

Review of the Four Horseman & 1st Seal



Truth Matters Church, Inc.

OPENING COMMENTS



- ❧ I recognize that it took us very long to get here – Revelation 6
- ❧ Some of it was planned (time off), but some of it was also intentional
- ❧ When I committed to teaching Revelation, I knew it was going to be a difficult up-hill battle
- ❧ With a plethora of teachings, doctrines, interpretations, even guesses out there – how can we be sure what is true?
- ❧ How can we be sure what we're learning is true or on the right path?
- ❧ And the short answer to that is – by teaching and supporting everything with SCRIPTURE!

OPENING COMMENTS



- ❧ By not controlling the narrative of Scripture to support your view
- ❧ Instead by allowing the Scripture to control the narrative to support its own view
- ❧ In other words, allow the Scripture to interpret itself!
- ❧ And if we're going to do that – then the teacher (that would be me) needs to do whatever it takes to get to that place where we are building on solid ground, on a solid foundation
- ❧ This is the MAIN reason why we're at the pace we're on
 - ❧ I, as your teacher, needed to do what it takes to get up to speed
- ❧ This is the WHY reason why it took us 2+ years to get here

OPENING COMMENTS



- ❧ I must confess that before our “How to View Prophecies” study – I didn’t have a high degree of confidence where to place the 7 Seals/7 Trumpets/7 Bowls in the timeline of prophecy
- ❧ But after we’ve done our diligence in viewing our Daniel Series, the Great Olivet Discourse from a historical perspective and keeping in mind the “day for a thousand years” principle, my degree on confidence has increased
 - ❧ Not that my estimation of myself should be the standard, but as a teacher who must give an account for what I’m teaching, I can in a good conscience and sincerity of faith declare before you and before our Lord Jesus – that I’ve done the best I can with the Spirit’s help and leading

OVERVIEW



- ❧ Now that we learned how to view prophecies in its historical context
- ❧ We'll do the same for Revelation ("the prophecy") and view it in its historical context too
- ❧ When we do so, the book of Revelation is relevant to not just the church during the end times, but to all churches for all time!
 - ❧ From its inception - the end of the age!
 - ❧ Hence the promise "blessed is He who reads and those who hear the words of the prophecy, and heed the things which are written in it, for the time is near" Rev 1:3 is applicable to all believers for all time!
- ❧ Lets review now what we've learned about the Four Horseman and get reacquainted with the 1st Seal...

Q: Who are the Four Horseman?



Rider on a
WHITE HORSE

Rider on a
RED HORSE

Rider on a
BLACK HORSE

Rider on a
PALE GREEN HORSE



Contrary to Popular Opinion



✧ Contrary to much popular teachings these 4 riders are NOT merely figurative or symbolic:

- ✧ **White** horse: world peace (false peace), series of false Messiahs, Antichrist, world forces, political conquest, purity of the church
- ✧ **Red** horse: color of blood, holocaust of war, civil war, removal of peace
- ✧ **Black** horse: famine, global hunger, sadness, want, woe, darkness, inflation
- ✧ **Ashen** horse: death, pestilence, eternal misery



Looked to Scripture



☞ To answer who the Four Horseman
are we went to Scripture

☞ Zch 1



Zechariah 1



The context:

☞ God spoke to Zechariah the prophet and declared that He was very angry with Israel



Zechariah 1



- ✧ God commanded Zechariah to exhort them to come back to God that He may return to them
- ✧ To not be like their fathers whom the former prophets proclaimed
- ✧ That they repent of their evil ways and deeds
- ✧ To heed the Mosaic covenant they entered into
- ✧ But sadly they refused to listen



Zechariah 1



- So 3 months later, God spoke to Zechariah again in a night vision
- Zechariah saw a man riding on a red horse standing among the myrtle trees
 - There also were other red, reddish brown and white horses behind him
- There was an angel nearby and Zechariah asked him what are these?



Zechariah 1



- ❧ The angel responded, they are the ones the LORD has sent out to patrol the earth
- ❧ TRANSLATION: The red, reddish brown and white horses are ridden by angels sent out to patrol the earth!



A: Who are the Four Horseman?



Zch 1 gave us the answer:

☞ The riders on colored horses in Zch 1 are angels; which means:

☞ The riders on colored horses in Rev 6 are angels

Parallel between Zch 1 & Rev 6



- ☞ God was angry with Israel in Zch 1 and sent angels to patrol the earth
- ☞ God too was angry with Israel in Rev 6 and sent angels to patrol the earth
 - ☞ Remember God's judgment is "to the Jew first"
- ☞ TRANSLATION: The Four Horseman are 4 angels summoned and sent to patrol the earth, report back, and carry out their assigned tasks!

Parallel between Zch 1 & Rev 6



- ❧ Surprisingly, no commentary that I came across came up with this biblical definition as to who these 4 Horseman are!
- ❧ Sadly instead they put their subjectivity to work, over spiritualized the text in many cases, and controlled the narrative to support their eschatology
- ❧ Now that we know who the 4 Horseman are biblically, let's read Seals 1-4 in Ch. 6... and for the rest of our time today we'll review Seal **1**...

Revelation 6



Revelation 6:1-8 (NASB)

The First Seal

1 Then I saw when the Lamb broke one of the seven seals, and I heard one of the four living creatures saying as with a voice of thunder, "Come." 2 I looked, and behold, a white horse, and he who sat on it had a bow; and a crown was given to him, and he went out conquering and to conquer.

The Second Seal

3 When He broke the second seal, I heard the second living creature saying, "Come." 4 And another, a red horse, went out; and to him who sat on it, it was granted to take peace from the earth, and that men would slay one another; and a great sword was given to him.

Revelation 6



The Third Seal

5 When He broke the third seal, I heard the third living creature saying, “Come.” I looked, and behold, a black horse; and he who sat on it had a pair of scales in his hand. 6 And I heard something like a voice in the center of the four living creatures saying, “A quart of wheat for a denarius, and three quarts of barley for a denarius; and do not damage the oil and the wine.”

The Fourth Seal

7 When the Lamb broke the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth living creature saying, “Come.” 8 I looked, and behold, an ashen horse; and he who sat on it had the name Death; and Hades was following with him. Authority was given to them over a fourth of the earth, to kill with sword and with famine and with pestilence and by the wild beasts of the earth.

Rev 6:1: The 1st Seal



1 Then I saw when the Lamb broke one of the seven seals, and I heard one of the four living creatures saying as with a voice of thunder, “Come.”

- ✧ “Then I saw” - can be rendered “Also I saw” - this vision flows in sequence chronologically
- ✧ “when the Lamb broke one of the seven seals” - straightforward the Lamb as if slain broke the 1st of 7 Seals
 - ✧ What do the 7 Seals contain again? Ezk 2:10
- ✧ One of the 4 Living Creatures made a summon, “Come.”



Rev 6:2: The 1st Seal



2 I looked, and behold, a white horse, and he who sat on it had a bow; and a crown was given to him, and he went out conquering and to conquer.

- ❧ John sees a rider on a white horse
 - ❧ Again whose the rider? Hint: Zch 1
- ❧ This rider “had a bow” [review this]
- ❧ “crown was given to him” [review this]
- ❧ And John describes that he went out “conquering and to conquer” [review this]



“had a bow”



- ❧ We learned “bow” is τόxon and is used just this 1x in the entire NT
- ❧ When we did a holistic view of τόxon’s Hebrew equivalent word qesheth (in OT) we learned bow or qesheth can have several meanings depending on context:
 - ❧ Refer to hunting (with actual bow + arrow)
 - ❧ Bowmen, archers (with actual bow + arrow)
 - ❧ Figurative of might
 - ❧ Rainbow
 - ❧ War or weapon of war
 - ❧ Impending attack (bend a bow)

“had a bow”



- ☞ Since bow (tóxon) + “crown” + “conquering and to conquer” is the context, the bow (tóxon) is to be understood as a bow of war
- ☞ TRANSLATION: The 1st angel riding a white horse is summoned and given a specific task – TO WAGE WAR!
- ☞ This rider was also given a crown
 - ☞ Let’s review this

“a crown was given to him”



- ☞ John says “a crown was given to him”
- ☞ “crown” is stephanos which we covered extensively in Our Promised Crown study awhile back
- ☞ Like qesheth, crown or stephanos can have several meanings depending on context



Stephanos



- ☞ Stephanos was used 18x in the NT and can mean an actual crown worn on the head (worn by kings, crown of thorns, crown of a wreath) or figurative (such as joy and crown (Phi 4; 1Th 2:19), crown of righteousness, crown of life, or crown of glory)
- ☞ Based on our immediate context I'm inclined to say that this angel on a white horse "was given holding a [physical albeit heavenly] bow + given a [physical albeit heavenly] crown". For example:
 - ☞ Letter to Smyrna: those who are faithful in death, were given a crown of life
 - ☞ The 5th Seal: those who were slain because of the word of God and the testimony they maintained were given a white robe and asked to rest a little longer until the number of their fellow servants were to be killed as they were

INTERPRETIVE CHALLENGE



- ❧ John says “and there was given him a crown”
 - ❧ Was it given to him and he wore it?
 - ❧ Was it given to him and he will hold it to crown someone else with it?
- ❧ It could be either or both
- ❧ Remember this principle we learned from the Ram and the Goat study
 - ❧ What happens in the heavenlies will manifest itself in the physical!
- ❧ Here’s what we know...

WHAT WE KNOW



In Context:

- ☞ This 1st rider on a white horse, was summoned and given a bow+crown
- ☞ This angel on a white horse was given a specific task to wage war
- ☞ This angel was given a crown

TRANSLATION: This angel was tasked to wage war, and thus, it will certainly manifest itself on earth!

- ☞ So it wouldn't surprise me one bit if an actual figure arrived/arrives on the scene in the past/future, is coronated with an actual crown
- ☞ And this angel or his representative goes from there and begins...

“conquering and to conquer”



- ❧ “conquering and to conquer” is the Greek verb nikaō and its root word is nikē
- ❧ nikē means exactly how its translated, to conquer, be victorious, prevail, overcome, subdue
- ❧ How will this be manifested on this side of heaven?
- ❧ Presumably, through wars, rumors of wars, nation rising up against nation and kingdom against kingdom
- ❧ As far as when the 1st Seal began...



CONJECTURE



- ❧ Initially, I've maintained that the 1st Seal has not been broken yet
 - ❧ Because of the synergies with the 4 Great Beasts and 4 Living Creatures
- ❧ But after our reharmonization of the Great Olivet Discourse and reinforcing how to view prophecies study - I've reconsidered that stance
 - ❧ I do still believe the 4 Great Beasts are 4 End Times Kings
 - ❧ Remember: "a human mind was given" to the 1st Lion King w/Eagle's Wings

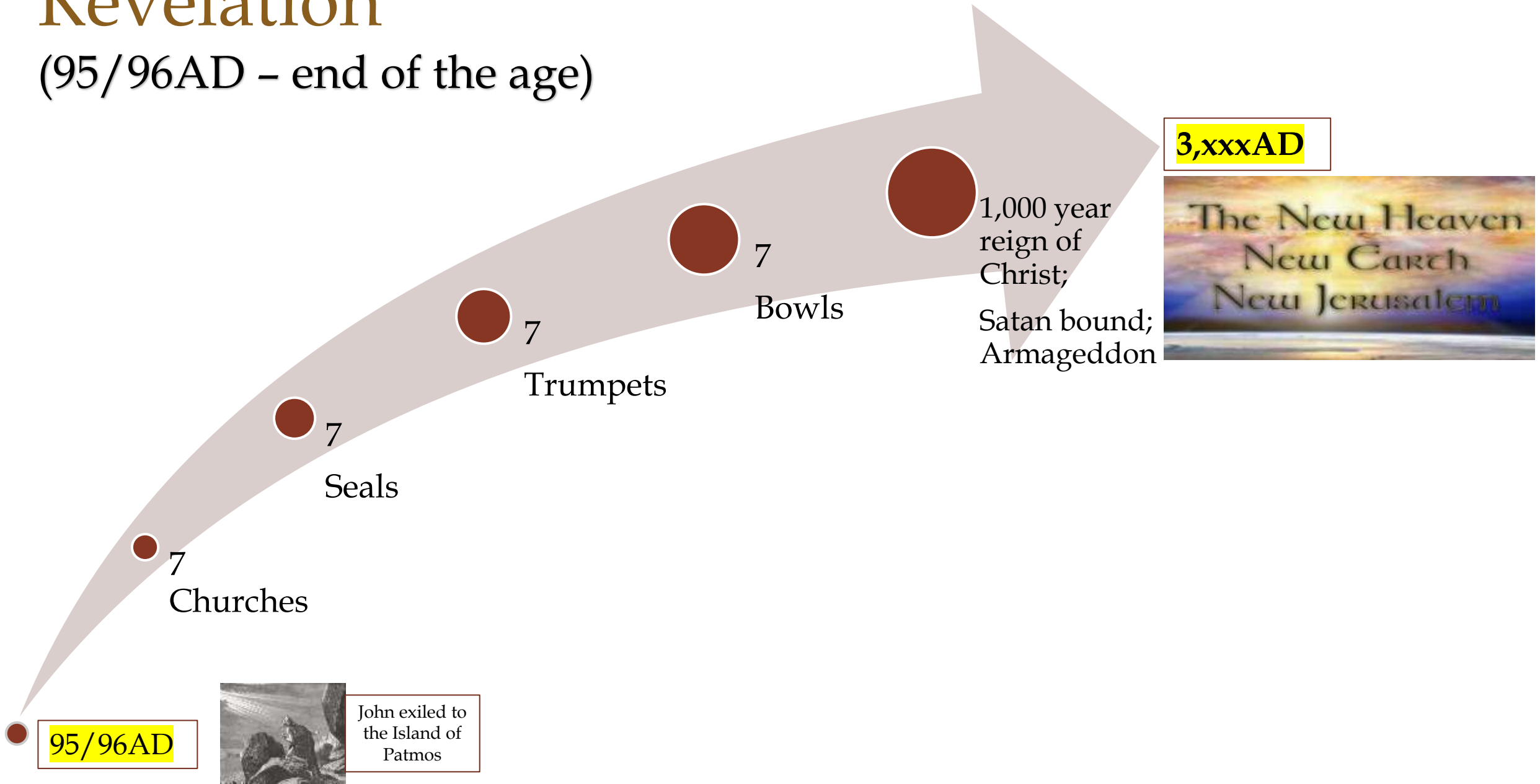
CONJECTURE



- ✧ But now that we learned how to keep and view prophecies in its historical context, I'm convinced that Seal 1-4 may very well be in motion and span 95/96AD – to the end of the age!
 - ✧ This explains the video we watched that appeared to capture an angelic being riding a green colored horse (the 3rd Seal)
- ✧ That said, let's take what we learned and incorporate the 1st Seal into our prior Revelation and Olivet Discourse timeline

Revelation

(95/96AD - end of the age)



95/96AD



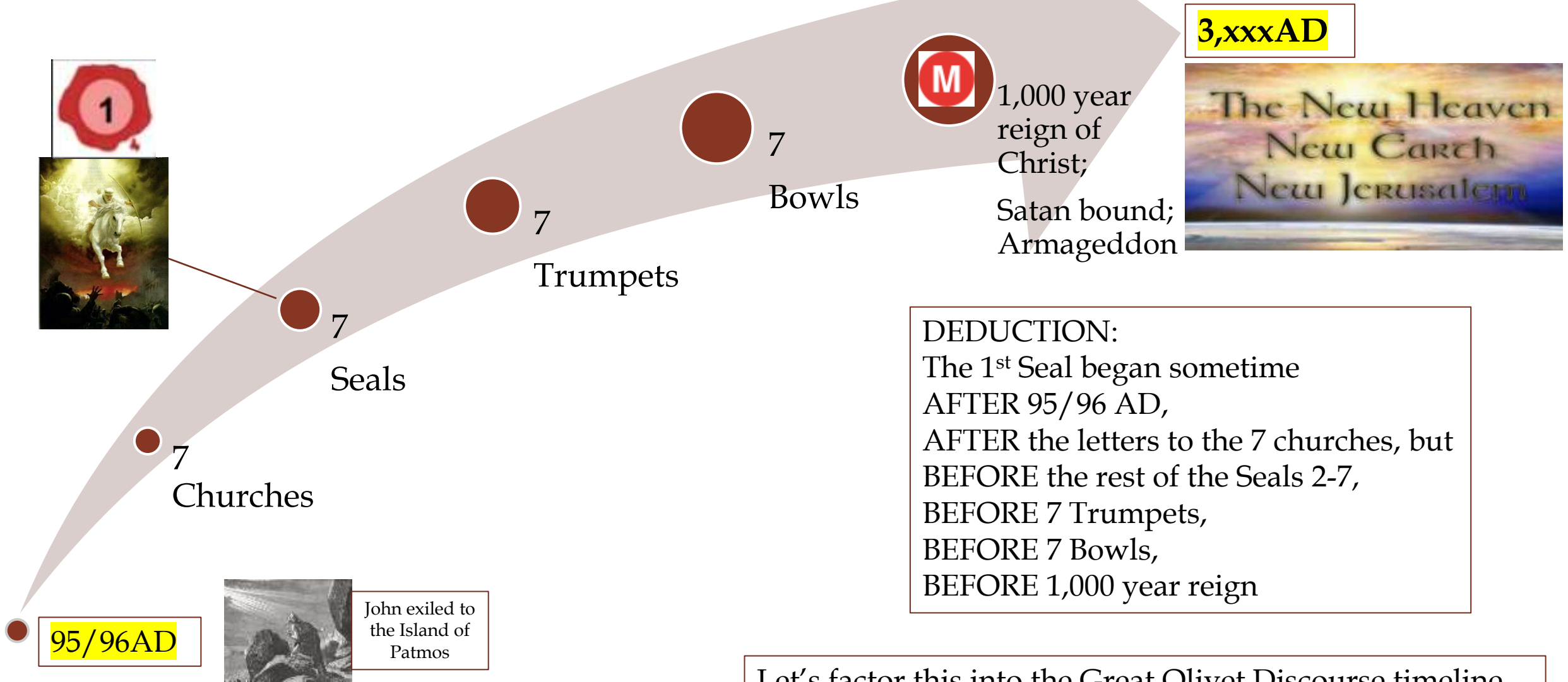
John exiled to the Island of Patmos

3,xxxAD



Revelation

(95/96AD - end of the age)



DEDUCTION:
The 1st Seal began sometime
AFTER 95/96 AD,
AFTER the letters to the 7 churches, but
BEFORE the rest of the Seals 2-7,
BEFORE 7 Trumpets,
BEFORE 7 Bowls,
BEFORE 1,000 year reign

Let's factor this into the Great Olivet Discourse timeline...

The Great Olivet Discourse

(~30AD - end of the age)



EPOCH 12: JESUS IS COMING WITH THE CLOUDS OF HEAVEN AND EVERY EYE WILL SEE HIM

"THE GREAT TRUMPET"

EPOCH 1: CHURCH TRIBULATION

1st century - end of age

EPOCH 11: ETERNAL GOSPEL PREACHED

By an angel mid heaven

EPOCH 2: FALSE CHRISTS & FALSE PROPHETS

1st century - end of the age

EPOCH 10: SIGN OF SON OF MAN IN THE SKY

The Sign = Lightning

EPOCH 9: GREAT GLOBAL TRIBULATION

Sun/Moon darkened/ Stars fall
Mass Deaths

EPOCH 3: ISRAELI WARS

1st century - end of the age



EPOCH 8: JERUSALEM'S TRIBULATION

Israel's final war

EPOCH 4: GENTILE WARS

1st century - end of the age

EPOCH 7: ISRAEL'S APOSTASY

Towards the end of the age

EPOCH 5: WORLDWIDE CALAMITIES

1st century - end of the age

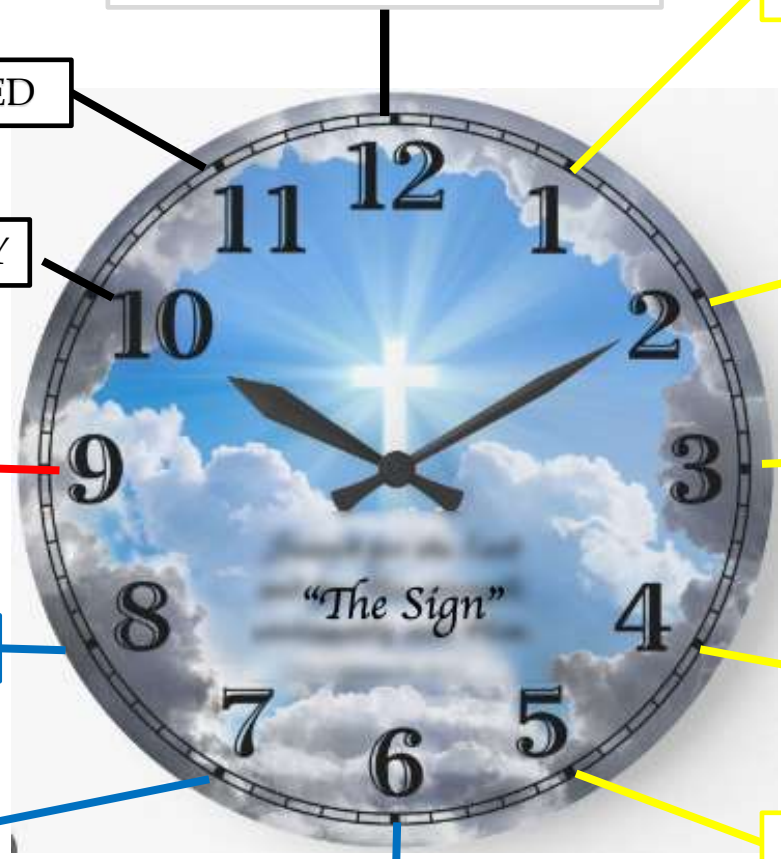


EPOCHS 6-8: Final Period of Indignation

EPOCH 6: JUDAISM IN FULL EFFECT

Towards the end of the age

EPOCHS 1-5:
Early Pangs



The Great Olivet Discourse

(~30AD - end of the age)



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1st century - end of age

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Sun/Moon darkened/ Stars fall
Mass Deaths

EPOCH 3: ISRAELI WARS

66AD - end of the age



EPOCH 8: JERUSALEM'S TRIBULATION

Israel's final war

EPOCH 4: GENTILE WARS

95/96AD - end of the age



EPOCH 7: ISRAEL'S APOSTASY

Towards the end of the age

EPOCH 5: WORLDWIDE CALAMITIES

1st century - end of the age

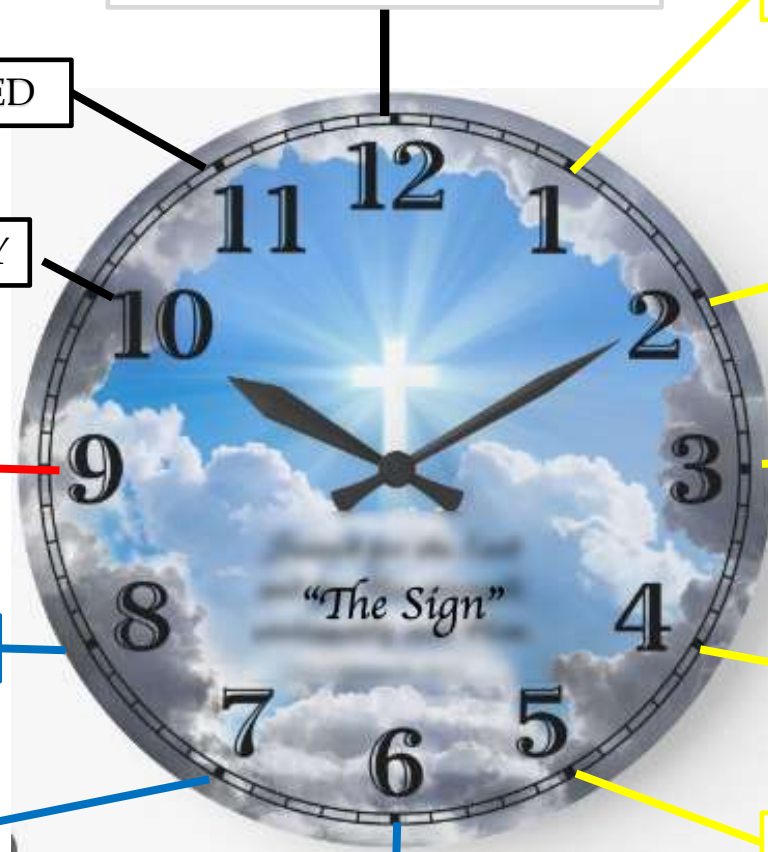


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Towards the end of the age

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CLOSING THOUGHTS



☞ All that is to say, in keeping Revelation in its historical context I'm inclined to say that the 1st Seal is already in motion sometime after 95/96AD

CLOSING THOUGHTS



- ☞ All that is to say, in keeping Revelation in its historical context I'm inclined to say that the 1st Seal is already in motion sometime after 95/96AD
- ☞ With this view in mind, I'm also inclined to say that this 1st rider on the white horse had a lot to do with the fall of the Roman empire and the countless wars that occurred worldwide that followed since then until now
 - ☞ This angel has been very active since the fall of the Roman empire! Even to this day!
- ☞ Here's a list of wars from chatGPT...

- 1. Byzantine-Arab Wars (7th–11th centuries):** A series of wars between the Byzantine Empire and the various Islamic Caliphates.
- 2. Viking Raids and Conquests (8th–11th centuries):** Viking expansion across Europe, including raids on England, Ireland, and parts of continental Europe.
- 3. Norman Conquest of England (1066):** William the Conqueror's invasion and victory at the Battle of Hastings.
- 4. Crusades (11th–13th centuries):** A series of religious wars launched by European Christians to reclaim the Holy Land from Muslim control.
- 5. Mongol Conquests (13th–14th centuries):** The expansion of the Mongol Empire under leaders like Genghis Khan.
- 6. Hundred Years' War (1337–1453):** A conflict between England and France over claims to the French throne.
- 7. Italian Wars (1494–1559):** A series of conflicts involving major European powers, including Spain, France, and the Holy Roman Empire, fighting for control over Italy.
- 8. Thirty Years' War (1618–1648):** A devastating conflict in Central Europe involving various European powers and sparked by religious and political tensions.
- 9. English Civil War (1642–1651):** A series of conflicts between the Royalists (Cavaliers) and Parliamentarians (Roundheads) in England.
- 10. Nine Years' War (1688–1697):** A conflict fought between France and a coalition of European powers.
- 11. War of Spanish Succession (1701–1714):** A conflict over the succession to the Spanish throne and the balance of power in Europe.
- 12. War of Austrian Succession (1740–1748):** A conflict triggered by the death of the Habsburg Emperor Charles VI and subsequent disputes over the succession.
- 13. Seven Years' War (1756–1763):** A global conflict involving major European powers and their colonies.
- 14. American Revolutionary War (1775–1783):** Thirteen American colonies fought for independence from British rule.
- 15. Napoleonic Wars (1803–1815):** A series of conflicts involving Napoleon Bonaparte's French Empire and various European coalitions.
- 16. American Civil War (1861–1865):** A conflict fought between the Northern states (Union) and the Southern states (Confederacy) in the United States over issues, including slavery.
- 17. World War I (1914–1918):** A global conflict involving major world powers.
- 18. World War II (1939–1945):** Another global conflict, including the Axis powers (Germany, Italy, Japan) and the Allies.
- 19. Korean War (1950–1953):** A conflict between North Korea (supported by China and the Soviet Union) and South Korea (supported by the United Nations, primarily the United States).
- 20. Vietnam War (1955–1975):** A conflict between communist N Vietnam and non-communist S Vietnam, with the involvement of the US, other nations.

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- 7. Italian Wars (1494–1559):** A series of conflicts involving major European powers and the Holy Roman Empire, fighting for control over Italy.
- 8. Thirty Years' War (1618–1648):** A devastating conflict in Central Europe, primarily between Catholics and Protestants, and sparked by religious and political tensions.
- 9. English Civil War (1642–1651):** A series of conflicts between the Royalists and Parliamentarians (including the Roundheads) in England.
- 10. Nine Years' War (1688–1697):** A conflict fought between France and the Grand Alliance.
- 11. War of Spanish Succession (1701–1714):** A conflict over the succession to the Spanish throne and the balance of power in Europe.
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CLOSING THOUGHTS



- ❧ Lastly, I'm inclined to believe that this rider's primary purposes is to rise, divide, conquer nations beginning with the fall of the Roman Empire, so that all the dominoes fall into place, including the prophecies of the Great Statue, 4 Beasts, Ram & Goat, 70 Weeks, the rest of Daniel, the Olivet Discourse, the rest of the NT, etc.!
- ❧ Culminating in the Final World Superpower (The Iron Teeth King) to arrive on the scene and this 4th Beast kingdom whom our Lord Jesus will destroy at the end

That Concludes our Review!



- ❧ I'm pleased to say that officially concludes our 2+ year review of this journey
- ❧ With all of these learnings in place, I feel that we're ready to navigate forward and pick up the pace!
- ❧ Meaning, we'll officially begin picking up where we left off, and that is with the Seals 2-4 and the other 3 horseman
- ❧ I look forward to seeing what's in store for us for the rest of this journey!
- ❧ AMEN AMEN.