

Timelines of the: 7 Churches, Trumpets and Seals

7 Churches – Rev. 2 and 3 (the times are approximate).

Ephesus: 33 A.D. to 100 A.D. They are patient and hate deeds of false teachers. They did not faint or give up.

Reproof: lost first love.

Smyrna: 100 to 323. This church is rich in faith and good works, in spite of tribulation and hypocrites. *303-313 10 years of persecution.*

No reproof.

Pergamos: 323 to 538. They held firm to Jesus' name and did not denied the faith.

Reproof: Tolerance of Nicolaitanes, Balaamism, compromise, idolatry and immorality.

Thyatira: 538 to 1798; the “deadly wound”. This church has love, faith, patience and good works.

Reproof: Tolerance of Jezebel, idolatry, immorality

Sardis: 1798 to 1830's. A few are not defiled.

Reproof: dead works.

Philadelphia: 1830 to the Autumn of 1844. Those who preached the Advent message.

They kept the Word and did not deny Jesus. Preached 1st and 2nd angels message.

No reproof.

Laodicea: Begins from 1844; recognition of this revealed in 1856. Laodicea continues to the return of Christ. *No good works are noted.*

Reproof: Lukewarm, spiritually poor, blind and naked. Preach 1st, 2nd and 3rd angles message.

7 Trumpets – Rev. 8, 9 and 11 (the times are approximate).

1st Trumpet – 400-410 A.D. The Visigoths were led by King Alaric. They sacked the city of Rome in 410.

The Roman Empire, after Constantine, was divided into three parts; and hence the frequent remark, "a third part of men," etc., is an allusion to the third part of the Roman Empire which is under the scourge. 1 - The western part, Africa and Rome, Italy. 2 - The eastern

or Greek part was Turkey. 3 - Britain, Gaul, and Spain were a third division.

2nd Trumpet – 425-470. The Vandals were led by King Genseric. He executed primarily a naval invasion and conquest of Africa first and afterward sacked the city of Rome in 455. Daniel 11:30 mirror's this trumpet as the "ships of Chittim".

3rd Trumpet – 451 to 476. The Huns were led by King Attila. He came from an area around a river in Illyricum which in Greek is called "*Apsynthos*", which is "*Wormwood*". A star in prophecy often symbolizes a leader, see Daniel 8:10. Attila and his 800,000 man army rose quickly and flashed across the land in 451. They desolated the Italian Alps, the source of the Danube, Rhine and Po rivers.

4th Trumpet – to 476 to 493. The Visigoths, Vandals and Huns with their almost continual assaults against Western Rome forced its collapse.

The symbols sun, moon and stars are undoubtedly here used denote the leadership of the Roman government: Emperor (sun), Senators (moon), and Consuls (stars). One-third of the Empire was to fall. The first was the Emperor in 476. The subordinate luminaries shone faintly in the continuation of the Senate and Consuls in Italy. They were too were fully extinguished in 493.

When the Roman Emperors were removed, the Empire split into 10 kingdoms. This paved the way for the Roman Catholic Church to rise to power, which fulfilled a prophecy of Daniel 7. A *Little Horn* would rise up amongst the ten horns and would pluck out 3 of the ten horns. The Papal Church eliminated 3 of the 10 Roman kingdoms because they would not bow down to their authority.

The 5th Trumpet (1st woe) – 612 to 1449 and the early apostles of Mohamed. The Arabian (Saracen's, Mohammedan) army came against the remnants of the Roman Empire in Constantinople (Istanbul) from 612-762 A.D. The "key" event was the fall of a star (leader) who was the Persian King Chosroe. With Persia unable to fight and the Eastern Roman Empire being very weak, none could oppose the rise of the Crescent. This is the first of two 150 year periods (5 months = 150 days, each day for a year).

They wore turbans (*crowns of gold*); they had beards (*faces of men*); they had long *hair like women*; they wore chain-mail (*breast-plates of iron*); and they were fierce (*teeth of lions*).

The second 150 year period is from July 27, 1299 to July 27, 1449. This was a time when “they had a king over them”; Othman, founder of the Ottoman Empire. This new Caliphate combined the various Muslim forces into one grand whole. A military force that would soon conquer the Byzantine (Eastern Rome) Empire (Greek division) based in Turkey. The sudden rise of smoke, as from a pit, was their poisonous false doctrines, as seen in the Qur’an. It swiftly covered the land.

The 6th Trumpet (2nd woe) – July 27, 1449 to August 11, 1840 and the Ottoman (Turkish) Empire. The time frame here is prophetically accurate (as history shows). The Turkish Caliphate conquered the last 1/3rd of the Roman Empire (Byzantine) in 1453. This involved a very early use of gunpowder in warfare, (*out of their mouths came fire, smoke, and brimstone*). The period extends for 391 years (*prepared for the hour and day and month and year, 1 + 30 + 360 = 391*); 1449 to 1840.

The 7th Trumpet (3rd woe) – 1844 to end of world history. The time is approximate, though generally accepted.

The 7 Last Plagues are yet future and will be the pouring out of God’s wrath upon the wicked. There is no hope of salvation for the sinner during these plagues, which occur just before Christ’s return. These 7 last plagues should not be confused with or understood as a dual or future fulfillment of the historic 7 trumpets of wrath.

Six of the seven historic trumpets are passed. We are living in the days of the 7th trumpet, 3rd woe, 7th Church and the 6th seal.

7 Seals (the times are approximate), Revelation 6 and 7

1st Seal – 33 A.D. to 100 A.D. The first seal, a white horse and rider with a bow denotes the purity of faith in the early Church.

2nd Seal – 100 to 311. This period extends from the death of John to the rise of Constantine. The Church is now corrupted by errors, false doctrine and worldliness.

3rd Seal – to 538. The rapid progress of corruption is seen in a black horse; great darkness and moral decline from Constantine to the papacy in 538. True religion is superseded by horrid superstition and paganism is baptized as Christianity.

4th Seal – 538 to the reformation. A pale horse denotes the pale or yellowish color that is seen in blighted or sickly plants. The rider is named Death, and Hell followed with him. The mortality is

great during this period because of the desolating power of the papacy. *The fourth part of the earth is the territory over which this power had jurisdiction, as Rome was no longer a universal world power at this time.*

5th Seal – Reformation to 1755. Symbolically, of course, the martyr’s blood cries out for vengeance because of the papal persecution. This period begins with the Reformation and extends to near the “time of the end” (in 1798). Under the symbolic altar we find the victims. Their “souls” represent the heavenly record of their life and death; slain to satisfy idolatry and superstition. They poured out their blood beneath the Altar and fell by its side. The saints have never literally cried for vengeance as that is left to God alone. He has not forgotten the ones slain upon this or any other altar, symbolic or literal.

6th Seal – 1755 to Christ’s return. The first event under this seal is the great Lisbon earthquake, November 1, 1755. Next we find “the sun became black as sackcloth of hair”; on May 19, 1780. Whenever the moon was visible it had the appearance of blood. “The stars of heaven fell”; fulfilled with the great meteoric shower of November 13, 1833. Our position is unmistakable; we stand between the 13th and 14th verses of Revelation 6. That is, between 1833 and the return of Christ. Revelation 7 will continue the 6th seal.

7th Seal – Revelation 8:1-5. Christ’s work, interceding on behalf of man is now finished. See Daniel 12:1. This seal is opened at or very near to the close of probation and the beginning of the 7 last plagues. It represents the Lord sealing His servants just before the 7 trumpets of judgment (plagues) begin to sound.

The living saints, a 144,000 in number (the reader may decide whether this number be literal or symbolic), see the impact of the plagues but they are protected by the Lords angels. They will suffer greatly during these plagues, just as Christ suffered in the wilderness and again in Gethsemane. They too will drink the cup He drank. While their bread and water are sure, it may be little more than survival rations! This is necessary to prepare them for translation by removing, as much as possible, any and all earthly support. At this point, the saints hate sin with a passion heretofore they had not experienced.