

REVELATION CHAPTER SEVEN

Before we get into the seventh chapter, I want to explain to you that there is one week, or a seven year period, left to the nation of Israel. This seven year period is called the "Seventieth Week of Daniel." It's a seven year period that God deals with Israel after the time of the Gentiles is over. None of it is fulfilled yet. This seventh chapter begins this last seven years to Israel; that's why we are bringing this 70th week in at the beginning of this chapter.

Let's turn to the Book of Daniel for some scripture. It will help us to understand the Book of Revelation better. Daniel was in Babylon and wanted to know how much time they had and when they would be delivered.

Daniel 9:20-21 says, *"And while I was speaking, and praying, and confessing my sin and the sin of my people Israel, and presenting my supplication before the Lord my God for the holy mountain of my God; Yea, while I was speaking in prayer, even the man Gabriel, whom I had seen in the vision at the beginning, being caused to fly swiftly, touched me about the time of the evening oblation."* This "evening oblation" is the evening sacrifice that the Israelites will offer again in this last day and the antichrist will cause it to cease in the middle of the week.

Daniel 9:22 reads, *"And he informed me, and talked with me, and said, O Daniel, I am now come forth to give thee skill and understanding."* Watch that ministering Spirit come to Daniel. That ministering Spirit came to him to give him skill and understanding in the Word of God. In this last day God is going to have a ministry rise up to perfect His saints that can take the Word and handle it with skill and understanding. Then once it's published and you read and understand it; then you too can have skill and understanding in the Word of God.

Daniel 9:23 says, *"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."* Daniel was greatly beloved of God, so God showed him what would happen unto his people. No doubt, Daniel didn't feel he was beloved of God because he was confessing his own sins and the sins of his people. He probably felt pretty low-down there in Babylon, but the angel came and said, "Daniel, God loves you, and He wants to tell you something."

Notice the next verse, God let Daniel know about "time." Seven means "week," and here it's "weeks of years." So "seventy weeks," means there were four-hundred and ninety years left to Israel. Here's how it works out.

Daniel 9:24-26 says, *"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. (There are seventy weeks, which is 490 years to Israel from the time they received the commandment while they were in Babylon.) 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 three-score and two weeks: the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times. (Verse 25 is speaking of the building of the city before Christ came the first time.) And after three-score and two weeks shall the 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."* **There were seven weeks and threescore and two weeks, which makes sixty-nine weeks. The Jews only had seventy weeks allotted to them and sixty-nine weeks were fulfilled up until the time that the Messiah was cut off. So if sixty-nine weeks have been fulfilled, how much time does the Jew have left? One more week. And that week equals seven years. So Israel has seven more years left before the beginning of the millennium.**

This says the people of the prince that shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary. Who destroyed the city and the sanctuary in 70 A.D.? It was the Romans. This says, "*and the people of the prince that shall come,*" prince is spelled with a little "p" showing that he is a false prince, the antichrist. This shows that the antichrist will come out of Rome. Notice how I'm saying this, "*the people of the prince that shall come.*" The people of the prince were the Romans in 70 A.D., but the prince shall come almost 2000 years later and sit in the temple there in Jerusalem. **He's the one that will break the covenant and cause the sacrifice to be cut off. That's the pope at the end time!**

Nowhere in the Bible does it say that Jesus was cut off in the middle of the week. I repeat for emphasis. **There is no place in the Bible where it says that Jesus was cut off in the middle of the week.** He was cut off after sixty-nine weeks, and there remains one more week, seven more years, for the nation of Israel. The prince that makes the covenant is the pope.

Let's read Daniel 9:27. This is talking about the prince, the antichrist, or the pope. "*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.*" He will make a covenant for one week, seven years.

When will the 70th week begin? God is the one that determines the week. It's not that the pope will make a contract and draw it up for seven years, but God starts the time clock. God will start the 70th week of Daniel by the things that He does. It's God that does that.

The pope is going to make a covenant with Israel and many other nations. The Jews are going to start offering the sacrifice again as the temple is being rebuilt, but in the middle of the week the pope will break his covenant to the Jews, and cause the sacrifice and oblation to cease. He will tell the Jews that they can't offer the sacrifice anymore. That takes place in the middle of the week. What will he do then? The pope will move his personal office into the temple that will be built again on the exact spot of Solomon's temple. (II Thessalonians 2:3-4)

Now, back to explain the seventh chapter of the Book of Revelation. After the seven church ages are over John is picked up in the Spirit. He is in a vision; part of the time he is in heaven and part of the time he is on earth in this vision seeing certain things go on. In the fourth and fifth chapters he was in heaven. In the sixth and part of the seventh chapter John is seeing something take place on earth. Here in the seventh chapter he is seeing something take place in a geographic area. He is acquainted with this area because it is in the Middle East, the heart of the earth. John begins to see something take place.

Revelation, chapter seven, verse 1: *“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.”*

We know that the earth is round. When we see these angels standing on the four corners of the earth, it would seem as though the earth would be square with an angel standing on each corner holding back the four winds. But this is not the case. John saw these four angels standing in the Middle East.

In the United States of America we have what is called the four corner states. It is where New Mexico, Arizona, Utah, and Colorado meet. You can put one foot in Arizona and one in Utah, and one hand in New Mexico and one in Colorado. This is the only place in the United States that you can do this. You can be in four states at the same time. It is where four states meet.

I said that to say this. Here, where these four angels are standing on the four corners of the earth means they are standing where each direction begins: east, west, north, and south. It is where east meets west and where north meets south; right in the Middle East. It is where time began, and it is where time will end.

These four angels are standing on the four corners of the earth holding back the four winds so that they can not blow upon the earth and start the great battle of Armageddon.

We can generalize these four winds which signify world conditions. They have always been. You can always generalize them in religious powers, military powers, economical powers, and political powers. These are the four winds that these angels are holding back to keep from blowing upon the earth until God has sealed 144,000 Jews.

Verse 2: *“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,”*

Verse 3: *“Saying, Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads.”*

If the earth is round and you leave Jerusalem going westward and you keep going, then you will be coming into Jerusalem from the east. That’s the way this angel of time has traveled through time with the Gospel; leaving Jerusalem he went westward, until he has gone around the world with the Gospel. That’s why he is ascending from the east bringing the Gospel to Jerusalem.

The four angels are holding the four winds back, and the way John saw it, it

was as though they were about to let these winds blow upon the earth and bring the world to chaos, to Armageddon. But God says not to let the winds blow; that it's not time for them to blow. There has got to be time for the Gospel to be preached in Israel.

One angel was flying through the heaven and he was saying not to hurt the sea and the land, but to hold back these world conditions. Why? Hold back the world conditions until "we," the two prophets of Revelation chapter 11, have sealed in 144,000 of the children of Israel. **As this angel of time brings the Gospel back into Jerusalem, the time of the Gentiles will be fulfilled.** The main impact of the Gospel will be in Jerusalem.

When the angel flew over Germany the main impact of the Gospel was in Germany. When the angel flew over England the main impact of the Gospel was in England. The angel with the Gospel, the angel with the seal of the Living God, has already flown across the United States of America. America will never shake under the power of a mighty revival like it has at one time. What's left is the perfecting of the saints, Christ being formed in the Bride, and the Word building you up into Jesus Christ. The day of world shaking revivals are over with as far as the church world receiving anything.

There was never another time after the days of Martin Luther where Germany rocked under a revival. Since the days of John Wesley there hasn't been a time that God visited England in a nation shaking revival. **God's prophet and messenger for this age, William Branham, predicted in 1957 in the city of Chicago that that would be the year that America would accept the Gospel or reject it, and since 1957 she has been on the slide board. She has been going down and will never rise again in another revival. This nation is finished as far as having a "nation shaking revival," it won't happen again.**

You think the women are dressing bad, the men are acting badly, and in the cities it's not even safe for the old folks to sit in the park anymore; sin is rampant in the land and it's going to get worse and worse as every demon is turned loose and comes out on the scene. When the effect of the Gospel leaves a nation, demons move in and take over. The next place that the Gospel is to have an impact is in the city of Jerusalem.

The Bible says in Romans 11:25 that, *"blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fullness of the Gentiles be come in."* (or until the time of the Gentiles is finished.)

When God begins to fulfill this seventh chapter of Revelation, Gentile days are finished. When Israel was made a nation it signified the end of the Gentile age was near; not that it came to an end that day, but the Bible says this generation wouldn't pass away until all these things be fulfilled.

When Hitler, Eichmann, and others killed about six million Jews, it was said that these would have to wait just a little season until their fellowservants would be killed as they were. That little season will not over span a generation, because the generation that sees Israel come into her homeland will not pass away until

the Lord comes, until all be fulfilled.

John looked and saw this angel ascend from the East with the seal of the Living God, with the Gospel for Israel. (Watch who he seals.) This angel comes forth and says to hurt not the earth, sea, nor trees until we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads. It's not that he has got a rubber stamp and is stamping them in the forehead, but under the message of the two prophets of Revelation 11, they'll get a revelation in their spiritual mind of who Jesus is.

Verse 4: *"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."*

Do you see who it is? It's the Gospel going to Israel. It has nothing to do with Gentiles at all; that is over with. If you could open your spiritual eyes and look today you could see that it is almost over with now. Here comes two prophets sealing the 144,000..., 12,000 out of every tribe.

Verse 5: *"Of the tribe of Juda were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Reuben were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Gad were sealed twelve thousand."*

Verse 6: *"Of the tribe of Aser were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Nephthalim were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Manasses were sealed twelve thousand."*

Verse 7: *"Of the tribe of Simeon were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Levi were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Issachar were sealed twelve thousand."*

Verse 8: *"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."*

There were 144,000 sealed out of the twelve tribes of Israel. Where are they? They have gathered back to the homeland. That's why God had Hitler turned loose and let him hate the Jews. He ran them back to the homeland to have them there, because this angel was coming from the West Coast of the USA, going back into Jerusalem, and those 144,000 had to be in Israel when this angel with the Gospel arrives to seal them with the Seal of God as they accept Christ.

When are those 144,000 sealed? They are sealed in the first half of the 70th week of Daniel, because they go warn the world in the second half of that week not to bow down to these Babylonian systems. When they receive their sealing they go to every nation where they came from to warn the world; and they preach the everlasting Gospel as is recorded in Revelation 14 and 18.

These 144,000 are sealed out by the message of two prophets, which are two men with the spirit of Moses and Elijah, and they will stand there in the streets of Jerusalem prophesying.

Now, John sees another number. He knew who the 144,000 were, because he was a Jew himself. He didn't ask about them. He didn't have much to say about them. Then he saw another multitude in verse nine.

Verse 9: *"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;"*

Notice that John's vision swings back into a heavenly realm and he is seeing a great number before the throne. Notice what they are clothed with, for it is

important. Do they have on pure linen, clean and white, like the Bride? No. They have on white robes, just ordinary white material, but the Bride of Jesus Christ is clothed in fine linen which is God's own righteousness. (Revelation 19:7-8) So these are not the Bride; they are tribulation saints.

This great multitude that stood before the throne are none other than the foolish virgins of Matthew 25, and the saints of God that are still in Babylon at the middle of the 70th week of Daniel when the pope breaks his covenant and the great tribulation begins, and are called by the 144,000 Jewish preachers.

May we now separate the foolish virgins from the "still sleeping" denominational saints just long enough to give them identity, and then put them back before the throne as one group, namely tribulation saints.

We will deal first with the foolish virgins of Matthew 25 which come knocking after the door is shut; without the Word for this hour they can't go in the Rapture. Then they begin to try to get the Word; and while they are actually in the process of trying to get the Word, (Matthew 25:10), the Rapture takes place and they are left here on earth. (All the while, while this is going on, the *denominational Christians* are still sound asleep in their denominational churches, but they will come out under the message of the 144,000 in the last 3 ½ years of Daniel's 70th week.) But these foolish virgins will wake up at the beginning of the 70th week of Daniel to the sad fact that the Rapture that they had hoped to be in has already taken place, and they are left on earth. (Matthew 25:11)

No doubt these foolish virgins of Matthew 25 will be a witness against the false church systems of this world in the first part of Daniel's 70th week; while two prophets appear in Israel to call out 144,000 Jews to be a witness against Babylon in the last 3 ½ years of the week. The foolish virgins are part of that great multitude that stood before the throne of God. Also denominational Christians that the 144,000 will shake out of denominations in the last 3 ½ years of the week, and together they will make up the tribulation saints that stood before the throne, and saints of other periods could also be represented as well. Only God knows the total representation here. The message the 144,000 preach is explained in the fourteenth and eighteenth chapters of this book.

Also killed along with these tribulation saints will be many Jews that don't know Jesus Christ, but they stand for the Word that was given to them in the Old Testament by Moses. The antichrist kills these Jews for **the Word of God**, not the testimony of Jesus. All these will be given white robes. Together, the saints and the martyred Jews stand on the sea of glass in chapter 15 of this book.

Verse 10: *"And cried with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb."*

Verse 11: *"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,"*

Verse 12: *"Saying, Amen: Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and thanksgiving, and honour, and power, and might, be unto our God for ever and ever. Amen."*

Verse 10, shows these saints giving all the glory to God for their salvation as

they cried praises to God with one voice.

Verses 11, and 12, show everything in heaven worshipping God as this great multitude in verse nine stood before the throne redeemed. They had given their lives for the Word, and now they were in heaven clothed in white robes. The angels, the elders, and the four beasts fell on their faces and worshipped God as they saw this great multitude that was saved.

As John stood there and watched this heavenly scene, one of the elders began to explain to John what this meant, just as I have explained it to you, the reader.

Verse 13: *“And one of the elders answered, saying unto me, What are these which are arrayed in white robes? and whence came they?”*

Verse 14: *“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.”*

They came out of great tribulation, and they had to wash their robes. **These are they that stand on the sea of glass that’s burning with fire in the fifteenth chapter of Revelation.** They came into the tribulation period because they failed to hear God’s apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers that He had raised up to bring the Bride to perfection. The Word is going to perfect a number of people and those that won’t be perfected by it will go into tribulation. There’s not any other place for them. They’ll have to give their lives for the Gospel of Jesus Christ in that great tribulation period. I’m speaking of those that’s been born again, but fail to make the Rapture.

Verse 15: *“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.”*

Verse 16: *“They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat.”*

Verse 17: *“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.”*

What does it signify when it says, *“they shall hunger no more?”* They had been hungry. They couldn’t buy nor sell, because they refused the mark of the beast. These saw the revelation on it too late. They saw what the beast was after the Rapture took place. Therefore, they wouldn’t take the mark of the beast and, no doubt, they had to go hungry. Many of them might even starve to death, because they won’t take the mark of the beast or worship his image.

Verses 15, 16, and 17 also show these tribulation **saints will be part of the city of God when the new heaven and new earth come into being.** This is explained in chapters 21 and 22. Amen.