

Bible Prophecy and the book of Revelation, Lesson 12

At the conclusion of Chapter 6, we have the 6th seal, and the question is asked, "who is able to stand?", the answer is given in this chapter.

Chapter 7 - Organization of Revelation:

1. Only book that has an inspired table of content -- broken down into three parts: past, present and future.
 2. Future (Chapter 4 through 19) -- is broken up into 3 courses of seven: 7 seals, 7 trumpets, and 7 bowls.
 3. Each of these 7's: is organized the same way: 6 are consecutive, and then a parenthetical pause between the 6th and 7th.
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All of Chapter 7 is a parenthesis.

Chapter 7 opens the whole question of Israel and their part in God's plan and in prophecy.

- Israel is now reemerging in world events having been absent for nearly 2,000 years.
- Israel reemerges in the Revelation to stage center from Chapter 4 on.
- Quite out of proportion to its size, wealth, importance geographically Israel is becoming the center of attention.
- Jerusalem = small, no resources, no harbor, but is the little bone caught in the throat of the world.

Misconceptions:

1. Israel, since she rejected her Messiah forfeited her promises.
 - Very popular for centuries,
2. That the church has replaced Israel as the receiver of those promises.
 - Many of these promises were unconditional.

Results of this Misconception:

- Trail of blood from Augustine to Auschwitz.
 - The Church's endeavor to rest these promises from Israel has filled many Jewish cemeteries.
 - Has Led to the Holocaust == The Nazis were not Muslims!!
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Unconditional covenants of Israel:

1. Abrahamic covenant: **Genesis 12:2-3**
 2. Palestinian covenant: **Genesis 12:7, Genesis 15:9**
 3. Davidic covenant: **II Samuel 7:11-16.**
- ✓ **All of these are unilateral on God's part.**
 - ✓ God will enforce these if for no other reason, to keep His reputation as One Who is Truth.

Verse 1 – This is the parenthesis inserted between the 6th and 7th seals.

- 4 corners is a simple figure of speech and does not imply that the world was thought to be flat—the Bible tells us that it round in Job.
 - "winds" = winds of Judgment which are frequently used in the O.T. symbolism.
 - "Earth, sea, trees" = can also be taken symbolically: Earth = Israel, Sea = Gentiles (used this way throughout Revelation), trees = individuals (Psalm 1, Daniel 4)
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Verses 2-3 – This is like a time out in the judgment scheme!

- This is not the first time this shows up in the Scripture -- this happens in the Old Testament == **Ezekiel 9:3-6**
- This is not the last time this shows up: Satan counterfeits this in Revelation 13 (666)

Verse 4 – 100% Jewish

Verses 5-8 – How many tribes were there? 13 – only 12 are ever listed at any one time, but there are 13 tribes and 14 names that God chooses from to make any particular list.

- There are 2 tribes missing in this list: Ephraim and Dan (Ephraim is assumed under the name of Joseph)
- Why missing? Because in Deut. 29 God promises that whoever introduces idolatry into Israel would have their names blotted out, and Dan and Ephraim are the instigators of idolatry in Judges.

Verse 9 – Not Jews!! = great harvest of souls.

Verses 10-14 - John does not know who these people are; they are not ones he counted on!

- Possibly the greatest turning to Christ in human history.

Verse 15 – Which Temple? The one in Heaven not the copy on earth. **Verses 16-17**

Verse 1 – silence = like the catching of our breath.

A Suggestion that the book of Joshua is a model of Revelation:

1. Name = Joshua = Jeshua is the Aramaic equivalent
2. Joshua is dispossessing the usurpers of their land.
3. 7 nations are said to oppose Joshua (likewise you have a beast with 10 horns but 3 are removed leaving 7 allied kings, one being the antichrist, who fight against Jesus)
4. These 7 are allied under the king of Jerusalem whose name is Adonizedek = "The Lord our Righteousness." Almost sounds like a name the antichrist will give himself.
5. They enter the land on the tenth of Nissan = same day Jesus makes triumphal entry; they circumcised every male on the 14th = day Jesus is crucified.
6. Who fought the battle of Jericho? = Angel of the Lord (allows Himself to be worshipped)
7. Send in 2 spies who bring back no intelligence for the army but get Rahab (harlot) saved – 2 witnesses will come getting people saved before the invasion of our Lord.
8. 7 times trumpets are blown but this is preceded with 6 days of silence (v.1 above)
9. 7 kingdoms are defeated with signs from the heavens at Beth Horon.
10. They hide in the cave and the rocks fall on them; reminiscent of Rev. 6:16-17.

7th seal consists of 7 trumpets ---- 7th trumpet will consist of 7 bowls.
