REVELATION of St. John the Divine

The

#### CHAPTER 1

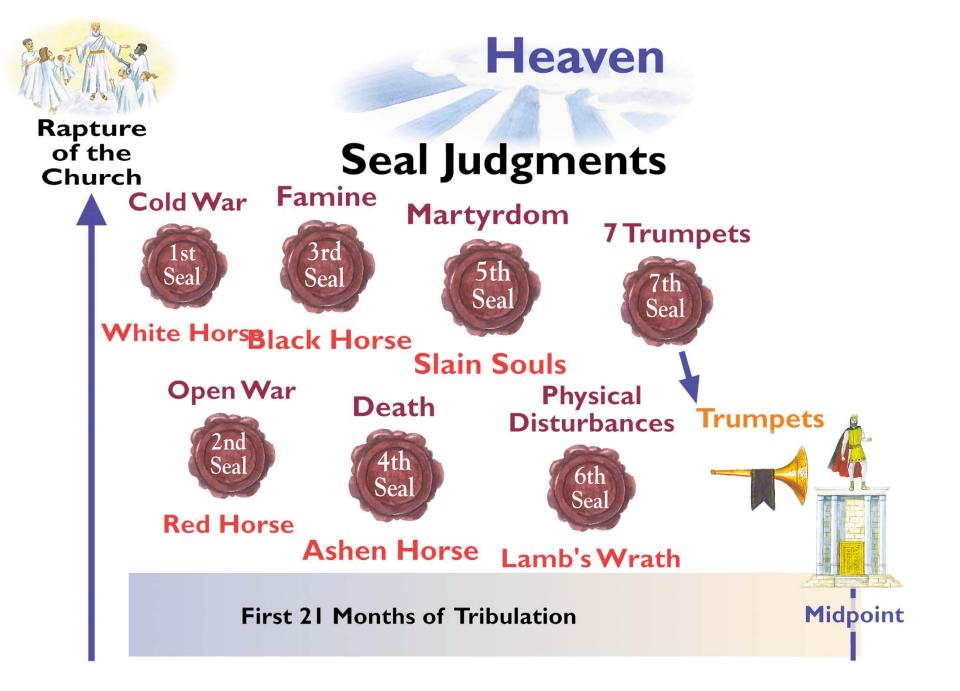
VELATION OF JESUS CHRIST, WHICH GOD GAVE man lowest, and washed as DAVE to and seven bilancelli in Annal houth monder on kinning and private the Annal houth monder to kinning and private the Annal houth private to house the second private to n And Battlemers to bins he mid blocks and a second and a second seco and the second s

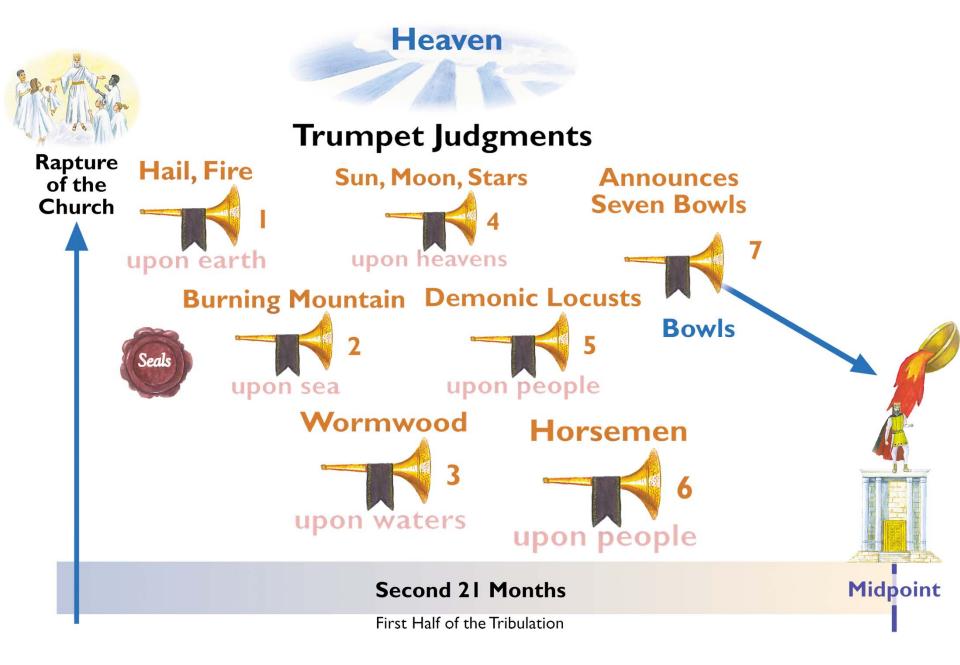
The Chronological Relationship of the Three Septet Judgments of the Tribulation To the Abomination of Desolation

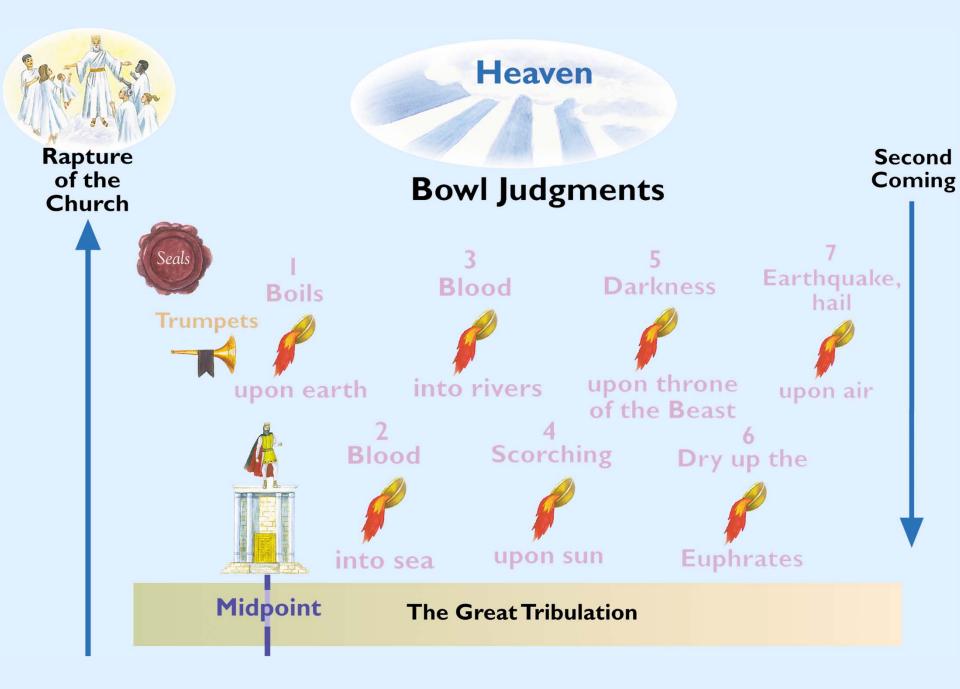
By Robert Dean, Jr.

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Most expositors assume that the events beginning in **Revelation 6 cover the whole seven-year period. The** Book of Revelation, however, never uses a seven-year figure but frequently refers to three and one-half years or 42 months (11:2; 13:5). Because the events of chapter 6 and afterward seem to coincide with the Great Tribulation rather than with the time of peace in the first half of the seven years (1 Thess. 5:3), there are good reasons for concluding that these great events are compacted in the last three and one-half years before Christ's return to the earth. Certainly at least by the fourth seal (Rev. 6:7-8), the events described anticipate a time of unprecedented trouble.

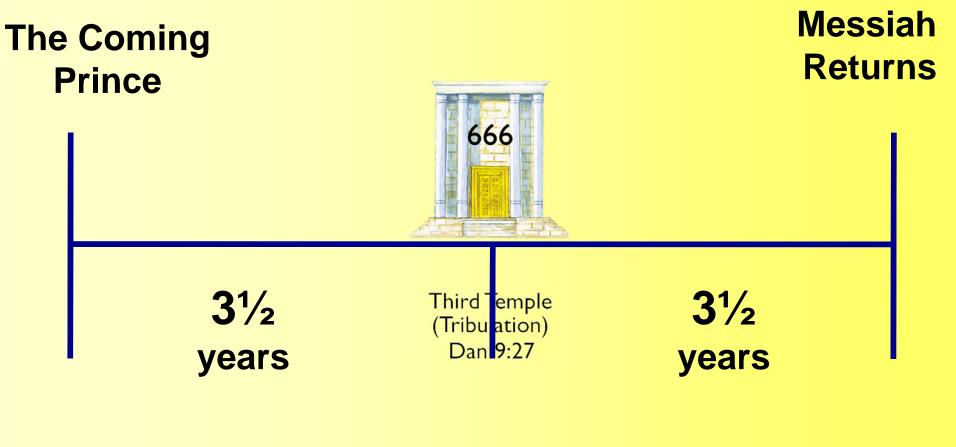
~Walvoord, BKC, "Revelation"

- When do the seal judgments take place, first half or second half?
- When are the 144,000 of Rev. 7:1–8 sealed: during the period of the seals or between the sixth and seventh seal?
- Who are the martyred multitude of Rev. 7:9–17: the martyred of the fifth seal judgment or the martyred of the entire seven years?
- Are the two witnesses prophesying in the first or second half?

Though the abomination of desolation is not specifically mentioned in Revelation, are there clues that allow us to connect this event with an event described in the Apocalypse? To understand the *Chronology* of Rev. 4–19, and the *Reasons* for Rev. 4–19 we must:

- 1. Re-examine Daniel 9:24–27
- 2. Fit the general framework of Dan. 9 to Matt. 24
- From the chronological anchor points in Dan. 9 and Matt. 24, we can understand the structure of the Tribulation (Rev. 4– 19)

#### Daniel's Seventy "Weeks" Seventy Periods of Sevens DAN. 9:24–27



## ISRAEL

### I. The Commencement of the 70<sup>th</sup> Week



What event begins the 70<sup>th</sup> week of Israel? When will the prophetic clock start ticking again?

*Not* the rapture, but the signing of a 7-year covenant

Furthermore, it states that the covenant is made with many; not with all, but with many. The Hebrew text uses a definite article meaning the many. This is the leadership of Israel that will be empowered to sign covenants of this nature. The covenant is made for one seven. On one hand, it begins the seven years of the Tribulation, but on the other hand, it is also signed for the specific purpose of being in effect for seven years.

~Fruchtenbaum, *Footsteps*, 196

This last seven is a total of seven years and is the same seven years as the Great Tribulation. These seven years, the seventieth seven, are subdivided in this verse into two equal halves of 3.5 years each. Elsewhere in Daniel and in Revelation, they are given different descriptive terms. Each half is referred to in three different ways: sometimes as 1,260 days (Rev. 12:6); sometimes as forty-two months (Rev. 11:2-3; 13:5); and sometimes as a time, times and half a time (Dan. 7:25). In all three cases, they are equal to two 3.5-year periods comprising this seven-year period.

~Fruchtenbaum, *Footsteps*, 196

## THE OLIVET DISCOURSE AND THE SEAL JUDGMENTS OF REVELATION

	Revelation	Matthew	Mark	Luke
	6	24	13	21
False Messiahs,	2	5, 11	6	8
False Prophets	_	5, 11	U	0
Wars	2-4	6, 7	7	9
International	2.4	_	8	10
Instability	3-4	7	0	10
Famines	5-8	7	8	11
Pestilences	8			11
Persecutions,	0.44		0.40	40.47
Martyrdom	9-11	9	9-13	12-17
Earthquakes	12	7	8	11
Cosmic				11
Phenomena	12-14			

Matt. 24:15 "Therefore when you see the 'abomination of desolation,' spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place" (whoever reads, let him understand), Matt. 24:16 "then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains.

#### **Rev. 7: During or After Rev. 6** 144,000 Sealed Trumpet Six Consecutive JS Judgments **Seal Judgments** E 7<sup>th</sup> Seal P 144,000 Sealed **Midpoint** A Trumpet U **Six Consecutive Judgments** S **Seal Judgments** 7<sup>th</sup> Seal F

<u>Rev. 7:1</u> <u>After these things</u> | saw four angels standing at the four corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth, that the wind should not blow on the earth, on the sea, or on any tree.

<u>Rev. 7:2</u> Then I saw another angel ascending from the east, having the seal of the living God. And he cried with a loud voice to the four angels to whom it was granted to harm the earth and the sea,

<u>Rev. 7:3</u> saying, "Do not harm the earth, the sea, or the trees till we have sealed the servants of our God on their foreheads."

This passage describes the third of the five events happening throughout the first half of the Tribulation. This ministry of the 144,000 is something that occurs throughout the entire first half and not merely after the sixth seal judgment. In fact, it is going on *during the Seal Judgments*, and it is the means by which the fifth seal saints come to the Messiah. The passage begins with After this, which is not chronological, but merely the next vision John sees.

~Fruchtenbaum, Footsteps, 219

(emphasis added)

Rev. 7:9 7 After these things looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, with palm branches in their hands, Rev. 7:10 and crying out with a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!"

<u>Rev. 14:4</u> These are the ones who were not defiled with women, for they are virgins. These are the ones who follow the Lamb wherever He goes. These were redeemed from among men, being firstfruits to God and to the Lamb. <u>Rev. 6:16</u> and said to the mountains and rocks, "Fall on us and hide us from the face of Him who sits on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb!

<u>Rev. 6:17</u> For the great day of His wrath has come, and who is able to stand?"

The interlude that follows immediately answers the question of a panic-stricken world, "Who will be able to stand?" (6:17). Revelation 7:1–8 answers in essence, "The 144,000 servants of God will be able to stand. It pulls back for a moment and visualizes a group of saints on earth who are on God's side and consequently have God's seal of protection from the wrath yet to come."

~Thomas, 2:537

<u>Luke 21:20</u> "But when you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then know that its desolation is near.

<u>Luke 21:21</u> Then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains, let those who are in the midst of her depart, and let not those who are in the country enter her. <u>| uke 21:22</u> For these are the days of vengeance, that all things which are written may be fulfilled.

Luke 21:23 But we to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days! For there will be great distress in the land and wrath upon this people. <u>Luke 21:24</u> And they will fall by the edge of the sword, and be led away captive into all nations. And Jerusalem will be trampled [pateo] by Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled.



21:20–24 Days of Vengeance

ISRAEL JUDGED 21:24 Times of the

Gentiles

ISRAEL SCATTERED Look up, your redemption draws near ISRAEL REDEEMED

21:25-28

<u>I uke 23:29</u> For indeed the days are coming in which they will say, "Blessed are the barren, wombs that never bore, and breasts which never nursed!' <u>I uke 23:30</u> Then they will begin "to say to the mountains, 'Fall on us!" and to the hills, "Cover us!" '

# The Destruction of Jerusalem and the Temple in August A.D. 70 (26b)





E Rev 6:12–17 The Sixth Seal A fundamental principle in grammatico-historical exposition is that the words and sentences can have but one significance in one and the same connection. The moment we neglect this principle we drift out upon a sea of uncertainty and conjecture.

~Thomas, *Evangelical Hermeneutics* 

This author does not accept the validity of the principle of double fulfillment. This law states that one passage may have a near and far view; hence, in a way, it may be fulfilled twice. Isaiah 7:14 is often used as an example of this view. The near view would be a reference to a child being born in Ahaz's day; but the far view is that of a virgin-born child, which is the birth of Messiah. This author, however, does not believe that there is such a thing as double fulfillment. A single passage can refer to one thing only, unless stated otherwise, and if it is prophecy, it can have only one fulfillment unless the text itself states that it can have many fulfillments.

~Fruchtenbaum, Footsteps, 5

Rev. 11:1 Then | was given a reed like a measuring rod. And the angel stood, saying, "Rise and measure the temple of God, the altar, and those who worship there. Rev. 11:2 But leave out the court which is outside the temple, and do not measure it, for it has been given to the Gentiles. And they will tread [pateo] the holy city underfoot for fortytwo months

The term probably refers to the Holy of Holies and the Holy Place, where only the priests were allowed access. The inner sanctuary, where the divine being resided, is where Jesus predicted the "abomination of desolation" would one day stand in the holy place (τόπω ἁγίω [topō hagiō], Matt. 24:15). The man of sin, the son of perdition, will also sit in "the temple of God τὸν ναὸν τοῦ θεοῦ [ton naon tou theou] " (2Th. 2:4). This refers to a rebuilt Temple yet future to our time, often called the Tribulation Temple.

Garland, Revelation 11:1

<u>Luke 21:24</u> And they will fall by the edge of the sword, and be led away captive into all nations. And Jerusalem will be trampled [pateo] by Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled. Rev. 11:1 Then | was given a reed like a measuring rod. And the angel stood, saying, "Rise and measure the temple of God, the altar, and those who worship there. Rev. 11:2 But leave out the court which is outside the temple, and do not measure it, for it has been given to the Gentiles. And they will tread [pateo] the holy city underfoot for fortytwo months



<u>2 Th. 2:4</u> who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits as God in the temple [*naos*] of God, showing himself that he is God.

This [the outer court] was not to be included in the survey, because it was given to the nations. There is here a notable exactness, showing the precise point of time in view so far. The point of time is while the outer court is overrun by Gentiles, but the sanctuary and the altar are as yet unprofaned. But older prophecies make clear that, before the end of things, (1) the abomination that maketh desolate (presumably an image of the Beast) is to "stand in a holy place" (Mt. 24:15)... (2) that the Beast himself will proceed much further than this in aggression against God, for he will make all sacrifice to God to cease, so that thus the altar also will be profaned; and (3) that he will thrust himself forward into the sanctuary itself, which was in the inner court, and sit there proclaiming himself as the only object of worship (2 Thess. 2:3,4); and (4) finally, he will cast down the sanctuary itself (Dan. 8:9-14).

<u>Rev. 11:1</u> Then | was given a reed like a measuring rod. And the angel stood, saying, "Rise and measure the temple of God, the altar, and those who worship there.

<u>Rev. 11:2</u> But leave out the court which is outside the temple, and do not measure it, for it has been given [didomi-aor tense] to the Gentiles. And they will tread [pateo-future tense] the holy city underfoot for forty-two months <u>I uke 21:24</u> And they will fall by the edge of the sword, and be led away captive into all nations. And Jerusalem will be trampled [pateo-future eimi w/ periphrastic ptcp] by Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled.



<u>2 Th. 2:4</u> who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits as God in the temple [*naos*] of God, showing himself that he is God. The treading of the holy city is said to last fortytwo months. This corresponds to half of the final week of the 70 weeks of Daniel (Dan. 9:24-27). But which half? John is told not to measure the outer court because it "has been given" (aorist tense, typically an event occurring prior to the time of the writer) to the Gentiles. Then John is told "They will tread" (future tense) the holy city for forty-two months. If the treading of the holy city by the Gentiles is taken to be simultaneous with their authority over the outer court, then it occurs while the Jews are allowed to worship in the temple and sacrifice on the altar. This would be the first half of the final week—before sacrifices are brought to an end (Dan. 9:27) and the two witnesses are overcome by the beast (Rev. 11:3).

If the treading is taken to follow the possession of the outer court by the Gentiles, then the forty-two months could denote the last half of the week: after the Antichrist has violated his covenant (Dan. 9:27), the Abomination of Desolation occurs (Mt. 24:15 cf. Dan. 11:31; Dan. 12:11), the Antichrist exerts his global authority (Dan. 7:25; 12:7, 11-12; Rev. 13:5-8+), and the Jews flee to the wilderness where they are protected by God (Mt. 24:16-20; Rev. 12:6, 14). See Events of the 70th Week of Daniel. The last half of the week is probably in view so that the termination of the forty-two months corresponds to the end of the "times of the Gentiles" (Luke 21:24) with the arrival of Christ and the introduction of the Millennial Kingdom. [emphasis added]

~Garland, Revelation, Rev. 11:1

<u>Rev. 11:7</u> When they finish their testimony, the <u>beast that ascends out of the abyss</u> will make war against them, overcome them, and kill them. <u>Rev. 17:8</u> The beast that you saw was, and is not, and <u>will ascend out of the abyss</u> and go to perdition. And those who dwell on the earth will marvel, whose names are not written in the Book of Life from the foundation of the world, when they see the beast that was, and is not, and yet is.



<u>Rev. 17:3</u> And he carried me away in the Spirit into a wilderness; and I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast, full of blasphemous names, having seven heads and ten horns. Rev. 17:4 The woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet, and adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls, having in her hand a golden cup full of abominations and the filthiness of her fornioation



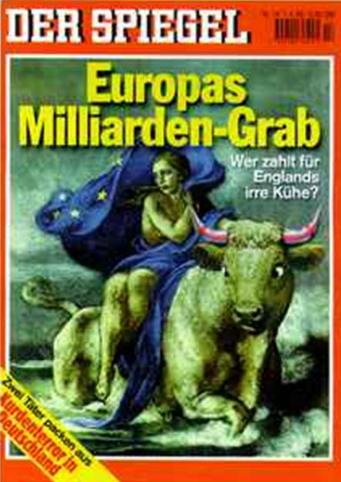
<u>Rev. 17:3</u> And he carried me away in the Spirit into a wilderness; and I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast, full of blasphemous names, having seven heads and ten horns. Rev. 17:4 The woman was arrayed in purple

## <u>Rev 17:12</u>

"The ten horns which you saw are ten kings who have received no kingdom as yet, but they receive authority for one hour as kings with the beast." et, and /ith gold ous stones s, having in a golden

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fornication



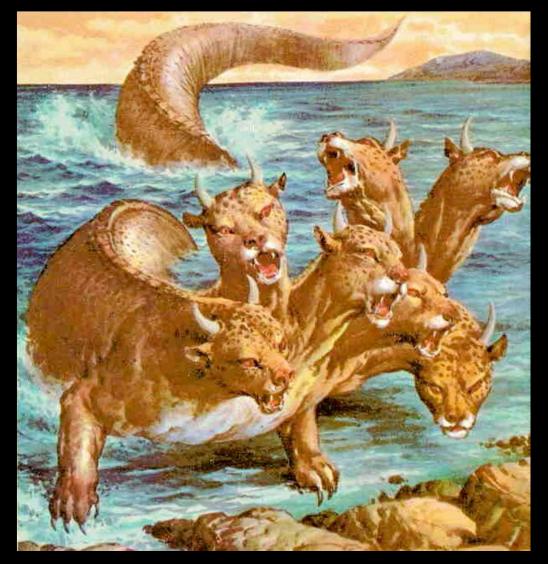








**Rev. 17:5** And on her forehead a name was written: MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.



Rev. 13:1 Then I stood on the sand of the sea. And I saw a beast rising up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and on his horns ten crowns, and on his heads a blasphemous name.



## <u>Rev. 9:11</u>

They have as king over them, the angel of the abyss; his name in Hebrew is Abaddon, and in the Greek he has the name Apollyon.

Rev. 11:7 When they finish their testimony, the beast that ascends out of the bottomless pit will make war against them, overcome them, and kill them. Rev. 11:8 And their dead bodies will lie in the street of the great city which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also our [ ord was crucified.

Rev. 11:13 In the same hour there was a great earthquake, and a tenth of the city fell. In the earthquake seven thousand people were killed, and the rest were afraid and gave glory to the God of heaven. Rev. 11:14 The second woe is past. Behold, the third woe is coming quickly [tachu].

Rev. 17:7 But the angel said to me, "Why did you marvel? ] will tell you the mystery of the woman and of the beast that carries her, which has the seven heads and the ten horns. Rev. 17:8 The beast that you saw was, and is not, and will ascend out of the bottomless pit and go to perdition. And those who dwell on the earth will marvel ... when they see the beast that was, and is not, and yet is.

Rev. 17:11 The beast that was, and is not, is himself also the eighth, and is of the seven, and is going to perdition.

The beast is the empire, or more particularly, the ruler who perfectly embodies the spirit of the empire. In each of his appearances in this book, the beast is either an empire or the ruler of that empire. Each head of the beast is a partial incarnation of satanic power that rules for a given period, so the beast can exist on earth without interruption in the form of seven consecutive kingdoms, but he can also be nonexistent at a given moment in the form of one of an empire's kings. The nonexistent beast in v. 8 must therefore be a temporarily absent king over the empire that will exist in the future.

~Thomas, 2:286; 2:292

The words "is not" refer to the beast's death, and his ascent from the abyss means he will come to life again (cf., 13:14). This is the same as his reappearance as an eighth king in 17:11...

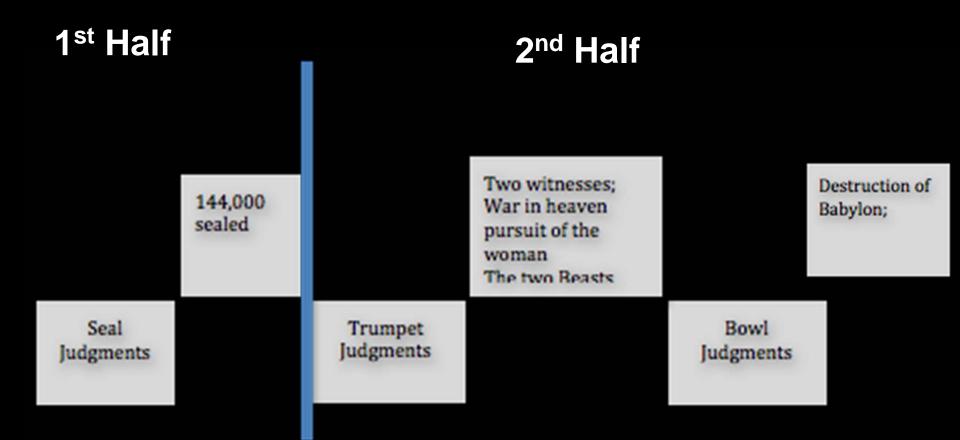
This is his career midpoint, i.e., a time at the very beginning of chapter 13 when he comes up out of the sea (Bullinger, Smith, Ladd). This is most probably a point at the very middle of the seventieth week between the beast's human and superhuman careers (Walvoord).

#### ~Thomas, 2:294

When he does [ascend from the abyss], he will come back in a demonic rather than a purely human form to establish his world domination (Beckwith). This explains why the abyss, the abode of demons (Luke 8:31; Rev. 9:1, 2, 11) is his origin.

~Thomas, 2:294

### Figure 1





# HEAVENLY / EARTHLY CYCLE IN REVELATION 4-20 HEAVEN 4-5 7 10 11:15-12:12 15 19:1-15

EARTH

2:13

19:17-20:10

Dan. 9:26 "Then after the sixty-two weeks the Messiah will be cut off and have nothing, and the people of the prince who is to come will destroy the city and the sanctuary. And its end will come with a flood; even to the end there will be war; desolations are determined."