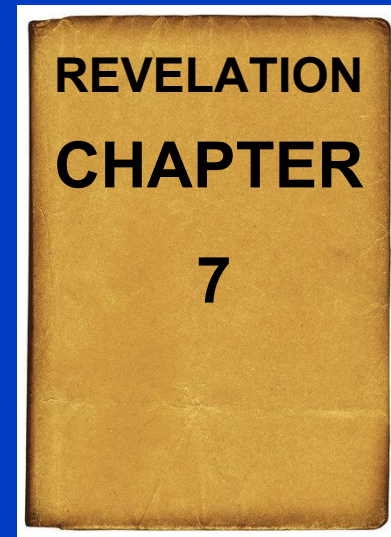
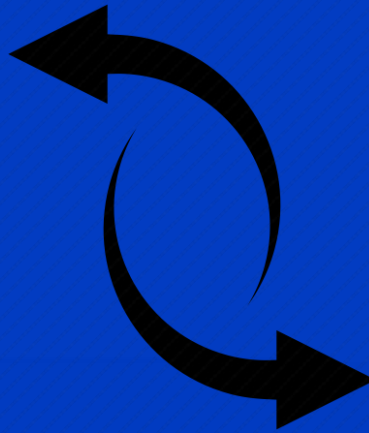
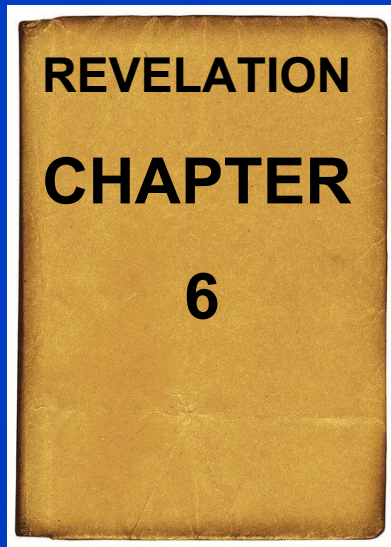


# REVELATION OUT OF ORDER?



- If Rev. chapters are in correct order, then chapter 7 happens at the same time as, or just after, chapter 6
- For the Pre-Tribulation doctrine timeline to work, chapter 7 must come before chapter 6
- Darby invented this doctrine in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century
- Popularized by Tim Lahaye's "Left Behind"



# AN INTERLUDE

- God's wrath expressed earlier in the Flood
- Genesis 6 and 7 include a "pause" when God secures the faithful from harm
- In the same pattern, Revelation 7 is a "pause" when God secures (seals) the 144,000 from harm
- Theme of a saved remnant found with Noah and in Revelation

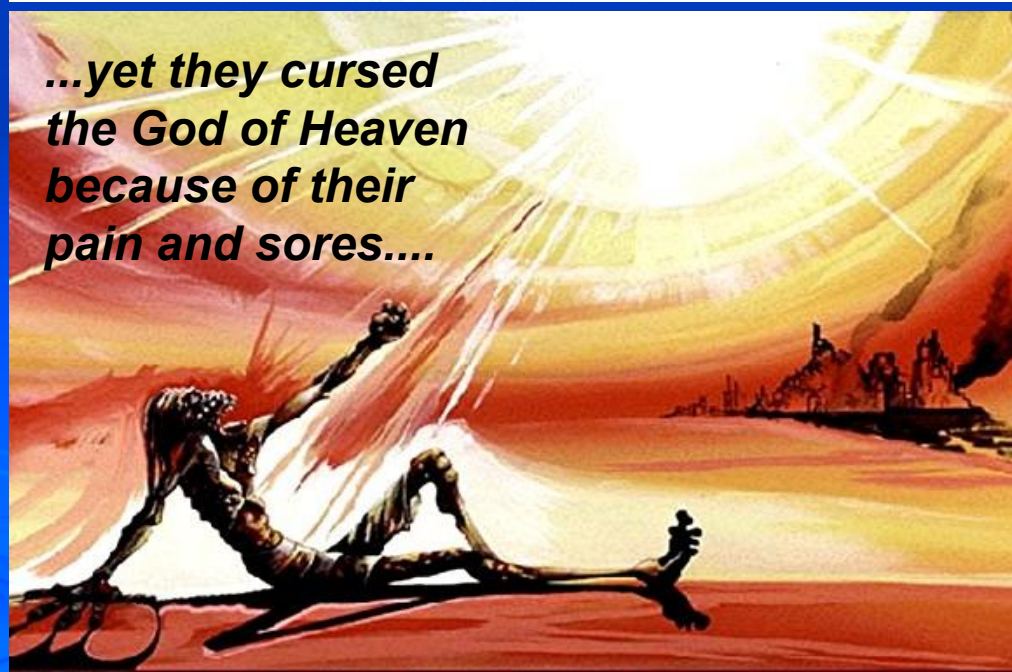


# NO REPENTANCE

- Starting with Seal judgments, little mention of repentance
- John can only wonder why earth's people can't see or admit they are suffering God's wrath
- Rev. 9:20 – 21
- Rev. 16:9 – 11
- Revelation not too concerned about those who become Believers AFTER the Rapture



*...yet they cursed  
the God of Heaven  
because of their  
pain and sores....*





# THE TRUTH ABOUT ISRAEL'S 144,000

- Pre-Tribulation Dispensationalists say that these are symbolic of the gentile Church, and aren't actually Israelites
- The words of Rev. 7:4 explicitly say "Israel"
- 12 tribes name by name are given, so no symbolism
- Likely taken from Ezekiel 9:4 – 6
- Dan and Ephraim missing, Joseph and Levi added back in
- Number of tribes changed over the centuries, as did their make-up

Rev. 7:9-12

I looked and saw a great multitude, which no man could count, of all nations, kindred, people and tongues. They stood before the throne. and before the Lamb clothed in white robes with palms in their hands.



- Huge crowd of every nation, tribe and tongue MUST be different from the 144,000
- Beale says they are “...*the same host now from the viewpoint of their actual vast number*”
- An allegorical interpretation in order to preserve the Pre-Tribulation doctrine

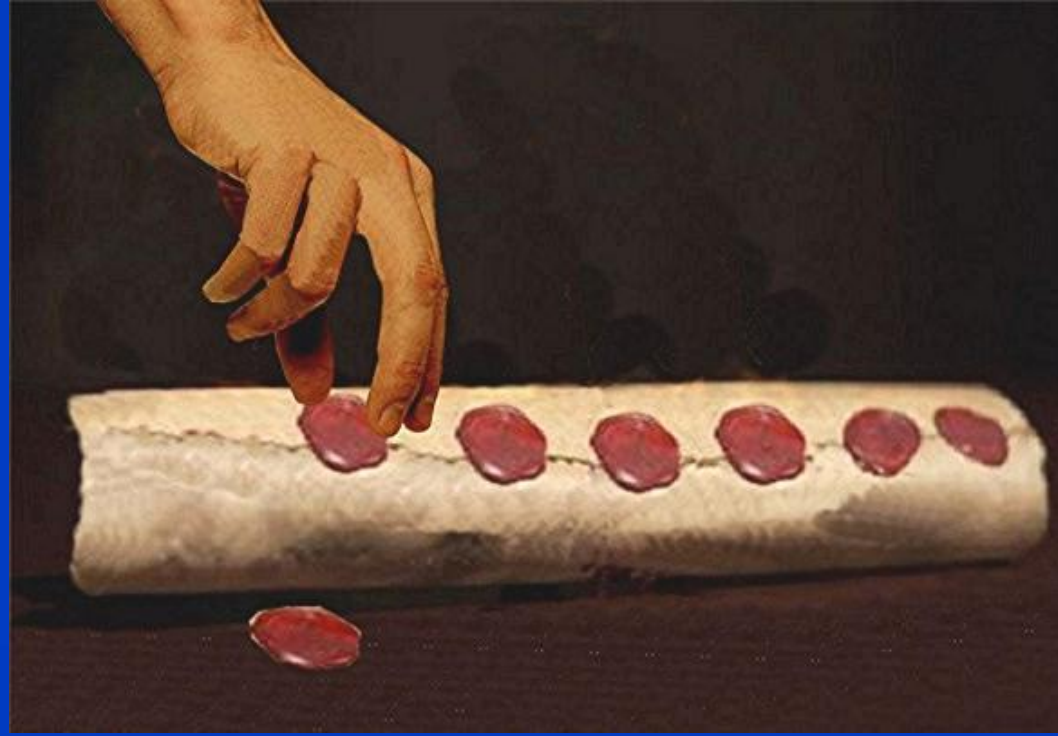
# THE MEANING OF THE PALM BRANCHES

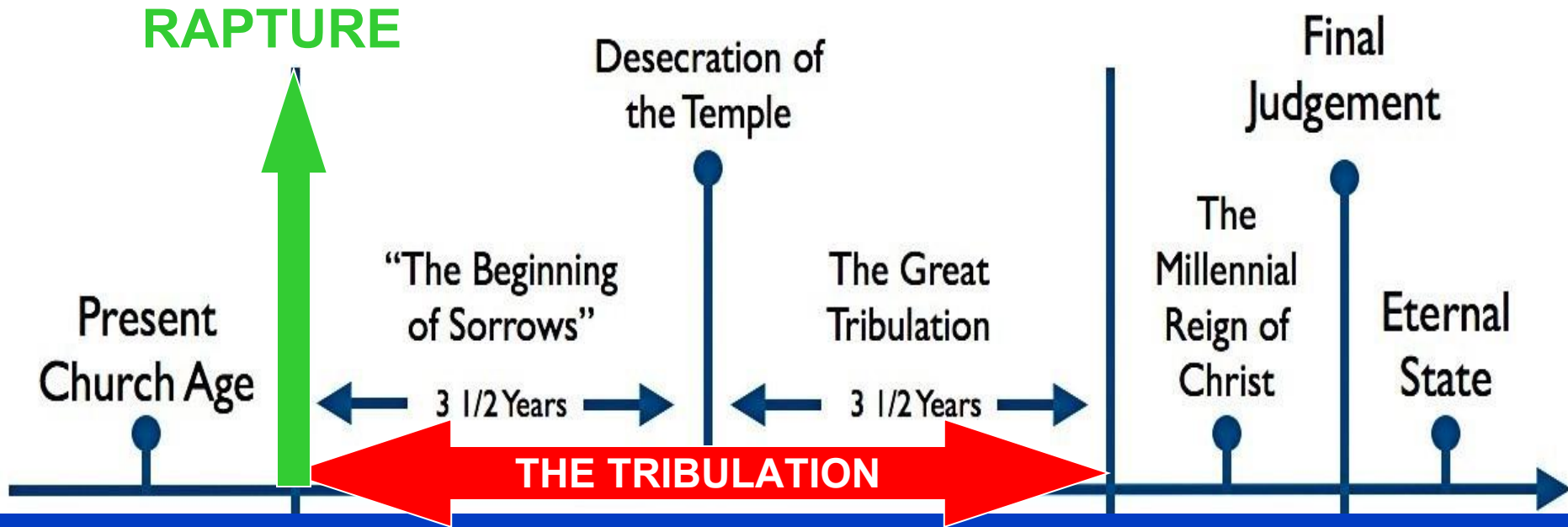


- John describes two distinct individuals: 1) One sitting on the throne 2) the Lamb
- Countless Believers dressed in white robes and carrying palm branches
- Relates to Psalm 118 and Sukkot
- Psalm 118:24 – 29
- Pesach, Matza, Bikkurim, and Shavuot fulfilled
- Yom Teruah, Yom Kipper, and Sukkot still to come

# VICTORY!!

- Victory of the Lamb being able to open the seals
- Victory of the over-comers
- Vs. 11 millions of angels worship God and the Lamb
- One of the 24 Elders tells John that the huge crowd have come out of “the great tribulation”



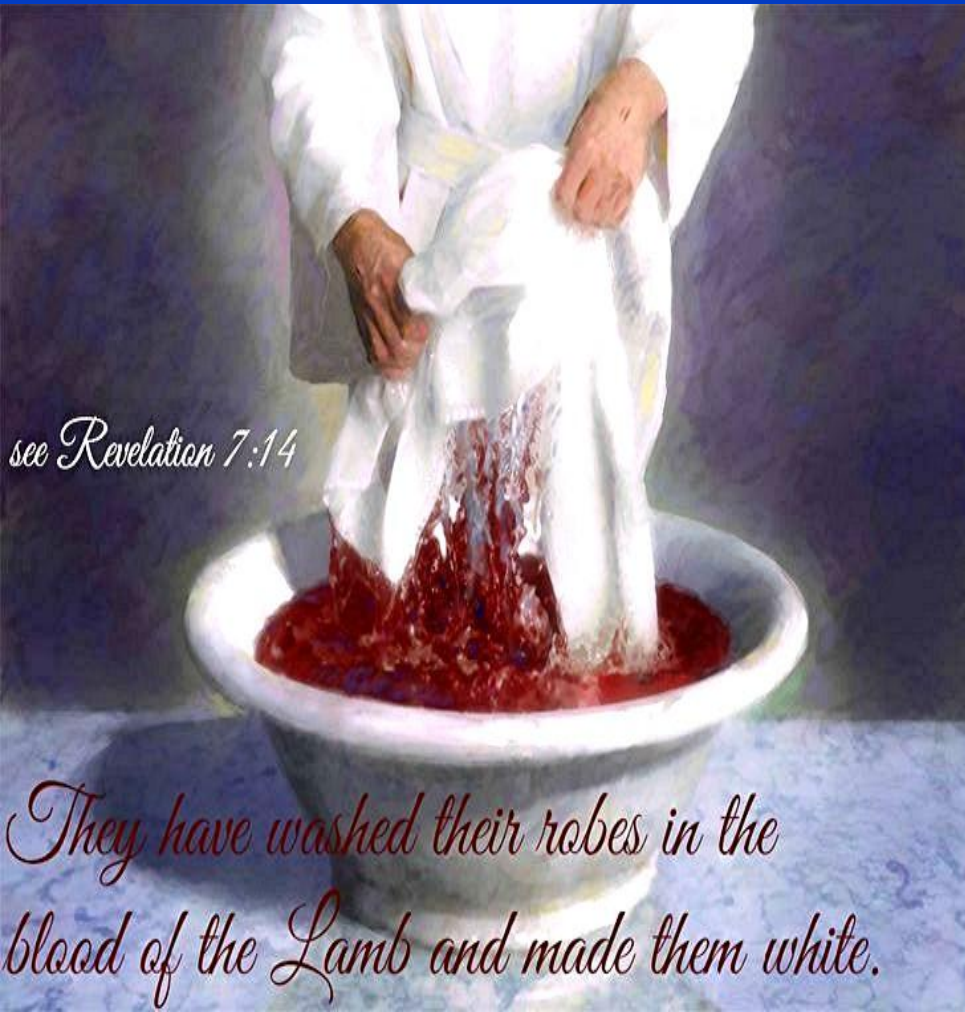


- Pre-Tribulation timeline depends on 2 named events:
  - 1) The Tribulation
  - 2) The Great Tribulation
- Rev. 7:13 no major Bible translation capitalizes “the great tribulation” because it is NOT a named event
- Daniel 12:1, Matthew 24:21
- Great tribulation is a global social condition of upheaval that involves persecution of Believers and tremendous human evil



# A METAPHOR WITH AN IRONY

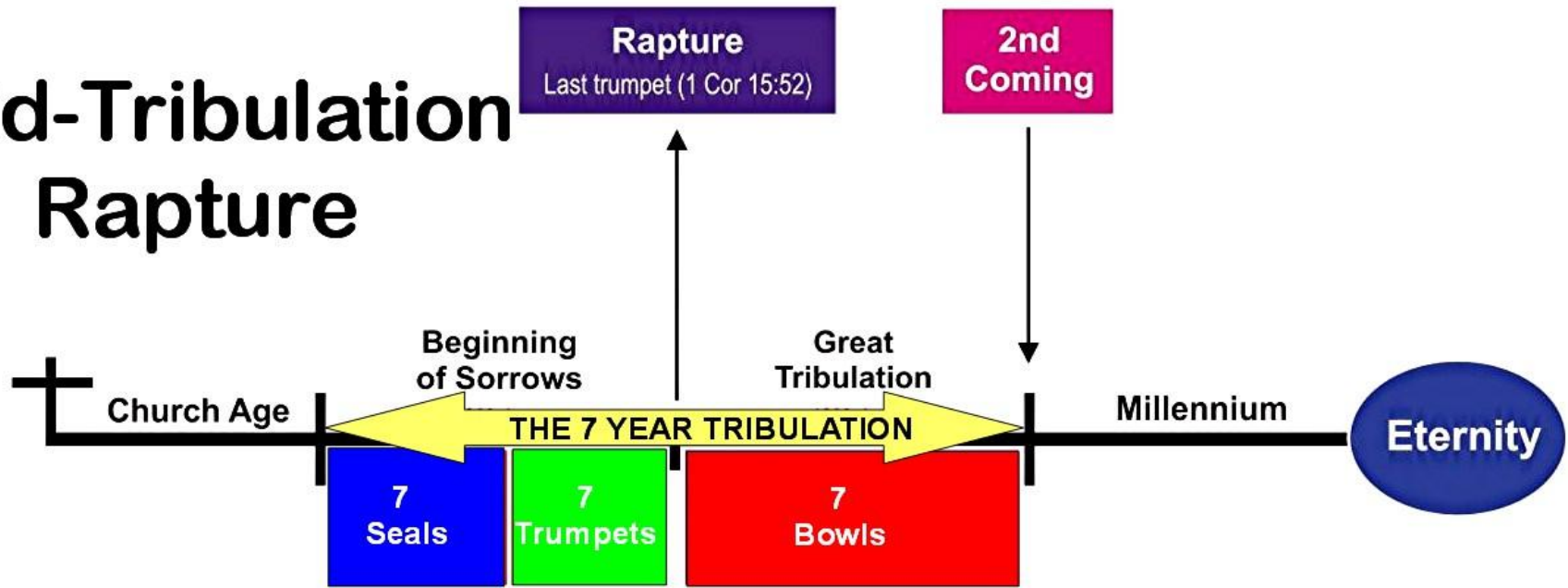
- How can robes be white if washed in blood?
- White robe = purity
- Wash garments = immersion
- Blood of the Lamb = an expression meaning the atonement Yeshua provides
- Is this crowd of people those who died during great persecution? Or were they delivered from being killed?



*see Revelation 7:14*

*They have washed their robes in the blood of the Lamb and made them white.*

# Mid-Tribulation Rapture



- Theory is that Believers suffer some persecution, but will not suffer GREAT persecution the final 3 ½ years
- Pre-Tribulation = suffer NO persecution because Believers will be raptured before the start of tribulation
- Mid-Tribulation = Believers suffer persecution for first 3 ½ years, but will be raptured before the start of the great persecution (tribulation)

# CONSULTING THE EARLY CHURCH FATHERS

- Primasius mid-500's A.D.
- Relied heavily on Revelation commentary of Ticonius mid-300's
- Primasius a highly regarded Church Bishop in Northern Africa
- Primasius sees no need for debate or for the holding of rigid positions on the composition of the huge crowd in white robes
- Could be martyrs, those who hold small faith and fallen away, lived godly lives and died of old age, and others
- However "Rapture" is not considered a possibility for this group

