

Revelation's events unfold according to a seven-sealed scroll. These events unfold in a similar manner and sequence as to what happened to the Old Testament Jews. Thus, the events unfold in a Pattern Sequence. I call my prophetic view the Pattern View.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE UNFOLDING ENDTIMES

(Appendix A of my book: *Watchman Warning*;))

by
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Christ- Centered



Biblical Training

This appendix describes how the endtimes will unfold and what we can experience as they do. They unfold according to Revelation's Pattern Sequence patterned after what happened to the Old Testament Jews. We need to know them so we will know what is happening when they come and stand strong under the coming persecution.

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Scriptures quoted are taken from the New American Standard Bible.

See the glossary for definitions and understanding of the terms used.

Note: This report is Appendix A of my book: *Watchman Warning* (1994). The details are summarized in my other book: *Watchman, How Far Gone is the Night?* (1995). We encourage you to read these books for more detail and breadth for greater background and more complete understanding. They are available by contacting the above.

This chapter is written for those who have some knowledge of the issues and doctrines in prophecy. Those wanting a more beginning view can read *Watchman, How Far Gone is the Night?*

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APPENDIX A

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE UNFOLDING ENDTIMES

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents a handbook of the detailed happenings under each endtime period of the Pattern Sequence that the church and world may experience. It lists God's and Satan's expected strategies. If believers carry out God's strategies, they will implement His plan and allow Him to provide His maximum support during these endtimes. Knowing Satan's strategies, believers can know what they may see and experience. Figure 1-1 in chapter 1 shows how the endtimes will unfold.

Most happenings are taken from the Old Testament in reference to the Pattern Sequence that Israel experienced. These can be taken because Israel and the ancient nations in their Pattern Sequence are a role model for the endtime covenant nation and all the nations in their endtime Pattern Sequence. So what happened to Israel can be expected to happen to the endtime covenant nation of the United States, her surrounding nations, and to the coalition of nations after it is formed — the Beast empire.

People who know why and how the endtimes are unfolding will understand what is happening to them. When these endtime happenings occur, believers can know in which Pattern Sequence period they are living and what they can expect to experience. Believers can know what God desires for them to believe and to do and what the next Pattern Sequence event will be. They can know that the Rapture will not occur until after the Man of Lawlessness is revealed and until after the mark-of-the-Beast period. Because believers should know the true signs of Christ's Coming, they should not be deceived by the false signs and wonders which come earlier by the false christs.

People who have biblical expectations can adapt when freedoms, standards of living, and pleasant living circumstances erode. They will understand what is happening when national sovereignty is removed and unjust laws are enacted. They will know why there are shortages of necessities. People will understand why persecution is prevalent, why children are taken from their parents, and why true freedom is no longer possible. They will know why the country is given evil leaders. People will know why false religion is forced upon them. They will realize that their only hope is Christ Himself, when He comes for His church in the Rapture. When persecution, imprisonment, and martyrdom come, believers will know that they must stand firm in the faith without denying Christ. As stated in chapter 1, readers who desire a firsthand picture of the future can read Isaiah, Jeremiah, and Ezekiel and mentally replace the name of Israel with America, and the names of Babylon and Assyria with Russia (or possibly, with Russia and several other endtime nations).

Believers can know that righteous living will return to the world only if the church returns to faith-obedience to God. Because the church overall is not expected to return, individuals, families, and groups can. God will work all things together for good to these individuals and groups who do. You the reader can be one individual who does. But it must be action in responsiveness to God, not lip service, or passive believing.

When believers realize they are in turbulent times, they should concentrate on improving their "faith-life" using the Romans 8:28 Faith-Process — learning to trust God to work all things together for good as they experience divine discipline and testing. In order to implement the Faith-Process, they should learn to live more righteously, keeping God's commandments out of their love for Him, and doing all they can to witness the gospel according to His purpose. Believers need to learn to live by faith **now**, while they can more easily recover from their mistakes. Once the fourth-seal war comes, recovery will be more difficult.

Knowing prophecy according to the Pattern View, American believers will know that their country is going under divine discipline. Russian believers can know that God may use their country to bring war against the United States and, in some manner, to bring America and other nations under discipline. Believers can know that Satan plans to build up Europe and protect Israel. Satan plans to use Israel as the seat of his government during the mark-of-the-Beast period. Believers can know that, after the mark-of-the-Beast period, Satan will bring China and the other kings of the east against Christ and the church, as they descend to the earth for the final wars, including Armageddon. Thus, Satan will build up the military might of China, but it may develop later than that of other nations.

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THE DETAILED HAPPENINGS WHEN THE ENDTIMES UNFOLD

Revelation's happenings were determined by integrating Old Testament teachings regarding Israel's covenant relationship and Pattern Sequence. The happenings were taken from Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Lamentations, the Minor Prophets, Leviticus 26, Deuteronomy 28, and from throughout the New Testament. They were taken according to the Pattern Sequence, as determined by matching vocabulary, phrases, events, sequences, and expressions.

Readers need to consider the Old Testament happenings as trends and possible happenings that occur in every Pattern Sequence of a covenant relationship. **They may occur in a more modern and different setting consistent with the technology available, while keeping the intent or principle the same. Some may not happen, and others may be added.**

The Old Testament prophetic books are written in a manner such that it is sometimes difficult to place events into the exact Pattern Sequence period. But this may not be too troublesome because many of the same events occur in succeeding periods with increasing intensity. Satan does not change his method of operation. He simply does more of the same with greater intensity, as God allows him.

The expected strategies of God and Satan, presented in this chapter, are taken either from Scriptures or the principles of Scripture. Some are my recommendations, based on my comprehension of the overview of what will happen. They are so marked.

THE FIRST THREE SEALS

Introduction

The happenings of these first three seals consist of false religions, war, and famine. The Bible does not directly teach when the first three seals are broken. But because the events of Revelation unfold in a Pattern Sequence using a covenant nation, the first three seals were most likely broken near the time when the United States was formed, and their events have progressed since that time. The period of the first three seals began with general obedience to God and prosperity and has gradually shifted to conditions of increasing disobedience and apostasy. The events of the first three seals are happening now. These same happenings occurred over many years before the calamity and war that the Jews experienced in A.D. 70. Thus, they can be expected to occur over many years before the fourth-seal war comes.

The increase of apostasy will continue until God brings the calamity of the fourth-seal war. The signs that the war is coming will increase in number and magnitude. They bring us warning. The fourth-seal calamity and war will come suddenly and unexpected. Scoffers will say that the conditions will be as they always have been. Thus, peace, instead of calamity, will be expected.

The Strategies of God and the True Church

Using the church, God's expected strategies are to:

1. Evangelize and disciple people, particularly personal and church families, to live out the church's three activities, using the Romans 8:28 Faith-Process and God's whole counsel. Train people to live by faith and to know the Christian doctrines and God's attributes. **Chaotic times will occur and family members may get separated. Have emergency predetermined rendezvous points and several widely separated places you can phone to find your family members.** Use powerful radio stations to broadcast the gospel into every country and disciple their people. Train people about the Pattern Sequence and about the expected endtime happenings which they may experience. (Jeremiah 22:21; Matthew 28:18-20; Mark 16:15; Acts 1:8.)
2. Appoint Watchmen to warn the church and unbelievers and to tell them what they can expect in each endtime period. Because the church will experience persecution, **expediently** prepare her to live

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out the three activities without denying Christ, even if it means imprisonment and martyrdom. God has said, "But the righteous shall live by his faith" during these discipline periods.

Teach people that living the Romans 8:28 Faith-Process is the way by which God will heal the nation and protect individuals and families. However, in working all things together for ultimate good, God may require many faithful believers to go to the martyrs' death, as a witness for Him. This is a fair exchange because these believers receive greater maturity and heavenly reward.

(2 Chronicles 7:14; Habakkuk 2:4; Romans 8:28; 2 Timothy 2:10-13; 3:1-7; Hebrews 11:1.)

3. **Expediently** disciple children and young people to stand alone and be self-sustaining in Christ by training them with a mini version of God's whole counsel. Prepare them for the eventuality of being taken from their families and indoctrinated into Satanic falsehoods without their parents' permission. Many may be placed in state schools. Train children to live by faith, obey God's commandments, know Christian doctrines, know God's attributes, witness to their friends and families, and memorize Scripture and Christian songs. Train children so they can see God answering their own prayers and responding to their own faith. (2 Kings 16:3; 17:17; 23:10; Jeremiah 7:31; 32:35.)
4. Set up small Christian fellowships in homes, offices, and schools, away from the church buildings, so that they will remain strong if the government closes the church buildings or prohibits church activities. Have these groups learn and practice living by faith, keeping God's commandments, and accomplishing on-the-way gospel witnessing. Group members can mutually support each other as conditions require and share current events so that they can recognize the Pattern Sequence. (2 Chronicles 16:9; Acts 13:22.)
5. Depart from having spiritual and financial relationships with Babylon the Great during the fifth-seal period. Work toward becoming and operating debt-free. Depend upon God to provide life's needs. He may provide jobs and businesses. Set up a second business or income source and reduce expenses. Diversify financial endeavors in seven or eight different ways (Ecclesiastes 11:2). High inflation is expected during the fifth-seal period because a worldwide financial crisis and collapse occurs at its end (Revelation 18:10-20).

Have a debt-free home and grow some food. Buy clothes, tools, cars, homes, and other needs now because they may be high priced and in short supply later, during an inflationary discipline period. Develop strategies to lower living expenses. Arrange lifestyles and establish finances so that ministries can be continued and life's needs can be met during the coming discipline period. Because the Tribulation will last many years, train young people to accomplish and eventually take over all ministries. Make all major decisions matters of prayer. Plan and prepare ahead for the prophesied difficult times. This is what God told Joseph to do in the Old Testament (Genesis 41). He had Egypt store grain during seven years of plenty in preparation for the following seven years of famine. Joshua was told to prepare for physical warfare in order to enter and conquer the promised land (Joshua 1). (Author's recommendations.)

6. Develop a superior prayer life and live righteously, keeping God's commandments. This will cause our hearts to be sensitive to God's leading during difficult future periods. Pray without ceasing about all things. Pray about where to live and work. Choose locations that God desires to use for your ministry and assistance to others. If you are obedient, God may hide and protect you during the coming calamity. (Psalm 57:1; Zephaniah 2:3; Colossians 1:9-12; 1 Thessalonians 4:3; 5:17.)
7. Pray concerning wise preparations that God would have you make for the coming famine and serious disease conditions. The choice of foods may be a serious problem. Foods will be raised under conditions that have soils depleted of minerals and sprayed with toxins. Other foods will be raised with synthetic DNA techniques that will have minerals and other elements terribly rearranged. Both of these foods will not produce good health and will cause disease problems in many. Try to procure and eat only organically grown foods. Eat foods grown God's way. Do what you can. Some people can and should move to a smaller town or in the country where these organic farming methods can be implemented for good health and as another source of food. It is an individual matter.

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Food and water will be scarce in many areas during the discipline periods. Disease will be prevalent. Store food, water, and other necessities of life in order to prepare for shortages that will come. Consider implementing methods to collect and store water. Collect water that runs off your roofs. Build ponds and install storage tanks where this is possible.

Be diligent to learn and follow good health procedures. This will help lower medical expenses that can be very high if hospitalization is needed. Build up good health by eating **organically** grown fruits and vegetables, and drinking plenty of pure water. For good health, you may need to eat about 70 to 85 percent of your food raw and drink plenty of vegetable and orange juices, freshly made. This may be the best way to ensure that you get the needed vitamins and minerals. A good rule-of-thumb policy for many is to drink water of an amount in fluid ounces equal to one-half of your weight in pounds. Detoxify your body by fasting from food and drinking only pure water for a period. Eating organically grown foods is important because many foods bought during this period may be short of nutrients due to the depletion of minerals from the soil caused by the long-term supermarket-type farming, with the use of artificial fertilizers and insecticides. Eat a mixture of many unheat-treated natural grains. Build and maintain a sufficiently high potassium level as a deterrent against cancer. Barley drinks are a good source of minerals, vitamins, and enzymes. Eat bananas and drink carrot juice because they are good sources of potassium and are nearly complete foods. The Bible recommends having a heifer for milk to drink and from which to make curds, a pair of sheep from which to make clothing, and bees from which to gather and eat honey (Isaiah 7:21-25). People may live longer in prison if they enter in good health and physical shape. Thus, improve your physical conditioning with aerobic, pressure, and stretching exercises. (Author's comments.)

8. Memorize Scripture and hymns in case Bibles are confiscated and you are put into prison (Author's comments).
9. Avoid immorality (mentally and physically). This invites God's judgment and may cause Him not to use you effectively in ministry. (1 Corinthians 6:18; Galatians 5:19-20.)
10. God will use Satan to build the Russian military (and those of other nations) as the northern-army nation which He will bring against the United States for disciplinary action. Satan will bring the army to establish greater governmental power.

The Strategies of Satan

Satan is expected to (1) attack the church, (2) discourage believers from accomplishing God's work, (3) lead the world into apostasy and immorality and away from believing the gospel, and (4) build his forces to take over and rule the world. To the degree that the church and the American people become apostate, God will allow Satan to implement His strategies. In order to accomplish these goals, Satan's expected strategies are to:

1. Teach that the Bible is not God's supreme authority. Persuade people to believe that it contains errors and that they can choose what is correct. Get people to avoid submitting their wills and intellect to the Bible's authority so that they cannot be saved or grow in maturity. Persuade people to believe that their own opinions are as authoritative as the Bible.
2. Tempt people to live the god role. Bribe people and promise them temporal advantages. Deceive people to believe false doctrines and live independently of God's established relationships.
3. Influence people to believe that they are great and do not sin. Get people to believe that God does not punish sin. Thus, convince them that they have no need for Christ's gospel.
4. Encourage the nations, particularly the United States, to become apostate and immoral in order to invoke God to act against His own people. Get the church and people involved in false worship; get them active in tongues and emotional worship. Then God will move against them. Deceive young people and lead them into gross immorality. After several generations of immorality in young people, the entire nation will be immoral and have little chance to be saved. This was the recommendation of Balaam to the Moabite King Balak. (Numbers 23; 24; 25:1-18; 2 Corinthians 11:11-15; Galatians 5:19-20.)

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5. Infiltrate governments to influence the world's finances, military, religions, and resources in order to persuade and to control people. Gain control and run governments from outside the normal governmental chain of command and away from the people's control. Set up control of the world's finances and vital resources and do not make them available to Christians. Control food, water, and oil supplies. Control education and means of communication. Gain control of mass communication media such as television, radio, newspapers, and books. Control the publishing industry. Prevent the communication of the gospel and God's Word. This is Babylon the Great's operation. (Revelation 17.)
6. Set up a state-sponsored false religious system. Use it during the divine discipline periods. Have this religious system accept many religions and many gods in the country. Make the system attractive and base it on a few Bible verses to make it appear correct. Confuse people with many alternatives, doctrines, and religions so that they will have difficulty finding and believing the truth. (Jeremiah 11:13; 2 Corinthians 11:11-15.)
7. Involve God's people in activities that have little impact on the outcome of the spiritual warfare. Take believers essentially out of the warfare by steering them away from accomplishing evangelism and discipleship. Infiltrate and discourage churches from carrying out the Great Commission and being obedient to God. Convince them that Bible knowledge and fellowship with each other is all that they need. Persuade ministers to preach from the Bible, without disciplining their people to live godly lives or training them to share the gospel, using on-the-way witnessing. Persuade them to pay little attention to what is taught as long as they have a biblical sermon, a missions program, and a Sunday School. Encourage leaders to avoid training people to live out the church's three activities and be involved personally in ministry. Cause the churches to become program-oriented, instead of being ministry-oriented and training their people to walk with God and accomplish ministry. Influence leaders to avoid training their people with God's whole counsel or purpose. (Jude 1:3, 4.)
8. Encourage the church to work for world peace and to preach sermons that omit salvation or a walk of faith. Get preachers to teach biblical academics and knowledge rather than living relationships. Make them look as if they are doing a good job without getting their people involved in the spiritual war. (The Pharisees had much knowledge of the Bible, but little knowledge of an intimate walk with God. They were not doing God's work.)

Persuade people to believe that the professionals, those graduated from seminaries and Bible colleges, are the only ones who can pastor, preach, teach, lead, and accomplish God's work in the churches. Cause believers to become disinterested in penetrating local communities with the gospel. Discourage the training of congregations to evangelize, plant churches, and disciple believers. Promote programs that accomplish little and take most Christians out of the warfare.

Get people involved in meaningless activities such as tongues, emotionalism, healings, fellowships, and socials. Get others to fight the issues such as abortion, gays, communism, humanism, and putting good men into public office, that do not fundamentally allow the nation to be healed. Allow the church to win small battles. Let the church think she is accomplishing great things when, in reality, she is doing little to win the spiritual warfare.

9. Create divisions between Christians through doctrinal differences. Get churches to disagree on church organization, eschatology, tongues, and basic doctrines. Persuade Christians to fight each other, instead of combining their forces to agree on doctrines and to evangelize and disciple people to live out the church's three activities.
10. Infiltrate the educational system with humanism, anti-family teaching, internationalism, anti-God attitudes, immorality, and drugs. Raise up several generations of immoral people. Put sex education into the grammar schools and encourage recreational sex without marriage in the high schools. Those who have a long-term pattern of sexual immorality cannot inherit God's Kingdom.
11. De-emphasize the importance of families. Get people to act independent of God's chain of command. Encourage women to seek equality with men and their husbands. Destroy families by persuading young people to ignore and disobey their parents and to run their own lives. Increase divorce and single parent families. Get people to seek equality with their heads, bosses, or

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leadership. This was Korah's rebellion in the Old Testament (Numbers 16, 17; Jude 1:11). Get employees to seek equality with their bosses. Get pastors to work independently of the elders to do their own programs. Break down God's chain of command by bringing confusion, disunity, and inefficiency into organizations.

12. Create giants and fortresses against which Christians will be afraid to act (Numbers 13:30-33; 14; Deuteronomy 1). Cause people to believe that they do not have the resources to do God's will.
13. Develop a world system to attract people away from God's fellowship and work. Create work opportunities, recreation, high living standards, and temporal goals so that people will have little time left for God's work.
14. Remove God's lights from people so that they will not find salvation. These lights include the doctrines of creation, the deity of Christ, Christ's Death on the cross for sin, and the inerrancy of the Bible. Persuade people to believe that they have evolved, instead of being created by God. Persuade people to believe that God is dead and that the Bible resulted from man's instead of God's work. Persuade people to believe that Christ is only a man and not God. Have people believe that the Lord Jesus is only one person who has filled the office of the Christ and that there are many ways and books that lead to God. Teach that Christ is only one of many ways to God and that the Bible is only one of many books.
15. Have the nations build up militaries and resources in preparation for the fourth-seal war and to control people during the discipline period. Have the many third-world nations build up their militaries. Have the Russian Federation and the United States possess large militaries. (Revelation 6:7, 8.)
16. Cause the United States and world's nations to adopt bad financial policies to get them into debt. Have Babylon the Great gain control of central banks and become financial giants, so that it can greatly influence the direction of nations. Eventually, destroy the middle class financially. If the middle class in the United States goes down financially, the major effort and finances supporting gospel preaching go with it. (Habakkuk 2:6-8; Revelation 18.)

The Expected Happenings

The happenings expected in the first apostasy period will include:

1. Churches will gradually become apostate and reduce their efforts to carry out the Great Commission. Church leaders and pastors will leave the faith and their churches. Church leaders and pastors will drive their people away. Leaders will allow their people to do their own ministries, but the leaders will not support or become active in them. (Jeremiah 23:1, 2; 2 Timothy 3:1-7.)
2. There will be many gods in the land. The people will call evil good and good evil. People will not believe that there is sin or resulting judgment because they believe people comprise God, and that God does not sin. (Isaiah 5:20, 21; Jeremiah 2:35; 6:16, 19; 11:13; 18:11, 12.)
3. God will increase His warnings using His servants and acts of God. God's acts will include famines, droughts, pestilences, and strange weather in various places (Deuteronomy 28:21; Amos 4:6-13).
4. Bad leadership will infiltrate government and the nation will lose wars (Leviticus 26:17; 1 Kings 8:33).
5. God will curse the offspring of women, the ground, and the herds (Deuteronomy 28:18).
6. Sickness, disease, and fever will increase (Leviticus 26:16; 1 Kings 8:37).
7. Youth will do evil and become pervasively immoral. The people will participate in false worship, though prophets were sent again and again to persuade them to obey God. (Deuteronomy 28:18; Jeremiah 22:21; 32:30, 33; 35:14, 15, 17.)
8. The United States will be in great debt and financial crisis (Habakkuk 2:6-8).

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9. Aliens will buy large amounts of American property (Deuteronomy 28:43, 44).
10. People will be saying, "Peace, peace," when there is no peace. There will, in reality, be an army and sword at the door because apostasy, immorality, sin, and false worship pervades the land. (Jeremiah 5:11-13; 6:13, 14; 8:8-12; 14:13-16; 23:16, 17; Ezekiel 13:8-10, 16; Micah. 3:5-11.)
11. People will worship the work of their own hands (Isaiah 2:8; Jeremiah 1:16; 32:30).
12. The people's immorality will be great. They will no longer hide it. Instead, they will flaunt it, such as in movies, on television, and on videotapes and disks. Sex education will be taught in the lowest grades to lead children and young people away from God. (Isaiah 3:9.)
13. Water will become polluted. Water shortages and rationing will occur (Jeremiah 8:14; 9:12-16; 23:13-15; Amos 5:7; 6:12).
14. There will be a decrease in the biblical knowledge of God (Isaiah 5:13; Jeremiah 4:22; 8:7; 9:4, 6).
15. People will do more evil than their forefathers (Jeremiah 16:10-13, 18).
17. Many countries will have large militaries (Revelation 6:7, 8).
18. People will have forgotten and forsaken the true God (Isaiah 17:10; Jeremiah 2:8, 13; 3:21; 4:22; 9:13, 14; 18:15).

The preceding happenings will continue into the fifth-seal period and, with more intensity, into the mark-of-the-Beast period. The fifth-seal happenings may occur in seed form during this first apostasy period. Thus, current events can be compared against the events in both periods, to determine what is happening according to the Pattern Sequence.

THE FOURTH-SEAL WAR AND THE FIFTH-SEAL DISCIPLINARY PERIOD

The Breaking of the Fourth Seal, with Great War, Brings the Breaking of the Fifth Seal with Its Happenings of Great Apostasy in Divine Discipline

The fourth seal will bring war over one-fourth of the earth. People will die by the sword, famine, pestilence, and attack by wild beasts. One or more American cities may be damaged or destroyed with nuclear weapons, perhaps from terrorists. God will remove much of the joy of living. (Jeremiah 25:10, 11.)

The war will be followed by a period of great apostasy and divine discipline. The war will cause a coalition government to be formed — the Beast Empire with the seventh head — which will be ruled over by Babylon the Great. The coalition will probably consist of the United States, Europe, the Russian Federation, Israel, and many Arab nations, perhaps Japan and other Far Eastern or Pacific Rim nations. This period of apostasy will bring semi-dictatorship in the United States to meet the crisis. The dictatorship will bring a loss of freedoms and constraints on preaching the gospel. Christians will be persecuted, imprisoned, and martyred. Good and just government and solid finances will never be restored even though a financial boom with increased worldwide trade will occur, during this period. The period ends with a financial catastrophe that causes worldwide trade to cease.

The period of the fifth seal may last 20 or more years. This period will not be over in just a few years. It will take time for the apostasy to reach the state that will cause God to bring His devastating calamity which will kill most of the world's people and bring in the mark-of-the-Beast period.

Christians need to make the connection that what is happening is occurring according to the fifth-

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seal period of the Pattern Sequence, so that they will not believe that God is no longer concerned with them. They need to understand what and why it is happening — God is bringing discipline according to the endtime Pattern Sequence and the covenant relationship. Christians are not to be discouraged by what they see and experience — even though they will not like it. They should not lose heart. They must concentrate on living out the church's three activities in close relationship with God, using unceasing prayer and faith-obedience based on great love for God. They must place their total trust in Him, because freedom of religion and just laws will no longer prevail. It will be the spiritual dark ages of the endtimes. Unjust laws with great persecution will come.

The Strategies of God and the True Church

God is expected to do the following during the fourth-seal calamity and in the fifth level of discipline that occurs during the fifth-seal period:

1. Appoint Watchmen and prophets to warn the church and the world that devastating calamity is coming unless the people repent, are born again, and live righteously by obeying and worshipping Him. (Isaiah 6:5-12; Jeremiah 1:1-12; Ezekiel 3:16-21.)
2. Maintain a believing remnant that will obey and worship Him, and carry out His work. God has a believing remnant in every period. Have His faithful remnant endure prison and martyrdom as a witness that does not deny Christ, the gospel, and the Bible during these times of persecution. (Revelation 6:9-11.)
3. Allow Satan to build his forces for the devastating calamity that God plans to bring against the world and His own people. This will include building the military might of the United States, Russia, and many of the world's nations, including many nations in the Middle East.
4. Supply the necessities of life to His obedient and believing remnant as He did to Daniel and his friends — those who continue to take faith-action steps (Daniel 1).
5. Cause His people to abandon the religious and economic aspects of Babylon the Great. Babylon the Great operates using evil, immorality, sorcery, sensuousness, religions of falsehoods, and debt.

Revelation 18:3, 4 - " For all the nations have drunk of the wine of the passion of her immorality, and the kings of the earth have committed acts of immorality with her, and the merchants of the earth have become rich by the wealth of her sensuality ... Come out of her, My people, that you might not participate in her sins and that you might not receive of her plagues; for her sins have piled up as high as heaven, and God has remembered her iniquities."

People need to be out of debt because, during the apostasy period, creditors will probably foreclose on real estate unfairly. They will plunder people who owe them money. (Habakkuk 2:6-8.)

6. Train people and children to live by faith because "the righteous are to live by their faith," during the discipline periods (Habakkuk 2:4).
7. Exhort church leaders to go to God's Watchmen for His instructions about what is happening and what to do. (Ezekiel 8:1; 14:1; 20:1.)
8. Have responding people filter and distill their water to rid it of poisons and toxins (including wormwood). Have responding people plant gardens to grow food because it will be scarce and highly priced. Groups can have community gardens and water supplies. Eventually even these will be controlled. (Author's recommendations.)
9. Warn people of coming judgments of calamity and discipline. People as a whole will not obey and worship Him as He requires. God's warning signs will include: (a) lack of bread; (b) withholding of rain until three months from the harvest; (c) one city and area will be rained on and another will not be — one part will be wet and the other will be dry; (d) two or three cities will stagger to another city to drink water, but they will not be satisfied; (e) people will be smote with scorching wind, mildew, and

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caterpillars will devour gardens, vineyards, and fig and olive trees; (f) plagues will come among people after the manner of Egypt — water will be turned into blood; frogs, and lice and flies will fill houses and be on people — while other plagues will consist of pestilence, boils, hail, locust plagues, and darkness; and (g) young men will die by the sword, making a stench that will rise up to people's nostrils (Amos 4:6-13).

The Strategies of Satan

Satan's expected strategies are to:

1. Set up a semi-dictatorship in the United States with the United States under both international government and the direct rulership or control of Babylon the Great. Set up a new or altered American Constitution with unjust laws. Control people through the controlling of the necessities of life — water, food, oil, and money. Have this dictatorship in international government include a coalition government of the United States, Russia, Europe, and Israel. Have it include other Middle Eastern countries. The coalition will become the Beast Empire when the Beast has its seventh head. The purpose will be an initial step toward world rulership and at the same time allowing the world's merchants to become rich. (Revelation 17; 18.)
2. Install a state-sponsored false religious system. This will be a religion similar to the type established under the sins of Jeroboam and Manasseh which will lead people away from the gospel and true worship of God. Pressure people to join. This religious system will teach many ways to God and will accept other religions willing to join it. It will attack systems which have an exclusive way to God and dogmatic doctrines such as Christianity, Islam, and orthodox Judaism. (1 Kings 12:25-33; 13:33, 34; 14:7-16; 16:19; 18:9, 16; 2 Kings 17:7-17; 21; 24:3, 4; Amos 7:7-9.)
3. Persecute and martyr Christians. Place Christians in concentration camps. Exile many to detention in the Russian Federation and other nations. Include patriots in this group who influence the Christian community for God, nationalism, and righteousness. By these actions, discourage people from believing the gospel, accomplishing God's work, and speaking against the government. (Jeremiah 16:13; Revelation 6:9-11; exile may not always happen because in Israel's day, the exile from the land occurred according to the Palestinian Everlasting Covenant that is not in force in the endtimes.)
4. Cause great inflation, financial controls, and heavy taxes, in order to bring the nation under greater control of Babylon the Great. Eventually, bring a total destruction of the world's finances that will cause the devastating calamities and war of the trumpets that will, in turn, bring the mark-of-the-Beast system, with a new financial arrangement and absolute control. (Revelation 17; 18.)

The Expected Happenings

The happenings expected during the fifth-seal disciplinary period under the Beast Empire with the seventh head include:

1. **Leaders Will Install a False State Religion** - There will be great apostasy, with a false state religion, to keep people from believing the gospel. These are the sins of Jeroboam and Manasseh. There will be numerous false gods in the land. (1 Kings 12:25-33; 13:33, 34; 14:7-16; 16:19; 18:9, 16; 2 Kings 17:7-17; 21; 24:3, 4; Jeremiah 11:13; Amos 7:7-9.)
2. **A Financial Crisis will be in the Land** - There will be constant financial crisis with great inflation (Habakkuk 2:6-8; Revelation 18).
3. **The United States Will Lose Wars Because of Sin** - The country will begin to lose wars, even though they may have the power to win them. The United States has lost, or has not been allowed to win, at least two wars: the Korean and Vietnam wars. (Leviticus 26:25; Deuteronomy 28:25, 26.)
4. **People, Being Stiffnecked and Stubborn, Will Refuse to Listen to and Accept Instruction From God** - People will say that they do not sin when they break God's laws in gross sin. People will call good evil and evil good. They will be stiffnecked and stubborn and will refuse to listen to instructions from the Lord. They will say that they will follow their own plans. (Isaiah 5:18-21; Jeremiah 2:35;

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6:16-21; 18:11, 12; 19:14, 15.)

5. **Watchmen Will Be Prophesying for God** - Watchmen will warn people to obey God or face a coming devastating calamity and severe discipline. God will say, through His Watchmen and prophets, that He will not bring calamity if the people will live righteously. If a person will practice righteousness and not worship falsely, he will live. (Isaiah 1:18-20; 5:5-12; Jeremiah 1:1-12; 9:18-21, 23, 24; 16:11; 18:8, 12; Ezekiel 3:16-21; 18:5-9; 33:1-16; Amos 5:5, 6, 14, 15.)
6. **The People Will Refuse to Turn from Their Evil Ways** - People will make their faces harder than rock and refuse to return to God, in spite of His many warnings (Jeremiah 5:3; 15:7; Hosea 7:7).
7. **Drought and Famine Will Occur** - In various places, there will be drought and famine, from water shortages. The heavens will become like iron and bronze, and the earth will become like bronze. The ground will be cracked for lack of rain, and the farmers will be put to shame. Food and water will be scarce and rationed at very high prices. (Leviticus 26:19; Deuteronomy 28:23, 24; 1 Kings 8:35; Jeremiah 14:1-12; Amos 4:6-13.)
8. **Bad Water Will Be Found to Greatly Increase** - There will be an increase of polluted water. God will poison the water with wormwood. (Jeremiah 8:14; 9:12-16; 23:13-15; Amos 5:7; 6:12.)
9. **Disease Will Greatly Increase** - There will be a great increase in disease, plagues, and cancer. The fifth-seal period will be a day of sickness and incurable pain. God will smite people with the boils of Egypt, hemorrhoids, the scab, and the itch that cannot be healed. (Deuteronomy 28:27, 35; Isaiah 17:11.)

The food quality will be poor, with shortages and imbalance of vitamins and minerals. Over the years, supermarket-type farming has removed much of the soil's nutrient content. People will not be following the natural laws of hygiene. People will become very sick, particularly with cancer, which probably will become epidemic. (Author's comment.)

10. **The Country and People Will Be in Great Debt** - The country's financial condition will be in chaos. Creditors will foreclose through plunder. People's property will be looted and confiscated. (Habakkuk 2:6-8.)
11. **There Will Be False Teachers and Prophets in the Land** - People will love the teachings of false teachers who prophesy on their own inspiration. Leaders and prophets whom God has not sent will be saying, "peace without war," but, actually, a sword will be at the peoples' throats. People will believe that they will not experience devastating calamity from the northern army, regardless of their great sin. People will not believe that there is judgment for sin. (Jeremiah 4:9-22; 5:11-13, 31, 32; 6:13, 14; 8:8-12; 14:13-16; 23:1, 2, 16, 17, 21-23; Ezekiel 13:8-10, 16, 17; Micah. 3:1-12; 1 Thessalonians 5:3.)
12. **Leaders Will Leave Their Flocks** - Shepherds will leave the flocks under their charge. God is against these worthless shepherds who leave the flock in troublesome times. God will bring them great physical discipline on the arms and in the eyes. (In principle, shepherds can leave their flocks by no longer teaching them God's Word in the quality that allows them to walk closely with God and to accomplish His work.) (Zechariah 11:7.)
13. **Shepherds Will Drive Their Flocks Away** - Woe to the shepherds that drive their flocks away and have not attended to them. Woe to the shepherds who are destroying and scattering the sheep of God's pasture. God will tend to these shepherds with judgment when the calamity comes. (Jeremiah 23:1, 2.)
14. **Religious Leaders Will Not Know God and Will Mislead People — the People Will Lack Knowledge of God** - Religious leaders and God's people will be foolish, not know Him, and be stupid — without understanding. The people will have a lack of knowledge because, in their disobedience, they will not observe the Lord's deeds, nor consider the work of His hands. Lies, and not spiritual truth, will prevail, because the people will not know the Lord. As a result, they will do evil against and slander their neighbors. Priests (church leaders and pastors) who represent God will

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turn from His truth and mislead people. (Isaiah 5:13; Jeremiah 2:8; 4:22; 8:7; 9:3-6, 13, 14; 12:10, 11, 13; Malachi 2:1-17.)

15. **Religious Leaders Will Not Be Able to Determine What Is Holy** - Religious leaders will not discern between the sacred and the profane. They will do violence to God's law and belief system. (Ezekiel 22:26-30.)
16. **Spiritual Perception Will Diminish** - Spiritual perception will greatly diminish among the people because of their apostasy. They will have eyes to see, but will be unable to see; they will have ears to hear, but will be unable to hear. (Isaiah 6:5-12; 29:9-14; 44:12-20; Jeremiah 5:20-29; 6:10; Ezekiel 12:2.)
17. **The People Will Execute Ungodly Plans and Make False Alliances** - The people will execute plans that are not God's. They will make alliances with other than God's Spirit and take refuge in the world system. Woe to the rebellious children, who execute a plan that is not God's, and make an alliance, but not with God's Spirit, and proceed to take refuge in Egypt (the world) without consulting God. Egypt will be their shame and humiliation. (Isaiah 30:1-3; 31:1-3.)
18. **The Lack of God's Knowledge Will Bring Sin** - Faithfulness, kindness, and God's knowledge will be absent. People will swear, deceive, murder, steal, and commit adultery. They will employ violence and bloodshed. God's people will be destroyed because of their lack of knowledge about God and His ordinances. **Because people have forgotten God's law, God will forget their children. (God will not protect them from sinning, and they will come under God's judgment.) Parents must obey God in order to have their children protected.** The more the people multiply, the more they will sin against God. The people will play the harlot, worship falsely, and commit adultery. This people who are without understanding will be ruined. (Hosea 4:1-14; 5:4, 6; 7:7.)
19. **The People Will Rebel Against God** - People will speak and act against the Lord and will rebel against His glorious presence. Their faces will bear witness against them. People will display their sin like Sodom and will not try to hide it. The display will be in the theaters, on television, and on VCR and laser disc movies. (Complete nudity and sex acts probably will be shown on television. This will be done to encourage people and young people to engage in immorality.) (Isaiah 3:8-12.)
20. **The People Will Forget and Forsake the True God** - People will pervert their ways and bow down to other gods and serve them. God's people will commit two evils: they will forsake Him and go after false religious systems (cisterns that will not hold water). The people will forget the God of their salvation and the rock of their refuge. They will align themselves with a strange god. (Isaiah 5:13; 17:10, 11; Jeremiah 2:8, 13; 3:21; 4:22; 8:7; 9:3-6, 13, 14; 18:15; 22:9; Malachi 2:1-17; Romans 1:28.)
21. **The People Will Do Evil from Their Youth Though God Taught Them Again and Again** - The people, including the religious leaders, will have been doing evil from their youth and will have been participating in false worship. They will turn their backs on God, even though His prophets were sent again and again to encourage them to turn from their evil deeds and false worship. Because of the people's apostasy and lack of repentance, God will not accept their worship. (Jeremiah 1:16; 6:20; 22:3, 13, 17, 21; 32:33; 35:14, 15, 17.)
22. **God's People Will Ask How Long the Apostate Period Will Last** - God's people who are under the altar in heaven will ask how long will it be until they are avenged, for their persecution and martyrdom. They will be told to rest for a while until after their fellow servants are killed and until after all the cities are devastated by the coming calamity. (Isaiah 6:10, 11; Revelation 6:9-11.)
23. **The Many Rich Will Not Plead for the Needy** - The rich will not help the poor and the needy. Their riches will not keep these apostate people from experiencing the calamity and discipline. (Isaiah 1:21-23; 10:1, 2; Jeremiah 5:1, 27-29; 7:6; 12:1-3; 22:3.)
24. **The People Will Break God's Laws** - The people will break God's laws, use deceptive words, and worship the work of their hands. They will offer sacrifices to other and false gods. (Isaiah 2:8; 5:6, 7; Jeremiah 1:16; 5:7-9; 7:8-11; 32:29.)

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25. **The People Will Believe False Doctrines, Enter False Worship, and Take the Mark of the Harlot** - People will accept false doctrines, instead of believing God's doctrines. The Bible calls it taking "a harlot's forehead." God had told His people to place His doctrines on their forehead and their right hand. This they will not do. Instead, they will take false doctrines and place them there — after they have rejected the truth. (Exodus 13:9, 16; Deuteronomy 6:6-8; Jeremiah 3:1-3.)
26. **Women Will Be Seductive and Sin** - Women will be seductive and walk proudly with mincing steps. The Lord will afflict them with scabs in their scalps. They will prophesy falsely. The disobedient will have miscarriages and dry breasts. God will slay the precious babies of their wombs. (Isaiah 3:16, 17; Ezekiel 13:17-23; Hosea 9:14-17.)
27. **Wives Will Be Violated and Property Will Be Taken** - Wives will be violated and property and gardens confiscated. Animals will be taken and slaughtered before the people's eyes. (Deuteronomy 28:30.)
28. **The Country Will Be More Important Than God** - The country will be more important to people than God. This will lead to bloodshed of God's true worshippers without justice. A cry of distress will be heard. There will be lack of righteousness. (Isaiah 5:1-7.)
29. **People Will Make a Covenant with Death** - People will make a covenant with death in a coming calamity because they will not depart from their sin. They will say regardless of their sin and false worship, that they will have peace — that calamity will not come upon them. Scoffers will say that things will always be as they have been, since the time of creation, and thus, calamity will not come. But calamity will come. The fact of God's previous judgment for apostasy, by the great flood in Noah's time, will escape their notice. Thus, they will not expect judgment. (Isaiah 28:9-22; 2 Peter 3:3, 4.)
30. **God Rejects False Worship and Music** - God will reject false worship and the resulting music of the people who are sinful. Rock music and music designed to build the emotions of people ecstatically, regardless of the lyrics, fall into this category. (Amos 5:21-27.)
31. **People Will Be Oppressed and Robbed** - No one will help them (Deuteronomy 28:29).
32. **People Will Not Realize That the Supply of Their Basic Needs Comes from God** - When people are in false worship, they will not know that their life's needs are supplied by God. They will not realize that food and water shortages come because the people have rejected the true God. (Hosea 2:8, 9.)
33. **People Will Sow but Not Harvest; They Will Live in a State of Hunger** - Many will become sick because of their sin, and even though they will have some food to eat, their hunger will not be satisfied. The people will not reap what they sow. The people will harvest the grapes, but will not drink the wine. The United States will sow to the wind and reap the whirlwind. Her standing stalks will have no grain. As a result of sin, seeds will grow to blossoms, but the harvest will be a heap. (Hosea 8:7; Micah 6:13-15.)
34. **People Will Not Be Able to Preserve Their Possessions** - The people will try, but will not be able, to safeguard their possessions. Possession will be taken when the sword comes. What they do preserve may be taken from them when the divine discipline comes. (Micah 6:14.)
35. **The State Will Indoctrinate Children With False Doctrines and Mental Attitudes** - The government will take children away from families to be educated by the state. Sons and daughters will be taken from their parents and given to another people; **parents will not be able to do anything about it.** In Israel's time, children were sacrificed to Molech and passed through the fire in false worship. (Leviticus 18:21; 20:2-4; Deuteronomy 28:32, 41; 2 Kings 16:3; 17:17; 23:10; Psalm 106:37; Jeremiah 7:31; 32:35.)
36. **God Will Protect The Obedient During Apostasy** - God will protect those who obey Him and provide them their life's needs. (Jeremiah 17:6-8.)

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"Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord and whose trust is the Lord. For he will be like a tree planted by the water, that extends its roots by a stream and will not fear when the heat comes; but its leaves will be green, and it will not be anxious in the year of the drought nor cease to yield fruit."

When Daniel was taken into captivity in Babylon, he was given food and water to drink because he was living righteously. God gave him wisdom, knowledge, intelligence, and even the ability to interpret dreams. (Daniel 1:1-20.)

Daniel continued to pray to God when it was against the law. He was discovered and put into the lion's den. God protected him. Those who had accused Daniel were themselves placed into the lion's den, with their children, and killed. (Daniel 6:1-24.)

Because Daniel's friends did not bow down to the image as commanded by the government, they were placed into the fiery furnace. But God protected them, and they were not harmed. Those who put Daniel's friends into the furnace were themselves burned up. (Daniel 3:1-30.)

Believers must not compromise their beliefs when the persecution and testing come. God may protect and use obedient believers in the difficult times. God used and protected Esther. She went in to the king, requesting protection for her people, the Jews. The man who moved against her unrighteously was himself killed. God responds to faith-obedience during distressful times; He honors civil disobedience when it is necessary in order to obey Him. He often protects the obedient righteous from government harm.

37. **The People Will Do More Evil Than Their Forefathers** - They will walk, according to their stubbornness and the evil of their hearts, without listening to God. Their forefathers forsook God by following, serving, and bowing down to other gods; they did not keep God's laws. Because of their evil practices, the people now have polluted the land with detestable idols and abominations. Thus, God will hurl the people out of the land and into a land that they have not known, neither they nor their fathers. The people will serve the gods of the northern-army nation day and night, and God will grant them no favor. Likewise, people of the United States may be deported to the northern-army nation (Russia). (Jeremiah 16:10-13, 18.)
38. **God Will Not Answer the Prayers of the Disobedient and False Worshippers** - God will not answer the prayers of apostate people (Jeremiah 7:16; 14:10-12).
39. **People Will Be Driven Mad** - Things will be so bad that people will be driven mad by what they see (Deuteronomy 28:34).
40. **There Will Be Unjust Government** - The country will have unjust leadership that will confuse the people's spiritual and eternal directions and crush the poor. A different form of government will rule over the people — one their forefathers have not known. People will be forced to worship false gods. The United States government will depart from the Constitution and install an unjust government in a form of dictatorship. (Deuteronomy 4:28; 28:36; Isaiah 3:12, 13.)
41. **People Will Refuse to Believe the Truth to Be Saved** - During the apostate period, it will be said that no one will believe the prophet's report to believe in Christ as Savior. The people will be obstinate and will neither obey nor believe. (Isaiah 52:7; 53:1; 65:1, 2; Nahum 1:15; Romans 10:15, 16, 21.)
42. **Many Will Fall Away from the Faith** - There will be a great falling away from faith where people will be paying attention to deceitful spirits and demonic doctrines. By hypocritical lies, people will sear their own consciences, as with a branding iron. They will put themselves into a position from which they can no longer be saved. (2 Thessalonians 2:3; 1 Timothy 4:1, 2.)
43. **Difficult Times Will Come in the Last Days** - Men will be lovers of self and money, boastful, arrogant, revilers, disobedient to parents, ungrateful, unholy, unloving, irreconcilable, malicious gossips, without self control, and brutal. They will be haters of good, treacherous, reckless, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, holding to a form of godliness although they have denied its power. Avoid such men as these. They are always learning, but never coming to the

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knowledge of the truth. They have depraved minds and have rejected biblical faith. (2 Timothy 3:1-9.)

False teachers and prophets will arise and secretly introduce destructive heresies. They will even deny the Master who bought them, bringing swift destruction on themselves. Many will follow their sensuality, and the way of truth will be maligned. They will exploit people with false words. (2 Peter 2:1-3.)

44. **Sin Will Be Greater Than That in Sodom** - There will be continued increase in immorality, sexual perversion, and divorce. Iniquity will become greater than Sodom's sin which was great, with perverted sexual immorality. (Lamentations 4:6.)
45. **The People Will Disobey God and Follow Their Own Counsel** - People will walk after their own counsel and in the stubbornness of their own hearts. These sinful people will offer sacrifices (worship) and prayers to God, but He will not accept them. (Isaiah 1:4; 28:13; Jeremiah 7:24; 15:6.)
46. **The United States Will Leave the True Worship of God for Apostasy** - The United States, like Israel, was founded by God and given fine clothes and jewels. God gave her riches, prosperity, royalty, and beauty. She became God's property. She was given God's doctrines and taught how to worship Him. She became highly favored among the nations, particularly in trade. Her fame went forth among the nations, because of her beauty. Her beauty was perfect, because God bestowed His splendor on her. But she trusted in her beauty, instead of in God, and went into harlotry and idolatry. She participated in many types of false worship. She poured out her harlotry on the other nations. She acted more corruptly than the rest of the nations which surrounded her. Because of her abominations, she did not remember the days of her youth and what God did for her. She has become like an adulterous wife, instead of worshipping her husband, who is God. She is different from most harlots because she has given money to her lovers, instead of vice versa. (Ezekiel 16:1-59; Revelation 18.)
47. **The Alien Will Become Prominent in the Land** - The alien will rise higher and higher in the land. The citizens will become lower and lower. The alien will lend to the people, but the people will not lend to them. The alien shall be the head and the people the tail. Aliens may own much property and businesses in the United States. (Deuteronomy 28:43, 44.)

THE SIXTH-SEAL ANNOUNCEMENT

God's Devastating Calamity Judgment

Christ breaks the sixth seal to bring the announcement that a Day-of-the-Lord Judgment is coming that will bring devastation to the United States and many of the world's nations. It will come because of rampant apostasy, immorality, sin, and false worship. The signs of the announcement will terrify the nations.

The Strategies of God and the True Church

God's expected strategies with the church are to:

1. Warn the world that calamity judgment is coming and that nothing can stop it. The warnings are signs in the sun, moon, and stars, and a large earthquake. (Revelation 6:12-17.)
2. Not answer the prayers of the disobedient because sufficient opportunity was previously given to repent and be obedient to God. Now, people can only wait for the calamity to happen. (Jeremiah 7:16; 11:11, 14; 16:5-8.)
3. Tell people that they must surrender to opposing forces or possibly die. People will no longer be allowed to do what they desire because they are going under divine discipline. (Jeremiah 21:8-10; 38:2, 3, 17, 18; 39:18; 45:5.)
4. Tell Christians to pray that they will be in the right place and doing God's will in faith-obedience. God

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may provide protection and help during the coming calamity. (Zephaniah 2:3.)

5. Seal the remaining of the elect before the trumpet happenings occur (The total of God's elect are now actually saved before the period of the trumpets begins). (Revelation 7:1-8.)

The Strategies of Satan

Satan's expected strategy will be to bring his forces in mass against God's people and the world, with God's will and support. Satan will ready his forces for the battles that will occur when the angels blow the trumpets. He plans to kill most of the world's people and establish rule centered in Europe and Israel. He will place the people of the United States and much of the world into harsh servitude.

The Expected Happenings

The expected happenings during the sixth-seal period will be:

1. **A Great Earthquake Will Occur** - (Revelation 6:12.)
2. **The Nations Will Be Terrified by the Heavenly Signs** - Believers are not to be frightened because they should know what the signs mean. The heavenly signs come as immediate precursors to the coming Day of the Lord. (Jeremiah 10:2; Revelation 6:12-17.)

These signs are as follows:

- a. The sun will become like sackcloth made of hair.
 - b. The whole moon will become like blood.
 - c. The stars of the sky will fall to the earth, just as a fig tree casts its unripened figs when shaken by a great wind. (This may be a gigantic meteor shower with the meteors actually hitting the earth.)
3. **People Will Fear the Coming Judgment** - The people will try to hide from the terror of the Lord and the splendor of His majesty. The kings, great men, commanders, the rich, the strong, the slave, and free man will hide themselves in the rocks and caves and say to the mountains and to the rocks, "fall on us and hide us from the presence of the Lamb, who sits on the throne and from His wrath." The proud look and loftiness of people will be abased, and the Lord will be exalted on that day, when He arises to make the earth tremble. When the invading army comes, the places of false worship will be destroyed, and thorns and thistles will grow on the altars. (Isaiah 2:10, 11, 17-21; Jeremiah 4:28, 29; Hosea 10:8; Luke 23:30; Revelation 6:12-17.)
 4. **People's Hearts Will Melt** - As the signs in the heavens and on earth announce the coming of God's wrath, every heart will melt. All hands will become feeble, every spirit will faint, and all knees will become like water, because the people will realize that the calamity from God cannot be stopped. There is no recourse of any kind — the people will be terrified. The calamity will come like birth pangs, suddenly, and cannot be stopped. It will probably bring nuclear war. (Psalm 48:6; Isaiah 13:7, 8 on Babylon; 21:3, 4; 26:16-19; Jeremiah 4:31; 6:22-26; 13:21; 22:23; 49:24; 50:43; Ezekiel 7:17; 21:1-13; 21:7; 22:14; Micah. 4:1, 9, 10; Nahum 2:10; Matthew 24:8, 15-22; Mark 13:8, 14-20; Luke 17:26-37; 21:20-24; 1 Thessalonians 5:3.)

BREAKING OF THE SEVENTH SEAL

THE COMING OF DEVASTATING CALAMITY JUDGMENT OF THE TRUMPET HAPPENINGS

The Strategies of God and the True Church

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God's expected strategies, with the church, are to:

1. Bring calamity using Satan's forces, as He did previously when He brought Babylon and Nebuchadnezzar against Jerusalem, and Assyria against Samaria. (Happenings of the fifth and sixth trumpets — Revelation 8; 9.)
2. Inform the obedient church to surrender to the enemy and serve God by serving their captors. Normal or free-enterprise lifestyle will no longer be possible. If people fight the enemy, there is a good chance that they will die by the sword, famine, pestilence, or attack by wild beasts, as the Jews did in the Old Testament times. (Jeremiah 21:8-10; 38:2, 3, 17, 18; 39:18; 45:5.)
3. Protect His believing and obedient remnant for a witness throughout the discipline period. The remnant's presence allows Satan to test the earth's people and persecute God's people in order to persuade them to deny Christ. (Revelation 3:10.)
4. Cause false teachers, prophets, leaders, and shepherds to die, either as a result of the calamity or the captivity in the enemy's land (Jeremiah 20:4, 6).
5. See to it that the existing Babylon the Great and its city are destroyed (Revelation 18:10).
6. Keep the blessed hope of Christ's Coming prominent in the minds of His people. During the coming discipline period, this will be the church's only hope. The good life will be gone forever. (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; Titus 2:13; 1 John 3:2.)

The Strategies of Satan

Satan's expected strategies are to:

1. Mobilize his forces and fight the wars in a manner to take control of the world's governments after the war is finished. God will place the nations into his hands for three and one-half years. (Revelation 8; 9; 13.)
2. Fight wars so that his man can rule from Jerusalem (Revelation 11:9).
3. Offer the world's kingdoms to the Beast, as he did previously to Christ. This leader will accept and go into perdition as Satan indwells him. (Matthew 4:1-11 with Revelation 13.)
4. Attempt to establish a new world government and a new financial system under a new Babylon the Great, using the mark-of-the-Beast system. (Revelation 13:16, 17.)

The Expected Happenings

The expected happenings (mostly in the United States when no reference to a country is given) during the devastating calamity will be:

1. **God Will Do to the People Something He Has Never Done Before** - "Because of abominations, I will do among you what I have not done and the like of which I will not do again." This is an expression that God uses to describe what He does to His apostate people at every devastating calamity period throughout history. (Isaiah 7:17-19; Jeremiah 30:7; Ezekiel 5:9; Daniel 9:12; 12:1; Joel 1:2, 3; 2:2; Matthew 24:21.)
2. **When the Calamity Comes, It Will Be a Day of the Lord, and the Luminaries in the Heavens Will Not Shine Their light on the Earth** - As the calamity comes, God will cause the sun to go down at noon and make the earth dark in daylight. Festivals will be turned into mourning and songs into lamentations. God will bring sackcloth on everyone's loins and baldness on everyone's head. The sun, moon, and stars will become dark. The moon will become like blood. These heavenly signs will announce the coming of calamity and the Day of the Lord. The luminaries in the heavenlies will not shine their light on the earth in the fourth-trumpet period (Revelation 8:12) as they do at the time of

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the sixth seal (Revelation 6:12, 13). (Isaiah 5:30; Jeremiah 4:28; 13:16; Joel 2:2, 30, 31; Amos 5:20; 8:9, 10; Zephaniah 1:15; Matthew 24:29-31; Mark 13:24-27; Luke 21:25-28; Acts 2:19, 20.)

3. **God Will Bring the United States' Lovers Against Her** - God will bring the northern army and other nations against Babylon the Great and the covenant nation of the United States. He will bring those nations that, during the apostasy period, were her lovers and were manipulated by her. They will come against the covenant nation from every side. God will commit judgment to them. They will kill survivors and strip the people of their possessions. (Ezekiel 23.)
4. **God Will Bring a Terrible Nation Against the United States** - God will bring a terrible nation, whose language the people do not understand. It will be the worst of the nations, that, with a fierce countenance, will inflict heavy damage or win the battle. The Russian Federation will make war against the United States. God will give the United States into the hands of foreign plunderers and to the wicked as a spoil. (Deuteronomy 28:49-52; Jeremiah 5:14-17; Ezekiel 7:21-24; Habakkuk 1:5-11.)
5. **When The Armies Come, the People Must Choose Between Surrender and Death - Set before the people a choice: the way of life or the way of death. When the armies attack, the people who stay in the city and fight will die of great pestilence, famine, and the sword. The people who go out to meet the enemy and surrender will lose their earthly wealth, but they will preserve their bodies and lives as a booty. This action is an admission of sin and that God is bringing judgment from which there is no escape. God saves their lives because His people trust in Him.** (Jeremiah 21:8-10; 38:2, 3, 17, 18; 39:18; 45:5.)

Jeremiah 38:2 - "Thus says the Lord, 'He who stays in this city will die by the sword and by famine and by pestilence, but he who goes out to the Chaldeans [to surrender] will live and have his own body as booty and live.'"

6. **God Will Scatter the Survivors Among the Nations** - God will scatter many disobedient people among the nations for punishment and draw out a sword after them. Their cities and land will become desolate. (Leviticus 26:34, 35; Jeremiah 13:19; 18:17; 20:4, 6; Ezekiel 12:13-20; 22:15; 36:18-21.)
7. **Perhaps Ninety Percent of the People May Die in the Calamity** - Most of the United States people will die in the devastating calamity judgments.

Amos 5:3 - For thus says the Lord God, "The city which goes forth a thousand strong will have a hundred left, and the one which goes forth a hundred strong will have ten left to the house of Israel."

Because they did not obey the Lord, the people will be left few in number, where before they numbered as the stars of the heavens. At least one-third of the nations' population will die in these calamities and wars. (Deuteronomy 28:62; Revelation 9:15.)

8. **God Will Bring the Sword, Famine, Pestilence, and Disease** - People will die of deadly diseases (plagues or pestilences), famine, and the sword, and many will go into captivity until their cities are destroyed. God will bring extraordinary plagues and sickness on people and on their children. God will send the wild beasts to kill. Today these wild beasts could be human terrorists. Because of their apostasy, a lion from the forest shall slay them, a wolf of the desert shall destroy them. A leopard is watching the cities, and everyone who goes out from them will be torn to pieces.

God will leave a remnant alive. He will send famine and wild beasts against the disobedient and bereave them of their children. Plague and bloodshed will pass through them. Their iniquity is greater than Sodom's sin. Thirst and famine will be great. Women will eat their children, and the infants tongues will stick to the roofs of their mouths. There will be no water or bread given out. The people's appearance will be blacker than soot, and their skin will shrivel up on their bones. Better is one slain with the sword than one who is slain with hunger, because they pine away being stricken.

The trumpet will blow and everything will be ready, but no one will be going into battle because God's

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wrath is against all their multitude. The sword is outside, and the plague and famine are within. Those who are in the field will die by the sword. Famine and plague will consume those in the city.

Then the Lord said to Jeremiah that "even though Moses and Samuel were to stand before Me, My heart would not be with this people." The Lord said that the people will not escape: (a) "those destined to death [plague or pestilence], to death;" (b) "those destined for the sword, to the sword;" (c) "those destined for famine, to famine;" and (d) "those destined to captivity, to captivity" (Jeremiah 15:2).

God is appointing over them four dooms: (a) "the sword to slay, (b) "the dogs to drag off," and (c) the birds of the sky to devour and destroy, and (4) the beasts of the field to devour and destroy" (Jeremiah 15:3).

God will "make them an object of horror among all the kingdoms of the earth" (Jeremiah 15:4) because of the sins of Manasseh which are being committed.

(Deuteronomy 28:26, 59-61; Psalm 79:1-3; Lamentations 4:8-10; Jeremiah 5:6; 7:33; 11:21-23; 12:9; 15:1-4; 16:4; 19:7-9; 24:8-10; 29:17; 32:24, 25, 36; 34:17; 43:8-13; Ezekiel 5:16, 17; 6:1-14; 7:15; 14:21; 39:23; Hosea 9:17; Revelation 6:8; 18:8.)

9. **Food and Water Will Be Scarce** - Food and water will be scarce in the time of judgment. In horror, people will receive bread by weight and water by measure. Food and water will be rationed and available only at very high prices. All who are refined and delicate will become hostile toward their families and will be selfish with the available food. Much of the water will be poisoned with wormwood, and many will die from drinking it. God will give them poisoned water because of the spiritual pollution in the land. (Deuteronomy 28:54-57; Jeremiah 8:14; 9:12-16; 23:13-15; Ezekiel 4:16, 17; 15:8; 33:23-29; Amos 5:7; 6:12; Revelation 8:11.)
10. **The World Will Not Believe the United States Can Be Beaten in Battle** - People will not believe the United States can be defeated in warfare or be taken over by another country. Nobody will believe the nation would ever see misfortune, famine, and sword. They will continue in their sin, without fear of war and destruction. (Jeremiah 4:9-22; 5:12; Lamentations 4:12.)
11. **When the Judgment Comes, God Will Not Differentiate By Sex or Age; No One Will Be Able to Escape the Calamity** - God will not be a respecter of persons when the calamity comes. People of all ages and walks of life will die. God's hand will be stretched out in judgment from the least to the greatest. When the judgment comes, no one will escape, no matter where they are. (Jeremiah 6:11-13; Amos 9:1-4,10.)
12. **God Will Not Answer Prayer from the Disobedient When Calamity Comes** - Do not lament for these people because God has withdrawn His peace, lovingkindness, and compassion. Both the great and small will die and will not be buried or lamented over. God will bring disaster upon them, and they will not be able to escape. They will cry out to God, but He will not listen. God will not answer their prayers or be inquired by them. Do not pray for them because God will not answer your prayer on their behalf. (Jeremiah 7:16; 11:11, 14; 16:5-8.)

"Because I called, and you refused; I stretched out my hand, and no one paid attention; and you neglected my counsel, and did not want my reproof; I will even laugh at you at your calamity; I will mock you when the dread comes, when your dread comes like a storm, and your calamity comes on like a whirlwind, when distress and anguish come upon you, then they will call on Me, but I will not answer; They will seek Me diligently, but they shall not find Me, because they hated knowledge, and did not choose the fear of the Lord. They would not accept My counsel, they spurned My reproof. So they shall eat the fruit of their own way and be satiated with their own devices ... But he who listens to Me shall live securely, and shall be at ease from the dread of evil" (Proverbs 1:24-33).
13. **God Removes the Joy of Living When the Calamity Comes** - God will remove things that make living a joy as He removes the voice of rejoicing, the voice of gladness, the voice of the bride, and the voice of the groom. The land will become a ruin. The desire to live will be taken away. (Jeremiah 7:34; 16:9; 25:8-11; 33:11; Revelation 18:21-24.)

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14. **Calamity Will Come Upon the Four Corners of the Land, and No One Will Escape** - The end is coming on the four corners of the land, and God will judge everyone according to their ways. God says that a unique disaster and end are coming. The doom and time have come on the inhabitants of tumult, rather than joyful shouting on the mountains. God will pour out His anger and wrath. He will judge people according to their ways and bring upon them all their abominations. While their abominations are in their midst, people will know that it is God Who is the One doing the smiting. Their doom has gone forth, their rod has budded, and their arrogance has blossomed. Violence has risen into the rod of wickedness. At the time of calamity, four angels who are bound are to be released at the Euphrates river so that they might kill one-third of mankind. They will kill by the plagues of fire, smoke, and brimstone (sulphur) that will come from the mouths of the horses. The rest of mankind, who are not killed, do not repent of their sins of the false worship of demons and idols, murders, sorceries, immoralities, and thefts. (Ezekiel 7:1-11; Revelation 9:13-21.)
 15. **All Wealth Will Be Lost** - The buyer and seller will lose everything and never recover it. Everyone will lose their wealth and position in life. (Ezekiel 7:10-13; Revelation 18:11, 17.)
 16. **Riches Will Not Be Able to Deliver People When the Calamity Comes (Amos 6:1-7; Revelation 18:19)** - "Riches of gold and silver will not protect or deliver anyone who is evil from the calamity. They shall fling their silver into the streets, and their gold shall become an abhorrent thing; their silver and their gold shall not be able to deliver them in the day of wrath of the Lord. They cannot satisfy their appetite, nor can they fill their stomachs, for their iniquity has become an occasion for stumbling. And they transformed the beauty of His ornaments into pride, and they made the images of their abominations and their detestable things with it." (Ezekiel 7:19, 20.)
 17. **When the Calamity Comes, People Will Seek Peace, But They Will Not Find Any, and the False Prophets and Leaders Will Be Without Answers** - When anguish comes, people will seek peace, but there will be none. Disaster will come upon disaster, and rumor will be added to rumor. People will seek a vision from a prophet, but the law will be lost from the religious leaders. The leaders will mourn and will be clothed with horror. The hands of the people will tremble. By their conduct, God will deal with them, and by their judgments, God will judge them. And they will know that God is God and the Lord. (Ezekiel 7:25-27.)
 18. **The Calamity Will Come in Thirds** - The devastating calamity judgments come in thirds: one-third of the earth will be burned up, one-third of the trees will be burned up, one-third of the grass will be burned up, one-third of the sea will become blood, one-third of the creatures in the sea will die, and one-third of the ships at sea will be destroyed. A star from heaven will be burning like a torch and will fall on one-third of the rivers and on the springs of water. One-third of the sun, moon and stars will become black. One-third of mankind will be killed. (Ezekiel 5:2-12; Revelation 8:6-12; 9:13-21)
 19. **The Armies Will Come Like a Swarm of Locusts** - A great and fierce nation will invade the land with great numbers and act like swarms of locusts of the gnawing, swarming, creeping, and stripping types. They appear to have the characteristics of locusts and are called locusts (Joel 2:25). The armies come at a time of the Day of the Lord, when the heavenlies lose their luminaries and when the earth quakes. (Joel 1:1-7; 2:1-27)
- Events of the locusts may occur in the endtimes with different character than in Israel's time, because these locusts come with the sting of scorpions in their tails. The scorpions emerge from the bottomless pit. (Joel 1:1-7; 2:1-27; Revelation 9:1-11)
20. **God Will Raise Up an Army Whose Strength Is Their God** - God is raising up an army (Russia), a fierce and impetuous people who will march throughout the whole earth, seizing dwelling places that are not theirs. They are dreaded and feared. Their justice and authority originate in themselves. Their strength is their god. They mock at everything, including fortresses. (Habakkuk 1:5-11)
 21. **The Whole Land Quakes under the Invading Armies** - The whole land will quake at the coming of the invading armies because they come to devour the land and its fulness, the city and its inhabitants. Serpents will come against the people and bite them. (Jeremiah 8:16, 17)
 22. **The Lord Will Bring the Fly to Cover the Land** - The Lord will whistle for the fly that is in the

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remotest part of the rivers of Egypt and for the bee that is in the land of Assyria. They will come and settle on the deep ravines, on the edges of the cliffs, on all the thorn bushes, and on all the watering places. (Isaiah 7:18, 19)

23. **The Land Will Become Like Thorns and Briars** - Every place where there were a thousand vines of high value will become briars and thorns. Many will have a heifer, a pair of sheep, and bees. There will be an abundance of milk, and people left in the land will eat curds and honey. (Isaiah 7:21-25)
24. **The Country Will Become Like Dross in a Furnace** - The United States, like Israel, will become dross to God. He will put her into a furnace and melt her down like metal. Because the country's people have more turmoil than the nations that surround them, God will execute judgments among them in sight of the nations. (Ezekiel 5:7, 8; 22:16; Revelation 18:9-20)
25. **False Gods Will Not Help in Time of Disaster** - The people will cry out to their false gods, but they cannot save them in times of disaster. The people's false gods will not help them in the day of their calamity from God for their wickedness, false worship, and sin. (Jeremiah 2:28; 11:12)
26. **God Will Destroy the Pride of the People** - God will destroy the pride of the United States and the world because they will refuse to heed His words. Instead, they will maintain stubbornness in their hearts and go after other gods to bow down and to serve them. (Jeremiah 13:9, 10)
27. **False Prophets Will Be Taken to the Land of the Enemy, and There They Will Die by the Sword** - False prophets will be taken to the land of the northern-army nation where they will die by the sword (Jeremiah 20:4, 6).
28. **God Will Give the Nation's Wealth to the Enemy** - God will give the nation's wealth, produce, and treasures to her enemies. They will plunder the nation and take her people to their countries. (Jeremiah 20:5.)
29. **God Will Uncover the Sin in the Land and Bring an End to False Worship and Conduct** - God will uncover her lewdness in the sight of her lovers and no one will rescue her out of His hand. He will put an end to her gaiety, worship feasts, and special beliefs. He will destroy her fig trees and vines (destroy the source of income and food) because the beasts of the field will devour them. God will punish her for her false worship and sacrifices. (Hosea 2:10-13.)
30. **God's Wrath Will Be Poured Out on the People** - "Hear, O peoples, all of you; listen O earth, and all it contains, and let the Lord God be a witness against you, the Lord from His holy temple. For behold, the Lord is coming forth from His place. He will come down and tread on the high places of the earth. The mountains will melt under Him and the valleys will be split, like wax before a fire, like water poured down a steep place." All this is for rebellion and sin.

"I will make Samaria a heap of ruins in the open country, planting places for a vineyard. I will pour her stones down into the valley, and will lay bare her foundations. All of her idols will be smashed, and all of her earnings will be burned with fire, and all of her images I will make desolate. For she collected them from a harlot's earnings, and to the earnings of a harlot they will return." (Micah 1:1-7.)
31. **Possessions Will Be Taken from the People** - When the armies come, they will take the people's food, water, and harvest. They will devour their children, flocks, and gardens. Though the people have built houses, they will not live in them. Though the people have planted vineyards, they will not drink their wine. The enemy will demolish their fortified cities, in which they trusted. God will make people go into exile. God will give their wealth, inheritance and treasures for booty to their enemies. The people will serve their enemies in a land that they do not know. (Jeremiah 5:17; 15:13, 14; 17:3, 4; Amos 5:11, 27.)
32. **The Word of God Will Be Removed from the Land** - The days are coming when God will send a famine of His Word in the land. People will go to and fro to seek the Word of the Lord, but they will not find it. (Amos 8:11, 12.)

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33. **God Seals His Own in Salvation Before the Calamity Comes** - God seals his own people before the calamity comes and before the great test that tries the whole unbelieving world. This is important because many will die during the calamity judgments. (Ezekiel 9:1-11; Revelation 3:10; 7:3, 4; 9:4.)
34. **The Attacking Armies Will Come Suddenly and Without Delay** - When the judgment comes, it will be like the ruthless and instant shattering of a potter's jar. God said that the calamity will not be delayed, and that it will be performed in the presence of the rebellious house of Israel (the United States in the endtimes). (Isaiah 30:12-15; Jeremiah 19:11; Ezekiel 12:21-28; Revelation 10:6.)
35. **Mothers and Children Will Be Dashed to Pieces and Pregnant Women Ripped Open** - Mothers and their children will be dashed to pieces. They will fall by the sword. Their children will experience famine and be delivered to the power of the sword. Let their wives become childless and widowed. Let their men be smitten to death and their young men struck down in battle. An outcry will be heard from their houses when the raiders come upon them. (Jeremiah 18:19-22; Hosea 10:14, 15; 13:16.)
36. **God Will Turn His Back on His People in Their Calamity** - God will turn His back on America in the day of her calamity. He will scatter the people like the east wind before the enemy. He will not show pity or have compassion on them. Many will be carried into exile. (Jeremiah 13:14, 19; 18:17.)
37. **When Disaster Comes, There Will Be No Place to Seek Help** - In the day of punishment, the devastation of the land will come from afar. There will be no place to flee to get help. One can only crouch among the captives or fall among the slain. God will destroy all the idols in the land. He will send a wasting disease among the stout warriors. (Isaiah 10:3, 4, 10, 11, 16.)
38. **Fallen, Fallen, Is Babylon the Great, Who Has Made the Nations of the World Drink of the Wine of the Passion of Her Immorality** - Babylon the Great (the Internationalists), who made the nations rich, because of her sensuality, will receive the plagues of pestilence, mourning, and famine. Her city will be burned up with fire. The great city representing Babylon the Great will be destroyed. The Beast and the 10 kings will hate the harlot of Babylon the Great and burn her with fire. (Revelation 14:8; 17:16; 18:1-10.)

THE COMING OF THE LAST AND SEVERE DIVINE-DISCIPLINARY PERIOD

The Greatest Apostasy the World Has Known

The trumpets introduce the mark-of-the-Beast period. This period will contain the greatest apostasy the world has ever known, as the Beast persuades the world to believe his doctrines and worship him. This will be the period of the second woe.

The Strategies of God and the True Church

God's expected strategies, using the church, are to:

1. Desire that His church stand firm in testimony to the world and go to the martyrs' death, rather than deny Him and accept the false doctrines of the beast. Blessed is he who dies for his faith and keeps God's commandments and his faith in the Lord Jesus. The Spirit says that they may rest from their labors, for their deeds follow with them. (Matthew 10:33; 2 Timothy 2:12, 13; Revelation 13:15; 14:12, 13.)
2. Bring a test on the whole inhabited earth as to whether or not they will believe the gospel or receive the mark of the Beast. He does this to polarize the people for judgment at the end of the mark-of-the-Beast period. The Bible teaches that anyone who takes the mark of the Beast will receive God's wrath and go to the Lake of Fire. They will not be able to be saved because God will bring them a "deluding influence." Those who accept Satan's false doctrines and take the mark of the Beast are allowed to buy and sell in the market place, to obtain their life's necessities. Those who reject the doctrines of Satan and who believe in the true doctrines of God will not be allowed to buy and sell in the marketplace, and most will be martyred. Except for believers, all people will take the mark of the Beast.

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Only a very few believers will escape martyrdom. (2 Thessalonians 2:9-11; Revelation 3:10; 14:9-11.)

3. Have two witnesses during this period who will prophesy for Him, and the 144,000 who will not bow their knees to Baal. Most of the believers from all nations, probably including the 144,000, will be martyred during the Great Tribulation. (Revelation 7; 11:3-13.)
4. Have the prophet who eats the book in John's vision also prophesy to all the nations, as he did during the period of the great apostasy (Revelation 10:11).
5. If anyone kills by the sword, he must be killed by the sword (Revelation 13:10).

The Strategies of Satan

Satan's expected strategies are to (Revelation 13):

1. Bring extreme pressure by threatening death to those who will not accept his doctrines and by providing the necessities of life to those who do. He does this to persuade people not to believe in Christ as Savior and to persuade the elect not to accept martyrdom. Satan wants believers to dishonor the Lord by not allowing themselves to be martyred — not to carry out the work of the Lord.
2. Have the Beast and his Prophet perform many miracles, signs, and wonders in order to persuade (deceive) the world to believe their doctrines and to worship them and Satan. They will speak arrogant words and blaspheme against God for forty-two months.

The Expected Happenings

The happenings during the Great Tribulation and mark-of-the-Beast period will be:

1. **The Beast Will Come Back to Life from the Sword and Will Subdue Three Kings** - The 10 kings will reign with the Beast during this Great Tribulation Period. These kings will rule the European nations. (Daniel 7:24; Revelation 13:3, 14; 17:12.)
2. **The Little Horn, or Beast, Will Blaspheme the God of Heaven** - The little horn, or the Beast out of the sea, will blaspheme the God of heaven and make war against God's saints (Daniel 7:25; Revelation 13:6, 7).
3. **The Law Will Be Changed for the Benefit of the Beast** - The Little Horn, or Beast, will make alterations in the law for his benefit. God's just laws will be removed from the land. (Daniel 7:25.)
4. **The Nations Will Wonder at the Beast** - The nations will wonder and be amazed at the Beast when he comes back from an apparent death by the sword. He comes back to life by the dragon's power. People will say, "Who can make war with the Beast?" (Revelation 13:3, 4.)
5. **They Will Make an Image to the Beast** - The False Prophet, who has the power of the Dragon, will persuade people to make an image of the Beast and worship it. Satan, as the Dragon, will deceive people, using signs and wonders, to cause them to believe that the False Prophet is the Christ. However, Christ told His disciples not to believe the false signs and wonders that will come. The sign of His Coming will be His coming in the clouds, **after** the heavenly luminaries lose their light. He is not coming when there are other signs and wonders. (Matthew 24:23-31; Revelation 13:11-14.)
6. **The False Prophet Will Cause Many to Be Killed** - The False Prophet, as the agent of the Beast, will cause those who will not worship the image of the Beast and receive his mark to be killed. As a result, most believers will be killed. (Revelation 7:9-17; 13:7, 15.)
7. **There Will Be No One to Plead Anyone's Cause or Bring Healing** - No longer will righteous government exist. The people's wounds and pain will be incurable. There will be no one to plead the cause of the righteous. There will be no one to heal people's sores. People's lovers will have forgotten them. Their punishment will be cruel because their iniquity will be great and their sins

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numerous. (Jeremiah 30:12-15.)

8. **Remaining Believers Will Watch and Wait for the Coming of the Lord Jesus Christ** (Titus 2:13) - "I will watch expectantly for the Lord. I will wait for the God of my salvation. My God will hear me ... Though I dwell in the darkness, the Lord is light for me. I will bear the indignation of the Lord because I have sinned against Him ... He will bring me into the light and I will see His righteousness" (Micah 7:7-9).
9. **Another Babylon the Great Will Come into Existence** - Satan will bring another Babylon the Great (the eighth) into existence, to be supported by the eighth head of the Beast. Babylon the Great will have direct control of the Beast. She may be one with the Beast. (Revelation 13; 17.)
10. **The Glory of the Covenant Nation and Its Great Life Is No More** - People will live in harsh servitude because the United States (like Jerusalem of old) and the surrounding nations will not have considered their future. The covenant nation, as part of the Beast empire, will become a lonely country, though she was once full of people. She was once great among the nations, but now she has become a forced laborer. She will weep bitterly in the night, with tears on her cheeks, with no one to comfort her. Her friends will have dealt treacherously with her, as enemies. The people will have gone into exile under affliction and harsh servitude. She will dwell among the nations without any rest. All her pursuers will have overtaken her in the midst of distress. Her adversaries will have become her masters; her enemies will prosper. The Lord will have caused her grief, because of the multitude of her transgressions. Her little ones will have gone away as captives. Thus, she will fall astonishingly and have no comforter. In her affliction, the enemy will magnify himself.

The people will have given their precious possessions for food. There will be no pain like that with which the Lord will severely afflict people on the day of His fierce anger. The Lord will have made people desolate, with fire in their bones — probably from starvation. The priests and elders will perish in the city while they will seek food to restore their strength.

The law is no more. Prophets will have no vision from the Lord, and the elders are silent. The people will have forgotten happiness. People's eyes will fail because of their tears. The people will find no relief, and their eyes will have no rest. The people will cry out for help from the Lord, but the Lord will shut off their prayers. The Lord will have made their chains heavy. God may help those who have been obedient and faithful to Him. "**Great is the faithfulness of the Lord,**" for the loving kindness of the Lord never ceases. The people will have hope in Him. The Lord is good to those who wait for Him. (Lamentations 1-3.)

"Slaves rule over us; there is no one to deliver us from their hands. We get our bread at the risk of our lives because of the sword in the wilderness. Our skin has become hot as an oven because of the burning heat of famine. They ravished the women ... the princes were hung by their hands ... the elders were not respected. The joy of our hearts has ceased. Woe to us for we have sinned. Because of this our hearts are faint ...and our eyes are dim." (Lamentations 5:1-18.)

11. **Most Christians Living At That Time Will Be Martyred** - A number of believers from all nations, greater than any person can count, will be martyred during this Great Tribulation (which includes the trumpet events). Only a few believers will remain — we who are alive and remain until the Coming of the Lord (1 Thessalonians 4:15). (Revelation 7:9-17.)
12. **The Two Witnesses** - God will have two powerful witnesses during this period who will not doubt preach the Watchman Warning. They will shut up the sky so that it will not rain. Severe food and water shortages are expected during this period. They will turn the remaining waters to blood. This will make them poisonous to drink. People will need to come to the government to get their ration of food and water that is available. Only those with the mark of the Beast will be allowed to have them. (Revelation 11:3-13.)

DELIVERANCE COMES AT THE SEVENTH TRUMPET

The Court Convenes for Judgment

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After the mark-of-the beast period, the court will sit for judgment, and the books will be opened and compared. The Book of Life will contain only the names of the elect, as God said before the foundation of the world. The elect will have done the exact works according to the Book of Works that God said before the foundation of the world they would do. This match declares that God has won the spiritual warfare, and He now takes absolute authority over the world and causes the seventh trumpet to sound. God then raptures and rewards His church. The Rapture will include the two witnesses.

The Strategies of God and the True Church

God's expected strategies, with the church, are to:

1. At the seventh and great trumpet sounding, the kingdom of the world will become the kingdom of the Lord and His Christ. He will resurrect, rapture, and reward His church. The Rapture of the church is the First Resurrection. (1 Corinthians 15:51-56; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; Revelation 11:15, 18; 20:5.)
2. The church will become the live-in wife of the Lamb according to the oriental marriage custom. (Revelation 19:7-9.)
3. Satan will be bound and thrown into the abyss, a prison, during the period of the first five bowls, so that he cannot deceive the nations. (Revelation 20:1-3.)
4. The angels will be given the bowls of wrath to pour out on unbelievers. (Revelation 11:18, 19; Revelation 15.)

The Strategies of Satan

Satan has no strategies because he is bound.

The Expected Happenings

The expected happenings after the seventh trumpet sounds are:

1. The church will be resurrected, raptured, and rewarded, and her marriage to Christ will be consummated. Death will be swallowed up in victory; the sting of death will be removed. God will wipe away all tears from the eyes of believers. (Isaiah 25:6-9; 26:19; 27:12, 13; Hosea 13:14; 1 Corinthians 15:51-57; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-14; Revelation 11:15, 18; 19:7-10; 21:1-4.)
2. The church will begin to reign with Christ. The sovereignty, dominion, and the greatness of the earth's kingdom will be given to the saints of the Highest One. Christ will have an everlasting kingdom. (Daniel 7:26, 27; Revelation 3:26, 27; 5:10; 20:4.)
3. Satan will be bound for the 1000 years (equalling a day), which is the period of the first five bowls (2 Peter 3:8; Revelation 20:1, 2).
4. The angels will prepare to pour out the bowls of wrath (Revelation 15).

THE BOWL HAPPENINGS IN RETRIBUTION JUDGMENT

The Final Temporal Judgments for Unbelievers

The bowls bring God's wrath as the last temporal judgment on unbelievers. This is the time of the judgment of the unbelieving nations.

The Strategies of God and the True Church

God's expected strategies, using the church, are to:

1. With Satan bound, use the contents of the first five bowls to warn the nations that the final judgment

Detailed Description of the Unfolding Endtimes

is coming and that the people of the nations had better repent. This is God's last merciful act to the unbeliever, though He knows no one will repent. During this period, the church will reign with Christ to examine whether any unbelievers on the earth are or can be saved before the final judgment and wrath come upon the earth. They will judge unbelievers for their attack upon God's people for bringing them calamity, discipline, and martyrdom. They will determine that God is right and that judgment can now come. (Revelation 20:4.)

2. Release Satan from the prison of the abyss at the sixth bowl, so that he now can bring the nations against Jerusalem and the Mount of Olives, where Christ will descend on the clouds, with His church and angels as his army.
3. Have Christ return in accordance with the triumphant march principle of ancient Rome. The church will incarcerate the fallen angels and take them out of the battle, as they are paraded as captives. In the final battles, Satan has only human armies.

The Strategies of Satan

Satan's expected strategy, after his release from the abyss at the fifth bowl happening, is to bring his human armies against Christ and His church, as they descend to the Mount of Olives and Israel. His major armies will be the kings of the earth and, in particular, will be the kings of the rising sun, or of the east. This is Satan's last stand. (Revelation 16:12-16; 20:7-10.)

The Expected Happenings

The expected happenings during the bowl periods will be:

1. The first bowl of wrath will be poured out, and all who worship the Beast and his image will receive loathsome and malignant sores (Revelation 16:2).
2. The second bowl of wrath will be poured out, the sea will become blood as that of a dead man, and every creature in the sea will die (Revelation 16:3).
3. The third bowl of wrath will be poured out into the rivers and the springs of waters, and they will become blood. The blood is representative of the blood of the saints. (Revelation 16:4-7.)
4. The fourth bowl of wrath will be poured out on the sun, and it will scorch men with fire. The people will blaspheme God and will not repent of their sins. (Revelation 16:8, 9.)
5. The fifth bowl of wrath will be poured out, and the Beast's Kingdom will be in darkness. This will result in great pain and sores. The people will again blaspheme the God of heaven and will not repent of their deeds. This will conclude the 1000 years (day of time). (Revelation 16:10, 11.)
6. The sixth bowl of wrath will be poured out. Satan will be released from the prison of the abyss and the Euphrates River will be dried up to make a way for the kings from the east or of the rising sun. (Revelation 16:12.)
7. Satan will bring his human armies against Jerusalem and the Mount of Olives, as Christ with His church and holy angels, descend from the clouds to that location. He also will bring them to the place of Har-Magedon (Armageddon). This is when Christ comes as a thief in the night (with little warning) to make war against unbelievers. The Beast, the False Prophet, and Satan will be cast into the Lake of Fire. (Acts 1:11; Revelation 16:13-16; 19:11-21; 20:7-10.)
8. The seventh bowl will be poured out, causing a great earthquake in Jerusalem, and the city will be divided into three parts. The cities of the nations will fall. (Revelation 16:18, 19.)
9. Babylon the Great, under the mark-of-the-Beast system, will be given God's wrath. Huge and heavy hailstones will come down upon the earth, as a terrible endtime plague on the people. Every island will flee away, and the mountains will not be found. People will blaspheme God because the plague will be extremely severe. (Revelation 16:19-21.)

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10. After the final battles, the church will go to the new Jerusalem. The unbelievers will be resurrected and will go to the Great White Throne Judgment for final sentencing. The Resurrection of unbelievers is the Second Resurrection. Unbelievers will be judged for their works and then be cast into the Lake of Fire with all the evil angels. (Revelation 20; 21.)
11. The present earth and the heavens will be burned up with fire in the Day of God. The believers will be on a new earth in the new Jerusalem, surrounded by new heavens. Righteousness will dwell there. (2 Peter 3:10-13.)

ETERNITY

As eternity begins, believers will be in the new Jerusalem, and unbelievers will be in the Lake of Fire. Everyone will live forever. The church will have eternal life with God. The unbelievers will exist without God under eternal punishment.

SUMMARY

As eternity begins, the elect will have believed, reached the spiritual maturity, and completed the works that God chose for them before the foundation of the world. God's plan will have been completed exactly as He decreed in His sovereignty using the spiritual warfare with the angels. All believers will now enter eternity to receive the blessed future God planned for them. Believers will serve the living God and each other forever. All unbelievers will experience punishment in the Lake of Fire forever. This is a very wonderful and desirable conclusion for the church, but terrible for everyone else, both fallen angels and mankind.

Because God is perfect, His plan is perfect. The results will be just for all, though mankind does not understand them. All unbelievers will be without excuse in the final judgment.