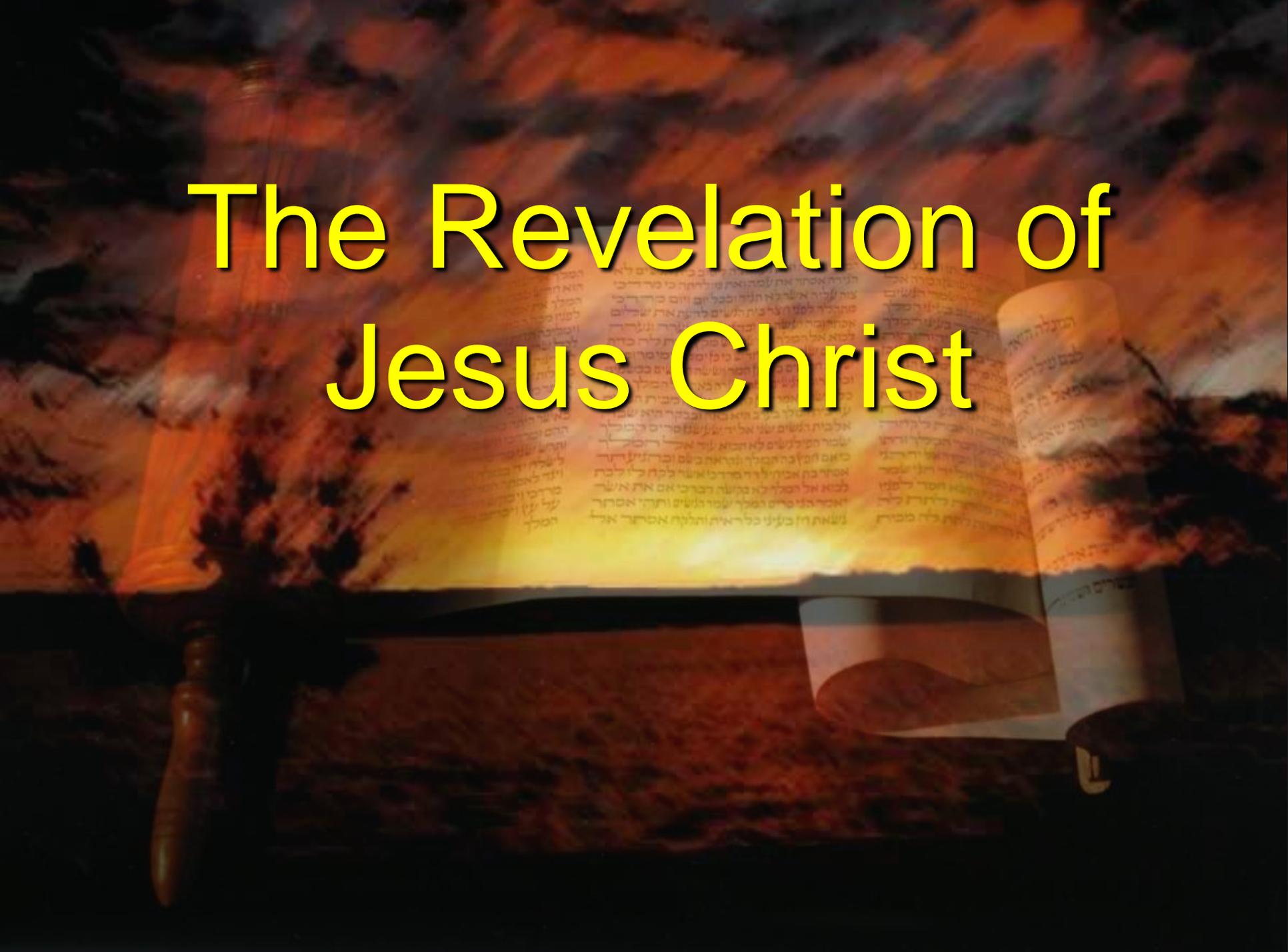


The Revelation of Jesus Christ

An open scroll with Hebrew text is the central focus, illuminated by a warm, golden light. The scroll is unrolled, showing two pages of text. The background is dark and textured, with a large, glowing orb (possibly a sun or moon) visible behind the scroll. The overall atmosphere is dramatic and ancient.

Prelude to Wrath

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

Revelation 7:3

The Tribulation

Church
Raptured

Second
Coming

The Beginning of Sorrows
3 1/2 Years

The Great Tribulation
3 1/2 Years

The 7 Seals



6 Trumpets



(7th Trumpet)



7 Thunders



The Two Witnesses

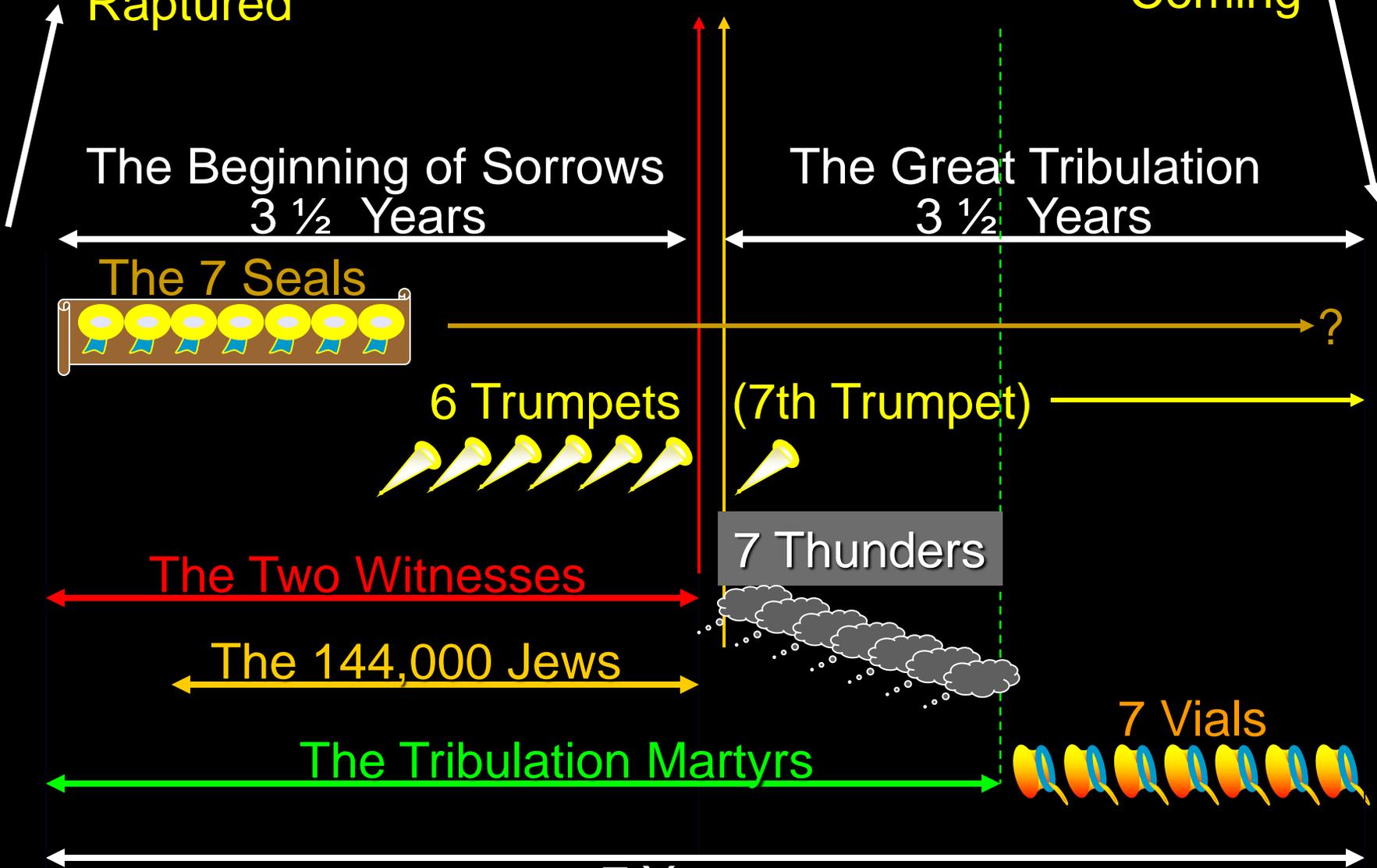
The 144,000 Jews

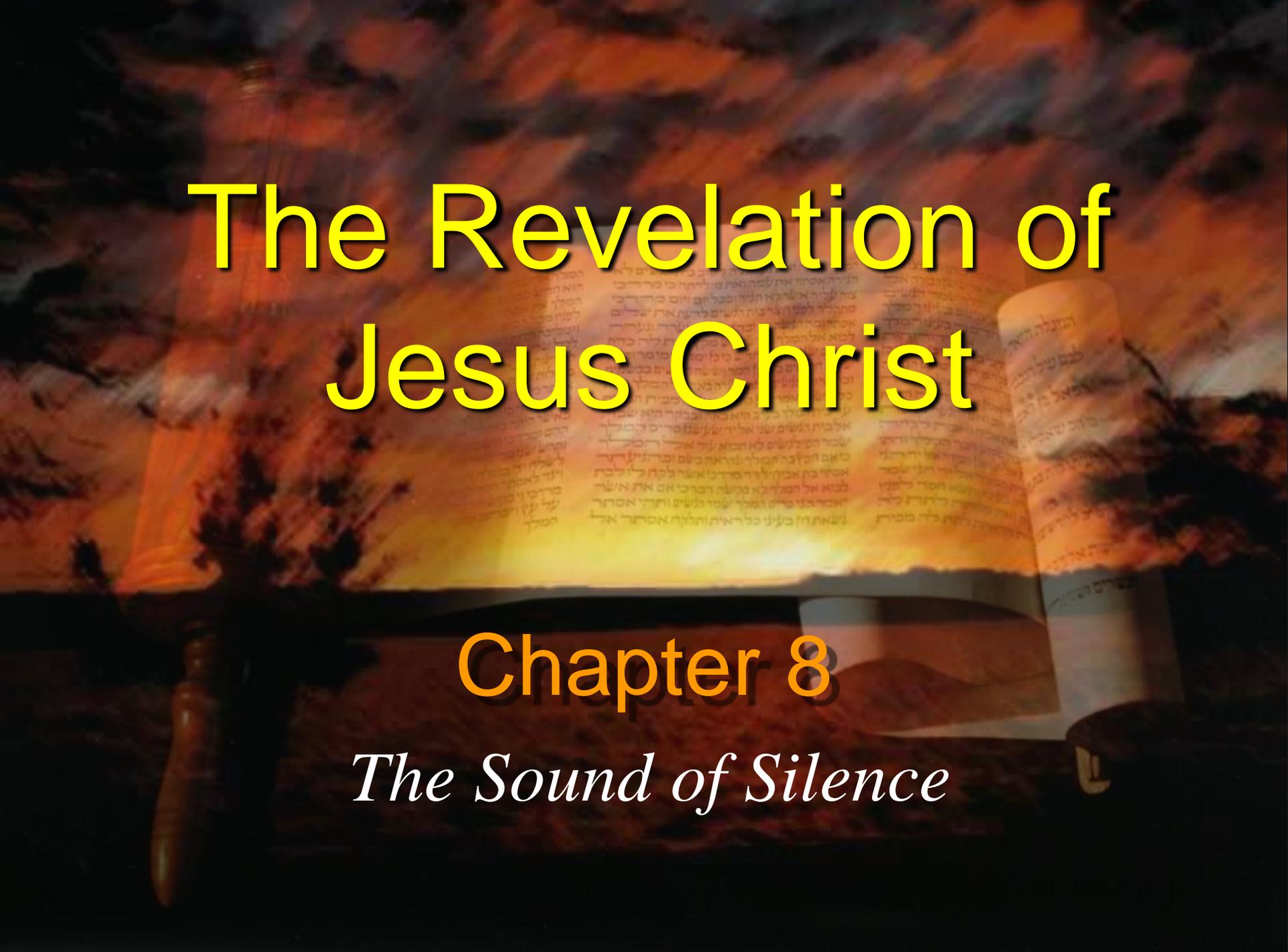
The Tribulation Martyrs

7 Vials



7 Years



The background features a glowing scroll with Hebrew text, set against a fiery, apocalyptic landscape with a dark, stormy sky. The scroll is the central focus, with its pages illuminated from within, creating a bright, golden glow. The text on the scroll is in Hebrew, and the overall scene conveys a sense of divine revelation and prophecy.

The Revelation of Jesus Christ

Chapter 8

The Sound of Silence

¹ And when he had opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven about the space of half an hour.

Revelation 8:1

- After the exuberant worship of ch 4-7, everything now goes silent!
- Silence can be deafening!
- The 7th seal will usher in the 7 trumpets
- It's as if all Heaven remembers what is about to happen, and the attention again turns to the throne

2 And I saw the seven angels which stood before God; and to them were given seven trumpets.

Revelation 8:2

- The first time we see 7 trumpets in Scripture is in the book of Joshua.
- We discover that Joshua is a Holy Spirit inspired model of the Book of Revelation.
 - Almost as if to expose those who allegorise these dramatic events in Revelation
 - we see that the ground has already been prepared, and a literal forerunner to these events has already taken place.

Joshua	Revelation
Joshua dispossessing the usurpers from the Land	Yeshua dispossessing the usurpers from the Land
Silence precedes the blowing of Trumpets	Silence precedes the blowing of Trumpets
7 Trumpets are blows	7 Trumpets are blows
Commander of the Army of the Lord fights the battle	Jesus fights the battle
Joshua sends in two 'spies'	Jesus sends in two witnesses
'Adoni-Zedek' sets himself up as king of Jerusalem	Anti-Christ sets himself up as 'king' of Jerusalem
At the battle of Beth Horon 'signs in the Sun, Moon & Stars	Rev 6:12 'signs in the Sun, Moon & Stars
The people hide themselves in caves to flee from God's wrath	The people hide themselves in caves to flee from God's wrath
The book ends with a covenant with God who'd delivered them	The book ends with a covenant with God who'd delivered them

3 And another angel came and stood at the altar, having a golden censer; and there was given unto him much incense, that he should offer it with the prayers of all saints upon the golden altar which was before the throne.

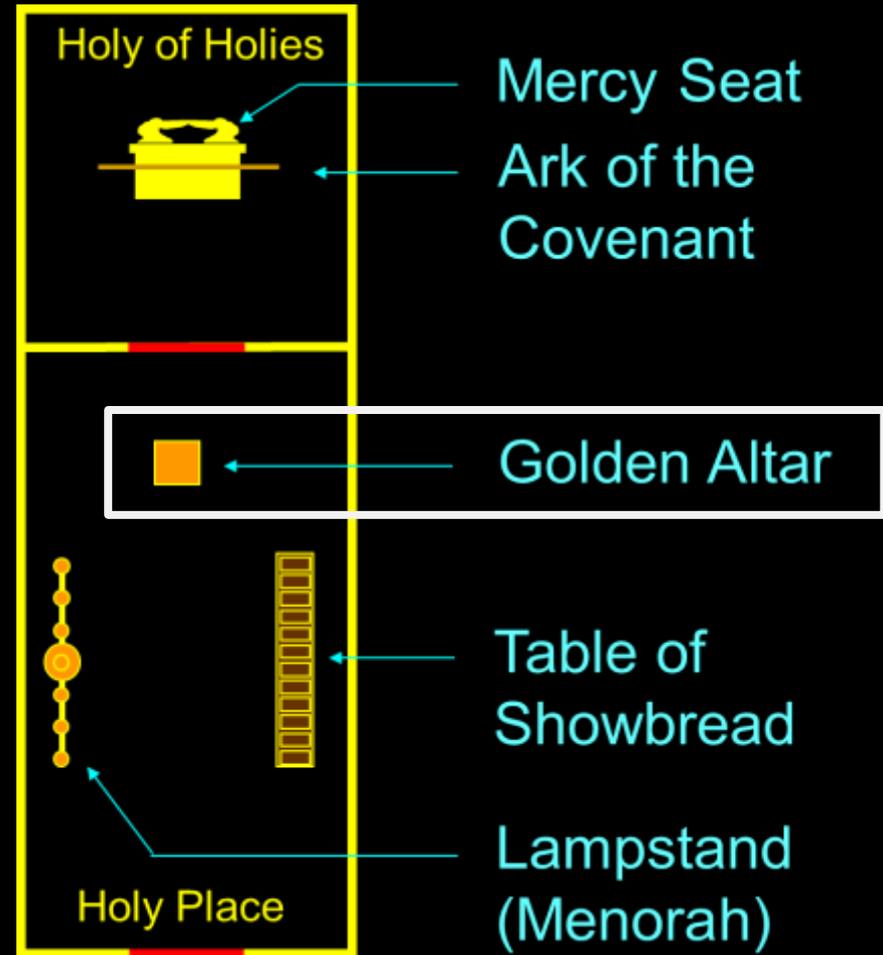
Revelation 8:3

- Back in chapter 5v8 we were told that the golden 'bowls' were full of odors, which represent the prayers of the saints.
- Throughout scripture incense is used as a type of worship and prayer

The Brazen Alter

- In the Old Testament, in the Tabernacle, and then later the Temple, the Brazen alter was where the sacrifices were offered.
- Once the sacrifice had been consumed, the burning coals were then taken to the Incense alter (also known as the Golden Alter) where they would heat the incense thus producing a sweet smell as the incense burned.

The Brazen Alter



The Prayers of the Saints

- When we have been consumed on God's alter
 - as Oswald Chambers puts it, 'given up the right to ourselves',
- ...and yielded complete control to God
- ...crucifying our flesh life and trusting completely in Him
- ...our lives truly become a sacrifice and a 'sweet smelling aroma'.

The Prayers of the Saints

- Chuck Missler says: *“Prayer is not about getting man’s will done in Heaven but about getting God’s will done on earth.”*
- So what are these prayers that are being offered on the golden altar?
- In short, these are all the prayers from Adam to now where it has been prayed *“Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven”*

Matthew 6:9-10

The Prayers of the Saints

- David repeatedly prayed for the kingdom to come
- Job looked expectantly for the kingdom
- Abraham knew this current order was not God's best
- Daniel and the prophets wrote extensively about the kingdom
- Matthew wrote of the kingdom 32x
- Jesus Himself told us to pray for it!

The Prayers of the Saints

- John is seeing in Heaven a petition signed by the church (and the other saints) for God to restore the kingdom to the One found worthy to open the seven seals – The Lamb of God.
- Is your name going to be on the petition?
- Are you praying for the kingdom to come?

4 And the smoke of the incense, which came with the prayers of the saints, ascended up before God out of the angel's hand.

Revelation 8:4

5 And the angel took the censer, and filled it with fire of the altar, and cast it into the earth: and there were voices, and thunderings, and lightnings, and an earthquake.

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

Revelation 8:5-6

- This is the 2nd Earthquake recorded
- Earth itself is in anticipation of what's coming!

- 19 For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God.
- 20 For the creature was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected the same in hope,
- 21 Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God.
- 22 For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now.

Romans 8:19-22

20 And he shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you:

21 Whom the heaven must receive until the times of restitution of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began.

Acts 3:20-21

- This is the end of the 7th Seal

The First Trumpet



**Hail, Fire & Blood rain down,
1/3 trees/green grass burnt up.**

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

Revelation 8:7

- There is an intended similarity with the plagues of Egypt
- That was the model in advance of which this is the fulfilment.
 - Cf the plagues in Ex 8-9 and 'The Assyrian'
- But what causes this catastrophe?

The First Trumpet

- Firstly, the volcanic eruptions resulting from a worldwide earthquake such as has just occurred in Rev 8:5 would throw debris up into the atmosphere.
- The only place for all of this to go is back down to earth.
- This could account for all the things mentioned, i.e. hail and fire mingled with blood, from creatures whose blood has been shed upon the ground.

The First Trumpet

- Could Sodom & Gomorrah have been destroyed in this way?
 - Solomon said there is nothing new under the Sun, and that which will be is that which has been!

Ecclesiastes 1:9

- Remember that Jesus said: *“And as it was in the days of Noah, so shall it be also in the days of the Son of man... Likewise also as it was in the days of Lot; they did eat, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they built; But the same day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven, and destroyed them all. Even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of man is revealed”*

Luke 17:26-30

The Destruction of Sodom?

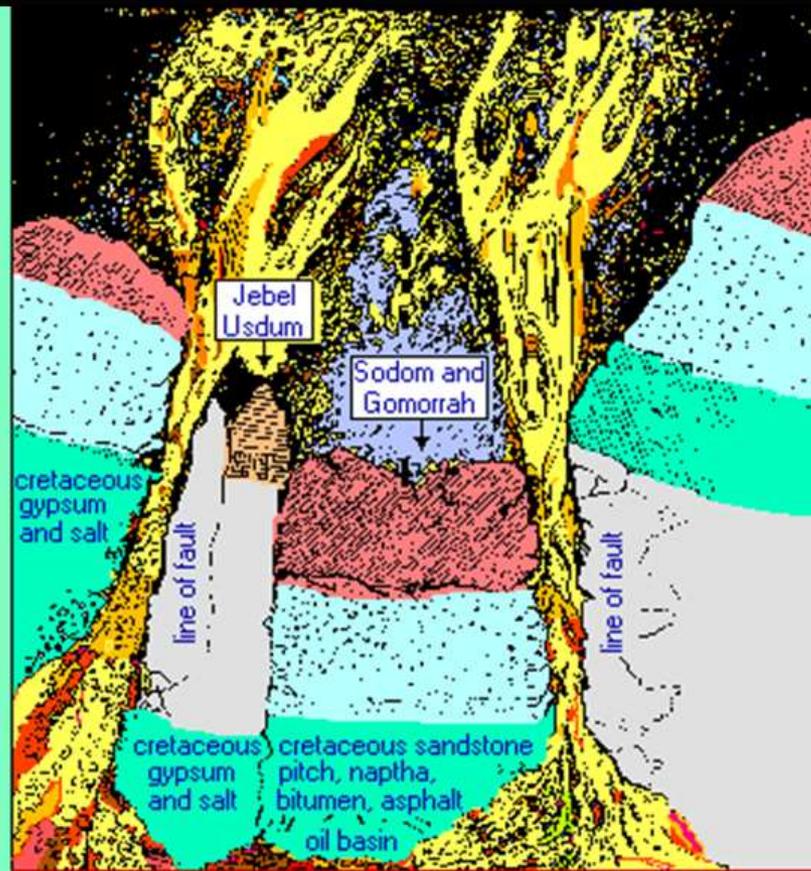


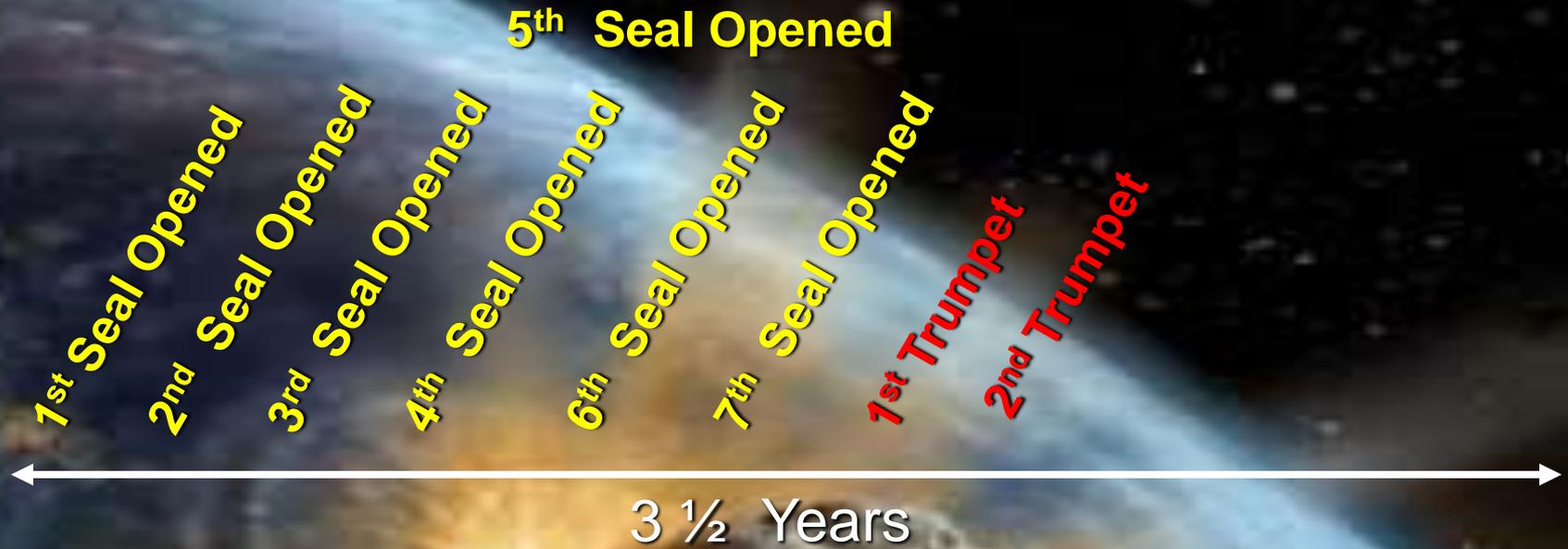
Diagram illustrating how excessive pressure caused by faulting resulted in ignition of oil, gas, sulphur and bitumen from the underlying oil field.

Location of Sodom and Gomorrah

The First Trumpet

- A second possible scenario is a nuclear exchange. As Pastor Jon Courson points out: *“Keep in mind history verifies that weapon systems have never been developed which have not been used. Therefore, it would be an aberration of history if all of the countries which presently have nuclear weapons including Russia, France, England, Israel, India, China, the US, and a host of others failed to use them. I am not saying this passage can only refer to a nuclear holocaust. However, the fact remains that upon the detonation of a nuclear warhead, 250-mph winds of fire follow. In addition, above-ground nuclear tests on the island of Bikini caused the surrounding water to shoot thousands of feet into the air, where it froze and returned as hailstones big enough to destroy the equipment intended to monitor it.”*

The Second Trumpet



Massive meteor hits the ocean

1/3 of all marine life dies & 1/3 ships destroyed

8 And the second angel sounded, and as it were a great mountain burning with fire was cast into the sea: and the third part of the sea became blood;

Revelation 8:8

- cf. Exodus 7:17 – the first plague of Egypt
- Note: ‘as it were’ i.e. it was like a great mountain
 - This is most likely a burning meteor that hits the sea
 - If so, the ensuing tidal wave would be devastating!
- But note also: not ‘as blood’, John says they became blood.
 - This is just as great a miracle as it was in Egypt

9 And the third part of the creatures which were in the sea, and had life, died; and the third part of the ships were destroyed.

Revelation 8:9

- 1/3 sea becomes blood, 1/3 marine life dies, and possibly as many as 8000 ships are destroyed.
 - Marine life produce oxygen!
 - 70% of Earth's oxygen comes from the oceans
- Apparently, 1/3 ships can be found at any one time in the Atlantic Ocean, which just happens to be about one third of the world's oceans
- Distribution of food will become very hard!

The Third Trumpet



**Another 'star' hits the rivers and contaminates
1/3 of the rivers – 'many men died'**

10 And the third angel sounded, and there fell a great star from heaven, burning as it were a lamp, and it fell upon the third part of the rivers, and upon the fountains of waters;

11 And the name of the star is called Wormwood: and the third part of the waters became wormwood; and many men died of the waters, because they were made bitter.

Revelation 8:10-11

- The Russian word for 'Wormwood' is translated 'Chernobyl'. When the Chernobyl reactor problem occurred in 1986 many died and the surrounding water supplies were contaminated.

The Forth Trumpet



1/3 Sun & Moon turns to darkness

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

Revelation 8:12

- As this fourth angel sounds, something happens that reduces the amount of light from the Sun, Moon & stars by one third.
- Either a nuclear fallout? or volcanic debris?

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

Revelation 8:13

- The word translated 'Angel' in this verse is actually from the Greek word for 'Eagle' according to the Septuagint.
- What does matter is what is said. '**Woe, woe, woe, to the inhabitants of the earth**'. This literally means 'those who have chosen to inhabit the earth'.
 - This idea occurs 12 x in Revelation

Woe, Woe, Woe

Woe, woe, woe, to the inhabitants of the earth by reason of the other voices of the trumpet of the three angels, which are yet to sound! (Rev 8:13)

you 'aint seen nothing yet!

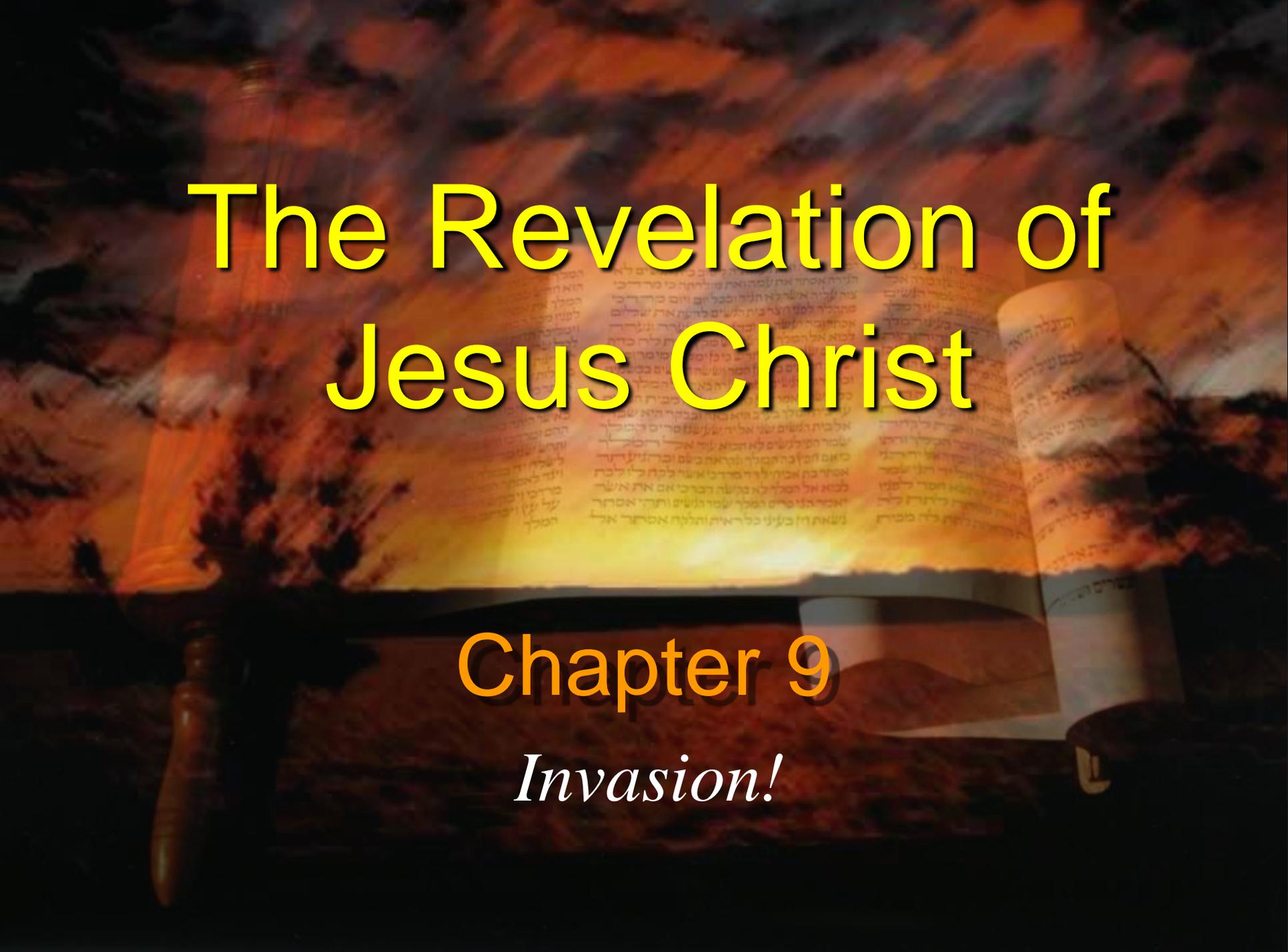
A Solemn Warning

⁵ Whoso mocketh the poor reproacheth his Maker: and *he that is glad at calamities shall not be unpunished.*"

Proverbs 17:5

²³ Have I any pleasure at all that the wicked should die? saith the Lord GOD: and not that he should return *from his ways, and live?"*

Ezekiel 18:23



The Revelation of Jesus Christ

Chapter 9

Invasion!

The Fifth Trumpet



**Demonic Locusts released from the
bottomless pit – to torture men for 5 months**



¹ And the fifth angel sounded, and I saw a star fall from heaven unto the earth: and to him was given the key of the bottomless pit.

Revelation 9:1

- Star = angel
- Note that he was given the key to bottomless pit.
 - An asteroid or meteor would not have a lot of use for a key!
 - “There is no indication that this is a fallen angel. He will descend from heaven to open the abyss, liberating the creatures who will fulfil this vision.....He must be a holy and trusted angel to have the key to the pit. If a fallen one he could liberate all the fallen creatures that are now there. He is not the angel of the bottomless pit, for no king of demons could be trusted with such a key” Dake

The Bottomless Pit

- Literally translated as the 'long shaft of the abyss'.
- The abyss was understood by the Jewish Rabbis and Greek philosophers to be a hollow place in the centre of the earth being the abode of the dead.
- There's much Biblical support:
 - Num 16:33 *'...went down alive into the pit'*,
 - Ezek 26:20 *'When I shall bring thee down with them that descend into the pit, with the people of old time, and shall set thee in the low parts of the earth'*
 - Ezek 31:16 *'I made the nations to shake at the sound of his fall, when I cast him down to hell with them that descend into the pit'*
 - (See also: Romans 10:7 / Isaiah 5:14 / Isaiah 38:17-18 / Psalm 28:1 / Psalm 30:3)

The Bottomless Pit

- Note what Peter says regarding the angels who sinned prior to the flood (by taking the daughters of men):
 - “...*God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell, and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment;*” (2 Peter 2:4).
- The Greek word translated ‘Hell’ is ‘Tartaros’ which was believed to be the deepest part of Hades.
- Some scholars believe that God has held these angels in chains until this point.
- Literally: they have been *‘reserved for a time of judgment’* when they will be loosed to fulfill God’s purposes, prior to their own destruction.

2 And he opened the bottomless pit; and there arose a smoke out of the pit, as the smoke of a great furnace; and the sun and the air were darkened by reason of the smoke of the pit.

3 And there came out of the smoke locusts upon the earth: and unto them was given power, as the scorpions of the earth have power.

Revelation 9:2-3

- Ref Exodus 10:12-15
- But God stated that there would never be such Locusts again... so these are clearly different!

4 And it was commanded them that they should not hurt the grass of the earth, neither any green thing, neither any tree; but only those men which have not the seal of God in their foreheads.

Revelation 9:4

- The 144,000 were the ones sealed
- Notice that the Church is not mentioned, confirming her residence as now out of this world in Heaven!

- 5 And to them it was given that they should not kill them, but that they should be tormented five months: and their torment was as the torment of a scorpion, when he striketh a man.
- 6 And in those days shall men seek death, and shall not find it; and shall desire to die, and death shall flee from them..

Revelation 9:5-6

- 5 Months? Grace?
- Only God holds our lives in His hand

7 And the shapes of the locusts were like unto horses prepared unto battle; and on their heads were as it were crowns like gold, and their faces were as the faces of men.

8 And they had hair as the hair of women, and their teeth were as the teeth of lions.

Revelation 9:7-8

- Make no mistake, the reason we are given so much detail is so that we don't assume that this can't be real!

Demonic Locusts



- 9 And they had breastplates, as it were breastplates of iron; and the sound of their wings was as the sound of chariots of many horses running to battle.
- 10 And they had tails like unto scorpions, and there were stings in their tails: and their power was to hurt men five months.

Revelation 9:9-10

¹¹ And they had a king over them, which is the angel of the bottomless pit, whose name in the Hebrew tongue is Abaddon, but in the Greek tongue hath his name Apollyon.

Revelation 9:11

- *“These locusts are further differentiated from ordinary locusts in that they have a king over them. Proverbs 30:27 says of natural locusts that they have no king. The king or leader of these locusts is probably one of the fallen angels, the chief henchman of Satan, and he is permitted to lead an invasion of earth for the first time. This is something that is going to be rather frightening. His name in Hebrew means “destruction,” and in Greek it means “the destroyer.””*

J.Vernon McGee

12 One woe is past; and, behold, there come two woes more hereafter.

Revelation 9:12

- Trumpet judgment 5 has now past. Trumpets 6 and 7 are about to sound.
- All of this – the 7 seals, the 7 trumpets – seem to be leading to a crescendo which we will reach in 10:6.
- Remember also that seemingly all of this is really the prelude to the Great Tribulation and therefore God's wake up call to the people on the earth to repent before things really start to get nasty.
- Up till now everything has been in measure

The Sixth Trumpet



1st Seal Opened

2nd Seal Opened

3rd Seal Opened

4th Seal Opened

5th Seal Opened

6th Seal Opened

7th Seal Opened

1st Trumpet

2nd Trumpet

3rd Trumpet

4th Trumpet

5th Trumpet

6th Trumpet

3 1/2 Years

200 Million 'Demonic Army' released to kill one third of men

13 And the sixth angel sounded, and I heard a voice from the four horns of the golden altar which is before God,

14 Saying to the sixth angel which had the trumpet, Loose the four angels which are bound in the great river Euphrates.

Revelation 9:13-14

- The four angels that are loosed must be fallen angels as is clear from the fact that they are bound
- The Euphrates appears to be a dividing line on God's map of the world. It is the eastern boundary of the land that God promised to Abraham

15 And the four angels were loosed, which were prepared for an hour, and a day, and a month, and a year, for to slay the third part of men.

16 And the number of the army of the horsemen were two hundred thousand thousand: and I heard the number of them.

Revelation 9:15-16

- God's clock is on schedule, to the very hour!
- In the forth seal (Rev 6:8) we saw a third of mankind die, the third trumpet (Rev 8:10) judgment causes 'many men' to die, and now a third of those who are left. This is way over half the world's population

17 And thus I saw the horses in the vision, and them that sat on them, having breastplates of fire, and of jacinth, and brimstone: and the heads of the horses were as the heads of lions; and out of their mouths issued fire and smoke and brimstone.

Revelation 9:17

- This is not 'picture language', John is describing what he is seeing. However John was not the first; the prophet Joel saw the same events and adds further insight...

The Fall Feasts

Prophetic Fulfilment ?

- Trumpets – Joel 1:1-2:11 / Rev 8 & 9
 - A blowing of trumpets
 - Fire symbolizing judgment
- Atonement – Joel 2:12-2:32 / Rev 12
 - Repentance & reconciliation
 - Scapegoat flees to the wilderness
- Tabernacles – Joel 3:1-21 / Rev 16 & 19
 - The feast of ingathering
 - The dwelling together in unity

The Sixth Trumpet

⁶ 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.

Joel 1:6

The Sixth Trumpet

³ 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.

⁴ The appearance of them is as the appearance of horses; and as horsemen, so shall they run.

Joel 2:3-4

The Sixth Trumpet

⁵ 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.

⁶ Before their face the people shall be much pained: all faces shall gather blackness.

⁷ 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:

The Sixth Trumpet

⁸ 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.

⁹ 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.

¹⁰ 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:

Joel 2:8-10

18 By these three was the third part of men killed, by the fire, and by the smoke, and by the brimstone, which issued out of their mouths.

Revelation 9:19

- *“And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved”* Matt 24:21
- And bear in mind the ‘Great Tribulation’ hasn’t yet begun! (that’s the last 3 ½ years).

19 For their power is in their mouth, and in their tails: for their tails were like unto serpents, and had heads, and with them they do hurt.

Revelation 9:19

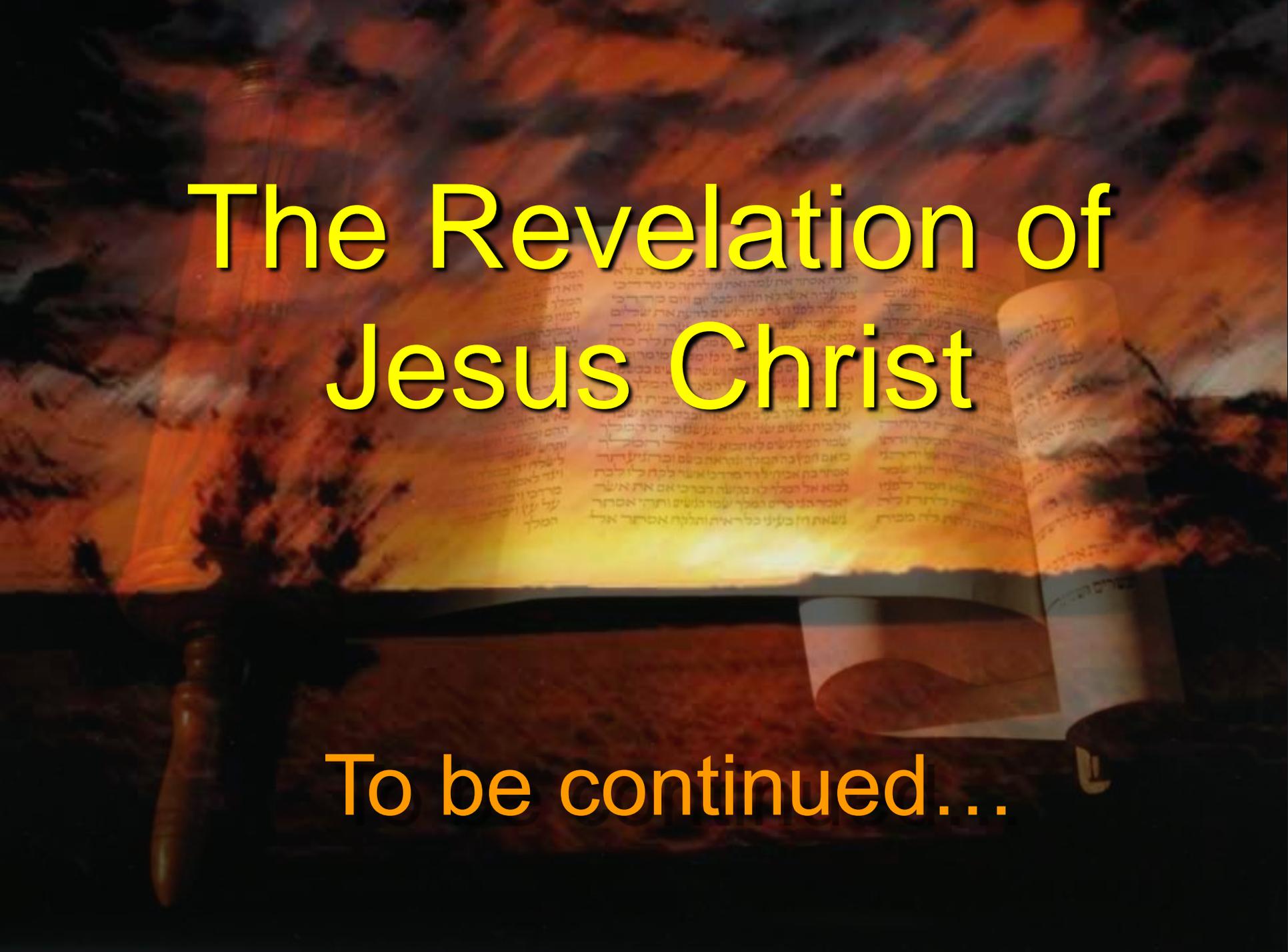
- The best advice would be to RUN!
- Actually that's not quite true.
- The BEST advice is to repent and put your trust in Jesus Christ now and *“be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.”* (Luke 21:36)

20 And the rest of the men which were not killed by these plagues yet repented not of the works of their hands, that they should not worship devils, and idols of gold, and silver, and brass, and stone, and of wood: which neither can see, nor hear, nor walk:

21 Neither repented they of their murders, nor of their sorceries, nor of their fornication, nor of their thefts.

Revelation 9:20-21

- **Why?** How stubborn and rebellions can mankind be?
- God could unleash 'all Hell' at once and destroy mankind; but with each succeeding judgment we see His mercy and longsuffering.

An open scroll with Hebrew text, illuminated by a warm light, set against a dark, textured background. The scroll is unrolled, showing two pages of text. The lighting is dramatic, with a bright glow emanating from the center of the scroll, creating a sense of revelation and divine light. The background is dark and textured, possibly representing a cave or a hidden place of discovery.

The Revelation of Jesus Christ

To be continued...