

<p>Christ-Centered</p>  <p>Biblical Training</p> <p>Matthew 6:33; 1 John 2:6; 2 Chronicles 16:9</p>	<p>THE PATTERN VIEW OF PROPHECY: THE MANY DOCTRINES OF PROPHECY SHOW CLEARLY THE RAPTURE WILL COME POST-TRIBULATIONAL AND THE 1000 YEARS DURING CHRIST'S SECOND COMING</p> <p>PART TWO: REVELATION'S SEQUENCE John M. Stephenson Biblical Worldview Ministries Updated May 3, 2006</p>
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**THE SEQUENCE BY WHICH
THE EVENTS OF REVELATION UNFOLD**

Interpreters have different understandings of how the sequence of Revelation's events unfold. **However, seeing that the events unfold in a sequence as to what happened to the Jews, in our view, leads to the proper and needed understanding. Much about this sequence, we call a Pattern Sequence, is presented in this report.** As stated earlier, it is developed in detail from the Scriptures in my book *Watchman Warning*¹ and summarized in my book *Watchman, How Far Gone is the Night?*

The events of Revelation unfold in a manner that allows our Lord to win back the Title Deed of the Earth from Satan. The seven-sealed book or scroll gives the method by which He gains it back. These events fall under the events of the seven seals. This was the type of method that property was gained back in the Old Testament (Jeremiah 32:11). In the Old Testament, a sealed scroll explained how this was to be done.²

Jeremiah 32:11 - "Then I took the deeds of purchase, both the sealed copy containing the terms and conditions, and the open copy;

God begins the termination of history, as the endtimes begin, when Christ breaks the seals of the seven-sealed scroll one at a time in order to win back the Title Deed of the Earth. This action begins (has now begun) when or after the endtimes favored nation (the United States) is (was) formed according to the Pattern Sequence. The termination of history has begun.

Revelation unfolds with seals, trumpets, and bowls or vials. The period of the seven trumpets are in the period of the seventh seal (e.g. Revelation 8:1-2). The period of the seven bowls are in the period of the seventh trumpet. They follow the principle that after a period or sequence of six, seven come out of the seventh. It was like the battle of Jericho. The Israelites went around the city once a day for six days and seven times on the seventh day.

The events of the first six seals are what happens in the first part of the Tribulation. The events of the

1. *Watchman Warning* devotes 32 pages for the development of Revelation's endtimes Pattern Sequence, 21 pages for what happens as the endtimes unfold, and a 28 page appendix for what happens in each period of the seals as the endtimes come.

2. The events of the seven-sealed scroll are also fully developed from the Scriptures in detail in my book *Watchman Warning*.

first three seals (false religion, war, and famine) may have already happened as the endtimes Pattern Sequence was initiated with the founding of the United States. Signs now signal loudly that the events of the fourth seal can come soon. These events bring the calamity (fourth seal) of foreign troop invasion, plague, and famine. This calamity begins the final Tribulation and brings the coming of the international government (fifth seal) represented by the seventh head of Revelation's (chapter 17) Beast. The events of the sixth seal bring an announcement that a Day of the Lord is coming that will bring a second and most devastating calamity. The events of the first six trumpets bring this devastating calamity (a day of the Lord) which leads to the Great Tribulation and Mark-of-the-Beast period (the eighth head of the Beast (also the seventh becomes an eight head) that comes out of the sea of nations).

At the end of the Mark-of-the-Beast period (the end of the Tribulation period), the seventh trumpet sounds. It sounds after all people that are to live, have lived, and have made formal decisions in life or by death to accept or deny the Gospel. The heavenly court then awards Christ the Kingdom of God and the Title Deed of the Earth as an everlasting reign. With these awards, Christ now raptures and resurrects the Church - the marriage of the Lamb. At this time, after the Rapture, the first six bowl periods begin with the binding of Satan. He is bound so during the 1000 years he cannot effect anyone. The Beast and False Prophet are cast into the Lake of Fire. The Church reigns with Christ to determine whether or not any person left on earth will repent and believe the Gospel. This is the period of the 1000 years as a day. Because non do, Satan is released as the seventh bowl begins and brings the world's armies to fight against Christ and His armies at the end of the 1000 years. This is the final great Day of the Lord at the seventh seal. The armies are destroyed (all are killed) in the wine press and rod of iron processes in the final battles of Armageddon. ***Because the Rapture occurs before the day of God's wrath, the Rapture View could be called the Pre-Wrath Rapture View. (The final battles depicted as Armageddon are also at the end of the 1000 years, indicating both periods are the same. There are no people to enter any such Jewish millennium or Millennial Kingdom.)*** At this time, Satan and his angels are cast into the Lake of Fire. At this time all the unbelievers are resurrected, judged, and cast into the Lake of Fire. The Church now goes to the New Jerusalem. All of these events come during the seventh bowl. ***Eternity as we know it, now begins.***

THE PATTERN SEQUENCE HOW WE CAN KNOW WHAT CAN HAPPEN

God designed Revelation's endtimes, the events of the seven-sealed book, to unfold in a sequence (we call a Pattern Sequence) like those that happened to Old Testament Israel many times. We discovered the Pattern Sequence by comparing Revelation with the Old Testament prophets and Israel's history. We did this by comparing the vocabulary, phrases, entities, events, nomenclature, happenings, sequences, etc. used. Doing this, we discovered that Revelation unfolds in a similar manner and sequence as happened to Old Testament Israel. Because it repeated many time in Israel, we call a Pattern, Sequence.³

Thus, by studying what happened to Israel in her pattern sequences, we can determine what most likely will happen in the endtimes. For example by studying the signs that were in Israel just before Babylon invaded, when these signs and conditions exist today, we can know that the Tribulation is soon coming and that we are in a Pattern Sequence. They are now beginning to occur. For an overview of the events in the Pattern Sequences, see Leviticus 26, Deuteronomy 28, and the Old Testament prophets.

In the Pattern Sequence there is: (1) the favored nation; (2) the international government with its

3. *Watchman Warning* has a detailed development from the Scriptures for Revelation's endtimes sequence and presents the above comparisons with Scripture references. Its development of over 25 pages is beyond the scope of this paper. Read *Watchman Warning*.

northern army that takes the favored nation and the other nations under its rule for God's discipline; and (3) internationalists called Babylon the Great who rule the international government secretly from behind the scenes with secrecy, sorcery, and sensuousness. The Internationalists rule by controlling religion, world trade and finances, the courts, and politics. They are Satan's people that God uses in His plan. Babylon the Great as internationalists ruled over all the six empires (the first six heads of the Beast) that ruled over Old Testament Israel. These empires were Egypt, Assyria, Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, and Rome in sequence. These entities are in place or soon coming into place signal that the Pattern Sequence is in operation.

Israel as the Old Testament favored nation consisted of both believers and unbelievers. These believers at Pentecost become part of the Church. The United States as the favored nation in the New Testament time period consists of both believers and unbelievers. The believers, both Jews and Gentiles, are the Church. The believers have the intimate covenant relationship with God via the New Covenant. They are called a holy nation. In the sequence, the Church is not the favored nation in the endtimes Pattern Sequence per se because the endtimes sequence did not exist throughout Church history as did the Church. And additionally, the characteristics of the United States match those of Israel, both containing believers and unbelievers.

These matching characteristics include: (1) begins in obedience, ends in disobedience; (2) Is more sinful than the surrounding nations; (3) no one believes that an enemy will take her over; (4) God makes her a beautiful and most successful nation; (5) she is the center of nations; (6) trusts in her beauty and plays the role of a harlot in reverse - pays her lovers; (7) offers food to those who accept her harlotry; (8) she sacrifices her children (sex, abortion, drugs, false ideologies, etc.); (9) has biblical signs of apostasy in her end time period; and (10) in her beginning, has a mandate to take the Gospel to the nations which she does. Her history follows the pattern for Israel to a large degree: Leviticus 26 and Deuteronomy 28 as will her future as Revelation's events unfold.

In the sequences, God's *repenting* people were delivered after their disciplinary period ran its course. The deliverance in the Old Testament was to fellowship with God by being returned to the land of Israel from exile free from the reign of international government. In the New Testament it is to Christ at the Rapture. The Tribulation is the endtimes disciplinary period. The Rapture, the deliverance of God's people, occurs after this time. In the sequence, after God's people were delivered, the remaining world empire was destroyed. After the Rapture, God destroys all the remaining unbelievers using the Rod of Iron and the Winepress operations. Although things are not exactly one for one in both Old and New Testament sequences, they generally in principle are the same.

Understanding this Pattern Sequence one can know how Revelation's events unfold and know that they are future and occur just before Christ returns. The major events of Revelation are definitely not history occurring at AD 70.

The events of Pattern Sequence are ordered by Revelation's seven-sealed scroll by which Christ wins back the property of the world (the Title Deed of the Earth) from Satan. God uses the Pattern Sequence as a method to discipline a favored nation and afterward return her, those who repent, to His fellowship. It is God's method for terminating history.

The favored nation is greatly blessed in her obedience to God. This has been the experience of the United States for about 200 years as the endtimes favored nation. (The United States as a favored nation has been blessed by God much more than any other nation in history, including Israel and England by orders of magnitude. Her characteristics match those of Old Testament Israel.) But when the nation goes into disobedience, such as occurring now, God brings warning and curses. This is happening now. We only need to know and observe the signs and conditions. Then as the disobedience continues, God brings the military of a world empire (that of the United Nations or its equivalent

organization at the time) which brings calamity (foreign military invasion, the plague, and shortages of food and water) and places the favored nation and the other nations under its rule. In this manner, God brings discipline on the favored nation under international government for her sin.

Signs and conditions now In the United States are similar to those that were in Old Testament Israel just before Babylon invaded and took away her sovereignty. These signs signal the Church is falling away, and that the Tribulation can come any time.

Because the sin in the favored nation is greatly increasing and the churches are beginning to fall away, we know that the Tribulation is soon coming. These signs now signal and warn, according to the Pattern Sequence, that Revelation's calamity (military invasion, plague, and famine) and international government are coming soon to bring divine discipline (God's endtimes judgment) on the Church, the favored nation, and world and to terminate history. Things are now beginning to happen line for line for what happened to Israel in her Pattern Sequences.

These happenings, along with needed existing entities of the favored nation, the presence of internationalists, the world empire, and the military of the world empire signal they are coming. They are how we can know that the endtimes are soon coming, and the fact that a Pattern Sequence is now in effect.

The significance is that these signs and conditions are happening at the same time in composite. Any one might occur at any time in history. Thus, if we are not already doing it, we should now act with a sense of urgency disciple our people comprehensively with God's Whole Counsel to become more mature in Christ. Our Lord only promised us signs. They are now all around us. Apart from these signs and warnings from God's Watchmen, the Tribulation will come in a whirlwind without warning. Those not prepared will be tragically caught blind sided.

As history is terminating, all people who will ever live will have lived and all will have made formal decisions in life or by death to accept or deny the Christ's Gospel. When all have made these decisions, the final phase of history's termination will begin, beginning with Christ's Coming. The elect or believers (wheat) will go to the new Jerusalem and the unbelievers (tares) will go to the Lake of Fire.

Some of these warning signs and conditions, especially in the favored nation of the United States, are (but not limited to): (1) the acts of God in areas of severe weather, fire storms, mud slides, flooding rains, hurricanes, tornados, earthquakes, tidal waves, *especially droughts that effect the food supply and amount of drinking water*, etc; (2) the coming of the endtimes International government (seventh head of Revelation's endtimes Beast); (3) the existence of the favored nation (the characteristics of the United States match those of Israel) and the action of Internationalists as Babylon the Great that rule over International government needed for the Pattern Sequence; (4) great increase in immorality, *particularly sodomy - same sex marriages like in the days of Sodom and Gomorrah*; (5) people calling evil good and cannot discern the difference between the holy from the profane (churches using false tongues and the world's loud rock-type repetitive beat music?) and churches and people doing what is right according to their own eyes and teaching mostly pablum to reach the youth, instead of teaching in breadth with depth; (6) the falling away of our churches from carrying out the scope and intent of the Great Commission and the increased sin of the people especially in the favored nation; (7) the famine of God's Word in our churches; churches are now teaching but little of God's Word; They no longer know sound doctrine;⁴ (8) the build up of "the northern army" for the invasion of the favored nation

4. God said that in the endtimes, the people would no longer endure sound doctrine (2 Timothy 4:3) and that He would bring a famine of His Word (Amos 8:11). This famine has begun by the ever growing Church Growth Movement that is now going world wide. The churches involved are using the world's music to bring

(limited numbers of foreign troops are now deployed throughout the United States, Mexico, and Canada, acting under the United Nations for training - watch for sudden larger build up of military forces; (9) unholy reforms are being planned and implemented in our public schools transforming our children to be ready for world government. They are also teaching sodomy in the grammar schools; (10) the peace-peace policy without war in the Russian Glasnost, Pre-Tribulation Rapture Theory; and a general peace condition without war; (11) great debt in the favored nation and in the world; (12) many gods in the land of the favored nation; people hold the favored nation more important than God; (13) people are worshiping the work of their hands, such as products from the chip industry; (14) there are many terrorists groups now (the foreign military that have been here for over 20 years) in the United States that could bring the plague and incurable disease; and (15) people have forgotten the true God and no longer fear God, so they increase their disobedience. (The gods of America include the gods of freedom, prosperity, wealth, and free enterprise.) (See *Watchman Warning*, pages 30-34, for more details and the many Scripture references.)

Scriptures that describe the calamity and international government as part of the Pattern Sequence are as follows:

Calamity - *Revelation 6:8* - *And I looked, and behold, an ashen horse; and he who sat on it had the name Death; and Hades was following with him. And authority was given to them over a fourth of the earth, to kill with sword [foreign military invasion] and with famine [shortages of food and water] and with pestilence [plaguing of our cities; incurable disease] and by the wild beasts of the earth [today this could be terrorists].* (Comments: mine.)

The similar situation in Old Testament Israel in her Pattern Sequence: *Ezekiel 5:17* - *'Moreover, I will send on you famine and wild beasts, and they will bereave you of children; plague and bloodshed also will pass through you, and I will bring the sword on you. I, the Lord, have spoken.'* "

Persecution Under World Government - *Revelation 6:9-11* - *And when He broke the fifth seal, I saw underneath the altar the souls of those who had been slain because of the word of God, and because of the testimony which they had maintained; and they cried out with a loud voice, saying, "How long, O Lord, holy and true, wilt Thou refrain from judging and avenging our blood on those who dwell on the earth?" And there was given to each of them a white robe; and they were told that they should rest for a little while longer, until the number of their fellow servants and their brethren who were to be killed even as they had been, should be completed also.*

The world's nations will wonder how could this happen to America. **The Old Testament Jews and the world's people never believed that any army would ever enter the gates of Jerusalem, but one did. Today, no American or person in the world believes that any foreign power can ever take over and militarily invade America, but one will.**

Lamentations 4:12 - *The kings of the earth did not believe, Nor did any of the inhabitants of the world, That the adversary and the enemy Could enter the gates of Jerusalem.*

When the foreign troops come, we are to surrender to them or die. This is God's way because He is bringing divine discipline on the nation. By fighting, we are saying we will not go under God's discipline, and thus, are fighting against God. We will lose.

Jeremiah 38:17-18 - *Then Jeremiah said to Zedekiah, "Thus says the Lord God of hosts, the God of*

young people into the churches and are teaching them mainly only first-level training with much of the world mixed with it.

Israel, 'If you will indeed go out to the officers of the king of Babylon (to surrender), then you will live, this city will not be burned with fire, and you and your household will survive. 'But if you will not go out to the officers of the king of Babylon (to surrender), then this city will be given over to the hand of the Chaldeans; and they will burn it with fire, and you yourself will not escape from their hand.' " (Comments: mine.)

Our people will be placed into servitude and captivity. We will serve our enemies.

Deuteronomy 28:48 - therefore you shall serve your enemies whom the Lord shall send against you, in hunger, in thirst, in nakedness, and in the lack of all things; ..

Jeremiah 17:4 And you will, even of yourself, let go of your inheritance That I gave you; And I will make you serve your enemies In the land which you do not know; .

In these circumstances, the people perish because of their lack of knowledge. The average churches today are no longer providing this knowledge and thus, are fueling a similar situation for these endtimes. **The modern day Church Growth Movement going world-wide is fueling this situation now because it teaches only but little of first-level training (only part of the Milk of the Word). They do not teach much in breadth or depth.⁵**

And during the Tribulation very little Biblical knowledge will be taught. We must do the teaching now. But will we? Instead, we are now idumbing down. We should carefully note that our people are destroyed because of their lack of knowledge. Our churches are causing this to happen.

Amos 8:11 - Behold, the days come, saith the Lord GOD, that I will send a famine in the land, not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the LORD:

Hosea 4:1, 6a - Hear the word of the LORD, ye children of Israel: for the LORD hath a controversy with the inhabitants of the land, because there is no truth, nor mercy, nor knowledge of God in the land. .. My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: ..

Thus, because our children and youth are growing up without this needed knowledge, they are in danger of falling away when the severe persecution of the Tribulation comes. And because the leadership is not teaching in depth, they have rejected knowledge. Thus, in these times, God does not take care of their children. This is beginning to happen now. In the Tribulation, the children will be taken from their parents and educated by the state. The parents will not be able to do anything about it. God allows this to happen.

Hosea 4:6 - My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge. Because you have rejected knowledge, I also will reject you from being My priest. Since you have forgotten the law of your God, I also will forget your children.

Deuteronomy 28:32, 41 - "Your sons and your daughters shall be given to another people, while your eyes shall look on and yearn for them continually; but there shall be nothing you can do. . You shall have sons and daughters but they shall not be yours, for they shall go into captivity.

5. I ask many high school and college students (believers) in many geographic areas these questions and they cannot answer any of them. Explain the atonement for iniquity, redemption, why we have eternal security in Christ, the filling of the Holy Spirit, the Baptism of the Holy Spirit and something about the seventy weeks prophecy. (The work of the Holy Spirit has nothing to do with tongues.)

*Ezekiel 5:17 'Moreover, I will send on you famine and wild beasts, **and they will bereave you of children**; plague and bloodshed also will pass through you, and I will bring the sword on you. I, the Lord, have spoken.'* "

(Emphasis is mine.)

The Churches are no longer teaching God's Word in depth with breadth. In a sense they have rejected part of His Word as not being adequately important. This can result as the endtimes come that God will not allow His Word to be taught. He will bring a famine of His Word.

This can bring two results. The Church will not hear all of God's Word and what they do hear, they will not understand fully. They will have eyes that cannot see and ears that cannot hear. They will no longer endure sound doctrine. These trends are tragic.

The Tribulation will begin when the sin of the favored nation (now the United States in these endtimes), in particular, and the rest of the nations, in general, crosses God's threshold of tolerance for sin according to His requirements for the Pattern Sequence. Signs now show it can come any time. These were previously presented.

It is important to understand prophecy, even if we have a different view, so that when we find ourselves in the Tribulation and observe its happenings, we will know what is happening and will know that, as stated earlier, we have not missed the Rapture. We will know more what to expect and how to conduct ourselves under God. We can know that the Rapture and Christ's Second Coming for us will be after the Tribulation.

Although there are many who will fall away, in the Tribulation under divine discipline, Christians will grow in Christ and be used mightily of God in witnessing the Gospel at least in its beginning. We should help to greatly strengthen their walk closer to God now while we still can so they will remain strong with God as the persecution comes in America and gain more maturity in Christ. We should especially do this for the children and youth. They will undergo satanic indoctrination and training.

The time is coming when no man can work the works of God. This time can be toward the end of the last part of the Tribulation during the Mark of the Beast period. We must work (the works of God) now while the time is still day. Our Lord said:

John 9:4 - "We must work the works of Him who sent Me, as long as it is day; night is coming, when no man can work."