

**The Trumpet Blast's
That Will Eventually Usher in the Great Tribulation**
(Copyright) by Steven Blackledge
(Sonora, California)

PAGE 1 **Articles**

Steven Blackledge
Dixon Cartwright
Ray Daly

PAGE 16 **Letters**

**In regard to:Sabbath-the
Very Beginning**

Article by Royce Mitchell, Jr.
Comments by Laura Lee
(Bismarck, North Dakota)

PAGE 17 **Iron Sharpening Iron**

To Unsubscribe from this newsletter:

Send a blank email to church-of-god-bismarck@hotmail.com with "Unsubscribe" in the subject line.

To Subscribe to this newsletter:

Send a blank email to church-of-god-bismarck@hotmail.com with "Subscribe" in the subject line.

To Submit Items for Print: Send to: church-of-god-bismarck@hotmail.com or Mail to Darwin & Laura Lee, PO Box 2333, Bismarck, ND 58502

The "New" Church of God Messenger is an independent publication. All newsletters may be copied and given to others if they are copied and sent in their entirety.

Publisher: Church of God, Bismarck, Darwin & Laura Lee, **Editor:** Laura Lee, **Assistant Editor:** Darwin Lee We do not necessarily agree with all contributors, or their works submitted and printed in this newsletter. It is up to you to get out your Bible and see whether these things are true. Iron sharpens Iron

Contributors: Steven Blackledge, Dixon Cartwright, Ray Daly, Laura Lee

Website: Church of God, Bismarck <https://www.church-of-god-bismarck.org>

Articles
(Over 4 Pages Long)

**The Trumpet Blast's
That Will Eventually Usher in the Great Tribulation Part 1**
(Copyright) by Steven Blackledge (Sonora, California)

It is the mystery of lawlessness, as it pertains to God's definition of sin, which will lead to the worship of the beast as God... We must come to understand that our Savior is the Word of God, and that HE came in full flesh to die because

The “New” Church of God Messenger
A Newsletter for the People of God
July 23, 2022 --- Issue No. 77
Special Edition

the very Word HE represents was broken... Introducing sin into the world has been nothing more than a spiritual black plague upon humanity ever since the 1st Adam transgressed God's command...

This fallen state of being can only be overcome by the blood of the Lamb, and the salvation that HE alone can provide us through His death, and resurrection... It is then the process of working out (not for) one's salvation, begins... In order to prove to God, we will seek HIM in Spirit, and in Truth, and are trustworthy in applying the very Word Jesus Christ represents within our lives as we grow in grace, and in knowledge of HIM...

Before the beast, who is called Abaddon in the Hebrew tongue, or Apollyon in the Greek, is released from the bottomless pit or the prison for wayward spiritual entities, there will be 4 catastrophic events that will take place as God's holy angel's blow the 4 trumpets which will bring forth these punishments from God... These are a call for a need to repent through His Son, and will take away a 3rd of the earth's resources, as well as a 3rd of the sun, moon, and stars as Revelation chapter 8 declares:

6 Then the seven angels with the seven trumpets prepared to blow their mighty blasts.

7 The first angel blew his trumpet, and hail and fire mixed with blood were thrown down on the earth. One-third of the earth was set on fire, one-third of the trees were burned, and all the green grass was burned.

8 Then the second angel blew his trumpet, and a great mountain of fire was thrown into the sea. One-third of the water in the sea became blood, **9** one-third of all things living in the sea died, and one-third of all the ships on the sea were destroyed.

10 Then the third angel blew his trumpet, and a great star fell from the sky, burning like a torch. It fell on one-third of the rivers and on the springs of water. **11** The name of the star was Bitterness. It made one-third of the water bitter, and many people died from drinking the bitter water.

12 Then the fourth angel blew his trumpet, and one-third of the sun was struck, and one-third of the moon, and one-third of the stars, and they became dark. And one-third of the day was dark, and also one-third of the night.

13 Then I looked, and I heard a single eagle crying loudly as it flew through the air, "Terror, terror, terror to all who belong to this world because of what will happen when the last three angels blow their trumpets."

The 5th trumpet will unleash Abaddon as Satan will be given the key to the bottomless pit once he has been cast down from heaven for the last time as Revelation chapter 12 declares...

Editor's Note:

Satan was cast down from heaven in the beginning and was in the Garden of Eden. Evil cannot be in heaven, so Satan is not there. I believe these scriptures are misunderstood. Let's go through them: My comments will be in red.

Rev 12:7 And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels, Rev 12:8 And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven. Rev 12:9 And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

(These two verses are both historical and literal. What is being said here is that Michael and his angels fought the devil and prevailed, in other words won the battle and Satan was not found in heaven anymore. We know that Satan was in the Garden of Eden, so he was on earth at that point. In other words, he had already been cast to the earth in the beginning of mankind or at the time of Adam and Eve. This is past tense language. Satan was cast out into the earth. Satan has resided on planet earth for 6000 years. Look around you and see the destruction he has caused.)

Rev 12:10 And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of

The “New” Church of God Messenger
A Newsletter for the People of God
July 23, 2022 --- Issue No. 77
Special Edition

our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night. Rev 12:11 And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death. Rev 12:12 Therefore rejoice, ye heavens, and ye that dwell in them. Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and of the sea! for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time.

(These scriptures are just recounting the things that have happened from the time that Satan was cast out of heaven up until the time that Christ sets up His Kingdom on earth. Some of this is historical, some is prophetic, in other words some is past, some present and some is future.)

Rev 12:13 And when the dragon saw that he was cast unto the earth, he persecuted the woman which brought forth the man *child*.

(This verse ties the rest together as a total. Satan being cast to the earth is past tense here and Christ who was born of Mary is also past tense here. In other words, this does not mean that Satan was cast to the earth from heaven a second time. Satan was only cast out of heaven one time, and he has been on earth ever since, 6000 years.) Laura Lee

7 Then there was war in heaven. Michael and his angels fought against the dragon and his angels. 8 And the dragon lost the battle, and he and his angels were forced out of heaven. 9 This great dragon—the ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, the one deceiving the whole world—was thrown down to the earth with all his angels. 10 Then I heard a loud voice shouting across the heavens, “It has come at last—salvation and power and the Kingdom of our God, and the authority of his Christ. For the accuser of our brothers and sisters has been thrown down to earth—the one who accuses them before our God day and night. 11 And they have defeated him by the blood of the Lamb and by their testimony. And they did not love their lives so much that they were afraid to die. 12 Therefore, rejoice, O heavens! And you who live in the heavens, rejoice! But terror will come on the earth and the sea, for the devil has come down to you in great anger, knowing that he has little time.”

This loss of the war within the heavenly realm will only cause the devil to become wrathful in his disposition, and him being allowed to unleash Apollyon, or the king of the bottomless pit, will show his desperation... As scripture points out, the beast will possess the man of sin, or human vessel, making him more than a man in the eyes of the peoples of the nations... Revelation chapter 9 declares this unleashing of the beast, or Abaddon when the 5th trumpet is blown...

9 Then the fifth angel blew his trumpet, and I saw a star that had fallen to earth from the sky, and he was given the key to the shaft of the bottomless pit. 2 When he opened it, smoke poured out as though from a huge furnace, and the sunlight and air turned dark from the smoke.

The above passages coincide with Revelation chapter 12 as Satan is cast down, and granted the key to open the abyss, or bottomless pit to unleash the king of the bottomless pit, and his spiritual cohorts from their imprisoned state... The reality of being cast down from heaven in utter defeat reminds Satan that he has little time... In desperation, haste, and in fulfillment of God's prophetic Word, that serpent of old unleashes the beast of the abyss whose name means destruction...

This will more than likely usher in the 1290-day tribulation period that is revealed in Daniel chapter 12 in which 2 time periods are brought to light to this prophet of God, and preserved for our time to understand. The 1st described as follows:

"11 "And from the time *that* the daily *sacrifice* is taken away, and the abomination of desolation is set up, *there shall* be one thousand two hundred and ninety days."

For 1260 of these days the 2 witnesses of God will proclaim the gospel of repentance to the world, and will be considered the enemy by those whose names are NOT written in the Lamb's Book of Life as Revelation chapter 11 as well as Matthew chapter 24 reveals to us... Jesus makes clear that there will be tribulation, followed by Great Tribulation... It is during the tribulation period that God's two prophets will declare HIS gospel to a mostly defiant world... First Matthew 24 declares about this tribulation period (again not to be confused with the great tribulation):

The "New" Church of God Messenger
A Newsletter for the People of God
July 23, 2022 --- Issue No. 77
Special Edition

"9 "Then they will hand you over to [endure] tribulation, and will put you to death, and you will be hated by all nations because of My name. 10 At that time many will be offended *and* repelled [by their association with Me] *and* will fall away [from the One whom they should trust] and will betray one another [handing over believers to their persecutors] and will hate one another. 11 Many false prophets will appear and mislead many. 12 Because lawlessness is increased, the love of most people will grow cold. 13 But the one who endures *and* bears up [under suffering] to the end will be saved. 14 This good news of the kingdom [the gospel] will be preached throughout the whole world as a testimony to all the nations, and then the end [of the age] will come."

Notice it is during the tribulation period that the gospel will be preached unto ALL nations... By whom?... Revelation chapter 11 fills us in as God's 2 witnesses fulfill this commission:

" 3 And I will grant *authority* to My two witnesses, and they will prophesy for twelve hundred and sixty days (forty-two months; three and one-half years), dressed in sackcloth." 4 These [witnesses] are the two olive trees and the two lampstands which stand before the Lord of the earth. 5 And if anyone wants to harm them, fire comes out of their mouth and devours their enemies; so if anyone wants to harm them, he must be killed in this way. 6 These [two witnesses] have the power [from God] to shut up the sky, so that no rain will fall during the days of their prophesying [regarding judgment and salvation]; and they have power over the waters (seas, rivers) to turn them into blood, and to strike the earth with every [kind of] plague, as often as they wish.

While their ministry is occurring, the beast will fight a series of wars against 3 kings... Remember the 3 horns that are humbled, or plucked up by the little horn within Daniel chapter 7?... The little horn represents the man of sin who will be so filled with himself that he will eventually proclaim himself to be God because of his great exploits... Which of course he could have never achieved without spiritual help from those entities that represent darkness... The world will look upon him as a savior, and eventually believe the man of sin, while possessed by Abaddon the beast, is God... Upon defeating the king of the South, and the 200-million-man army, the 2 kings from the north, and east as declared in Daniel chapter 11 verse 44:

"44 But news from the east and the north shall trouble him; therefore he shall go out with great fury to destroy and annihilate many."

Remember when the 6th trumpet is blown, this 200-million-man army will fulfill God's Word to kill one third of mankind as Revelation chapter 9 declares... This will occur during the time that Jesus referred to as tribulation:

"13 Then the sixth angel sounded [his trumpet], and I heard a solitary voice from the four horns of the golden altar which stands before God, 14 saying to the sixth angel who had the trumpet, "Release the four angels who are bound at the great river Euphrates." 15 So the four angels, who had been prepared for the [appointed] hour and day and month and year, were released to kill a third of mankind. 16 The number of the troops of cavalry was twice ten thousand times ten thousand (two hundred million); I heard the number of them. 17 And this is how I saw the horses and their riders in my vision: *the riders* had breastplates [the color] of fire and of hyacinth (sapphire blue) and of brimstone (yellow); and the heads of the horses looked like the heads of lions; and from out of their mouths came fire and smoke and brimstone (burning sulfur). 18 A third of mankind was killed by these three plagues—by the fire and the smoke and the brimstone that came from the mouths of the horses. 19 For the power of the horses [to do harm] is in their mouths and in their tails; for their tails are like serpents and have heads, and it is with them that they do harm."

What transpires above at the Great River Euphrates is not to be confused with what will occur during the Great Tribulation period when God will be in the process of destroying the beast, and his kingdom when pouring out HIS bowls of wrath in order to do so... Revelation chapter 16 declares these bowls of wrath being poured out upon an extremely rebellious, and beastly mankind... The above passages will be occurring during the tribulation period (again not the Great Tribulation), and before this army is annihilated by the beast, or King of the North... As this enormous 200-million-man army threatens the man of sin's aspirations to rule the world... What better way but to save the world from complete control of these 2 kings from the east, and north with their numerically superior army, and convince the world that no one can make war with the beast...

But after the defeat of this army, there is still the issue in the form of God's 2 witnesses who have to be dealt with... As

The "New" Church of God Messenger
A Newsletter for the People of God
July 23, 2022 --- Issue No. 77
Special Edition

many nations will have tried to defeat God's 2 prophets during their 1260-day period of declaring the gospel to all nations during the tribulation period as Revelation chapter 11 points out... Their commission will not be thwarted because God's Word is always fulfilled... But as Revelation chapter 11 points out, during the transition period of 30 days between the tribulation period, and Great Tribulation time frame, the beast will make war against God's 2 witnesses, and will be ALLOWED to defeat them for all the world to witness... This will prove to the world who refused to listen to God's messengers, and whose names are NOT written in the Lamb's Book of Life, that their anti-Christ hero is indeed worthy of worship:

"**7** When they have finished their testimony *and* given their evidence, the beast that comes up out of the abyss (bottomless pit) will wage war with them and overcome them and kill them. **8** And their dead bodies *will lie exposed* in the open street of the great city (Jerusalem), which in a spiritual sense is called [by the symbolic and allegorical names of] Sodom and Egypt, where also their Lord was crucified. **9** Those from the peoples and tribes and languages and nations look at their dead bodies for three and a half days and will not allow their dead bodies to be laid in a tomb. **10** And those [non-believers] who live on the earth will gloat over them and rejoice; and they will send gifts [in celebration] to one another, because these two prophets tormented *and* troubled those who live on the earth."

This defeat of God's 2 witnesses will occur during the 1290-day period of tribulation... Which is the time frame that Satan will use to set up the abomination that will cause desolation as Daniel chapter 12 declares... The worship of the beast will be made complete... As all the people of the nations will revere, honor, and worship the beast as God whose names are not written in the Lamb's Book of Life... The beast will be allowed to rule during the Great Tribulation, which Jesus referred to as the end, for a 1260-day period... Daniel's 2nd period of time as prophesied within chapter 12 is 1335 days:

"**12** Blessed *is* he who waits and comes to the one thousand three hundred and thirty-five days."

This 1335-day period is not to be confused with the 1290 days that Daniel makes clear is the setup of the abomination that will catapult the beast into ultimate "godlike" status among all the nations of the world... After his predetermined defeat of 3 kings, and God's 2 witness's, the great set up for the abomination, or blasphemy of this entity Abaddon declaring himself to be God while possessing the man of sin as his physical vessel to deceive the world, will be made complete...

Because of the nation's fallen state of being due to the practice of lawlessness as a normal way of life, Satan, the beast, and the false prophet will have been allowed by God to succeed in fooling those who loved to exercise unrighteousness... Rather than embracing the Truth concerning God's saving grace through His Son Jesus Christ... Matthew chapter 24 again makes clear concerning this period of time that is declared as the great tribulation, and will be ushered in once the 7th trumpet of God's holy angel is blown:

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), **16** "then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains. **17** Let him who is on the housetop not go down to take anything out of his house. **18** And let him who is in the field not go back to get his clothes. **19** But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days! **20** And pray that your flight may not be in winter or on the Sabbath. **21** For then there will be GREAT TRIBULATION, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be. **22** And unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect's sake those days will be shortened."

Remember as verse 14 of Matthew chapter 24 declares this end declared as the Great Tribulation will not occur until God's 2 witnesses declares the gospel of Christ Jesus's return, and the establishment of God's kingdom on earth...

"**14** This good news of the kingdom [the gospel] will be preached throughout the whole world as a testimony to all the nations, and then the end [of the age] will come."

The end being a 1335-day period of time as Daniel chapter 12 prophesied would occur... It could be very easy for one to forget during the 1290 period of tribulation that there is still another period of time to endure that will be an even greater time of tribulation for the saints of God... This distress, and one longing to be delivered from it... Even at the cost of compromising the will of God in order to save one's physical existence... This could cause one to be deceived because

The "New" Church of God Messenger
A Newsletter for the People of God
July 23, 2022 --- Issue No. 77
Special Edition

of the lack of understanding God's Word, or compromising our Savior's will, and the WAY HE represents, and as Jesus warned us all, if possible to embrace this grand deception, and illusion that will be propagated rather heavily via the media that the man of sin is indeed God.. Matthew chapter 24 warns us as follows:

Editor's Note:

I am pretty sure there may be a disconnect here somehow between these 1290 days and 1335 days. Perhaps someone else can clear this up? The problem in my opinion is first in thinking that there will be two tribulations, seemingly a small one and a greater one. It is all one tribulation. During the trumpets it appears only a third of everything is affected but when the bowls of wrath are poured out, it affects everything, and everyone left on earth. During the bowls of wrath there will probably be some people that repent but for the most part, it looks like they still do not repent. As far as the elect living through the bowls of wrath the Bible says otherwise.

1. The two witnesses prophesy for 1260 days. Then the beast kills them, and they lay in the street for 3.5 days. Rev 11:3 And I will give power unto my two witnesses, and they shall prophesy a thousand two hundred *and* threescore days, clothed in sackcloth.

2. Shortly after the two witnesses ascend to heaven it says the second woe is past. Rev 11:13 And the same hour was there a great earthquake, and the tenth part of the city fell, and in the earthquake were slain of men seven thousand: and the remnant were affrighted, and gave glory to the God of heaven. Rev 11:14 The second woe is past; *and* behold, the third woe cometh quickly.

3. There are four trumpets and three woe trumpets. The first four trumpets happen and then you have woe trumpet five followed by woe trumpet six and then woe trumpet seven sounds and Christ harvests the First Fruits. 1Co 15:52 In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the **last trump**: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

4. After this you have the seven bowls of wrath being poured out on the earth. So, tribulation is not yet over at the point where Christ harvests His first fruits. Laura Lee

"**23** Then if anyone says to you [during the great tribulation], 'Look! Here is the Christ,' or 'There *He is*,' do not believe *it*. **24** For false Christs and false prophets will appear and they will provide great signs and wonders, so as to deceive, if possible, even the elect (God's chosen ones). **25** Listen carefully, I have told you in advance. **26** So if they say to you, 'Look! He is in the wilderness,' do not go out there, or 'Look! He is in the inner rooms [of a house],' do not believe it. **27** For just as the lightning comes from the east and flashes as far as the west, so will be the coming [in glory] of the Son of Man [everyone will see Him clearly]."

God's Word makes perfectly clear all of HIS prophetic Word our Savior represents must be fulfilled... The saints, regardless of their physical state, and suffering that will be endured either during the tribulation (1290-day period), or great tribulation (1335-day period), must be patient, and never lose focus upon our need to rely fully on the Spirit of God as our strength... While working out our salvation with fear, and trembling as Paul encouraged us in his letter to the Philippians chapter 2 verse 12...

Not fearful of losing one's physical life, nor of persecution because of one's refusal to believe the great delusion, or out of fear succumb to Satan's tactics... One's focus on their Spiritual standing will avoid compromise, or being deceived because the Truth of God's Word was not believed, and exercised entirely... 2nd Thessalonians chapter 2 gives us a Readers Digest version of this time of tribulation that will lead to an even greater tribulation for the world at that point in time when Satan's wrath, and deceitful tactics are unleashed to their fullest extent:

"**3** Let no one in any way deceive *or* entrap you, for *that day will not come* unless the apostasy comes first [that is, the great rebellion, the abandonment of the faith by professed Christians], and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction [the Antichrist, the one who is destined to be destroyed], **4** who opposes and exalts himself [so proudly and so insolently] above every so-called god or object of worship, so that he [actually enters and] takes his seat in the temple of God, publicly proclaiming that he himself is God.

The "New" Church of God Messenger
A Newsletter for the People of God
July 23, 2022 --- Issue No. 77
Special Edition

5 Do you not remember that when I was still with you, I was telling you these things? **6** And you know what restrains him now [from being revealed]; it is so that he will be revealed at his own [appointed] time. **7** For the mystery of lawlessness [rebellion against divine authority and the coming reign of lawlessness] is already at work; [but it is restrained] only until he who now restrains it is taken out of the way. **8** Then the lawless one [the Antichrist] will be revealed and the Lord Jesus will slay him with the breath of His mouth and bring him to an end by the appearance of His coming.

9 The coming of the [Antichrist, the lawless] one is through the activity of Satan, [attended] with great power [all kinds of counterfeit miracles] and [deceptive] signs and false wonders [all of them lies], **10** and by unlimited seduction to evil *and* with all the deception of wickedness for those who are perishing, because they did not welcome the love of the truth [of the gospel] so as to be saved [they were spiritually blind, and rejected the truth that would have saved them]. **11** Because of this God will send upon them a misleading influence, [an activity of error and deception] so they will believe the lie, **12** in order that all may be judged *and* condemned who did not believe the truth [about their sin, and the need for salvation through Christ], but *instead* took pleasure in unrighteousness."

In conclusion, and to summarize, the first 4 trumpets will disrupt spiritual Babylon, and the world that Satan will have created through his rebellious influence on a willingly complicit, yet deceived world for the most part... The devil will react in great fury by leading an army in making war against his Creator in a futile effort to overthrow God's dominion... As Revelation chapter 12 declares that serpent of old will be cast down once, and for all as those who reside in the heavenly realm will rejoice because his presence will no longer be experienced within it...

While chaos is ensuing not only on earth, but in the heaven's as well, Satan will be given the key to the bottomless pit by God in order to release the beast, or Abaddon in the Hebrew tongue, and Apollyon in the Greek... In Greek mythology this was alluded to in one of the more famous tales when the Kraken was released by Poseidon from its imprisonment... Our Creator will allow for the release of this dreadful fallen angel, and his cohorts to punish the nations for its persistent defiance...

Despite the disastrous occurrences that will have taken place as a third of many of earth's resources will have been destroyed by HIS judgements via the first 4 trumpet blasts... Releasing these dark spiritual entities from the abyss will indeed humble mankind because of their tyrannical nature... Hence Abaddon's title "the beast."... Humanities nature will reflect that which was released from the abyss by God as 2 Timothy chapter 3 points out just how ungodly it will have become due to lawlessness being practiced on such an enormous scale...

Revelation chapter 12 also emphasizes that Satan will direct his rage, and frustration out on the saints of God... Thus, beginning the tribulation period, and persecution of the saints once the 5th trumpet is blown signaling the 1st of 3 "woes" that will follow with each of the remaining trumpet blasts... The 5th, and 6th trumpets will also be the time frame when God's 2 witness's will preach the gospel of repentance, and God's coming kingdom as these servants of God will be given the power to punish those who dare to harm them before their 1260-day commission is completed...

Remember this tribulation period will last 1290 days in accordance to the 1st time frame given Daniel, and recorded in Daniel chapter 12... This time frame will also be used for the preparation, and the ascension of the worship of the man of sin as Abaddon will use this human vessel to deceive the majority of mankind into believing this mere mortal is God via great exploits that will be performed through him, and on his behalf by the false prophet as Revelation chapter 13 declares... Once the 2 witnesses have completed their testimony concerning the TRUTH, while warning the world of more impending judgment, and deception by the manipulative tactics of Satan, the beast, and the false prophet, they will be allowed by God to be put to death by the beast... This will serve as a test for the saints who are still living at this point in time, as well as a time of refinement on a Spiritual level...

Once the 1290 tribulation period is completed, the 7th trumpet will be blown... Signaling the end is about to commence over a 1335-day period which again was declared to Daniel, and preserved in chapter 12 of his writings... The 1st resurrection will proceed over this period of time which is referred to as the Great Tribulation by God... There will be saints who will have to be refined, and tested during this period as the beast will be worshiped as king of the world by all peoples of the nations whose names are NOT written in the Lambs Book of Life at that point in time... I will go into greater detail about this period of time before the great tribulation ensues in part 2... But as Revelation chapter 13 declares concerning 1260 of the 1335 days that will make up this period of great tribulation:

The "New" Church of God Messenger
A Newsletter for the People of God
July 23, 2022 --- Issue No. 77
Special Edition

4 They worshiped the dragon for giving the beast such power, and they also worshiped the beast. "Who is as great as the beast?" they exclaimed. "Who is able to fight against him?" **5** Then the beast was allowed to speak great blasphemies against God. And he was given authority to do whatever he wanted for forty-two months. **6** And he spoke terrible words of blasphemy against God, slandering his name and his dwelling—that is, those who dwell in heaven. **7** And the beast was allowed to wage war against God's holy people and to conquer them. And he was given authority to rule over every tribe and people and language and nation. **8** And all the people who belong to this world worshiped the beast. They are the ones whose names were not written in the Book of Life that belongs to the Lamb who was slaughtered before the world was made. **9** Anyone with ears to hear should listen and understand. **10** Anyone who is destined for prison will be taken to prison. Anyone destined to die by the sword will die by the sword.

This means that God's holy people must endure persecution patiently and remain faithful."

After his 1260 days, or 42 month rule that God allows for HIS prophetic Word to be fulfilled, our Father in heaven will pour out HIS wrath upon the throne of the beast via the 7 bowls, and dismantle this Satanic government for the remaining 75 of the 1335 days during the great tribulation period (see Revelation chapter 16, and 19)... Again, Jesus Himself declared this period of time to be "The End." before the full establishment of HIS throne upon the earth, and HIS thousand-year reign of rest, and peace begins with the saints of God.

Part 2 will continue on this subject concerning the saints of God, and what they will endure during the tribulation, and then great tribulation period... Take care, and I hope your sabbath was a blessed one...

The Trumpet Blast's That Will Eventually Usher in the Great Tribulation Part 2

(Copyright) by Steven Blackledge (Sonora, California)

Hope you are having a joyful, and edifying sabbath day... Hopefully we are aspiring to be at the point of being spiritually defined by God's spiritual law as defined by the 10 commandments... Just as Paul espoused in Romans chapter 7 about this spiritual struggle, and our need to recognize, as well as ensure we do not allow for ourselves to succumb to its desires... The solution being a Spiritual one, as Romans chapter 7 reminds us:

"21 So I find *it to be* the law [of my inner self], that evil is present in me, the one who wants to do good. **22** For I joyfully delight in the law of God in my inner self [with my new nature], **23** but I see a different law *and* rule of action in the members of my body [in its appetites and desires], waging war against the law of my mind *and* subduing me and making me a prisoner of the law of sin which is within my members. **24** Wretched *and* miserable man that I am! Who will [rescue me and] set me free from this body of death [this corrupt, mortal existence]? **25** Thanks be to God [for my deliverance] through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, on the one hand I myself with my mind serve the law of God, but on the other, with my flesh [my human nature, my worldliness, my sinful capacity—I serve] the law of sin.

As most of us should understand, our Creator has been redefined in many ways by the various religions that permeate this planet... False forms of worship that have been embraced by humanity via spiritual Babylon, and her blasphemous misinterpretations, and doctrines that essentially undermine, and break the very Laws, precepts, and principles that God our Savior considers good, and right... Just as Paul pointed out in the above passages as this apostle refers to the law of sin when God's Word is broken, or changed to suit one's sinful inclinations... HE is the WORD, and in no WAY should ever be changed because of the very perfection our Savior exemplifies...

Which is why I decided to make this a 2-part article... The physical catastrophic events that will take place once the first 4 trumpets of God's holy angels are blown, will surely put to the test the saints who will be alive at the time when a 3rd of earth's resources will be destroyed by the curses God will utilize to punish an unrepentant humanity for heinous transgressions being practiced as Revelation chapter 8 declares... How one reacts to these events, will determine just how much Spiritual reliance one had upon their Savior leading up to this yet future time...

The “New” Church of God Messenger
A Newsletter for the People of God
July 23, 2022 --- Issue No. 77
Special Edition

But even as Jesus warned the apostles repeatedly about HIS impending suffering, and death, these individuals were ill prepared on a spiritual level to handle the situation once it began to unfold... As they reacted as any carnal, or physically driven individual would... Not having the spiritual awareness because of being void of the Spirit of God, nor understanding as events unfolded leading up to His death on the cross...

When Jesus told them to put their physical swords away, and that HE had to drink of this bitter cup on behalf of humanity. As it was the will of His Father in heaven to do so, and Jesus showing the love of God by suffering immeasurably for our iniquities, despite the prophetic Word our Savior declared to these original apostles, they were not inclined to believe HIM... Besides, the miracles they witnessed served as a reminder of how God was with His Son in their minds...

So how could this horrible tragedy possibly take place with the great power Jesus had at His disposal?... This is one of those instances when basing what they witnessed on a physical level superseded the reality that God's Word had to be fulfilled through His Son...The apostles were also fulfilling scripture by eventually denying their association with Jesus, and essentially betraying HIM as Jesus had warned them, they would do... Why?...

Simply because their primary focus was on the flesh, and these genuine, yet spiritually weak apostles, were used as an example for us to come to the realization of just how vitally important it is for us as individual believers to rely steadfastly upon the Spirit of God as our source of strength, and good courage... To overcome the desire to react in a fashion that will result in exercising what is contrary to our Father's will in saving our physical existence even at the cost of compromising the will of our Savior...Also ensuring we understand that no matter how bad the news is concerning prophetic events, it is a mistake to be in denial about their fulfillment, or to seek alternative teachings that assuage our fears...

Lack of preparation for what must come to pass in accordance to God's Word will only lead to a false sense of security, and being unprepared for the Truth to be fulfilled... If there is fear, God will grant us a Spirit of peace as long as we continue to grow in grace, and knowledge as we surrender our will to what will inevitably come to pass being our Creator's Word... It will become increasingly difficult for the saints of God in a world that will be lovers of self rather than lovers of God... During His sermon on the Mount of Olives as recorded in Matthew chapters 24, and 25, Jesus was trying to ensure we understood the essential need for one to ensure their dependence on the Spirit of God is of paramount importance... Because of the events that have, and continue to unfold as the days pass as our Savior the Word of God declared would occur...

Half of the virgins within Jesus's parable in Matthew chapter 25 were not prepared, and had allowed for HIS presence to be neglected, and quenched within themselves due to disregarding His edification through the Spirit of God... Our gratification should be found in the reliance of God's Spirit in order to help guide us while our spirits dwell in these physically temporary bodies... Understanding our need for HIM is without question of utmost importance while living in a world filled with spiritual deception, and seduction...

Indicating up unto that point when events, such as the first 4 trumpets of God's holy angels being blown having occurred, these unprepared virgins' lives were primarily focused upon the fulfillment of the flesh rather than the desire of the Holy Spirit... So, while the 5 wise virgins were invited to the wedding supper, the 5 foolish virgins were told that they were not known, nor proven despite having received the Holy Spirit, or oil within their vessels, and lamps which symbolically meant within their inmost being...

Working out our salvation does not occur in a moments time... Receiving salvation is not earned of course... But once received through the Lord Jesus Christ, there still lies the responsibility of working out one's redemption, and through this process learning to develop a spiritual awareness, and reliance upon our Loving God to guide us through this lifelong process...

Just to recap, Satan's reaction to his kingdom being severely damaged by the 4 curses that God Almighty brings forth to show HIS displeasure with the predominately hedonistic state of mankind... Revelation chapter 12 declares Satan will make war against God's angelic army with himself, and his fallen army losing the battle, and being cast down for the last time... No longer welcome in the heavenly realm:

The "New" Church of God Messenger
A Newsletter for the People of God
July 23, 2022 --- Issue No. 77
Special Edition

7 And war broke out in heaven, Michael [the archangel] and his angels waging war with the dragon. The dragon and his angels fought, **8** but they were not strong enough *and* did not prevail, and there was no longer a place found for them in heaven. **9** And the great dragon was thrown down, the age-old serpent who is called the devil and Satan, he who *continually* deceives *and* seduces the entire inhabited world; he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him.

Chapter 12 of Revelation goes on to warn the earth's inhabitants of the devil's frustration, and rage upon losing, and being cast down... Corresponding with what is recorded in chapter 8 of Revelation once this war is fought, and lost by the serpent... Notice the usage of the word woe as Jesus warns of the great wrath Satan will be motivated by... God will use him to punish, as well as deceive the nations because of their continued love for unrighteous behavior... But the serpent will also be used to refine the saints of God as their faith is purified because of their dependance on God's Spirit within them... Chapter 12 of Revelation goes on to declare:

12 Therefore rejoice, O heavens and you who dwell in them [in the presence of God]. Woe to the earth and the sea, because the devil has come down to you in great wrath, knowing that he has *only* a short time [remaining]!

Now notice what chapters 8, and 9 of Revelation declare after this war transpires, and Satan, and his army of fallen ones are defeated, and cast down to earth:

13 Then I looked, and I heard a solitary eagle flying in midheaven [for all to see], saying with a loud voice, "Woe, woe, woe [great wrath is coming] to those who dwell on the earth, because of the remaining blasts of the trumpets which the three angels are about to sound [announcing ever greater judgments]!"

Chapter 9 of Revelation continues with this prophetic story line as follows:

9 Then the fifth angel sounded [his trumpet], and I saw a star (angelic being) that had fallen from heaven to the earth; and the key of the bottomless pit (abyss) was given to him (the star-angel).

God allows for Satan to acquire the key to open the abyss, (spiritual prison for extremely destructive spiritual principalities) in order to use them as HIS rod to punish the peoples of the nations who refuse to repent. Unleashing Abaddon the destroying king of the bottomless pit, and his cohorts, will bring forth hell on earth so to speak, as well as the beginning of tribulation for the saints as Revelation chapter 12 indicates... Once the devil is cast down for this final time, notice Satan's attention will be upon the true saints of God who are relying upon the Spirit of God as their strength, and source of peace through all of this tumult in verse 13:

"**13** And when the dragon saw that he was thrown down to the earth, he persecuted the woman who had given birth to the male *Child*."

Now Jesus declares that there will be those who have been called through the Lamb of God that will actually resort to taking part in this initial persecution of the saints after Satan is cast down, and unleashes his temper tantrum on God's Spiritually prepared children... Chapter 24 of Matthew alludes to this as our Savior continues with HIS sermon on the Mount concerning the perilous times that will come to pass in the not too distant future...

Why will the foolish virgins take part in this persecution of the wise virgins?... A lack of spiritual discernment because of focusing on self-preservation of the flesh... Rather than having a steadfast, and Spiritual relationship with the Father through His Son, will lead to the foolish virgins actually believing in the man of sin as a hero of sorts... All the while this abomination that will ultimately cause desolation is being set up during this 1290-day period Jesus calls tribulation... Jesus declared in Matthew chapter 24 as a reminder of this time, and betrayal by those who will have up unto that point have been neglecting so great a calling by God:

45 "Who then is the faithful and wise servant whom his master has put in charge of his household to give the others [in the house] their food *and* supplies at the proper time? **46** Blessed is that [faithful] servant when his master returns and finds him doing so. **47** I assure you *and* most solemnly say to you that he will put him in charge of all his possessions. **48** But if that servant is evil and says in his heart, 'My master is taking his time [he will not return for a long

The "New" Church of God Messenger
A Newsletter for the People of God
July 23, 2022 --- Issue No. 77
Special Edition

while], **49** and begins to beat his fellow servants and to eat and drink with drunkards; **50** the master of that servant will come on a day when he does not expect him and at an hour of which he is not aware, **51** and will cut him in two and put him with the hypocrites; in that place there will be weeping [over sorrow and pain] and grinding of teeth [over distress and anger].

Recall what our Savior declares earlier in Matthew chapter 24 as it pertains to the 1290 day tribulation period (not to be confused with the 1335 day Great Tribulation which begins after the blowing of the 7th, and last trumpet of God's angel), and the betrayal that will take place as the events leading up to this period have certainly shaken those who are not aware of the spiritual manipulation that is transpiring by Satan the devil, Abaddon the beast, and other false prophets who are being influenced by these fallen entities:

9 "Then they will hand you over to [endure] tribulation, and will put you to death, and you will be hated by all nations because of My name. **10** At that time many will be offended *and* repelled [by their association with Me] *and* will fall away [from the One whom they should trust] and will betray one another [handing over believers to their persecutors] and will hate one another. **11** Many false prophets will appear and mislead many. **12** Because lawlessness is increased, the love of most people will grow cold. **13** But the one who endures *and* bears up [under suffering] to the end will be saved.

Notice later on in HIS sermon, our Teacher continues to warn believers not to be fooled by continued declarations of what is in reality a false representation of HIMSELF via false prophets... Who are pushing a false narrative concerning the beast as their emphasis will be to condition the population to believe in him as the Messiah... Our Savior warns it could be possible that even the elect could be manipulated by this very convincing yet lying declaration as spiritual principalities that represent darkness are allowed to contrive supernatural signs, and wonders to promote their agenda.

Again, this deception is only possible if one is NOT allowing themselves to be led by the Spirit of God before these events transpire, as well as during this tribulation period of time... Which is inevitably leading up to the beast, or man of sin declaring himself to be God while possessed by Abaddon the destroyer... Matthew chapter 24 declares:

23 "Then if anyone says to you, 'Look, here *is* the Christ!' or 'There!' do not believe *it*. **24** For false christs and false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect. **25** See, I have told you beforehand. **26** "Therefore if they say to you, 'Look, He is in the desert!' do not go out; *or* 'Look, *He is* in the inner rooms!' do not believe *it*. **27** For as the lightning comes from the east and flashes to the west, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be.

This 1290-day tribulation period is going to be very trying, and a learning experience on an extreme level for the saints of God... This tribulation period will again begin when the 5th trumpet of God's angel is blown, and will also entail the 6th trumpet being heralded also within this 1290-day period of time...

It will be a time of warfare, and great deception as the man of sin, this physical vessel, will be willingly used by the beast, or Abaddon through possession of this individual's body, ... To make him appear to be more than just a mere man through great exploits via victories within battles waged against armies that are seemingly far more formidable from a purely physical standpoint...

In total, the man of sin, with the help of the invisible powers of spiritual darkness, will subdue 3 kings (3 horns of Daniel chapter 7), as well as God's 2 witnesses as declared in Revelation chapter 11. But only after they're 1260-day declaration of the true gospel of repentance, and God's eternal kingdom to the whole world... Remember as scripture points out, many people's will have tried to kill God's 2 prophets... Only to have their plans foiled as God's divine protection will be upon them for the 3, and a half year period of declaring the gospel of our Beloved Savior...

These 2 prophets will be granted the power to wage war in a supernatural fashion, and in a way that no one will have the ability to stand against them... That is until the beast, through the man of sin, is allowed by God to overcome his 2 witnesses, and kill them in the streets of Jerusalem...

This will prove to be quite impressive, and persuasive in the eyes of the nations that will have developed a deep hatred for God's 2 prophets, and as Revelation chapter 11 declares, the peoples of the world will celebrate their temporary

The "New" Church of God Messenger
A Newsletter for the People of God
July 23, 2022 --- Issue No. 77
Special Edition

demise... Only heightening the status of the man of sin, or the beast to god like status in the eyes of the inhabitants of the world...

As Revelation chapter 13 reminds us, those whose names are not written in the Lamb's Book of Life will proclaim his deceptive greatness after these great victories over the king of the South, as well as the 2 kings from the north, and east (Daniel chapter 7) with their 200-million-man army being annihilated with supernatural force... The nations will herald the beast's greatness from their perspective in this fashion:

4 They fell down *and* worshiped the dragon because he gave his authority to the beast; they also worshiped the beast, saying, "Who is like (as great as) the beast, and who is able to wage war against him?"

There will be a 30-day transition period before the 7th, and final trumpet of God's angel is blown as the 1290 day period of tribulation comes to a close... This 7th, and final trumpet signaling what is declared as the beginning of the end... The beginning of the Great Tribulation with the beast being worshiped as God for 1260 days of this 1335-day period, as well as the process of resurrecting the saints beginning as well... Remember that the "dead in Christ Jesus will rise first," as 1 Thessalonians chapter 4 reminds us...

13 But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope. **14** For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus. **15** For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive *and* remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep. **16** For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. **17** Then we who are alive *and* remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. **18** Therefore comfort one another with these words.

I have often wondered why both the dead, and those who are alive at His coming are not raised with an eternal body together... Why the wait for those still alive at our Savior's initial appearance once the 7th trumpet is blown? We read that once all is said, and done that both who fall into the category of being asleep, or dead in Christ upon His first appearance when the 7th trumpet is blown will eventually be caught up in the heavens to be with our Savior in the heavens with those who will have been physically alive at this point in time together to meet our Savior... Question is why did those particular believers actually survive the initial persecution of the saints during this 1290 period called tribulation?... While their brethren did not?... Did confusion, and deception because of the lack of faith in God's Spirit play a vital part in their still being alive in the flesh?

Editor's Note:

Are you now dividing the resurrection of the elect into two different time frames, because scripture does not back that up. All it is saying is that the dead in Christ will be first and then those who are alive yet will be changed into spirit beings.

1Co 15:52 "In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the **last trump**: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed." Laura Lee

But what occurs between the time that the dead in Christ Jesus are raised up with eternal bodies first, may very well have something to do with what Jesus Christ declares to those who were foolish virgins, and were still in the process of working out their salvation... Which is why Jesus would declare to them, "I do not know you."... In other words, prove yourself trustworthy to enter into eternity with your already faithfully proven brethren...Just how will this unfold?... Well, God's Word tells us in the usual here a little, there a little fashion...

Well, the parable of the 10 virgins does give us a clue as Jesus denies the virgins who had been considered foolish were denied access into the wedding supper of the Lamb at that point in time... When Jesus declares that HE does not know them, these 5 virgins obviously did not know HIM, and were relying far too much on the flesh rather than the oil, or Spirit of God granted them in order to grow in the grace, and knowledge concerning our Beloved Savior...

History has certainly been replete with examples of individuals sincerely believing they were honoring God, and doing

The "New" Church of God Messenger
A Newsletter for the People of God
July 23, 2022 --- Issue No. 77
Special Edition

HIM a service via their own works, or forms of righteousness that they were fooled into believing was right... When in fact they were on the wrong path... In God's mercy, as well as time frame, these individuals were, or will be shown the straight, and narrow path by our Savior... The very path all will need to travel upon in order to truly know HIM...

Now those that were persecuted, and lost their lives in the 1290 period of tribulation, obviously proved themselves faithful unto death, by losing their lives in the flesh for the sake of their Messiah... Even dying by the betraying hand of those who Jesus declared would persecute their own fellow brethren during this period of time as Matthew chapter 24 prophetically declares... Those that are alive at HIS coming were not on the same page as our Savior obviously, and needed some refinement in order to ensure that they are... Which again is why Jesus declares to these foolish virgins, " I do not know you."... The emphasis on saving their physical existence plays a huge role in all of this... As well as the very convincing, yet fraudulent events that Satan, the beast, and the false prophet will orchestrate to ensure the man of sin is ultimately worshiped by the world's inhabitants...

This would explain why the dead in Christ Jesus will be placed in an area, and supernaturally by God where Satan will not be an issue at all for them... While they wait for a 1260 day period of time to pass during this time of Great Tribulation, and for their brethren to be prepared for their invitation to the wedding supper... Because if they were to be immediately caught up in the heavens once granted their new eternal bodies, these newly resurrected saints would not need supernatural protection on earth...

Revelation chapter 12 indicates that once Satan realizes that he cannot even touch these once dead in Christ, resurrected saints of God, he turns his furious attention to those who have the testimony of Christ Jesus, and maintain God's commandments... But because of their lack of reliance upon the Spirit of God, and lack of discernment of Truth because of their reliance on the flesh, they were not quite ready to be given a new body...

Had they been on the same page with their Father in heaven through the Lord Jesus Christ, they would have more than likely lost their lives during the initial tribulation period, and again would have been already resurrected because of being proven according to their full reliance upon His Spirit... Let's finish up chapter 12 of Revelation to prove what was written in the above paragraphs:

"14 But the two wings of the great eagle were given to the woman, so that she could fly into the wilderness to her place, where she was nourished for a time and times and half a time (three and one-half years), away from the presence of the serpent (Satan). **15** And the serpent hurled water like a river out of his mouth after the woman, so that he might cause her to be swept away with the flood. **16** But the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened its mouth and swallowed up the river which the dragon had hurled out of his mouth.

17 So the dragon was enraged with the woman, and he went off to wage war on the rest of her children (seed), those who keep *and* obey the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus [holding firmly to it and bearing witness to Him]"

A few factors that will more than likely trigger these saints who will suffer to be refined spiritually during the great tribulation... The fact they were not resurrected, granted new bodies, and invited to the wedding party... I believe again that the temporary lack of discernment due to their belief that the man of sin is a hero of sorts is based on the fact that they do believe that the true Messiah has delayed His coming, and their focus is on saving the world in its current fallen state... Their focus was solely on the flesh, and the saving of it... Paul reminds us in Romans chapter 8 that this can prove to be disastrous, and could lead to one dying for the wrong reasons because of compromising the will of the Spirit:

"5 For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those *who live* according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit. **6** For to be carnally minded *is* death, but to be spiritually minded *is* life and peace. **7** Because the carnal mind *is* enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be.

8 So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God. **9** But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His. **10** And if Christ *is* in you, the body *is* dead because of sin, but the Spirit *is* life because of righteousness. **11** But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit

The “New” Church of God Messenger
A Newsletter for the People of God
July 23, 2022 --- Issue No. 77
Special Edition

who dwells in you.

12 Therefore, brethren, we are debtors—not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. **13** For if you live according to the flesh you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. **14** For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.”

But I believe what will also bring them back to the reality of the time frame they are actually in, is when the false prophet demands that the world worship the beast, and receive the mark that symbolically represents his name upon their forehead, or right hand... It will be a sobering time for those who have the testimony of Jesus Christ, but are not relying upon HIM on a spiritual level...

So, for 1260 of the 1335 days of this great tribulation period, which is ushered in by the blowing of the 7th, and final trumpet, saints will be given over to the beast on a physical level in order to refine them spiritually through Christ Jesus... For those 1260 days, or 3- and one-half years, the world will worship the beast as God after having been dazzled, and amazed by the deceptive signs that will be performed on the man of sin's behalf by those spiritual entities that represent all that is in defiance to their Creator... To ensure the worship of him takes place as Satan will have granted his authority of this 7th, final head, or kingdom to him... As Revelation chapter 13 declares:

“**3** I saw that one of the heads of the beast seemed wounded beyond recovery—but the fatal wound was healed! The whole world marveled at this miracle and gave allegiance to the beast. **4** They worshiped the dragon for giving the beast such power, and they also worshiped the beast. “Who is as great as the beast?” they exclaimed. “Who is able to fight against him?”

5 Then the beast was allowed to speak great blasphemies against God. And he was given authority to do whatever he wanted for forty-two months. **6** And he spoke terrible words of blasphemy against God, slandering his name and his dwelling—that is, those who dwell in heaven.[a] **7** And the beast was allowed to wage war against God's holy people and to conquer them. And he was given authority to rule over every tribe and people and language and nation. **8** And all the people who belong to this world worshiped the beast. They are the ones whose names were not written in the Book of Life that belongs to the Lamb who was slaughtered before the world was made. **9** Anyone with ears to hear should listen and understand. **10** Anyone who is destined for prison will be taken to prison. Anyone destined to die by the sword will die by the sword.

This means that God's holy people must endure persecution patiently and remain faithful.

After the 42-month reign of the beast, all of the saints whose names are written in the Lamb's Book of Life will meet their beloved Savior in the clouds of the air as 1 Thessalonians chapter 4 declares... For the final 75-day period of the 1335 days of the great tribulation, many aspects of God's Word will be fulfilled. One of them being the marriage supper of the lamb that will take place before the throne of God... In the meantime, the glory of the beast, and his reign will be dismantled by the 7 deadly bowls of wrath that God Almighty will pour out on the beast as described in Revelation chapter 16... Culminating with the destruction of the beast, and false prophet in the lake of fire, as well as Satan being cast into the bottomless pit to serve a thousand year sentence as Revelation chapters 19, and 20 remind us... Spiritual Babylon will be destroyed for the 1st of 2 times as it is prophesied to occur within Revelation chapter 18...

The spiritual power behind the spiritual harlot being Satan the devil, will once again bring spiritual deception to the world through her influence on the nations after the thousand-year reign of the saints, and be allowed for a season to do so by God... Only to be destroyed once Satan is cast into the lake of fire along with this system of deception, and blasphemy called Babylon once, and for all... As long as Satan is allowed to exist, confusion through spiritual Babylon will as well...

It is again important we understand that our primary focus must be upon the Spirit of the Living God within our own personal calling in HIM... During this supernaturally deceptive time after the 5th trumpet is blown, and the spiritual entities that were imprisoned in the bottomless pit are released, one's standing with God will be tried, and tested as scripture is quite clear on... These trials can certainly serve as an opportunity for growth through our Savior as one relies on the Spirit of the Living God...

The "New" Church of God Messenger
A Newsletter for the People of God
July 23, 2022 --- Issue No. 77
Special Edition

Again, the purpose of placing this writing in a 2 part series was to focus upon the importance of not only understanding the timing of these prophetic events as they unfold... But understanding preparation for them with the strength of God's Holy Spirit being fully relied upon is of greater significance... In order to ensure that during the 1290 initial tribulation period, one understands that being persecuted unto death is highly likely during this time...

Even being betrayed by one's own brethren is highly likely to occur for those who are faithfully adhering to God's spiritual guidance... There will be those who will allow themselves to be misguided because of spiritual neglect by the abundance of false prophets who will espouse the greatness of the man of sin... Whose strength will be derived via the spiritual entity scripture refers to as the beast, and whose name is Abaddon...

Relying on the doctrines of men rather than the Spirit of God our Savior is nothing new of course... But it does prove to be costly for those who come to the realization of their folly... After which having to overcome the beast during a time Jesus describes as great tribulation will require a great deal of faith, and reliance upon God on a spiritual level... Better to exercise on a consistent basis, submission to God's Spirit... Rather than having to endure what will be somewhat of a crash course as it pertains to one's dependance on God on a spiritual level.. But oh, the great reward for being faithful to the end is described in Revelation chapter 20:

"4 And then I saw thrones and sitting on them were those to whom judgment [that is, the authority to act as judges] was given. And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of their testimony of Jesus and because of the word of God, and those who had refused to worship the beast or his image and had not accepted his mark on their forehead and on their hand; and they came to life and reigned with Christ for a thousand years.

5 The rest of the dead [the non-believers] did not come to life again until the thousand years were completed. This is the first resurrection. **6** Blessed (happy, prosperous, to be admired) and holy is the person who takes part in the first resurrection; over these the second death [which is eternal separation from God, the lake of fire] has no power or authority, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and they will reign with Him a thousand years."

May our lives be dedicated to remaining consistently sober on a spiritual level as we focus upon our need for the fullness of Christ Jesus to define our inner most being by the power of God's Spirit... Reminding ourselves to understand that the mass's know not what they do, and are deceived to one degree or another so as to exercise compassion, and love even the worst of enemies... Remembering that the reality in their hatred is ultimately directed towards God when one strives to live in accordance to His will...

Reminding ourselves just how vulnerable we are if only deriving our strength via the flesh, and just how easily one could be encapsulated by the grand illusion, and delusion that will catapult the beast to king of the world status... Were it not for the mercy of God opening our eyes to the reality of this spiritual warfare that will only intensify as we draw nearer to the end of this present evil age... But one still has to choose to wisely rely upon God's Spiritual presence, and respond to HIS guidance through faithful obedience to HIM... While shunning false prophetic declarations that are not provable within our Father's Eternal Word... God's love, and peace be with us all as we work out so great a salvation with fear, and trembling... Take care...

Editor's Note:

Prophecy is a hard thing, but I believe you have missed some very large marks here. The bible does not back up two tribulations, there is only one Great Tribulation and no lesser or greater one. It is all considered a part of the same Great Tribulation.

Satan was not thrown out of heaven twice. He was only thrown out of heaven one time. Everyone should clearly understand based on the Holy of Holies and the giving of the law on Mount Sinai that Evil cannot exist in heaven or any place near God. People were killed if they did not get the cleansing atonement rituals correct.

There are not two resurrections of the elect or two different groups of the elect that are changed to spirit and attend the marriage supper of the lamb. There is only one resurrection of the elect which takes place at the 7th Trumpet and starts by raising the dead in Christ first as spirits and then the elect who are alive at that time are changed to spirit. This all takes place in the twinkling of the eye with no time gap between. It is talking about the

The "New" Church of God Messenger
A Newsletter for the People of God
July 23, 2022 --- Issue No. 77
Special Edition

order in which it happens, and it will be very fast and then it is done.

1Co 15:52 "In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the **last trump**: for the trumpet shall sound, and **the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.**"

As far as the ten virgins, the five virgins that were shut out of the marriage supper of the lamb, do not get a do over in order to get it right so they can now attend the marriage supper of the lamb. Anyone God has called to attend the marriage supper of the lamb only gets one invitation to attend. If you turn the invitation down or if you neglect your duties by doing nothing or little to grow over time, then you have missed your chance to attend the marriage supper of the lamb.

As far as the 1260, 1290 and 1335 days go, in some areas you seem to indicate that the 1260/1290 run at a different time frame from the 1335 days and in other places you seem to indicate that they run at the same time. So, it creates confusion.

There is a lot of repetition throughout. It might have been an easier read if you had shortened it up and also created a timeline separate from the article to show more clearly what you were saying.

With all that said, there were some good points being made within the article, such as that Tribulation is not going to be like a walk in the park. Some real hard times are coming. Laura Lee

Letters

Letter from Dixon Cartwright (July 9, 2022)

Good morning, Laura and Darwin. Thanks for the online newsletter. You mention your critter visitors. This morning about 5 I saw a pretty big deer beyond our back fence on the neighboring property and then a good-sized dog galloping after it, chasing it into the woods.

We also have two frequent visitors that are pretty red-looking foxes, one that is missing half a front-right leg from its elbow (or is that a knee?) down. No foot on that leg. But it still gets around okay.

I notice Nathaniel Burson is one of your writers. Nathaniel is married to Crystal. Guess how they met each other. Through our paper, The Journal, which we stopped publishing in early 2018. Glad to be of service, Nathaniel and Crystal.

Letter from Steven Blackledge (July 11, 2022)

So sorry to read about your dog Brandi... They are family, and honestly, I wish God would allow for them to live a little longer...

Glad Darwin addressed the 10 virgins' explanation within the article "Preparing For the Kingdom."... We worship God is Spirit, and in Truth in order to ensure growth is attained through our Beloved Savior... The oil represents both as Darwin indicated... But the article did make some good points, and I enjoyed reading it...

Hope your week is blessed. Take care, and thanks again for the newsletter.

Letter from Ray Daly (July 14, 2022)

Our second Robin nest had three little ones, but I found one a short way from the nest. Dead. But of the other two, one flew out a couple of days ago, and I noticed yesterday that the last was standing on the nest, wondering why his parents no longer come to him to feed him. I will see today if he left also. Something about birds and their babies. They seem to feed the one that raise their necks the highest. Thus, often times neglecting to feed the smaller, weaker ones. It's so sad. But even when the young do leave the nest, they still follow mom and dad around learning to eat.

Iron Sharpening Iron
(Agree or Disagree with Something Printed)
New American Standard Bible (Proverbs 27:17)
As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another.

In regard to: Sabbath-the Very Beginning

Article by Royce Mitchell, Jr.
Comments by Laura Lee (Bismarck, North Dakota)

I found this to be a very interesting article, because I had a similar experience about the Sabbath when I was about 11 or 12 years old. I asked my mother a question one morning, "If the Sabbath is on Saturday, then why does everyone go to church on Sunday?" She slapped me across the face and that was the end of it until about 1989 when I read an article about Chinese Sabbath Keepers in the "Good News Magazine". I have no idea who ordered or placed the magazines on a shelf in my home. God works in mysterious ways.

Holy Days 2022

Passover – April 16, 2022 (Observed at Sunset the Evening Before)
Unleavened Bread – April 16-22, 2022
Pentecost – June 5, 2022
Trumpets - September 26, 2022
Atonement – October 5, 2022
Tabernacles – October 10-16, 2022
Last Great Day – October 17, 2022