

REVELATION

To Him That Overcometh
Will I Give To Eat of The Tree Of Life

California
Kid's
Camp
2014
Intermediate
Workbook

NAME _____

Parent Signature

(When workbook is completed, please sign here)

This page is for your counselors who will be reviewing and marking your work.

Overall Comments:

_____ All Bible Marking Completed

Project Completed

The following questions were not completed or need more work.
Please finish them, and return to your counselor. Let your teacher or
counselor know if you need help.



James 1:5 "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives to all men generously and without reproaching, and it will be given him."

Remember to start every study with a prayer to your Heavenly Father.

to your Study of the Word of God

some helpful hints:

Use a **PENCIL!** (that way you can erase your answers if you make a mistake or want to change your answer later)

Read **EVERYTHING** in this workbook!
(You'll find A LOT of answers that way!)

If you get **STUCK**, put a star ★ next to the question and move on to the next question
(then when you have completed the section,
you can go back and try again.)

READ, re-read, & ASK QUESTIONS!
(always make sure you totally understand the passage you are studying before you try to answer questions - ask your parents or Uncles & Aunties at your ecclesia if you have any problems - they'd love to help you!)

Here's What You'll Need To Complete This Workbook.

- King James Version Wide Margin Bible
- Strong's Concordance
- Dictionary
- Bible Atlas or access to online references

Here' are some things that are
Nice to Have for your study
of Revelation.

- Revelation Study Guide
by Michael Ashton
- Christadelphian Expositor:
Revelation by H.P. Mansfield
- Guide to the Apocalypse
by John Hensley

Intermediate Project

All Kid's Campers are required to complete a special project before arriving at camp. It will be presented to your counselor, then displayed in the Main Hall during the week.

It's a good idea to read through these instructions so when you're doing your study you can be thinking of your project, but you'll need to complete the study before completing the project.

The book of Revelation uses different ways to describe different periods in history: Seals, Trumpets and Vials are all used as representing different events that would happen throughout history, starting when John first received the vision of the Revelation, in about 96AD, all the way through to when the Kingdom is set up!

When John wrote Revelation, it was ALL a prophecy, none of it had happened yet, but today, in the 21st century, as you read through the book of Revelation, most of it has already happened, and so it's like reading a history book - at least until you get to the part of the prophecy that is taking place in the world NOW!

For your Intermediate Project, you are a NEWS REPORTER.

Choose **ONE** of the following time periods from the book of Revelation:

1. Write a newspaper article about each of the first 6 **Seals**,
2. **OR** Write a newspaper article about each of the first 6 **Trumpets**,
3. **OR** Write a newspaper article about each of the first 6 **Vials**.

Use historical information along with Bible verses or quotes to show how accurately the prophecies of Revelation have been fulfilled. Include maps, pictures, dates, and whatever else you can think of to make sure your readers understand the importance of your message!

Let's Get STARTED!

Let's start with the basics. What is a "revelation" and why is the last book of the Bible called "The Revelation of Jesus Christ"?

This is what the dictionary has to say about what a revelation is:

revelation |,revə'lāSHən|

noun

- 1 a surprising and previously unknown fact, especially one that is made known in a dramatic way
- 2 the divine disclosure to humans of something relating to human existence or the world

As you may already know, the book of Revelation was originally written in the Greek language. This is what the concordance says that the original Greek word for 'revelation' means:

revelation=Strong's #602 = ἀποκάλυψις
apokalupsis "apocalypse"
to uncover, to unveil, to bring to light that which was hidden.

This is why the Book of Revelation is many times called "The Apocalypse"

- because that is the actual word that John used when writing this book.

It was the **Apocalypse of Jesus Christ**.

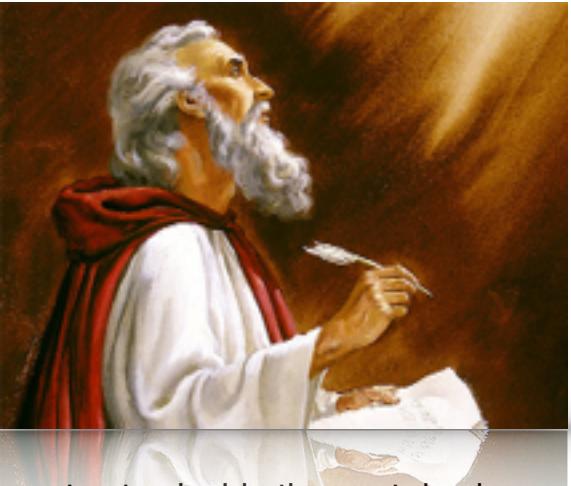
The Apocalypse shows us how the glory of Jesus Christ will be revealed to the whole world when he comes to set up the kingdom.

1. Why do some people call the Book of Revelation "The Apocalypse"? (hint: see above)

Another reason you will hear people refer to the last book of the Bible as the **Apocalypse** instead of **Revelation** - because, in fact, the **whole Bible**, from Genesis to the end, is a Revelation from God, not *just* the last book of the Bible!!

All through the Bible, God gives His people prophecies, The book we know as **Revelation** is just the last one! **Why?** Why does God give His people prophecies?

Think about this: if someone told you that tomorrow morning you should stay in your house because there was going to be a huge hailstorm and fire falling from the sky, you would probably think he was crazy, right? But what if he told you that you would wake up and look outside and there would be leaves completely covering the street in front of your house even though you don't have any trees nearby, and the next morning, you looked out and there were leaves covering the street? You may start to believe that person knew what they were talking about. What if that person told you that the next morning there would be two feet of snow in your city, even though it's summer, and when you woke up there was? What if that same person told you exactly what would happen to you for a month, and every day it was true? Now would you believe them? Now what if that person told you to stay inside the next day because there was going to be a huge hailstorm and fire from the sky? You just might stay inside.



This is kind of what God has done since He created Adam. He gave visions to His prophets so that people would know that He was speaking through them and that they could count on what He was saying. All throughout the Bible God gives His people **hope**. Over and over and over we can read about the prophecies that Jonah, Daniel, Micah, Isaiah, and many many, many others give, and see that ***all of those prophecies came true!*** Not ***one single prophecy*** that God has given hasn't come true in ***exactly*** the way He said it would. This gives us a **very** good reason to believe that the **rest** of His prophecies will also come true! **Including** the prophecy that He will send His son back to the earth to set up a glorious Kingdom!

2. Why did God send prophecies and prophets to His people? _____
-
-

The book of Revelation told its readers about things that would begin to happen soon after it was given to Christ's apostle John in AD 96, and it has been telling its readers about things that God was going to make happen **ever since**. It is such an **amazing** book that it even tells us about things that will happen in **our** days and it goes on to tell **all about** the return of Christ and the coming Kingdom.

3. When was John given the Book of the Revelation? _____



In the Old Testament God used **prophets** to speak for Him. They would tell the people what they were doing wrong, and what would happen if they did not **change**. They would tell the people all about God's plans and how they could be a **part** of those plans **if** they were willing to live their lives in the **service** of God.

After Christ's apostles died, God **didn't send** prophets to talk to His people any more. He had a **different** plan. He gave **one** prophecy to **one** man, and had him write the prophecy down and then God had him send it to seven different ecclesiases. **This man was John**. John was given a **HUGE** prophecy about things that would happen on the earth from his time (which was almost 100 years after Christ was born) all the way until Christ returned to the earth, and set up the Kingdom for his Father on the earth. John wrote all of these prophecies down, and we call this **The Book of the Revelation of Jesus Christ**.

4. What has God used instead of prophets since the death of Christ's apostles? _____

5. Why do you think God stopped using prophets? _____

6. This John that received the revelation from Christ was the same John that was a follower of Christ when Christ was on earth. Look up the following verses, and write what you learn about this man.

~ Matthew 4:18-22 _____

~ Matthew 17:1-3 _____

~ Mark 5:35-37 _____

~ Mark 14:32-43 _____

~ Luke 22:7-8 _____

7. In the following verses it talks about John, although not by name. What is John called in these verses? John 13:23, 20:2, 21:7, & 21:20? _____



In the book of the REVELATION, God showed John step by step how He was going to prepare the earth for the return of His son and for the kingdom. But, as you might expect, the book of Revelation does not stop there. God also gave us seven **visions of the kingdom** for us to read. These visions were a big help to the true believers who were going through some very difficult times because they could read about their hard times and then they could read about the amazing times ahead in the kingdom.

In order to help you in your studies of the Book of Revelation, it's good to know where the seven visions are. In your Bible, take a blue colored pencil and a ruler or straight edge and NEATLY draw a line next to the center margin next to these verses. Below is an example of the first vision marked.

8. Mark the following verses the same way: by coloring in a line next to the center margin of all of the following verses.
Check off the boxes when you're done with each vision.

- Rev. 1:12-20
- Rev. 7:9-17
- Rev. 10:1-11
- Rev. 14:1-20 (make sure to leave a space between this line and the next one)
- Rev. 15:1-8
- Rev. 19:1-9
- Rev. 4:1-5:14



9. Now that you have all of the visions colored in your margin, write the vision number, and what the vision is about in your margin by the first verse of each vision (as shown.)



& in the margin by the verse
write this: ↓

Turn to this verse: ↓

Revelation 1:12

¹² And I turned to see the voice that spake with me. And being turned, I saw seven golden candlesticks;

Vision #1- One like the Son of Man

Revelation 4:1

¹ After this I looked, and, behold, a door was opened in heaven: and the first voice which I heard was as it were of a trumpet talking with me; which said, Come up hither, and I will shew thee things which must be hereafter.

Vision #2- Throne in heaven

Revelation 7:9

⁹ After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands;

Vision #3- Multitude no man can number

Revelation 10:1

¹ And I saw another mighty angel come down from heaven, clothed with a cloud: and a rainbow was upon his head, and his face was as it were the sun, and his feet as pillars of fire:

Vision #4- Rainbowed angel

Revelation 14:1

¹ And I looked, and, lo, a Lamb stood on the mount Sion, and with him an hundred forty and four thousand, having his Father's name written in their foreheads.

Vision #5- The lamb on Mount Zion

Revelation 15:1

¹ And I saw another sign in heaven, great and marvellous, seven angels having the seven last plagues; for in them is filled up the wrath of God.

Vision #6- God's judgements

Revelation 19:1

¹ And after these things I heard a great voice of much people in heaven, saying, Alleluia; Salvation, and glory, and honour, and power, unto the Lord our God:

Vision #7- Marriage of the Lamb



The Revelation of Jesus Christ

READ: Revelation 1:1-3

In the first few **verses** of the book of Revelation we are given some information about how important the book of Revelation is to us. It is a book that came from God to us through His son, Jesus Christ. It is a book that promises **blessing** to all that **read**, **hear**, and **keep** the things that are written in it. To be blessed is to be happy, completely happy. This happiness comes from **reading** (which means to read in detail), **hearing** (which means to study to understand) and **keeping** (which means to apply the principles in our lives). By doing these things we will begin to think like our Heavenly Father, and **in this way of thinking we will find great happiness.**

10. Open your Bible to Revelation 1:1. Fill in the blanks: "The Revelation of _____ which _____ gave unto him to show unto his _____ things which must shortly come to pass; and he sent and signified it by his _____ unto his servant _____."

11. We can see how God works with His son, with angels and with men and women to reach His purpose. Take the words you filled in above, and write those same words in the boxes below. (be careful! They're not in the same order!)

[] told His plan for the earth and His coming Kingdom to []
[] who showed it to an []
[] so that he would show it to []
[] who wrote everything down, so it would be read by God's []

12. In verse 1 we are told that the events written about in the book of Revelation would shortly come to pass. What does the word shortly mean? (*Concordance*)

shortly

(Strong's # _____)

13. In verse one we are also told that the things written in the book were **signified** by an angel. This means that the message that the angels were teaching was given by **signs** or **symbols**. Can you think of some symbols from the Bible that you have learned before?

List 3 Bible symbols and what they represent below (hint: you could check your Bible marking from previous camps).

Example: *lamb > Christ* _____

14. A message that came from God, was given to Christ, passed on to an angel, shown to John and then written down for us, must be a very important message. Verse 3 tells us that those that read, hear and keep the words will be blessed. What do the following words from verse 3 mean? (hint: this is one of those times that if you've read your workbook, answering the questions will be easy!)

Blessed=_____

Readeth=_____

Hear=_____

Keep=_____

John's location when given the Book of the Revelation of Jesus Christ

Read Revelation 1:9-11

15. In Revelation 1:9 we learn a bit about the man John who wrote this book. Where was John when he wrote this book? _____

Circle the location on the map. →



16. The Romans, who were ruling over Israel at the time of Christ and his disciple John, used this island as a place to put their prisoners. Who else in the Bible was thrown into prison, or banished because of what they believed & preached? Name at least 3.

17. John was about to be shown many of the things that were going to happen from his day, all the way to our day, and all the way into the kingdom. He was going to be shown these things in symbols. How was John supposed to record the things which he saw? _____

18. The word "**church**" in the Bible does not refer to a *building* (which is what modern dictionaries say) but to a **group of people** that have been **called out** of the world to be a part of the family of Jesus Christ. What is the Greek word for "churches" in verse 11? (Concordance)

19. List the 7 churches that John was to send a copy of the book (Revelation) that he was supposed to write to. _____,
_____, _____, _____, _____, _____, _____,

20. Locate the 7 churches and put them on the map above.

21. List the 7 ecclesiasties nearest to your home _____,
_____, _____, _____, _____, _____, _____,

church
Biblical Greek word=

**"group of people
called out
of the world"**

the world's definition:
**church =
"a building
used for worship"**

The Vision of the Throne in Heaven

part 1

Read Revelation 4

If you have ever put together a **puzzle** you know that the best way to find out where all of the pieces go is to look at the cover of the box first to see what it will look like when it is all done. The book of Revelation is a lot like that; it gives us pictures of what God has planned for the earth and then it tells us **step by step** how God will make it happen. In chapter 4 we are shown a picture of Jesus Christ on the throne in the kingdom. He has **24 elders** and **4 beasts** around him which represent the people that have lived their lives serving God and now are immortal. **They help Christ** educate, govern, and judge the mortal people living on earth during the kingdom. When Christ and the saints are ruling the earth, we read that the nations will be like a **sea of glass**, which means the nations of the earth will be as peaceful as an ocean that has no waves on it.

22. One of the most important symbols for us to understand in the whole Bible is the symbol of the word heaven. The word heaven is a symbol of something that is above, that is raised up, or that rules over. In verse 2 the throne of Jesus Christ is set up in heaven, which means that his rulership is going to be set up above everyone on the earth. Find a verse in the Bible that shows that the throne of Christ will be on earth, not in the literal heaven.

23. What do the 24 elders in verse 4 represent? _____

24. What is the Greek word for **throne** in verse 2? **Strong's#** _____ = “_____”

25. What is the Greek word for **seat** in verse 4? **Strong's#** _____ = “_____”

26. Now re-read verses 2 - 4: what does your answer to question 23 tell us about the position people will have in the kingdom? _____



27. Verse 6 tells us that when Christ and the saints are ruling, there will be a sea that is like glass. What does the sea represent?
_____ That sea is said to be as smooth as glass, what do you think this means?

28. What does Luke 21:25 tell us about the condition of the sea at Christ's return? _____

29. What do you think that tells us about the nations in the world when Christ returns? _____



30. What does the word beast in v.6 mean?
Write the Strong's#, the English pronunciation, and the meaning of the word.

beast# _____, “ _____ ”

Every time you read the word “beast” in Rev. 4&5 it is always this word (but be careful! It’s not the same all the way through Revelation!)
These beasts represent _____

31. List the 4 faces of the beasts:

32. Where else in the Bible do we find these 4 faces?

33. Who does Daniel 7:27 say will reign over the kingdoms of the earth? _____

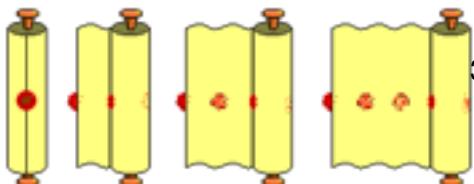


The Vision of the Throne in Heaven part 2

Read Revelation 5

The vision that John saw in chapter 4 continues in chapter 5 and now John sees a scroll. The scroll was extraordinary for two reasons: First: it had 7 seals on it which made it so that no one could open it to look at it. Second: when the seals were removed the things written on its pages began to actually happen. It was a scroll that everyone wanted to open because when the last seal was opened and the scroll was completely opened up, the kingdom would be set up! The problem was that no one was worthy (no one was good enough) to open up the seals. Then John saw a slain lamb which represents Jesus Christ who was able to open the seals. His life of obedience and his death made him worthy to open the seals which meant that the things written in the scroll could start to take place.

34. What does the word book in verse one mean? (Concordance)



35. How many seals were on the book? _____

36. Why did John weep much? _____

37. Find a Bible prophecy that uses the term 'lion' to refer to Christ. _____

38. Explain what it means in verse 5 when it says that Christ was of the "Root of David". See Luke 1:32.

39. Verse 6 says that there was, "a Lamb as it had been slain." Explain why this is an excellent description for Christ. _____



40. How many horns did the slain Lamb have? _____

41. How many eyes did he have? _____

42. Fill in the blanks for verse 9-10 -

"And they sung a _____ song, saying, Thou art _____ to take the _____, and to _____ the _____ thereof: for thou wast _____, and hast redeemed us to _____ by thy _____ out of every _____, and _____, and _____, and _____; And hast made us unto our God _____ and _____: and we shall _____ on the _____."

43. What seven things did the angels say the Lamb was worthy to receive?

_____,
_____,
_____,
_____,
_____,
_____,
_____.

the Seals



Read Revelation 6

Do you remember the scene described for us in chapter 4? Christ was on the throne, with the saints helping him to rule over the world and because the whole world had Christ and the

the world's definition:

saint =
a holy person in heaven after death

the Bible's definition:

saint =
someone who is doing God's work

saints as their government, the people of the earth lived in peace, trying to obey God. They were like a sea of glass.

This scene showed us what the kingdom would be like, but the world that John lived in was not a world of peace, it was a world where most of the people did not try to obey God and the nations were constantly fighting each other. There was a lot of work that needed to be done to make the earth ready for the kingdom.

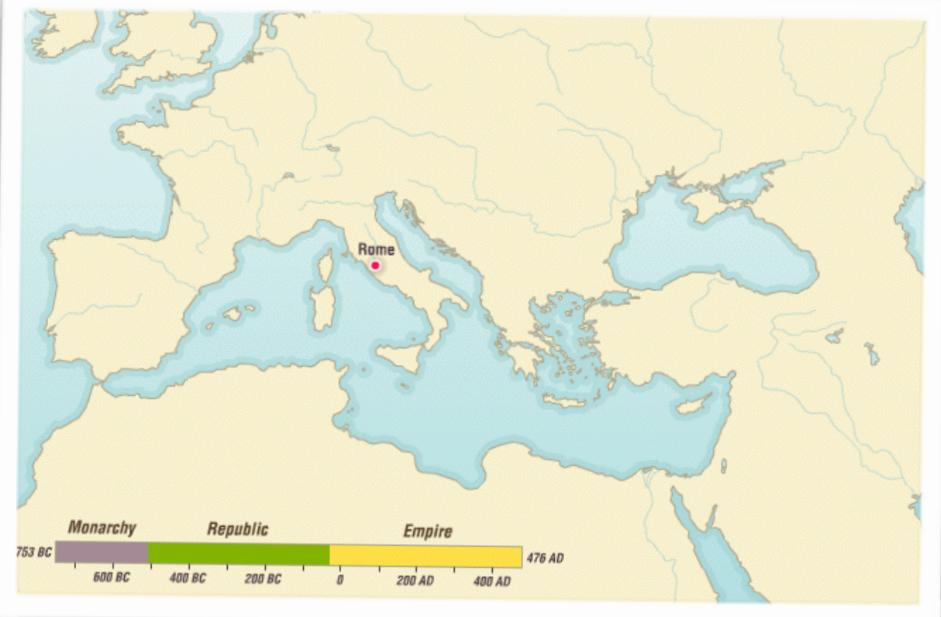
In chapter 6, John was shown how that work was going to get started. As the seals were removed, the scroll was opened and God's plan for the setting up of the kingdom began to be revealed, one seal at a time.

In the Old Testament God used prophets to speak for Him. He would show them things that would happen in the future so that people could be sure that they were speaking from God. In our time there are no prophets, and there have not been any for almost 2,000 years, but God speaks to us through the prophecies of the Bible, especially through the book of Revelation. When we study Bible prophecy we see that a lot of it has already come to pass just as God said that it would. This gives us absolute confidence that God's prophecies of the future will happen just as the Bible says.

44. How will we be able to be sure that the book of Revelation was spoken by God? (Deut. 18:18-22.)

45. Most of the prophecies in the book of Revelation apply to the part of the world occupied by the Roman Empire. Mark the following on the map:

- Draw the boundaries of the **Roman Empire** when it was at its largest
- Show the country of **Israel**
- Show where **Egypt** is located



Learn More!

Check out

www.the-map-as-history.com for a very interesting short animation on the Roman Empire during this time! -

Click on "Rome and Its Empire" then on the free demo of

"From the Founding of Rome to the Downfall of the Empire"

(http://www.the-map-as-history.com/demos/tome12/12_03_founding_of_rome_downfall_empire.php)

A.D. 96 - 183

First Seal

Rev. 6:2



The seals of chapter 6 tell us how the Roman Empire would go from being ruled over by **Pagans**; people that believed in many gods, and come to be ruled over by people that called themselves **Christians**. These things happened just as God said that they would!

46. Who opened the first seal? _____

47. What color was the horse in the 1st seal vision? _____

48. The rider of this horse had a _____ and a _____ was given to him.

49. Look at the **SIGNS & SYMBOLS** page at the back of this workbook (Appendix page A) and find what the following words represent to understand the story behind the first seal.

(Some are already filled in for you.)

- a. **white** > _____
- b. **horse** > _____
- c. **rider** > people who faithfully spread the truth
- d. **bow** (without an arrow) > being changed because they believed
- e. **crown** > _____

50. Use the symbols above to fill in the meaning of the first Seal period described in Rev. 6:2.

During the first seal period God sent out (c) _____, and the truth spread all through the (b) _____. Because the truth was having such (e) _____ and many people were (d) _____, a time of (a) _____.

PAGAN

PEOPLE WHO BELIEVE

IN MANY GODS.

THE PEOPLE OF THE ROMAN EMPIRE WORSHIPPED MANY DIFFERENT GODS AND HAD MANY DIFFERENT RELIGIONS AND

TRADITIONS. THE PEOPLE PRAYED TO THEIR GODS, MADE OFFERINGS TO THEM AND HAD SHRINES WITH IMAGES OF THE GODS IN THEIR HOMES. IN THEIR CITIES THEY HAD TEMPLES AND PLACES OF WORSHIP.

THE TERM PAGANISM

CAME TO BE USED OF THIS WORSHIP OF MANY DIFFERENT GODS.

, God caused this period to be

51. What was the rider of the red horse going to do with the power given to him? _____

52. What else was the rider of the red horse given? _____

53. Find what the following words represent to understand the story behind the second seal.

- a. **horse** > _____
- b. **red** > _____
- c. **rider** > the Roman government
- d. **sword (dagger)** > _____

54. Use the symbols above to fill in the meaning of the second Seal period described in Rev. 6:3-4.

The second seal period was a period of great (b) _____ in the (a) _____.
(c) _____. The (d) _____ was so bad that it became a
Three out of the four emperors of this period
were murdered! This type of (b) _____ filled the land.



A.D.
183-211
Second Seal
Rev. 6:3-4

A.D.
211-235
Third Seal
Rev. 6:5-6



55. What did the rider of the black horse have in his hand?

56. Verse 6 tells us that during this time a measure of wheat would be sold for a penny. Vines Bible Dictionary tells us that a measure is "less than a quart", about "as much as would support a person of moderate appetite for a day." Usually eight measures would cost a penny. Find a verse in one of Christ's parables that shows that a penny was how much a worker would be paid for a day's work.

57. Based on the information given in the question above, what can we conclude about the price of food during this third seal period?

58. Find what the following words represent to understand the story behind the third seal.

- a. **horse** > _____
- b. **black** > _____
- c. **rider** > Roman emperors
- d. **balances** > _____
- e. **penny** > a day's wages

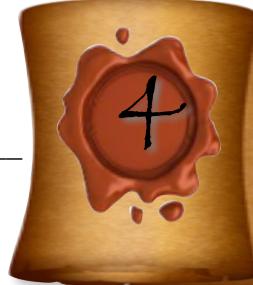


59. The third seal period, from about AD 211 to 235, was a period of (b) _____ in the (a) _____. The (c) _____ added so much tax to the price of the wheat that it made it hard for those (d) _____ food. The Roman government made the taxes so high that it cost (e) _____ to buy one quart of wheat, which was only enough to feed one person for one day.

60. What does the word pale in verse 8 mean? (Concordance)

61. What was the name of the rider of this pale horse? _____

62. What was this rider going to do to a fourth of the earth?



A.D.
235-303
Fourth Seal
Rev. 6:7-8

63. Find what the following words represent to understand the story behind the fourth seal.

- a. **pale** > _____
- b. **horse** > _____
- c. **rider** > Roman emperors
- d. **death** > violent death
- e. **hell** > _____
- f. **fourth part of the earth** > the ruling part of the Roman Empire
- g. **sword (sabre)** > _____
- h. **hunger** > _____
- i. **wild beasts** > _____

64. The fourth seal period was a period of (a) _____ in the (b) _____. During this time half of the population died from plagues, from (h) _____ and from (i) _____. The (f) _____ was filled with constant violence and thirty-nine of the (c) _____ died a (d) _____. These emperors used (g) _____ so much that at one point 5000 people were being killed each day and (e) _____ were full of the dead. Many of the people were killed because they believed in Jesus Christ.

A.D.
303-311

Fifth Seal
Rev. 6:9-11



The persecution of Christians was the most severe during the time of the fifth seal. The Emperor Diocletian actually tried to **wipe out** Christianity! In the February of 303 he ordered all their Bibles, books and meeting halls to be to be **destroyed**. In the summer of 303 he ordered that all their religious teachers and leaders be **arrested**. In 304, men women & children were ordered to gather in a public space to offer a sacrifice to Roman gods. If they refused, they were **executed**. It was a terrible time for the brothers and sisters in the ecclesiastis of the time.

65. What did John see under the altar? _____

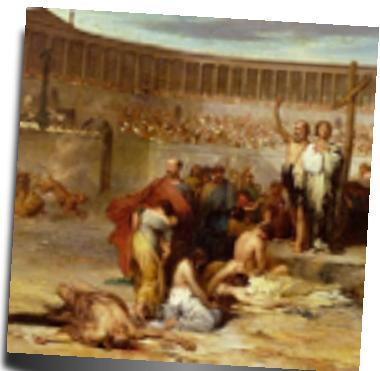
66. These souls represent the people that had been slain by the Romans. Why had they been slain?

67. We are told that those that had been slain cried out. What did they say? _____

68. What was given to every one of them? _____

69. Find what the following words represent to understand the story behind the fifth seal.

- a. **altar** > _____
- b. **soul** > _____
- c. **blood** > _____
- d. **them that dwell on the earth** > Roman Empire
- e. **white robes** > _____
- f. **season** > until the 6th seal period
- g. **brethren** > _____



70. There were many in the fifth seal period that stood up for the word of God and were (a) _____. So many people believed in Christ that the Pagan rulers of the (d) _____ were afraid that Christianity would take over so they began taking the (b) _____ of those that were (a) _____. Many (g) _____ were tortured, many were killed and many of their homes were burned because they believed in God. They prayed to God for relief from their suffering, asking Him how long they would continue to suffer and asking God to take revenge for their (c) _____. John was shown that those that gave their life for Christ would be given (e) _____ when Christ returned. God told them that their suffering would be short, lasting only (f) _____. Relief would come to (g) _____.

71. What would you have done if you had lived in one of the ecclesiastis that had and its meeting hall destroyed? _____

If you live in California you have probably felt a small earthquake, or you may have seen buildings damaged or fallen down from an earthquake. Imagine what it would be like if there was a really great big earthquake in your city. An earthquake so great that most of the buildings, homes, roads and bridges had fallen down and were just piles of rubble. The city would have to be totally rebuilt. There would have to be new homes, new schools, new government buildings. Everything would be new.

A.D.
311-324
Sixth Seal
Rev. 6:12-17

In the Bible, an earthquake represents a change in the leadership of a country. The



Roman Empire was about to go through a great earthquake, not because the ground was going to shake and the buildings were going to fall, but because a complete change in the government of the empire was going to take place. The Pagan ways were going to fall down and be reduced to rubble and an entirely new government was going to be built. This new government would agree with Christianity and would support it. The persecutions would stop and Christianity would be able to spread throughout the Roman empire once again.

72. What does an earthquake represent in the Bible? _____

73. What does a great earthquake represent? _____

74. It would seem like the spread of Christianity during and after the sixth seal period would have led to a wonderful time for the spreading of the truth, but there was a major problem: many of the Christians were no longer teaching the truth: they were not longer true 'Christians'. Explain why you think that this was a problem. _____



75. Find what the following words represent to understand the story behind verse 12.

- a. **earthquake** > _____
- b. **great earthquake** > _____
- c. **sun** > _____
- d. **black** > lost its power _____
- e. **moon** > _____
- f. **blood** > bloodshed _____

76. During the period of the sixth seal the Roman Empire experienced (b) _____
(c) _____. The pagan (d) _____
under the Emperor Constantine, who proclaimed Christianity to be the religion of the Roman Empire. There was much (f) _____ due to the wars in the empire as the pagan (e) _____ began to be replaced with Christianity.

77. Find what the following words represent to understand the story behind verse 13-14.

- a. **stars** > _____
- b. **heaven** > _____
- c. **mountain** > ruling power on land _____
- d. **island** > _____

78. Even the (a) _____ fell from their (b) _____ as God's judgments came on the (c) _____ and the (d) _____. Paganism no longer had a (b) _____ anywhere in the Roman Empire.

79. When Christianity was raised to power and Constantine was on the throne over the whole Roman Empire, every level of pagan society was afraid. List the people mentioned in v 15.

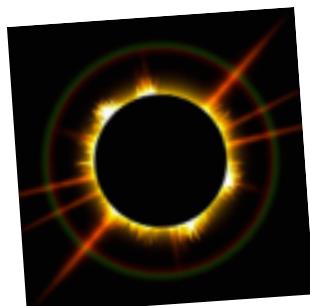


Statue of Emperor Constantine

80. Who did those people want to be hidden from? _____

81. Explain how the life of a true believer (the brethren in Christ) would have changed after the great earthquake of the sixth seal. _____

82. How could you have used the prophecies of the six seals to teach others about the truth? _____



Revelation 7

Vision of the Kingdom.

The true servants of God are sealed.

In 380, the Emperor **Theodosius** made Christianity the official state religion of the Roman Empire and those that were a part of this religion were called "**Catholic Christians**". The word Catholic is a good word to describe this religion because the word *catholic* actually means, something "done by all". The religion of Rome **still** goes by the name Catholic **today**. Catholic Christianity spread from city to city, and soon there were millions of Catholic Christians in the empire. The problem with the Catholics Christians was that they were not true Christians **at all**. They were not the true followers of Christ and they did not believe the things taught in the Bible.



There was however a smaller group of Christians **which were the followers of Christ** and which did believe the Bible. The Bible calls this group "**the remnant**". They are the ones which will have a part of the kingdom when Christ returns. Revelation 7 shows us how the **word of God** would **work on the minds** of men and women, calling them out of the world, a remnant that will be a part of the **kingdom** when Christ returns.

83. In what year was Christianity declared the state religion of the Roman Empire? _____
84. Which Roman emperor replaced paganism (the worship of many gods) with Christianity (even though it wasn't true Christianity)? _____
85. Which Roman emperor made Catholic Christianity the state religion of Rome in 380? _____
86. What does the word Catholic mean? _____
87. Why is it strange that the Catholic Christians are called Christians? _____
88. Which group of Christians were the most numerous, the true Christians or the false Christians? _____
89. What did the angel ascending from the east have? _____
90. What did the angel ascending from the east say to the four angels that had been given the power to hurt the countries of the Roman Empire? _____

91. After the empire became Christian, millions of people were introduced to the Bible to Jesus Christ and to the promise of the kingdom. The angel wanted to make sure that as many people as possible could accept the truth. Explain why you think verse 3 compares learning the truth to having one's forehead sealed. _____

For 72 years after Constantine's victory, God brought the Roman Empire relative **peace**. This peace allowed the **true ecclesia** of Christ to teach men and women the truth, calling more and more people to become the true followers of Christ.

92. Find what the following words represent to understand the story behind v 1-3.

- a. **wind** > _____
- b. **earth** > Roman Empire _____
- c. **seas** > _____
- d. **trees** > the people _____
- e. **seal** > impression in the minds _____

93. The four angels that were in charge of bringing the (a) _____ on the (b) _____ but they were told not to hurt the (d) _____ and (c) _____ of the (b) _____ until the truth had been allowed time to make an (e) _____ of as many of the (d) _____ as possible.

94. The growth of the Catholic Church led many to think that the kingdom of God had finally come and that Christ was ruling the earth through the Popes and Bishops (leaders of the Catholic Church) of that time. *This, of course, was not true!* To show more about what the kingdom would actually be like, the rest of chapter seven gives us another vision of the kingdom. What is a vision? (dictionary)
-

95. In the vision God shows us that the real kingdom would be in the future and that it would be made up of men and women that were the true believers, not the followers of the Catholic Church. These true believers are said to have been sealed like wax shaped by a piece of metal or stone. Explain how our minds are shaped by the word of God. _____

96. Which two tribes of Israel are missing from verses 5-8? _____

97. How many people were in the great multitude of verse 9? _____

98. What did the great multitude cry with a loud voice? _____
-

99. What does it mean to be clothed in white robes? _____
-

100. According to verse 14, how were their robes made white? _____

101. Fill in the blanks of verses 15-17 "Therefore are they before the _____ of God, and serve him _____ and _____ in his temple: and he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell _____ them. They shall _____ no more, neither _____ any more; neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat. For the _____ which is in the midst of the throne shall _____ them, and shall _____ them unto _____ fountains of waters: and God shall _____."



The Trumpets

Revelation 8 & 9

You will remember at the end of Revelation chapter 6 when the 6th seal was opened, that the Emperor Constantine was victorious over all his rivals and became the sole ruler of the whole Roman Empire. With his victory, Christianity became the new **official religion** of the empire.

But the form of Christianity that Constantine created was really a combination of the **false religious ideas** of paganism **mixed** with Christianity. It was a religion that **called** itself Christian but it was a long way from the truth: they believed that Jesus was God, that people go to heaven when they die, that there is a devil that makes people sin and that the Pope speaks for God.

It once again became necessary for God to judge the Roman Empire because it was filled false religion, and so the seventh seal was opened. The seventh seal contained **seven trumpets** which God would use to **call** nations surrounding the Roman Empire to attack. As each trumpet was blown, another nation would come against them and one by one they would weaken the Roman Empire until there was almost nothing left.

The Angels Prepare to Sound Revelation 8:1-6

102. Why was God upset with the Constantine's Christian religion? _____

103. How was God going to judge the Roman Empire because of this false religion? _____

When the **seventh seal** was first opened there was a period of **peace** in the rulership of the Roman empire. This peace was signified by a period of **silence** which would last for a short period of time until the first round of judgments would be sent from God.

104. When the 7th seal was opened there was silence. This silence represented a peaceful time in the Roman empire. Where was the silence _____, and what does it represent? _____

105. How long did it last? _____

106. "About half an hour" signifies a period of **about** 15 years. Constantine became Emperor in the year 324AD and he died in 337AD. How many years of peace did the Empire have under the reign of Constantine? _____

107. How many angels were standing before God in v.2? _____ What were they given? _____

108. What was a trumpet used for according to 1Corinthians 14:8? _____

109. In Joshua 6:1-5 trumpets are used for the same purpose. How many trumpets are mentioned in Joshua 6? _____ Who was holding the trumpets? _____ What happened when they sounded them? _____

starting AD 395 1st Trumpet

Rev. 8:7

READ Revelation 8:7

110. What does it mean the first angel "sounded"? (use concordance or another version) _____

111. What was the judgement of the first angel cast upon? _____

112. What was burnt up? _____

113. Find what the following words represent to understand the story behind the first trumpet.

- a. hail and fire mingled with blood > judgment _____
- b. trees and grass > _____
- c. earth > Roman empire _____
- d. third part of the earth > _____
- e. burned up > _____



114. During the first trumpet period a first wave of (a) _____ was sent upon a portion of the (c) _____. The Goths, a barbarian people from the north, invaded Rome. Led by their king, a man named Alaric, they (e) _____ Rome and occupied (d) _____. A great number of (b) _____ were killed. (for more information on this time period, see Appendix page F)

115. What does the word barbarian mean? (dictionary) _____

starting AD 429 2nd Trumpet

Rev.
8:8-9

READ Revelation 8: 8&9

116. The judgment of the first trumpet was directed against the earth. What was the judgment of this second trumpet directed against? _____

117. What was cast into the sea? _____

118. Where previously in the Bible had water become blood, and where in the Bible is that found? _____

119. Find what the following words represent to understand the story behind the second trumpet.

- a. **great mountain** > power and authority _____
- b. **sea** > Mediterranean Sea _____
- c. **third part of the sea** > _____
- d. **ships destroyed** > _____

120. During the second trumpet period another barbarian people invaded the Roman empire. This time it was a man named Genseric and the Vandals. Many of their attacks were along the coasts of the (b) _____. They weakened the (a) _____ of Rome. Because they had so many ships they were able to (d) _____. A (c) _____ was affected by their invasion, many people died and a lot of money was lost by the Roman Empire. (for more information on this time period, see Appendix page G)



READ Revelation 8:10&11

121. When the third trumpet was blown, what fell from heaven? _____
122. What did it fall upon? _____
123. What was the name of the star? _____ Look up the name in a concordance. What does it mean? _____
124. The first trumpet judgement was directed against the earth, the second against the sea. What was the third trumpet directed against?

125. Find what the following words represent to understand the story behind the third trumpet.

- a. **great star** > _____
- b. **burning as a lamp** (meteor) > _____
- c. **rivers** > _____
- d. **wormwood** (bitterness) > destruction, violence and bloodshed _____

126. The third Trumpet describes the invasions of the Huns, another barbarian tribe led by a ferocious (a) _____ named Atilla. His invasion was (b) _____ and one of (d) _____. Most of his attacks were against the northern (c) _____ of the Roman empire.



READ Revelation 8:12

127. In this Fourth Trumpet what were the judgements directed against? _____

128. Use the **SIGNS & SYMBOLS** chart at the back of the book to match the symbols with their meanings

SUN

PRINCES, RULERS

MOON

RELIGIOUS POWER, PRIESTHOOD

STARS

KING OR EMPEROR



129. What would the sun, moon and stars becoming dark represent?

130. Find what the following words represent to understand the story behind the fourth trumpet.

- a. **Sun, moon and stars** > (see above) _____
- b. **darkened** > power was taken away _____

131. The invasions of the barbarian tribes of the first three trumpets had done much to weaken the Roman Empire and bring about its decline. The time of the fourth Trumpet brought another barbarian invasion, this time led by a man named Odoacer, the leader of the Goths. As a result of his invasions (b) _____ from the (a) _____ of the western third of the Roman empire.

(for more information on this time period, see Appendix page H)

READ Revelation 9:1-12

132. The last three trumpets are called the “Woe trumpets” because of the words of the angel in Revelation 8:13. What did this angel say?

woes |

wōz|

• things
that cause
sorrow or
distress;
troubles:

133. Write down the number of verses used to describe each Trumpet Period.

First Trumpet _____ Fourth Trumpet _____
Second Trumpet _____ Fifth Trumpet _____
Third Trumpet _____ Sixth Trumpet _____

134. What do you notice?

135. When the bottomless pit is opened in v.2-3 and smoke comes out of the pit, what comes out of the smoke? _____

136. In Judges 6:3-6 an invading army is referred to as being like grasshoppers (or locusts). What are the two reasons the army in Judges is described this way? _____

137. What was this army of locusts commanded not to hurt or destroy? _____

138. Read vv.7-10 and finish the description of what the locust-army looked like.

The shape of the locusts _____

On their heads _____

Their faces looked like _____

Their hair was like _____

Their teeth _____

They had breastplates, like _____

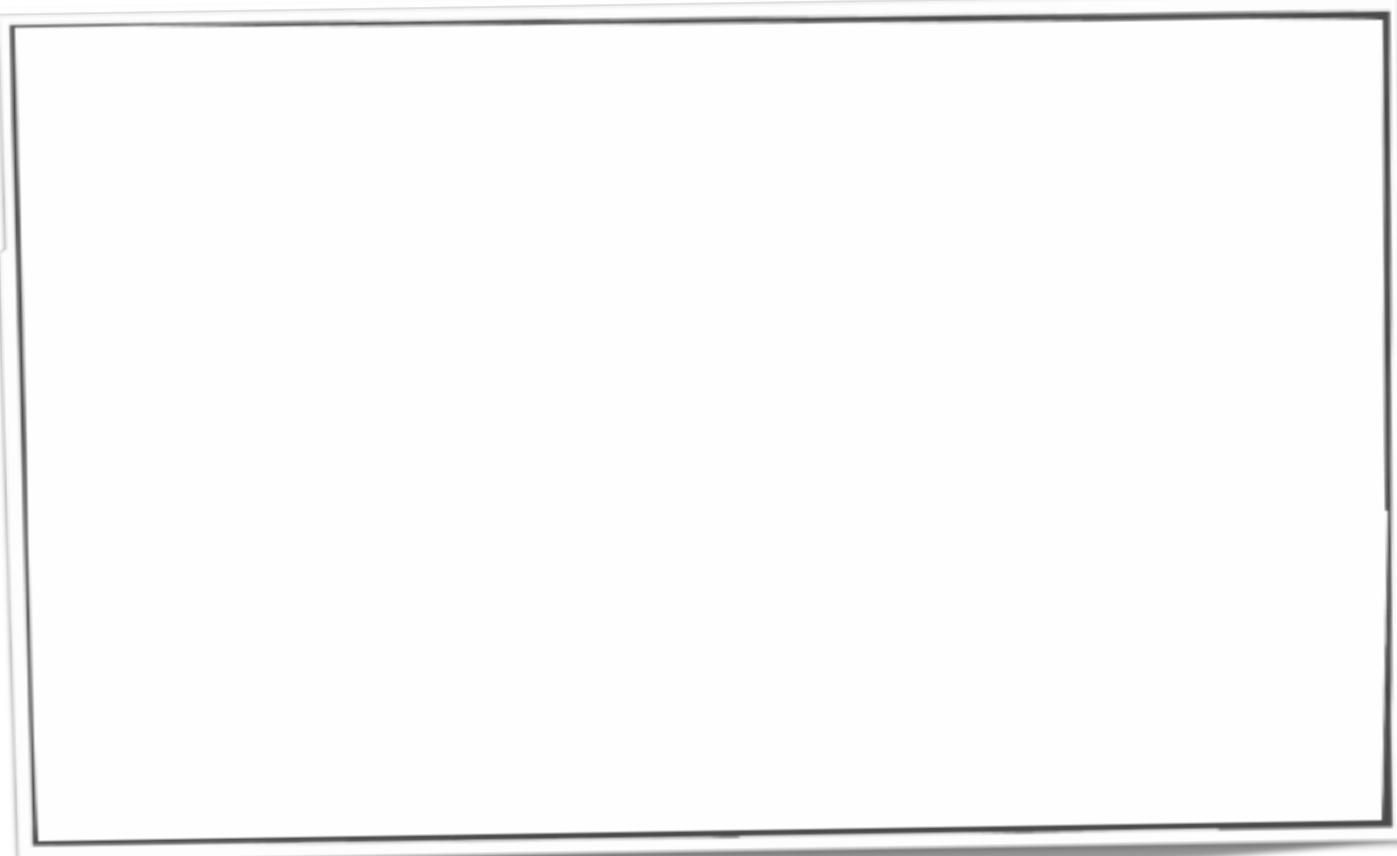
Their wings sounded like _____

Their tails were like _____

They had the power to _____



139. Draw a cartoon-like picture of what they might have looked like incorporating these details from vv7-10.



140. This is a quote from the commander of the Saracen army: the army prophesied about in Revelation 9. It's AMAZING how much this description of the army matches the details of John's vision of the locust-army.

This is the command given by the Saracen commander Abubeker to his army before they went into battle.

What is the command from the 5th trumpet in Rev. 9 that this sounds like?

"When you fight the battles of the Lord, acquit yourselves like men, without turning your backs; but let not your victory be stained with the blood of women or children. Destroy no palm-trees, nor burn any fields of corn. Cut down no fruit-trees, nor do any mischief to cattle, only such as you kill to eat. When you make any covenant or article, stand to it, and be as good as your word. As you go on, you will find some religious persons who live retired in monasteries, and propose to themselves to serve God that way: let them alone, and neither kill them nor destroy their monasteries: And you will find another sort of people, that belong to the synagogue of Satan, who have shaven crowns; be sure you cleave their skulls, and give them no quarter till they either turn Mahometans or pay 'tribute'."

(Gibbon; Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire; Chapter 51)

141. Draw line to match the characteristics of the locust army to what each characteristic represents.

The Locust Army of Revelation 9	Characteristics of Saracen Army
like to horses	long uncut hair
crowns of gold	clean shaven
faces like men	artillery pulled by horses
hair of women	strength
teeth as lions	yellow turbans
breastplates of iron	army with cavalry
tails like scorpions	wore armor



A painting of The Saracen Invasion

artillery |är'tilərē|

large-caliber guns used in warfare on land:

Day for a Year Principle

In prophecies, periods of time are often represented by a simple code: long periods of time are represented by shorter time periods, for example, a day is substituted for a year. For instance when a prophecy says something will happen in 7 days, God means he will bring it to pass in 7 years.

142. Take a look at one of the first times God uses this ‘code’ in Numbers 14:34 - (be sure to look at the verses around to see the context) Explain how God uses this “Day for a Year Principle” in Numbers 14. _____

Days, Months, and Years

Using this same basis of a Day for a Year, God also uses shorter time periods like months and days. Let’s figure those out too.

In Biblical times a month was always 30 days, and a year was 12 months, or 360 days.

143. Using this principle, if 1 day = 1 year,
then 1 month (30 days) = _____ years
and a year (360 days) = _____ years.

144. According to v.5 the invading army was permitted to “torment” the Catholic Roman Empire for 5 months, then in v.10 they were to “hurt” them for another 5 months. Using the day for a year principle determine how many years the Saracens would afflict the Roman empire.
10 months = _____ days → _____ years

145. The king of this invading people is given two names - one in Hebrew and the other in Greek.
What was the Hebrew name and what does it mean? _____ = _____
What is the Greek name and what does it mean? _____ = _____

146. Find what the following words represent to understand the story behind the fifth trumpet.

- a-star fallen from heaven >Muhammad
- b-locusts >_____
- c-bottomless pit >territory of the Middle East
- d-tormented and hurt >attacked and weakened
- e-10 months >(use the day for a year principle) _____ years
- f-tails like scorpions >new forms of artillery

147. The Fifth Trumpet describes a period of (e) _____ years during which the Saracen (b) _____ began to weaken the power of the Eastern portion of the Roman Empire. A prophet of theirs named (a) _____ opened the way for these Arab peoples to enter into the (c) _____. From there they (d) _____ the Eastern Roman Empire and attacked Constantinople. They had vast armies and (f) _____ but also were very careful not to completely destroy the areas that they conquered instead enriching them with their arts and sciences.



READ Revelation 9:13-21

148. The word angel in v.14 does not always refer to God's heavenly host. Use a concordance and look up the meaning of the word. What does it mean?

'angel'

(Strong's # _____)

149. In v.15 there are four angels which represent the four divisions of the Turkish people (people from Turkey). Where were the 4 angels bound? _____

Time Period =	# of literal days →	Prophetic time period
1 year =	360 days →	360 years
1 month =	_____ days →	_____ years
1 day =	_____ day →	_____ year
1 hour =	1/12	1 month
Total Prophetic Time period =	_____ years	_____ month

150. The Turkish "angels" were prepared for an hour, a day, a month and a year. Fill in the blanks in the chart below using "the day for a year" principle to figure out how long this prophetic time period was.



151. The Turkish invasions were intended to "slay" the portion of the Roman Empire that was based in the city of Constantinople. Look up the word slay in v.15. What does it mean? How is that different from the Arab invasions? (compare v.5) _____

152. How many horsemen did the Turkish army have? _____

153. How are the heads of the horses described? _____

154. What came out of their mouths? _____

155. What impression does this give you of this attacking army? _____

156. If you look up the word "brimstone" from v.18 in a concordance you will find that it refers to "sulfur". Research and find out: what are the three main ingredients of gunpowder? _____

157. The Turks perfected the use of gunpowder, especially in their siege of Constantinople. They used gunpowder in their cannons which were essential to their victories. What parts of the sixth seal sound like descriptions of canons and gunpowder? _____

The establishment of the Turkish power can be dated to April 1062 when a key political alliance was made through marriage. The fall of Constantinople occurred in May 1453. This period is exactly 391 years & 1 month!!

158. Why did John use these descriptions rather than just saying that the Turkish army had "cannons" and "gunpowder"? _____

159. It is clear from vv.20-21 that events of the six trumpets were intended to make the people repent from their wickedness and apostasy. Match the characteristics of the Catholic church to the corresponding description.

Description from 6th Trumpet of Revelation	Things the Catholic Church has done
worshipping devils (gods)	false miracles
worshipping idols of gold, silver..	false worship
murders	taking people's money (and promising them places in heaven)
sorceries	worship of dead 'saints'
fornication	the use of relics and trinkets
thefts	killing of the faithful

160. Find what the following words represent to understand the story behind the sixth trumpet.

a **four angels loosed from the Euphrates** > four 'waves' of Turkish invaders

b **third part of men** > Eastern Roman Empire

c **great river Euphrates** > _____

d **horsemen** > _____

e **brimstone** > _____

f **mouths of the horses** > cannons

g **killed** > completely destroyed

161. During the time period of the Sixth Trumpet (a) _____ invaded the Eastern Roman Empire. They had large armies with so many (d) _____ that they could not be counted. With their (f) _____ and (e) _____ they overcame their enemies. The Saracens had weakened the (b) _____, and the Turkish invaders conquered and (g) _____ Constantinople. They turned their churches into mosques and forced the patriarch of the Eastern Orthodox church to flee to Moscow.



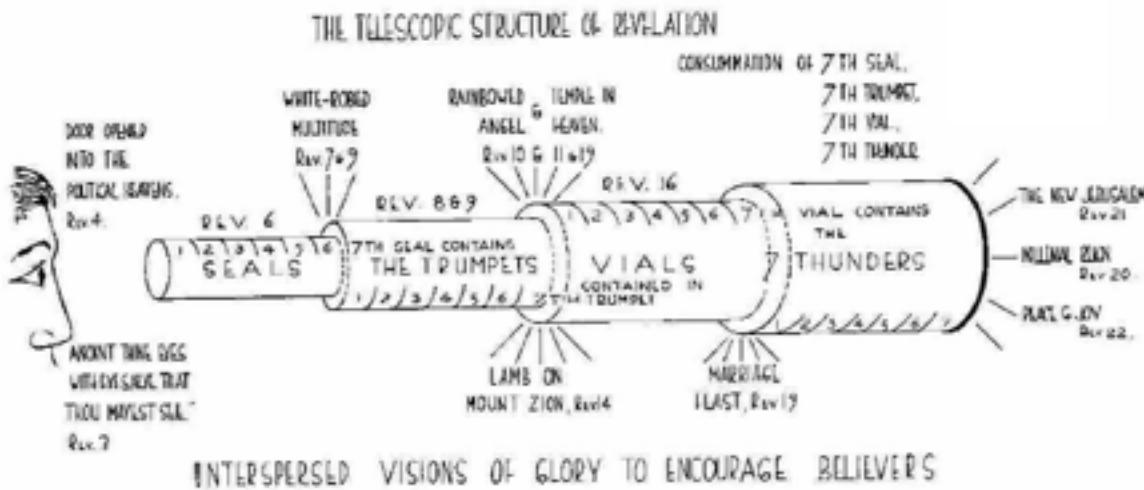
REVELATION 10

Vision of the Kingdom

The Seven Thunders & the Rainbowed angel

In chapter ten John was given a vision of the March of the **Rainbowed Angel** and the Seven Thunders. The vision was about the work of Christ and the saints taking **control** of the world so that they would be able to **rule** over it. God used the symbol of **Seven Thunders** to describe the events of this still-**future** time period in much the same way that He used the **Seals** and **Trumpets** to describe past time periods.

Take a Look at the chart below: This shows in picture-form how the book of Revelation is written. Think of it like it's John, looking into the future... We have already seen the seven seals that opened up, and we just learned about the seven trumpets. Later in this book we will learn about the seven vials but chapter ten takes us **all of the way ahead** to the seven thunders once again to show us what it will be like in the kingdom age.



162. Connect each of the symbols to their corresponding time period (hint use the chart above).

The First Six Seals

AD 1789 - Christ's return and Armageddon

The First Six Trumpets

The whole earth made subject to Christ

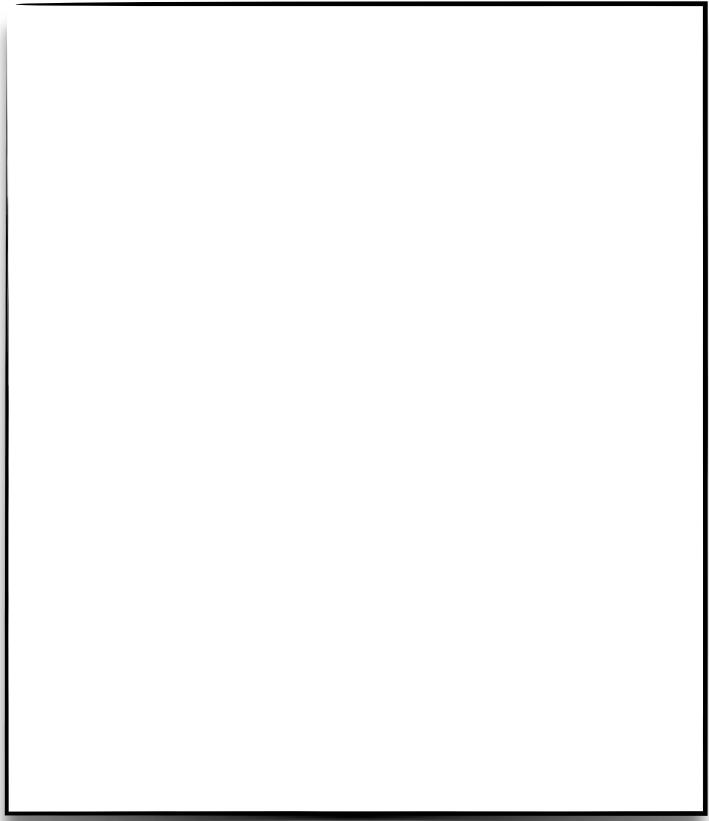
The First Six Vials

AD 96-324

The Seven Thunders

AD 324 - 1789

163. Draw a picture of what is described in verse 1.



164. Find what the following words represent to understand the story behind the story

- a- **mighty angel** > Christ and the saints
- b- **heaven** > _____
- c- **cloud** > _____
- d- **rainbow** > _____
- e- **sun** > bright _____
- f- **thunder** > _____
- g- **lion** > Christ in strength _____

165. When (g) _____ reveals himself to the world he will ask them to accept him as their king. But because many will refuse to submit

- (a) _____ will come from Jerusalem, their
- (b) _____. They will be a (c) _____ of immortal people working to fill the earth with peace and God's glory. Their power will be as
- (e) _____ as the sun and all of the world will see them. Those that refuse to submit to Christ and the saints will hear the (f) _____ like thunder, and eventually the saints will go out and teach the people of the whole earth
- (d) _____.

166. Revelation 5 describes a book which contained prophecies of the periods of the seals, trumpets, vials and thunders, a very long period of time. Why do you think the book in Rev.10:2 might have been called a little book? _____

167. When John saw the seals and the trumpets he was told to write about them. What was he told to write about the thunders? _____

168. Can you think of any reason why the details of the thunders have not been written in the book of Revelation? _____

169. What do you think the mystery of God in verse 7 is? (cp Rom. 16:25-26) _____

170. When John ate the little book what did it taste like? _____

Revelation 11

The Death and Resurrection of the Two Witnesses

Before Christianity became the official religion of The Roman Empire, many Christians were told to **stop preaching**, they were put in **jail** and sometimes even



killed because they did not teach the same things as the people around them, who were mostly pagan. When the Roman Empire became a “Christian State” things were better for the true believers; at least for a while. But soon the Catholic Church, a false version of Christianity, became very **powerful** and began to **gain control** over the governments of the empire. The leaders of the Catholic Church went from being teachers and shepherds of their church to being Popes and Bishops, which were more like kings and governors. They decided that all other forms of Christianity, including the **truth** of the Bible, were wrong, and they told the true believers to stop preaching. They put some in jail and they killed some of them.

Revelation 11 tells us about how God worked to protect the true believers from Catholic persecution using two different methods, which are symbolized as ‘**Two Witnesses**’ in Revelation.

171. As we read through the Bible and as we look in the history of Christianity it always seems like the people that belong to false religions persecute the true believers. What does the word ‘persecute’ mean? _____

172. Why do you think people that belong to false religions persecute the true believers? _____

173. List at least 4 examples of times in the Bible where true believers are persecuted for their beliefs.

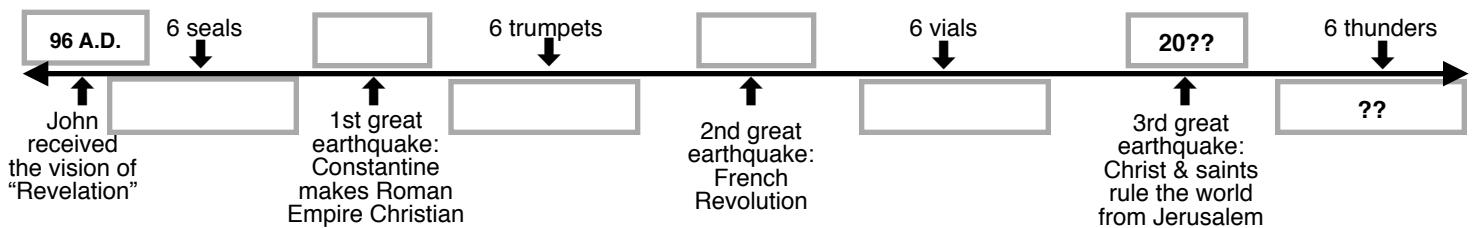
174. Verse 2 talks about the persecution of the true ecclesia of God by the Catholic Church. It tells us that it would last for 42 months. If each month has 30 days in it how many days would that be?

42 months
= _____ days

175. Using the day for a year principle how many years would the Catholic Church persecute the true believers? _____

176. In AD 529 an Emperor named Justinian set out to improve the government of the Roman Empire. He **rewrote many of the laws** of the empire and went on to proclaim the Bishop of Rome as the supreme Bishop, or the Pope. Add 1260 to 529 to see what year the Catholic Church would finally stop persecuting the true believers. _____

177. Add the dates of the following events to the timeline below:
Seals 1-6, 1st great earthquake, Trumpets 1-6



178. In verse 3 God says that He will use two witnesses to protect the true believers. These two witnesses represent the 1) governments and 2) religions that stood up to the Catholic Church. How long would these two witnesses help the true believers by fighting against the Catholic Church?

179. When studying Revelation 4, you looked up the word "beast." What did that word mean? (Look back in your workbook) _____

180. Here, in Chapter 11, the word "beast" appears again, however, it's **NOT the same word!** Look up the word 'beast' from Rev 11:7, and write the Strong's number, the Greek word, and the meaning:

beast # _____, " _____ "

Most of the time we read about the beast in Revelation it is talking about nations or empires. In this verse it is talking about the Catholic countries that were allied with the Pope.

181. In verse 7 we are told that at the end of the time, given in verse 3, a beast (the Catholic kingdom) would make war with the witnesses, overcome them and kill them. These witnesses began protecting the true believers in 312AD (when Constantine came to the throne). In what year did they begin to be overcome? _____



182. History records an event called the St Bartholomew's Day Massacre. Look up the St. Bartholomew's Day Massacre online or in a encyclopedia and tell what happened on that day and what year was it?

183. The witnesses continued to be overcome until in 1685 their power was destroyed and they were forced to become Catholics or die. Why do you think God took away His protection (the two witnesses he sent) at this time? (hint: 1 Kings 9:6) _____

184. What happened to the two witnesses in verse 11? _____

185. Find what the following words represent to understand the story behind v 12 -13

- a- **heaven** > _____
- b- **cloud** > _____
- c- **great earthquake** > _____
- d- **city** > Holy Roman Empire
- e- **1/10 of the city** > France

186. In the late 1700s (e) _____ was a part of the (d) _____ and it was ruled over by a king that took the people's money and by the Catholic Church. In 1789 the people of (e) _____ rebelled against the rulers of the country forcing a (c) _____. This rebellion was called the French Revolution and in it a (b) _____ of the common people of (e) _____ rose to a (a) _____ in the government and the age of liberty, equality and fraternity began.



187. At about this time The United States of America was formed. What year did the United States become a nation? _____

188. What did many Europeans move to America to get away from in the 1700s? _____

189. What does it mean in verse 15 when it says that the seventh angel sounded? _____

190. What happened to the kingdoms of the world in verse 15?

191. In verse 18 the time of the dead refers to the resurrection. What will happen to those who are raised to life again? _____

192. Who will be given a reward? _____

193. Find what the following words represent to understand the story behind v 19

- a. **temple of God** > the immortalized saints
- b. **heaven** > _____
- c. **ark** > _____
- d. **thunderings** > _____
- e. **earthquake** > _____
- f. **great hail** > _____

194. When Christ returns there will be a (e) _____. The (a) _____ and (c) _____ will take the (b) _____ over the earth and will bring the (d) _____ on everyone who refuses to submit to the rule of Christ. The (f) _____ will be like great hailstones falling on men and women.

Revelation 16 The Vials

The Destruction of the Holy Roman Empire & the Preparing for the Kings of the East

The **Holy Roman Empire** was a group of countries that had been united by and controlled by the Catholic Church. Together they acted against God by persecuting and killing the true believers.

God used the first five vials to break the **Holy Roman Empire**. By breaking the power of the Holy Roman Empire and the Roman Catholic Church, God allowed people to read their Bibles again, and when people read the Bible they saw how messed up the teachings of the Catholic Church were. At this time many came to know the truth. In fact during the time period of the fifth vial Bro. John Thomas started the group known as the Christadelphians.*

**It was called the
Holy Roman Empire
but it was not
Holy.**

To be **holy** is to be separated for the use of God, but this group of nations called the "Holy Roman Empire" were working *against* God not *for* Him. They killed people that taught the actual truth about God and the kingdom, they made it illegal for people to read the Bible! They killed people who refused to become Catholics. They were definitely not holy but they considered themselves holy because they were associated with the Catholic Church and the Pope.

**It was called the
Holy Roman
Empire
but it was not
Roman.**

The countries that made up the Holy Roman Empire were mostly French and Germanic, not **Roman**. It was only called Roman because the religion of the empire was Roman Catholicism, and if you practiced any other religion you were killed.



**It was called the
Holy Roman Empire
but it was not an
Empire.**

An **empire** is a group of states or countries under a single authority such as an emperor, but the Holy Roman Empire was a group of countries, each with their own leaders. They did not have an emperor but they did have the Pope who was their single authority and the Roman Catholic Church which was their common religion.

* See Appendix page D for some interesting history about this time period and a man named John Thomas.



195. What did God use the first 5 vials to do? _____

196. Explain what it means to be holy. _____

197. Why was the Holy Roman Empire not holy? _____

198. Why was the Holy Roman Empire called Roman? _____

199. In about what year did Brother Thomas discover the truth? _____

The first Vial poured out on the Earth The spreading sore: The French Revolution

In 1789 the ordinary people of France were tired of the way the government and the Catholic church were running the country. They had no money because food prices kept going higher and higher and the taxes they had to pay to the King and Queen were taking more and more of their money. Meanwhile, the King and Queen were living in luxury in a huge palace, paid for with the people's tax money. The Catholic Church was also a big problem for the people, they owned more land in France than anyone else, land that they bought with the tax they charged on everything that the people earned.



The Palace of Versailles
the home of the King and Queen of France in 1789.



A hallway in the Palace of Versailles



Eventually the people became so angry that they took up arms and overturned the government of France and took away the power and wealth of the Catholic Church.

- **In History** this rebellion is called the **French Revolution**.
- **In the Bible** this rebellion is called the **2nd Great Earthquake**.

Stopping the Roman Catholic power over France was the first judgment against the Holy Roman Empire.

200. What happened when the first angel poured out this vial? _____

201.What does the word vial mean? (Concordance) _____

202.What is a revolution? (Dictionary) _____

203.Find what the following words represent to understand the story behind the first vial:

a.**grievous sore** >French Revolution

b.**beast** >Holy Roman Empire

c.**image** >_____

204. In the first vial period God caused the people of France to fight against the government and the Catholic Church in a rebellion called the (a) _____.

_____. God allowed this rebellion to spread like a disease through all of the Catholic countries of the (b) _____ that worshipped the (c) _____.



Papacy

The office held by the POPE: the leader of the Catholic Church.

Modern Popes

205.Before the French Revolution the countries of Europe were ruled by Kings and Queens and afterwards those same countries had governments like we have today with Presidents and Prime Ministers. There was a complete change in the governments of Europe. What is the Bible symbol for a complete change in government? _____

206.How do the people of the United States decide who is going to be their president? _____

207.What is the difference between how a person becomes a President and how a person becomes a King? _____



The Second Vial poured out on the Sea: The destruction of the Navies of the Holy Roman Empire

At first the Holy Roman Empire was only under attack from the spreading **rebellion** that started in France. But then the Empire and its Catholic governments were hit by **attacks at sea** from the British. Starting in 1793 England began to destroy the French Navy and they went on to destroy the navies of Spain, Italy and Belgium by 1815.

208.What happened when the angel poured out the 2nd vial? _____

209.What is a navy? _____

210.Whose navy defeated the French Navy? _____



The Third Vial poured out on the Rivers: The destruction of the Holy Roman Empire in Northern Italy

The Holy Roman Empire was already reeling from the spreading sore of the French Revolution that was spreading across the land and the continuing attacks on the sea when the military forces of the new French government started to attack Northern Italy and Switzerland. A man named Napoleon Bonaparte led these attacks. He was a brilliant strategist and because of his victories he became known as one of greatest commanders in history.

God used Napoleon to break the power of the Catholic Church and the nations that supported her because they had killed people that taught the truth about God and the kingdom. They even made it illegal for normal people to read the Bible. By breaking the power of the Catholic Church God allowed people to read their Bibles again and it wasn't long before the truth of the Bible was rediscovered. In fact within 50 years Bro. John Thomas started the group known as the Christadelphians. See Appendix page D for some interesting history about this time period and a man named John Thomas

211. What did God use the events of the first 3 vials to do? _____

212. Who was the French commander that led the attacks on Northern Italy and Switzerland? _____

213. Why did God want to break the power of the Holy Roman Empire? _____



214. Why do you think that the region of Northern Italy and Switzerland is referred to as the, “rivers and fountains of water”?

215. What does verse 6 say that the Catholic Church had done to God’s saints and prophets?

216. What does verse 7 say about the judgments that God was bringing upon the Catholic Church?

217. Find what the following words represent to understand the story behind v 4-7

a. **rivers and fountains of water** > Northern Italy and Switzerland

b. **blood** > bloodshed

c. **altar** > _____

218. In the third seal period God continued to weaken the the Holy Roman Empire. Napoleon fought against the region of (a) _____ and was victorious bringing much (b) _____ to the power of Catholic Church and the Holy Roman Empire. The Catholic Church had been allowed to kill the true believers and now the prayers of those (c) _____ were being answered.



The fourth Vial poured out on the Sun: The Destruction of the Holy Roman Empire in Austria

After conquering the regions of Northern Italy, Napoleon focused his efforts on Austria, the heart of the Holy Roman Empire. In 1805 he marched against Austria and on December 2nd he defeated the combined armies of Austria and Russia. The Holy Roman Empire had officially now come to an end. But the people of the region continued to follow the wicked ways of the Catholic Church, and refused to repent.

219. What did the fourth angel pour out his vial upon? _____



220. What was the power given to the fourth angel given to him for? _____

221. What did the men that were scorched with the great heat do? _____

222. What does the word 'blasphemed' mean? (concordance) _____

223. What didn't the men that were scorched with the great heat do? _____

224. Find what the following words represent to understand the story behind the fourth vial in v 8-9

- a. sun > Emperor of Austria
- b. fire > _____

225. In the fourth vial period God's judgments came upon the (a) _____. His country was the most powerful of the Holy Roman Empire but it had given its support to the Catholic Church and as a result God would send (b) _____ on them, but they would still refuse to stop supporting the Catholic Church.

The fifth Vial poured out on the Seat of the Beast The Destruction of the Power of the Pope

The Catholic Church still stood defiantly against Napoleon even after he had **conquered** most of the countries of the Holy Roman Empire. The **Pope**, who had been the religious ruler of the Empire also had a territory of **his own** that he ruled over. This territory was the part of Italy around the city of Rome and it was called the Papal States.

Napoleon tried to gain the friendship of the Pope, but the Pope refused, and war broke out in 1809. The Pope was taken captive to France and Rome lost its importance. The Papacy **refused** to repent from its wicked ways so it was reduced to almost nothing, with no power at all.

The Pope's position of power is referred to as the **throne of the beast** because he was the religious **ruler** of the Holy Roman Empire.



226.What is the Greek word for 'seat' in verse 10?

227. What English word do you think comes from this word? _____

228. What does a beast in the scriptures represent? (hint Dan 7:1-7)

229.Find what the following words represent to understand the story behind the fifth vial v 10-11

a. beast > Holy Roman Empire

b. seat = throne

c. darkness > _____

d. sore > _____

'seat'

(Strong's # _____)

230. In the fifth vial period, God's judgments came upon the Pope who sat on the (b) _____ of the (a) _____. Because the Pope and the Catholic Church were (c) _____ they continued to stand up against God even though they had to go through a great deal of (d) _____. They never have repented of their ways and in the end God will have to destroy them completely.

The Sixth Vial poured out on the Euphrates River

The Decline of the Turkish Empire

We have finally come to the part of the book of Revelation that speaks of the times that **we live in right now**. It is the most exciting time period to live in because during the sixth vial **Christ will return to the earth, the resurrection will take place and the battle of Armageddon will be fought**. What an amazing time we live in!

After the Holy Roman Empire had been defeated, and the power of the Papacy greatly reduced, the judgments of God turned to the eastern part of the land once occupied by the Roman Empire. This was the area that is represented in the Bible by the **Euphrates River** and is known in history as the **Ottoman or Turkish Empire**. The Turkish Empire extended from the area held by the Holy Roman Empire down into Northern Africa and it included all of the Middle East.



231. Where did the sixth angel pour out his vial? _____

232. What empire does the Euphrates River signify? _____

233. Rivers often stand for the country that they are in. What countries do the following rivers represent:

Nile → _____

Jordan → _____

234. What happened to the Euphrates River? _____

235. In Bible prophecy when a river dries up it means that the country that that river is in dies out. What does that tell us is going to happen to the Turkish Empire? _____

236. At the beginning of the sixth vial the land of Israel was a part of the Turkish Empire, and it was inhabited by Arabs, not Jews. We know from other scriptures that when Christ comes back to the earth he will come to save the Jews living in Israel from Russia and a group of invading countries. Explain how the drying up of the Turkish (or Ottoman) Empire is an important step in the preparation for the return of Christ. _____

237. In v 12 what reason is given for the drying up of the Euphrates River? _____

238. Look up the word for east in a Concordance. It is made up of two Greek words (Strong's # 395 and # 2246.) What are the Greek words and what do they mean?

EAST

Strong's #395 " _____ " means " _____ "

Strong's #2246 " _____ " means " _____ "

So this word "East" literally means

"a _____ of the _____ "

239. The 'kings of the east' represent those people that are kings because they are coming with Christ the King. They are the saints, and they have been given immortality. Put a number (1-6) beside each of the following events to indicate the order that each event will take place leading up to Christ and the saints coming to Jerusalem:

- Those raised will be brought to the judgment seat.
- Some of those raised will be given immortality.
- The resurrection will take place.
- Christ and his immortal saints will go to Jerusalem to set up the kingdom.
- Christ will return.
- Those given immortality will spend time with Christ preparing for the work of setting up the kingdom.

240. Find what the following words represent to understand the story behind v 12

a. great River Euphrates > _____

b. water > _____

c. kings of the east > Christ and the saints

241. Before the land of Israel would be ready for the coming of (c) _____ to set up the kingdom the (b) _____ of the (a) _____ had to be removed from the land of Israel and the Jewish people had to come back to the land. The Jewish people had been scattered for almost 1,900 years.

The Turkish (Ottoman) Empire began to 'dry up' in 1820, and over the next 100 years it became weaker and weaker, and smaller and smaller.



In 1917 part of the empire, including the land of Israel was taken over by the British, who allowed the Jews to return to the land. Thirty years later there were enough Jews in the land to form a nation, and in 1948 the nation of Israel was born.

While the Turkish Empire was dying out, things were once again happening in Europe. The spirit of **rebellion** that led to the French Revolution was spreading from country to country. During the French Revolution the spirit of rebellion among the people said, "We do not want a **King** and we do not want the Roman Catholic Church to tell us what to do." They decided that everyone should have a say in the way countries were run and they adopted **democracy** as their system of government.

In the decades after the French Revolution that thinking increased and soon most of the countries of what used to be the Roman Empire had democratic governments. The spirit of rebellion also increased and people began to say, we do not want **God** to tell us what to do... **we know better than God** ... and then they began to say we do not really believe in God... **we will do what we want to do.**

Rev. 16:3-14 calls this way of thinking the "**spirit like frogs**" because it started in France, the land of the frogs. It also calls it an "**unclean spirit**" and "**the spirit of devils**", a term which in the New Testament refers to people with a **mental illness**. This **foolish way of thinking** will ultimately bring the people to gather together for the battle of Armageddon where they will find themselves fighting **against** the son of God and his saints.



Clovis I: First King of France. Note the frogs on his uniform!

242. What came out of the mouth of the dragon, the beast and the false prophet? _____

243. Look up the word "unclean" from verse 13. What does the word unclean mean? (Concordance) _____

244. Where did the three spirits like Frogs come out of? _____

245. Explain how a 'spirit' could come out of someone's mouth. _____

246. In the New Testament a person that was possessed with a devil or that had an unclean spirit was a person that had a mental illness which made them do crazy things. What crazy thing will the kings of the earth be caused to do by the "spirits of devils" (the spirits like frogs)? _____

247. In verse 15 Christ interrupts the prophetic part of the sixth vial with a warning for the believers that are living at the time of the sixth vial. Do you know any of the believers that are living at the time of the sixth vial? _____

248. We are told that the coming of Christ will be like the coming of a thief to those who aren't watching. What is the coming of a thief like? _____

249. Walking naked is an echo to the experiences of Adam and Eve. When Adam and Eve ate of the fruit of the tree they were sinning against God, thinking that they knew better than God. How is that similar to the spirit like frogs? _____

250. If Christ is speaking to believers in verse 15 then he is telling us that we too need to make sure that we do not follow the example of the nations coming to Armageddon and the example of Adam and Eve. Explain what you can do so that you do not make the same mistake. _____

251. Verse 16 brings us back to the prophesy of the nations coming together to attack Israel. What is the name of the place where this battle takes place? _____

252. Find what the following words represent to understand the story behind v 13-14, 16

- a. **spirits** > _____
- b. **frogs** > _____
- c. **dragon** > _____
- d. **beast** > countries in the Western part of the Roman Empire
- e. **false prophet** > _____
- f. **Armageddon** > _____

253. The nations of the earth will be brought together to fight against God's people Israel when they all follow the (a) _____ that came out of (b) _____ Revolution. These same teachings will be taught by the (c) _____ the (d) _____ and the (e) _____ who will all claim to know better than God. The nations will actually stand up against Christ and the Saints but they will be like a (f) _____, and will be defeated.

The Seventh Vial poured out into the Air The Government of Christ and the Saints Replaces the Governments of the World.

For 6000 years God has been looking for people to be a part of His kingdom, people that agree with Him and that will help His son teach the world His ways. The people He is looking for are people who will **listen** to him, put their **trust** in Him and that want to **obey** Him. He looks at what they **do** during their lifetime to see if they would be **profitable** servants for His kingdom.

During the sixth vial period Christ will return to the earth, the resurrection will take place and all those that Christ finds to be faithful will be given eternal life. Then these faithful will become the kings and priests of the kingdom and they will take over from the angels in doing the God's work.



254. Name 10 people from the Old Testament that you think will be a part of the kingdom.

255. Pick one of the people from the question above and explain why you think that they were faithful.

256. Name 10 people from the New Testament that you think will be a part of the kingdom.

257. Pick one of the people from the question above and explain why you think that they were faithful.

258. We have seen that the things that God wanted to have done in the periods of the seals the trumpets and the first six vials was done by the angels working through the nations, but something that happens in the sixth vial period brought a new team of workers that will do the work of God during the last vial period. Who are the people that are on that team? _____

259. How can we be a part of that team? _____

260. In the kingdom our job will be to teach the world the truth about God and to get rid of all of the false religions. Think about one person you named in the questions above that you would like to work with in the kingdom and explain why. _____

261. Where did the seventh angel pour out his vial? _____

262. What did the great voice out of the temple of heaven, from the throne say? _____

263. What does verse 18 say about the great earthquake? _____

264. In the book of Revelation there are 3 great earthquakes mentioned. Draw lines to connect the three great earthquakes to what they represent in the chart below:

1st great earthquake

2nd great earthquake

3rd great earthquake

French Revolution

Christ and Saints govern the world

Constantine controls Roman Empire

265. Explain why you think the 3rd great earthquake is the greatest earthquake ever. _____

266. When Christ and the Saints ask everyone to let them rule the world many of the nations will refuse to obey and they will actually fight against Christ. Why do you think it would be a bad idea to disobey Christ and the Saints when they are setting up the kingdom? _____

267. Come up with 5 things that you think would be good about Christ and the Saints ruling the world.

268. The great city of verse 19 is the Roman Empire. What will happen to the Roman Empire as the great earthquake shakes the governments of the world? _____

269. In verse 19 Rome is called Babylon because the religion of the Roman Catholic system is very similar to the religion of ancient Babylon. In the days of the Apostles, Babylon actually became a codename for the city of Rome. This allowed the Apostles to speak about the Roman Empire, describing the wicked things they would say and do, without getting into trouble from the Roman authorities. One of the Apostles wrote a letter from the city of Rome and in the letter he referred to Rome as Babylon. Which Apostle did this? and where is it found? _____

270. What did God give to Babylon (Rome) when she came in remembrance before Him? _____

271. When Christ asks the Pope and the Catholic Church to submit to him, they will refuse to obey him. They will actually be fighting against God, and God will have to destroy many of them so that His kingdom can fill the earth. What does the word wrath in verse 19 mean?
(concordance)

'wrath'

(Strong's # _____)

272. Verse 20 describes another step in the setting up of the kingdom. It describes a world where there are no islands and no mountains. The Islands represent independent nations and the mountains represent empires and powerful nations. Explain what his verse is telling us about what the kingdom will be like when Christ and the Saints are ruling.

273. The Bible often describes the Saints teaching the people of the earth in the kingdom as rain falling from a cloud. But some of the people of the earth will refuse to listen to the teaching of the Saints and the Saints will have to use force to get the nations to submit. With this in mind explain why you think that great hail is a good description of this judgment.

274. How much did each hailstone weigh in **pounds**?

275. Find what the following words represent to understand the story behind the seventh vial v 17-21

- a. air > _____
- b. great earthquake > _____
- c. the great city > _____
- d. Babylon > _____
- e. wine > bloodshed _____
- f. island > distant countries _____
- g. mountains > _____
- h. hail > _____



276. During the 7th vial period Christ and the Saints will become the (a) _____ of the whole world. There will be a (b) _____ and the new government will be unlike any that has ever been on the earth. The countries that occupy the area of (c) _____ will refuse to submit to Christ and God because of the (d) _____. God will remember all of their wickedness and bring upon them the (e) _____ and destruction they deserve. Their destruction will come through the (h) _____ upon them. When the work is finished the whole world will be under the control of Christ and the Saints. There will be no more (g) _____ and even the (f) _____ will worship Christ.

277. In the kingdom we will have a lot of work to do teaching all of the mortal people that live in all of the countries of the world. If you could pick any country in the world what country would you like to be assigned to? _____

278. When the nations are at peace and are obedient to Christ the whole world will know true peace. They will be like a sea of glass. Where did we read about a sea of glass? _____

Revelation chapters 17-20 describe in greater detail the pouring out of the 7th vial, that we have just learned about. **Chapter 17** describes the Catholic system in all of its power and the great influence that it will have over the nations. **Chapter 18** describes how and why Rome will be destroyed. **Chapter 19** describes how Christ (the husband) will be married to his bride (the immortal saints). It then goes on to describe how Christ and the Saints will overthrow the remainder of the Roman opposition to them. **Chapter 20** describes how sinful behavior will be held back by the rulership and teaching of Christ and the Saints for 1000 year Kingdom of God (the Millennium).

279. Place numbers beside each of the following *mixed-up* events to indicate the order in which they will occur:

- Christ and the Saints destroy the remainder of the Roman opposition
- Rome destroyed
- Sinful behavior will be held back by the teaching and rulership of the Saints
- Rome has great power over the nations

Revelation chapters 21-22, the final chapters of the book of Revelation, show us the what the world of the kingdom will be like. It is described as a new heaven and a new earth. Write what heaven represents and what earth represents in the spaces below:

heaven > _____
earth > _____

280. Describe what it means when it says a new heaven and new earth in chapter 21:1.



281. Explain what Christ is saying to us in chapter 22:12.

282. What two things does Ch 22:14 say about those that keep God's commandments?

283. What does it mean to eat of the tree of life?

284. What does it mean to enter in by the gates into the city?

You're ALMOST DONE!

285. Go back now, and look through every question carefully. Make sure every question is answered, and answered to the **BEST of your ability**. By signing your name below, you are affirming that you have **double checked** that you have **COMPLETELY** completed this workbook.

X _____

286. Give your completed workbook to a parent. Ask them to look at your workbook to make sure it's done, then sign below. Their signature declares that they have examined your workbook and confirm that you have completed it to the **BEST** of your ability.

X _____

287. if you haven't already, now is the time to review page 'c' and decide on a **project** to complete. Projects **must** be completed **before** camp, and must be brought to camp. All projects will be displayed in the main hall after being checked by your counselors. **Do your BEST WORK!**

288. Have a parent sign the front cover of this workbook confirming that they have reviewed the entire **WORKBOOK** and your **PROJECT**.

and then...



Don't Forget to bring with you to Camp:

- Your Bible, complete with Bible-marking from this workbook,
- This completed Workbook,
- Your Intermediate Project.

Signs & Symbols in Revelation

We need to be very careful when looking at *Symbols and Types* in the Scripture because symbols can represent different things when they are used in different situations. This is because some symbols have more than one quality or attribute. In the table below you will see some of the attributes of the sun.

- If the sun's temperature is being considered then the sun represents judgment.
 - If the sun's light is being considered then the sun represents understanding.
- We rely on the context to tell us which attribute is being compared.

The SUN has many attributes and
each attribute is the basis for a different symbol.

The SUN is Hot	→ Judgment	<i>see Rev 16:8</i>
The SUN is Light	→ Understanding	<i>see Acts 13:11</i>
The SUN gives Life Energy	→ Healing	<i>see Mal 4:2</i>
The SUN is Above	→ Omnipresence	<i>see 2 Sam 12:13</i>
The SUN is Always there	→ Certainty	<i>see Ps 89:36</i>
The SUN Rules the day	→ Rulership	<i>see Gen 1</i>

Signs & Symbols in Revelation

be sure to read 'types' information on page -'A'

Symbol →	Meaning
air	rulers
Armageddon	a heap of sheaves in a valley for judgement
altar	dedicated to Yahweh
ark	Christ
Babylon	religion of Rome
balances	buying & selling
black	famine and suffering
blood	life
bottomless pit	out of bounds
brethren	brethren in Christ (Christadelphians)
brimstone	gunpowder
burned	defeated
burnished brass	man's nature perfected
censer	prayers
cloud	multitude
court	those who claim to be Christ's
crown	victory, success
darkness	without spiritual understanding
dragon	countries in the eastern part of the Roman Empire
earth	people being ruled over
earthquake	turnover of government
elders	immortal people
Euphrates River	Turkish Empire (Turkey)
false prophet	pope
fire	war
foreheads	minds
frogs	French
grass	people
great city	the region of Rome
great earthquake	complete change of government
great hail	judgments of saints
great star	leader
hail	saints judging
heaven	place of power
hell	the graves
horse	Roman Empire
horsemen	men riding horses
hunger	famines

Signs & Symbols in Revelation

be sure to read 'types' information on page -'A'

Symbol →	Meaning
image	Papacy (pope)
islands	sea powers/ navy
kings of the east	Christ and the saints
lamb	Jesus as a saviour
lampstand	congregation of believers
lion of Judah	Jesus as a king
living creatures	saints
locusts	army
moon	religious powers, or priesthood
mountains	powerful countries & empires
pale	death
rainbow	God's promises
red	bloodshed
rivers	countries
sea	all nations
ships destroyed	stop the trading of goods by ship
sore	suffering
soul	life
spirits	teachings
stars	lesser rulers, princes
sun	government, or king or emperor
sword	weapon for murdering
temple	Jesus and his faithful disciples
third part of earth	a third of the Roman Empire
third part of sea	a third of the Roman Navy
thunder	judgments of God
trees	people
trumpets	judgements to come
two-edged sword	word of God
waters	people
white	peace
white robes	immortality
wild beasts	invading armies

Some Interesting History on Bro. John Thomas

summarized from [wikipedia.com](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Thomas_(Apostolic_Advocate))

John Thomas M.D., born London, on April 12, 1805, was the son of a minister, also named John Thomas. His family is believed to be descended from French Huguenot refugees. John Thomas was a very disciplined student having taught himself Hebrew as a teenager. At the age of 16 he began studying medicine. He trained as a surgeon and had a keen interest in chemistry and biology, publishing several learned medical articles for *The Lancet*, one of which argued in favour of the importance of the use of corpses for the study of medicine (it was illegal in England to dissect them at this time).

Like many people of that era, in 1832 his father made the decision to seek fresh opportunities and emigrate to America. So it was that Dr John Thomas took the opportunity to further his career and accepted an appointment as ship's surgeon on the ship named *Marquis of Wellesley* which was traveling from London to New York.

The ship embarked on May 1, 1832 and immediately sailed into stormy weather that lasted the whole voyage. During one ferocious storm the ship lost the top of the main-mast and heavy seas stove in the bulwarks, washing everything moveable off the deck. The ship eventually ran into shallow water and ran aground off the coast of Nova Scotia. The ship was raised up by the waves on twelve successive occasions, each time the keel striking the sea bed with such force that both crew and passengers were convinced the ship would break up.

Fearing that his life was about to end Thomas, determined to die with a prayer on his lips, prayed for mercy. He was very conscious of a void in his knowledge about what was to happen to him should he die. Thus he made a vow to dedicate his life, should he be spared, to religious study and to seeking out the truth about the matter of life and death.

Aided by a change in wind direction, the captain's efforts to turn the ship back out to sea were successful and after one final bone-jarring grounding, the ship floated free. Thomas never forgot his vow and spent the rest of his life devoted to Bible study, determined to understand the true message of the scriptures.

Dr Thomas also wrote for and was editor of the *Apostolic Advocate* which first appeared in May 1834. His studies during this period of his life generated the foundation for many of the beliefs he came to support as a Christadelphian and he began to believe that widely held Christian beliefs were blatantly wrong. Dr Thomas continued his studies of the Bible and in 1846 travelled to New York where he gave a series of lectures covering thirty doctrinal subjects that later formed part of his book *Elpis Israel*.

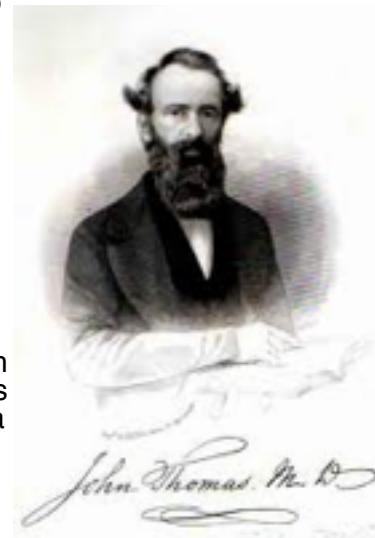
Based upon his newfound understanding of the Bible, Thomas was rebaptized (a second and final time) in 1847 and the groups of congregations and individuals who shared his beliefs continued to grow.

In 1848 the movement became international when he travelled to England in order to preach what he now saw as the true gospel message. Upon his return to America Dr Thomas moved from Richmond, Virginia to New York City and began to preach there. He made a point of speaking to the Jewish community because Dr Thomas had come to believe that Christianity did not replace the Law of Moses, but rather fulfilled it. He believed that Christians must, through faith and baptism, become the 'seed' (or, 'descendent') of Abraham.

It was at this time that Dr Thomas and those who shared similar beliefs became known as the Royal Association of Believers. This group of believers used the term "ecclesia", a Greek word meaning "assembly", to describe them. However, the movement did not have an 'official' name until 1864, when a name was chosen during the American Civil War. Instead of having a system of clergy, all the brethren took equal responsibility of presiding and speaking during their meetings. When in 1861 the American Civil War broke out, Dr Thomas travelled to the South and became concerned that the war had placed believers upon opposing sides. The movement as a whole considered that the war required them to make a stand for what they believed in as conscientious objectors. However, in order to be exempted from military service, it was required that believers had to belong to a recognized religious group that did not agree with participation in war. Thus in 1864, Dr. Thomas coined the name Christadelphian to identify members of the movement. The term Christadelphian comes from Greek and means 'Brethren in Christ'. It was during the war that Dr Thomas worked on the three volumes of *Eureka*, which discusses the meaning of the Book of Revelation.

On May 5, 1868 Dr Thomas returned to England where he travelled extensively giving lecturers about the Gospel message and meeting with Christadelphians in England. Following his return to America he made one final tour of the Christadelphian congregations prior to his death on 5 March 1871 in Jersey City. He was buried in the Green-Wood Cemetery, Brooklyn, New York.

John Thomas did not claim to be any kind of prophet, or in any way inspired, but only through independent study to have concluded that many traditional church teachings were incorrect and that from the Bible he could prove that position. Modern Christadelphians generally believe he was right and adhere to the positions he established as defined within the Christadelphian statements of faith; Christadelphians feel, too, that Thomas' example of an inquiring attitude is also an important legacy.

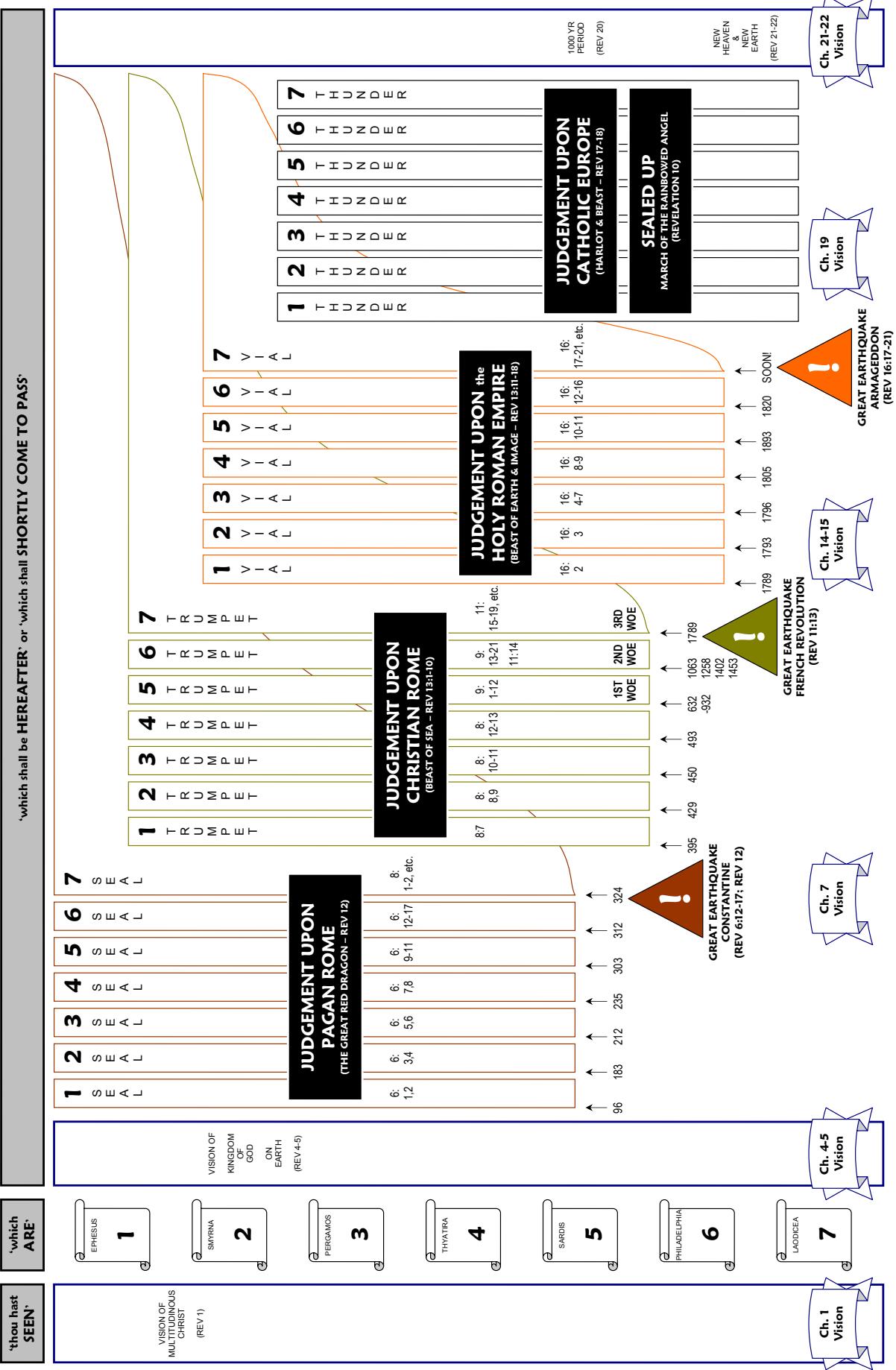


- The Revelation of Jesus Christ -

'thou has
SEEN'

'which
ARE'

'which shall be HEREAFTER' or 'which shall SHORTLY COME TO PASS'



First Trumpet - Revelation 8:7

Found on:

http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/ancient/romans/enemiesrome_gallery_01.shtml

Alaric, leader of the Visigoths

Born c. 360 AD

Died c. 411 AD

Enemy of Rome: Created the Visigoths, a new 'super-tribe' which the Romans found impossible to defeat militarily. In 410 AD, he led the Visigoths to the first sack of Rome in 800 years.

Alaric rose to power over the Goths in the mid 390s AD. The Visigoths had been admitted into the empire in 376 AD. They defeated and killed the emperor Valens at Hadrianople in 378 AD, and then made a treaty with the emperor Theodosius in 382 AD.



On Theodosius' death in 394 AD, Alaric revolted in a bid to secure better terms for his followers. He attacked the cities of the east to force the eastern imperial authorities in Constantinople to offer concessions, which they did in 397 AD. In 399 AD, a change of regime led to their definitive removal, and in 401-402 AD, he invaded Italy to try the same tactics - unsuccessfully - on the east.

Further barbarian invasions across the Rhine and Danube in 405-406 AD forced the effective ruler of the west, Stilicho ruling in the name of the emperor Honorius, to seek out an alliance with Alaric. But Stilicho was toppled in 408 AD and Alaric invaded Italy again, demanding that all the promises should be fulfilled.

For over a year-and-a-half, from late 408 AD, Alaric's Goths sat outside Rome to force Honorius and his advisors, safe in Ravenna in Northern Italy, to come to terms. He even raised his own Roman emperor from the Senate to apply more pressure. No deal was forthcoming. Needing to satisfy his followers' demands for plunder, he allowed them finally to sack the city on 24 August 410 - the first time this had happened for 800 years.

Alaric died of disease early in 411 AD without extracting the deal he so craved.

More about Alaric - Found on: http://www.heritage-history.com/www/heritage.php?Dir=wars&FileName=wars_visigoths.php

Wars of Alaric : 395 to 410

In 395 Alaric, a new King, came to the throne of the Visigoths. He had served in the imperial army of Theodosius, Emperor of the East, and during his campaigns had seen Italy for the first time. Once Theodosius died however, he abandoned all alliance to the Emperor, and marched on Greece, conquering all of its major cities nearly unopposed until finally Stilicho arrived with an army from Rome, and hemmed his army in the Northern Peloponnese. He escaped from this predicament, and raised another army, this time to invade Italy. His first Invasion of Italy began in 402 in conjunction with Radagaisus, another Germanic general. The invading Visigoths laid siege to several towns, but in all cases were ultimately beaten and driven out of Italy by Stilicho, who was himself of German blood. It was not until Stilicho was assassinated by the jealous Emperor of Rome that Alaric made his second Invasion of Italy. This time he besieged and sacked Rome itself—the first time the city of Rome had been sacked by enemy forces in 800 years.



Second Trumpet - Revelation 8:8-9

Found on:

http://www.heritage-history.com/www/heritage.php?Dir=wars&FileName=wars_vandals.php

Wars of the Vandals

420-533 A.D.

Vandal Kingdom of Africa — versus — Roman and Byzantine Empires

Rise of the Vandals under Genseric : 428-477

The Vandals were a German tribe that did not rise to prominence until after the breakdown of the Roman Empire was well underway. They were however, very important in bringing about the complete collapse of the Western empire because of their vicious, and rapacious behavior. Instead of governing, they pillaged. Instead of promoting trade, they became a nation of pirates. They controlled a significant portion of the Western Empire, including Northern Africa, Sicily, Corsica, Sardinia, and the Balearic Islands off of Spain, and their reputation is remembered in their name, which as come to mean "willful and malicious destruction".

By 406 A.D., the defenses in the Western Kingdom had broken down, and the Vandals, along with several other German tribes migrated through the undefended



borders into Spain. There, they were opposed by the Visigoths and driven into Spain. Two events triggered the rise of the Vandal nation. The first was a battle against a Roman and Visigoth army in 422, in which they won control of several coastal towns, and came into possession of a large fleet. The second was the rise of Genseric, an unusually capable and ambitious General to leadership of the Vandals. Soon after coming to power in 428, he launched an expedition of 80,000 men to invade Northern Africa. His army included, not only Vandals, but all sorts of ex-slaves, various barbarians, and other miscreants. They looted and terrorized the population, defeated the Roman Commander Boniface in every encounter and eventually besieged Hippo in 430. (St. Augustine of Hippo famously died during this siege.) Eventually a fleet from the Eastern Empire arrived in Carthage, and the new Commander Aspar, after failing to defeat him in the field, negotiated a peaceful settlement with the Genseric in 435, officially recognizing the Vandal Kingdom, with Hippo as its capital.

Soon after Aspar returned to the east however, the Vandals made an assault on Carthage, and took the city, including its vast navy and securing for their kingdom uncontested dominance of the Western Mediterranean. All of the islands therein, including Sicily, Corsica, and Sardinia quickly fell into their hands. By 455 Rome had already been looted by the Visigoths, and besieged by Attila the Hun, but neither of these disasters compared to the mayhem wrought upon the city by the Vandals, when they were allowed into the city by a dethroned empress. Due to complicated palace politics, Empress Eudoxia invited Generic to come to Rome to depose her rival, but she did not foresee the havoc he would wreak. She and her two daughters were carried off by the Vandals along with hundreds of other Romans.

In 460 A.D. the Western Empire sent an expedition against the Vandals, but the fleet was destroyed in the port of Spain before ever engaging the Vandal foe. Eight years later, Leo, the Eastern Emperor raised a great fleet. It was enormously expensive, but also failed in its mission to conquer the Vandals and most of the Imperial fleet was destroyed in the process. After these attempts no serious attempts were made to conquer the vandals for many years. The Vandal Empire, in fact, held firm until the death of Genseric at a very ripe old age in 477, having ruled North Africa for almost fifty years.

Fourth Trumpet

The End of the Empire : 472 to 500

Found on: [http://www.heritage-history.com/www/heritage.php?
Dir=wars&FileName=wars_fallofwest.php](http://www.heritage-history.com/www/heritage.php?Dir=wars&FileName=wars_fallofwest.php)

Once Ricimer was gone from the scene new aspirants to power began to fill the vacuum. One general, by the name of Orestes, desired to make himself Emperor and so raised an army of German foederati, to help him seize the throne. They succeeded, and Orestes installed his son Romulus Augustus to the throne of the western empire, keeping command of an army for himself. He also reneged on his promises to the foederati, so after waiting a year for satisfaction, they rose against him, lead by Odoacer, an illiterate but competent general. Orestes was slain and his son deposed. The army then declared Odoacer King of Italy instead of Western Emperor, and he settled down to ruling Italy. During the reign of Odoacer, the southern part of Gaul, which had been the last remaining part of the Western Empire outside of Italy, was lost to the Franks at the Battle of Soissons, so the title King of Italy was more apt than ever.

The Eastern Emperor was not entirely happy with the situation and encouraged the Ostrogoth king Theodoric to march upon Italy and take possession in the name of the Eastern Empire. He did so, and seventeen years after declaring himself King, Odoacer too was deposed. Under Theodoric, Italy recovered much of its former prosperity. His reign was largely peaceful, and he made alliances with the Visigoths of Spain and the Franks in Gaul. Theodoric did much to preserve the best institutions of the Roman empire, and fostered cooperative, peaceful relationships with his German neighbors. Had subsequent Ostrogoth rulers been as competent, Rome may have risen again. Alas, such was not the case.

