## Revelation 6-7 • The Seals

- The pattern of Revelation 4-19 is not entirely <u>new</u>. Previous biblical examples demonstrate that to a point, <u>everyone</u> experiences what is taking place until God exempts and then <u>rescues</u> His people going forward. This is the point where "<u>judgment</u>" turns to "wrath".
- (v.1-8) The Seals are <u>earthly</u> activities which God has repeatedly used to both mete out <u>punishment</u> and to <u>induce</u> mankind to repent and return to Him, but which will have an ultimate, final <u>fulfillment</u> unlike anything which came before them.
- 3. (v.9-11) In both the Olivet Discourse and the sequence of the Seals, a time of <u>tribulation</u> comes for the Church when we will be <u>witnesses</u> for Christ and the Gospel.
- 4. (v.12-16) What comes for the rest of the world is not a time of tribulation in the character of what was experienced by the Church, but "the day of the Lord" when all that is left is to experience God's wrath. Both are recognized as authored by and pending from God for each respectively.
- 5. (7:1-8) The time comes when God returns to primarily working through <a href="Israel">Israel</a> to complete all as yet unfulfilled promises made to and through them.
- 6. (v.9-12) The <u>Harpazo</u> of the Church takes place between the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Seals.
- 7. (v.13-17) Nowhere in Scripture is either a 7 or 3-1/2 year period imposed on either the terms "tribulation" or "great tribulation", nor are they periods directed at the <a href="whole earth">whole earth</a>. Rather, they are escalating periods of spiritual testing exclusively aimed at the <a href="Church">Church</a> which each occur for a brief successive time in the course of the 70<sup>th</sup> Week of Daniel. In reality they are <a href="phases">phases</a> rather than 3-1/2 year halves of the final 7 years.