

How did we get the Tribulation so Wrong? (1)

We need to update our understanding of how those years pan out, because, as we will see, much of the Church has ignored actual words of God, in favour of the confused, man-made End-Time scenarios of it's leaders, and as a consequence, has strayed far away from the written words of God into the traditions of men. The Church is fast asleep to this, and deaf to the knocking of Jesus Christ, Revelation 3:19-20, 'As many as I love, **I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent. Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.**'

Even that which we *can* discover from God's word does not tell us *how* to achieve God's commands. It will be a matter of faith – do all we can to prepare, and trust in God to open the doors as we reach them.

It is a complex and difficult task and we will need the experience of those who have worked in administration, media, publication and teaching, to work at the sharp end in Jerusalem to produce the broadcast, backed by a totally dedicated team, prepared to give of their ALL in support when we see that angel "fly" with the everlasting gospel, Revelation 14:6. That's why we need to prepare, each of us according to our talent, and ability.

Our reward may be the First Resurrection at the 6th Seal, and the Sea of Glass, rather than Great Tribulation, Revelation 3:10, but some of us will see persecution at the 5th Seal, Daniel 11:33.

Today, though, most all our religious leaders are in the dark. They cannot 'hear Christ's words' for they do not agree with their own established beliefs, just as in Christ's day, and so we can't afford to accept unquestioning hierarchy (Matthew 20:25-27) as we may have done, and some still do! Our focus must be God's words, not a church!

You can see why the Church found it easy to neglect God's End-Time Commands!

I know now that failure to receive Christ's words actually rejects Christ, John 12:48, 'He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: **the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day.**'

It is a wide and serious warning brethren, found throughout God's word. Isaiah 52:1-2, '**Awake, awake; put on thy strength, O Zion; [God's Church] put on thy beautiful garments, [God's words] O Jerusalem, the holy city: for henceforth there shall no**

more come into thee the uncircumcised and the unclean. Shake thyself from the dust; arise, and sit down, O Jerusalem: loose thyself from the bands of thy neck, O **captive daughter of Zion**, [captive to unbelieving men] and Matthew 25:5, ‘While the bridegroom tarried, **they all slumbered and slept**’. Ask God to open your eyes; Jerusalem will be a Holy city; beware then, for we have all sinned and need to repent!

Have you been informed how to recognise *when* the end of this age arrives? How you should prepare? Where should you go, and what you should do? Revelation 18:4, ‘And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, **Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues.**’ This is both a **physical** and a **spiritual** departure, if you will study the chapter, but few want to hear it and a ‘Jeremiah’ with God’s warning is always a lonely commission!

The End-Time will start with Revelation 14:6-7, ‘Then I saw another angel flying overhead, with the **eternal gospel** to proclaim to those who dwell on the earth—to every nation and tribe and tongue and people. And he said in a loud voice, “Fear God and give Him glory, **because the hour of His judgment has come.** Worship the One who made the heavens and the earth and the sea and the springs of waters,” ie.,

REPENT! Note that it is an *angel* who fulfils Matthew 24:14, not the Church! ‘And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in **all the world** for a witness unto all nations; and **then shall the end come.**’

God loses confidence in His servants when they allow themselves to be deceived, or fail to bring ALL the scriptures together!

1Peter 4:17, ‘**For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God?**’ *Including* God’s End-Time commands, Jeremiah 31:6-8, Isaiah 40...etc.

No, the ministry are blind to scriptures that embarrass them. That **commanded**, merciful broadcast message from Jerusalem in Jeremiah 31:6-7 for example, is avoided or slid over because it does not fit comfortably into their false scenarios. Neither do Revelation 14:1-5 and 15:2-7. On the other hand we have been deceived into following some foundational Rabbinic *traditions* which are **nowhere to be seen** in the Bible, and ignore God’s plain instructions which provide us **the true holy days** and the **true Resurrection!** Is that not what we should expect from our just and merciful God? The intervention of God with the first angel’s world-wide warning message (Rev.14:6-7) will signify that the end of this age has come, and God’s judgement of the rest of mankind is about to begin.

* This list of major errors in doctrine, is down to our following a man, or men, a church, or even the Jews, rather than the words and example of Jesus Christ; they are a brief summary, not meant to be exhaustive. 1Peter 2:21, “**follow his steps.**”

* The Tribulation clearly lasts for 7 years, not 3½ years, Dan 9:27 = Matt. 24:15.

*Christ returns for His bride at the **6th Seal**, not the 7th. Rev 14:4,15, and 19. We, with Christ, are the firstfruits, pictured by the **Wave Sheaf with its many grains**, presented by Christ for approval to our Father so that **“You may be accepted,”** Leviticus 23:11. ESV. *before ‘the great day of his wrath’*, Rev. 6:17.

* The Saints are in heaven on the Sea of Glass during the Great Tribulation, Revelation 14:1-5, Revelation 15:2, but they *do* experience *the first 5 Seals* of the ‘Tribulation of those days’! Matthew 24:29.

* The church plays a vital, merciful role in Jerusalem during those times, **at the direct command** of God. Jeremiah 31:6-8, Isaiah 40:1-9 etc.

* **The Resurrection is at the 6th Seal**, not the 7th Seal. Matthew 24:29, 30, Rev.6:12,16. It is clearly BEFORE the Great Tribulation as we can see from Revelation 14:14-15, then 18-19! Even worldly theologians have begun to work that out. Cf. Matthew 24:29=Revelation 6:12-13.

Common sense also tells us that all those events claimed to occur on the Feast of Trumpets, **at Christ’s return for His Bride**, cannot be crammed into one day! How tragic, if, through **lack** of diligent study and lack of **love** for God’s word, or man’s selfish pride, we squander our calling to the Kingdom of God. Simple failure to bring all the scriptures together actually brings about the deep misunderstandings now inherent in the CoG, e.g. Leviticus 23:11 and Revelation 14:4: The Firstfruits Resurrection is at the halfway point, at the 6th Seal, just *before* the Great Tribulation. Daniel 9:27 marks the **half way point in the 7 years**, *as it does in* Matthew 24:15-16 and is **followed** by the *Great Tribulation in verse 21, after* the Resurrection!

We will see from later scriptures that the 7 years start and end with the Feast of Trumpets, which **latterly** pictures the **return of Jesus with His Bride**, to fight at Armageddon, not His arrival *for* His Bride, at the half-way point in the 7 years.

Two hundred and twenty-one days after the angel’s miraculous witness to the world, the US and UK will be brought down by God Himself. Revelation 18:8, **‘Therefore shall her plagues come in one day, death, and mourning, and famine; and she shall be utterly burned with fire: for strong is the Lord God who judgeth her.’**

How do we know that? **Because of Daniel 8:14.** ‘And he said to me, **“For two thousand three hundred days; then the sanctuary shall be cleansed.”**’ That is to say 7 full years, each 360 days (42 months = 2520 days), take away **2300 days (Daniel 8:14) = 220** days from the angel that flies with the total gospel, before Israel falls. So, Israel (US and UK and her dominions) is trodden underfoot by the Gentiles, for **220 days short** of the full 7 years, to allow peace to last long enough for God’s faithful to move to Israel to put their broadcast from Israel plans into action, during Seals 2 to 5!

There is rich symbolism in the timing that brings the group of God's faithful who flee from Jerusalem (Matthew 24:16) to the evening of the 15th of Abib/Nissan, pursued this time not by Pharaoh's army, but by the army of the "Beast", on the very same day that Ancient Israel fled from Egypt by night; the day after Passover!

But, this time, it is not the whole of Israel that flees; it is only an elect group who have proved faithful to God's End-Time commands. Their **faithfulness selects** this group *and those who support them*, who are too old or infirm to reach Jerusalem for what is to happen next, at the 6th Seal!

Please understand. There are two separate harvests in Israel in what we might call Spring. These picture two spiritual harvests. One is first – the barley harvest, and the wheat harvest follows, Exodus 34:22. It is important that we understand the agricultural symbolism embodied in the Holy Days. Barley is the first crop to be harvested – a symbol of the start of the harvest season. This means that it is a sheaf of **barley, not wheat** that is waved by the High Priest in the festival of Firstfruits, where the **first** sheaf of barley was offered to God, and then as flour, was burned on the altar, representing the Firstfruit Harvest of the Saints *acceptable* to our Father, 1 Corinthians 16:15, 'I beseech you, brethren, (ye know the house of Stephanas, that it is **the firstfruits** of Achaia, and that they have addicted themselves to the ministry of the saints,)

The wheaten Firstfruit Loaves are also waved, at Pentecost, but unlike the barley firstfruits, they cannot be offered to the Lord on the altar, because they **contain leaven**, Leviticus 2:4. Don't be deceived that the Revelation 7:14 people are part of the First Resurrection, at the **6th Seal**. They are not.

They too *are* Firstfruits *but* they represent the **Revelation 7:14** Christians who repent their delusion and failure to obey God's merciful commands **too late**, during the Great Tribulation, and so miss their chance to help in God's commanded broadcast from Jerusalem at the Second Seal, before international travel becomes impossible.

Thus it is, that we find only the spiritual **barley** firstfruits on the Sea of Glass (Revelation 15:2) in Heaven during the Great Tribulation, as we read Revelation 14:4, 'These are they which were *not defiled with women*; [the false teaching and practices of the churches] for they are **virgins**. These are they which **follow the** [example of the] **Lamb** whithersoever he goeth. These were redeemed from the men, [not 'among men'] **being the** [acceptable] **firstfruits** unto God and to the Lamb.'

Why has God given you this precious knowledge now? Because what follows *may* be *our* reward for having the faith to be prepared to carry out God's sacrificial End-Time commands (Jeremiah 31:6-8) if we are then alive, at the expense of all we possess, and for some, **even their lives**, despite the danger from the vengeful Beast (Daniel 11:33) who silences their broadcast in his hatred. Daniel 9:27 '...he shall cause the **sacrifice and the oblation to cease.**'

Now that we are approaching the End-Time, God has revealed deeper understanding of the Resurrection's true and logical, symbolic place in the progress of the Holy days. He wants us to be strengthened by being fore-warned, not weakened and confused by **false** scenarios that do not occur! The **Firstfruit Resurrection** is symbolised by the firstfruit barley harvest, not the bloody battle of Armageddon! **So, as we can deduct**, from the number of days in half a Jewish leap year (as the first 3½ years conclude) God's faithful will flee from Jerusalem at Passover, (and a blood moon, Revelation 6:12), at the half-way point in the 7 years.

So, on the 15th Abib/Nisan, the 'Night to be much Remembered', they flee South towards Tekoa, 12 miles from Jerusalem, and the Judean wilderness tracks beyond, where David hid from Saul, heading for safety in the mountains of Jordan. 'Flee for safety, O people of Benjamin, from the midst of Jerusalem! Blow the trumpet in Tekoa, and raise a signal on Beth-haccherem, for disaster looms out of the north, and great destruction, Jeremiah 6:1. Jeremiah's prophecies often pre-figure the time of "Jacob's Trouble" in duality, Literal Babylon prefiguring Mystical Babylon.

Looking more closely at the timing, if we count back from the Feast of Trumpets to **the half-way point** in the 7 years when Christ returns from Heaven to collect His Bride, (Revelation 12:14, Matthew 24:31) six months would normally bring us to the first day of the first month. But in an *intercalated, leap year*; there is an extra 13th month added, so when we count back **half** a year from **15** days *beyond* the first day of the 7th month, we arrive at the 15th day of the first month, the night of the Exodus from Egypt! (and the great city which **spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt**, where also our Lord was crucified, Revelation 11:8.)

We know that the **faithful** are resurrected at the Firstfruit harvest, and they are on the Sea of Glass, throughout the Great Tribulation; See Revelation 14:1-5, 15:2-7.

But, they are betrayed as they flee from Jerusalem, and on Wave Sheaf day, the day after the Sabbath during the Feast of Unleavened Bread, as the Beast's army nears, Zechariah 9:14-15, 'And the LORD shall be seen over them, and his arrow shall go forth as the lightning: and the Lord GOD shall blow the trumpet, [at the true Resurrection, not an angel, as in Revelation 11:15, which is not the Resurrection as the Church claims] and shall go with whirlwinds of the south.'

They lift up their faces when the ground begins to tremble, then shake, as a powerful figure is glimpsed above, emerging from a swirling mass of dark clouds around a throne, and suddenly their fear of their pursuers evaporates, and youngsters sling stones towards the cowering army, while their parents celebrate, in grateful relief!

'The LORD of hosts shall defend them; and they shall devour, and subdue with sling stones; and they shall drink, and make a noise as through wine; and they shall be filled like bowls, and as the corners of the altar.'

Then, both pursuers and pursued are compelled to reach for the ground as the world seems to begin tearing itself apart, and a great chasm opens before their eyes and the Beast's army is devoured by its depths, Revelation 12:16, 'But the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened its mouth and swallowed up the flood which the dragon had spewed out of his mouth.'

At last, the tremors and the noise subside, and they can breath more easily as the dust begins to settle, but the Beast's army is no longer to be seen! Zechariah 9:16, 'And the LORD their God shall save them in that day as the flock of his people: for they shall be as the stones of a crown, **lifted up** as an ensign upon his land.' This is the beginning of the First Resurrection, at the 6th Seal, Revelation 6:12, 16!
.....Matthew 24:31, 'And he shall send his angels **with a great sound of a trumpet**, and **they shall gather** together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.' You could plot a chart of all the End-time scriptures. It does help!

So, what is the *most* important thing that we have learned about the Tribulation, so far? That God is revealing the man-made errors that have brought sin, division and delusion upon His Church, which, as a consequence has misled us for many years, making us as unprepared for the true Resurrection as for this years *true* Feast of Tabernacles!

It can be no mere co-incidence that the interconnected evidence of the spiritual and physical harvests in Israel, along with the historically duplicated chronology of the ancient Exodus, and the related instructions of God for the Passover *and* the Wave Sheaf offering, together with God's prophetic End-Time demands and instructions, make the authority of all these parts quite inseparable and undeniable!

But how could this situation come about in **God's Church**? It came about because our founding leaders simply *assumed* that the Jews **must** have the true calendar, for did not God entrust them with "the oracles of God"? Romans 3:2, '**Much every way: chiefly, because that unto them were committed the oracles of God.**'

The problem is, that those oracles only comprise the divinely inspired utterances of God Himself, clearly **written** down for us in the Bible, not merely the traditions of the Jews, which Jesus Christ condemned!

'For laying aside **the commandment of God**, ye hold the tradition of men, as the washing of pots and cups: and many other such like things ye do.' Mark 7:8.

Acknowledging its supposed supreme importance, the question is, where in the Bible is the Jews' Rabbinical calendar found? It is nowhere to be found! The tragic result is seen in the "Temple Its Ministry and Services", by the most authoritative Biblical historian, Alfred Edersheim. under the chapter heading:

'The Determination of the New Moon'

“We have already shown of what importance the right determination of the new moon was in **fixing the various festivals** of the year, and with what care and anxiety its appearance was ascertained from **witnesses who had actually seen it**; also how the tidings were afterwards communicated to those at a distance. For the new moon was reckoned **by actual personal observation, not by astronomical calculation, with which, however,** as we know, many of the Rabbis must have **been familiar**, since we read of astronomical pictures, by which they were wont to test the veracity of witnesses. So important was it deemed to have faithful witnesses, that they were even allowed, in order to reach Jerusalem in time, to travel on the Sabbath, and, if necessary, to make use of horse or mule (Mish. Rosh ha Sh. i. 9; iii. 2). While strict rules determined who were not to be admitted as witnesses, every encouragement was given to trustworthy persons, and the Sanhedrim provided for them a banquet in a large building specially destined for that purpose, and known as the Beth Yaazek.”

This confusion in the Church came about because the Jews learned (probably in their Babylonian captivity) how to calculate the *approximate* appearance of the new moon, and the Sanhedrin used that knowledge to check the evidence of the witnesses of the new moon. This remained the case **until AD 70**, when they were driven from the land, **could no longer observe or wave the Wave Sheaf, or observe the moon near Jerusalem**, and had to rely solely on their calculations, which they continued to **manipulate** to try to overcome the admitted **intrinsic faults** in their Rabbinic Calendar, *over the following 900 years!*

In His ministry, Jesus Christ *could plainly still* rely on the accuracy of the **observed moon, and the ripe barley, which reveals the first month**, along with the Jews of His day, just as is still **the case today when God’s instructions** in Exodus 12 and Leviticus 23:10-11 are followed, biblically determining the true New Year, the first Month of ABIB and the Wave Sheaf Day, with all that it symbolises. Few of God’s People realise that this year, for example, 2024, they will observe a **false** Feast of Tabernacles and **all** the other Holy Days **over one month late** because the Wave Sheaf would in practice have been harvested over one month earlier in this year than the Rabbinic calendar falsely predicted. God’s servants, blinded though they be, have no excuse for their deliberate **neglect of the Wave Sheaf scriptures** in determining God’s true calendar, which has brought about this serious error!

God gave us His true, written calendar, and it was there, all the time in Exodus 12 and Leviticus 23, though the Church was *early* blinded to it. For additional details, please see ozwitness.net, Articles 2, number 10. ‘An Abib Resurrection?’

That **biblical** calendar is the true **foundation** upon which God’s Plan is founded, and instead, the Jews eventually chose a ‘house built on sand’, the Rabbinic calendar. By following the Jews, even though they are planning to return to **observation of the moon**, the Church has **strayed far from the truth**. One fault has led to another, until God’s End-Time **commands** could not possibly be fitted into the false, unbiblical 3½

year, End-Time scenario, and the Church became totally deluded, and defiled. If we hope to enter into the Kingdom of God, rather than the Great Tribulation, thankfully, there is still a solution. My brothers and sisters, **choose life**, repent, and ask God to open your eyes to His Truth!

With love in Jesus Christ, Ozwitness. geraldandlynn@gmail.com