

The Sequence of Tribulation Judgments and Interlude Chapters (As Seen in the Book of Revelation)

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There is a difference of opinion between the prophetic and dispensational commentaries written on the Book of Revelation regarding God's judgment program. I have over 100 commentaries on the Book of Revelation and have discovered that the futurist, dispensational, and literal interpreters agree that there is a future seven-year Tribulation Period and three different sets of judgments (Seals, Trumpets, Bowls), but what they don't agree on is the chronology and placement of these judgments during the seven years. In this study, I want to attempt to gain some greater understanding on the issue of the chronology of these judgments and when they will occur throughout the course of the seven years. I will also deal with where certain events and personages of the End Times will appear, the first 3.5 years or second 3.5 years. Let's get started.

A. Seven Years of Judgments

"Weeks" (shabuwa) = "sevens"
units of time revealed in seven

Daniel was thinking in terms of years
(Dan. 9:1-2) *70 years captivity*

Daniel reveals there is **ONE WEEK**
(seven = 7 years) to be fulfilled during
the end times (Dan. 9:27).
69 weeks fulfilled historically (483 years)
*One week prophetically (7 years)

breaking down the seven years in two segments. The overlapping of their writings and numbers is another proof of the inspiration of the Bible and that both Daniel and John viewed the Tribulation Period as seven years that could be subdivided into two sections.

Both Daniel and John were thinking in units of years as they recorded their prophecies about the coming Tribulation Period and both divided the Tribulation Period in two sections of three and one-half years (totaling seven years). It's very interesting that both Daniel and John used the same time references when

**"a time and times, and the
dividing of time"**
(Dan. 7:25)

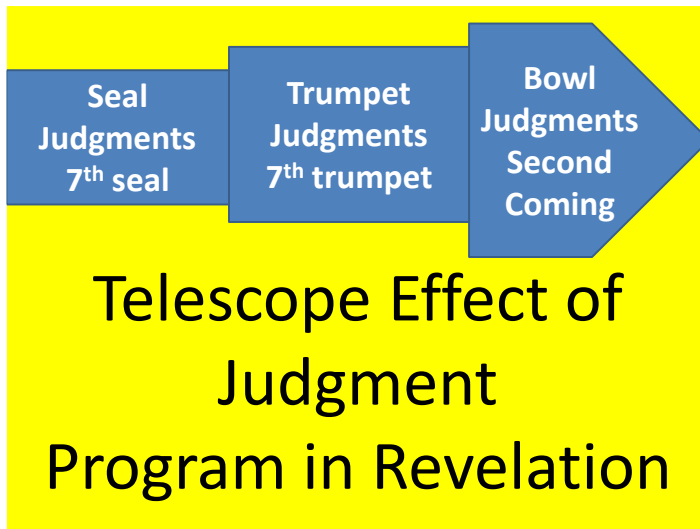
"time, times, and a half"
(Dan. 12:7)

"a time, and times, and half a time"
(Rev. 12:14)

Let's give a general overview of the details that John gives regarding these judgments that will fall within this period of seven years.

The judgments are presented as:

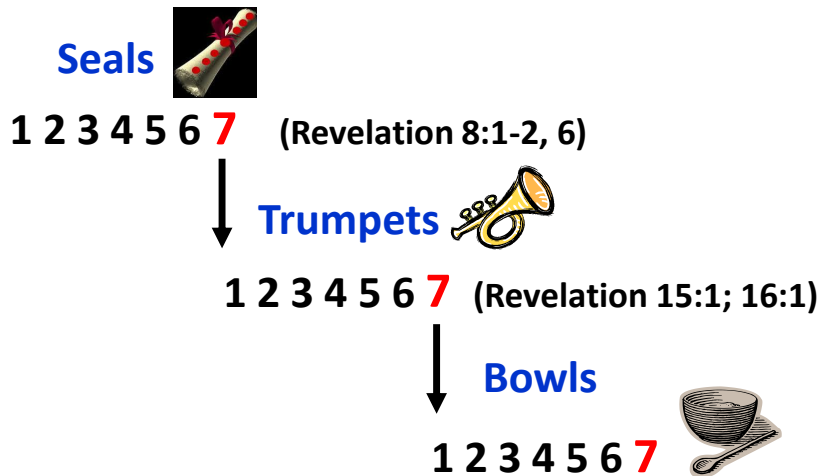
- Seal Judgments (first half of the Tribulation Period)
- Trumpet Judgments (Second half of the Tribulation Period)
- Bowl Judgments (Second half of the Tribulation Period – before Second Coming)



The seven Seals (Revelation 6:1-17, 8:1-5), seven Trumpets (Revelation 8:6-13; 11:15-19), and seven Bowls/Vials (Revelation 16:1-21) are three series of End Time judgments from God. The judgments get progressively worse and more devastating as the End Times progress. The seven Seals, Trumpets, and Bowls are connected to one another like a telescope. The seventh seal introduces the seven

trumpets (Revelation 8:1-6), and the seventh trumpet introduces the seven bowls (Revelation 11:15-19, 15:1-8). The last judgment in a given series flows into the next series of judgments.

The Relationship of the Seals, Trumpets, and Bowls



B. Sequence of Judgments

There seems to be a very logical and chronological flow or progression of these judgments. Some expositors suggest that the judgments seen in the Book of Revelation are not in sequence or chronological order. In other words, they suggest that the Seal Judgments present the overall judgment program and the Trumpets and Bowl judgments are simply explaining more details that were not mentioned in the Seal Judgments. In other words, they teach that the Seal Judgments should be viewed as a general description of all the judgments that will be unleashed throughout the entire seven years and the Trumpet and Bowl Judgments simply add more details. However, this is not an accurate presentation of the judgment program in the Book of Revelation for several reasons.

First, the Seal Judgments seem to correlate with those judgments that Jesus spoke about during the first three and one-half years (Matthew 24:4-14). Second, it's clear that the Trumpet judgments proceed out of the seventh Seal Judgment (see Rev. 8:1, 6) and becomes a series of different judgments in and of themselves. This would indicate that the seals are not giving an overall picture of all the judgments of the Tribulation Period as some suggest. Third, the Trumpet Judgments are also unleashed by angels and not directly by the Lamb. The Trumpet Judgments are more severe than the six Seal Judgments and come in answer to the prayers of the saints (Rev. 8:2-5). None of this was true of the Seal Judgments. Fourth, as the judgments progress, they escalate in intensity. The Trumpet Judgments are more severe than the preceding Seal Judgments, but less severe than the Bowl Judgments to follow. The Bowl Judgments proceed out of the seventh Trumpet Judgment (Rev. 11:15; 15:1; 16:1) and become a distinct series of judgments which are also unleashed by angels.

The Bowl Judgments are the most severe judgments that are specially designed to target the Antichrist and his followers. The progression and severity of the judgments indicate that the Seal, Trumpet, and Bowl judgments are different and follow a logical course that take us up to the end of the Tribulation Period, when Jesus Christ will return as the Lion and Lamb to reclaim the earth for God.

Fifth, the events associated with the holding back of the winds in 7:1 (before the Trumpet Judgments begin) seem to fit, not the previous Seal Judgments, but the

next series of trumpet judgments. This would mean that chapters 6, 7, and 8 are chronological. Sixth, the very fact that the bowl plagues are called “the last” (Rev. 15:1) shows they do not go back to retrace the same period as the Seal and Trumpet Judgments. This is a very convincing argument. Seven, the sequence, the order of succession, or the way these the Seal, Trumpet, and Bowl Judgments unfold are altogether different. Therefore, they are not a recapitulation or restatement of the Seal Judgments.

Discussing this same issue, Everett Harrison writes:

“It has been claimed by some commentators that these three successive septenary series of three judgments are a recapitulation of the same events. That is, the trumpets review what the seals previously set forth, but with greater intensity; and the vials (bowls) review the same events, characterizing them with even more severity. I have not been able to accept this view. For one reason, the sequence in each series is altogether different, and this alone, it seems, makes the concept of recapitulation impossible.”

Below is a chart that seems to present the best logical and sequential flow of the three sets of judgments and their timing throughout the seven years.



C. Summary of the Judgments

Let's briefly summarize these judgments. The first four of the seven seals are known as the four horsemen of the Apocalypse. The first seal introduces the Antichrist (Revelation 6:1-2). The second seal causes great warfare (Revelation 6:3-4). The third of the seven seals cause famine (Revelation 6:5-6). The fourth seal brings about plague, further famine, and additional warfare (Revelation 6:7-8). The fifth seal reveals those who will experience martyrdom for their faith in Christ during the first three and one-half years of the Tribulation Period (Revelation 6:9-11). God hears their cries for justice and will deliver it in His perfect timing in the form of the sixth seal, along with the Trumpet and Bowl judgments.

When the sixth of the seven seals are broken, a devastating earthquake occurs, causing massive upheaval and terrible devastation, along with unusual astronomical phenomena (Revelation 6:12-14). The seventh seal speaks of a time of silence in Heaven (Rev. 8:1-2, 6) out of which the Trumpet Judgments flow. Actually, the last fourteen judgments (Bowls and Trumpets) are contained within the seventh seal and are seen to flow out of this final seal when it is opened. Remember the telescope effect.

The seven trumpets are described in Revelation 8:6-13. The seven trumpets are actually the "contents" of the seventh seal (Revelation 8:1-5). The first trumpet causes hail and fire that destroys much of the plant life in the world (Revelation 8:7). The second trumpet brings about what seems to be a meteor hitting the oceans and causing the death of much of the world's sea life (Revelation 8:8-9). The third trumpet is similar to the second, except it affects the world's lakes and rivers instead of the oceans (Revelation 8:10-11).

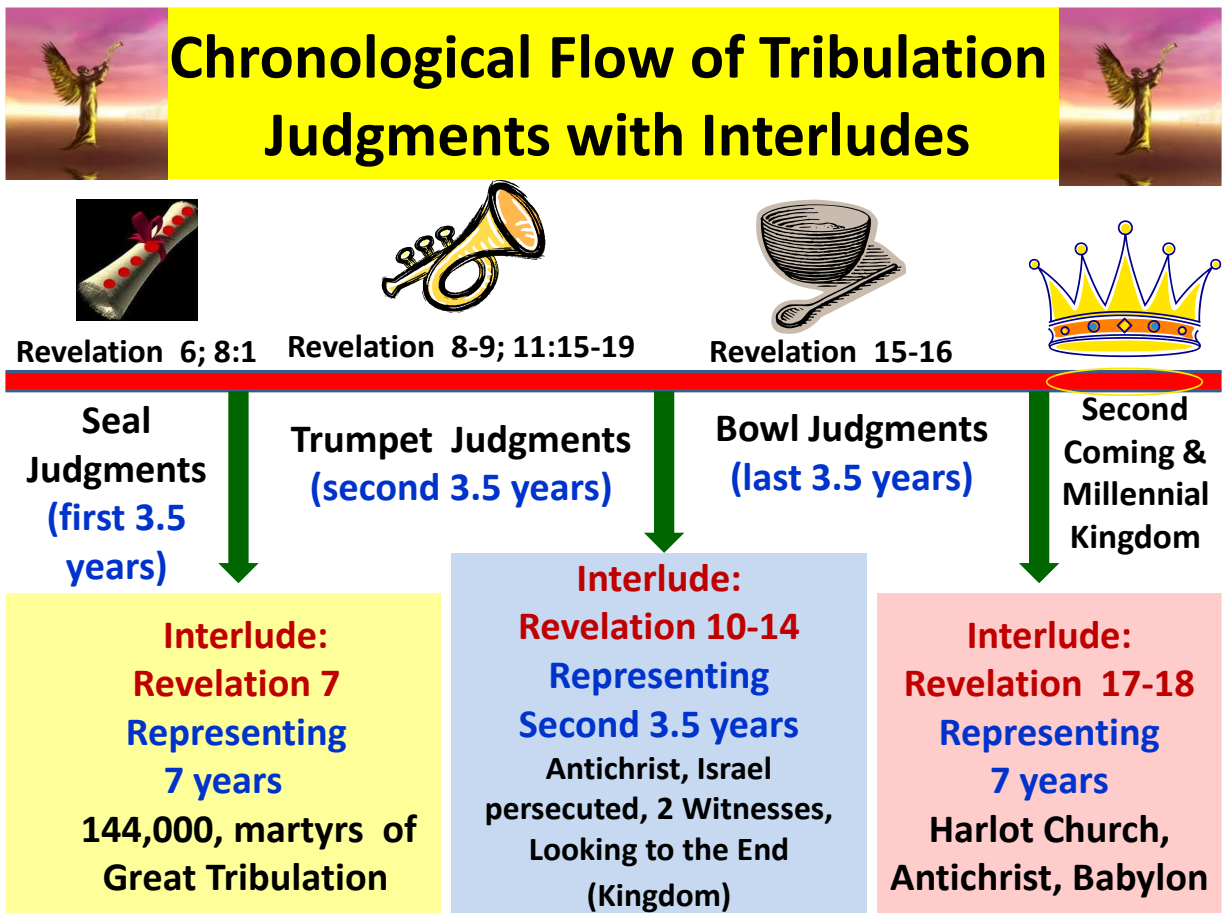
The fourth of the seven trumpets cause the sun and moon to be darkened (Revelation 8:12). The fifth trumpet results in a plague of "demonic locusts" that attack and torture humanity (Revelation 9:1-11). The sixth trumpet releases a demonic army that kills a third of humanity (Revelation 9:12-21). The seventh trumpet calls forth the seven angels with the seven bowls of God's wrath (Revelation 11:15-19, 15:1-8).

The seven Bowl/Vial judgments are described in Revelation 16:1-21. The seven bowl judgments are called forth by the seventh trumpet. The first bowl causes painful sores to break out on humanity (Revelation 16:2). The second bowl results

in the death of every living thing in the sea (Revelation 16:3). The third bowl causes the rivers to turn into blood (Revelation 16:4-7). The fourth of the seven bowls results in the sun's heat being intensified and causing great pain (Revelation 16:8-9). The fifth bowl causes great darkness and an intensification of the sores from the first bowl (Revelation 16:10-11). The sixth bowl results in the Euphrates River being dried up and the armies of the Antichrist being gathered together to wage the battle of Armageddon (Revelation 16:12-14). The seventh bowl results in a devastating earthquake followed by giant hailstones (Revelation 16:15-21).

D. Sectional Interludes Between Judgments

In the final part of the study, I want to discuss (as many of my previous and present fellow dispensationalists have done) where the specific judgments, people, and prophetic events should be placed within the framework of the seven years. A chart is provided at the beginning of this section which can be referred to through this portion of our study.



1. Revelation 1-6 = Six Seals Judgments (first 3.5 years)

These judgments correspond to Jesus' statements regarding the description of the first 3.5 years of Tribulation Period – Matthew 24:1-14) and end with a climactic earthquake to mark the start of the second 3.5 years (Rev. 6:12-16).

2. Revelation 7 (Interlude between Seal and Trumpet Judgments)

This chapter can be viewed as an interlude (containing intervening scenes) between the Seal and Trumpet Judgments and contain events that occur during the time periods represented in the Seal (first 3.5 years) and Trumpet judgments (last 3.5 years).

Chapter 8:1 introduces the final seventh seal (an earthquake) but the intent of this seal is to explain that the next seven Trumpet Judgments will flow out of this seventh seal in sequential order (Rev. 8:2). Therefore, chapter seven represents specific events that will occur during the first and second 3.5 years of the Tribulation Period.

“After these things” (Rev. 7:1) is not a sequential or chronological statement at this point but points to the next scene or vision given to John. John is declaring the events that will transpire while the Seal and Trumpet Judgments are occurring on planet earth (this would include both the first and second 3.5 years of the Tribulation).

Chapter seven envisions the 144,000 Jews sealed for ministry and the saved of the Great Tribulation (Rev. 7:14) which corresponds to Jesus' words of the second half of the Tribulation Period (Matt. 24:21). To have a vast number of martyred saints as indicated by the fifth seal (Rev. 6:9) would indicate that much evangelism has taken place. This can be attributed to the ministry of the 144,000 during the first 3.5 years. The salvation of these martyrs suggests that the 144,000 are sealed at the beginning of the seven years and continue to be protected throughout the entire seven years. Their destiny is to enter the Millennium after the Tribulation has expired (Rev. 14:1-5). Therefore, the 144,000 will also be responsible for leading an enormous multitude to salvation (Rev. 7:9) during the Great Tribulation (the second 3.5 years of the Tribulation Period). Therefore, Revelation 7 (a bridge

that spans the Seal and Trumpet Judgments) portray the evangelic efforts that will occur throughout the entire seven years.

Note: The abomination of desolation occurs at the middle of the seven years as Daniel and Jesus taught (Dan. 9:27; Matt. 24:15). Luke records a similar occurrence of unsaved people wanting the mountains to fall of them (Luke 23:29-30) which is also recorded in the sixth seal (Rev. 6: 15-16). Luke links this cry for death to the same time when Israel is fleeing from Antichrist suggesting that the sixth seal will occur near the middle of the Tribulation Period, just prior to Antichrist erecting a statue of himself in the temple (Rev. 13:14-18), and the time when the Jews flee into the wilderness (Rev. 12).

3. Revelation 8-9 = Trumpet Judgments (second 3.5 years)

These judgments are NOT reflected in Jesus' statements of the first 3.5 years of the Tribulation Period (Matt. 24:1-14). Therefore, they will occur during the course of the second half of the Tribulation Period which He labeled as "great tribulation" (Matt. 24:21). They are more severe judgments that effect humanity and the earth.

4. Chapter 10-11:14 = Interlude between Sixth and Seventh Trumpet Judgments (representing last 3.5 years)

These chapter portions of Scripture can be viewed as an interlude (containing intervening snapshots or scenes) which in a general way *represent* and *reflect* the time period of the second 3.5 years of the Tribulation Period or the last half of Daniel's week of seven years (Dan. 9:27). This is the specific time period represented by the Trumpet Judgments.

John's style in writing the Book of Revelation is to first give an overview of the judgments, listing them one through six, and then to recapitulate or review by focusing on some of the specific details related to the time period represented by the judgments. This can be seen in all the interlude passages presented by John which follow a specific time represented in the judgments – the Seal Judgments (Revelation 7), the Trumpet Judgments (Rev. 10-11:14; 12-14), and Bowl Judgments (Rev. 17-18). Since the seventh trumpet is essentially the seven Bowl Judgments which flow out of the final trumpet (bringing us to the end of the

Tribulation Period), it makes sense that John is describing events that will occur during the last 3.5 years of the Tribulation Period without giving the exact timing when all of them will take place.

The Bible speaks of “seven thunders” occurring during this allotted time (second half of the Tribulation) but the content of these judgments was not revealed (Rev. 10:1-4). Apparently it will only be known to those living during the terror of the Tribulation Period. There are evidently some top-secret things that God has in store for the Great Tribulation Period (the second half of the Tribulation Period) which He does not want to reveal until they begin to happen. Deuteronomy 29:29 reminds us that “The secret things belong unto the Lord our God.”

This interlude between the sixth and seventh Trumpet Judgments also looks ahead to the end of the seven years when “there should be time no longer” (Rev. 10:6 with Rev. 16:17). In other words, the time of sin reigning on earth is about to end. God’s work of judgment is about to be concluded with the final blowing of the seventh trumpet introducing the last seven Bowl Judgments which precede His Son’s return to earth. The hour has struck! Time has run out! There will be no more delay in God finishing His judgment program and no more delay in the King’s return (Luke 20:9; Matt. 21:43). And when His Son returns, He will purge the earth of sinners (2 Thess. 1:7; Matt. 13:41-43; 24:44-51; 25:31-32) and rule with righteous (32:1 – “Behold, a king shall reign in righteousness”).

This is further explained as the time when “the mystery of God” would be finished (Rev. 10:7). This refers to God’s purpose of allowing sin to continue and display itself on planet earth (2 Thess. 2:7 – “the mystery of iniquity doeth already work”), while He withholds His personal reign over the earth, through Jesus Christ. Here is the mystery; God has been withholding His final cataclysmic judgment and reign from coming over the earth. With this thought in mind, an angel portrays Christ’s Second Coming in his stance upon the earth and sea indicating Christ’s return and conquest of planet earth with the establishment of the Millennial Kingdom (Rev. 10:8-11).

Since this interlude between the sixth and seventh trumpet looks ahead to the end of the seven years (Rev. 10:5-7) it also records more details of what will occur in the second 3.5 years of the Tribulation which leads up to the end. Revelation 11 records the arrival of two witnesses on earth, their death, and leads into the

sounding of the seventh trumpet. This references the second 3.5 half years of the Tribulation Period by the time phrase “forty and two months” (Rev. 11:2) which is the time when Antichrist and Gentile armies desecrate the temple, seize Jerusalem, and persecute God’s people (the Jews) as taught by Daniel, Jesus, and John (Dan. 9:27; Matt. 24:15-22; Rev. 12). The reference of the two witnesses with the second 3.5 years of the Tribulation Period seems to suggest that this will be the time when they will witness and be killed. This is the same time reference given when Antichrist will rule the earth (Rev. 13:5) and Israel will be persecuted (Rev. 12:6). The time period of their witness is said to be future which looks ahead to the second 3.5 years (“shall they tread under foot” – Rev. 11:2). The last half of Daniel’s seven years (Dan. 9:27) must be in view so that the termination of the *forty-two months* corresponds to the end of the “times of the Gentiles” (Luke 21:24; Rev. 11:2) with the arrival of Christ and the introduction of the Millennial Kingdom.

Dr. Whitcomb (a fellow futurist interpreter whom I deeply respect) presented an argument for the witnesses having their ministry in the first half of Daniel’s seventieth week. Whitcomb raises these basic questions. Would the two Jewish witnesses remain in Jerusalem during the latter half of the Antichrist’s reign of terror since the Lord commanded them to flee to the mountains (Matt. 24:15-20)? Second, if the 1,260 days occur in the last half of the week, then the world would engage in the three-and-a-half-day celebration of their death (Rev. 11:10-11) *after* the return of Christ and the consignment of the two beasts and the dragon to their respective punishments. Third, he also recognizes that the Scripture presents the Beasts’ reign of terror as being unopposed by stating, “how can he (the first beast) bring fire from heaven upon their enemies (Rev. 13:13) when the two witnesses are bringing fire from heaven upon theirs (Rev. 11:5)?”

These arguments seem convincing but there are some problems with looking at their time of witness in the first 3.5 years. First, the 42 months in the next two chapters are clearly pointing to the second half of the Tribulation Period when Israel is persecuted and Antichrist is ruling over the entire earth (Rev. 12:6; 13:5).

Second, it has been proven that this is an interlude between the sixth and seventh trumpet judgment which is unrelated to Jesus’ description of the first 3.5 years (Matt. 24:1-14) but one that references the events of the final 3.5 years.

Third, without reading anything into Revelation 11:1-3, it clearly links the ministry of these two witnesses to the same time period when the temple is “given unto the Gentiles.” (Rev. 11:1). This Gentile domination does not occur during the first 3.5 years when the Jews will practice Judaism (Dan. 9:27).

Whitcomb’s other questions can be satisfactorily answered in several ways. First, the Bible clearly reveals that these witnesses will be able to defeat their enemies by the power invested in them by God (Rev. 11:3-6). This means that they will be able to appear whenever they choose and not suffer defeat at the hands of the Antichrist and his henchmen.

Second, the world could very easily celebrate the death of these witnesses for three and one-half days (Rev. 11:10-11) after the Second Coming. This is because Daniel clearly revealed that there would be an extension of 75 days after the seven years which is the time period in which the Second Coming occurs (Dan. 12:11-12). Therefore, these men could be raised back to life following their 3.5 years of ministry in the interim period of time between the seven years and Second Coming, when the abomination of desolation is still in established in Jerusalem (Dan. 12:12).

Third, as addressed in the first point, God will give these men supernatural ability to call fire down from heaven and destroy their enemies even while the Antichrist has assumed the role of earth’s dictator. God is more powerful than Antichrist as illustrated by His judgments which are being orchestrated against the Antichrist (Rev. 16:10). Apparently the false prophet will try and mimic this same power through demonic means (Rev. 13:13).

During the time of terrible divine judgments on the earth the Gospel preaching of the 144,000 Jewish evangelists (Rev. 7:1–10; 14:1-5 – entire 7 years), the two witnesses (Rev. 11:3 – Second 3.5 years), the angel flying in mid-heaven (Rev. 14:6 – middle of the seven years) and the testimonies of other believers living during this time (Rev. 12:11; 20:4 – second 3.5 years) will be a final expression of God’s grace offered to sinners.

In summary, we have then seen that during the interlude time *represented* between the sixth and seventh trumpets, which anticipate the end, there will be

seven thunders and two witnesses (chapter 10-11:14). These events will transpire during the second half of the Tribulation Period.

5. Revelation 11:15-19 = Seventh Trumpet

This trumpet sounds resulting in an earthquake and hail storm (Rev. 11:19) much like the seventh seal (Rev. 8:5). The seventh seal was designed to introduce the seven trumpets with this particular display of God's wrath and the seventh trumpet is designed to introduce the final seven Bowl Judgments with a similar display of wrath. The Bowl Judgments occur right near the end of the seven years and the seventh trumpet is announcing and anticipating these final judgments of God's wrath. The blowing of the seventh trumpet triggers the last seven Vial or Bowl Judgments which lead up to the Second Coming of Christ.

The Seventh Trumpet Judgment (Rev. 11:15-19) is really a *prophetic* and *proleptic* statement of what lies ahead for the future. It anticipates Christ's Second Coming to earth and the events associated with this coming as already coming to pass, even before they actually transpire. Since the seven last Vial or Bowl Judgments (Rev. 16:1) apparently flow out of the seventh trumpet judgment, and since these are the final judgments that will fall on planet earth prior to Christ's Second Coming, the seventh trumpet judgment is viewed as anticipating the end of the Tribulation Period and the events that will transpire in connection with Christ's Second Coming. The seventh trumpet becomes a proleptic statement (viewing something as already complete). The sounding of this trumpet anticipates the events being finished even before they actually transpire or occur.

Think of it this way; the sounding of the seventh trumpet continues over the remaining time of the Tribulation Period since out of the seventh trumpet flows the final Bowl Judgments of the Tribulation Period. The seventh trumpet actually takes us up to the long-awaited event of the Second Coming of Jesus Christ since the Bowl Judgments originate out of this final judgment. Therefore, the end is in view in Revelation 11:15-19, since this final trumpet takes us up to the end of the Tribulation Period with the King's return. With the blowing of the seventh trumpet the end is so sure to take place that it's said to already come to pass (a proleptic statement).

6. Revelation 12-14 = Interlude between the seventh Trumpet and Bowl Judgments (representing last 3.5 years)

The next chapters build upon the previous interlude chapters (10-11:1-14) which gave snapshots or scenes of what to expect during the second half of the Tribulation Period when the Trumpet Judgments are occurring.

After introducing the seventh trumpet (Rev. 11:15-19), which triggers the final seven Bowl Judgments, Chapters 12-14 give additional details of what will take place on earth during the second half of Daniel's 70th week which once again is the time period *represented* between the seventh Trumpet Judgment and Bowl Judgments.

In a broader sense, these events can be viewed as an interlude (containing intervening scenes) that will occur during the second 3.5 years, between the seventh seal (introducing the seven Trumpet Judgments) and the Bowl Judgments which flow out of the seventh Trumpet Judgment and ends the Tribulation Period. During this time (second 3.5 years of the Tribulation Period) Israel will be persecuted by the Antichrist (Rev. 12), Antichrist will rise to world dominance and reign as a tyrant, building a statue that resembles himself in the rebuilt temple (Rev. 13), the 666 mark will be required for preservation of life, the 144,000 are again recognized as a witnessing body that will be preserved for the Kingdom (Rev. 14:1-5), and the Gospel will be preached throughout the earth by an angel (Rev. 14:6-7).

End Time scenes and promises relating to the second half of the Tribulation Period are anticipated as coming to fruition throughout this specific time period and as the end of the Tribulation Period winds down, such as the destruction of the city of Babylon (Rev. 14:8), the eternal damnation of Beast followers (Rev. 14:9-11), and Armageddon (Rev. 14:14-20).

7. The Bowl Judgments = Revelation 15-16

Chapter 15 begins with an introduction to the Bowl Judgments. They are called "the seven last plagues; for in them is filled up the wrath of God" (Rev. 15:1). All of the martyrs of Heaven are pictured as anticipating the end of the Tribulation Period with these seven last catastrophic judgments. They are seen worshipping

before the throne proclaiming: "Great and marvellous are thy works, Lord God Almighty; just and true are thy ways, thou King of saints."

Revelation 15:6-8 reveals this scene in anticipation of the final Bowl Judgments to be meted out on earth: "And the seven angels came out of the temple, having the seven plagues, clothed in pure and white linen, and having their breasts girded with golden girdles. And one of the four beasts gave unto the seven angels seven golden vials (bowls) full of the wrath of God, who liveth for ever and ever. And the temple was filled with smoke from the glory of God, and from his power; and no man was able to enter into the temple, till the seven plagues (the Bowl Judgments) of the seven angels were fulfilled."

8. Revelation 17-18 = Interlude between Bowl Judgments and Second Coming (representing last 3.5 years)

These last two chapters, similar to Revelation chapter 7, are designed to give a larger panoramic picture of what to expect throughout the entire seven-year Tribulation Period, prior to the Second Coming. As the judgment program *began* with the Seal Judgments, John used Revelation 7 as a hinge chapter that tied the two 3.5-year time periods together with the introduction of the 144,000 Jews, who will be saved (during the first 3.5 years) and the salvation of great masses during the Great Tribulation Period (the last 3.5 years). In a similar fashion, as the time of Judgment comes to a close with the Bowl Judgments, prior to the Second Coming (Rev. 19), John recapitulates or reviews some of the key events that will occur throughout the entire seven years. The first and last interlude periods are designed to be more comprehensive and deal with the events of the seven years.

In general, the harlot church will rise to power (Rev. 17) and the city of Babylon will be rebuilt and destroyed (Rev. 18). The Antichrist will use the harlot church during the first three and one-half years (Rev. 17:1-5) and she will be responsible for the martyrdom of many saints during the first 3.5 years (Rom. 17:6). The Antichrist will rise to world power building a confederacy with ten kingdoms in the area of the ancient Roman Empire (Rev. 17:12, 17) and become the eight-ruling dynasty that rules planet earth (Rev. 17:9-10). Antichrist's kingdom of power will eventually destroy the harlot system (Rev. 17: 17:16), presumably at the middle of the seven years, and become the undisputed religious figure of planet earth, demanding worldwide worship.

All of the parenthetical (interlude) sections of Scripture anticipate the end when Christ will return in His Second Coming and establish the Millennial Kingdom. Chapters 10:1-6, 11:15-19, 12, 13, and 14 all anticipate the ending of the seven-year Tribulation Period with prophetic pictures of Armageddon, Christ's Second Coming, and the establishment of His Millennial Kingdom portraying the 144,000 Jewish evangelists standing victoriously on Mount Zion in Jerusalem at the Second Advent.

In summary, with the broad sweep of a brush, John the revelator paints an End Time picture in the interlude chapters of Revelation (7, 10-14) of those important characters and events that relate to the seven-year Tribulation Period. These chapters interrupt the flow of God's judgment program and act as parenthesis passages (inserted or interlude passages – a time of intermission from the chronological flow of judgments) that deals with the underlying plots, personages, and particular events that will transpire in connection with the Tribulation Period and Christ's Second Coming to planet earth.