17 Topic: Day of the Lord

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Tagline

"For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night. For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape." | 1 Thessalonians 5:2-3

Synopsis

The day of the Lord is throughout scripture and is one of those phrases that constantly occurs with similar phrases that depict other events in the prophetic narrative, which makes it very useful in piecing together events. Like organizing the pieces of a puzzle with similar colors and shapes, the events surrounding the day of the Lord are highlighted and even organized in sequence to better understand this time in the future.

Overwhelmingly, the day of the Lord is associated with the events of the wrath of God. In some cases these point to historical periods, but even then there can be already but not yet elements found. There is a distinct clarity that the heavens and earth will be shaken when the day of the Lord comes suddenly like a thief in the night. As the days of Noah and Lot, the world will be oblivious to what is coming until it has arrived and the events surrounding this time will make great use of all the luxury bunkers that have been built to hide in the rocks and caves for fear of the wrath of God.

As covered in <u>Harpazo: The Blessed Hope</u>, those who are in relationship with Christ and are watching, praying, and keeping and sharing the faith will not be in darkness about this coming time and so will not be caught off guard. In fact, while the day of the Lord is tied to darkness and destruction from the wrath of God, another similar phrase saying effectively the same thing, the day of Christ, is depicted quite the opposite. So while the return of Yeshua in the clouds initiates the day of the Lord and the wrath of God, His return for those waiting for Him marks the finish line of the race we are running, the promised redemption and the blessed hope. For God has not appointed us to wrath, but salvation that we may live with Him.

Scripture also speaks of this day of the Lord in terms of God's reckoning of time, and so this "day" is to the Lord as 1,000 years to us. This brings in a fascinating perspective paralleling the six days of creation and the seventh day of rest just as the Messianic Kingdom will last for 1,000 years with Yeshua ruling from Jerusalem and the world will be at rest with the Dragon locked away so as not to deceive the earth during this time. Likewise it is within the day of the Lord that the heavens and earth are burned with a fervent heat to make way for the new heaven and new earth.

So it seems there is a lot more nuance to this term that would seem to start suddenly with the destruction of the wrath of God, yet extend through the entirety of Yeshua's reign until the great white throne judgement after which the new heavens and new earth are created in perfection for our eternal existence with God as was originally intended.

Overview

- Introduction
- What is the Day of the Lord?
 - Day of the Lord Scriptures
 - Wrath of God
 - Day of Righteous Judgment

- Day of Christ vs. Day of the Lord
- Related Scriptures
- Timing of the Day of the Lord
 - The Sixth Seal
 - Yom Kippur
- Protection From Deception
- Conclusion

Details

- Introduction
 - Overview Timeline
 - Similar to the Hour of Temptation study, the day of the Lord is focused on the wrath of God coming on the world that God's faithful are promised to be kept from. While His arrival is tied to Yom Teruah, His judgement is tied to Yom Kippur, where all those who refuse to afflict their souls are cut off from being God's people. As discussed in the Man of Sin: False Christ study, all of unfaithful Israel and the world will be deceived into believing the Messiah is among them and will bring world peace. This is not a heart of repentance, but one of apostasy because the anointed one they serve is not from God. And so this timeline covers the final 1,230 days or so starting from Yom Kippur to around Armageddon when Yeshua takes the kingdoms and defeats the false christ and false prophet, locking away the Dragon for 1,000 years.
- What is the Day of the Lord?
 - Day of the Lord Scriptures
 - The term "day of the LORD" occurs 25 times in 23 verses, 20 times in the Old Testament and 5 times in the New Testament. Examining these passages reveals much about what the day of the Lord is and its timing in the prophetic narrative.
 - **Isaiah 2:5-22** "O house of Jacob, come ye, and let us walk in the light of the LORD. • Therefore thou hast forsaken thy people the house of Jacob, because they be replenished from the east, and [are] soothsayers like the Philistines, and they please themselves in the children of strangers. Their land also is full of silver and gold, neither [is there any] end of their treasures; their land is also full of horses, neither [is there any] end of their chariots: Their land also is full of idols; they worship the work of their own hands, that which their own fingers have made: And the mean man boweth down, and the great man humbleth himself: therefore forgive them not. Enter into the rock, and hide thee in the dust, for fear of the LORD, and for the glory of his majesty. The lofty looks of man shall be humbled, and the haughtiness of men shall be bowed down, and the LORD alone shall be exalted in that day. For the day of the LORD of hosts [shall be] upon every [one that is] proud and lofty, and upon every [one that is] lifted up; and he shall be brought low: And upon all the cedars of Lebanon, [that are] high and lifted up, and upon all the oaks of Bashan, And upon all the high mountains, and upon all the hills [that are] lifted up, And upon every high tower, and upon every fenced wall, And upon all the ships of Tarshish, and upon all pleasant pictures. And the loftiness of man shall be bowed down, and the haughtiness of men shall be made low: and the LORD alone shall be exalted in that day. And the idols he shall utterly abolish. And they shall go into the holes of the rocks, and into the caves of the earth, for fear of the LORD, and for the glory of his majesty, when he ariseth to shake terribly the earth. In that day a man shall cast his idols of silver, and his idols of gold, which they made [each one] for himself to worship, to the moles and to the bats; To go into the clefts of the rocks, and into the tops of the ragged rocks, for fear of the LORD, and for the glory of his majesty, when he ariseth to shake terribly the earth. Cease ye from man, whose breath [is] in his nostrils: for wherein is he to be accounted of?"
 - Isaiah 2 begins, just before this passage about the day of the Lord, with a

prophetic look at the last days concerning Judah and Jerusalem. Once again we see the focus of this time is the people and land of Israel. It describes the Messianic Kingdom when Yeshua reigns from Jerusalem and the nations flow to it.

- In keeping with the understanding of deception of the last days, recall that the false christ and false prophet will demand and receive worship from the whole world, hinting at the great deception being related to what the Jews expect from their prophecies about the Messiah ruling from Jerusalem. God will allow the dragon his time to deceive them into thinking this time has arrived, and they will indeed create images of the beast and worship them. It is the initial phase of the dragon's hatred for those who reject him in Judea that is stopped by the day of the Lord as covered in greater detail in the <u>Great Tribulation</u> study.
- As if to make this point, immediately after declaring the full end in the Messianic Kingdom, there is a warning to walk in the light of the LORD followed by a statement of the time before the day of the Lord where they are mingled with other nations, they are wealthy and the land is full of idols they worship. It is following this time of idolatry that the day of the Lord is mentioned.
- Take note of the several times that the day of the Lord is associated with entering into the rock and hiding for fear of the Lord and the glory of His majesty when He arises to shake the earth.
- Revelation 6:12-17 "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?"
- Isaiah 13:6-13 "Howl ye; for the day of the LORD [is] at hand; it shall come as a destruction from the Almighty. Therefore shall all hands be faint, and every man's heart shall melt: And they shall be afraid: pangs and sorrows shall take hold of them; they shall be in pain as a woman that travaileth: they shall be amazed one at another; their faces [shall be as] flames. Behold, the day of the LORD cometh, cruel both with wrath and fierce anger, to lay the land desolate: and he shall destroy the sinners thereof out of it. For the stars of heaven and the constellations thereof shall not give their light: the sun shall be darkened in his going forth, and the moon shall not cause her light to shine. And I will punish the world for [their] evil, and the wicked for their iniquity; and I will cause the arrogancy of the proud to cease, and will lay low the haughtiness of the terrible. I will make a man more precious than fine gold; even a man than the golden wedge of Ophir. Therefore I will shake the heavens, and the earth shall remove out of her place, in the wrath of the LORD of hosts, and in the day of his fierce anger."
 - The day of the Lord comes as destruction from the Almighty, a cruel day of wrath and fierce anger to lay the land desolate and destroy the sinners from it. Note that it's saying this is how the day of the Lord comes, not that the whole day of the Lord is defined this way. This will be addressed later in this study.
 - Note that the 6th seal, covered in greater detail in the <u>Seals, Trumpets, Bowls</u> study, is referenced here, placing the day of the Lord, in agreement with Joel which will be covered later in this study, after the celestial events of the 6th

seal.

- Note also the reference to a woman travailing in pain as with child. This is used in the prophecy of the time of Jacob's trouble in Jeremiah 30:4-7, the time just after the abomination of desolation. We will also see it in one of the New Testament reference in the letter to the church of the Thessalonians from Paul, Silvanus, and Timotheus that will be covered later in this study.
- Jeremiah 46:10 "For this [is] the day of the Lord GOD of hosts, a day of vengeance, that he may avenge him of his adversaries: and the sword shall devour, and it shall be satiate and made drunk with their blood: for the Lord GOD of hosts hath a sacrifice in the north country by the river Euphrates."
 - The context of this passage is "against Egypt, against the army of Pharaohnecho king of Egypt, which was by the river Euphrates." Although this is not the end of the age, there may be an ultimate fulfillment of this in the future against Egypt.
 - However it speaks to the day of the Lord as a day of vengeance, which is a common thread.
- Ezekiel 13:1-10 "And the word of the LORD came unto me, saying, Son of man, prophesy against the prophets of Israel that prophesy, and say thou unto them that prophesy out of their own hearts, Hear ye the word of the LORD; Thus saith the Lord GOD; Woe unto the foolish prophets, that follow their own spirit, and have seen nothing! O Israel, thy prophets are like the foxes in the deserts. Ye have not gone up into the gaps, neither made up the hedge for the house of Israel to stand in the battle in the day of the LORD. They have seen vanity and lying divination, saying, The LORD saith: and the LORD hath not sent them: and they have made [others] to hope that they would confirm the word. Have ye not seen a vain vision, and have ye not spoken a lying divination, whereas ye say, The LORD saith [it]; albeit I have not spoken? Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; Because ye have spoken vanity, and seen lies, therefore, behold, I [am] against you, saith the Lord GOD. And mine hand shall be upon the prophets that see vanity, and that divine lies: they shall not be in the assembly of my people, neither shall they be written in the writing of the house of Israel, neither shall they enter into the land of Israel; and ye shall know that I [am] the Lord GOD. Because, even because they have seduced my people, saying, Peace; and [there was] no peace; and one built up a wall, and, lo, others daubed it with untempered [morter]:"
 - The context of this reference is just before the Babylonian exile. However, the false prophets who follow their own spirits and not God's are the focus. They say the Lord sent them and they speak of peace, but there is no peace. This theme is seen in the letter to the Thessalonians we will cover later in this study.
 - An interesting correlation to saying peace where there is no peace comes from the nature of the day of the false christ. As Christians, we tend to look at this time as great tribulation. It is, for those who don't accept the false christ. However, part of the great deception is the perception of peace. The world will interpret this time as the Messianic Kingdom and will have given over their power to the false christ. There will be no more war, and Jerusalem will be the center of the world. It is a time of unparalleled peace for those who give up their eternal lives to save their mortal lives. From the perspective of those who reject the false christ, they will become like the terrorists you may hear a story about on the news to people who have accepted him. Their plight will be far from their minds.
- <u>Ezekiel 30:1-4</u> "The word of the LORD came again unto me, saying, Son of man, prophesy and say, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Howl ye, Woe worth the day! For the day [is] near, even the day of the LORD [is] near, a cloudy day; it shall be the time of the heathen. And the sword shall come upon Egypt, and great pain shall be in Ethiopia, when the slain shall fall in Egypt, and they shall take away her multitude, and

her foundations shall be broken down. Ethiopia, and Libya, and Lydia, and all the mingled people, and Chub, and the men of the land that is in league, shall fall with them by the sword. Thus saith the LORD; They also that uphold Egypt shall fall; and the pride of her power shall come down: from the tower of Syene shall they fall in it by the sword, saith the Lord GOD. And they shall be desolate in the midst of the countries [that are] desolate, and her cities shall be in the midst of the cities [that are] wasted. And they shall know that I [am] the LORD, when I have set a fire in Egypt, and [when] all her helpers shall be destroyed. In that day shall messengers go forth from me in ships to make the careless Ethiopians afraid, and great pain shall come upon them, as in the day of Egypt: for, lo, it cometh. Thus saith the Lord GOD; I will also make the multitude of Egypt to cease by the hand of Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon."

- The context of this reference is once again against Egypt. Interestingly, we see that as part of the wars of the false christ, Egypt will fall to him and the Ethiopians and Libyans will follow him.
- There is also the reference to Jerusalem as spiritual Egypt where the two witnesses are killed.
 - <u>Revelation 11:8</u> "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."
- Taken literally, this is an historic look at a time of God's wrath in the time of the heathen, which is the word for nation or people. While it can be used of descendants of Abraham, its primary use is of non-Hebrew people.
- In the <u>Visions of Daniel and John</u> study, we see this idea in the seven heads and seven mountains. The seven heads represent seven kings through history while the seven mountains represent Mount Zion, Jerusalem. It is upon these mountains the harlot sits. Because the kings are determined to be tied to time and the mountains to space, we get this overarching perspective of a time of heathen rule or influence over Jerusalem while the apostate religious leaders exist under that rule.
- So there seems to be a time yet future when the dragon's political influence over an apostate religious leadership will collide in the false christ being given the crown, becoming the little horn that leads the little state of Israel amongst the 10 larger kingdoms around her. And during that time the two witnesses will be killed. At the end of that time, mystery Babylon, that great city that is spiritually Sodom and Egypt, will be judged and utterly destroyed. In this we see a spiritual echo of the fall of Egypt as well.
- Joel 1:5-7, 13-20 "Awake, ye drunkards, and weep; and howl, all ye drinkers of wine, because of the new wine; for it is cut off from your mouth. For a nation is come up upon my land, strong, and without number, whose teeth [are] the teeth of a lion, and he hath the cheek teeth of a great lion. He hath laid my vine waste, and barked my fig tree: he hath made it clean bare, and cast [it] away; the branches thereof are made white. ... Gird yourselves, and lament, ye priests: howl, ye ministers of the altar: come, lie all night in sackcloth, ye ministers of my God: for the meat offering and the drink offering is withholden from the house of your God. Sanctify ye a fast, call a solemn assembly, gather the elders [and] all the inhabitants of the land [into] the house of the LORD your God, and cry unto the LORD, Alas for the day! for the day of the LORD [is] at hand, and as a destruction from the Almighty shall it come. Is not the meat cut off before our eyes, [yea], joy and gladness from the house of our God? The seed is rotten under their clods, the garners are laid desolate, the barns are broken down; for the corn is withered. How do the beasts groan! the herds of cattle are perplexed, because they have no pasture; yea, the flocks of sheep are made desolate. O LORD, to thee will I cry: for the fire hath devoured the pastures of the wilderness, and the flame

hath burned all the trees of the field. The beasts of the field cry also unto thee: for the rivers of waters are dried up, and the fire hath devoured the pastures of the wilderness."

- Matthew 9:14-17 "Then came to him the disciples of John, saying, Why do we and the Pharisees fast oft, but thy disciples fast not? And Jesus said unto them, Can the children of the bridechamber mourn, as long as the bridegroom is with them? but the days will come, when the bridegroom shall be taken from them, and then shall they fast. No man putteth a piece of new cloth unto an old garment, for that which is put in to fill it up taketh from the garment, and the rent is made worse. Neither do men put new wine into old bottles: else the bottles break, and the wine runneth out, and the bottles perish: but they put new wine into new bottles, and both are preserved."
 - When asked about why Yeshua's disciples didn't fast, He made a point about new wine in new bottles and a whole new cloth. I believe this is speaking to the New Covenant, of which the blood of Christ given for us is symbolized in the idea of the wine of communion. At the triumphal entry, Yeshua blinded Israel because they didn't know the hour of His visitation. This cutting off of the new wine from their mouths would seem to be symbolized in this concept.
- Daniel 7:7, 19 "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. ... 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;"
- <u>Revelation 13:2</u> "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."
 - We also see this idea of strong teeth like a lion barking the fig tree, symbolic of Israel, and making the branches white. As covered in the <u>Visions of Daniel and John</u> study, Daniel sees 4 beasts diverse from each other, each represented by the same animals we see combined in the beast representing the kingdom of the false christ. This beast has the mouth of a lion that devours and breaks in pieces.
- Revelation 8:6-7 "And the seven angels which had the seven trumpets prepared themselves to sound. 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."
 - If these are indeed symbolically related to the day of the Lord, then again we see a representation of the time after the abomination of desolation being the context of this day of the Lord that comes as destruction from the almighty. And from this passage we also see this idea of the land being laid waste by fire. This is indeed the first trumpet judgement where 1/3 of the trees and all green grass is burnt up. This idea of fire is also seen in the 4th bowl judgment.
- Revelation 16:8-9 "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."
- Leviticus 23:26-32 "And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, Also on the tenth [day] of this seventh month [there shall be] a day of atonement: it shall be an holy convocation unto you; and ye shall afflict your souls, and offer an offering

made by fire unto the LORD. And ye shall do no work in that same day: for it [is] a day of atonement, to make an atonement for you before the LORD your God. For whatsoever soul [it be] that shall not be afflicted in that same day, he shall be cut off from among his people. And whatsoever soul [it be] that doeth any work in that same day, the same soul will I destroy from among his people. Ye shall do no manner of work: [it shall be] a statute for ever throughout your generations in all your dwellings. It [shall be] unto you a sabbath of rest, and ye shall afflict your souls: in the ninth [day] of the month at even, from even unto even, shall ye celebrate your sabbath."

- Finally, there is the idea of sanctifying a fast and calling a solemn assembly. As covered in <u>The Moedim: Appointed Times</u>, Yom Kippur is both the day of atonement, and every 50th year the year of jubilee begins on this day. As we will see in some of these other passages on the day of the Lord, the theme of appointed times seems referenced to.
- Joel 2:1-32 "Blow ye the trumpet in Zion, and sound an alarm in my holy mountain: let all the inhabitants of the land tremble: for the day of the LORD cometh, for [it is] nigh at hand; A day of darkness and of gloominess, a day of clouds and of thick darkness, as the morning spread upon the mountains: a great people and a strong; there hath not been ever the like, neither shall be any more after it, [even] to the years of many generations. A fire devoureth before them; and behind them a flame burneth: the land [is] as the garden of Eden before them, and behind them a desolate wilderness; yea, and nothing shall escape them. The appearance of them [is] as the appearance of horses; and as horsemen, so shall they run. Like the noise of chariots on the tops of mountains shall they leap, like the noise of a flame of fire that devoureth the stubble, as a strong people set in battle array. Before their face the people shall be much pained: all faces shall gather blackness. They shall run like mighty men; they shall climb the wall like men of war; and they shall march every one on his ways, and they shall not break their ranks: Neither shall one thrust another; they shall walk every one in his path: and [when] they fall upon the sword, they shall not be wounded. They shall run to and fro in the city; they shall run upon the wall, they shall climb up upon the houses; they shall enter in at the windows like a thief. The earth shall quake before them; the heavens shall tremble: the sun and the moon shall be dark, and the stars shall withdraw their shining: And the LORD shall utter his voice before his army: for his camp [is] very great: for [he is] strong that executeth his word: for the day of the LORD [is] great and very terrible; and who can abide it? Therefore also now, saith the LORD, turn ye [even] to me with all your heart, and with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning: And rend your heart, and not your garments, and turn unto the LORD your God: for he [is] gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repenteth him of the evil. Who knoweth [if] he will return and repent, and leave a blessing behind him; [even] a meat offering and a drink offering unto the LORD your God? Blow the trumpet in Zion, sanctify a fast, call a solemn assembly: Gather the people, sanctify the congregation, assemble the elders, gather the children, and those that suck the breasts: let the bridegroom go forth of his chamber, and the bride out of her closet. Let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep between the porch and the altar, and let them say, Spare thy people, O LORD, and give not thine heritage to reproach, that the heathen should rule over them: wherefore should they say among the people, Where [is] their God? Then will the LORD be jealous for his land, and pity his people. Yea, the LORD will answer and say unto his people, Behold, I will send you corn, and wine, and oil, and ye shall be satisfied therewith: and I will no more make you a reproach among the heathen: But I will remove far off from you the northern [army], and will drive him into a land barren and desolate, with his face toward the east sea, and his hinder part toward the utmost sea, and his stink shall come up, and his ill savour shall come up, because he hath

done great things. Fear not, O land; be glad and rejoice: for the LORD will do great things. Be not afraid, ye beasts of the field: for the pastures of the wilderness do spring, for the tree beareth her fruit, the fig tree and the vine do yield their strength. Be glad then, ye children of Zion, and rejoice in the LORD your God: for he hath given you the former rain moderately, and he will cause to come down for you the rain, the former rain, and the latter rain in the first [month]. And the floors shall be full of wheat, and the fats shall overflow with wine and oil. And I will restore to you the years that the locust hath eaten, the cankerworm, and the caterpiller, and the palmerworm, my great army which I sent among you. And ye shall eat in plenty, and be satisfied, and praise the name of the LORD your God, that hath dealt wondrously with you: and my people shall never be ashamed. And ye shall know that I [am] in the midst of Israel, and [that] I [am] the LORD your God, and none else: and my people shall never be ashamed. And it shall come to pass afterward, [that] I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions: And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my spirit. And I will shew wonders in the heavens and in the earth, blood, and fire, and pillars of smoke. The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and the terrible day of the LORD come. And it shall come to pass, [that] whosoever shall call on the name of the LORD shall be delivered: for in mount Zion and in Jerusalem shall be deliverance, as the LORD hath said, and in the remnant whom the LORD shall call."

- Joel 2 starts off with the trumpet, a sound of alarm, being blown in Zion. This harkens back to Yom Teruah, the appointed time for blowing of trumpets. This occurs 10 days before Yom Kippur, the day of atonement, and as will be covered in the *Framework of the End* study, there are some very interesting alignments that happen with the appointed times and the framework of exact-day prophecies.
- We are then introduced to a great and strong people unparalleled in history or future. This calls back to the time of Jacob's trouble, which is also unparalleled in all of history or future. Nothing escapes them and a fire devours before them and leaves a desolate wilderness. All those who face them, their faces are turned to blackness. They don't break ranks and are impervious to the sword. They shall run on the wall, they shall climb up upon the houses; they shall enter in at the windows like a thief.
 - Revelation 13:7-8 "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."
 - <u>Revelation 17:6</u> "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."
- It is after this supernaturally-powered army is introduced that the celestial signs of the 6th seal are declared followed by the day of the Lord.
- It is at this time the Lord pleads the people turn to Him with fasting and weeping and mourning, rending their hearts in repentance.
- It is also at this time again a solemn assembly is called and a trumpet. This most likely would point to Yom Teruah, the feast of trumpets again. And an amazing statement is inserted, "let the bridegroom go forth of his chamber, and the bride out of her closet."
 - <u>Matthew 9:15</u> "And Jesus said unto them, Can the children of the bridechamber mourn, as long as the bridegroom is with them? but the

days will come, when the bridegroom shall be taken from them, and then shall they fast."

- John 14:1-3 "Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if [it were] not [so], I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, [there] ye may be also."
- <u>Isaiah 26:19-21</u> "Thy dead [men] shall live, [together with] my dead body shall they arise. Awake and sing, ye that dwell in dust: for thy dew [is as] the dew of herbs, and the earth shall cast out the dead. Come, my people, enter thou into thy chambers, and shut thy doors about thee: hide thyself as it were for a little moment, until the indignation be overpast. For, behold, the LORD cometh out of his place to punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity: the earth also shall disclose her blood, and shall no more cover her slain."
- Matthew 25:1-13 "Then shall the kingdom of heaven be likened unto ten virgins, which took their lamps, and went forth to meet the **bridegroom**. And five of them were wise, and five [were] foolish. They that [were] foolish took their lamps, and took no oil with them: But the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps. While the bridegroom tarried, they all slumbered and slept. And at midnight there was a cry made, Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him. Then all those virgins arose, and trimmed their lamps. And the foolish said unto the wise, Give us of your oil; for our lamps are gone out. But the wise answered, saying, [Not so]; lest there be not enough for us and you: but go ye rather to them that sell, and buy for yourselves. And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came; and they that were ready went in with him to the marriage: and the door was shut. Afterward came also the other virgins, saying, Lord, Lord, open to us. But he answered and said, Verily I say unto you, I know you not. Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh."
- Matthew 24:29-31 "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."
- Following this solemn assembly we see the Lord dwelling in the midst of Israel as their God and they are given plenty and no longer ashamed.
- We are then given a clue on ordering of events, the signs of the 6th seal come before the day of the Lord does. And it is at this time, before the day of the Lord, "whosoever shall call on the name of the LORD shall be delivered."
 - Matthew 23:37-39 "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, [thou] that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under [her] wings, and ye would not! Behold, your house is left unto you desolate. For I say unto you, Ye shall not see me henceforth, till ye shall say, Blessed [is] he that cometh in the name of the Lord."
- Are you seeing the association, and are you seeing how this places the order of events in Joel 2?

- We are warned the day of the Lord is coming
- We see a supernaturally powered army that is unbeatable (time of Jacob's trouble)
- We see the signs of the 6th seal in heaven
- We see a feast of trumpets (likely coinciding with the 6th seal, the coming of the Lord and our gathering to Him)
- We see the bridegroom come out of his chamber and the bride from her closet (catching away)
- We see anyone who calls on the name of the Lord saved at this time (faithful Israel, taken into the wilderness and protected from the dragon calls on the Lord and He answers.)
- We see the day of the Lord following the signs of the 6th seal
- We see the land of Israel redeemed and bountiful through the Lord (after 70th week is completed and Israel comes out of the wilderness)
- We see the Lord dwelling amongst Israel as their God and they will never be ashamed.
- Joel 3:9-21 "Proclaim ye this among the Gentiles; Prepare war, wake up the mighty men, let all the men of war draw near; let them come up: Beat your plowshares into swords, and your pruninghooks into spears: let the weak say, I [am] strong. Assemble yourselves, and come, all ye heathen, and gather yourselves together round about: thither cause thy mighty ones to come down, O LORD. Let the heathen be wakened, and come up to the valley of Jehoshaphat: for there will I sit to judge all the heathen round about. Put ye in the sickle, for the harvest is ripe: come, get you down; for the press is full, the fats overflow; for their wickedness [is] great. Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision: for the day of the LORD [is] near in the valley of decision. The sun and the moon shall be darkened, and the stars shall withdraw their shining. The LORD also shall roar out of Zion, and utter his voice from Jerusalem; and the heavens and the earth shall shake: but the LORD [will be] the hope of his people, and the strength of the children of Israel. So shall ye know that I [am] the LORD your God dwelling in Zion, my holy mountain: then shall Jerusalem be holy, and there shall no strangers pass through her any more. And it shall come to pass in that day, [that] the mountains shall drop down new wine, and the hills shall flow with milk, and all the rivers of Judah shall flow with waters, and a fountain shall come forth of the house of the LORD, and shall water the valley of Shittim. Egypt shall be a desolation, and Edom shall be a desolate wilderness, for the violence [against] the children of Judah, because they have shed innocent blood in their land. But Judah shall dwell for ever, and Jerusalem from generation to generation. For I will cleanse their blood [that] I have not cleansed: for the LORD dwelleth in Zion."
 - The context of this is judgment of the Gentiles and God being the hope and strength of Israel. It's spreading across a large swath of time, looking at what the Gentile nations have done through history to Israel, Tyre, Sidon, and all the coasts. They tried to sell them off to other lands, but God will bring them back and promises recompense for their past quickly. This sounds like the return from the diaspora and the strength Israel has had in the face of opposition since.
 - These nations are told to beat their plowshares into swords and prepare for war. We've seen this since Israel became a nation as well, the constant threat of war, currently being waged with Gaza and Lebanon. The time leading up to the return of Christ will be a time of wars and rumors of wars and Israel seems to be at the center of much of it. Perhaps God will use Israel, apostate or not, as judgement on the surrounding nations that come against her. Israel has soundly defeated every attempt historically and we know that 3 of the 10 horns on the head of the dragon will be plucked up by the little horn, the false christ.

- We then see the refernce to the sickle and harvesting of grapes for the winepress tied to the day of the Lord.
- Revelation 14:17-20 "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."
- Isaiah 63:1-6 "Who [is] this that cometh from Edom, with dyed garments from Bozrah? this [that is] glorious in his apparel, travelling in the greatness of his strength? I that speak in righteousness, mighty to save. Wherefore [art thou] red in thine apparel, and thy garments like him that treadeth in the winefat? I have trodden the winepress alone; and of the people [there was] none with me: for I will tread them in mine anger, and trample them in my fury; and their blood shall be sprinkled upon my garments, and I will stain all my raiment. For the day of vengeance [is] in mine heart, and the year of my redeemed is come. And I looked, and [there was] none to help; and I wondered that [there was] none to uphold: therefore mine own arm brought salvation unto me; and my fury, it upheld me. And I will tread down the people in mine anger, and make them drunk in my fury, and I will bring down their strength to the earth."
- Revelation 19:11-13 "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."
 - We see the same symbology of the grapes of the harvest cast into the winepress of the wrath of God. Note that it is Yeshua who treads the winepress of the wrath of God alone. At His coming in glory, He does not gather His bride and leave. It is He who is treading the winepress of God's wrath. His clothes are already dipped in blood when He comes from heaven to Armageddon, before any battle has been fought there. This is because He was carrying out the wrath of God at the beginning of the day of the Lord just after He arrived and saved His bride and faithful Israel into the wilderness.
- Genesis 49:8-11 "Judah, thou [art he] whom thy brethren shall praise: thy hand [shall be] in the neck of thine enemies; thy father's children shall bow down before thee. Judah [is] a lion's whelp: from the prey, my son, thou art gone up: he stooped down, he couched as a lion, and as an old lion; who shall rouse him up? The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come; and unto him [shall] the gathering of the people [be]. Binding his foal unto the vine, and his ass's colt unto the choice vine; he washed his garments in wine, and his clothes in the blood of grapes:"
 - As covered in the <u>Daniel's 70 Weeks</u> study, Yeshua presented Himself as the spotless lamb at the triumphal entry in 30 AD, riding the colt of an ass. (Zechariah 9:9, Matthew 21:1-9) It was 40 years later in 70 AD that the city and sanctuary were destroyed, thus the scepter departed from Judah after Shiloh (<u>H7886</u> - he whose it is, that which belongs to him, tranquility; Shiloh, an epithet of the Messiah), the Messiah (Revelation 5:5), came the

first time.

- At the same time we see the signs of the 6th seal the LORD roars out of Zion and the heavens and the earth shall shake. As we've seen, this is the return of Christ, just before the day of the Lord comes.
- Revelation 14:14-16 "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."
 - We see that before the harvest into the wrath of God is another harvest. That the harvest of the Son of man comes before that of the wrath of God fits with the other scriptures covered in this study placing the 6th seal, Christ's return, our gathering to Him, the sealing of the 144,000 in the wilderness, all before the day of the Lord, the treading of the winepress of the wrath of God.
- The LORD [will be] the hope of his people, and the strength of the children of Israel. Recall in the <u>Natural Israel & Spiritual Israel</u> study and the look at Romans 11. The idea of being Israel in the eternal sense requires growing on the root, which is Christ. The natural branches are broken off in unbelief, while the wild branches are grafted in by faith. Those not connected to Yeshua are not eternal Israel. We see in Revelation 17-18 the judgment of the great harlot riding the beast just before Christ returns in glory at Armageddon. Harlotry and adultery in the spiritual sense are related to Israel going after other gods, which I would say is the great deception Yeshua warned about. At the time of the harvest of God's portion, faithful Israel will be taken to the wilderness and protected. These will come out of the 70th week into the promised land.
- Finally we have a picture again of the Messianic Kingdom, where the LORD is dwelling in Zion. Then Jerusalem will be holy, and empty of strangers. The land will be plentiful, and a fountain will come forth of the temple and shall water the valley of Shittim. Egypt and Edom will remain desolate, but Judah and Jerusalem will be forever.
- <u>Amos 5:18-20</u> "Woe unto you that desire the day of the LORD! to what end [is] it for you? the day of the LORD [is] darkness, and not light. As if a man did flee from a lion, and a bear met him; or went into the house, and leaned his hand on the wall, and a serpent bit him. [Shall] not the day of the LORD [be] darkness, and not light? even very dark, and no brightness in it?"
 - The context is not in the end times, but more of a description of the day of the Lord in the end. It hints that Israel may have looked to the day of the Lord as their deliverance from their enemies, not understanding in their apostasy the day of the Lord would fall on them as well.
- Obadiah 1:15-21 "For the day of the LORD [is] near upon all the heathen: as thou hast done, it shall be done unto thee: thy reward shall return upon thine own head. For as ye have drunk upon my holy mountain, [so] shall all the heathen drink continually, yea, they shall drink, and they shall swallow down, and they shall be as though they had not been. But upon mount Zion shall be deliverance, and there shall be holiness; and the house of Jacob shall possess their possessions. And the house of Jacob shall be a fire, and the house of Joseph a flame, and the house of Esau for stubble, and they shall kindle in them, and devour them; and there shall not be [any] remaining of the house of Esau; for the LORD hath spoken [it]. And [they of] the south shall possess the fields of Ephraim, and the fields of Samaria: and Benjamin [shall possess]

Gilead. And the captivity of this host of the children of Israel [shall possess] that of the Canaanites, [even] unto Zarephath; and the captivity of Jerusalem, which [is] in Sepharad, shall possess the cities of the south. And saviours shall come up on mount Zion to judge the mount of Esau; and the kingdom shall be the LORD'S."

- Again we see judgement on the heathen tied to the day of the Lord. However, the majority of the depiction related to the day of the Lord is about the return of the land to Israel and the central nature of mount Zion to deliverance and holiness. This hints at the day of the Lord not just being centered around the wrath of God, but also a part of it is tied to deliverance and Israel's return to the land.
- Zephaniah 1:1-2:3 "The word of the LORD which came unto Zephaniah the son of Cushi, the son of Gedaliah, the son of Amariah, the son of Hizkiah, in the days of Josiah the son of Amon, king of Judah. I will utterly consume all [things] from off the land, saith the LORD. I will consume man and beast; I will consume the fowls of the heaven, and the fishes of the sea, and the stumblingblocks with the wicked; and I will cut off man from off the land, saith the LORD. I will also stretch out mine hand upon Judah, and upon all the inhabitants of Jerusalem; and I will cut off the remnant of Baal from this place, [and] the name of the Chemarims with the priests; And them that worship the host of heaven upon the housetops; and them that worship [and] that swear by the LORD, and that swear by Malcham; And them that are turned back from the LORD; and [those] that have not sought the LORD, nor enquired for him. Hold thy peace at the presence of the Lord GOD: for the day of the LORD [is] at hand: for the LORD hath prepared a sacrifice, he hath bid his guests. And it shall come to pass in the day of the LORD'S sacrifice, that I will punish the princes, and the king's children, and all such as are clothed with strange apparel. In the same day also will I punish all those that leap on the threshold, which fill their masters' houses with violence and deceit. And it shall come to pass in that day, saith the LORD, [that there shall be] the noise of a cry from the fish gate, and an howling from the second, and a great crashing from the hills. Howl, ye inhabitants of Maktesh, for all the merchant people are cut down; all they that bear silver are cut off. And it shall come to pass at that time, [that] I will search Jerusalem with candles, and punish the men that are settled on their lees: that say in their heart, The LORD will not do good, neither will he do evil. Therefore their goods shall become a booty, and their houses a desolation: they shall also build houses, but not inhabit [them]; and they shall plant vineyards, but not drink the wine thereof. The great day of the LORD [is] near, [it is] near, and hasteth greatly, [even] the voice of the day of the LORD: the mighty man shall cry there bitterly. That day [is] a day of wrath, a day of trouble and distress, a day of wasteness and desolation, a day of darkness and gloominess, a day of clouds and thick darkness, A day of the trumpet and alarm against the fenced cities, and against the high towers. And I will bring distress upon men, that they shall walk like blind men, because they have sinned against the LORD: and their blood shall be poured out as dust, and their flesh as the dung. Neither their silver nor their gold shall be able to deliver them in the day of the LORD'S wrath; but the whole land shall be devoured by the fire of his jealousy: for he shall make even a speedy riddance of all them that dwell in the land. Gather yourselves together, yea, gather together, O nation not desired; Before the decree bring forth, [before] the day pass as the chaff, before the fierce anger of the LORD come upon you, before the day of the LORD'S anger come upon you. Seek ye the LORD, all ye meek of the earth, which have wrought his judgment; seek righteousness, seek meekness: it may be ye shall be hid in the day of the LORD'S anger."
 - Here we see, related to the day of the Lord, the land of Israel being consumed and Judah and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem judged who did not even search for the Lord. In light of the abomination of desolation and acceptance of a false

christ just prior to the day of the Lord, this would make sense because so many in Israel will be deceived into believing that the false christ is the promised Messiah. Why would they seek the Lord if they believe the Messiah is among them?

- What is interesting is that the day of the Lord is also associated with a sacrifice prepared and guests bid to come. While this has a ring to it of a feast prepared for guests, the sacrifice is tied to punishment of the princes, king's children and more. Perhaps it is not a feast for mankind.
- Revelation 19:17-19 "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."
- The overarching echo of the rest of these passages however, is that it is a day of wrath, trouble, distress, desolation, and darkness. We've seen some references to the heathen, but this is explicitly pointed at Jerusalem as well. It is described as a purging of the land of idolatry and false god worship.
- We see a warning for all the meek of the earth to seek the Lord before the day
 of the Lord's anger comes upon them. These are to gather themselves together
 seeking righteousness and meekness that they may be hid in the day of the
 Lord's anger.
- This seems very pointed at the end times, but as we've seen the day of the Lord's anger has been historically seen. While I tend to see this as an end time warning, it is also a principle as Christians that should be a part of our lives.
- <u>Psalm 37:11</u> "But the meek shall inherit the earth; and shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace."
- <u>Matthew 5:5-6</u> "Blessed [are] the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.
 Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled."
- Romans 9:30-33 "What shall we say then? That the Gentiles, which followed not after righteousness, have attained to righteousness, even the righteousness which is of faith. But Israel, which followed after the law of righteousness, hath not attained to the law of righteousness. Wherefore? Because [they sought it] not by faith, but as it were by the works of the law. For they stumbled at that stumblingstone; As it is written, Behold, I lay in Sion a stumblingstone and rock of offence: and whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed."
- I believe this is related to the jealousy of the Gentiles, when the scales drop from their eyes and they see Yeshua as their Messiah. The bride will be caught up and they will be protected in the wilderness and God will speak gently to them and bring them back to Him. They will exit the wilderness at the end of the 70th week and enter into the promised land where Yeshua reigns from Jerusalem.
- Zechariah 14:1-21 "Behold, the day of the LORD cometh, and thy spoil shall be divided in the midst of thee. For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle; and the city shall be taken, and the houses rifled, and the women ravished; and half of the city shall go forth into captivity, and the residue of the people shall not be cut off from the city. Then shall the LORD go forth, and fight against those nations, as when he fought in the day of battle. And his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives, which [is] before Jerusalem on the east, and the mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst thereof toward the east and toward the west, [and there

shall be] a very great valley; and half of the mountain shall remove toward the north, and half of it toward the south. And ye shall flee [to] the valley of the mountains; for the valley of the mountains shall reach unto Azal: yea, ye shall flee, like as ye fled from before the earthquake in the days of Uzziah king of Judah: and the LORD my God shall come, [and] all the saints with thee. And it shall come to pass in that day, [that] the light shall not be clear, [nor] dark: But it shall be one day which shall be known to the LORD, not day, nor night: but it shall come to pass, [that] at evening time it shall be light. And it shall be in that day, [that] living waters shall go out from Jerusalem; half of them toward the former sea, and half of them toward the hinder sea: in summer and in winter shall it be. And the LORD shall be king over all the earth: in that day shall there be one LORD, and his name one. All the land shall be turned as a plain from Geba to Rimmon south of Jerusalem: and it shall be lifted up, and inhabited in her place, from Benjamin's gate unto the place of the first gate, unto the corner gate, and [from] the tower of Hananeel unto the king's winepresses. And [men] shall dwell in it, and there shall be no more utter destruction; but Jerusalem shall be safely inhabited. And this shall be the plague wherewith the LORD will smite all the people that have fought against Jerusalem; Their flesh shall consume away while they stand upon their feet, and their eyes shall consume away in their holes, and their tongue shall consume away in their mouth. And it shall come to pass in that day, [that] a great tumult from the LORD shall be among them; and they shall lay hold every one on the hand of his neighbour, and his hand shall rise up against the hand of his neighbour. And Judah also shall fight at Jerusalem; and the wealth of all the heathen round about shall be gathered together, gold, and silver, and apparel, in great abundance. And so shall be the plague of the horse, of the mule, of the camel, and of the ass, and of all the beasts that shall be in these tents, as this plague. And it shall come to pass, [that] every one that is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem shall even go up from year to year to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, and to keep the feast of tabernacles. And it shall be, [that] whoso will not come up of [all] the families of the earth unto Jerusalem to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, even upon them shall be no rain. And if the family of Egypt go not up, and come not, that [have] no [rain]; there shall be the plague, wherewith the LORD will smite the heathen that come not up to keep the feast of tabernacles. This shall be the punishment of Egypt, and the punishment of all nations that come not up to keep the feast of tabernacles. In that day shall there be upon the bells of the horses, HOLINESS UNTO THE LORD; and the pots in the LORD'S house shall be like the bowls before the altar. Yea, every pot in Jerusalem and in Judah shall be holiness unto the LORD of hosts: and all they that sacrifice shall come and take of them, and seethe therein: and in that day there shall be no more the Canaanite in the house of the LORD of hosts."

- The spoil being divided seems in the context of Israel's spoil. <u>H7998</u>, shâlâl, is used as spoils of war. The day of the Lord being toward the end, in the midst of the 70th week of Daniel, there is a campaign the false christ goes on when he goes forth conquering and to conquer.
- Daniel 11:40-12:1 "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."

- These wars of the false christ are just before the unparalleled time of trouble as covered in greater detail in the <u>Great Tribulation</u> study.
- Admittedly, I'm not completely sure about the nations coming against Jerusalem to battle.
 - The time before the false christ is revealed and takes power will be a time of war as seen in Daniel 11:40-45, however it seems this time is more him defeating the enemies than Jerusalem being taken as stated here. Perhaps while the armies are in battle during this time there is an attack on Jerusalem, I'm not sure.
 - The time of Jacob's trouble, which would naturally fit right after this isn't so much other nations coming to battle against Jerusalem, but rather the false christ purging the land of all those who refuse to worship him. I think Joel 2 is a picture of this. This is the time where one is taken and one is left, where the vultures gather around the carcasses. However, everything seems to point to this being more of an internal matter. However, as we see elsewhere the whole world gives their power to the beast, I'm just not sure how this applies. Perhaps it will play into Islamic eschatology about killing Jews or it is something we will have to witness unfold to understand.
 - At the end of the wrath of God, the 10 horns hate the woman (apostate Israel) and burn her with fire. We also see that Babylon, that great city, is destroyed at this time. Given the seat of the false christ was Jerusalem, which is that great city, it could be toward the end of the wrath of God that this is talking about. However, at this time there won't be any more faithful of Israel in Jerusalem, it is the seat of the false christ.
 Furthermore, its destruction comes in one day and the idea of half the city going into captivity and houses rifled doesn't seem to fit with the utter destruction that befalls her at this time.
 - When Christ returns in glory, the world will be gathered to fight His return, but that will be at Har Megiddo and Jerusalem would have already been destroyed. Faithful Israel will be protected in the wilderness and will not need to flee Jerusalem. It is immediately after all this that the Messianic Kingdom begins, with Jerusalem built from scratch over the ashes of her remains to the dimensions described in Ezekiel 40-48.
- In fitting with the first option that the city being taken is related to the time of Jacob's trouble, Yeshua warns those who see the abomination of desolation to run to the mountains. We see in Revelation 12 that Israel is taken on wings of an eagle to the wilderness. Then we see here that a way is made through the splitting of the Mount of Olives where they are to flee to the valley of the mountains that reach to Azal.
- When does Yeshua return? It is immediately after the unparalleled tribulation of those days that is cut short for the sake of the elect, Jacob. Christ returns and catches away the bride, but it would seem that he also makes a way for faithful Israel to escape from Judea and the time of Jacob's trouble.
 - What is fascinating are the parallels to the Exodus, when Israel fled Egypt into the wilderness. Pharaoh sent his army after them and God parted the

waters of the Red Sea, they went through and the waters swallowed the army. God then led Israel into the wilderness where He introduced Himself and made a covenant with them.

- <u>Exodus 19:4</u> "Ye have seen what I did unto the Egyptians, and [how] I bare you on eagles' wings, and brought you unto myself."
- In the end we see faithful Israel fleeing Jerusalem, which is spiritually called Sodom and Egypt. This is depicted as her being given two wings of a great eagle. The dragon sends out his army as a flood, but the earth swallows up the army.
- Revelation 12:14-16 "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."
- Could this mean that the faithful remnant of Israel that fled Jerusalem will have a way made for her to escape when Yeshua returns in glory and splits the Mount of Olives to provide an escape, then when the dragon goes after the woman, the Mount of Olives swallows them up?
- Following this is a statement, "and the LORD my God shall come, [and] all the saints with thee." This is immediately after Yeshua splits the Mount of Olives and they flee through the valley. This would seem to point to a jump forward in time then because now all the saints are with Him, Armageddon.
 - Revelation 19:11, 14 "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. ... And the armies [which were] in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean."
- So we jump to a vision of the day of the Lord in its more full sense, the Messianic Kingdom, which "shall come to pass in that day" of all the previous events just covered. It is one day, known to the Lord, where His light fills the earth and living waters flow from Jerusalem and it will be safely inhabited.
- We are then given the plague that will befall those who came against Jerusalem, presumably those mentioned at the start of the chapter. There are several elements that would seem to point this to taking place at Armageddon, when the world is gathered against Christ at His return.
 - They obviously cease to live at this point, their flesh, eyes, and tongue consume away while they stand on their feet. During this time they will turn on each other, including Judah fighting at Jerusalem.
 - The wealth of all the heathen, gold, silver, apparel, will be gathered in great abundance. This would seem to point to a time after Jerusalem became the center of the world in the days of the false christ. Revelation 18 speaks of all the merchants mourning her destruction and all the wealth she had purchased from them.
 - Revelation 18:12-13, 16 "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 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!"

- Finally we return to a view of the Messianic Kingdom.
 - The nations that remain will go each year to worship Yeshua and keep the feast of tabernacles. Whoever doesn't come will have no rain.
 - There will be bells of the horses holiness to the Lord and every pot in Jerusalem and Judah will be holiness to the lord. Those that sacrifice will cook in them
 - There will be no more Canaanite in the house of the Lord.
- Malachi 4:1-6 "For, behold, the day cometh, that shall burn as an oven; and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble: and the day that cometh shall burn them up, saith the LORD of hosts, that it shall leave them neither root nor branch. But unto you that fear my name shall the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings; and ye shall go forth, and grow up as calves of the stall. And ye shall tread down the wicked; for they shall be ashes under the soles of your feet in the day that I shall do [this], saith the LORD of hosts. Remember ye the law of Moses my servant, which I commanded unto him in Horeb for all Israel, [with] the statutes and judgments. Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD: And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse."
 - Again the idea of fire is associated with the day of the Lord. As we will see later, this is also tied to the judgement of God.
 - The final words of the final prophet in the Old Testament may also be tied to the great deception and the false prophet of Revelation 13. We know that John the Baptist came in the spirit of Elijah to fulfill this role of preparing the way for Messiah, but Israel was blinded at that time and still look for the Messiah to come. There is a false prophet coming that will point the world to the false christ, that everyone worship him.
 - It is also highly likely that Elijah, who was seen with Moses at the transfiguration, will be one of the two witnesses that will come during the first half of the 70th week of Daniel. So Elijah would indeed literally be sent before the day of the Lord in the middle of the 70th week.
- Acts 2:16-21 "But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel; And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams: And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy: And I will shew wonders in heaven above, and signs in the earth beneath; blood, and fire, and vapour of smoke: The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before that great and notable day of the Lord come: And it shall come to pass, [that] whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved."
 - Peter's sermon at Pentecost in response to them speaking in tongues first quotes Joel 2, covered previously. Peter makes the point that the pouring out of God's Spirit was being witnessed by them, and throughout history from then the kingdom of God has grown and His Spirit given to all who accept and obey Him.
 - But once again we see in relation to the end the signs of the 6th seal before the day of the Lord.
- I Thessalonians 5:1-11 "But of the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you. For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night. For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape. But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief. Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we

are not of the night, nor of darkness. **Therefore let us not sleep, as [do] others; but let us watch and be sober.** For they that sleep sleep in the night; and they that be drunken are drunken in the night. But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation. **For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ, Who died for us, that, whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with him. Wherefore comfort yourselves together, and edify one another, even as also ye do.**"

- This passage reveals a bit more about the day of the Lord in agreement with all the other teachings from the Old Testament.
- Recall Joel 2 and the unparalleled army sneaking into windows like a thief. As
 mentioned in the <u>Olivet Discourse: Vision of the Future</u> study, there is a
 potential parallel to the one take and one left that ties this to the time of Jacob's
 trouble. The dragon's army takes God's people to kill them, and when Yeshua
 returns He resurrects those killed and changes the living that are His and
 catches them away to Him. But for those on the earth God kills them in the fire
 of His wrath.
- The idea of the suddenness of the destruction is highlighted here along with the travailing as a woman in labor. Recall Isaiah 13:6-13 where the day of the Lord is associated to their fear and pain at that time.
- What is amazing is the promise that this collection of studies is all about. We are promised not to be in darkness and will not be surprised when that day comes. Furthermore, as we will see, it is not a time of doom and gloom for the faithful Christian, it is a time of redemption we are to take comfort in. And why should we be comforted? Because we are not appointed to God's wrath that is coming at the day of the Lord when Yeshua returns in power and great glory. We are appointed to salvation in that day.
- This is one of the clarion calls to watch and be sober, not caught up in the cares of this world, but to be aware what God has given us to understand from His Word.
- 2 Peter 3:3-13 "Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts, And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as [they were] from the beginning of the creation. For this they willingly are ignorant of, that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water: 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. But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day [is] with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up. [Seeing] then [that] all these things shall be dissolved, what manner [of persons] ought ye to be in [all] holy conversation and godliness, Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat? Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness."
 - Recognize that just as the days of Noah, when God destroyed the earth by water, there is a coming time where fire will be the tool of God's destruction. This whole first part of this prophecy is calling out uniformitarianism, the idea that everything always works the same. It's the basis of many theories of

geological history and assumptions about the future heat death of the universe. What is not believed and therefore not accepted is the idea of catastrophism, that the God of creation outside of the dimensions we can even perceive has the ability to intervene in earth history according to His will to fulfill His purposes. These will never understand or accept the warnings contained in these studies because to them it is foolishness.

- Romans 1:18-23 "For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness; Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed [it] unto them. For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, [even] his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse: Because that, when they knew God, they glorified [him] not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools, And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things."
- Another central point defining the day of the Lord that has not been directly stated yet in the passages about it is the idea that a day is as 1,000 years to the Lord. It is presented in terms of His longsuffering toward us, but in combination with other passages, it is clear that the day of the Lord is a period of 1,000 years.
 - Psalm 90:4 "For a thousand years in thy sight [are but] as yesterday when it is past, and [as] a watch in the night."
 - **<u>Revelation 20:1-10</u>** "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."
 - Note that the sealing of the dragon for 1,000 years immediately follows Armageddon, where the false christ and false prophet are cast into the lake of fire. Yeshua is purging the dragon's influence from the earth in preparation for His Messianic Kingdom. The dragon is sealed for 1,000

years and after that 1,000 years is completed, he is loosed for Gog/Magog where he is finally cast into the lake of fire forever separated from the kingdom of God.

- Furthermore, we have the first resurrection of those who were killed after Christ caught up the bride during the reign of the false christ. They are resurrected and reign with Christ for 1,000 years. So we have a second period of 1,000 years mentioned, not tied to the dragon's captivity. What this implies is that their reign with Christ and the dragon's captivity are during the same time. If Christ is not reinging after 1,000 years, then what is next? Verses 11-15 cover the white throne judgement, where all the dead are raised and judged. At the end of this judgement there is a new heaven and a new earth, so the reign of Christ and these who were resurrected is no longer applicable on that earth because there will be a new one.
- We also have another place that hints to this idea that when God says a day, it's not as men think of a day.
 - Genesis 2:16-17 "And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die."
 - ♦ This idea also speaks to one of the perceived errors in scripture because neither Adam or Eve died the day they ate of the fruit.
 - Genesis 5:5 "And all the days that Adam lived were nine hundred and thirty years: and he died."
 - So in God's timing, a day is as 1,000 years, meaning that Adam did die in the very day he ate of the forbidden fruit, just not according to man's timing. From the beginning of that 930 years, he and Eve began building the human race that God would come to save from themselves some 4,000 years later.
- This brings us to the day of the Lord again, because Peter states that the day of the Lord comes as a thief in the night, which we know is the sudden start of the day of the Lord at Yom Kippur, the day of atonement. However, it is within the day of the Lord that the "heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up."
- Since we see from John's vision in Revelation that the great white throne judgment follows the Messianic Kingdom of 1,000 years, and the new heaven and new earth follow that, then the end of the 1,000 years is the new heaven and new earth.
- Also we can deduce that the day of the Lord, while start suddenly and unexpectedly with wrath, but will last for 1,000 days until the dragon is released, the world is judged, and we get a new heaven and earth.
- Revelation 21:1 "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."
- Therefore the day of the Lord is literally a 1,000-year day as the Lord sees it, which fits with the idea of a Sabbath millennium where there are 6 days followed by a 7th day of rest, which is the day of the Lord, the Messianic Kingdom.
- Lamentations 2:1-4, 17-22 "How hath the Lord covered the daughter of Zion with a cloud in his anger, [and] cast down from heaven unto the earth the beauty of Israel, and remembered not his footstool in the day of his anger! The Lord hath swallowed up all the habitations of Jacob, and hath not pitied: he hath thrown down in his wrath the strong holds of the daughter of Judah; he hath brought [them] down to the

ground: he hath polluted the kingdom and the princes thereof. He hath cut off in [his] fierce anger all the horn of Israel: he hath drawn back his right hand from before the enemy, and he burned against Jacob like a flaming fire, [which] devoureth round about. He hath bent his bow like an enemy: he stood with his right hand as an adversary, and slew all [that were] pleasant to the eye in the tabernacle of the daughter of Zion: he poured out his fury like fire. ... The LORD hath done [that] which he had devised; he hath fulfilled his word that he had commanded in the days of old: he hath thrown down, and hath not pitied: and he hath caused [thine] enemy to rejoice over thee, he hath set up the horn of thine adversaries. Their heart cried unto the Lord, O wall of the daughter of Zion, let tears run down like a river day and night: give thyself no rest; let not the apple of thine eye cease. Arise, cry out in the night: in the beginning of the watches pour out thine heart like water before the face of the Lord: lift up thy hands toward him for the life of thy young children, that faint for hunger in the top of every street. Behold, O LORD, and consider to whom thou hast done this. Shall the women eat their fruit, [and] children of a span long? shall the priest and the prophet be slain in the sanctuary of the Lord? The young and the old lie on the ground in the streets: my virgins and my young men are fallen by the sword; thou hast slain [them] in the day of thine anger; thou hast killed, [and] not pitied. Thou hast called as in a solemn day my terrors round about, so that in the day of the LORD'S anger none escaped nor remained: those that I have swaddled and brought up hath mine enemy consumed."

- The context of this reference is that time following the Babylonian destruction of Jerusalem and the recognition of the judgement of God as promised in His covenant with Israel at Sinai if they did not hold up their end. The Babylonian sieges killed many in Israel, destroyed her city and temple, and carried away her people in the day of the Lord's anger. While the way this is referenced is not quite like the other references of the day of the Lord, there are some interesting pieces of information.
- Daniel was one of the people taken to Babylon in captivity and it was there that he earned a place of respect through God interpreting dreams of the king, among other things.
- I find it interesting in these lamentations about the destruction of the city the same symbology used by Daniel to speak of horns, which is also done by John. We see in God's fierce anger that all the horn of Israel is cut off. Likewise we see God has set up the horn of her adversaries. Throughout the various sieges of Jerusalem by Babylon leading to her utter destruction, several kings were set over Israel under Babylonian rule and these were ultimately all cut off. Similarly, Israel's enemies leadership was set up to rule. This concept of horns representing kings over kingdoms is a central part of understanding the symbology of the 7-headed 10-horned beast, the little horn, as well as some of the historical fulfillments Daniel writes about.
- $\circ~$ Day of Christ vs. Day of the Lord
 - Coming of Christ also redemption
 - The day of the Lord is the time of sudden destruction like Noah and Lot. Everyone was living life as normal and for the world this will be a time of terror for what is coming.
 - Interestingly there are several passages about the day of Christ, which I think coincide with the day of the Lord, but are distinctly Christian in perspective.
 - <u>Philippians 1:9-10</u> "That ye may approve things that are excellent; that ye may be sincere and without offence till the day of Christ;"
 - noting our striving for excellence without offence is until the day of Christ.
 - Philippians 2:14-16 "Holding forth the word of life; that I may rejoice in the day of Christ, that I have not run in vain, neither laboured in vain."
 - It is on the day of Christ that Paul will rejoice that he has not labored or

run in vain, it is then he will see the fruits of his ministry

- <u>2 Thessalonians 2:1-12</u> "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. ..."
 - tied to apostasy and revealing of antichrist as coming before the day of Christ
- <u>1 Corinthians 1:4-9</u> "So that ye come behind in no gift; waiting for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall also confirm you unto the end, [that ye may be] blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ."
 - Paul exhorting the church in Corinth to seek spiritual growth as they wait for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, who will confirm them util the end blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- I Corinthians 5:2-6 "And ye are puffed up, and have not rather mourned, that he that hath done this deed might be taken away from among you. For I verily, as absent in body, but present in spirit, have judged already, as though I were present, [concerning] him that hath so done this deed, In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, when ye are gathered together, and my spirit, with the power of our Lord Jesus Christ, To deliver such an one unto Satan for the destruction of the flesh, that the spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus. Your glorying [is] not good. Know ye not that a little leaven leaveneth the whole lump?"
 - Paul is chastising the acceptance of immorality in the church and correction that the spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus.
- <u>2 Corinthians 1:12-14</u> "For our rejoicing is this, the testimony of our conscience, that in simplicity and godly sincerity, not with fleshly wisdom, but by the grace of God, we have had our conversation in the world, and more abundantly to you-ward. For we write none other things unto you, than what ye read or acknowledge; and I trust ye shall acknowledge even to the end; As also ye have acknowledged us in part, that we are your rejoicing, even as ye also [are] ours in the day of the Lord Jesus."
 - Again Paul speaks of rejoicing in the acceptance of the Gospel that they are joined together in the day of the Lord Jesus.
- Two perspectives of this time from two groups
 - Those who have not accepted Christ or are disobedient to Him Day of the Lord/Wrath of God
 - Sudden destruction like days of Noah and Lot
 - Those who have accepted and obeyed Christ, living by and for Him Day of Christ/Redemption and salvation
 - Expectant sudden transitioning to the eternal immortal state and removal from the earth
- Putting these scriptures together, accepting each as true, we get an overall perspective that defines the day of the Lord. I will put these in chronological order to provide a more clear understanding of the flow through time.
 - Elijah will be sent before the day of the Lord
 - □ This is likely one of the two witnesses who prophesy and warn Israel for 1,260 days. We're not given an exact time, but my best guess is that they will arrive when the temple is rededicated and remain until after the fifth trumpet judgement when Apollyon from the bottomless pit kills them.
 - The abomination of desolation will begin the time of Jacob's trouble.
 - A supernatural army will consume the land, unable to be stopped. They are unparalleled in history, much like the time of Jacob's trouble after the abomination of desolation.

- □ It is this time Yeshua warns those in Judea to flee to the mountains immediately
- □ This is a time of idolatry, false prophets, and blind leaders
- □ It is a time of declaration of peace where there is no peace. They will be saying peace and safety when sudden destruction comes on them.
 - For the majority of the world who accept the false christ, it will seem a time of peace because all nations will give over their power to him and he will be the leader of the world. He knows once they take the mark they are as good as dead with him in eternity. He will use them as his tools and source of worship until his time comes to an end.
- The coming of the Lord and our gathering to Him is preceded by two things
 - Apostasy (falling away)
 - Revealing of the man of sin at the abomination of desolation.
 - I believe these two are tied together in the first half of the 70th week of Daniel, when the false christ is leading people away from God in apostasy worshipping a false god, and when the false christ is ultimately revealed at the abomination of desolation.
- The 6th seal comes immediately after the time of Jacob's trouble from which he is saved out of and before the day of the Lord.
 - □ Because the day of the Lord is sudden and unexpected, it must occur very soon after the signs of the 6 seal, giving no room for preparation.
- Christ returns in glory and the people of the earth hide in rocks and caves at the glory of His majesty.
 - From <u>The Moedim: Appointed Times</u> study, it seems clear His second coming is tied to Yom Teruah, the feast of trumpets. Being the first of the month it is a day and hour no one knows because it's tied to the sighting of the first sliver of light after a new moon.
 - There will have been signs leading up to this time that will be understood by the bride of Christ who are watching, so this will not be a surprise as we get closer to it.
 - Revelation 7:1-3 "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."
 - After the 6th seal ending Revelation 6:17, we see the wrath of God is held back to seal the 144,000. The wrath of God begins in Revelation 8:7.
 - □ The Day of Christ (this is Christ's return from the perspective of believers)
 - We are to be sincere, blameless, and without offence till this day
 - We will rejoice in this day
 - The bridegroom goes out of his chamber and the bride comes out of her closet
 - We are not appointed to God's wrath and will be saved out of it
 - At His return He send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet to gather His elect
 - The sickle will be put in the earth and God's portion will be reaped
- The day of the Lord comes suddenly and unexpectedly on the world, but those who are watching will not be surprised.
 - From <u>The Moedim: Appointed Times</u> study, it seems clear that because Yom Kippur is the day of atonement and a dividing line for those who do not afflict their souls being cut off from the people, as well as the date every 50th year of the jubilee, that the day of the Lord, and the start of the 1,000 years beginning

with God's wrath is Yom Kippur.

- □ Yom Kippur is only 9/10 days from Yom Teruah, these are the days of awe, or repentance.
- Whoever calls on the name of the Lord in that day will be saved, which speaks to how unblinded Israel at the fulness of the Gentiles will see the Messiah they pierced and mourn for Him and repent.
 - This also seems like the perfect time as faithful Israel is taken to the wilderness, for her to come to repentance and say blessed is He that comes in the name of the Lord and have the scales fall from their eyes to see their Messiah.
- The day of the Lord begins with the wrath of God, a day of vengeance and fierce anger. That wrath comes suddenly and immediately because the day of the Lord does, with the exception of it being held back to seal the 144,000.
 - □ His wrath will lay the land desolate and destroy the sinners out of it
 - His wrath comes on both Jew and Gentile, all who reject the Truth and believe a lie
 - □ His wrath will shake the heavens and the earth
 - The sickle will be put in the earth and the grapes of the vine will be cast into the great winepress of the wrath of God
 - The idols will be cut off from the land
- The day of the Lord is 1,000 years long.
 - □ The dragon is locked away for 1,000 years
 - □ The resurrected from great tribulation rule and reign with Christ for 1,000 years
 - □ At the end of this time, the dragon is loosed and Gog/Magog happens
 - □ The great white throne judgement takes place
- The heaven and earth are melted with a fervent heat to make way for the new heaven and new earth
- The coming of Christ is not a flash in the pan, it is a sudden arrival and sustained judgement of the earth.
 - □ While the day of the Lord comes suddenly, that doesn't mean it ends as suddenly. As we've seen, the day of the Lord is 1,000 years long, it only begins with wrath.
 - Psalm 110 The Lord shall rule in the midst of His enemies with the rod of strength (iron). The Lord at the Father's right hand will strike through kings in the day of His wrath, judge among the heathens, fill the places with dead bodies, wound the heads over many countries.
 - Matthew 22:37-46 in His being checked for spot or blemish Yeshua used this Psalm to speak of His divinity as the Son of God.
 - □ **Isaiah 11:1-5** covers both His first and second coming (presence) in being filled with the Spirit and judge the poor with righteousness and reprove with equity the meek. He will also smite the earth with the rod of His mouth and with His breath slay the wicked.
 - □ **John 5:19-29** The Father judges no man, but has committed all judgement to the Son.
 - □ Acts 17:28-31 God has appointed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness by that Man He has ordained who was raised from the dead.
 - □ **<u>Romans 2:12-16</u>** A day is coming where God will judge the secrets of men by Yeshua according to the Gospel.
 - <u>Revelation 19:11-16</u> Yeshua returns in glory with clothes dipped in blood followed by the bride. This is at Armageddon, but He has not defeated the armies gathered yet, the blood is from the beginning of the day of the Lord, the day of His wrath and judgement.
 - Isaiah 63:1-6 In the day of vengeance Yeshua will tread the winepress alone, His garments sprinkled with blood.
 - <u>Genesis 49:8-12</u> "The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come; and unto him [shall] the gathering of the people [be]. Binding his foal unto the vine, and his ass's colt unto the choice vine; he washed

his garments in wine, and his clothes in the blood of grapes: His eyes [shall be] red with wine, and his teeth white with milk."

- Timing of the Day of the Lord
 - □ The last days
 - We saw in <u>2 Peter 3:10</u> and <u>Psalm 90:4</u> the idea that a day to the Lord is like 1,000 years. And there is <u>Revelation 20:1-10</u> where we see the dragon imprisoned for 1,000 years and the resurrected reigning with Christ for 1,000 years, after which time the Dragon will deceive the nations yet again leading to his final defeat and the great white throne judgement. Regarding the very general timing, consider these passages.
 - Genesis 49:1-2, 8-12 "And Jacob called unto his sons, and said, Gather yourselves together, that I may tell you [that] which shall befall you in the last days. Gather yourselves together, and hear, ye sons of Jacob; and hearken unto Israel your father. ... Judah, thou [art he] whom thy brethren shall praise: thy hand [shall be] in the neck of thine enemies; thy father's children shall bow down before thee. Judah [is] a lion's whelp: from the prey, my son, thou art gone up: he stooped down, he couched as a lion, and as an old lion; who shall rouse him up? The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come; and unto him [shall] the gathering of the people [be]. Binding his foal unto the vine, and his ass's colt unto the choice vine; he washed his garments in wine, and his clothes in the blood of grapes: His eyes [shall be] red with wine, and his teeth white with milk."
 - We know that Yeshua fulfilled this prophecy as He rode the donkey into Jerusalem just before His crucifixion and that He is Shiloh to whom some Jews and the Gentiles gathered.
 - We also know He will tread the winepress of the wrath of God yet future, which stains his garments as symbolically described in <u>Isaiah 63:1-6</u> and <u>Revelation 19:13</u>.
 - So we have two distinctly different comings of Christ described as befalling Israel "in the last days." We are coming up on 2,000 years since Christ's first coming and the day of the Lord has not yet come.
 - □ Isaiah 2:1-4 "The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. And it shall come to pass in the last days, [that] the mountain of the LORD'S house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it. And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people: and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more."
 - This is very clearly in the Messianic Kingdom, when Yeshua will rule from Jerusalem with a rod of iron and the nations will come to Jerusalem. This end of this time will bring a new heavens and new earth, so this would fall in the last days.
 - Micah 4:1-2 "But in the last days it shall come to pass, [that] the mountain of the house of the LORD shall be established in the top of the mountains, and it shall be exalted above the hills; and people shall flow unto it. And many nations shall come, and say, Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, and to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for the law shall go forth of Zion, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem."
 - This prophecy from Micah speaks of the same time Isaiah spoke of.

- Acts 2:14-21 "But Peter, standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice, and said unto them, Ye men of Judaea, and all [ye] that dwell at Jerusalem, be this known unto you, and hearken to my words: For these are not drunken, as ye suppose, seeing it is [but] the third hour of the day. But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel; And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams: And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy: And I will shew wonders in heaven above, and signs in the earth beneath; blood, and fire, and vapour of smoke: The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before that great and notable day of the Lord come: And it shall come to pass, [that] whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved."
 - Similar to Yeshua riding into Jerusalem just before Passover in 30 AD, a little over 50 days later, the prophecy of the pouring out of the Spirit of God took place on Shavuot, or Pentecost. This pouring out of the Spirit has continued since then as the kingdom of heaven has grown on the earth as prophesied in Nebuchadnezzar's dream in <u>Daniel 2</u>.
 - And also like Israel's prophecy to Judah about the last days, the sign of the sixth seal is seen, which has not taken place yet.
 - So likewise we have two events separated by almost 2,000 years now as we await the second coming of Christ to gather His bride and judge the earth.
- 2 Timothy 3:1-5 "This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away."
 - Selfishness has been a part of humanity since the fall, and there are probably times when things have been worse for some than they are for others now, but there is no doubt that things are getting worse in this regard across the board today.
- Hebrews 1:1-4 "God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, Hath in these last days spoken unto us by [his] Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds; Who being the brightness of [his] glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high; Being made so much better than the angels, as he hath by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they."
 - The writer of Hebrews places themselves in the last days after Christ's first coming and before 225 AD with the earliest known copy.
- John 6:37-40, 44-45, 51-54 "All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out. For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me. And this is the Father's will which hath sent me, that of all which he hath given me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the last day. And this is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day. ... No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day. It is written in the prophets, And they shall be all taught

of God. Every man therefore that hath heard, and hath learned of the Father, cometh unto me. ... I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live for ever: and the bread that I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world. The Jews therefore strove among themselves, saying, How can this man give us [his] flesh to eat? Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood, ye have no life in you. Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day."

- It is very clear that Yeshua is planning to raise those that believe in Him at the last day.
- In our context, what day would that be? The last day of earth history?
- In the context of God's reckoning, it makes sense in light of everything that we have studied to this point from scripture that since the last day of this heaven and earth is the last 1,000 years, or the day of the Lord, then He will raise us up at the beginning of the last day, or the transition to it.
- When does that day come? It is the day of the Christ, the day of the Lord, His second coming to both catch away His bride and carry out the judgement respectively. These are both the same time as Joel 2 states come after the signs of the sixth seal.
- John 11:23-27 "Jesus saith unto her, Thy brother shall rise again. Martha saith unto him, I know that he shall rise again in the resurrection at the last day. Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this? She saith unto him, Yea, Lord: I believe that thou art the Christ, the Son of God, which should come into the world."
 - Similarly Martha recognizes the resurrection is "at the last day," which implies that it is at the transition from the day before the last day to the last day.
- John 12:44-50 "Jesus cried and said, He that believeth on me, believeth not on me, but on him that sent me. And he that seeth me seeth him that sent me. I am come a light into the world, that whosoever believeth on me should not abide in darkness. And if any man hear my words, and believe not, I judge him not: for I came not to judge the world, but to save the world. He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day. For I have not spoken of myself; but the Father which sent me, he gave me a commandment, what I should say, and what I should speak. And I know that his commandment is life everlasting: whatsoever I speak therefore, even as the Father said unto me, so I speak."
 - Just as we see the transition from the second to last to the last day, here we see judgement coming at that time, whereas for believers we see resurrection.
- <u>2 Peter 3:3, 8-9</u> "Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts, ... But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day [is] with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance."
- I will leave it to you to decide for yourself if this should be considered in regards to timing of the coming of Christ and what that means regarding the nearness of His return.
- The Sixth Seal
 - We've touched on this in terms of the explicit passages about the day of the Lord, but

I wanted to bring in a few other passages.

- Matthew 24:29-31, Mark 13:24-27, Luke 21:25-28 Immediately after the time of Jacob's trouble, is the sixth seal
- <u>Revelation 6:9-11</u> Fifth seal, arguably tied to the beginning of great tribulation, is before the wrath of God. They are asking when God will judge those that killed them, so they are both clearly not in their resurrected bodies in heaven yet, and they know the judgment of God has not yet arrived.
- Joel 2:30-32 Sixth seal before the day of the Lord
- Isaiah 13:6-13 Sixth seal before the day of the Lord
- <u>**1 Thessalonians 5:1-11**</u> Day of the Lord is like a thief in the night, when the world is saying peace and safety, then sudden destruction comes
 - This is from the perspective of the world. At this point just before Christ returns, the antichrist has taken control and put down all his enemies. The world, in awe, has given their power to him. This by nature is peace. That is differentiated from those who refuse to worship him, are deemed "terrorists" or some other generic bad term, and persecuted and killed in the time of great tribulation. Peace and safety is relative, but to the fallen world, this time will seem more peaceful than that last hundreds of years.
- <u>2 Thessalonians 2:1-4</u> The context being "the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by our gathering together unto him," or the time immediately after the time of Jacob's trouble according to Yeshua, we are told there will first be an apostasy and the man of sin being revealed when "he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God."
 - Note that the first warning Christ gave when asked about the time of the end was, Matthew 24:4-5 - "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."
 - We're explicitly told here that great deception and a false christ calling himself god in the temple of God at the abomination of desolation will deceive many into following after this idol in apostasy. He will deceive the Jews to fall away from God to once again go whoring after another god.
 - □ Take note of the depiction of the unfaithful woman of Revelation 17-18 as opposed to the faithful woman of Revelation 12.
- All of this tells us that a false christ will declare himself god in God's temple and deceive many of Israel into accepting him as their Messiah. This time of Jacob's trouble will rip the family of Jacob apart as those who fall away turn on their family who refuse to. During this time many will be killed for refusing to fall into apostasy and their souls will be under the altar asking when judgment will come. It is after this time that Jacob is saved out of that we see the next seal broken and the signs in the sun, moon, and stars herald the return of Yeshua and our gathering to Him and His saving of the remnant faithful of Israel into the wilderness. Soon after the seventh seal is broken, the 144,000 are sealed in the wilderness and the multitudes in heaven worship God as Yeshua prepares to carry out the wrath of God on the earth and its inhabitants.
- □ Yom Kippur
 - Combining <u>The Moedim: Appointed Times</u>, <u>Visions of Daniel and John</u>, and <u>Man of Sin:</u> <u>False Christ</u> studies, there is a very interesting concept brought forward in the depiction of the harlot riding the Dragon.
 - Leviticus 23:26-32 "And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, Also on the tenth [day] of this seventh month [there shall be] a day of atonement: it shall be an holy convocation unto you; and ye shall afflict your souls, and offer an offering made by fire unto the LORD. And ye shall do no work in that same day: for it [is] a day of atonement, to make an atonement for you before the LORD your God. For

whatsoever soul [it be] that shall not be afflicted in that same day, he shall be cut off from among his people. And whatsoever soul [it be] that doeth any work in that same day, the same soul will I destroy from among his people. Ye shall do no manner of work: [it shall be] a statute for ever throughout your generations in all your dwellings. It [shall be] unto you a sabbath of rest, and ye shall afflict your souls: in the ninth [day] of the month at even, from even unto even, shall ye celebrate your sabbath."

- Yom Kippur is about afflicting the soul and those who do not are cut off from the people. The idea of marriage between Israel and God is a main focus in the spiritual relationship Israel was supposed to have with God, not going after false gods. The Northern Kingdom was given a writ of divorce for it.
- <u>Ezekiel 16</u> points out God found Israel and covered her and she played the harlot and committed adultery even though she was married to Him. This is a striking parallel to the depiction of the harlot and her judgements in the future.
- But we see the same spirit of harlotry, or apostasy, as one comes in his own name and is accepted as the Messiah, when Yeshua came in His Father's name and was rejected.
- <u>Revelation 18:4-8</u> "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."
- She is not a widow and will see no sorrow. What does this mean? From the perspective of a deceived and unfaithful Israel, they have gone after a false christ who gave them the desires of their heart, displaying its wickedness in the destruction of their own people in their zealotry and the fierceness of their fornication with their false god. And just like was prophesied in Ezekiel, their nakedness will be revealed and they will ultimately be hated and destroyed by those they committed fornication with.
- Revelation 17:16-18 "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."
- But before this we see the fulfillment of the dividing line foreshadowed individually for Israel each Yom Kippur, where they were to afflict their souls in humility or risk being cut off from the people.
- The attitude of the deceived of Israel will be that their Messiah has come, they will be under the Dragon's new covenant with them and believe that the Messianic Kingdom is about to begin with Israel and Jerusalem being the crown jewel of the world. Their hearts will not be afflicted when Yeshua returns in glory, they will be afraid. But they won't have much time before the fulfillment of the cutting off of those who do not afflict their souls comes to pass on Yom Kippur, the beginning of the day of the Lord and the judgement of God on the world for their harlotry and fornication with the Dragon and his minions.
- Protection From Deception
 - As covered in the <u>Man of Sin: False Christ</u> study and others, I believe Yeshua and the prophets' warning of the last day deception is centered around the truth of Messianic prophecies pointing to Yeshua being hijacked and used to deceive the world into apostasy and worshipping the Dragon and his false christ.

- As such, the millennial messianic kingdom described here from scripture is something Yeshua warned us about with the coming deception. Scripture says Yeshua will set up His kingdom on earth and the false Christ will be using that expectation for his deception.
- We have been given a very simple safeguard as protection from deception in knowing that Christ comes in the clouds not on earth.
- Matthew 24:23-27 "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."
- Revelation 17:16-18 "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."
- Conclusion
 - Ask yourself some questions
 - Play video created
 - Read Revelation 6:12-17, Matthew 24:29-31, Luke 21:25-28
 - Imagine you are living when Christ returns. When the sun becomes dark and the stars seem to disappear, the moon turns red, and meteorite showers like you've never seen before fill the sky. When you see heaven opened and Christ returning in glory, how will you feel, what will you be thinking? Your life as you've known it will forever change one way or the other. Your career will become insignificant, your savings, your plans for your life, that vacation you've been saving for, the tickets for that trip you already bought.
 - Will you be filled with terror and want to hide?
 - Will you be thinking you should have prepared better?
 - Will your heart be a flutter knowing you are about to be changed into your eternal state and meet your Savior face to face?
 - Will your stomach be bitter realizing you should have been more open with your family and friends who don't believe in Yeshua and are about to go through hell on earth? Will they choose wisely?
 - Will you be ashamed and feel unworthy to meet your Savior?
 - Your answer to this question should give you some direction on building your relationship with God through the Holy Spirit in anticipation of Yeshua's return.
 - □ Are you living your life for Him or caught up with the cares of this world?
 - Do you realize you don't really know who Yeshua is, what He did and why He's coming back?
 - Do you need to understand better that it's not your work that makes you worthy but His deep and abiding love for you through His sacrifice that makes you worthy?
 - Is there more you can do to demonstrate God through your life now to others and be a better witness of who His followers really are, loving even their enemies?

May God continue to bless you as you remain in Him.

Associated studies

- Daniel's 70 Weeks
- The Moedim: Appointed Times

- Olivet Discourse: Vision of the Future
- Seals, Trumpets, Bowls
- Great Tribulation
- Man of Sin: False Christ
- Visions of Daniel and John
- Framework of the End
- <u>Natural Israel & Spiritual Israel</u>

References

• Chris White's study <u>A Day of the Lord Theme Study</u> from February, 2023, where he reviews all the Old Testament scriptures clearly relating to the end time Day of the Lord thematically split into judgement and the kingdom. It expands on this basic study in agreement with the idea that the day of the Lord is more than just wrath, but extends into the Messianic Kingdom in the final Sabbath millennium.

Associated Dates

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Tags

Script

Introduction

The great tribulation. This phrase has been described many times in many ways. Some believe it to be synonymous with the seven years of the 70th week of Daniel while some believe it has been going on for millennia. Many aspects of Bible prophecy hang on the definition of this phrase and are used to support views like the timing of the resurrection and catching away of believers among other things. In other words, understanding how the Bible defines this phrase is critical to understanding how the Bible defines other events of the coming times.

This isn't an attempt to explain the various views, but to simply share the scriptures throughout the Old and New Testaments as I've been led to understand them, referencing scripture with scripture, here a little and there a little, as much in the context in which each passage exists as I can understand. I believe all of scripture must agree with the rest of scripture and where it does not, we have more understanding to gain. All I ask is that you have an open mind, trust the Word of God, and test these things in your own study of scripture to see if they are so.

Acts 17:11

These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so.

We all have the same Word from God, given to the prophets by the Holy Spirit so we would know what He is doing. So I believe we can all let scripture interpret itself. It is my desire to understand according to the Word, not just from it. In other words, remove as much of my interpretation from what the Word says as is possible and rely on the interpretation from scripture itself to understand.

2 Peter 1:19-21

We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts:

Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake [as they were] moved by the Holy Ghost.

John 15:12-15

This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you. Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you. Henceforth I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: but I have called you friends; for all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you.

God wants His people to understand. In laying down His life, Yeshua demonstrated in action the most pure form of love and friendship for us. He defeated death that those who follow His ways of selfless love might spend time without end in fellowship and relationship with the God of creation. When we obey His ways of love, we are His friends. In trusting His Word to us, we gain understanding of His plans for us and the whole world. Let us embark on a journey of understanding this plan, which will bring peace amid these chaotic coming times and allowing the light of peace to flow from us in a dark world that perhaps we might be an example of what the peace of God brings and introduce those with eyes to see and ears to hear to their Creator.

Defining the Day of the Lord

The term "day of the LORD" occurs 25 times in 23 verses, 20 times in the Old Testament and 5 times in the New Testament. Examining these passages reveals much about what the day of the Lord is and its timing in the prophetic narrative. However, this only focuses on that exact phrase and from how that is defined we will see there is another nature to the day of the Lord that shows a different perspective of this time for some people.

Isaiah 2:5-22

Isaiah 2:5-22

"O house of Jacob, come ye, and let us walk in the light of the LORD. Therefore thou hast forsaken thy people the house of Jacob, because they be replenished from the east, and [are] soothsayers like the Philistines, and they please themselves in the children of strangers. Their land also is full of silver and gold, neither [is there any] end of their treasures; their land is also full of horses, neither [is there any] end of their chariots: Their land also is full of idols; they worship the work of their own hands, that which their own fingers have made: And the mean man boweth down, and the great man humbleth himself: therefore forgive them not. Enter into the rock, and hide thee in the dust, for fear of the LORD, and for the glory of his majesty. The lofty looks of man shall be humbled, and the haughtiness of men shall be bowed down, and the LORD alone shall be exalted in that day. For the day of the LORD of hosts [shall be] upon every [one that is] proud and lofty, and upon every [one that is] lifted up; and he shall be brought low: And upon all the cedars of Lebanon, [that are] high and lifted up, and upon all the oaks of Bashan, And upon all the high mountains, and upon all the hills [that are] lifted up, And upon every high tower, and upon every fenced wall, And upon all the ships of Tarshish, and upon all pleasant pictures. And the loftiness of man shall be bowed down, and the haughtiness of men shall be made low: and the LORD alone shall be exalted in that day. And the idols he shall utterly abolish. And they shall go into the holes of the rocks, and into the caves of the earth, for fear of the LORD, and for the glory of his majesty, when he ariseth to shake terribly the earth. In that day a man shall cast his idols of silver, and his idols of gold, which they made [each one] for himself to worship, to the moles and to the bats; To go into the clefts of the rocks, and into the tops of the ragged rocks, for fear of the LORD, and for the glory of his majesty, when he ariseth to shake terribly the earth. Cease ye from man, whose breath [is] in his nostrils: for wherein is he to be accounted of?"

Isaiah 2 begins, just before this passage about the day of the Lord, with a prophetic look at the last days concerning Judah and Jerusalem. Once again we see the focus of this time is the people and land of Israel. It describes the Messianic Kingdom when Yeshua reigns from Jerusalem and the nations flow to it.

In keeping with the understanding of deception of the last days, recall that the false christ and false prophet will demand and receive worship from the whole world, hinting at the great deception being related to what the Jews expect from their prophecies about the Messiah ruling from Jerusalem. God will allow the dragon his time to deceive them into thinking this time has arrived, and they will indeed create images of the beast and worship them. It is the initial phase of the dragon's hatred for those who reject him in Judea, the time of Jacob's trouble, that is stopped by the day of the Lord as covered in greater detail in the <u>Great Tribulation</u> study.

As if to make this point, immediately after declaring the full end in the Messianic Kingdom, there is a warning to walk in the light of the LORD followed by a statement of the time before the day of the Lord where they are mingled with other nations, they are wealthy and the land is full of idols they worship. It is following this time of idolatry that the day of the Lord is mentioned.

Take note of the several times that the day of the Lord is associated with entering into the rock and hiding for fear of the Lord and the glory of His majesty when He arises to shake the earth. This is a theme not just in the day of the Lord prophecies, but also in John's vision in Revelation.

Revelation 6:12-17

"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?"

After the sixth seal follows the seventh and final seal on the scroll. When this last seal is opened there is silence in heaven for half an hour followed by voices, thundering, lightning, and an earthquake. God is quite literally shaking the earth.

Isaiah 13:6-13

Isaiah 13:6-13

"Howl ye; for the day of the LORD [is] at hand; it shall come as a destruction from the Almighty. Therefore shall all hands be faint, and every man's heart shall melt: And they shall be afraid: pangs and sorrows shall take hold of them; they shall be in pain as a woman that travaileth: they shall be amazed one at another; their faces [shall be as] flames. Behold, the day of the LORD cometh, cruel both with wrath and fierce anger, to lay the land desolate: and he shall destroy the sinners thereof out of it. For the stars of heaven and the constellations thereof shall not give their light: the sun shall be darkened in his going forth, and the moon shall not cause her light to shine. And I will punish the world for [their] evil, and the wicked for their iniquity; and I will cause the arrogancy of the proud to cease, and will lay low the haughtiness of the terrible. I will make a man more precious than fine gold; even a man than the golden wedge of Ophir. Therefore I will shake the heavens, and the earth shall remove out of her place, in the wrath of the LORD of hosts, and in the day of his fierce anger."

The day of the Lord comes as destruction from the Almighty, a cruel day of wrath and fierce anger to lay

the land desolate and destroy the sinners from it. It should be clarified that it's saying this is how the day of the Lord comes, not that the whole day of the Lord is defined this way. This will be addressed later in this study. The very first event to follow the breaking of the final seventh seal on the scroll speaks to just that kind of desolation of the land.

Revelation 8:6-7

"And the seven angels which had the seven trumpets prepared themselves to sound. 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."

The sixth seal, covered in greater detail in the <u>Seals, Trumpets, Bowls</u> study, is referenced here as well, placing the day of the Lord, in agreement with Joel which will be covered later in this study, after the celestial events of the sixth seal.

The reference to a woman travailing in pain as with child is used in the prophecy of the time of Jacob's trouble, the time just after the abomination of desolation. As we will see, this short time before the day of the Lord has another unparalleled aspect to it that is also tying it to the day of the Lord.

Jeremiah 30:4-7

"And these [are] the words that the LORD spake concerning Israel and concerning Judah. For thus saith the LORD; We have heard a voice of trembling, of fear, and not of peace. Ask ye now, and see whether a man doth travail with child? wherefore do I see every man with his hands on his loins, as a woman in travail, and all faces are turned into paleness? Alas! for that day [is] great, so that none [is] like it: it [is] even the time of Jacob's trouble; but he shall be saved out of it."

We will also see it in one of the New Testament reference in the letter to the church of the Thessalonians from Paul, Silvanus, and Timotheus that will be covered later in this study.

Jeremiah 46:10

Jeremiah 46:10

"For this [is] the day of the Lord GOD of hosts, a day of vengeance, that he may avenge him of his adversaries: and the sword shall devour, and it shall be satiate and made drunk with their blood: for the Lord GOD of hosts hath a sacrifice in the north country by the river Euphrates."

The context of this passage is "against Egypt, against the army of Pharaohnecho king of Egypt, which was by the river Euphrates." Although this is not the end of the age, there may be an ultimate fulfillment of this in the future against Egypt. However, it speaks to the day of the Lord as a day of vengeance, which is a common thread.

Ezekiel 13:1-10

Ezekiel 13:1-10

"And the word of the LORD came unto me, saying, Son of man, prophesy against the prophets of Israel that prophesy, and say thou unto them that prophesy out of their own hearts, Hear ye the word of the LORD; Thus saith the Lord GOD; Woe unto the foolish prophets, that follow their own spirit, and have seen nothing! O Israel, thy prophets are like the foxes in the deserts. **Ye have not gone up into the gaps, neither made up the hedge for the house of Israel to stand in the battle in the day of the LORD.** They have seen vanity and lying divination, saying, The LORD saith: and the LORD hath not sent them: and they have made [others] to hope that they would confirm the word. Have ye not seen a vain vision, and have ye not spoken a lying divination, whereas ye say, The LORD saith [it]; albeit I have not spoken? Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; Because ye have spoken vanity, and seen lies, therefore, behold, I [am] against you, saith the Lord GOD. And mine

hand shall be upon the prophets that see vanity, and that divine lies: they shall not be in the assembly of my people, neither shall they be written in the writing of the house of Israel, neither shall they enter into the land of Israel; and ye shall know that I [am] the Lord GOD. Because, even because **they have seduced my people, saying, Peace; and [there was] no peace**; and one built up a wall, and, lo, others daubed it with untempered [morter]:"

The context of this reference is just before the Babylonian exile. However, the false prophets who follow their own spirits and not God's are the focus. They say the Lord sent them and they speak of peace, but there is no peace. So while this may be focused on a different time, we know that the time before the day of the Lord will be a time of apostasy, false prophets, and false peace just the same. This theme is seen in the letter to the Thessalonians as well, which we will cover later in this study.

An interesting correlation to saying peace where there is no peace comes from the nature of the reign of the false christ. As Christians we tend to look at this time as great tribulation, and it certainly is for those who don't accept the false christ. However, part of the great deception is the perception of peace.

Scripture seems to point to the world interpreting this time as the Messianic Kingdom, they will have given over their power to the false christ. If everyone has given him their power, there will be no more war and Jerusalem will be the center of the world. For Israel in the land this will be a strong delusion indeed. They were blinded to the Messiah yet have been looking for him ever since.

It is a time of unparalleled peace for those who give up their eternal lives to save their mortal lives. From the perspective of those who reject the false christ, they will become like the terrorists you may hear a story about on the news. In fact, those who reject the false christ will be seen like terrorists. Neighbors will turn in neighbors, the see something say something mentality will be used to root out anyone not willing to participate in this utopia everyone has been dreaming of.

But in reality they are killing God's faithful people and they have no peace, because sudden destruction will be coming on them.

Ezekiel 30:1-4

Ezekiel 30:1-4

"The word of the LORD came again unto me, saying, Son of man, prophesy and say, **Thus saith the** Lord GOD; Howl ye, Woe worth the day! For the day [is] near, even the day of the LORD [is] near, a cloudy day; it shall be the time of the heathen. And the sword shall come upon Egypt, and great pain shall be in Ethiopia, when the slain shall fall in Egypt, and they shall take away her multitude, and her foundations shall be broken down."

The context of this reference is once again against Egypt. Interestingly, we see Egypt as part of the wars of the false christ as he is rising to power. Egypt will fall to him and the Ethiopians and Libyans will follow him.

There is also the reference to Jerusalem as spiritual Egypt where the two witnesses are killed. While judgement will come on Jerusalem and the seat of the false christ, I don't think it's related as more than just Egypt is referred to here.

<u>Revelation 11:8</u> - "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."

Taken literally, this is an historic look at a time of God's wrath in the time of the heathen, which is the word for nation or people. While it can be used of descendants of Abraham, its primary use is of non-Hebrew people.

In the <u>Visions of Daniel and John</u> study, we see this idea in the seven heads and seven mountains. The seven heads represent seven kings through history while the seven mountains represent Mount Zion, Jerusalem. It is upon these mountains the harlot sits. Because the kings are determined to be tied to time and the mountains to space, we get this overarching perspective of a time of heathen rule or influence over Jerusalem while the apostate religious leaders exist under that rule.

So there seems to be a time yet future when the dragon's political influence over an apostate religious leadership will collide in the false christ being given the crown, becoming the little horn that leads the little state of Israel amongst the 10 larger kingdoms around her. And during that time the two witnesses will be killed. At the end of that time, mystery Babylon, that great city that is spiritually Sodom and Egypt, will be judged and utterly destroyed. In this we see a spiritual echo of the fall of Egypt as well.

Joel 1:5-7, 13-20

Joel 1:5-7, 13-20 - "Awake, ye drunkards, and weep; and howl, all ye drinkers of wine, because of the new wine; for it is cut off from your mouth. For a nation is come up upon my land, strong, and without number, whose teeth [are] the teeth of a lion, and he hath the cheek teeth of a great lion. He hath laid my vine waste, and barked my fig tree: he hath made it clean bare, and cast [it] away; the branches thereof are made white. ... Gird yourselves, and lament, ye priests: howl, ye ministers of the altar: come, lie all night in sackcloth, ye ministers of my God: for the meat offering and the drink offering is withholden from the house of your God. Sanctify ye a fast, call a solemn assembly, gather the elders [and] all the inhabitants of the land [into] the house of the LORD your God, and cry unto the LORD, Alas for the day! for the day of the LORD [is] at hand, and as a destruction from the Almighty shall it come. Is not the meat cut off before our eyes, [yea], joy and gladness from the house of our God? The seed is rotten under their clods, the garners are laid desolate, the barns are broken down; for the corn is withered. How do the beasts groan! the herds of cattle are perplexed, because they have no pasture; yea, the flocks of sheep are made desolate. O LORD, to thee will I cry: for the fire hath devoured the pastures of the wilderness, and the flame hath burned all the trees of the field. The beasts of the field cry also unto thee: for the rivers of waters are dried up, and the fire hath devoured the pastures of the wilderness."

When asked about why Yeshua's disciples didn't fast, He made a point about new wine in new bottles and a whole new cloth. I believe this is speaking to the New Covenant, of which the blood of Christ given for us is symbolized in the idea of wine. At the triumphal entry, Yeshua blinded Israel because they didn't know the hour of His visitation. This cutting off of the new wine from their mouths would seem to be symbolized in this concept.

Matthew 9:14-17 - "Then came to him the disciples of John, saying, Why do we and the Pharisees fast oft, but thy disciples fast not? And Jesus said unto them, Can the children of the bridechamber mourn, as long as the bridegroom is with them? but the days will come, when the bridegroom shall be taken from them, and then shall they fast. No man putteth a piece of new cloth unto an old garment, for that which is put in to fill it up taketh from the garment, and the rent is made worse. Neither do men put new wine into old bottles: else the bottles break, and the wine runneth out, and the bottles perish: but they put new wine into new bottles, and both are preserved."

We also see this idea of strong teeth like a lion barking the fig tree, symbolic of Israel, and making the branches white. As covered in the <u>Visions of Daniel and John</u> study, Daniel sees 4 beasts diverse from each other, each represented by the same animals we see combined in the beast representing the kingdom of the false christ. This beast has the mouth of a lion that devours and breaks in pieces.

<u>Daniel 7:7, 19</u> - "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. ... 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;"

<u>Revelation 13:2</u> - "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."

If these devouring lion's teeth are indeed symbolically related to the false christ's kingdom and the day of the Lord, then again we see a representation of the time after the abomination of desolation being the context of this day of the Lord that comes as destruction from the almighty. As covered in the *Framework of the End* study, the period of time between the abomination of desolation, the return of Christ, and the day of the Lord is actually very short. According to this time covered in the *Great Tribulation* study, it is cut short to save Jacob out of this time.

Revelation 8:6-7 - "And the seven angels which had the seven trumpets prepared themselves to sound. 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."

From Joel 1 we also see this idea of the land being laid waste by fire. This is indeed the first trumpet judgement where 1/3 of the trees and all green grass is burnt up. This idea of fire is also seen in the 4th bowl judgment.

<u>Revelation 16:8-9</u> - "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."

Leviticus 23:26-32 - "And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, Also on the tenth [day] of this seventh month [there shall be] a day of atonement: it shall be an holy convocation unto you; and ye shall afflict your souls, and offer an offering made by fire unto the LORD. And ye shall do no work in that same day: for it [is] a day of atonement, to make an atonement for you before the LORD your God. For whatsoever soul [it be] that shall not be afflicted in that same day, he shall be cut off from among his people. And whatsoever soul [it be] that doeth any work in that same day, the same soul will I destroy from among his people. Ye shall do no manner of work: [it shall be] a statute for ever throughout your generations in all your dwellings. It [shall be] unto you a sabbath of rest, and ye shall afflict your souls: in the ninth [day] of the month at even, from even unto even, shall ye celebrate your sabbath."

Finally, there is the idea of sanctifying a fast and calling a solemn assembly. As covered in <u>The Moedim</u>: <u>Appointed Times</u>, Yom Kippur is both the day of atonement and every 50th year the year of jubilee begins on this day. As we will see in some of these other passages on the day of the Lord, the theme of appointed times seems referenced to as well.

Joel 2

Joel 2:1-32

"Blow ye the trumpet in Zion, and sound an alarm in my holy mountain: let all the inhabitants of the land tremble: for the day of the LORD cometh, for [it is] nigh at hand; A day of darkness and of gloominess, a day of clouds and of thick darkness, as the morning spread upon the

mountains: a great people and a strong; there hath not been ever the like, neither shall be any more after it, [even] to the years of many generations. A fire devoureth before them; and behind them a flame burneth: the land [is] as the garden of Eden before them, and behind them a desolate wilderness; yea, and nothing shall escape them. The appearance of them [is] as the appearance of horses; and as horsemen, so shall they run. Like the noise of chariots on the tops of mountains shall they leap, like the noise of a flame of fire that devoureth the stubble, as a strong people set in battle array. Before their face the people shall be much pained: all faces shall gather blackness. They shall run like mighty men; they shall climb the wall like men of war; and they shall march every one on his ways, and they shall not break their ranks: Neither shall one thrust another; they shall walk every one in his path: and [when] they fall upon the sword, they shall not be wounded. They shall run to and fro in the city; they shall run upon the wall, they shall climb up upon the houses; they shall enter in at the windows like a thief. The earth shall quake before them; the heavens shall tremble: the sun and the moon shall be dark, and the stars shall withdraw their shining: And the LORD shall utter his voice before his army: for his camp [is] very great: for [he is] strong that executeth his word: for the day of the LORD [is] great and very terrible; and who can abide it? Therefore also now, saith the LORD, turn ye [even] to me with all your heart, and with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning: And rend your heart, and not your garments, and turn unto the LORD your God: for he [is] gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repenteth him of the evil. Who knoweth [if] he will return and repent, and leave a blessing behind him; [even] a meat offering and a drink offering unto the LORD your God? Blow the trumpet in Zion, sanctify a fast, call a solemn assembly: Gather the people, sanctify the congregation, assemble the elders, gather the children, and those that suck the breasts: let the bridegroom go forth of his chamber, and the bride out of her closet. Let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep between the porch and the altar, and let them say, Spare thy people, O LORD, and give not thine heritage to reproach, that the heathen should rule over them: wherefore should they say among the people, Where [is] their God? Then will the LORD be jealous for his land, and pity his people. Yea, the LORD will answer and say unto his people, Behold, I will send you corn, and wine, and oil, and ye shall be satisfied therewith: and I will no more make you a reproach among the heathen: But I will remove far off from you the northern [army], and will drive him into a land barren and desolate, with his face toward the east sea, and his hinder part toward the utmost sea, and his stink shall come up, and his ill savour shall come up, because he hath done great things. Fear not, O land; be glad and rejoice: for the LORD will do great things. Be not afraid, ye beasts of the field: for the pastures of the wilderness do spring, for the tree beareth her fruit, the fig tree and the vine do yield their strength. Be glad then, ye children of Zion, and rejoice in the LORD your God: for he hath given you the former rain moderately, and he will cause to come down for you the rain, the former rain, and the latter rain in the first [month]. And the floors shall be full of wheat, and the fats shall overflow with wine and oil. And I will restore to you the years that the locust hath eaten, the cankerworm, and the caterpiller, and the palmerworm, my great army which I sent among you. And ye shall eat in plenty, and be satisfied, and praise the name of the LORD your God, that hath dealt wondrously with you: and my people shall never be ashamed. And ye shall know that I [am] in the midst of Israel, and [that] I [am] the LORD your God, and none else: and my people shall never be ashamed. And it shall come to pass afterward, [that] I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions: And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my spirit. And I will shew wonders in the heavens and in the earth, blood, and fire, and pillars of smoke. The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and the terrible day of the LORD come. And it shall come to pass, [that] whosoever shall call on the name of the LORD shall be delivered: for in mount Zion and in Jerusalem shall be deliverance, as the LORD hath said, and in the remnant whom the LORD shall call."

Joel 2 starts off with the trumpet, a sound of alarm, being blown in Zion. This harkens back to Yom Teruah, the appointed time for blowing of trumpets. This occurs 10 days before Yom Kippur, the day of

atonement. These 10 days are called the days of awe, or days of repentance. As covered in the *Framework of the End* study, there are some very interesting alignments that happen with the appointed times and the framework of exact-day prophecies.

We are then introduced to a great and strong people unparalleled in history or future. This calls back to the time of Jacob's trouble, which is also unparalleled in all of history or future. Nothing escapes them and a fire devours before them and leaves a desolate wilderness. All those who face them, their faces are turned to blackness. They don't break ranks and are impervious to the sword. They shall run on the wall, they shall climb up upon the houses; they shall enter in at the windows like a thief.

It is after this supernaturally-powered army is introduced that the celestial signs of the sixth seal are declared followed by the day of the Lord. It is also during this time the Lord pleads the people turn to Him with fasting and weeping and mourning, rending their hearts in repentance. This seems fitting for a season of teshuvah, or repentance, that lasts for 40 days before Yom Kippur and the last 10 days of which are the days of repentance. Moreover, it is during this time that those in Judea are fleeing to the mountains following the revealing of the false christ and the abomination of desolation.

It is also at this time again a solemn assembly is called and a trumpet. This most likely would point to Yom Teruah, the feast of trumpets, or Rosh Hashanah again. And an amazing statement is inserted, "let the bridegroom go forth of his chamber, and the bride out of her closet."

Matthew 9:15

"And Jesus said unto them, **Can the children of the bridechamber mourn, as long as the bridegroom is with them?** but the days will come, when the bridegroom shall be taken from them, and then shall they fast."

John 14:1-3

"Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if [it were] not [so], I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, [there] ye may be also."

Isaiah 26:19-21

"Thy dead [men] shall live, [together with] my dead body shall they arise. Awake and sing, ye that dwell in dust: for thy dew [is as] the dew of herbs, and the earth shall cast out the dead. Come, my people, enter thou into thy chambers, and shut thy doors about thee: hide thyself as it were for a little moment, until the indignation be overpast. For, behold, the LORD cometh out of his place to punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity: the earth also shall disclose her blood, and shall no more cover her slain."

Matthew 25:1-13

"Then shall the kingdom of heaven be likened unto ten virgins, which took their lamps, and went forth to meet the bridegroom. And five of them were wise, and five [were] foolish. They that [were] foolish took their lamps, and took no oil with them: But the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps. While the bridegroom tarried, they all slumbered and slept. And at midnight there was a cry made, Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him. Then all those virgins arose, and trimmed their lamps. And the foolish said unto the wise, Give us of your oil; for our lamps are gone out. But the wise answered, saying, [Not so]; lest there be not enough for us and you: but go ye rather to them that sell, and buy for yourselves. And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came; and they that were ready went in with him to the marriage: and the door was shut. Afterward came also the other virgins, saying, Lord, Lord, open to us. But he answered and said, Verily I say unto you, I know you not. Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh."

Matthew 24:29-31

"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."

We see from these passages the idea of the faithful bride of Christ going to meet the Lord at His coming. And once we are resurrected, changed, and caught up we will enter our chambers while the indignation and wrath of God is completed.

Following this solemn assembly we see the Lord dwelling in the midst of Israel as their God and they are given plenty and no longer ashamed. Clearly this has not happened yet as Israel is still blinded and not following their God or accepting their Messiah.

We are then given a clue on ordering of events, the signs of the 6th seal come before the day of the Lord does. And it is at this time, before the day of the Lord, "whosoever shall call on the name of the LORD shall be delivered."

<u>Matthew 23:37-39</u> - "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, [thou] that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under [her] wings, and ye would not! Behold, your house is left unto you desolate. For I say unto you, Ye shall not see me henceforth, till ye shall say, Blessed [is] he that cometh in the name of the Lord."

Are you seeing the association, and are you seeing how this places the order of events in Joel 2?

- We are warned the day of the Lord is coming
- We see a supernaturally powered army that is unbeatable (time of Jacob's trouble)
- We see the signs of the 6th seal in heaven
- We see a feast of trumpets (likely coinciding with the 6th seal, the coming of the Lord and our gathering to Him)
- We see the bridegroom come out of his chamber and the bride from her closet (catching away)
- We see anyone who calls on the name of the Lord saved at this time (faithful Israel, taken into the wilderness and protected from the dragon calls on the Lord and He answers.)
- We see the day of the Lord following the signs of the 6th seal
- We see the land of Israel redeemed and bountiful through the Lord (after 70th week is completed and Israel comes out of the wilderness)
- We see the Lord dwelling amongst Israel as their God and they will never be ashamed.

Joel 3:9-21

<u>Joel 3:9-21</u> - "Proclaim ye this among the Gentiles; Prepare war, wake up the mighty men, let all the men of war draw near; let them come up: Beat your plowshares into swords, and your pruninghooks into spears: let the weak say, I [am] strong. Assemble yourselves, and come, all ye heathen, and gather yourselves together round about: thither cause thy mighty ones to come down, O LORD. Let the heathen be wakened, and come up to the valley of Jehoshaphat: for there will I sit to judge all the heathen round about. **Put ye in the sickle, for the harvest is ripe: come, get you down; for the press is full, the fats overflow; for their wickedness [is] great. Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision: for the day of the LORD [is] near in the valley of decision. The sun and the moon shall be darkened, and the stars shall withdraw their shining. The LORD also shall roar out of Zion, and utter his voice from Jerusalem; and the heavens and the earth** shall shake: but the LORD [will be] the hope of his people, and the strength of the children of Israel. So shall ye know that I [am] the LORD your God dwelling in Zion, my holy mountain: then shall Jerusalem be holy, and there shall no strangers pass through her any more. And it shall come to pass in that day, [that] the mountains shall drop down new wine, and the hills shall flow with milk, and all the rivers of Judah shall flow with waters, and a fountain shall come forth of the house of the LORD, and shall water the valley of Shittim. Egypt shall be a desolation, and Edom shall be a desolate wilderness, for the violence [against] the children of Judah, because they have shed innocent blood in their land. But Judah shall dwell for ever, and Jerusalem from generation to generation. For I will cleanse their blood [that] I have not cleansed: for the LORD dwelleth in Zion."

The context of this is judgment of the Gentiles and God being the hope and strength of Israel. It's spreading across a large swath of time, looking at what the Gentile nations have done through history to Israel, Tyre, Sidon, and all the coasts. They tried to sell them off to other lands, but God will bring Israel back and promises recompense for their past quickly. This sounds like it could be the return from the diaspora and the strength Israel has had in the face of opposition ever since becoming a nation again.

These nations are told to beat their plowshares into swords and prepare for war. We've seen this since Israel became a nation as well, the constant threat of war. Most recently with October 7, 2023, we've seen a merciless attack by Hamas out of Gaza and Israel's response. But we've also seen Lebanon and Iran get involved as well. The time leading up to the return of Christ will be a time of wars and rumors of wars and Israel seems to be at the center of much of it. Perhaps God will use Israel, apostate or not, as judgement on the surrounding nations that come against her. Israel has soundly defeated every attempt historically and we know that 3 of the 10 horns on the head of the dragon will be plucked up by the little horn, the false christ. This is covered more in the <u>Visions of Daniel and John</u> study.

We then see the reference to the sickle and harvesting of grapes for the winepress tied to the day of the Lord.

<u>Revelation 14:17-20</u> - "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.**"

Isaiah 63:1-6 - "Who [is] this that cometh from Edom, with dyed garments from Bozrah? this [that is] glorious in his apparel, travelling in the greatness of his strength? I that speak in righteousness, mighty to save. Wherefore [art thou] red in thine apparel, and thy garments like him that treadeth in the winefat? I have trodden the winepress alone; and of the people [there was] none with me: for I will tread them in mine anger, and trample them in my fury; and their blood shall be sprinkled upon my garments, and I will stain all my raiment. For the day of vengeance [is] in mine heart, and the year of my redeemed is come. And I looked, and [there was] none to help; and I wondered that [there was] none to uphold: therefore mine own arm brought salvation unto me; and my fury, it upheld me. And I will tread down the people in mine anger, and make them drunk in my fury, and I will bring down their strength to the earth."

Revelation 19:11-13 - "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."

We see the same symbology of the grapes of the harvest cast into the winepress of the wrath of God. Note that it is Yeshua who treads the winepress of the wrath of God alone. At His coming in glory, He does not gather His bride and leave. It is He who is treading the winepress of God's wrath. His clothes are already dipped in blood when He comes from heaven to Armageddon, before any battle has been fought there. This is because He was carrying out the wrath of God at the beginning of the day of the Lord just after He arrived and saved His bride and faithful Israel into the wilderness.

<u>Genesis 49:8-11</u> - "Judah, thou [art he] whom thy brethren shall praise: thy hand [shall be] in the neck of thine enemies; thy father's children shall bow down before thee. Judah [is] a lion's whelp: from the prey, my son, thou art gone up: he stooped down, he couched as a lion, and as an old lion; who shall rouse him up? The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come; and unto him [shall] the gathering of the people [be]. Binding his foal unto the vine, and his ass's colt unto the choice vine; **he washed his garments in wine, and his clothes in the blood of grapes**:"

As covered in the <u>Daniel's 70 Weeks</u> study, Yeshua presented Himself as the spotless lamb at the triumphal entry in 30 AD, riding the colt of an ass. (Zechariah 9:9, Matthew 21:1-9) It was 40 years later in 70 AD that the city and sanctuary were destroyed, thus the scepter departed from Judah after Shiloh (<u>H7886</u> - he whose it is, that which belongs to him, tranquility; Shiloh, an epithet of the Messiah), the Messiah (Revelation 5:5), came the first time.

At the same time we see the signs of the sixth seal when the Lord roars out of Zion and the heavens and the earth shall shake. As we've seen, this is the return of Christ, just before the day of the Lord comes.

Revelation 14:14-16 - "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."

We see that before the harvest into the wrath of God is another harvest of the Son of man before the wrath of God. This fits with the other scriptures covered in this study placing the sixth seal, Christ's return, our gathering to Him, the sealing of the 144,000 in the wilderness, all before the day of the Lord that is the treading of the winepress of the wrath of God.

We're told that the Lord [will be] the hope of his people, and the strength of the children of Israel. Recall in the *Natural Israel & Spiritual Israel* study and the look at Romans 11. The idea of being Israel in the eternal sense requires growing on the root, which is Christ. The natural branches are broken off in unbelief, while the wild branches are grafted in by faith. Those not connected to Yeshua are not eternal Israel. We see in Revelation 17-18 the judgment of the great harlot riding the beast just before Christ returns in glory at Armageddon. Harlotry and adultery in the spiritual sense are related to Israel going after other gods, which I would say is the great deception Yeshua warned about. At the time of the harvest of God's portion, faithful Israel will be taken to the wilderness and protected. These will come out of the 70th week into the promised land.

Finally we have a picture again of the Messianic Kingdom, where the Lord is dwelling in Zion. Then Jerusalem will be holy, and empty of strangers. The land will be plentiful, and a fountain will come forth of the temple and shall water the valley of Shittim. Egypt and Edom will remain desolate, but Judah and Jerusalem will be forever.