Tours in France, and they added no more territories.

But the Ishmaelites rose up as they did because God wanted to use them to punish the Orthodox Catholics primarily. And the five months ended in 782 with the truce following the Abbasid invasion of Asia Minor.

The description of the locusts is explained as follows: Muslim armies were characterized by being armies on horseback, and wore helmets or turbans color white, gold and saffron. Those were their crowns. As for them having faces of men, they wore beards, that's what it means. But contradictorily they had hair as the hair of women, because they used to leave their hair long. That ancient Arab custom is still seen among the Andalusian gypsies. The teeth as the teeth of lions manifest how savage they were; their iron-like breastplates were their chainmails; and then it is talked about wings because of the speed with which they made their conquests, always characterized by the use of the horse. The lshmaelites take their name from lshmael, son of Abraham. The father of the Arabs was a good archer, and his descendants perfected the skill. Their tails like scorpions were their bows, which they well knew how to shoot in the race, with the particularity that they were also precise shooting from behind.

And the Bible communicates who the Muslims had for king. The same they still have today.

One woe is past; and, behold, there come two woes more hereafter. [*Revelation 9:12*]

The Sixth Trumpet

And the sixth angel sounded, and I heard a voice from the four horns of the golden altar which is before God, Saying to the sixth angel which had the trumpet, Loose the four angels which are bound in the great river Euphrates. And the four angels were loosed, which were prepared for an hour, and a day, and a month, and a year, for to slay the third part of men. And the number of the army of the horsemen were two hundred thousand thousand: and I heard the number of them. And thus I saw the horses in the vision, and them that sat on them, having breastplates of fire, and of jacinth, and brimstone: and the heads of the horses were as the heads of lions; and out of their mouths issued fire and smoke and brimstone. By these three was the third part of men killed, by the fire, and by the smoke, and by the brimstone, which issued out of their mouths. For their power is in their mouth, and in their tails: for their tails were like unto serpents, and had heads, and with them they do hurt. And the rest of the men which were not killed by these plagues yet repented not of the works of their hands, that they should not worship devils, and idols of gold, and silver, and brass, and stone, and of wood: which neither can see, nor hear, nor walk: Neither repented they of their murders, nor of their sorceries, nor of their fornication, nor of their thefts. [*Revelation 9:13-21*]

- The four angels who were bound by the great river Euphrates were loosened, who were prepared for an hour, and a day, and a month and a year, for to slay the third part of men.
- The number of the army of the horsemen were δισμυριάδες μυριάδων (a Greek expression I did not understand). [dismyriades myriadon]

- The horses and their riders had breastplates of fire, jacinth and brimstone.
- The heads of the horses were as the heads of lions, and out of their mouths issued fire and smoke and brimstone.
- By the plagues of fire, smoke and brimstone the third part of men were killed.
- The power of the horses was in their mouths and tails, because their tails, like unto serpents, had heads, and with them they hurt.
- The rest of the men which were not killed with these plagues, yet repented not of the works of their hands, nor of their idolatry, nor of their murders, nor of their sorceries, nor of their fornication, nor of their thefts.

Excuse me for not being able to explain what the number of the armies of the horsemen consisted of, but I do not know that detail. I think it refers to the organization of the troops; that is, that they were groups of armies composed of many soldiers.

Now let's see that the fact that has been talked about is the fall of Constantinople in the year 1453.

I want to start by highlighting the particularity of the plagues of fire, smoke and brimstone; because in the context it calls the attention. This new class of plagues was made possible by the introduction of gunpowder, which had a fundamental use in the capture of the capital of the Eastern Roman Empire.

But it was said before that there were four angels bound by the Euphrates River. This river, which begins to flow in what is now Turkey, seemed to be until the beginning of the eleventh century the limit of the Turkish people. And about the identity of the four angels, I recognize that it is another difficult topic to decipher. But I think I found a convincing explanation.

Around the year 1064, settled on the other side of the Euphrates four brothers who had been fleeing from the king of their ancient homeland. The most important of the four was called Suleiman, son of Qutalmish. But the king who persecuted them, named Alp Arslan, (sultan of the Seljuk Empire), sent expeditions to kill these four men, managing to kill three. Suleiman remained, which founded an independent Seljuk Turkish state that became invasively adjacent to the Byzantine Empire.

Beginning then a period of constant conflicts between Turks and Byzantines, the Eastern Roman Empire was left with a minuscule portion of the territory it used to have. After the fourteenth century, the Ottoman Turkish state had already become an Empire.

Regarding the horses, I want to say something. While the Turks also had mounted army, Scripture suggests not coming talking about normal horses. We will see.

Concerning the breastplates, the mention of the elements fire, jacinth and brimstone represent the colors red, blue, yellow and orange. If an army dressed like this, it would be easy to identify.



Dressed as for carnival not everyone went to war: It's the Ottoman Turks!

And we know that the Muslims were among the first to know and use gunpowder for military uses. Gunpowder was invented in China, and after being experienced its various applications, its recipe was communicated westward. Thus eventually came to the Turks, which knowing about artillery technology, applied a powerful weapon in the siege of Constantinople: The Great Turkish Bombard.



Nice horses they had. It's understood that they had heads as the heads of lions because of the fierceness with which they shot. And out of their mouths issued fire, smoke, and brimstone. Gunpowder carries in its composition a part of sulfur, which then ignited with the fire causes the explosion and the smoke. And the power of the horses was also in their tails; for their tails, like unto serpents, had heads, and with them they hurt. Those heads were the balls of carved stone. These projectiles had to be delivered to the other end of the bombard; and gunpowder, ignited by the fire drove the shot. The elongated shape of the bombard resembles a serpent, and later in history the term *basilisk* was coined to refer to the great medieval cannons; which took that name from a serpent of the Greek mythology.

An important detail is that by *the third part of men* we must understand referring to the Eastern Roman Empire; third part of the Roman Empire in its entirety, summed both Roman Catholic and Orthodox Catholic portions. And even after the fall of Constantinople, the men who survived being punished showed not the slightest repentance of their wickedness; they continued to worship the demons and images; and they did not repent of their murders, nor of their sorceries, nor of their fornication, nor of their thefts.

<u>The Angel and the βιβλαρίδιον</u> [Bibliaridion]

And I saw another mighty angel come down from heaven, clothed with a cloud: and a rainbow was upon his head, and his face was as it were the sun, and his feet as pillars of fire: And he had in his hand a little book open: and he set his right foot upon the sea, and his left foot on the earth, And cried with a loud voice, as when a lion roareth: and when he had cried, seven thunders uttered their voices. And when the seven thunders had uttered their voices, I was about to write: and I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Seal up those things which the seven thunders uttered, and write them not. And the angel which I saw stand upon the sea and upon the earth lifted up his hand to heaven, And sware by him that liveth for ever and ever, who created heaven, and the things that therein are, and the earth, and the things that therein are, and the sea, and the things which are therein, that there should be time no longer: But in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he shall begin to sound, the mystery of God should be finished, as he hath declared to his servants the prophets. And the voice which I heard from heaven spake unto me again, and said, Go and take the little book which is open in the hand of the angel which standeth upon the sea and upon the earth. And I went unto the angel, and said unto him, Give me the little book. And he said unto me, Take it, and eat it up; and it shall make thy belly bitter, but it shall be in thy mouth sweet as honey. And I took the little book out of the angel's hand, and ate it up; and it was in my mouth sweet as honey: and as soon as I had eaten it, my belly was bitter. And he said unto me, Thou must prophesy again before many peoples, and nations, and tongues, and kings. [*Revelation 10:1-11*]

Until this time, a direct chronology was maintained in the narrative. It began in the first century and ended in the fifteenth century. And the angel told John that it was necessary that he prophesied again before many peoples, nations, tongues, and kings. We can then expect the chronology to change; because it will be the case.

But something very important was also said and deserves to have a special separation:

• In the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he shall begin to sound, the mystery of God will be consummated, as he hath declared to his servants the prophets.

The seventh trumpet will announce the return of the Lord Jesus Christ when He comes to reign eternally.

It is also interesting that a little book be mentioned when we were in the timeline in the middle of the fifteenth century. Exactly at that time, the first Bible was printed in the Gutenberg printing press, which stood out for its practicality and efficient use of the space of paper.

The Two Witnesses

And there was given me a reed like unto a rod: and the angel stood, saying, Rise, and measure the temple of God, and the altar, and them that worship therein. But the court which is without the temple leave out, and measure it not; for it is given unto the Gentiles: and the holy city shall they tread under foot forty and two months. And I will give power unto my two witnesses, and they shall prophesy a thousand two hundred and threescore days, clothed in sackcloth. These are the two olive trees, and the two candlesticks standing before the God of the earth. And if any man will hurt them, fire proceedeth out of their mouth, and devoureth their enemies: and if any man will hurt them, he must in this manner be killed. These have power to shut heaven, that it rain not in the days of their prophecy: and have power over waters to turn them to blood, and to smite the earth with all plagues, as often as they will. And when they shall have finished their testimony, the beast that ascendeth out of the bottomless pit shall make war against them, and shall overcome them, and kill them. And their dead bodies shall lie in the street of the great city, which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also our Lord was crucified. And they of the people and kindreds and tongues and nations shall see their dead bodies three days and an half, and shall not suffer their dead bodies to be put in graves. And they that dwell upon the earth shall rejoice over them, and make merry, and shall send gifts one to another; because these two prophets tormented them that dwelt on the earth. And after three days and an half the spirit of life from God entered into them, and they stood upon their feet; and great fear fell upon them which saw them. And they heard a great voice from heaven saying unto them, Come up hither. And they ascended up to heaven in a cloud; and their enemies beheld them. And the same hour was there a great earthquake, and the tenth part of the city fell, and in the earthquake were slain of men seven thousand: and the remnant were affrighted, and gave glory to the God of heaven. [Revelation 11:1-13]

- The apostle John was given a reed like unto a rod, and he was told to measure the temple of God, the altar, and those that worshipped therein. But the court which was without the temple was not to be measured because it had been given unto the Gentiles, and they would tread under foot the holy city forty-two months.
- And the two witnesses of God would prophesy a thousand two hundred and threescore days, clothed in sackcloth. Those witnesses are the two olive trees and the two candlesticks standing before the God of the earth.
- If anyone would hurt them, fire would proceed out of their mouth and devour their enemies; and if anyone would hurt them, he should be killed in the same manner.
- The two witnesses would have power to shut heaven, so that it would not rain in the days of their prophecy; and they would have power over waters to turn them to blood, and to smite the earth with all plagues, as often as they willed.
- When they would have finished their testimony, the beast that ascended out of the bottomless
 pit would make war against them, and overcome them, and kill them. And their dead bodies
 would lie in the street of the great city which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also
 o Κύριος αὐτῶν ἐσταυρώθη.

You may not like that I leave you reading in Greek, but it is necessary that I mark here an error of translation. Let me explain. Many ancient languages like Hebrew or Greek, for example, do not show the same level of lexical detail that we are used to see in our common languages today. This gives rise to have to interpret the words based on their context, because they don't have a clear verbal tense in the originals. This is to say, the words involved have been written in infinitive tense. This way, when the

translator found himself in need to involve a specific verbal tense to a writing that doesn't clarify it, he deduced badly. The statement should be left like this:

• And their dead bodies would lie in the street of the great city, which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also our Lord is crucified.

We continue with the others.

- And they of the people, kindreds, tongues, and nations would see their dead bodies three days and a half, and would not suffer their dead bodies to be put in graves. And they that dwelled upon the earth would rejoice over them and make merry, and would send gifts one to another; because those two prophets would have tormented them that dwelled on the earth.
- And after three days and a half, the spirit of life from God would enter into them, and they would stand upon their feet, and great fear would fall on those who saw them. And they would hear a great voice from heaven, saying unto them, "Come up hither". And they would ascend up to heaven in a cloud; and their enemies would behold them.
- At the same hour there would be a great earthquake, and the tenth part of the city would fall, and in the earthquake would be slain of men seven thousand; and the remnant would be frightened and give glory to the God of heaven.

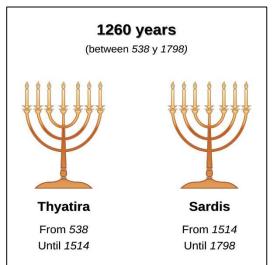
The fact of measuring the temple of God, the altar and those who worshiped in it, is a symbolism of corroborating the identity and purity of them. If something is measured for that purpose it is needed a standard, a basis for judging. That exact thing was possible with the wide distribution of the Bible. The Protestant Reformation developed proclaiming three maxims: Scripture over tradition, faith over works, and grace over merit.

But John was told that the courtyard of the Gentiles was not to be measured, for they would tread under foot the holy city forty-two months. This means that he didn't trouble himself with it, because the pagans would do violence to the Christians for 1260 years. We are the holy city, the Jerusalem of God.

Then Scripture says that the two witnesses would prophesy for 1260 days clothed in sackcloth. Comparing the forty-two months with the one thousand two hundred and threescore days we see the concordance. The two witnesses of God would carry their task for 1260 years, which would be of great roughness. And the identity of the two witnesses is shown when it is said that they are the two olive trees and the two candlesticks standing before the God of the Earth. That both olive trees and candlesticks be mentioned reinforces the idea that they are Churches.

The two witnesses are those brothers who testified against the heresies and blasphemies of Roman Catholicism during the eras of Thyatira and Sardis. It turns out that after the testimony of Thyatira in 1514, the Catholic authorities mocked the saints, and in the absence of confrontations they declared them dead. Then they held celebrations and feasts believing that they had achieved what they wanted, and much more they celebrated after the end of the Fifth Lateran Council in March 1517.

It was said before that they can also be considered as witnesses the Scriptures; and precisely the olive trees represent them. For just as the olive trees are related to the oil, so is the Word of God related to the Spirit of God.



And the Scriptures were being treated the same as the Christians; that is why both can be considered witnesses.

But there would seem to be a complication, because if they had been mistreated in such a way, how is it possible that when someone wanted to hurt them, fire had proceeded out of their mouth and devoured their enemies? And how did they have power to shut heaven so that it would not rain? And to turn waters to blood? And to smite the earth with all plagues as often as they willed?

Our brothers, living with the garbage of the false religious, when they were persecuted by the anathemas they always had the right word with which to burn them. These brothers were always supported by God and knew how to handle themselves properly in such situations. And there is a parallel expression that can be found in Jeremiah 5:12-14.

These Christians exercised the authority delegated by God to the Church; and to the one who corresponded they shut heaven. Whether by excommunication, or by cessation of treatment. For when an unbeliever deals with a preaching believer, the unconverted is faced with two possibilities: that of being saved because of the faith in Jesus Christ; or that of going to hell with an immensely greater condemnation than the one he would have already had even without having heard the message. Imagine then, with all the things they did to the Christians, how smitten people would have been going around. God made Himself sure to curse even in life those who mistreated the Christians. Plagues and blood were not lacking.

But when the era of Thyatira was coming to its end, the beast that ascended out of the bottomless pit made war against the believers and against the Scriptures, and overcame them and killed them. Because the former no longer bore witness of the latter. And they were considered dead, until after three years and a half, in November of the year 1517, they returned to life with the beginning of the Protestant Reformation.

But before the witnesses were resurrected, their bodies lay all the time unburied in the street of the immoral city where the Lord is dishonored. What is done to the Church is done to the Lord:

And Saul, yet breathing out threatenings and slaughter against the disciples of the Lord, went unto the high priest, And desired of him letters to Damascus to the synagogues, that if he found any of this way, whether they were men or women, he might bring them bound unto Jerusalem. And as he journeyed, he came near Damascus: and suddenly there shined round about him a light from heaven: And he fell to the earth, and heard a voice saying unto him, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me? And he said, Who art thou, Lord? And the Lord said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest: it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks. [*Acts* 9:1-5]

This is why if the order came out of Rome to oppress the true Christians, they did it against the Lord. Moreover, the doctrine of the mass is at its core the pretense of crucifying Christ again. It was the antichrist, that is, the pope, who made war against the witnesses and dishonored the Christians. Because they did not even allow the bodies of the saints to be put in graves. And even after such barbarity was dictated, many went and dug up the dead bodies of those who had been opponents of the Roman Catholic Church.

It is necessary to know that after the fall of the Western Roman Empire the pope became the lord of the ten kingdoms that made it up. That will be seen in detail later. That is why the New Roman Empire was still made up of those people, kindreds, tongues and nations that were complicit in the mistreatment of the believers.

After the return to life of the Church, then already began the era of Sardis, Protestant Christianism was exalted, and all its enemies beheld the Church rise up and take its place. And this meant the humiliation of the pope; many formerly Catholic nations began to declare themselves Protestant. The great earthquake, as we already know was a political-social upheaval; and Rome lost the tenth part of its power. England was the first to break away, followed by Ireland and the Netherlands. With regard to the seven thousand men being slain in the earthquake, we must consider them to have been seven *chiliades* of men. While it may mean thousands, in this case it operates its secondary meaning which is groups. These seven groups that broke away from Rome were those that made up the United Provinces of the Netherlands, being:



The second woe is past; and, behold, the third woe cometh quickly.

The Seventh Trumpet

And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever. And the four and twenty elders, which sat before God on their seats, fell upon their faces, and worshipped God, Saying, We give thee thanks, O LORD God Almighty, which art, and wast, and art to come; because thou hast taken to thee thy great power, and hast reigned. And the nations were angry, and thy wrath is come, and the time of the dead, that they should be judged, and that thou shouldest give reward unto thy servants the prophets, and to the saints, and them that fear thy name, small and great; and shouldest destroy them which destroy the earth. And the temple of God was opened in heaven, and there was seen in his temple the ark of his testament: and there were lightnings, and voices, and thunderings, and an earthquake, and great hail. [*Revelation 11:15-19*]

Being an important leap in time, the sound of the seventh trumpet announces the coming of the Lord Jesus. This is the most longed-for event, and it will mark the end of this age, and the beginning of the millennial reign of Christ. I would like to comment on the similarity between the seven days of creation and the seven millennia of history prior to the eternal state. Six days God worked, and he saw that what he did was good. On the seventh day God rested, and blessed the seventh day. Thus, six millennia lived the Adamic humanity in sorrow, and saw that its works were evil. But the seventh millennium will be kingdom of Christ and the Church, a thousand years of rest, and it will be lived according to the will of God. And then the eternal state will come with the New Jerusalem.

The Woman and the Dragon

And there appeared a great wonder in heaven; a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars: And she being with child cried, travailing in birth, and pained to be delivered. And there appeared another wonder in heaven; and behold a great red dragon, having seven heads and ten horns, and seven crowns upon his heads. And his tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth: and the dragon stood before the woman which was ready to be delivered, for to devour her child as soon as it was born. And she brought forth a man child, who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron: and her child was caught up unto God, and to his throne. And the woman fled into the wilderness, where she hath a place prepared of God, that they should feed her there a thousand two hundred and threescore days. And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels, And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven. And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceive the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him. And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night. And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death. Therefore rejoice, ye heavens, and ye that dwell in them. Woe to the inhabiters of the earth and of the sea! for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time. And when the dragon saw that he was cast unto the earth, he persecuted the woman which brought forth the man child. And to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness, into her place, where she is nourished for a time, and times, and half a time, from the face of the serpent. And the serpent cast out of his mouth water as a flood after the woman, that he might cause her to be carried away of the flood. And the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed up the flood which the dragon cast out of his mouth. And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ. [Revelation 12:1-17]

The prophecy returns to take up again from the first century.

- A great wonder appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars. And she being with child cried, travailing in birth, and pained to be delivered.
- Another wonder appeared in heaven: a great red dragon, having seven heads and ten horns, and seven crowns upon his heads; and his tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth.
- And the dragon stood before the woman which was ready to be delivered, for to devour her child as soon as it was born. And she brought forth a man child, who was to rule with a rod of iron; and her child was caught up unto God, and to his throne.
- And the woman fled into the wilderness, where she had a place prepared of God, that they should feed her there a thousand two hundred and threescore days.
- Then there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon, and the dragon fought and his angels; but they did not prevail, nor had their place found any more in heaven.

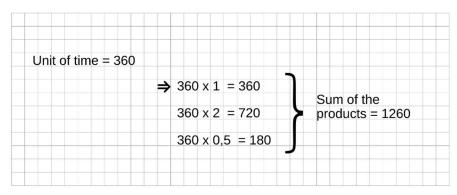
- And the great dragon was cast out; that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceives the whole world; he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.
- Then a loud voice was heard in heaven, saying: Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ; for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night. And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony, and they loved not their lives unto the death. Therefore rejoice, ye heavens, and ye that dwell in them. Woe to the inhabiters of the earth and of the sea! for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knows that he has but a short time.
- And when the dragon saw that he was cast down unto the earth, he persecuted the woman which brought forth the man child. And to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness, into her place, where she is nourished for a time, and times, and half a time, from the face of the serpent.
- And the serpent cast out of his mouth water as a flood after the woman, that he might cause her to be carried away of the flood. And the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed up the flood which the dragon cast out of his mouth.
- Then the dragon was wroth with the woman; and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.

The woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars represents the testimony of the Lord Jesus Christ, that is, the Holy Scriptures. The New Testament was written by the disciples and teachers who are symbolized by the twelve stars of the crown of the woman. And the woman was travailing in birth; and the promise of the coming of the Savior was being fulfilled. And it was fulfilled. The Lord Jesus Christ came into this world according to the Scriptures, but though a red dragon intended to hinder the Lord; Jesus fulfilled his ministry, saved us, and was caught up unto God and to his throne.

And the woman fled into the wilderness; yes, the Scriptures; where they had a place prepared of God to be preserved for 1260 years, a period in which they were in great danger. It will be seen in detail.

And there was war in heaven, where the angels of God defeated the devil and his angels; and the latter were cast out into the earth. This fact was already seen to have happened after the resurrection of Jesus Christ, as prophesied in the book of Daniel, chapter 12.

And the dragon, who is recognized the devil; having been cast down unto the earth, strove to destroy the testimony of the Lord Jesus Christ. But the Scriptures were carried unharmed to where they were nourished for a time, and times, and half a time. Here the numbering system shows a particularity. We already know that the result of the sum of the unit in question is equivalent to 1260. And a thousand two hundred and threescore is divided into *a time, and times, and half a time*. The basic unit of time in this case is 360, corroborating that it forms the number 1260 after the following calculation.



[...] for a time, and times, and half a time. [Rev. 12:14]

The year 538 is recognized in the Scriptures as the year in which the pope received such power to rule. And in the year 1798, the antichrist beast saw the end of his autocracy. In that year the pope Pius VI was taken prisoner by the forces of the French army, and that fact marked the end of his reign in solitary.

An example of those brethren who protected the Scriptures by living on the margins of society *(the wilderness)* were the Waldensians. These brothers were thus nicknamed on the basis of the leader of the movement: Peter Waldo. This man made possible the first translation of the Bible into a Romance language; and they later, to escape the persecution, fled to the Cocian Alps. Being there, far from Catholic influence, they were able to keep the Bible protected.

Regarding the dragon casting out of his mouth water as a flood to carry the woman away, I understand the following: the devil raising people to destroy the Bible. And then the earth opening her mouth and swallowing up the flood, claims to be some form of salvation that God provided. But honestly, I haven't found the explanation defined.

Then it is said that the dragon was wroth with the woman, and that he went to make war with the remnant of her seed: the Christians. So; if it is recognized that the woman had a crown of twelve stars, and she gave birth to two different kinds of offspring: the Lord Jesus Christ, and the Christians; we can conclude that the woman is the Word of God, the Sacred Scriptures. It is not Israel, because "Israel" has already fulfilled its function, and the true Israel is everyone who professes the Evangelical Christian faith. The focus has been on us for almost two thousand years, and that's not going to change.

The great red dragon had seven heads and ten horns, and upon his heads seven crowns. The explanation will be unified with the following passage.

The Two Beasts

And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy. And the beast which I saw was like unto a leopard, and his feet were as the feet of a bear, and his mouth as the mouth of a lion: and the dragon gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority. And I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast. And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, Who is like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him? And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and power was given unto him to continue forty and two months. And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme his name, and his tabernacle, and them that dwell in heaven. And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them: and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations. And all that

dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world. If any man have an ear, let him hear. He that leadeth into captivity shall go into captivity: he that killeth with the sword must be killed with the sword. Here is the patience and the faith of the saints. And I beheld another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb, and he spake as a dragon. And he exercise thall the power of the first beast before him, and causeth the earth and them which dwell therein to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed. And he doeth great wonders, so that he maketh fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men, And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast; saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword, and did live. And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed. And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name. Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast: for it is the number of a man; and his number is Six hundred threescore and six. [Revelation 13:1-18]

 The apostle John stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns; and upon his horns 10 (ten) crowns; and upon his heads, the name of blasphemy.

We have just seen that there is a difference. In the previous section we saw that the devil had seven heads and ten horns. So far, just like the beast that rose up out of the sea. But the beast that rose up out of the sea had **in his horns** 10 (ten) crowns; and the devil had **in his heads** 7 (seven) crowns.

The devil at that time, (in the early centuries of the Christian era), operated through the Roman Empire. And the Roman State went through seven forms of government; these are those seven heads. And the ten horns represent the ten civil kingdoms that succeeded the Roman Empire after its fall. That the crowns were upon the heads means that the power lay in the Roman emperor; and not in the kingdoms (yet). There were seven crowns just to connote the authority of the seven heads.



Moving forward with the summary of chapter 13.

• The beast that the apostle John saw was like unto a leopard, and his feet were as the feet of a bear, and his mouth as the mouth of a lion. And the dragon gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority.

We have a correspondence here with the book of Daniel. We are seeing a reference of the fourth kingdom; the Roman Empire. But seen more in depth, the Roman Catholic Empire. The devil gave his power to the beast, to the antichrist.



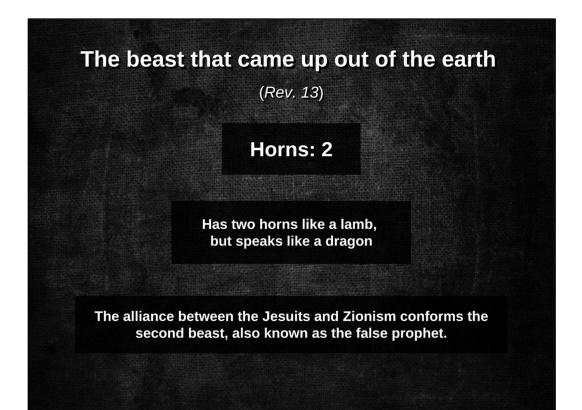
- The apostle John saw one of his heads as wounded to death, and his deadly wound was healed; and all the world wondered after the beast, and they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast, and they worshipped the beast, saying: Who is like unto the beast? Who is able to make war with him?
- He was also given a mouth that spoke great things and blasphemies; and he was given power to continue forty-two months. And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme his name, and his tabernacle, and them that dwell in Heaven.
- And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them. And power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations. And all that dwell upon the earth would worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.

The head of the beast, as it had been wounded to death, was the overthrowing of the Roman emperor Romulus Augustulus in the year 476. And later the wound was healed because the pope took his place. And after the end of the period of the exclusivity of his power, pope Pius VI was taken prisoner by the French forces in 1798; and although another pope was later put in his place, it would no longer be the papacy that would rule from then onwards. At least not in solitary; a second beast had already risen. The pope had his autocratic reign forty-two months; which were those 1260 years (42x30). Then he would rule understanding himself with the figure known as the false prophet.

Regarding his giving of power to make war with the saints and overcome them; brothers, this is not limited to the past. In the past it happened, yes. But this applies mostly to the end times, prior to the return of the Lord Jesus Christ. We, the Christians of the era of Laodicea will have to face the final wave against Christianism, and to make it alive to the rapture will require a great effort.

This work is motivated by the fact that the Church can know these things and awaken to the understanding that we have to prepare ourselves, because of the danger of what the New World Order means.

- Then he saw another beast coming up out the earth, which had two horns like a lamb, and he spoke as a dragon.
- And the second beast exercises all the power of the first beast before him, and causes the earth and them which dwell therein to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed.
- The second beast would also do great wonders, so that he would make fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men. And would deceive them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles which he would have power to do in the sight of the beast, saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword, and did live.
- And he would have power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image would both speak and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast would be killed. And he caused all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads; and that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name. The number of the beast is the number of a man, and his number is six hundred threescore and six.



The first beast rose up out of the sea. Out of a sea of nations. Having ten horns came out the eleventh, and before that little horn, three of the previous were plucked up by the roots. These three were the Heruli, the Vandals, and the Ostrogoths, (Daniel chapter 7 was referenced).

The second beast came up out of the earth. To usurp the land of Israel.

The description of the second beast tells us that he had two horns: (two authorities, two powers).

The first horn represents the so-called Society of Jesus, also known as the Jesuits. This organization is not just a religious order or a sect within Catholicism itself, redundantly; it operates rather as a military company. Its leader is the so-called superior general, known as the black pope. He is called that because of the color of the cassock he wears, but the fact of comparing him to the pope is not an exaggeration. The Jesuits have the greatest influence in the Vatican.

And the other horn symbolizes the Zionists: a group of delusional and arrogant supremacists who believe themselves to be "the chosen people", and are nothing more than synagogue of Satan. Because these terrorists call themselves Jews in their false flag strategy to in the first place confuse, make that others often pay for their crimes; and above all, camouflage themselves and appeal to anti-Semitism to escape like a bat out of hell.

These two garbage of a people have in common to possess large amounts of ill-gotten money, with which they systematically lead the world to subjection to the pope. All this through coordinated stratagems that can be found written in the book of *The Protocols of the Elders of Zion*.

The morbidity of the devil of wanting to satirically imitate God also leads him to want to reign from Jerusalem. This is why these factions manipulate the world in such direction. And for this reason the Lord Jesus Christ in His return will destroy the beast, the false prophet, and his armies finding them in the land of Israel.

Regarding the great wonders that "the false prophet" will be allowed to do, they will be allowed in order to lead the sinners to worship the last pope. One example of these wonders will consist in the directing of a celestial body at will, such as a small meteor, casting it down to Earth. Let us remember that God sends strong delusion to those who do not repent, for they reject the truth of Christ and the holy gospel preached. This way they will perish according to their sins. (2 Thess. 2:8–12)

Then there is talk about the image that them that dwell on the earth will make to the antichrist. The false prophet was given power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed. This suggests the description of advanced technology. It will most likely require "revere" a hologram of the pope in order to access the system of the beast. All who refuse will be left out, thus being killed; some metaphorically, and others literally. So this technology will be used for coercion.

Later there is talk about the implementation of the mark of the beast: a procedure in order to keep everyone subject under the Satanist regime. No one may buy or sell save he who has the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.

We as Christians are called to reject all that that they want to bring; and will bring. For receiving the mark of the beast is manifest a sin unto death. It would mean apostasy, to prefer to live in this world having turned the back on God rather than to have died because of Him if necessary. This is what the Lord was referring to in the letter to Philadelphia when He spoke about the hour of temptation that was to come upon the whole world. This test will prove those who dwell on the Earth, and it will happen in our times.

And that the number of the beast is 666 and is the number of a man, means that the essence of the question will be the pride of humanity pretending to dethrone God. Because on the sixth day Adam and Eve were created. And that the number six is repeated three times indicates just that: that the people will want to do without God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. And throughout the whole narrative it is seen the devil's intention to form his own trinity; with himself at the lead, followed by the antichrist and the false prophet.

Do not be surprised if the mark of the beast happens to look like the hexagram of Moloch.

(Falsely called "Star of David.")

The Lamb and the 144,000

And I looked, and, lo, a Lamb stood on the mount Sion, and with him an hundred forty and four thousand, having his Father's name written in their foreheads. And I heard a voice from heaven, as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of a great thunder: and I heard the voice of harpers harping with their harps: And they sung as it were a new song before the throne, and before the four beasts, and the elders: and no man could learn that song but the hundred and forty and four thousand, which were redeemed from the earth. These are they which were not defiled with women; for they are virgins. These are they which follow the Lamb whithersoever he goeth. These were redeemed from among men, being the firstfruits unto God and to the Lamb. And in their mouth was found no guile: for they are without fault before the throne of God. [*Revelation 14:1-5*]

Here I'm going to say that I'm not sure how to interpret this.

But I consider two options.

The first is that the 144,000 are all of us believers; for that number identifies all of us who have obeyed the faith from the time the world was created until the Lord returns. But the word firstfruits is mentioned in this portion, and that is why I give rise to doubt. Of course, the adjective virgins apply in spiritual sense. That the Lamb was standing on the Mount Sion may possibly be locating us at the time of his return. But there is also room for another interpretation.

The second option is for these 144,000 to be known by that number simply because they are members of the Church; although it does not refer to all of us who make it up. The group in question would be the brethren who were resurrected immediately after the Lord Jesus rose in the year 30. These brethren are known as the firstfruits from the dead, (along with the Lord as well), who were resurrected in Jerusalem. Therefore, this event on Mount Sion may have already occurred.

The second one weighs more, doesn't it?

The Three Angels

And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people, Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters. And there followed another angel, saying, Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication. And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand, The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and

in the presence of the Lamb: And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name. Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus. And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them. [*Revelation 14:6-13*]

I leave this passage to the reader.

Harvesting the Earth and Trampling the Winepress

And I looked, and behold a white cloud, and upon the cloud one sat like unto the Son of man, having on his head a golden crown, and in his hand a sharp sickle. And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to him that sat on the cloud, Thrust in thy sickle, and reap: for the time is come for thee to reap; for the harvest of the earth is ripe. And he that sat on the cloud thrust in his sickle on the earth; and the earth was reaped. And another angel came out of the temple which is in heaven, he also having a sharp sickle. And another angel came out from the altar, which had power over fire; and cried with a loud cry to him that had the sharp sickle, saying, Thrust in thy sharp sickle, and gather the clusters of the vine of the earth; for her grapes are fully ripe. And the angel thrust in his sickle into the earth, and gathered the vine of the earth, and cast it into the great winepress of the wrath of God. And the winepress was trodden without the city, and blood came out of the winepress, even unto the horse bridles, by the space of a thousand and six hundred furlongs. [*Revelation 14:14-20*]

This passage communicates what happens parallel to the rapture of the Church: "the goats are separated".

Seven Angels with Seven Plagues

And I saw another sign in heaven, great and marvellous, seven angels having the seven last plagues; for in them is filled up the wrath of God. And I saw as it were a sea of glass mingled with fire: and them that had gotten the victory over the beast, and over his image, and over his mark, and over the number of his name, stand on the sea of glass, having the harps of God. And they sing the song of Moses the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying, Great and marvellous are thy works, Lord God Almighty; just and true are thy ways, thou King of saints. Who shall not fear thee, O Lord, and glorify thy name? for thou only art holy: for all nations shall come and worship before thee; for thy judgments are made manifest. And after that I looked, and, behold, the temple of the tabernacle of the testimony in heaven was opened: And the seven angels came out of the temple, having the seven plagues, clothed in pure and white linen, and having their breasts girded with golden girdles. And one of the four beasts gave unto the seven angels seven golden vials full of the wrath of God, who liveth for ever and ever. And the temple was filled with smoke from the glory of God, and from his power; and no man was able to enter into the temple, till the seven plagues of the seven angels were fulfilled. [*Revelation 15:1-8*]

From now on some things will remain uncommented because I am not sure enough to give an opinion.

But this I will say: God's wrath is and will be for the sinners, never for the Christians. And even if more tragedies occur in this world that will never mean being a punishment to the Church. The wrath of God as such is always directed at the sinners, and will be mostly the eternal state in which they will find themselves. Let us also bear in mind that as the coming of the Lord grows near, because of the atrocities

that will be taking place, many Christians will be leaving to be with the Lord, and relatively few will make it to the rapture. So let us consider the good reason that there be more judgements; and important ones.

The Seven Bowls of God's Wrath

And I heard a great voice out of the temple saying to the seven angels, Go your ways, and pour out the vials of the wrath of God upon the earth. And the first went, and poured out his vial upon the earth; and there fell a noisome and grievous sore upon the men which had the mark of the beast, and upon them which worshipped his image. And the second angel poured out his vial upon the sea; and it became as the blood of a dead man: and every living soul died in the sea. And the third angel poured out his vial upon the rivers and fountains of waters; and they became blood. And I heard the angel of the waters say, Thou art righteous, O Lord, which art, and wast, and shalt be, because thou hast judged thus. For they have shed the blood of saints and prophets, and thou hast given them blood to drink; for they are worthy. And I heard another out of the altar say, Even so, Lord God Almighty, true and righteous are thy judgments. And the fourth angel poured out his vial upon the sun; and power was given unto him to scorch men with fire. And men were scorched with great heat, and blasphemed the name of God, which hath power over these plagues: and they repented not to give him glory. And the fifth angel poured out his vial upon the seat of the beast; and his kingdom was full of darkness; and they gnawed their tongues for pain, And blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores, and repented not of their deeds. And the sixth angel poured out his vial upon the great river Euphrates; and the water thereof was dried up, that the way of the kings of the east might be prepared. And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet. For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty. Behold, I come as a thief. Blessed is he that watcheth, and keepeth his garments, lest he walk naked, and they see his shame. And he gathered them together into a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armageddon. And the seventh angel poured out his vial into the air; and there came a great voice out of the temple of heaven, from the throne, saying, It is done. And there were voices, and thunders, and lightnings; and there was a great earthquake, such as was not since men were upon the earth, so mighty an earthquake, and so great. And the great city was divided into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell: and great Babylon came in remembrance before God, to give unto her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of his wrath. And every island fled away, and the mountains were not found. And there fell upon men a great hail out of heaven, every stone about the weight of a talent: and men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail; for the plague thereof was exceeding great. [Revelation 16:1-21]

The Judgement of the Great Whore

And there came one of the seven angels which had the seven vials, and talked with me, saying unto me, Come hither; I will shew unto thee the judgment of the great whore that sitteth upon many waters: With whom the kings of the earth have committed fornication, and the inhabitants of the earth have been made drunk with the wine of her fornication. So he carried me away in the spirit into the wilderness: and I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet coloured beast, full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns. And the woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet colour, and decked with gold and precious stones and pearls, having a golden cup in her hand full of abominations and filthiness of her fornication: And upon her forehead was a name written, MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH. And I saw the woman drunken with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus: and when I saw her, I wondered with great admiration. And the angel said unto me, Wherefore didst thou marvel? I will tell thee the mystery

of the woman, and of the beast that carrieth her, which hath the seven heads and ten horns. The beast that thou sawest was, and is not; and shall ascend out of the bottomless pit, and go into perdition: and they that dwell on the earth shall wonder, whose names were not written in the book of life from the foundation of the world, when they behold the beast that was, and is not, and yet is. And here is the mind which hath wisdom. The seven heads are seven mountains, on which the woman sitteth. And there are seven kings: five are fallen, and one is, and the other is not yet come; and when he cometh, he must continue a short space. And the beast that was, and is not, even he is the eighth, and is of the seven, and goeth into perdition. And the ten horns which thou sawest are ten kings, which have received no kingdom as yet; but receive power as kings one hour with the beast. These have one mind, and shall give their power and strength unto the beast. These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with him are called, and chosen, and faithful. And he saith unto me, The waters which thou sawest, where the whore sitteth, are peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues. And the ten horns which thou sawest upon the beast, these shall hate the whore, and shall make her desolate and naked, and shall eat her flesh, and burn her with fire. For God hath put in their hearts to fulfil his will, and to agree, and give their kingdom unto the beast, until the words of God shall be fulfilled. And the woman which thou sawest is that great city, which reigneth over the kings of the earth. [*Revelation 17:1-18*]

- One of the angels who had the seven vials approached the apostle John and told him to come hither because he would show him the judgement of the great whore that sit upon many waters; with whom the kings of the earth would have committed fornication, and the inhabitants of the earth would have been made drunk with the wine of her fornication.
- And he was carried away in the spirit into the wilderness, where he saw a woman sit upon a scarlet coloured beast, full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns.
- And the woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet colour, and decked with gold, precious stones and pearls, having a golden cup in her hand full of abominations and filthiness of her fornication; and upon her forehead was a name written: MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.
- And John saw the woman drunken with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus; and when he saw her, he wondered with great admiration.
- The beast he saw would have had a past, that is, a previous history. It would have already been. But the new version of that beast was not present in the days of John. Then he would ascend out of the bottomless pit, and go into perdition.
- And they that would dwell on the earth would wonder, whose names wouldn't have been written in the book of life from the foundation of the world, when they would behold the beast that would have already been, and was not in the days of John, and was yet to be.
- The seven heads are seven mountains on which the woman sits, and there are seven kings. Five of them had already fallen in the days of John, one was contemporary, and the other had not yet arrived; and when he would have arrived, he would continue a short space.
- The beast that would have already had previous history, and was not contemporary with John, would be the eighth king; and he would be of the seven, and go into perdition.

- The ten horns that the apostle John saw were ten kings who had not yet received kingdom, but would receive power as kings one hour with the beast. These would have one mind, and would give their power and strength unto the beast.
- They would make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb would overcome them, for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings; and they that are with him are called, and chosen, and faithful.
- The waters where the whore sit were peoples, and multitudes, and nations and tongues.
- And the ten horns previously seen upon the beast would hate the whore, and would make her desolate and naked; and would eat their flesh, and burn her with fire; for God would have put in their hearts to fulfill his will: and to agree, and give their kingdom unto the beast, until the words of God would be fulfilled.
- And the woman is that great city which reigns over the kings of the earth.

The great whore represents an important city, with strong political connotations; and that's Vatican City. Which is located in the middle of Rome. The reported future destruction of the see of Catholicism surely implies that Rome will also be affected.

It is said that the woman in question has the habit of fornicating with the kings of the Earth, and that the inhabitants of the Earth would have been drunken with the wine of her fornication. This speaks about the political-religious manipulation that always characterized the Roman Catholic Church.

The apostle John saw in vision the woman sitting on a scarlet coloured beast full of names of blasphemy; that had seven heads and ten horns; just like the description of the previous two beasts. The seven heads of this beast are seven mountains and seven kings. And the ten horns are ten kings who had not yet received kingdom in the days of John, but would receive power as kings one hour with the beast.



The seven mountains on which the woman sits are the seven hills of Rome. And the seven kings are the seven forms of government that the Roman State experienced. When the prophecy was given to John in the first century, five of those forms of government had already passed; and the sixth, with the figure of the emperor was contemporary. The seventh came later and continued a short space. The beast operated an eighth form of government; but came out of the previous seven. And the fact that the beast had already had a previous history at the time of manifesting again, is that he would have already known what it is to rule an empire. The first empire would have already fallen by the time the antichrist took the reins of the Roman Catholic Empire.

In the vision, the woman was sitting upon the scarlet coloured beast; which was full of names of blasphemy. Let us remember that this version of the beast is the papacy, which sustains Vatican City and the Roman Catholic Church. And the beast is full of names of blasphemy because his very essence is blasphemy. The title of "holy father" and that historically he has made himself be called "God" shows how right it is to apply to the pope his true title of antichrist.

About the ten horns, they are said to be kings who for an hour would receive power to rule with the beast. This would mark the beginning of the New World Order. That is why here we recognize a future event.

Those ten kings would give their power and strength unto the beast. We saw that these kings would first receive power because of having made alliance with the pope; but then they would synchronously surrender their sovereignties to him, and the pope would be left in full control of the world.

But there is a not minor detail: Scripture goes onto say that the ten kings would hate the whore and leave her desolate and naked, and eat her flesh, and burn her with fire. And that God would have put in their hearts to fulfill his will: and to agree, and to give their kingdom unto the beast; until the words of God had been fulfilled.

This communicates that Vatican City will be destroyed. First hated by those who will have allied themselves with the pope, (commanded by Jesuits and Zionists), and then looted and burned with fire. But it must be considered that the pope would still be alive, and of course "the false prophet" too. They will destroy Vatican City to bring the see of the new world religion to Jerusalem.

The Fall of Babylon

And after these things I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power; and the earth was lightened with his glory. And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird. For all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, and the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies. And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues. For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities. Reward her even as she rewarded you, and double unto her double according to her works: in the cup which she hath filled fill to her double. How much she hath glorified herself, and lived deliciously, so much torment and sorrow give her: for she saith in her heart, I sit a queen, and am no widow, and shall see no sorrow. Therefore shall her plagues come in one day, death, and mourning, and famine; and she shall be utterly burned with fire: for strong is the Lord God who judgeth her. And the kings of the earth, who have committed fornication and lived deliciously with her, shall bewail her, and lament for her, when they shall see the smoke of her burning, Standing afar off for the fear of her torment, saying, Alas, alas that great city Babylon, that mighty city! for in one hour is thy judgment come. And the merchants of the earth shall weep and mourn over her; for no man buyeth their merchandise any more: The merchandise of gold, and silver, and precious stones, and of pearls, and fine linen, and purple, and silk, and scarlet, and all thyine wood, and all manner vessels of ivory, and all manner vessels of most precious wood, and of brass, and iron, and marble, And cinnamon, and odours, and ointments, and frankincense, and wine, and oil, and fine flour, and wheat, and beasts, and sheep, and horses, and chariots, and slaves, and souls of men. And the fruits that thy soul lusted after are departed from thee, and all things which were dainty and goodly are departed from thee, and thou shalt find them no more at all. The merchants of these things, which were made rich by her, shall stand afar off for the fear of her torment, weeping and wailing, And saying, Alas, alas that great city, that was clothed in fine linen, and purple, and scarlet, and decked with gold, and precious stones, and pearls! For in one hour so great riches is come to nought. And every shipmaster, and all the company in ships, and sailors, and as many as trade by sea, stood afar off, And cried when they saw the smoke of her burning, saying, What city is like unto this great city! And they cast dust on their heads, and cried, weeping and wailing, saying, Alas, alas that great city, wherein were made rich all that had ships in the sea by reason of her costliness! for in one hour is she made desolate. Rejoice over her, thou heaven, and ye holy apostles and prophets; for God hath avenged you on her. And a mighty angel took up a stone like a great millstone, and cast it into the sea, saying, Thus with violence shall that great city Babylon be thrown down, and shall be found no more at all. And the voice of harpers, and musicians, and of pipers, and trumpeters, shall be heard no more at all in thee; and no craftsman, of whatsoever craft he be, shall be found any more in thee; and the sound of a millstone shall be heard no more at all in thee; And the light of a candle shall shine no more at all in thee; and the voice of the bridegroom and of the bride shall be heard no more at all in thee: for thy merchants were the great men of the earth; for by thy sorceries were all nations deceived. And in her was found the blood of prophets, and of saints, and of all that were slain upon the earth. [*Revelation 18:1-24*]

This is a very delicate passage. And not because it would be hard to understand, because it's not. We know clearly that it communicates the destruction of Vatican City. And with the technology that already exists today, we can infer details of such destruction. But they deserve it, and much more at that time they will deserve it.

But the kings of the earth who would have fornicated with her, and with her would have lived deliciously; will cry and weep. And the merchants will weep and mourn as well, because they will no longer have her to continue buying their luxury goods; their animals, and even their victims of trafficking. Because many of them of cassocks will have already been sent to their own place.

Praises in Heaven

And after these things I heard a great voice of much people in heaven, saying, Alleluia; Salvation, and glory, and honour, and power, unto the Lord our God: For true and righteous are his judgments: for he hath judged the great whore, which did corrupt the earth with her fornication, and hath avenged the blood of his servants at her hand. And again they said, Alleluia And her smoke rose up for ever and ever. And the four and twenty elders and the four beasts fell down and worshipped God that sat on the throne, saying, Amen; Alleluia. And a voice came out of the throne, saying, Praise our God, all ye his servants, and ye that fear him, both small and great. And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunderings, saying, Alleluia: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth. Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready. And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints. [*Revelation 19:1-8*]

The Marriage Supper of the Lamb

And he saith unto me, Write, Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb. And he saith unto me, These are the true sayings of God. And I fell at his feet to worship him. And he said unto me, See thou do it not: I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren that have the testimony of Jesus: worship God: for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy. [*Revelation 19:9-10*]

The Rider on the White Horse

And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself. And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God. And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean. And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS. And I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the fowls that fly in the midst of heaven, Come and gather yourselves together unto the supper of the great God; That ye may eat the flesh of kings, and the flesh of captains, and the flesh of mighty men, and the flesh of horses, and of them that sit on them, and the flesh of all men, both free and bond, both small and great. And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him that sat on the horse, and against his army. And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone. And the remnant were slain with the sword of him that sat upon the horse, which sword proceeded out of his mouth: and all the fowls were filled with their flesh. [Revelation 19:11-21]

Seen heaven opened, the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ was announced. This event will happen soon; and the Lord will come with the heavenly armies. He will tread the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God, and with his word he will hurt those who took pleasure in sin. The Christian Church will be reunited; and whether by rapture or resurrection, we will all be in our glorified bodies witnessing the justice of God.

And the pope, who will have endured up to that moment, and the Jesuits and Zionists; will be captured and cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone. And the remnant will be slain with the sword that will proceed out of the mouth of God.

The Thousand Years

And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years, And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season. And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years. But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection. Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years. And when the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison, And shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth, Gog, and Magog, to gather them together to battle: the number of whom is as the sand of the sea. And they went up on the breadth of the earth, and compassed the camp of the saints about, and the beloved city: and fire came down from God out of heaven, and devoured them. And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever. [*Revelation 20:1-10*]

The beginning of the reign of Jesus Christ after his return will mark the beginning of the Millennium. For a thousand years the devil will be bound in the core of the Earth and will no longer be able to deceive the nations.

But how could he deceive anyone if in the Millennium there will be only Christians? Christians redeemed, glorified, saved. And all the sinners would have already been annihilated.

Yes, but they would have been those who were on the face of the Earth at the time of the return of the Lord. Clearly God, based on His purposes, will leave a remnant of fallen Adamic human beings without exterminating. And I think that it is possible that an elitist group of sinners, before the return of the Lord, would somehow manage to form a colony outside of planet Earth.

This is not being read by medieval people, so I think we can agree that it is possible; much more seeing people like Elon Musk do what he does. So that way these magoguites would be in the four quarters of the Earth. Because if they were in Space; every day they would orbit around her. Anyway, leaving this there, this is just a guess of mine. In any case, if the Earth was ever filled with them, they would be in the direction of all the cardinal points.

The Final Judgement

And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them. And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works. And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire. [*Revelation 20:11-15*]

After the Millennium, the second resurrection will take place. And along with the second resurrection, the second death; for that will be the end of all those who are not written in the book of life.

A New Heaven and a New Earth

And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God. And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away. And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful. And he said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely. He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son. But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death. [*Revelation 21:1-8*]

The New Jerusalem

And there came unto me one of the seven angels which had the seven vials full of the seven last plagues, and talked with me, saying, Come hither, I will shew thee the bride, the Lamb's wife. And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and shewed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God, Having the glory of God: and her light was like unto a stone most precious, even like a jasper stone, clear as crystal; And had a wall great and high, and had twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels, and names written thereon, which are the names of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel: On the east three gates; on the north three gates; on the south three gates; and on the west three gates. And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and in them the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb. And he that talked with me had a golden reed to measure the city, and the gates thereof, and the wall thereof. And the city lieth foursquare, and the length is as large as the breadth: and he measured the city with the reed, twelve thousand furlongs. The length and the breadth and the height of it are equal. And he measured the wall thereof, an hundred and forty and four cubits, according to the measure of a man, that is, of the angel. And the building of the wall of it was of jasper: and the city was pure gold, like unto clear glass. And the foundations of the wall of the city were garnished with all manner of precious stones. The first foundation was jasper; the second, sapphire; the third, a chalcedony; the fourth, an emerald; The fifth, sardonyx; the sixth, sardius; the seventh, chrysolyte; the eighth, beryl; the ninth, a topaz; the tenth, a chrysoprasus; the eleventh, a jacinth; the twelfth, an amethyst. And the twelve gates were twelve pearls: every several gate was of one pearl: and the street of the city was pure gold, as it were transparent glass. And I saw no temple therein: for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it. And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof. And the nations of them which are saved shall walk in the light of it: and the kings of the earth do bring their glory and honour into it. And the gates of it shall not be shut at all by day: for there shall be no night there. And they shall bring the glory and honour of the nations into it. And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life. And he shewed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb. In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there the tree of life, which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. And there shall be no more curse: but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and his servants shall serve him: And they shall see his face; and his name shall be in their foreheads. And there shall be no night there; and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light: and they shall reign for ever and ever. [*Revelation 21:9-27/22:1-5*]

Glory to God. That will be our eternal state with the Lord.

Jesus is Coming Soon

And he said unto me, These sayings are faithful and true: and the Lord God of the holy prophets sent his angel to shew unto his servants the things which must shortly be done. Behold, I come quickly: blessed is he that keepeth the sayings of the prophecy of this book. And I John saw these things, and heard them. And when I had heard and seen, I fell down to worship before the feet of the angel which shewed me these things. Then saith he unto me, See thou do it not: for I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren the prophets, and of them which keep the sayings of this book: worship God. And he saith unto me, Seal not the sayings of the prophecy of this book: for the time is at hand. He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still. And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last. Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city. For without are dogs, and sorcerers, and whoremongers, and murderers, and idolaters, and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie. I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and morning star. And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely. For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book. He which testifieth these things saith, Surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen. [Revelation 22:6-21]

Amen.

Now follows a section in which I want to expose some last things and give the closure to the work.

First of all, I want to communicate my empathy for those who had been carrying futuristic interpretations. As I said before, I believed in that too. And thank God I was able to be straightened and corrected. And knowing these things I did not kept myself shut, but I did this work, and I shared it with you; because for you I did. And above all, for the glory of God.

There are some things that should now catch our attention as well: How is it possible that almost the entire Church has been believing futuristic interpretations? If until a few centuries ago it was not like that.

Brethren, why do you think that all over the world there is synchronized talk of the decriminalization of abortion, of the cessation of repugnance to sodomy, of the overthrowing of patriarchy, of the subversion of women, and many other issues like that? There are agendas. And now we can know who drives them. Because while all of that comes lately from the devil, he uses human beings to carry them forward. And among those human beings the Jesuits and Zionists are in the lead. And especially by Jesuits so many false teachings were infiltrated; those that now many Christians have to get themselves rid of. Because it's simple; the futuristic interpretations do not recognize in the papacy the antichrist; although sincerely, I believe that a true Christian, even though futuristic, would realize it when the New World Order unfolded. But you brothers, and I, have the privilege of knowing these things with time. Some with more time; and others with not so much. But I did my part.

And how did the Catholic Church originate? This is a comment I want to make. The Catholic Church was founded by Simon; but not by Simon Peter. It was founded by Simon the sorcerer.

And when Simon saw that through laying on of the apostles' hands the Holy Ghost was given, he offered them money, Saying, Give me also this power, that on whomsoever I lay hands, he may receive the Holy Ghost. But Peter said unto him, Thy money perish with thee, because thou hast thought that the gift of God may be purchased with money. Thou hast neither part nor lot in this matter: for thy heart is not right in the sight of God. Repent therefore of this thy wickedness, and pray God, if perhaps the thought of thine heart may be forgiven thee. For I perceive that thou art in the gall of bitterness, and in the bond of iniquity. Then answered Simon, and said, Pray ye to the LORD for me, that none of these things which ye have spoken come upon me. [*Acts* 8:18-24]

But his money perished with him. Simon the sorcerer went to Rome in the days of Claudius Caesar; and combining his magical arts with his "Gnostic" teachings formed that sect that eventually became what we can identify today.

And to conclude, knowing all this should lead us to make wise decisions. Look, I invite you to compare the flee of the Judean Church to the mountains in the first century with our position today. The Church fled to the mountains because otherwise they would have died in the siege of the Romans. And our position today is to see that the mark of the beast will eventually come; and with that that we cannot buy or sell. And if we want to make it to the rapture, we better make sure that we have the resources and the ways. Because this is not that the Church fancied to isolate herself, to become monastic, or delude it like the Mennonites. **No.** The world is about to throw us out, and if we want to do things right; the way is by uniting and organizing all of us who are Evangelical Christians.

This work is property of the Church. Feel free to share it, as long as it reaches the one who correspond.

This knowledge can save lives; Christian lives.

If this book has been a blessing to the reader, please consider supporting me as author.

If you wanted to contact me for any reason, you could do it at: gyacanteafonso@gmail.com.

All rights reserved.

The author grants permission for reproducing, distributing, and transmitting this publication in any form or by any means for noncommercial use. Case contrary, the person or persons involved would be infringing copyright law.

© Guillermo Yacante Afonso, 2022.

And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war.

[Revelation 19:11]

