

THE FOUR HORSEMEN OF REVELATION

One of the greatest mysteries that is eluding many of us today is the fact that the earth was predestined to an expected end before it was even created. Contrary to popular beliefs, there is absolutely nothing any individual or groups of people alive today can do to alter the cause of this world. We cannot destroy the earth regardless of what we do because, the earth is owned by God who also created us. We can choose to be part of His well-orchestrated plan or perish at the end of our lives. We only have two choices.

Being alive today gives us hope, but we have the most important decision of our lives to make now, and in the months to come. It is our choice. Do we follow the instructions God has prescribed or do we do what we please? In everything, we always try to perform our own will, executing our own pleasure even though we have been given clear and concise instructions. But soon, not adhering to the correct instructions will carry severe consequences. When the Lord Jesus Christ was going through His hour of trial, He said:

Luke 4:4 New King James Version (NKJV)

⁴But Jesus answered him, saying, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God.'"

Our hearts desire should be to understand and live by every word of God. This therefore means we should have a good knowledge of what God has said in the entirety of the Bible which includes the Old Testament and the book of Revelation.

Moreover, the book of Revelation was left opened from the time it was written, unlike the book of Daniel which was the only book in the Holy Scriptures which was sealed three times until the period just before the end of age. We are the last generation of this age which means we should have a good understanding of what the Lord our God has said in the book of Daniel and the entire Bible:

Revelation 22:9-11 New King James Version (NKJV)

⁹Then he said to me, "See that you do not do that. For I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren the prophets, and of those who keep the words of this book. Worship God." ¹⁰And he said to me, "Do not seal the words of the prophecy of this book, for the time is at hand. ¹¹He who is unjust, let him be unjust still; he who is filthy, let him be filthy still; he who is righteous, let him be righteous still; he who is holy, let him be holy still."

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The book of Revelation is God the Father's plan for the inauguration of the Lord Jesus Christ as the King of kings and Lord of lords. God the Father gave the plan to the Lord Jesus Christ to show His servants the events which will come to pass during the last seven years of this age. The apostle John was a witness and the scribe chosen by the Lord Jesus Christ to document these events for us. Those who do not worship God the Father in spirit and truth as well as having the faith of the Lord Jesus Christ will find it extremely difficult to have knowledge of what has been written in the book of Revelation since their understanding has not been opened by the lord:

Revelation 1:1-2 New King James Version (NKJV)

¹The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave Him to show His servants—things which must shortly take place. And He sent and signified it by His angel to His servant John, ²who bore witness to the word of God, and to the testimony of Jesus Christ, to all things that he saw.

There is a blessing promised to all those who read, those who hear the words of the book of Revelation and keep those words in their hearts because the time is at hand:

Revelation 1:3 New King James Version (NKJV)

³Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written in it; for the time is near.

Everything that took place in the book of Genesis chapter three forms the foundation of what has been prophesied to happen in the book of Revelation. Those who believe the Lord has rendered the Old Testament redundant are being deceived. The Holy Scriptures is one book that runs from the book of Genesis to the book of Revelation. The most important point in history of both the heavens and the earth came when the Lord withstood the temptations of Satan. It was at that same point where Adam failed:

Luke 4:1-13 New King James Version (NKJV)

¹Then Jesus, being filled with the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, ²being tempted for forty days by the devil. And in those days He ate nothing, and afterward, when they had ended, He was hungry. ³And the devil said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread."⁴ But Jesus answered him, saying, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God.' "

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⁵Then the devil, taking Him up on a high mountain, showed Him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time. ⁶And the devil said to Him, "All this authority I will give You, and their glory; for this has been delivered to me, and I give it to whomever I wish. ⁷Therefore, if You will worship before me, all will be Yours." ⁸And Jesus answered and said to him, "Get behind Me, Satan For it is written, 'You shall worship the LORD your God, and Him only you shall serve.' "

⁹Then he brought Him to Jerusalem, set Him on the pinnacle of the temple, and said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down from here. ¹⁰For it is written: 'He shall give His angels charge over you, To keep you,' ¹¹and, 'In their hands they shall bear you up, Lest you dash your foot against a stone.' " ¹²And Jesus answered and said to him, "It has been said, 'You shall not tempt the LORD your God.' " ¹³Now when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from Him until an opportune time.

If the Lord had failed His moment of trial, there would have been no book of Revelation and our hope of salvation would have been dead forever because only the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ who gives us life can wash us clean from the power of sin. From that moment, Satan had no power over the Lord and the Lord qualified before God the Father as the only person capable to open the seals on the scroll He was holding in His right hand.

Revelation 5:1-7 New King James Version (NKJV)

¹And I saw in the right hand of Him who sat on the throne a scroll written inside and on the back, sealed with seven seals. ²Then I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, "Who is worthy to open the scroll and to loose its seals?" ³And no one in heaven or on the earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll, or to look at it. ⁴So I wept much, because no one was found worthy to open and read the scroll, or to look at it. ⁵But one of the elders said to me, "Do not weep. Behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has prevailed to open the scroll and to loose its seven seals."

⁶And I looked, and behold, in the midst of the throne and of the four living creatures, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as though it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent out into all the earth. ⁷Then He came and took the scroll out of the right hand of Him who sat on the throne.

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As mentioned earlier, the book of Revelation is about the events which has been prophesied to befall the heavens and the earth during the last seven years of this age. The seals on the scroll God the Father was holding, which the Lord Jesus Christ now has in His hand, are the events marking the various stages of the end of age. The opening of each seal at a different interval marks the start of another event.

The first four seals, which is commonly known as the Four Horsemen of the Apocalypses, constitutes the beginning of a period of calamity which will engulf the whole world for the duration of the end of age. This is the time of vengeance of our God on all His enemies. This period is also known as the day of the Lord in the books of the prophets:

Zephaniah 1:14-18 New King James Version (NKJV)

¹⁴ The great day of the LORD is near; It is near and hastens quickly. The noise of the day of the LORD is bitter; There the mighty men shall cry out. ¹⁵ That day is a day of wrath, A day of trouble and distress, A day of devastation and desolation, A day of darkness and gloominess, A day of clouds and thick darkness, ¹⁶ A day of trumpet and alarm Against the fortified cities And against the high towers.

¹⁷ "I will bring distress upon men, And they shall walk like blind men, Because they have sinned against the LORD; Their blood shall be poured out like dust, And their flesh like refuse."

¹⁸ Neither their silver nor their gold Shall be able to deliver them In the day of the LORD's wrath; But the whole land shall be devoured By the fire of His jealousy, For He will make speedy riddance Of all those who dwell in the land.

The reason for the day of the Lord is stated clearly in the above passage of Scripture. The root cause for the day of the Lord is sin. Consider what the Lord has said through the prophet Isaiah:

Isaiah 13:1-9 New King James Version (NKJV)

¹ The burden against Babylon which Isaiah the son of Amoz saw. ² "Lift up a banner on the high mountain, Raise your voice to them; Wave your hand, that they may enter the gates of the nobles. ³ I have commanded My sanctified ones; I have also called My mighty ones for My anger— Those who rejoice in My exaltation." ⁴ The noise of a multitude in the mountains, Like that of many people! A tumultuous noise of the kingdoms of nations gathered together!

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The LORD of hosts musters The army for battle. ⁵ They come from a far country, From the end of heaven— The LORD and His weapons of indignation, To destroy the whole land. ⁶ Wail, for the day of the LORD is at hand! It will come as destruction from the Almighty. ⁷ Therefore all hands will be limp, Every man's heart will melt, ⁸ And they will be afraid. Pangs and sorrows will take hold of them; They will be in pain as a woman in childbirth; They will be amazed at one another; Their faces will be like flames. ⁹ Behold, the day of the LORD comes, Cruel, with both wrath and fierce anger, To lay the land desolate; And He will destroy its sinners from it.

We have all transgressed the laws and commandment of God. Some have repented of their sins but there are many who have chosen not to repent; hence, the Lord will visit their transgression. This is also the time of the restoration of all things as it was before Adam's transgression:

Acts 3:19-24 New King James Version (NKJV)

¹⁹ Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, ²⁰ and that He may send Jesus Christ, who was preached to you before, ²¹ whom heaven must receive until the times of restoration of all things, which God has spoken by the mouth of all His holy prophets since the world began.

²² For Moses truly said to the fathers, 'The LORD your God will raise up for you a Prophet like me from your brethren. Him you shall hear in all things, whatever He says to you. ²³ And it shall be that every soul who will not hear that Prophet shall be utterly destroyed from among the people.' ²⁴ Yes, and all the prophets, from Samuel and those who follow, as many as have spoken, have also foretold these days.

The Lord will return to the earth to restore all things, not as the King of kings or Lord of lords, but in vengeance against all those who have disobeyed the laws and commandments of God. Anyone who does not obey the voice of the Lord will be destroyed. This will be the beginning of a time of trouble, progressing to the great tribulation. The great tribulation is a time of distress this world has never seen since the beginning and will never see again. It will only happen this once.

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If you are not under the protection of the Lord in the land of Judea, the present-day land of Israel, (there is an appointed time to move to the land of Israel), there will be severe repercussions because when the Lord has removed all His people from the nations of the world, He will also close the door as He did when He closed the door of the ark Noah built. We must understand that it is the Lord who has set the standard. We are made in the image of God not God made in our image.

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THE IDENTITY OF THESE HORSEMEN

The word of God is self-explanatory. When the Lord opens our understanding to His word, it becomes easier to find what has been concealed in the word of truth. There is one passage of Scripture in the book of Proverbs which should change the way we perceive life:

Proverbs 16:4 New King James Version (NKJV)

⁴The LORD has made all for Himself, Yes, even the wicked for the day of doom.

At the beginning there was God before He created anything. If God created Satan, it means there is a good reason why, which many of us cannot fathom with our limited minds. The above passage of Scripture addresses the fact that God has created the wicked for the day of doom. When we search diligently, we find something interesting in the Holy Scripture relating to this fact. Consider this passage of Scripture:

1 Kings 22:20-23 New King James Version (NKJV)

²⁰And the LORD said, 'Who will persuade Ahab to go up, that he may fall at Ramoth Gilead?' So one spoke in this manner, and another spoke in that manner. ²¹Then a spirit came forward and stood before the LORD, and said, 'I will persuade him.' ²²The LORD said to him, 'In what way?' So he said, 'I will go out and be a lying spirit in the mouth of all his prophets.' And the LORD said, 'You shall persuade him, and also prevail. Go out and do so.' ²³Therefore look! The LORD has put a lying spirit in the mouth of all these prophets of yours, and the Lord has declared disaster against you."

The Lord sent a spirit to execute His will. In the book of Psalms, we are told that the Lord created spirits to minister His will as in the above passage of Scripture:

Psalms 103:20-22 New King James Version (NKJV)

²⁰Bless the LORD, you His angels, Who excel in strength, who do His word, Heeding the voice of His word. ²¹Bless the LORD, all you His hosts, You ministers of His, who do His pleasure. ²²Bless the LORD, all His works, In all places of His dominion. Bless the LORD, O my soul!

There are also many spirits who the Lord has charged to minister to those who will inherit the salvation of God:

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Hebrews 1:13-14 New King James Version (NKJV)

¹³ But to which of the angels has He ever said: "Sit at My right hand, Till I make Your enemies Your footstool"? ¹⁴ Are they not all ministering spirits sent forth to minister for those who will inherit salvation?

It is crystal clear from the above passages of Scripture that the Lord has created spirits to minister His word. The four horsemen of the book of Revelation are no different. These are spirits who stand before the Lord to do His will. Remember it is the Lord who creates peace and bring calamity to a city:

Zechariah 1:8-11 New King James Version (NKJV)

⁸ I saw by night, and behold, a man riding on a red horse, and it stood among the myrtle trees in the hollow; and behind him were horses: red, sorrel, and white. ⁹ Then I said, "My lord, what are these?" So the angel who talked with me said to me, "I will show you what they are."

¹⁰ And the man who stood among the myrtle trees answered and said, "These are the ones whom the LORD has sent to walk to and fro throughout the earth."

¹¹ So they answered the Angel of the LORD, who stood among the myrtle trees, and said, "We have walked to and fro throughout the earth, and behold, all the earth is resting quietly."

Remember for future reference the fact that these horsemen had just walked the earth and the earth was resting quietly. This has great significance to what is happening right on earth with the coronavirus. This passage of Scripture is a description of the four horsemen of the book of Revelation. They are spirits standing before the Lord to do His will.

Zechariah 6:4-5 New King James Version (NKJV)

⁴ Then I answered and said to the angel who talked with me, "What are these, my lord?"

⁵ And the angel answered and said to me, "These are four spirits of heaven, who go out from their station before the Lord of all the earth."

These four horsemen in the book of the prophet Zechariah are the same horsemen of the book of Revelation. These are four spirits which stand before the Lord our God in heaven to minister His will. The question is, what duties has the Lord tasked these spirits?

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THE REASONS FOR THE FOUR HORSEMEN

The four horsemen of the book of Revelation is part of God's greater plan at the end of age. There is an overall reason for the book of Revelation. This is reflected in the weekly Sabbath which the Lord our God sanctified at the beginning of age:

Genesis 2:1-3 New King James Version (NKJV)

¹ Thus the heavens and the earth, and all the host of them, were finished. ² And on the seventh day God ended His work which He had done, and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had done. ³ Then God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it, because in it He rested from all His work which God had created and made.

This age has continued from when the Lord called for light in the book of Genesis through six thousand years. We are about to enter the transition period before God the Father will have His thousand Year rest. The apostle Peter was inspired to write:

2 Peter 3:1-8 New King James Version (NKJV)

¹ Beloved, I now write to you this second epistle (in both of which I stir up your pure minds by way of reminder), ² that you may be mindful of the words which were spoken before by the holy prophets, and of the commandment of us, the apostles of the Lord and Saviour, ³ knowing this first: that scoffers will come in the last days, walking according to their own lusts, ⁴ and saying, "Where is the promise of His coming? For since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of creation." ⁵ For this they willfully forget: that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of water and in the water, ⁶ by which the world that then existed perished, being flooded with water. ⁷ But the heavens and the earth which are now preserved by the same word, are reserved for fire until the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men.

⁸ But, beloved, do not forget this one thing, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.

For God the Father to have His rest after six thousand longsuffering years (because of our disobedience to His laws and commandments), the Lord Jesus Christ must reign over the heavens and the earth with His Saints to establish God's laws and commandments. Since the tree of life cannot coexist with the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, all evil must be

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removed from the earth, hence, the time of the restoration of all things. Consider this passage of Scripture:

Isaiah 61:2 New King James Version (NKJV)

²To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD, And the day of vengeance of our God; To comfort all who mourn,

The above passage of Scripture is part of a detailed prophecy about the tasks God the Father has set before the Lord Jesus Christ. Part of this prophecy has been fulfilled. The second part is what will befall the earth at the end of age:

Luke 4:18-19 New King James Version (NKJV)

¹⁸“The Spirit of the LORD is upon Me, Because He has anointed Me To preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives And recovery of sight to the blind, To set at liberty those who are oppressed; ¹⁹To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD.”

The Lord intentionally stopped after declaring the acceptable year of the Lord. What is next on God’s master plan is the day of vengeance of our God. All the wicked will be cut off from the earth:

Psalms 37:8-11 New King James Version (NKJV)

⁸Cease from anger, and forsake wrath; Do not fret—it only causes harm. ⁹For evildoers shall be cut off; But those who wait on the LORD, They shall inherit the earth. ¹⁰For yet a little while and the wicked shall be no more; Indeed, you will look carefully for his place, But it shall be no more. ¹¹But the meek shall inherit the earth, And shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace.

The meek cannot inherit the earth and delight in peace if the wicked are still on the earth. Righteousness and the knowledge of God cannot fill the earth while the wicked prevail. The reason for the scroll with the seals, depicts the events God the Father has ordained to destroy the wicked from the earth. If you are in any doubt about what has been mentioned so far, consider this passage of Scripture which is a prophecy that will be fulfilled at the end of age:

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Jeremiah 25:30-33 New King James Version (NKJV)

³⁰ *“Therefore prophesy against them all these words, and say to them: ‘The LORD will roar from on high, And utter His voice from His holy habitation; He will roar mightily against His fold. He will give a shout, as those who tread the grapes, Against all the inhabitants of the earth. ³¹ A noise will come to the ends of the earth— For the LORD has a controversy with the nations; He will plead His case with all flesh. He will give those who are wicked to the sword,’ says the LORD.”*

³² *Thus says the LORD of hosts: “Behold, disaster shall go forth From nation to nation, And a great whirlwind shall be raised up From the farthest parts of the earth. ³³ And at that day the slain of the LORD shall be from one end of the earth even to the other end of the earth. They shall not be lamented, or gathered, or buried; they shall become refuse on the ground.*

Has this happened before? The above passage of Scripture explains itself. This is a worldwide event involving every nation on earth. The Lord’s controversy is against the wicked and those who are disobedient to His commandments. This is the reason for the four horsemen of the book of Revelation. They have been tasked by the Lord to remove all evil from the earth.

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THE DUTY OF THESE HORSEMEN

The Lord has given us clear information about the tasks He has set three of the four horsemen of the book of Revelation but the duty of one of these horsemen has its foundation in the book of Daniel which had remained sealed until now. The Lord kept the book of Daniel sealed during the time He walked the earth and He did not reveal the duty of this horseman even when He was pressed. Before we proceed any further, we must make one thing abundantly clear. What will befall the earth is not down to mankind trying to destroy the earth. On the contrary. It is the Lord punishing us for our iniquities and transgressions against Him. The prophet Joel was inspired to write:

Joel 1:15-16 New King James Version (NKJV)

¹⁵ Alas for the day! For the day of the LORD is at hand; It shall come as destruction from the Almighty. ¹⁶ Is not the food cut off before our eyes, Joy and gladness from the house of our God?

The day of the Lord comes as destruction from the Almighty God. There will be no food on the earth. This is what the Lord our God has warned will come and overtake us if we do not heed His words:

Ezekiel 14:12-20 New King James Version (NKJV)

¹² The word of the LORD came again to me, saying: ¹³ "Son of man, when a land sins against Me by persistent unfaithfulness, I will stretch out My hand against it; I will cut off its supply of bread, send famine on it, and cut off man and beast from it. ¹⁴ Even if these three men, Noah, Daniel, and Job, were in it, they would deliver only themselves by their righteousness," says the Lord God.

¹⁵ "If I cause wild beasts to pass through the land, and they empty it, and make it so desolate that no man may pass through because of the beasts, ¹⁶ even though these three men were in it, as I live," says the Lord God, "they would deliver neither sons nor daughters; only they would be delivered, and the land would be desolate.

¹⁷ "Or if I bring a sword on that land, and say, 'Sword, go through the land,' and I cut off man and beast from it, ¹⁸ even though these three men were in it, as I live," says the Lord God, "they would deliver neither sons nor daughters, but only they themselves would be delivered.

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¹⁹ “Or if I send a pestilence into that land and pour out My fury on it in blood, and cut off from it man and beast, ²⁰ even though Noah, Daniel, and Job were in it, as I live,” says the Lord God, “they would deliver neither son nor daughter; they would deliver only themselves by their righteousness.”

When we study the book of Daniel and the book of Revelation, we come across the word beast. Here, in the above passage of Scripture we have been given the meaning behind the word beast. It is not about wild animals run over the land. It is about a ruling government which will destroy those who have transgress the laws and commandments of God.

The prophet Jerimiah was inspired to give us the same warning about what will come at the end of age. Some will say this prophecy is about those in the land of Israel and Jerusalem. Rightly so, that is correct. It is addressing the people the Lord has saved from the nations, who after been saved did not turn from their wicked ways but continue to transgress God’s laws and commandments. Consider what the Lord will do with those who completely disregard God’s laws and commandments? Would you be led to believe they will not face a sterner punishment?

Jeremiah 15:1-3 New King James Version (NKJV)

¹ Then the LORD said to me, “Even if Moses and Samuel stood before Me, My mind would not be favourable toward this people. Cast them out of My sight, and let them go forth. ² And it shall be, if they say to you, ‘Where should we go?’ then you shall tell them, ‘Thus says the LORD:

“Such as are for death, to death; And such as are for the sword, to the sword; And such as are for the famine, to the famine; And such as are for the captivity, to the captivity.” ’

³ “And I will appoint over them four forms of destruction,” says the LORD: “the sword to slay, the dogs to drag, the birds of the heavens and the beasts of the earth to devour and destroy.

Be under no illusion. What will soon befall the earth will affect every single soul that is alive, and it will only happen once. This warning was given to us from the time the children of Israel left Egypt.

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Leviticus 26:20-26 New King James Version (NKJV)

²¹ Then, if you walk contrary to Me, and are not willing to obey Me, I will bring on you seven times more plagues, according to your sins. ²² I will also send wild beasts among you, which shall rob you of your children, destroy your livestock, and make you few in number; and your highways shall be desolate. ²³ And if by these things you are not reformed by Me, but walk contrary to Me, ²⁴ then I also will walk contrary to you, and I will punish you yet seven times for your sins. ²⁵ And I will bring a sword against you that will execute the vengeance of the covenant; when you are gathered together within your cities I will send pestilence among you; and you shall be delivered into the hand of the enemy. ²⁶ When I have cut off your supply of bread, ten women shall bake your bread in one oven, and they shall bring back your bread by weight, and you shall eat and not be satisfied.

The book of Leviticus chapter twenty-six gives us details of what is required of us. First, we are given the command. We are also given the consequences of transgressing the Lord's commandments. The gravity of the punishment increases as the level of disobedience increases after we have been prompted to repent. We must remember that the Lord has compared our generation to the generations of Noah and Lot. We know what happened to the people of those generations. They were overthrown in an instant, but our plight will be prolonged. It is the duty of these horsemen to administer punishment on the inhabitants of the earth.

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THE FIRST SEAL

When the Lord will open the first seal at the appointed time in the future, a white horse and its rider will be sent to complete an assignment on the earth. Contrary to common knowledge, this spirit will not be sent out to advocate deception on the earth. The duty of this horseman is far more critical to the end of age than many scholars have been led to understand up until now:

Revelation 6:1-2 New King James Version (NKJV)

¹ Now I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seals; and I heard one of the four living creatures saying with a voice like thunder, "Come and see." ² And I looked, and behold, a white horse. He who sat on it had a bow; and a crown was given to him, and he went out conquering and to conquer.

We must remember one important fact critical to understanding the word of God. Scripture cannot be broken. Every Scripture must align with other passages of Scripture on the same topic. The above passage of Scripture does not mention deception, or anything connected with deception. What has been said involves overpowering and taking over control. A crown is only given to those who are appointed to rule and are victorious. The Lord gave us an overview of the book of Revelation when he covered the end of age in the gospel of Matthew without revealing the identity of this horseman when He said:

Matthew 24:4-8 New King James Version (NKJV)

⁴ And Jesus answered and said to them: "Take heed that no one deceives you. ⁵ For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and will deceive many. ⁶ And you will hear of wars and rumours of wars. See that you are not troubled; for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. ⁷ For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places. ⁸ All these are the beginning of sorrows.

From the day the Lord returned to heaven, many have come in His name deceiving many, something which is still happening today. There has been wars and rumours of wars. Here is the understanding. The Lord said we should not be troubled by these wars and rumours of

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wars because it is not yet the end. But the beginning of sorrows will come when nations will rise up against nations and kingdom against kingdom.

There are two distinctive events which must happen first on earth before the opening of the seals on the scroll the Lord Jesus Christ now has in His possession. The first event is what has been described in the book of the prophet Amos chapter one and two and the second is when the Lord returns the captivity of His people. The Lord has said He will remove His people from the world before He starts opening the seals. The spirit empowering the first seal has been given the power to muster the confederacy of the ten kings prophesied in the book of the prophet Daniel and the book of Revelation. This event should not be confused with the nation to come that is prophesied in the book of the prophet Joel:

Daniel 7:23-25 New King James Version (NKJV)

²³ "Thus he said: 'The fourth beast shall be A fourth kingdom on earth, Which shall be different from all other kingdoms, And shall devour the whole earth, Trample it and break it in pieces. ²⁴ The ten horns are ten kings Who shall arise from this kingdom. And another shall rise after them; He shall be different from the first ones, And shall subdue three kings. ²⁵ He shall speak pompous words against the Most High, Shall persecute the saints of the Most High, And shall intend to change times and law. Then the saints shall be given into his hand For a time and times and half a time.

As you can see the beasts that the Lord has said He will send into land is explained here. The fourth kingdom cannot be the Roman empire because the Roman empire was not composed of ten kings and the fourth kingdom has not existed before. This is a prophecy that will befall our generation. The fourth kingdom was first brought to our attention in the dream God gave King Nebuchadnezzar which was interpreted by the prophet Daniel:

Daniel 2:40-41 New King James Version (NKJV)

⁴⁰ And the fourth kingdom shall be as strong as iron, inasmuch as iron breaks in pieces and shatters everything; and like iron that crushes, that kingdom will break in pieces and crush all the others. ⁴¹ Whereas you saw the feet and toes, partly of potter's clay and partly of iron, the kingdom shall be divided; yet the strength of the iron shall be in it, just as you saw the iron mixed with ceramic clay.

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It should be noted that the spirit behind this seal is not to administer deception. Satan is the master of deception. The duty of this spirit is to rule aggressively and destroy. This spirit will bring together the fourth kingdom which will destroy the world skilfully to perfection. Consider this passage of Scripture:

Revelation 17:15-18 New King James Version (NKJV)

¹⁵ Then he said to me, "The waters which you saw, where the harlot sits, are peoples, multitudes, nations, and tongues. ¹⁶ And the ten horns which you saw on the beast, these will hate the harlot, make her desolate and naked, eat her flesh and burn her with fire. ¹⁷ For God has put it into their hearts to fulfill His purpose, to be of one mind, and to give their kingdom to the beast, until the words of God are fulfilled. ¹⁸ And the woman whom you saw is that great city which reigns over the kings of the earth."

Understanding this passage of Scripture opens a vault of knowledge concealed in the Holy Scriptures. The spirit behind the first seal has been commissioned at this time to congregate and empower the ten kings whose desire is to destroy the Babylonian system, which is the world economic and religious systems and Babylon, the city. The Lord has put the desire in the hearts of these kings to perform His will, in destroying Babylon. After this ten-king confederacy has been formed, resulting in the fourth kingdom, they will go out to conquer the entire earth. Some will say it is not possible because of the military capabilities of the nations of the world. What they fail to understand is that, with God all things are possible, and our so-called military capabilities are no match to what God can do.

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THE SECOND SEAL

The second seal of the book of Revelation represents the red horseman of the apocalypse. For a kingdom to be established anywhere on earth today, it must be immensely powerful with the military capabilities to conquer the armies of many nations. History tells us no kingdom on earth has been established without war except when the Medes and Persians conquered the Babylonian empire. As with the first seal, the duty of this spirit is to take peace from the earth by wars:

Revelation 6:3-4 New King James Version (NKJV)

³When He opened the second seal, I heard the second living creature saying, "Come and see."⁴ Another horse, fiery red, went out. And it was granted to the one who sat on it to take peace from the earth, and that people should kill one another; and there was given to him a great sword.

The great sword that has been given to this horseman will bring the fourth kingdom against the nations of the wrath of God. Peace will be taken from the earth because many nations will be involved in this war. It will happen suddenly and the destruction will come in a single day. The Lord had said:

Matthew 24:7-8 New King James Version (NKJV)

⁷For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places. ⁸All these are the beginning of sorrows.

When we search through the Scriptures, we will realise that one of the warnings for persistent transgression of God's laws and commandment is war. The first seal brings together a confederacy of nations which will wage war against God's people who have been disobedient to His commandments:

Jeremiah 12:10-12 New King James Version (NKJV)

¹⁰"Many rulers have destroyed My vineyard, They have trodden My portion underfoot; They have made My pleasant portion a desolate wilderness. ¹¹They have made it desolate; Desolate, it mourns to Me; The whole land is made desolate, Because no one takes it to heart. ¹²The plunderers have come On all the desolate heights in the wilderness, For the

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sword of the LORD shall devour From one end of the land to the other end of the land; No flesh shall have peace.

This passage of Scripture explains the effect the first and second seals will have on the earth. As mentioned earlier, many rulers will form the confederacy of ten kings as we have seen in previous passages of Scripture. The sword of the Lord is the wars that this confederacy of ten kings, the fourth kingdom, will unleash on the earth. We should not forget the fact that it will be the Lord who musters the army for battle and the fourth kingdom, which is the confederacy of ten kings is His weapon of indignation.

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THE THIRD SEAL

The inevitable consequence of a war that will affect the whole world is food shortage. The result of this shortage in supply will lead to high food prices but the rich will always be catered for. We must understand that this is no ordinary period of time:

Revelation 6:5-6 New King James Version (NKJV)

⁵When He opened the third seal, I heard the third living creature say, "Come and see." So I looked, and behold, a black horse, and he who sat on it had a pair of scales in his hand. ⁶And I heard a voice in the midst of the four living creatures saying, "A quart of wheat for a denarius, and three quarts of barley for a denarius; and do not harm the oil and the wine."

When the Lord opens the third seal, a black horse will be sent out and he who sits on the horse has been given a pair of scales, which means there is going to be a hike in price for the essential daily food requirement for the majority of the world's population. But the luxury items will not be affected at this stage. Why is that? To find the answer we must examine what the Lord has already said.

Matthew 24:7 New King James Version (NKJV)

⁷For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places.

We have already examined in detail what will befall the earth when the first seal is opened. The consequence of the opening of the first and second seals will result in wars. As a result, there is going to be hike in food prices. But the root cause of the shortage in food supply is not because of war. There is another dimension to this horseman. Because the Lord will cause it not to rain on the earth, the supply of the basic daily food requirements will diminish. Consider this passage of Scripture:

Joel 1:15-20 New King James Version (NKJV)

¹⁵Alas for the day! For the day of the LORD is at hand; It shall come as destruction from the Almighty. ¹⁶Is not the food cut off before our eyes, Joy and gladness from the house of our God? ¹⁷The seed shrivels under the clods, Storehouses are in shambles; Barns are broken down, For the grain has withered. ¹⁸How the animals groan! The herds of cattle are restless, Because they have no pasture; Even the flocks of sheep suffer punishment. ¹⁹O LORD, to You I

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cry out; For fire has devoured the open pastures, And a flame has burned all the trees of the field. ²⁰ The beasts of the field also cry out to You, For the water brooks are dried up, And fire has devoured the open pastures.

There is going to be a severe famine on the earth because the Lord Who provides rain will withhold rain from falling on the earth and dry up the rivers. Some will ask how is that possible? Did not the Lord caused it to rain for forty days and forty nights during the flood of Noah? Did the Lord not break open the fountains of the great deep? Consider what the prophet Elijah did:

1 Kings 17:1-4 New King James Version (NKJV)

¹ And Elijah the Tishbite, of the inhabitants of Gilead, said to Ahab, "As the LORD God of Israel lives, before whom I stand, there shall not be dew nor rain these years, except at my word."

² Then the word of the LORD came to him, saying, ³ "Get away from here and turn eastward, and hide by the Brook Cherith, which flows into the Jordan. ⁴ And it will be that you shall drink from the brook, and I have commanded the ravens to feed you there."

Before the Lord opens the third seal, a drought will have been pronounced on the earth just as the prophet Elijah did in the days of Ahab. The effect will be devastating for both man and beast as the prophet Joel was inspired to prophesy.

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THE FOURTH SEAL

The fourth seal is the beneficiary of the first three seals. The consequences of wars and famine is death. The body has been designed to go without food and water for a long while. But if the body should reach the threshold of going without food and water, the organs will start to fail, and the result will be death.

Revelation 6:7-8 New King James Version (NKJV)

⁷When He opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth living creature saying, "Come and see."⁸So I looked, and behold, a pale horse. And the name of him who sat on it was Death, and Hades followed with him. And power was given to them over a fourth of the earth, to kill with sword, with hunger, with death, and by the beasts of the earth.

There is a sobering warning in this passage of Scripture which we have not really taken to heart. If we are touched by the amount of people dying after they have contracted the coronavirus, what about when a quarter of the population of the earth will be wiped out in only a few months? We need to revisit what the Lord had said through the prophet Jeremiah:

Jeremiah 25:30-33 New King James Version (NKJV)

³⁰"Therefore prophesy against them all these words, and say to them: 'The LORD will roar from on high, And utter His voice from His holy habitation; He will roar mightily against His fold. He will give a shout, as those who tread the grapes, Against all the inhabitants of the earth. ³¹A noise will come to the ends of the earth— For the LORD has a controversy with the nations; He will plead His case with all flesh. He will give those who are wicked to the sword,' says the LORD."

³²Thus says the LORD of hosts: "Behold, disaster shall go forth From nation to nation, And a great whirlwind shall be raised up From the farthest parts of the earth.

³³And at that day the slain of the LORD shall be from one end of the earth even to the other end of the earth. They shall not be lamented, or gathered, or buried; they shall become refuse on the ground.

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There must be a very good reason why the Lord has proposed to bring upon the earth this confederacy of ten kings, the wars, famine and death. The root cause of these calamities is sin, the transgression of God's laws and commandments. We know we have all fallen short of the glory of God but the reason why all these calamities will befall us in this generation is because we have refused to repent of our sins. This is the condemnation:

John 3:18-20 New King James Version (NKJV)

¹⁸ "He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. ¹⁹ And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. ²⁰ For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed.

We have been given the opportunity to use our free will to either choose to obey God's laws and commandments and live, or to disobey the path the Lord has set before us and die. The wages of sin, the price for transgressing God's laws and commandments is death. We have to individually decide what path we choose to follow.

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WHEN WILL THE LORD OPEN THE FIRST SEALS?

Earlier in this study, we came across a passage of Scripture that explains what is happening in the world today. The world is sitting quietly and the spirits responsible for taking peace from the earth are sitting in heaven before the Lord waiting eagerly to be sent out:

Zechariah 1:7-11 New King James Version (NKJV)

⁷On the twenty-fourth day of the eleventh month, which is the month Shebat, in the second year of Darius, the word of the LORD came to Zechariah the son of Berechiah, the son of Iddo the prophet: ⁸I saw by night, and behold, a man riding on a red horse, and it stood among the myrtle trees in the hollow; and behind him were horses: red, sorrel, and white. ⁹Then I said, "My lord, what are these?" So the angel who talked with me said to me, "I will show you what they are."

¹⁰And the man who stood among the myrtle trees answered and said, "These are the ones whom the LORD has sent to walk to and fro throughout the earth."

¹¹So they answered the Angel of the LORD, who stood among the myrtle trees, and said, "We have walked to and fro throughout the earth, and behold, all the earth is resting quietly."

There has always been a war or rumours of war. Today, there is no conflicts, wars or atrocities brewing in any part of the world. After lockdown, nations will be looking to grow their various economies which has been battered by the coronavirus. Everyone will be pleased the coronavirus episode has passed. Hence, the world will remain resting quietly. There are three prophecies which must come to pass first before the seals of the book of Revelation will be opened. If you have been led to believe that the some of the seals have already been opened please reconsider.

The first event which must come to pass is the end time prophet the Lord has promised He will send:

Malachi 4:5-6 New King James Version (NKJV)

⁵Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet Before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD. ⁶And he will turn The hearts of the fathers to the children, And the hearts of the children to their fathers, Lest I come and strike the earth with a curse."

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Regardless of what many have said, if the Lord does not send us this prophet in the spirit of Elijah and John the Baptist, the end of this age will never come to pass. The last seven years of this age starts in earnest when the Lord opens the first seal and send out the white horse. When we examine a passage of Scripture in the book of the prophet Malachi chapter three, we find something interesting:

Malachi 3:1-5 New King James Version (NKJV)

¹ "Behold, I send My messenger, And he will prepare the way before Me. And the Lord, whom you seek, Will suddenly come to His temple, Even the Messenger of the covenant, In whom you delight. Behold, He is coming," Says the LORD of hosts. ² "But who can endure the day of His coming? And who can stand when He appears? For He is like a refiner's fire And like launderers' soap. ³ He will sit as a refiner and a purifier of silver; He will purify the sons of Levi, And purge them as gold and silver, That they may offer to the LORD An offering in righteousness. ⁴ "Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem Will be pleasant to the LORD, As in the days of old, As in former years. ⁵ And I will come near you for judgment; I will be a swift witness Against sorcerers, Against adulterers, Against perjurers, Against those who exploit wage earners and widows and orphans, And against those who turn away an alien— Because they do not fear Me," Says the LORD of hosts.

This passage of Scripture is addressing the same messenger we saw in book of Malachi chapter four. As it was during the days of John the Baptist, the Lord will suddenly appear in His temple here on earth to purify His priests and for judgement against all those who have not repented of their sins.

The next event that must come to pass after the end time prophet has preached repentance to all the nations, is the return of the Lord to judge the present nation of Israel and the surrounding nations as it is written in the book of the prophet Amos chapter one and two:

Amos 1:1-3 New King James Version (NKJV)

¹ The words of Amos, who was among the sheepbreeders of Tekoa, which he saw concerning Israel in the days of Uzziah king of Judah, and in the days of Jeroboam the son of Joash, king of Israel, two years before the earthquake. ² And he said: "The LORD roars from Zion, And utters His voice from Jerusalem; The pastures of the shepherds mourn, And the top of Carmel withers."

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³ Thus says the LORD: "For three transgressions of Damascus, and for four, I will not turn away its punishment, Because they have threshed Gilead with implements of iron.

Please study the book of the prophet Amos chapter one and two. You will conclude that the Lord will be here on earth. When the Lord is present here on earth in His holy city Jerusalem, it becomes Zion. Consider this passage of Scripture:

Zechariah 1:12-16 New King James Version (NKJV)

¹² Then the Angel of the LORD answered and said, "O LORD of hosts, how long will You not have mercy on Jerusalem and on the cities of Judah, against which You were angry these seventy years?"

¹³ And the LORD answered the angel who talked to me, with good and comforting words. ¹⁴ So the angel who spoke with me said to me, "Proclaim, saying, 'Thus says the LORD of hosts:

"I am zealous for Jerusalem And for Zion with great zeal. ¹⁵ I am exceedingly angry with the nations at ease; For I was a little angry, And they helped—but with evil intent."

¹⁶ 'Therefore thus says the LORD: "I am returning to Jerusalem with mercy; My house shall be built in it," says the LORD of hosts, "And a surveyor's line shall be stretched out over Jerusalem."'

There is no temple of God in Jerusalem now and the current government of Israel will never be able to build that temple regardless of what has been said. When the Lord returns to Jerusalem with mercy, and only after the events described in Amos chapter one and two will the construction of the Lord's temple in Jerusalem begin.

There is a third event that must occur before the four horsemen of the book of Revelation could be sent to create havoc on the earth. You will be astonished at the number of time this event is mentioned in the Holy Scriptures:

Psalms 14:7 New King James Version (NKJV)

⁷ Oh, that the salvation of Israel would come out of Zion! When the LORD brings back the captivity of His people, Let Jacob rejoice and Israel be glad.

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The salvation of Israel, the body of Christ, God's people will come out of Zion, (which means the Lord will be in Jerusalem), only after the Lord has brought back the captivity of His people to the land of Israel from all the nations of the world, in honour of the promise He made to Abraham.

Joel 2:27-32 New King James Version (NKJV)

²⁷ Then you shall know that I am in the midst of Israel: I am the LORD your God And there is no other. My people shall never be put to shame. ²⁸ "And it shall come to pass afterward That I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, Your old men shall dream dreams, Your young men shall see visions. ²⁹ And also on My menservants and on My maidservants I will pour out My Spirit in those days.

³⁰ "And I will show wonders in the heavens and in the earth: Blood and fire and pillars of smoke. ³¹ The sun shall be turned into darkness, And the moon into blood, Before the coming of the great and awesome day of the LORD. ³² And it shall come to pass That whoever calls on the name of the LORD Shall be saved. For in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there shall be deliverance, As the LORD has said, Among the remnant whom the LORD calls.

The first time the Lord poured out His Spirit on all flesh on the day of Pentecost, it happened in Jerusalem. This time again it will happen in Jerusalem and Mount Zion because the Lord Himself will be there. There is a remnant that the Lord has called. Calling on the name of the Lord will mean nothing if you do not obey the instruction to move to the Land of Israel at the given time.

Isaiah 43:1-7 New King James Version (NKJV)

¹ But now, thus says the LORD, who created you, O Jacob, And He who formed you, O Israel: "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by your name; You are Mine. ² When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; And through the rivers, they shall not overflow you. When you walk through the fire, you shall not be burned, Nor shall the flame scorch you. ³ For I am the LORD your God, The Holy One of Israel, your Saviour; I gave Egypt for your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in your place. ⁴ Since you were precious in My sight, You have been honoured, And I have loved you; Therefore I will give men for you, And people for your life. ⁵ Fear not, for I am with you; I will bring your descendants from the east, And

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*gather you from the west; ⁶I will say to the north, 'Give them up!' And to the south, 'Do not keep them back!' Bring My sons from afar, And My daughters from the ends of the earth—
⁷Everyone who is called by My name, Whom I have created for My glory; I have formed him, yes, I have made him."*

Search the Holy Scriptures and you will find many more passages addressing this event. If you decide to remain in your nation after the Lord has removed His people from the nations of the world and have taken them back to the land of Israel, then you will be in serious trouble. The Lord will start opening the seals of the book of Revelation after He has removed His people from harm's way.

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CONCLUSION

We are currently going through a phase of life the earth has not witness before. Any conceivable form of gathering has been put on hold especially if it is in the name of entertainment. Many will not realise what is happening. The rulers of the nations are oblivious to what is happening under their own noses. As for you, who do you put your trust in?

We have been free given life. We have no input on when we come into the world and we can certainly not decide when we make an exit from the world. This period of time has been given to us to quietly consider our lives, and to find out the truth. The experts are speaking at the moment, but they themselves are not sure what will become of this crisis. One thing is certain. God who created the heavens and the earth knows what is happening here on earth at the moment even before He created the earth. Should we not be crying out to God for help?

This world has been predestined to an expected end. We have already been given great details of the events that will befall the earth. Now, we can all say the earth is resting quietly:

Zechariah 1:7-11 New King James Version (NKJV)

⁷On the twenty-fourth day of the eleventh month, which is the month Shebat, in the second year of Darius, the word of the LORD came to Zechariah the son of Berechiah, the son of Iddo the prophet: ⁸I saw by night, and behold, a man riding on a red horse, and it stood among the myrtle trees in the hollow; and behind him were horses: red, sorrel, and white. ⁹Then I said, "My lord, what are these?" So the angel who talked with me said to me, "I will show you what they are."

¹⁰And the man who stood among the myrtle trees answered and said, "These are the ones whom the LORD has sent to walk to and fro throughout the earth."

¹¹So they answered the Angel of the LORD, who stood among the myrtle trees, and said, "We have walked to and fro throughout the earth, and behold, all the earth is resting quietly."

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As we now know these horsemen are spirits that the Lord sends into the earth to perform His will. For the earth to sit quietly, something had to happen to shut down everything. The coronavirus has done exactly that. It will pass to some extent but not completely.

These horsemen are the same horsemen we see in the book of Revelation which are sent to ride on the earth by the Lord. In the book of Proverbs we read:

Proverbs 16:4 New King James Version (NKJV)

⁴The LORD has made all for Himself, Yes, even the wicked for the day of doom.

The Horsemen of the Apocalypse are the weapons of the Lord's indignation. The reason why these spirits will be sent on the earth to render it desolate is sin, the transgression of the laws and commandments of God. The Lord has promised to save those who have repented from their sins and are now walking in faith and obedience to His laws and commandments. The Lord has also promised to send a prophet before the beginning of the day of the Lord which is incidentally the same period of time when these horsemen will be unleashed on the earth:

Malachi 4:5-6 New King James Version (NKJV)

⁵Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet Before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD. ⁶And he will turn The hearts of the fathers to the children, And the hearts of the children to their fathers, Lest I come and strike the earth with a curse."

There is another profound event that must happen after the Lord has sent His end time prophet into the earth. The Lord will return to punish those who have chosen not to heed His word:

Zephaniah 1:2-9 New King James Version (NKJV)

²"I will utterly consume everything From the face of the land," Says the LORD; ³"I will consume man and beast; I will consume the birds of the heavens, The fish of the sea, And the stumbling blocks along with the wicked. I will cut off man from the face of the land," Says the LORD. ⁴"I will stretch out My hand against Judah, And against all the inhabitants of Jerusalem. I will cut off every trace of Baal from this place, The names of the idolatrous priests with the pagan priests— ⁵Those who worship the host of heaven on the housetops; Those who worship and swear oaths by the LORD, But who also swear by Milcom; ⁶Those

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who have turned back from following the LORD, And have not sought the LORD, nor inquired of Him.”

⁷Be silent in the presence of the Lord God; For the day of the LORD is at hand, For the LORD has prepared a sacrifice; sacrifice, That I will punish the princes and the king’s children, And all such as are clothed with foreign apparel. ⁹In the same day I will punish All those who leap over the threshold, Who fill their masters’ houses with violence and deceit.

If you do not believe that the Lord will be in Jerusalem, which becomes Zion when the Lord is present, please go back and study the Holy Scriptures to find the truth. You do not want to miss it. This is the reason why the Lord has said He will come as a thief in the night to many. If you know thieves are going to break into your house, you will prepare and be ready to meet them. This return of the Lord has eluded many scholars. Don’t be caught snared by this error. After the Lord has removed His people from harm’s way, He will send these horsemen we read about in the book of revelation to devastate the earth:

Zechariah 6:1-8 New King James Version (NKJV)

¹ Then I turned and raised my eyes and looked, and behold, four chariots were coming from between two mountains, and the mountains were mountains of bronze. ²With the first chariot were red horses, with the second chariot black horses, ³with the third chariot white horses, and with the fourth chariot dappled horses—strong steeds. ⁴Then I answered and said to the angel who talked with me, “What are these, my lord?”

⁵And the angel answered and said to me, “These are four spirits of heaven, who go out from their station before the Lord of all the earth. ⁶The one with the black horses is going to the north country, the white are going after them, and the dappled are going toward the south country.” ⁷Then the strong steeds went out, eager to go, that they might walk to and fro throughout the earth. And He said, “Go, walk to and fro throughout the earth.” So they walked to and fro throughout the earth. ⁸And He called to me, and spoke to me, saying, “See, those who go toward the north country have given rest to My Spirit in the north country.”

If you are not under the Lord’s protection in the land of Israel when these spirits are sent to make the earth desolate, you will be in serious trouble. What your pastor or prophet has

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said will mean absolutely nothing. The word of God will come to pass as the Lord has proposed. This is the word revealed in the Holy Scripture, the word of truth. Take heed that no one deceive you.