

AN UNHOLY TRINITY

And the Death and Resurrection of the Beast (Handout 1)

Daniel 7.2-3—Daniel said: “In my vision at night I looked, and there before me were the four winds of heaven churning up the great sea. Four great beasts, each different from the others, CAME UP OUT OF THE SEA.

Daniel 7.3-6—Four great beasts, each different from the others, came up out of the sea. The first was like a LION . . . a second beast, which looked like a BEAR. . . . After that, I looked, and there before me was another beast, one that looked like a LEOPARD . . .

Daniel 7.6— . . . it was given AUTHORITY to rule.

Daniel 7.12—The other beasts had been stripped of their AUTHORITY, but were allowed to live for a period of time.

Daniel 7.8— . . . This horn had eyes like the eyes of a human being and a mouth that spoke BOASTFULLY.

Daniel 7.25—He will SPEAK AGAINST the MOST HIGH and OPPRESS his HOLY PEOPLE . . .

Daniel 7.21—As I watched, this horn was waging WAR against the holy people and DEFEATING them.

Daniel 7.14—He [the Son of man] was given AUTHORITY, glory and sovereign power; ALL PEOPLES AND NATIONS AND LANGUAGES WORSHIPED him.

DANIEL 7.25— . . . The holy people will be delivered into his hands for A TIME, TIMES AND HALF A TIME.

Revelation 13.1-10—The dragon stood on the shore of the sea. And I saw a beast coming out of the sea. It had ten horns and seven heads, with ten crowns on its horns, and on each head a **blasphemous** name. The beast I saw resembled a leopard, but had feet like those of a bear and a mouth like that of a lion. The DRAGON GAVE THE BEAST HIS POWER AND HIS THRONE AND GREAT AUTHORITY. One of the heads of the beast seemed to have had a **FATAL WOUND**, but the fatal wound had been **HEALED**. The WHOLE WORLD was filled with wonder and **FOLLOWED THE BEAST**. People worshiped the dragon because he had given authority to the beast, and they also worshiped the beast and asked, “**WHO IS LIKE THE BEAST? WHO CAN MAKE WAR AGAINST IT?**” The beast was given a mouth to utter proud words and **blasphemies** and to exercise its authority for forty-two months. It opened its mouth to blaspheme God, and to slander his name and his dwelling place and those who live in heaven. It was given power to make war against God’s people and to conquer them. And it was given authority over EVERY TRIBE, PEOPLE, LANGUAGE AND NATION. ALL INHABITANTS OF THE EARTH WILL WORSHIP THE BEAST—all whose names have not been written in the LAMB’S BOOK OF LIFE, the Lamb who was **SLAIN from the creation of the world**. Whoever has ears, let them hear. “If anyone is to go into captivity, into captivity they will go. IF ANYONE KILLS WITH THE SWORD, WITH THE SWORD THEY WILL BE KILLED.” This calls for patient ENDURANCE and faithfulness on the part of God’s people.

Luke 4.5-6—The devil led him up to a high place and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. And he said to him, “I will give you all their authority and splendor; it has been given to me, and I can give it to anyone I want to.

Exodus 15.11—Who among the gods is like you, LORD? Who is like you?

Psalms 86.8-10—Among the gods there is **NONE LIKE YOU**, Lord; no deeds can compare with yours. **ALL THE NATIONS** you have made will come and **WORSHIP** before you, Lord; they will bring **GLORY** to your name. For you are great and do marvelous deeds; **YOU ALONE ARE GOD**.

Revelation 21.24—THE NATIONS will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their **SPLENDOR [GLORY]** into it.

“They follow the Lamb wherever he goes . . .” Revelation 14.4

*All texts quoted from the TNIV unless otherwise noted.

Daniel 7.14— . . . all NATIONS and PEOPLES of every LANGUAGE WORSHIPED him [the son of man].

John 10.33—The Jews answered, “It is not for a good work that we are going to stone you, but for BLASPHEMY, because you, though only a human being, are MAKING YOURSELF GOD.”

Revelation 13.11-18—Then I saw another beast, coming out of the earth. It had two horns like a LAMB, but it SPOKE like a DRAGON. It exercised all the authority of the first beast ON ITS BEHALF, and MADE the earth and its inhabitants WORSHIP the first beast, WHOSE FATAL WOUND HAD BEEN HEALED. And it performed great signs, even causing FIRE TO COME DOWN FROM HEAVEN TO THE EARTH in full view of everyone. Because of the signs it was given power to perform ON BEHALF OF the first beast, it DECEIVED the inhabitants of the earth. It ordered them to set up an image in honor of the beast who was WOUNDED BY THE SWORD AND YET LIVED. It was given power to give BREATH to the image of the first beast, so that it could SPEAK and cause all who refused to worship the image to be KILLED. It also FORCED all people, great and small, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on their right hands or on their foreheads, so that they could not buy or sell unless they had the mark, which is the NAME of the BEAST or the NUMBER of its NAME. This calls for wisdom. Let those who have insight calculate the NUMBER of the BEAST, for it is the NUMBER of a MAN. That NUMBER is 666.

Revelation 5.6—Then I saw between the throne and the four living creatures and among the elders a Lamb standing as if it had been SLAUGHTERED, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth.

Revelation 2.8—And to the angel of the church in Smyrna write: These are the words of the first and the last, who was dead and CAME TO LIFE:

Revelation 1.18— [I am] the LIVING ONE. I was dead, and see, I am ALIVE forever and ever;

Revelation 13.3—One of the heads of the beast seemed to have had a FATAL WOUND, but the FATAL WOUND had been healed. The whole world was filled with wonder and followed the beast.

Revelation 13.12—It exercised all the authority of the first beast on its behalf, and made the earth and its inhabitants worship the first beast, whose FATAL WOUND had been healed.

Revelation 13.14—Because of the signs it was given power to perform on behalf of the first beast, it deceived the inhabitants of the earth. It ordered them to set up an image in honor of the beast who was WOUNDED BY THE SWORD and yet LIVED.

Revelation 2.28— Even as I also received AUTHORITY from my FATHER.



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AN UNHOLY TRINITY

And the Death and Resurrection of the Beast (Handout 2)

Revelation 16.13— . . . the dragon . . . the beast . . . the false prophet.

Prophet who proclaim the first beasts divinity and organizes his worship.

Daniel 3.4-6—Then the herald loudly proclaimed, “Nations and peoples of every language, this is what you are commanded to do: As soon as you hear the sound of the horn, flute, zither, lyre, harp, pipe and all kinds of music, you must fall down and worship the image of gold that King Nebuchadnezzar has set up. WHOEVER DOES NOT FALL DOWN AND WORSHIP WILL IMMEDIATELY BE THROWN INTO A BLAZING FURNACE.”

Deuteronomy 11.18—Fix these words of mine in your hearts and minds; tie them as symbols on your HANDS and bind them on your FOREHEADS.

Revelation 19.20—But the beast was captured, and with him the false prophet who had performed the signs on his behalf. With these signs he had deluded those who had received the mark of the beast and worshiped his image. The two of them were thrown alive into the fiery lake of burning sulfur.

Revelation 11.4—“they STAND BEFORE the Lord of the earth.”

Revelation 13.12(NASB)— And he exercises all the authority of the first beast IN HIS PRESENCE . . .

Revelation 13.14—And he deceives those who dwell on the earth because of the signs which it was given him to perform IN THE PRESENCE of the beast . . .

1Kings 18.21—Elijah went before the people and said, “How long will you waver between two opinions? If the LORD is God, follow him; but if Baal is God, follow him.” But the people said nothing.

1Kings 18.38—Then the fire of the LORD fell and burned up the sacrifice, the wood, the stones and the soil, and also licked up the water in the trench.

Revelation 14.1—Then I looked, and there before me was THE LAMB, standing on Mount Zion, and with him 144,000 who had HIS NAME AND HIS FATHER’S NAME WRITTEN ON THEIR FOREHEADS.

FATHER
LAMB
PROPHET/WITNESS

DRAGON
BEAST
PROPHET /WITNESS

Prophet who proclaims sovereign reign and organizes his worship.

NUMEROLOGY:

Seven - Totality or Completeness

Four - World (corners/winds; heaven, earth, sea, rivers; nation, people, language and tribe.)

Babylon has 28 products of the whold world.
“the one who lives forever and ever” - Four times

“They follow the Lamb wherever he goes . . .” Revelation 14.4

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Lord God Almighty - Seven times
 The One Who Sits on the Throne - Seven times
 Alpha and Omega (or equivalent) - Seven times
 Christ - Seven times
 Jesus - Fourteen times (two being the number of the witnesses)
 Lamb - Twenty Eight times (4 x 7)
 Nations, Languages, Tribe and People - Seven times (but a fourfold phrase)
 Twelve - God's people
 144,000 - 12 squared and multiplied by 1000 (largest number)

Too many to be accidental

Gematria

"I love the girl whose number is 545" - Graffito found in Pompeii

Isopsephism

Greek form of Nero = 1005
 "Killed his own mother" in Greek = 1005

Revelation 21.17—He measured its wall and it was 144 cubits thick, by human measurement, which is the angel.

Greek word "Angel", transliterated into Hebrew = 144

Revelation 13.18—This calls for wisdom. Let those who have insight calculate the number of the beast, for it is *also* the number of a man. That number is 666.

Greek word "Beast", transliterated into Hebrew = 666

NERO CEASAR, written in Hebrew characters is:
 50+200+6+50+100+60+200 = **666**

Revelation 13.17— . . . the NAME of the beast or the number of its NAME.

Hebrew gematria

א = 1	נ = 40
ב = 2	ו = 50
ג = 3	ז = 60
ד = 4	ח = 70
ה = 5	ט = 80
ו = 6	י = 90
ז = 7	ק = 100
ח = 8	ר = 200
ט = 9	ש = 300
י = 10	ת = 400
כ = 20	תק = 500
ל = 30	



TWO “NERO” LEGENDS

Both the East's and the West's Legends of Nero's Return and the War of the Lamb

Apocalypse of Peter 14:11—Go to the city which rules the west and drink the cup which I have promised you at the hands of the son of one who is in Hades so that his disappearance may receive a beginning. (Greek text in the Rainer fragment.)

First Claim to be Nero - July 69

Second Claim - 80 AD

Third Claim - 88/89 AD

Dio Chrysostom—“Even now everyone wishes he were alive, and most believe that he is.” (Orat 21.10)

Lactanius— . . . borne away and kept alive . . . (early fourth Century record of the view of some Christians; *translatum ac vivum reservatum*)

Augustine—In early fifth century writes that some expect Nero to rise from the dead, but others think he is still living at the same age at which he was supposed to have died. (City of God; 20.19)

Fifth Sibylline Oracle— Nero flees to the “Medes and the kings of the Persians” [kings from the east] and returns as the ruler of the Persian Empire with the (line 101) princes, satraps and client kings of Parthia having put themselves under his authority.

Five Jewish Sibylline Oracles

Diaspora Jewish authors, engaged in Jewish propaganda for the hellenistic world, who took up the popular pagan idea and ADAPTED it to Jewish eschatological (end time) purposes. (Translations which follow are from the Sibylline Oracles by Collins, 1983)

FORM ONE

Fourth Sibylline Oracle (closest to PAGAN legend):

Lines 199-124—“Then a great king will flee from Italy like a runaway slave unseen and unheard over the channel of the EUPHRATES when he dares to incur a MATERNAL curse for repulsive murder. When he runs away, beyond the PARTHIAN land, many will bloody the ground for the throne of Rome.”

Lines 137-139—Then the strife of war begun aroused will come to the west and the fugitive from Rome will also come, brandishing a great spear, having crossed the EUPHRATES with many myriads.

Lines 145-148—Great wealth will come to ASIA, which Rome itself once PLUNDERED and deposited in her house of many possessions. She will then pay back TWICE as much and more to Asia, and then there will be a surfeit of war.

Fifth Sibylline Oracle (same as Fourth Sibylline Oracle but with JEWISH Apocalyptic expectations added):

Line 93— . . . the Persian . . .

Line 101— . . . the one who has obtained the land of the Persians . . .

FORM TWO

Third Sibylline Oracle and Ascension of Isaiah: (we find in the Ascension of Isaiah, a Christian Apocalyptic writing, a Christian version of the second Jewish form)

Ascension of Isaiah (very similar to the third Sibylline Oracle) 4:2-14—Belial [Belial] will descend, the great angel, the king of this world, which

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he has ruled EVER SINCE IT EXISTED. He will descend from his firmament in the form of a man, a lawless king, a matricide, who himself, this king, will persecute the plant which the twelve apostles of the Beloved have planted, and one of the twelve will be delivered into his hands—this ruler will come in the form of that king and with him will come all the powers of this world, and they will obey him in every wish. By his word he will cause the sun to rise by night, and the moon also he will make appear at the sixth hour. And he will do everything he wishes in the world; he will act and speak like the Beloved, and will say, “I AM THE LORD, AND BEFORE ME THERE WAS NO ONE.” And ALL men in the world will believe in him. They will sacrifice to him and will serve him, saying, “THIS IS THE LORD, AND BESIDES HIM THERE IS NO OTHER.” And the MAJORITY OF THOSE WHO HAVE ASSOCIATED TOGETHER TO RECEIVE THE BELOVED HE WILL TURN AFTER HIM. And the power of his MIRACLES will be in every city and in every district. And he will set up his IMAGE before him in every city. And he will rule for three years and seven months and twenty seven days. And many faithful and saints, when they saw him for whom they were hoping, who was crucified, Jesus the Lord Christ . . . and who believed in him, of these few will be left in those days as his servants, fleeing from desert to desert, as they await his coming. And after [one thousand] three hundred and thirty two days the Lord will come with his angels and with the hosts of the saints from the seventh heaven, with the glory of the seventh heaven, and will drag Beliar, with his hosts also, into GEHENNA.

Revelation 13—Third Jewish Form: West’s Victory over the East and Its Universal Reign

Revelation 17—First and Second Jewish Forms: East’s Victory over the West and Its Universal Reign

In BOTH of John’s version of either form, the result is the Universal, Just and Equitous reign of the Lamb.

The Second Jewish Form (along with the Ascension of Isaiah):

Nero is returning for the restoration, enhancement and empowerment of Rome. (West’s Version)

The First Jewish Form (along with the first Jewish form):

Nero is returning to wreak havoc and vengeance on city of Rome that brought about his downfall (East’s Version)



THE ARMY OF THE LAMB

A Faithful Witness . . . Without SPOT or BLEMISH (Handout 1)

John 12.27-28—“Now my soul is troubled, and what shall I say? ‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it was for this very reason I came to this hour. Father, glorify your name!”

John 14.9—Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father.

Hebrews 1.1-3—In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets at many times and in various ways, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son . . . The Son is the radiance of God’s glory and the exact representation of his being.

Revelation 14.1-5—Then I looked, and there before me was THE LAMB, standing on Mount Zion, and with him 144,000 who had HIS NAME AND HIS FATHER’S NAME WRITTEN ON THEIR FOREHEADS. And I heard a sound from heaven like the roar of rushing waters and like a loud peal of thunder. The sound I heard was like that of harpists playing their harps. And they sang a NEW SONG before the throne and before the four living creatures and the elders. No one could learn the song except the 144,000 who had been redeemed from the earth. THESE ARE THOSE WHO DID NOT DEFILE THEMSELVES WITH WOMEN, FOR THEY REMAINED VIRGINS. They FOLLOW THE LAMB wherever he goes. They were purchased from among the human race and offered as FIRSTFRUITS to God and the Lamb. NO LIE WAS FOUND IN THEIR MOUTHS; they are WITHOUT BLEMISH.

New Song—Psalms 96 & 98: A call to The Nations to submit to the just and equitable reign of the Lamb.

Revelation 5.9—And they sang a new song, saying: “You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, because you were slain, and with your blood you ransomed for God MEMBERS OF EVERY TRIBE AND LANGUAGE AND PEOPLE AND NATION. You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to serve our God, and they will reign on the earth.”

Leviticus 23.9-14—The LORD spoke to Moses: Speak to the people of Israel and say to them: When you enter the land that I am giving you and you reap its harvest, you shall bring the sheaf of the first fruits of your harvest to the priest . . .

Romans 16.5—Greet also the church that meets at their house. Greet my dear friend Epenetus, who was the first convert [firstfruits] to Christ in the province of Asia.

1Corinthians 16.15—You know that the household of Stephanas were the first converts [first fruits] in Achaia, and they have devoted themselves to the service of the Lord’s people.

1Corinthians 15.20—But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

Romans 11.16—If the part of the dough offered as firstfruits is holy, then the whole batch is holy; if the root is holy, so are the branches.

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John 8.44—You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies.

1John 2.22—Who is the liar? It is whoever denies that Jesus is the Messiah. Such a person is the antichrist—denying the Father and the Son.

THE CUP and THE CROSS

1Samuel 21.4,5—But the priest answered David, “I don’t have any ordinary bread on hand; however, there is some consecrated bread here—provided the men have kept themselves from women.” David replied, “Indeed women have been kept from us, as usual whenever I set out. The men’s bodies are holy even on missions that are not holy. How much more so today!”

Deuteronomy 23.9-10—When you are encamped against your enemies, keep away from everything impure. If one of your men is unclean because of a nocturnal emission, he is to go outside the camp and stay there.

FOLLOW THE LAMB:

Revelation 13.3—One of the heads of the beast seemed to have had a fatal wound, but the fatal wound had been healed. The whole world was filled with wonder and FOLLOWED THE BEAST.

FAITHFUL WITNESS:

Revelation 13.11— . . . SPOKE LIKE A DRAGON.

Revelation 3.14— . . . THE FAITHFUL AND TRUE WITNESS, the RULER OF GOD’S CREATION.

John 18.37—“You are a KING, then!” said Pilate. Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. In fact, the reason I was born and came into the world is to bear WITNESS to the TRUTH. Everyone on the side of truth listens to me.”

SACRIFICE:

1Peter 1.19—But with the precious blood of Christ, a LAMB WITHOUT BLEMISH or DEFECT.

Revelation 14.6-7—Then I saw another angel flying in midair, and he had the ETERNAL GOSPEL to proclaim to those who live on the earth—TO EVERY NATION, TRIBE, LANGUAGE AND PEOPLE. He said in a loud voice, “FEAR God and give him GLORY, because the hour of his just and equitable REIGN has come. Worship him who made the HEAVENS, THE EARTH, THE SEA AND THE SPRINGS OF WATER.”

Matthew 24.14—And this GOSPEL of the KINGDOM will be PREACHED [PROCLAIMED] in the whole world as A TESTIMONY TO ALL NATIONS, and then the end will come.



THE ARMY OF THE LAMB

A Faithful Witness . . . Without SPOT or BLEMISH (Handout 2)

Psalms 61.8—Then I will ever sing in praise of your name and fulfill my vows DAY AFTER DAY.

Proverbs 8.30—Then I was constantly at his side. I was filled with delight DAY AFTER DAY, rejoicing always in his presence,

Revelation 21.24— . . . and the KINGS OF THE EARTH will bring their splendor into it.

Revelation 11.13— . . . gave glory to the GOD OF HEAVEN.

Revelation 14.7— . . . him who made the HEAVENS, THE EARTH, THE SEA AND THE SPRINGS OF WATER (Trumpets vs Plagues)

Psalms 96.1-3—Sing to the LORD a NEW SONG; sing to the LORD, ALL THE EARTH. Sing to the LORD, praise his name; PROCLAIM his salvation [victory] day after day [after day, after day, after day . . . etc At all times, eternally.]. Declare his glory among THE NATIONS, his marvelous deeds among ALL PEOPLES.

Psalms 96.7—Ascribe to the LORD, ALL YOU FAMILIES OF NATIONS, ascribe to the LORD GLORY and strength. Ascribe to the LORD the GLORY due his name; bring an offering and come into his courts. WORSHIP the LORD in the splendor of his holiness; TREMBLE before him, ALL THE EARTH.

Psalms 96.5—For all the gods of THE NATIONS are idols, but the LORD MADE THE HEAVENS.

Psalms 96.10-13—Say among the nations, “The LORD REIGNS.” The world is firmly established, it cannot be moved; he will JUDGE the peoples with EQUITY . . . Let ALL CREATION rejoice before the LORD, for he comes, he comes to JUDGE the earth. He will JUDGE the world in JUSTICE and the peoples in his FAITHFULNESS.

Isaiah 40.9—You who bring good news to Zion . . . You who bring good news to Jerusalem . . .

Isaiah 41.27—I was the first to tell Zion . . . I gave to Jerusalem a messenger of good news.

Isaiah 52.7— . . . those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion, “Your God reigns!”

Isaiah 61.1—The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is on me, because the LORD has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners . . .

Luke 4.28,29—All the people in the synagogue were furious when they heard this. They got up, drove him out of the town, and took him to the brow of the hill on which the town was built, in order to throw him off the cliff.

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Isaiah 34.9-10—Edom's streams will be turned into pitch, her dust into BURNING SULFUR; her land will become blazing pitch! It will not be quenched night or day; its SMOKE WILL RISE FOREVER. From generation to generation it will lie desolate; no one will ever pass through it again.

Deuteronomy 30.11—Now what I am commanding you today is not too difficult for you or beyond your reach.

Daniel 9.4—I prayed to the LORD my God and confessed: "Lord, the great and awesome God, who keeps his COVENANT of love with those who love him and KEEP HIS COMMANDMENTS"

Philippians 2.8—he humbled himself by becoming OBEDIENT TO DEATH—even death on a cross!

Revelation 12.11—They triumphed over him [the dragon] by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony; THEY DID NOT LOVE THEIR LIVES SO MUCH AS TO SHRINK FROM DEATH.

Revelation 7.10—And they [the 144,000] cried out in a loud voice: "Salvation [victory] belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb."

Psalms 96-100—Thematic Grouping of songs displaying Yahweh's universal Lord ship, his coming to reign, and the call to the nations to worship him.

Revelation 15.4—Who will not FEAR you, Lord, and bring GLORY to your name? For you alone are holy. ALL NATIONS will come and WORSHIP before you, for your righteous acts have been REVEALED."

Revelation 14.8-13—A second angel followed and said, "'Fallen! Fallen is BABYLON the Great,' which made ALL THE NATIONS drink the maddening wine of her adulteries." A third angel followed them and said in a loud voice: "If anyone WORSHIPS the BEAST and its IMAGE and receives its mark on their forehead or on their hand, they, TOO, will drink of the wine of God's fury, which has been poured full strength into the cup of his wrath. They will be TORMENTED with burning sulfur in the PRESENCE OF THE LAMB and of the holy angels. And the smoke of their torment will rise for ever and ever. There will be no rest day or night for those who worship the BEAST and its IMAGE, or for anyone who receives the MARK of its NAME." This calls for patient endurance on the part of the people of GOD WHO KEEP HIS COMMANDS and the FAITH OF JESUS. Then I heard a voice from heaven say, "Write: Blessed are the dead who DIE in the Lord from now on." "Yes," says the Spirit, "they will rest from their labor, for THEIR DEEDS WILL FOLLOW ON AFTER THEM."



THE ARMY OF THE LAMB

A Faithful Witness . . . Without SPOT or BLEMISH (Handout 3)

Revelation 8.3-5—Another angel with a golden censer came and stood at the altar; he was given a great quantity of incense to offer with the prayers of all the saints on the golden altar that is before the throne. And the smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints, rose before God from the hand of the angel. Then the angel took the censer and filled it WITH FIRE FROM THE ALTAR and threw it on the earth; and there were peals of thunder, rumblings, flashes of lightning, and an earthquake.

Revelation 6.10—They cried out with a loud voice, “Sovereign Lord, holy and true, HOW LONG will it be before you judge and VINDICATE our blood on the inhabitants of the earth?”

**Nonviolent Noncooperation of the Lamb
Nonviolent Noncooperation of His Army**

Revelation 6.16-17— . . . Hide us from . . . the wrath of the Lamb; for the great day of [his] wrath has come, and who is able to stand?”

Revelation 14.10— . . . Tormented . . . in the presence of the Lamb . . .

The Harvest of the Earth:

Revelation 14.14-16— I looked, and there before me was a white CLOUD, and seated on the CLOUD was one like a SON OF MAN with a CROWN of gold on his head and a sharp SICKLE in his hand. Then another angel came out of the temple and called in a loud voice to him who was sitting on the cloud, “Take your SICKLE and REAP, because the TIME TO REAP HAS COME, for the HARVEST OF THE EARTH is RIPE.” So he who was seated on the cloud swung his sickle over the earth, and the earth was harvested.

The Vintage of the Earth

Revelation 14.17-20—Another angel came out of the temple in heaven, and he too had a sharp sickle. Still another angel, who had CHARGE OF THE FIRE, came from the altar and called in a loud voice to him who had the sharp sickle, “Take your sharp sickle and gather the clusters of grapes from the earth’s vine, because the VINTAGE OF THE EARTH is RIPE.” The angel swung his sickle on the earth, gathered its grapes and threw them into the great winepress of GOD’S WRATH [the WRATH of the LAMB]. They were trampled in the winepress outside the city, and blood flowed out of the press, rising as high as the horses’ bridles for a distance of 1,600 stadia.

Daniel 7.13-14—“In my vision at night I looked, and there before me was one like a SON OF MAN, coming with the CLOUDS of heaven. He approached the Ancient of Days and was led into his presence. He was given authority, glory and SOVEREIGN power; ALL PEOPLES, NATIONS, AND LANGUAGES WORSHIPED HIM. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and his kingdom is one that will never be destroyed.

Joel 3.13—Put in the sickle, for the harvest is ripe. Go in, tread, for the wine press is full . . .

Isaiah 63.1-6—Who is this that comes from Edom, from Bozrah in garments stained crimson? Who is this so splendidly robed, marching in his great might?” “It is I, announcing vindication, mighty to save.” “Why are your robes red, and your garments like theirs who tread the wine press?” “I have trodden the wine press ALONE, and from the peoples NO ONE WAS WITH ME; I trod them in my wrath and trampled them in my wrath; their juice spattered on my garments, and stained all my robes. For the day of VENGEANCE was in my heart, and the year for my REDEEMING WORK had come. I looked, but there was NO HELPER; I stared, but there was NO ONE TO SUSTAIN ME; so my own arm brought me VICTORY, and my wrath sustained me. I trampled down peoples in my wrath, I crushed them in my wrath, and I poured out their lifeblood on the earth.”

“They follow the Lamb wherever he goes . . .” Revelation 14.4

*All texts quoted from the TNIV unless otherwise noted.

Leviticus 23.9-14—The LORD spoke to Moses: Speak to the people of Israel and say to them: When you enter the land that I am giving you and you reap its harvest, you shall bring the sheaf of the FIRST FRUITS of your harvest to the priest . . .

Romans 16.5—Greet also the church that meets at their house. Greet my dear friend Epenetus, who was the FIRST CONVERT [firstfruits] to Christ in the province of Asia.

1Corinthians 16.15—You know that the household of Stephanas were the FIRST CONVERTS [first fruits] in Achaia, and they have devoted themselves to the service of the Lord's people.

1Corinthians 15.20—But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the FIRSTFRUITS of those who have fallen asleep.

Romans 11.16—If the part of the dough offered as FIRSTFRUITS is holy, then the whole batch is holy; if the root is holy, so are the branches.

Revelation 5.9—And they sang a new song, saying: "You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, because you were SLAIN, and with your blood you ransomed for God members FROM every TRIBE AND LANGUAGE AND PEOPLE AND NATION.

Revelation 14.6-7—Then I saw another angel flying in midair, and he had the eternal GOSPEL [of the Kingdom] to proclaim to those who live on the earth—to every NATION, TRIBE, LANGUAGE AND PEOPLE. He said in a loud voice, "FEAR God and give him GLORY, because the hour of his just and equitable reign has come. WORSHIP him who made the heavens, the earth, the sea and the springs of water."

Revelation 11.13— . . . the survivors FEARED the GOD OF HEAVEN and gave GLORY to him.

Antecedent of the Grain Harvest:

Revelation 14.4—They [the 144,000] have been redeemed from humankind as FIRST FRUITS for God and the Lamb . . .

Antecedent of the Vintage Harvest:

Exodus 22.29—You shall not delay to make offerings [firstfruits] from the fullness of your harvest AND from the outflow of your presses.

The Wrath of the Lamb:

Revelation 11.18—THE NATIONS raged, but your WRATH has come, and the time for VINDICATING the dead . . .

Revelation 16.14—These are demonic spirits, performing signs, who go abroad to THE KINGS OF THE WHOLE WORLD, to assemble them for BATTLE on the great day of God the Almighty.

Revelation 19.15—From his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations, and HE WILL RULE THEM WITH A ROD OF IRON; he will TREAD THE WINE PRESS OF THE FURY OF THE WRATH OF GOD the Almighty.

Psalms 2.8-9—Ask of me, and I will make THE NATIONS your HERITAGE, and the ends of the earth YOUR POSSESSION. You shall break them with A ROD OF IRON . . .

Revelation 12.5—And she gave birth to a son, a male child, who is to RULE ALL THE NATIONS WITH A ROD OF IRON.

Revelation 15.1-4—I saw in heaven another great and marvelous sign: seven angels with the seven last plagues—last, because with them GOD'S WRATH is completed [carried through to full operation]. And I saw what looked like a sea of glass glowing with fire and, standing beside the sea, those who had been VICTORIOUS over the BEAST and its IMAGE and over the NUMBER of its NAME. They held harps given them by God and sang the song of God's servant Moses [the Exodus now applied to the Nations] and of the Lamb: "Great and marvelous are your deeds, Lord God Almighty. Just and true are your ways, KING OF THE NATIONS. Who will not FEAR you, Lord, and bring GLORY to your name? For you alone are holy. ALL NATIONS WILL COME AND WORSHIP BEFORE YOU, for your righteous acts have been revealed."

Hebrews 12.2—Looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the JOY that was set before him ENDURED THE CROSS, disregarding its shame, and has taken his SEAT at the right hand of the THRONE OF GOD.

Revelation 3.21—To those who are victorious, I will give the right to sit with me on my throne, JUST AS I was victorious and sat down with my Father on his throne.

Revelation 13.10 & 14.12—This calls for patient endurance of the saints . . .

