<u>Day of the Lord</u> - Is the year preceding the return of Christ. This is the period of God's direct intervention, judgment and wrath upon rebellious mankind (for the sins of men, which have been causing enormous suffering and death on this earth). When the seven angels sound their trumpets, major earth-shaking events are unleashed consecutively over a period of months Rev 8:7-13;9:1-21;11:15-19, culminating in the return of Jesus Christ to this Earth, and the administering of the seven last plagues *Rev 16:1-21*. God will punish the world with: 1) The powers of nature; 2) Various supernatural plagues; 3) In true love and concern for disobedient mankind Zep 1:14-15; Isa 2:6-22; Mal 4:1-3.

Seven Last Plagues - At the seventh trumpet, when Christ returns with great power and great glory, the rebellious nations will attempt to fight Him, the Holy Son of God. But as He returns, the indescribably horrifying seven last plagues will be poured out upon men and nations, to shake them to their senses! Rev 15:1: 16:1-21. God will really chastise man and shake the whole earth! Feeble man will realize that he is nothing compared to God Almighty! Rev 14:9-10 mentions 'in the presence of the holy angels and of the Lamb,' and signifies that the seven last plagues will occur within a brief time.

Once the major end-time events that Jesus prophesied, start to radically speed up, it will take the span of one generation for them to be completed. In the meantime, we are commanded to remain spiritually awake - continuously sober, watchful, vigilant, alert, prepared and ready for Christ's glorious and imminent return! To watch and pray continuously, so that we may be accounted worthy to escape all these terrifying and catastrophic events that will come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man <u>Lk 21:36</u>. Approximately one-third of the Bible is prophecy. About ninety-percent of prophecy pertains to the end time. Fulfilled prophecy is evidence of the existence of God Almighty! It proves that the Bible is divine revelation from God and His inspired word. The Book of Daniel and Revelation provides the framework for all end-time prophecies. Prophecies reveal major events that will happen, before they happen. God, through His prophets, delivers strong warning messages for nations to repent, and turn away from their evil ways; and turn to Him wholeheartedly Am 3:6-7. God gives them ample time to do so. As you begin to study prophecy, you will avoid unnecessary suffering and death. A high price will be paid for ignorance! Prophecies reveal in advance, where we are and where we are going, and prepare us for the awesome return of Jesus Christ and establishment of His Kingdom on the earth! Will you be prepared?

Scriptural References:

Seven Seals of Revelation

1st Seal - (White Horse) - Deception Luke 21:8; Revelation 6:1-2.

2nd Seal - (Red Horse) - War Luke 21:9-10; Revelation 6:3-4. 3rd Seal - (Black Horse) - Famine Luke 21:11; Revelation 6:5-6.

4th Seal - (Pale Horse) - Pestilence Luke 21:11; Revelation 6:7-8

5th Seal - Great Tribulation & Martyrdom Luke 21:12-19, 22-24; Rev 6:9-11.

6th Seal - Heavenly Signs Luke 21:25-26; Revelation 6:12-17 7th Seal - Silence in heaven for half an hour Revelation 8:1-6.

Day of the Lord - Seven Trumpet Plagues Revelation 8:2.

Seven Trumpets: Day of the Lord

1st Trumpet - Rev 8:7 - 1/3 of the earth was burned up, 1/3 of the trees were burned up, and all the green grass was burned up.

2nd Trumpet - Rev 8:8-9 - 1/3 of the sea turned into blood, 1/3 of the living creatures in the

sea died, and 1/3 of the ships were destroyed.

3rd Trumpet - Rev 8:10-11 - 1/3 of the waters turned bitter, and many people died from the waters that had become bitter.

4th Trumpet - Rev 8:12 - 1/3 of sun, moon and stars turned dark. 1/3 of the day was without light, and also 1/3 of the night.

5th Trumpet - Rev 9:1-12 - "Locusts" wield the beast's military power.

6th Trumpet - Rev 9:13-21 - Army of 200 million; 1/3 of mankind killed

7th Trumpet - 1 Cor 15:50-52; 1 Thessalonians 4:15-16; Revelation 11:15-19 - Announces Christ's return, and establishment of the Kingdom of God. The dead in Christ, and those in Christ, who are alive at the time ('firstfruits of salvation') will be born again, and inherit eternal life in the Kingdom of God! (Read Tract - 'Born Again & 'Glorious and Imminent Return of Jesus Christ!'). Prophecies concerning the earth's population at Christ's return are mentioned in Isa 24:1-6,13;17:4-6. Christ will begin His rule over the millions of survivors at His

Seven Last Plagues (or Seven Bowls of God's Wrath)

1st Plague - Rev 16:1-2 - Ugly and painful sores broke out on those who accepted the mark of the beast and worshiped his image.

<u>2nd Plague</u> - <u>Rev 16:3</u> - Sea turned into blood, and every living thing in the sea died.

3rd Plague - Rev 16:4-7 - Rivers and springs of water became blood.

4th Plague - Rev 16:8-9 - The sun was given power to scorch people with fire. They were scorched by the intense heat and they cursed the name of God, who had control over these plagues, but they refused to repent and glorify him.

5th Plague - Rev 16:10-11 - On the throne of the beast, and his kingdom was plunged into darkness. Men gnawed their tongues in agony and cursed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores, but they refused to repent of what they had done.

6th Plague - Rev 16:12-16 - On the great river Euphrates, and its water was dried up to prepare the way for the kings from the East. World armies will gather at Armageddon, which is in the Valley of Jezreel or on the Plain of Esdraelon, before marching toward Jerusalem to attempt to fight Christ at His return. Christ will win an overwhelming victory and utterly vanquish the world's rebellious armies in the Kidron Valley (Valley of Jehoshaphat)!

7th Plague - Rev 16:17-21 - Flashes of lightning, rumblings, peals of thunder and a severe earthquake. The great city split into three parts, and the cities of the nations collapsed. God remembered Babylon the Great and gave her the cup filled with the wine of the fury of his wrath. Every island fled away. Mountains no longer found. Huge hailstones of about 100 pounds each fell upon men. They cursed God, because the plague was so terrible.

For more inspiring, encouraging, informative and educational gospel tracts please visit:

Signs Of The End Of The Age

What are the major signs of the end of this present age of man's misrule? How will events unfold and will you be prepared? Will you know what to do?

Jesus Christ, the greatest "newscaster" who ever lived, did not report the news as it happened, but rather forefold almost 2,000 years ago, major world events that will happen today. Jesus said that unless He intervenes to cut short the days of the great tribulation, no human being would survive $\underline{Mt\ 24:22}$. There would be total cosmocide! Even world leaders, statesmen and scientists are horrified of the reality of modern warfare annihilating all life on the earth! We are fast approaching the end of this age. Dramatic events are unfolding at a rapid speed, right before our very eyes, and are leading up to the awesome and glorious return of Jesus Christ as King of kings and Lord of lords! In the Olivet Prophecy, Jesus Christ spoke about major events happening prior to His second coming $\underline{Mt\ 24:Mk\ 13\ \&\ Lk\ 21}$. The first four major world conditions are referred to as the "beginning of sorrows," and correspond with the first four seals of Revelation, or four horsemen of apocalypse in $\underline{Rev\ 6:1-8}$. One-quarter of the world's population will die with the opening of just the first four seals.

A definite sequence of events that must be fulfilled before Christ's return:

Religious Deception - In Mt 24:4-5, the very first major sign that Jesus spoke of was religious deception. Many people would be deceived through false religions, including false prophets and ministers masquerading as servants of God and preaching a counterfeit gospel. They will even claim that Christ has already returned before His appointed time, or that we need to be in a certain place, at a certain time, for His return Mt 24:23-26; 2 Co 11:13-15. The very first seal in Rev 6:1-2 pictures a rider holding a bow, wearing a crown and riding a white horse. This rider is not to be confused with Christ. In Rev 14:14; 19:12 Jesus is described as wearing one great golden crown with many diadems (read tract - 'Glorious And Imminent Return Of Jesus Christ!'). Firstly, Jesus warns us to watch out and be careful that we are not deceived, as religious deception and confusion will increase 2 Ti 3:13. In the last days, there will be scoffers, mockers and skeptics who will say that Christ is not returning 2 Pe 3:3-7; Jude 1:18-19. People's behavior is described as being rebellious, and we are instructed to avoid them 2 Ti 3:1-5. There will also be hypocrites who have only a form of godliness and talk about religion; but deny the authority of God 2 Ti 3:5. Only those who are studying Bible prophecy and watching prophetic events will not be deceived.

Wars - The Greek word 'aion' which is translated "world" in Mt 24:3 (KJV), is better translated 'age.' It does not refer to the total annihilation of planet earth. But rather, refers to the end of the present age of 6,000 years of man's miserable self-rule Ecc 1:4. Today, world statesmen and scientists affirm apprehensively that man has the capability of annihilating all life on this planet. There are sufficient nuclear bombs stockpiled to destroy civilization many times over! A grave danger to the survival of all humans is biological (magnitude of their effects are totally unpredictable), chemical warfare including nerve agents, and nuclear warfare. This is an irrefutable sign that we are living in the last days. The basic cause of war and human suffering in this world are the inordinate and unrestrained lusts including hatred, pride and greed of carnal-minded men, which people call "human nature" <u>Jas 4:1-2</u>. Jesus also said that people's love would grow cold as a result of lawlessness Mt 24:12-13. Mt 24:6 and Rev 6:3-4, mentions that there will be major wars. Nations will increasingly rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. Jesus said lawlessness will abound, in which warfare, crime and violence, including ethnic and civil wars would increase in the end time. The bloodiest and deadliest wars in history occurred in the 20th century. There were over 37 million military and civilian casualties in World War I. World War II claimed between 50 million to over 70 million lives. We are fast approaching World War III, where one-third (over 2 billion) of mankind will be killed; and the end-time climactic battle at Armageddon, where the rebellious nations will attempt to fight Christ at His return, which the Bible calls 'The Battle On The Great Day of God Almighty!' Rev 16:12-16.

Drought/Famine - Mt 24:7-8. More than 70 million people died in famines during the 20th century. Today, there are approximately 2 billion people suffering from various forms of malnutrition; and multiple millions die of starvation each year. But the worst is yet to come. Hundreds of millions will perish in a devastating famine crisis of world-wide proportions. Widespread famine will and can happen even in the developed countries of the Western world. What a horrifying scene! What does Rev 6:5-6 mean? The Expositor's Bible Commentary explains: "This amount [of money] suggests food prices about twelve times higher than normal ... and implies inflation and famine conditions Mt 24:7. A quart of wheat would supply an average person one day's sustenance. Barley was used by the poor to mix with the wheat." A loaf of wheat bread or three loaves of barley will cost a denarius, which is a whole day's wages. The staple food such as wheat grain, will be so limited in supply, that it will need to be rationed or sold at high prices. But oil and wine typically signify plenty. In Rev 6:6, the cry "do not damage the oil and the wine!" could symbolize efforts to safeguard the abundance against plundering. Conversely, the Living Bible interprets the phrase to mean that there is practically no oil and wine left, which could be a warning not to harm what is left of the oil and wine, in case there be no more. Food shortages cause inflation in food prices. This will be an inconvenience in the Western world, as price rises mean that residual food will be harder to afford, and this will lead to food riots. In 2008, food riots occurred in 28 different countries, as a result of food costs hitting record highs. The US experienced the worst drought in more than 5 decades which is driving up grain prices. Extensive drought damage has caused severe deterioration of the US corn crop, increasing corn prices significantly.

Pestilences - In the end time, great, deadly and devastating disease epidemics and pandemics are prophesied to occur *Lk 21:11; Rev 6:8*, as a result of: 1) Severe food shortages. 2) Massive concentrations of humans with poor sanitation. 3) All kinds of pollution, which weakens the body's ability to fight infection and disease. AIDS is one of the deadliest diseases of the end times. It is mainly a consequence of fornication and adultery (God condemns sexual immorality; and we are to flee from it! 1 Co 6:18-20). HIV is a leading cause of death worldwide. Almost 30 million people have died of AIDS-related causes world wide, since the first case was identified in 1981. Today, the number of people living with HIV is 34 million. In 2011, the people newly infected with HIV were 2.5 million; about 1.7 million people died of AIDS; and 430,000 died of HIV-associated TB (HIV is the strongest risk factor for developing active TB disease). It has been recognized in more than 200 countries and territories globally. It is spreading fast in many affected populations, especially in developing countries. In the 20th century, two major pandemics occurred: 1) An outbreak of a severe strain of influenza (Spanish Flu) which killed more than 25 million people in 1918-1919 worldwide. 2) The appearance of AIDS in 1981. There is still no cure for AIDS. During the 20th century, tens of millions of people died in three influenza pandemics. New multiresistant strains of tuberculosis may even spread through the affluent countries! A pandemic outbreak could occur within months, if the bird flu virus (from live chickens) mixed with a human virus,

according to Dr. Klaus Stohr, global influenza program coordinator for the World Health Organization.

Earthquakes - Erupting volcanoes and other natural disasters such as hurricanes, floods, tornadoes, tsunamis, typhoons, mudslides and cyclones will also occur in the last days. Jesus said there will be *great* earthquakes in various places. 'Great' meaning they will dramatically increase in intensity and frequency, and cause increasing destruction *Lk 21:11*. The largest earthquake since the 1900's occurred in Chile, on May 22nd 1960, of magnitude 9.5. The United States Geological Survey reports this event as "the largest earthquake of the 20th century." In the 21st century, in terms of fatalities: 1) 2010 Haiti earthquake was the most destructive event with 230,000~316,000 (Haitian government announcing) fatalities. 2) 2004 Indian Ocean earthquake with 230,000~300,000 fatalities. 3) 2005 Kashmir earthquake with 80,000~87,000 fatalities. 4) 2008 Sichuan earthquake with 69,197 fatalities (+18,000 people missing). Once these catastrophic disasters begin to intensify, people will increasingly recognize that God is judging the world! *Isa 29:6; Eze 38:19*.

Gospel - The true gospel of the Kingdom of God being preached throughout the world as a testimony (witness) to all nations, is the sign that signaled the end of an era in God's true Church Mt 24:14. God's faithful servants will continue to proclaim the Gospel "good news" that Christ Himself and the apostles preached, up until the return of Jesus Christ! God will forewarn the nations about the coming disasters, and send strong warning messages about repentance through His prophets, before He dramatically intervenes in world affairs Am 3:7. All true and faithful Christians have a responsibility to proclaim the true gospel of the Kingdom of God, throughout the world. Major apostasy and exposing of the man of sin, is also an indication that the return of Christ is imminent. The Greek word 'apostasia' is translated as 'falling away.' It means a defection from truth or apostasy. The Moffatt translation mentions in Da 12:4, "keep the Book shut as a secret, till the CRISIS AT THE END; ere then MANY SHALL GIVE WAY and trouble shall be multiplied on earth." The words "many shall give way" means an apostasy by the people of God's own Church. There will also be a worldwide rebellion against God, led by the antichrist (man of lawlessness or son of perdition - the man doomed to destruction is yet to be revealed) 2 Th 2:1-12. Another sign that we are in the last days, is that there will be a faithful remnant that "prophesies again," with no more delay Rev 10:6.11, which immediately precedes the prophesying of the two witnesses during the Great Tribulation Rev 11:1-14.

<u>Disaster in Jerusalem</u> - The modern nation of "Israel," occupied by the descendants of the tribe of Judah, will experience grave military losses. Half of the city will go into captivity. <u>Zec 14:1-2</u> and <u>Lk 21:20-22</u> refers to a future time, just before the return of Jesus Christ, when Jerusalem will be completely surrounded by armies and overrun by her enemies. Christ will fight against those nations that have fought against Jerusalem <u>Zec 14:3,12</u>.

Abomination of Desolation - Once Jerusalem is attacked and conquered, the "abomination of desolation" will commence. An abominable, idolatrous object will be setup in the holy place, on the Temple Mount in Jerusalem. Jesus warns those who are in Judea to flee immediately into the mountains for safety Zec 12:2: Da 12:11-12: Mt 24:15-20. In history, a parallel desecration took place, where in the time of Antiochus Epiphanes, the pagan Seleucid Greeks sacrificed pigs upon the sacred altar of God 1 Macc 1:41-50. The statue of the chief Greek god Zeus was also set up 2 Macc 6:2. The scriptures in Da 12:11: Mt 24:15 show that the Jews will again be sacrificing at Jerusalem, and that the daily sacrifices will be stopped by a foreign aggressor, followed by the set up of the abomination. "There shall be 1290 days" refers to the period of time after the abomination of desolation until the end of this present age, when Christ returns to establish His Kingdom on the earth.

Great Tribulation - (time of "Jacob's trouble" - Jer 30:4-7). The most horrifying time in the history of the earth! Only in this age has it been possible to exterminate all life on the earth, with the possession of nuclear weapons of mass destruction! This is the reason why Christ mentioned in Mk 13:20 - "If the Lord had not cut short those days, no one would survive, But for the sake of the elect, whom he has chosen, he has shortened them." An unparalleled time of great distress, directed primarily against the American and British-descended peoples. God gave Ezekiel a message about a future national captivity and slavery that applies to the end-time modern-day descendants of ancient Israel. Prophecies foretell their downfall, where 2/3 of the population of these nations will die by pestilence, famine and war; and 1/3 will be taken into captivity and slavery Dt 28:15-68; Eze 4:5:12; Lk 21:23-24. 90% of the population of the nations of modern Israel will die. According to Rev 3:10; 12:6,13-14 God's true, faithful, obedient and zealous saints will be supernaturally protected during the Great Tribulation that is coming upon the earth for a time, times and half-a-time (three and one-half years - Great Tribulation period), in a place of safety prepared by God here on the earth, during this unparalleled time of worldwide chaos and affliction. The "woman" is a symbol used here to represent God's Church. Conversely, Jesus sharply rebukes the attitude of many lukewarm professing Christians who will have to endure the Great Tribulation, because sadly, many are influenced - in the final Laodicean Church era - to be lukewarm Rev 3:15-16: 6:9-11: 12:17. Satan will persecute those who are "left behind" to face the Great Tribulation. The Great Multitude in Rev 7:9-17 are those who repent during the Great Tribulation. In Rev 13:16-18 and 14:9-11, the beast is referred to as a powerful leader and his government. The mark of the beast signifies allegiance to the beast and its image; and rebellion and disobedience to God. You absolutely MUST reject this mark! In Rev 14:10-11, the phrase "smoke of their torment ascends forever and ever," signifies eternal nature of punishment for those who accept it. Not eternal torment in sulfurous hell. God's wrath is poured out upon those who worship the beast and his image through earth-shaking and terrifying punishments (Read also Tract - 'Repent or Perish' & 'Hell and Unquenchable Fire!'). The exact nature of the mark is unknown. It may be a literal permanent physical mark, in the form of a microchip implant, or barcode tattooed into skin. In ancient Babylonian culture, slaves were identified by a mark tattooed or branded on the face or the back of the hand. This ancient practice may reveal what is yet to happen in the future! Or it may be a figurative mark, such as an enforced observance of Sunday, originally a day dedicated to the worship of the sun as a god, instead of the seventh-day Sabbath, which is an identifying sign between God and His people *Ex 31:12-17*.

<u>Heavenly Signs</u> - There will be fearful events and great signs in heaven. Awesome astronomical signs in the sun, moon and stars, visible to all who dwell on earth. The sun will turn to darkness, and the moon to blood; the stars will fall from heaven, and heavenly bodies will be shaken, before the great and glorious Day of the Lord! <u>Joel 2:30-32: Mt 24:29: Lk 21:25-26: Ac 2:20; Rev 6:12-17.</u> God will begin to powerfully and dramatically intervene in world affairs with astronomical phenomena that will capture everyone's attention!