

THOSE WHO DIED IN THE LORD SHALL STAND IN THEIR LOT

REVELATION 6

INTRODUCTION:

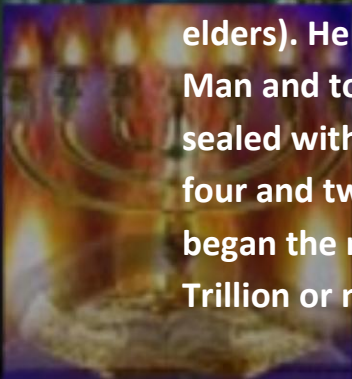
The number or the sum of the things we have been speaking of is this:

- Jesus is revealed as the **Alpha and Omega**, the one who was, and is, and is to come, The **Omnipresent**, the Almighty or The **Omnipotent**. He is the Word of God, The **Omniscient**. He is the **Lamb**, having seven horns and seven eyes, that was slain as symbolized by **Patmos** (meaning: my killing) at the **Altar of Burnt Offering, in the Sanctuary**, where John was banished. John by the **Door of the Sanctuary in Time, the Sabbath**, opened and entered God's Sanctuary being in the Spirit as he said on the Lord's Day and was caused to ride on the high places of the earth, **Isaiah 58: 14**, to survey that which is, and was and is to come.
- He Passover the **Mediterranean** (meaning: in the middle of the Land), the **water** symbolizing the **Laver**, as he was told to write in a Book and send it to the **7 Churches in Asia** (meaning: rising, speaking of Jesus' Resurrection). The singular unique feature of all the Churches that constitute the Body of Christ is that they have an ear to hear what the Spirit says to them. Being a part of His body, different members of Jesus' body (eyes, mouth, ear, hand, and feet) were used as points of references in the counsels given to the Churches. The first (or **Alpha**) four Churches were addressed in Chapter 2 and the last (or **Omega**) three Churches in Chapter 3. The Churches were located in Asia symbolizing that they were Jesus' people and the object of His Rising or Resurrection. They were positioned just after the **Laver** (reading the map from left to right) which is just before the **Door of the Tent of the Meeting or Tabernacle of the Congregation**, the place of Prayer. The Church constitutes the hospital for sinners, some are and are getting whole or better, others are still yet to be made whole. If the locations of the 7 churches in Asia are connected (by a line) and rotated or turn 90 degrees to the right it forms the **number (sheh-bah or 7) of His Name or appellation**.

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This is the graphical representation of the passage: if the people who are called by my Name will humble themselves and pray and seek ye my face and **turn** from their wicked ways then will I hear from Heaven and will forgive their sins and heal their land, **2 Chronicles 7:14**.

- The Names of the Churches speak to some aspect (or quality) of prayer and gives useful insights that we may pray according to the will of God to be heard. The meanings of the names are also of universal application to both the wheat and the tares which constitute the Churches. We also find the principle of marriage, the 7 points of **1 Peter 3: 1-7**, at work in the dynamics of the counsels given by the Husband (who must obey 3 points), Jesus, and what is expected of his Wife (who must obey 4 points), the Church.
- John Passover the Churches through the Door (symbolized by the Door of the Tent of Meeting) that was open in Heaven to behold what was to come afterwards. He saw the **Holy Places, the Throne of the Father, and the Menorah, or 7 Lamps burning before His Throne**. He also saw four Beasts or Living Creatures and the four and twenty elders praising the Father, singing the **first (or Alpha) Holy Song and bowing down in worship**. He also saw **myriads of Angels around the Throne and around the beasts and elders**.
- Then He saw the **Lion (of the Tribe of Judah the root of David) and the LAMB that was slain at the Altar of Burnt Offering by whose blood we are all redeemed and are made kings and priests and we will reign on the earth (including the four living creatures and four and twenty elders)**. He saw when He was inducted as Mediator between God and Man and took the Book written within and on the back side and was sealed with 7 seals. He saw when the four living creatures and the four and twenty elders fell down before the LAMB in worship and began the new or second song of praise, the **Worthy Song, which 100 Trillion or more Angels and he himself joined in**.



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From thereon the appellation of the LAMB is repeated throughout the rest of Revelation except for 7 proceeding Chapters as noted before. Remember, the Lamb of the Law or Torah Torah is either of the sheep or goats of the first year, a male without blemish, **Exodus 12: 5** and is used to begin the First service of the year or the Passover on **Nissan 14 (and in every other sacrificial offering as noted before)** and closes the last sacrificial service of the year in the Day of Atonement (Judgement) on the 10th day in the seventh Month in which two goats were used, the first, the Lord's goat for the cleansing of the congregation and the Sanctuary and the second, the scapegoat for the bearing of all the sins transferred from those who are cleansed and the Sanctuary upon its head which is carried into the wilderness by a Strong man to perish.

Jesus as **THE LAMB** slain constitutes all the sacrifices typified in the Torah, beginning with the Passover and ending with the Lord's Goat on the Day of Atonement. He is **THE LAMB** having SEVEN HORNS (He is the head of every principalities, powers, dominions and kingdoms, **Colossians 2: 10**. Remember, the Most High rules in the Kingdom of men and gives it to whomsoever He wills, and set up even the basest of men, **Daniel 4: 17**) AND SEVEN EYES WHICH ARE SEVEN SPIRITS OF GOD SENT FORTH IN ALL THE EARTH. Remember, He is both the Lion of the Tribe of Judah, the root of David AND THE LAMB.

The analogy and symbolism of the Lamb finds itself also in the portrayal of earthly powers. We find the rough goat to be the King of Grecia (who succeeded his father) and the notable horn between the eyes being the **first** (having worldwide dominion) king, Alexander the great, **Daniel 8: 21**. We find that when he was broken **four** horns (2nd-5th) (kingdoms) shall stand out of the nation (goat) in the four winds of heaven, but not in his power, **Daniel 8: 8 & 22**, and in the later end of their kingdom, a little horn (6th), came up out of one of them and waxed great towards the **south** (1st), **east** (2nd) and towards the **pleasant land** (3rd), **Daniel 8: 9**, and shall pluck up three other horns (king(dom)s), **Daniel 7: 8**. And it waxed great, even to the host of heaven; and it cast down some of the host and of the stars to the ground, and stamped upon them.

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Yea, he magnified himself even to the prince of the host, and by him the daily sacrifice was taken away, and the place of his sanctuary was cast down, **Daniel 8: 10-11**. And he shall speak great words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time, **Daniel 7: 25**.

And in **the latter time of their kingdom**, when the transgressors are come to the full, **a king of fierce countenance**, and understanding dark sentences, shall stand up (**7th**). **And his power shall be mighty, but not by his own power**: and he shall destroy wonderfully, and shall prosper, and practise, and shall destroy the mighty and the holy people (*So he carried me away in the spirit into the wilderness: and I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet coloured beast, full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns. And the angel said unto me, wherefore didst thou marvel? I will tell thee the mystery of the woman, and of the beast that carrieth her, which hath the seven heads and ten horns. The beast that thou sawest was, and is not; and shall ascend out of the bottomless pit, and go into perdition: and they that dwell on the earth shall wonder, whose names were not written in the book of life from the foundation of the world, when they behold the beast that was, and is not, and yet is. And the beast that was, and is not, even he is the eighth, and is of the seven (the 7th), and goeth into perdition. And the ten horns which thou sawest are ten kings, which have received no kingdom as yet; but receive power as kings one hour with the beast. These have one mind, and shall give their power and strength unto the beast, Revelation 7: 7-8 & 11-13.*) And through his policy also he shall cause craft to prosper in his hand; and he shall magnify himself in his heart, and by peace shall destroy many: he shall also stand up against the Prince of princes; but he shall be broken without hand, **Daniel 8: 23-25**.

We also see the beast coming up out of the earth and having two horns like a Lamb but spake as a Dragon, **Revelation 13:11**. The Lamb appellation as used to portray earthly powers is deceptive for it is as a Lamb in sheep clothing but inwardly it is a ravaging wolf. Remember, the devil is as a roaring lion walking about, seeking them whom he may devour, **1 Peter 5: 8**.

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In Heaven (**The Holy Places**) the **BOOK SEALED WITH 7 SEALS** is being open. At the opening of each of the first four seals each of the four Beasts or Living Thing, creatures (they were as angels having wings) announced to John to come and see. John heard and saw the effects or results occurring in the earth as each of the four horses went out of heaven into the earth. Each horse went apparently into different parts of the earth but only the fourth part was named.

The opening of the first six seals results in wars, death, economic hardship, earthquake and destruction. The Lamb as well as the four Beasts in this Chapter were all slain according to **Revelation 5: 8-9** and **Matthew 27:51-52** but they now in this Chapter were 'standing up' (resurrected) together with the four and twenty elders and the Lamb who had redeemed them as well as us all soon to follow. They bowed in worship of the Lamb and sang praises for His great sacrifice for their salvation. They worshipped the Lamb even as they worshipped our Heavenly Father, **chapter 4**. They have a special role to play with the Lamb in the consummation of all things.

We get a glimpse in this chapter as to their function along with the Lamb in the opening of the first 6 Seals of **the BOOK SEALED WITH 7 SEALS**. Bear in mind that the features of each of these four Beasts equate with that of the ensign or banner of the former leading Tribes of Israel for **each of the four quadrants: east, south, north and west**. But two of these tribes **Ephraim and Dan** were not mentioned among **those who were sealed in the 144K in Revelation 7** instead two other were mentioned being: **Levi and Joseph**. Remember Levi previously did not rank on any of the quadrants as they kept the charge of the Lord (now kept by the Lamb, four Beasts and the four and twenty elders) and Levi takes over Dan's position. To my mind **the four Beasts and four and twenty Elders were among those who were resurrected after the rocks and the graves were opened at Jesus' death**. This chapter will be examined along with **Matthew 24 and Zechariah 1 & 6** for parallels and correlations as well: (Four Winds of Heaven or Spirits in the first four horses)

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So we have the Sanctuary outlined (in type to be applied to the antitype: Creation's Sanctuary, **click on reference button in the Treasure Chest Sanctuary: <http://biblesermonsbythepreacher.com/sanctuary-docs/explanation-pdf/18-Creation's%20Sanctuary.jpg>**) to us and now we have **the Four Leaders of each quadrant** around the Sanctuary in **the Four Living Creatures with the respective ensigns**. Then in the following Chapter, **Chapter 7**, we have the numbering of **the armies of Israel in the 144K** who shall lead the battle in the earth, then, we have the rest of the congregation from every kindred, tongue, nation, language and people, which no man can number, **Revelation 7: 9**.

So the little horn power plucks up three horns or king(dom)s of the other three winds of heaven or quadrants of the earth to have world wide (four quadrant) dominion and power over all the earth or courtyard and in effect has surrounded the Sanctuary as the invading armies in **AD 70** surrounded the Sanctuary at Jerusalem which in type spoke to what shall be in the end of our time in **Matthew 24**. Matthew 24 uses the destruction of Jerusalem as a type for the antitype of our time what shall be in the end. But the little horn power (of the scarlet colour beast) will be met by the Prince of Prince who will put the battle in array **by the opening of the BOOK WITH THE SEVEN SEALS**.

So the enemy has his army upon the four quadrants of the courtyard and **THE LAMB, THE PRINCE OF princes**, has His army led by the four Beasts or Living Creatures on each front. They along with Angels, ministering spirits assist the **144K of the tribe of Israel** who are in the heat of the battle preaching the **GOSPEL** as a witness in all the earth and then shall the end come, **Matthew 24: 14**. Their harvest is great as seen in the great multitude which no man can number from every kindred, tribe, nation and people (viz. this number are the 153 fishes from the 17 nations and people groups in all the earth of the last harvest, **John 21 and Acts 2**). The prayers of the saints ascend to God and are kept in vials, **Revelation 5: 8**, by the four and twenty elders who along with their ministry, worship, and praise remind Eternal One constantly of these requests.

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When will it be time to close or roll up the Oracle Scroll? And I saw the heaven departed as a scroll being rolled up, **Revelation 6:14 and Isaiah 34: 4**.

Soon, soon will the Lord appear and soon will the Kingdom come. He is coming, coming soon I know, coming back to this earth again. And the weary pilgrim will to glory go when the Saviour comes to reign. Glory! Hallelujah!

In this will be the fulfilment of the first part of this statement: but I say to you until heaven and earth pass not one jot: dotting of an 'i', nor one title: the crossing of a 't', shall pass from the Law till all be fulfilled. The Heavens will depart first as scroll is rolled up, remember, my reference to them as the heavenly scroll with their messages in the signs of the stars which will occur in the later verses of this chapter, and then later on in **Chapter 21: 1**, John said he saw a new heaven and a new earth for the first heaven and first earth had passed away.

When the heavenly scroll is rolled up or closed the preaching of the gospel messages from the bible ceases: 'then shall the end come'. Heaven's scroll was open for centuries declaring the glory of God from the first generation even unto the last, now the time has come, for the scroll to be closed. When heaven departs as a scroll is rolled up, every island and mountains shall be moved out of their places. The time of wrath of the Lamb has come and who shall be able to stand? It is given unto us now to heed the messages of God's love and to prepare our hearts and that of our families, friends and neighbours for salvation.

The whole Creation's future is sealed in **the Book or Scroll of the 7 Seals** either for destruction or for salvation and as each seal is broken or opened, by the LAMB unto whom all power and authority is given, the events marked or numbered is revealed in the account and history of the world (nations) which fast hastens to **the ultimate Day of the Wrath of God and of the Lamb and the DAY OF JUDGEMENT**. Angels along with those who died in and with the Lamb (Lord), the Four Living Creatures or Beasts, and the Four and twenty Elders, now stand in their lot assisting in the Levitical High Priestly ministry of the Lamb as He opens each seal to usher in the Judgement. Clearly He has all power and authority and

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we are told to go teach all (on the four quadrants or coordinates of the globe) nations baptizing them in the Name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you and lo, I am with you, always, until the end of the World, **Matthew 28: 20**.

This Chapter gives insight as to what is happening in heaven, the opening of each seal, as the events unfold in all the earth, the Lamb is exercising all power and authority in opening the events that will usher in the age of the Kingdom of God. And the Leaders (Beasts) of each quadrant (east: Lion, west: Calf, south: Man's Face and north: flying Eagle according to the order they were named in **Revelation 4:7** tracing the number '4' when viewed from the east) of the congregation of Israel direct John's attention to the area upon the earth as the events unfold. The events are spelt out somewhat in symbolic language that only those who take heed to what they hear are able to decipher or understand. Remember, it is not given to those that are without to understand the mysteries of Kingdom of God, **Mark 4: 11**.

After the 6th Seal of the Book or Scroll is opened in Heaven the last event of our era in the earth is the heaven above departing as a Scroll being rolled up and every island and mountain moved out of their places. This event is so captured to mark that the Prophecies in the signs of the stars of the Heavenly Scroll has now climaxed into its reality. So one Scroll is closed or rolled up that the other may unfold the events so prophesied. (In succeeding Chapters we shall review the Prophecies of the Heavenly Scroll in the signs of the Stars)

In 54 AD, Mary the mother of Jesus died and was buried and so John fulfilled his duty of caring for her until the very end. It was said^[by whom?] that when they opened the tomb her body was gone. Catholic tradition says she rose from the dead and ascended into Heaven with both body and soul intact in what is called the Assumption of Mary,^[23] however others say her body was taken away lest it become an idol.^[citation needed] John and Mary Magdalene went north and visited the churches that were established along the way. They travel as far as Asia Minor and settle in Ephesus. One night, while they slept a thief broke into their home and John confronted him, converted him to the faith, and told him turn from doing evil.

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The thief's name was Cleophus whose name means "vision of glory". This story was shared among the Church and it became used as another example to describe the second coming of Christ as "thief in the night".

John, one day, was going to bathe at Ephesus, and perceiving Cerinthus within, he then rushed out of the bath-house without bathing, exclaiming, "Let us fly, lest even the bath-house fall down, because Cerinthus, the enemy of the Truth, is within." He wrote three epistles while living in Ephesus, and he also completed the Gospel of John during this period. John was taken away in the persecution of the Roman emperors in Ephesus, leaving Mary Magdalene in the care of Cleophus. Eastern Orthodox tradition states Mary Magdalene went to Cyprus to be with her sister Martha, where Lazarus became the first Bishop of Kittim (modern Larnaca). All three died in Cyprus.^[24] Catholic tradition says she later traveled to France and lived out her days there in penance.^{[25][26]}

After having spent time imprisoned in Rome during the reign of Roman Emperor Domitian, John was sentenced to be boiled in oil at the Colosseum. Legend has it he endured no harm or suffering from the scalding oil.^[citation needed] John was then sent by the Roman authorities to the Greek island of Patmos, where it is assumed he wrote the Book of Revelation (Rev 1:9) and where it is said he was later freed. When John was aged, he trained Polycarp who later became Bishop of Smyrna. Polycarp in turn taught Irenaeus and passed on to him stories about John. The only one of the Apostles who was not martyred, John testified that God has kept him alive for Himself and his service. Surrounded by his closest friends in Ephesus, he closed his eyes and died at age 94 in 100 AD.^[citation needed]

The Chapter will be done on the recount basis:

Heaven and Earth shall pass but my words shall not pass, **Matthew 24: 35.**

THE LAST (FOURTH) PART OF THE EARTH AND AT LAST THE HEAVEN DEPARTS:

V7 And when he had opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth beast say, Come and see.

The fourth, the last Beast or Living Creature, **the Flying Eagle**, having the ensign of the leading Tribe of Israel for the fourth or northern quadrant formerly Dan now construed as Levi, by his voice announces the invitation: come and see or behold,

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when the fourth seal is opened. He is the last of the four Beasts or Living Creatures that lead on the four quadrants, coordinates, winds or parts of the heaven and earth: east, west, south and north. These Living Creatures have six wings to move through the heavens coordinating the activities of the armies of Israel (and the Living God), including **the 144K**, who have the responsibility to advance the proclamation of the gospel in all the world to consummate all things.

We will recount the events as they unfold with the opening of the previous three seals:

1 The Lamb, having died now stands and opens one of the seals, construed as **the First Seal**, at which point there was a **noise of Thunder** and one of the Beasts or Living Creatures with the six wings (who was redeemed from the earth, previously dead but raised after the Lamb or Christ's resurrection), understood to be **the Lion**, being the **ensign of the Tribe of Judah**, the leader of the first or eastern quadrant (**construed in the broadest sense of the eastern hemisphere: continents of Europe, Asia, Africa and Australia, but more realistically to be the eastern province of roman empire at the time**) around the Sanctuary (Creation's Sanctuary) said: come and see or behold. I will declare the Decree of the Lord ! The Lamb by the opening of the Seals of the Book is doing just that. Only by the opening of the First Seal is there **the record of Thunder heard**. But this is not strange since from the Throne there was heard and seen, thunder, lightning and voices, **Revelation 4:5**. What is odd is that John heard it first before He saw the light or lightning horses or horses of fire which he describes in the progressive verses below. The message is coded in the language of thunderings, lightnings and voices: voice of thunder and lightning horses of four colours. The Name of the Lord is a strong Tower the righteous runs in and they are saved, **Proverbs 18: 10**. Jesus, the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world came to earth in the Name of His Father.

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- 2 His Life was one of great sufferings and tribulation and He was slain. This know that tribulations (sufferings) is a manifest token of the righteous judgement of God that you might be counted **worthy of the kingdom for which ye also suffer, 2 Thessalonians 1:5**. If we suffer with Him we also shall reign with Him. So all of Heaven's choir sang: Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive glory, honour, power.....So to be a Ruler in Israel you must first demonstrate your **worth**, to be a **King or Lion** you must first be a **Lamb**. **So John saw the Lamb and Lion in Revelation 4**. Now the Lamb and the Lion starts to exercise His Power and Authority in opening the Seals or events recorded in the annals of time. The same means by which Creation records the effectiveness and efficacy of prayer: the clouds as witnesses coming together, that their voices of thunder may be heard and their strikes of lightning may be seen in the heavens is the same means or language that is used as answer to all these prayers of the saints to consummate or bring all things to an end. The Father and His Son are Heaven's Witnesses and they come together and respond to all the prayers of the Saints in the opening of the 7 Seals of the Book, the first resulted in the voice of thunder and lightning horse and the other 3 seals other lightning horses of varying colours. The Throne of God in the Most Holy Place is the source of all lightning, thunders and voices. And the Son in the Holy Place, to the Right Hand of God opens the seals and the events follow in the earth.
- 3 John saw and behold a **white** (from greek word: luke) **or light horse or horse of light or lightning** (something like the horses and chariots of fire, **2 Kings 6: 17**) and the rider having a bow and a crown was given unto him, and he went conquering unto conquer. When in the annals of time did this event occurred in the eastern quadrant or hemisphere upon the earth? Roman Empire - Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_Empire.

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The first two centuries (this overlaps the Church of Ephesus and Smyrna periods) of the Empire were a period of unprecedented stability and prosperity known as the Pax Romana ("Roman Peace"). It reached its **greatest** expanse during the reign of Trajan (98–117 AD). ... The Augustus of Prima Porta (early 1st century AD) The empire completely circled the Mediterranean ... referred to by its **conquerors** as *mare nostrum*—'our sea'. The Laver, the Water in the middle of the Land is taken by the conqueror but it is the Lamb of Patmos, my killing, who is in Heaven directing the affairs on the earth. **The Mediterranean basin covers portions of three continents, Europe, Asia, and Africa.**

4 The Lamb opens the **Second seal**, and the **Second Beast**, or Living Creatures with the six wings, understood to be the **Calf (clean animal offered as sacrifice upon the altar of burnt offering due west in the courtyard)**, the ensign of Ephraim now construed as Joseph, the leader of the **Western or third Quadrant (The Western hemisphere is the part of the world west of the Prime Meridian, which ... which will in turn help you remember which continents are in the Eastern...North & South America, parts of Antarctica (Half of Antarctica is in the Western hemisphere, as the Prime Meridian starts at the North Pole and ends at the South Pole, the latter of which is around halfway through Antarctica.), parts of Europe (All of Ireland, roughly half of France and most of Spain) and parts of Africa (The West coast of Africa has a number of small countries, all of which are in the Western hemisphere. These include Ghana, the Ivory Coast, Monrovia, Sierra Leone, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Senegal and the Gambia. Mauritania and Morocco are also in the Western hemisphere, while Mali and Algeria are split between the two hemispheres) are in the western hemisphere)** around the Sanctuary (Creation's Sanctuary) said: come and see or behold.

5 And there went out another horse that was red (from root meaning

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fire, specifically lightning; fiery like coloured flame that is red). Yea the **lightning horse was of a fiery red flame**. And **power** was given unto him that sat thereon **to take peace from the earth** and that **they should kill one another** and a **great sword** (figuratively controversy, a sword) was given unto him. When did this event occurred? In the 3rd century (period of Smyrna), the Empire underwent a crisis that threatened its existence, but was reunified and stabilized under the emperors Aurelian and Diocletian. The **Crisis of the Third Century**, also known as **Military Anarchy** or the **Imperial Crisis**, (AD 235–284) was a period in which the Roman Empire nearly collapsed under the combined pressures of invasion, civil war (they should kill each other), plague, and economic depression. The Crisis began with the assassination of Emperor Alexander Severus at the hands of his own troops, initiating a fifty-year period in which 20–25 claimants to the title of Emperor, mostly prominent Roman army generals, assumed imperial power over all or part of the Empire.

By 258–260, the Empire split into three competing states: the Galic Empire (**The region inhabited by the ancient Gauls, (Galli, the Roman name for the Celtic people there) comprised modern-day France and parts of Belgium, western Germany, and northern Italy; 260 CE - Western provinces break away from Roman control; Gallic Empire (260 CE - 274 CE)**), including the Roman provinces of Gaul, Britannia and (briefly) Hispania; the Palmyrene Empire, including the eastern provinces of Syria Palaestina and Aegyptus or Egypt; and the Italian-centered and independent Roman Empire, proper, between them. Later, Aurelian (270–275) reunited the empire; the Crisis ended with the ascension and reforms of Diocletian in 284.

The Crisis resulted in such profound changes in the Empire's institutions, society, economic life and, eventually, religion, that it is increasingly seen by most historians as defining the transition between the historical periods of classical antiquity and late antiquity.^[1]

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6 The Lamb opens the **third seal**, and the **third beast**, Living Creature, having the **man face**, the ensign of the **Tribe of Rueben**, the leading tribe of the **Southern or 2nd Quadrant** (**Southern hemisphere: On Earth the Southern Hemisphere contains all or parts of four continents (Antarctica, Australia, about 9/10 of South America and the southern third of Africa)**), around the Sanctuary (Creation's Sanctuary or Earth) said: come and see, or behold. John saw a **lightning black horse** whose rider had a **pair of balances in his hand**.

6 And John hears a **voice from among the four beasts: the Lion, the Calf, the Man Face and the Flying Eagle**, saying: a **measure of wheat for a penny, and three measures of barley for a penny and see thou hurt not the oil or the wine**.

Christianity in the **4th century** was dominated in its early stage by [Constantine the Great](#) and the [First Council of Nicaea](#) of 325, which was the beginning of the period of the [First seven Ecumenical Councils](#) (325–787), and in its late stage by the [Edict of Thessalonica](#) of 380, which made [Nicene Christianity](#) the [state church of the Roman Empire](#). (This covers the period of [Pergamos: 4th, 5th and first decade of the 6th Century](#))

With Christianity the dominant faith in some urban centers Christians accounted for approximately 10% of the Roman population by 300, according to some estimates.^[6] Roman Emperor [Diocletian](#) launched the [bloodiest campaign](#) against Christians that the empire had witnessed. The persecution ended in 311 with the death of Diocletian. The persecution ultimately had not turned the tide on the growth of the religion.^[6] Christians had already organized to the point of establishing [hierarchies of bishops](#). In 301 the [Kingdom of Armenia](#) became the first nation to [adopt Christianity](#). The Romans followed suit in 380.

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In April 311, [Galerius](#), who had previously been one of the leading figures in the persecutions, [issued an edict](#) permitting the practice of the Christian religion under his rule.^[71] From 313 to 380, Christianity enjoyed the status of being a legal religion within the Roman Empire. It had not become the sole authorized state religion, however it gradually gained prominence and stature within Roman society. After halting the persecutions of the Christians, Galerius reigned for another 2 years. He was then succeeded by an emperor with distinctively *pro* Christian leanings, [Constantine the Great](#).

Christian sources record that Constantine experienced a dramatic event in 312 at the [Battle of Milvian Bridge](#), after which Constantine claimed the emperorship in the West. According to these sources, Constantine looked up to the sun before the battle and saw a cross of light above it, and with it the Greek words "EN TOYTO NIKA" ("by this, conquer!", often rendered in the Latin "[in hoc signo vinces](#)"); Constantine commanded his troops to adorn their shields with a Christian symbol (the [Chi-Ro](#)), and thereafter they were victorious.^{[8][9]} How much Christianity Constantine adopted at this point is difficult to discern; most influential people in the empire, especially high military officials, were still pagan, and Constantine's rule exhibited at least a willingness to appease these factions.^[8]

Constantine began to utilize Christian symbols early in his reign but still encouraged traditional Roman religious practices including [sun worship](#). Between 324 and 330, Constantine built a new imperial capital at Byzantium on the Bosphorus (it came to be named for him: [Constantinople](#))—the city employed overtly [Christian architecture](#), contained churches within the city walls (unlike "old" Rome), and had no pagan temples.^[11] In 330 he established Constantinople as the new capital of the Roman Empire.

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The city would gradually come to be seen as the center of the Christian world. [\[12\]](#)

Christianity outside the Roman Empire:

2nd to 5th century simplified migrations. See also map of the world in 820 CE. The Armenian and Ethiopian churches are the only instances of imposition of Christianity by sovereign rulers predating the council of Nicaea. Conversions happened among the Grecian-Roman-Celtic populations over centuries, mostly among its urban population and only spread to rural populations in much later centuries. Consequently, while the initial converts were found among the Jewish populations, the development of the Orthodox Church as an aspect of State society occurred through the co-option of State Religion into the ethos of Christianity, and only then was conversion of the large rural population accomplished. The Germanic migrations of the 5th century were triggered by the destruction of the Gothic kingdoms by the Huns in 372–375

So firstly the destruction of Jerusalem, then from Patmos (my killing: the altar of burnt offering) to taking the Mediterranean (our Sea or the Laver) and then the killing and persecuting of the 7 Churches of Asia before the Tent of the Meeting or Tabernacle to setting up His Capital in 330 AD at Constantinople at Byzantium on the Bosphorus, a city on 7 Hills (as was Jerusalem, old Rome and Babylon) to counterfeit the Holy and Most Holy Places. So the 'converted' pagans exalted themselves even against the Most High.

The Roman province of Egypt ([Latin](#): *Aegyptus*, pronounced [\[aj ˈɡyptʊs\]](#); [Greek](#): Αἴγυπτος *Aigyptos* [[ἔ:γυπτος](#)]) was established in 30 BC after [Octavian](#) (the future [emperor Augustus](#)) defeated his rival [Mark Antony](#), deposed his lover Queen [Cleopatra VII](#) and annexed the [Ptolemaic kingdom of Egypt](#) to the [Roman Empire](#).

Many stretches of the boundaries shown are only approximate. The provincial boundaries within Britain are unknown.

Diocese of Britanniae comprises 4 provinces, Galliae 8, Viennensis 7, Hispaniae 6, Africa 7, Italia 12, Pannoniae 7, Moesiae 11, Thracia 6, Aetolia 9, Parthica 7, Orlens 16.

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The [province](#) encompassed most of modern-day [Egypt](#) except for the [Sinai Peninsula](#) (which would later be conquered by [Trajan](#)). Aegyptus was bordered by the provinces of [Creta et Cyrenaica](#) to the West and [Judaea](#) (later [Arabia Petraea](#)) to the East. Egypt would come to serve as a major producer of [grain](#) for the empire.

Maintaining an affordable food supply to the city of Rome had become a major political issue in the late Republic, when the state began to provide a grain dole (*annona*) to citizens who registered for it.^[54] About 200,000–250,000 adult males in Rome received the dole, amounting to about 33 kg. per month, for a per annum total of about 100,000 tons of wheat primarily from [Sicily](#), Northern Africa, and Egypt.^[55] The dole cost at least 15 percent of state revenues,^[56] but improved living conditions and family life among the lower classes,^[57] and subsidized the rich by allowing workers to spend more of their earnings on the wine and olive oil produced on the estates of the landowning class.^[58]

The grain dole also had symbolic value: it affirmed both the emperor's position as universal benefactor, and the right of all citizens to share in "the fruits of conquest".^[59] The *annona*, public facilities, and spectacular entertainments mitigated the otherwise dreary living conditions of lower-class Romans, and kept social unrest in check. The satirist [Juvenal](#), however, saw "[bread and circuses](#)" (*panem et circenses*) as emblematic of the loss of republican political liberty:^[60]

The public has long since cast off its cares: the people that once bestowed commands, consulships, legions and all else, now meddles no more and longs eagerly for just two things: bread and circuses.^[61]

Romans who received the dole took it to a mill to have it ground into flour.^[62] By the reign of [Aurelian](#), the state had begun to distribute the *annona* as a daily ration of bread baked in state factories, and added [olive oil](#), wine, and pork to the dole.^[63]

In the 4th century when the Roman emperors were trying to control the Church, theological questions were running rampant throughout the Roman Empire.^[43] The influence of Greek speculative thought on

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Christian thinking led to all sorts of divergent and conflicting opinions.^[44] [Christ's commandment](#) to love others as He loved seemed to have been lost in the intellectual abstractions of the time. Theology was also used as a weapon against opponent bishops, since being branded a heretic was the only sure way for a bishop to be removed by other bishops.^[citation needed]

After Constantine built Constantinople, the centre of the empire was recognised to have shifted to the [eastern Mediterranean](#). Rome lost the [Senate](#) to Constantinople and lost its status and gravitas as imperial capital. The bishops of Rome sent letters which, though largely ineffectual, provided historical precedents which were used by later supporters of papal primacy. These letters were known as '[decretals](#)' from at least the time of Siricius (384–399) to Leo I provided general guidelines to follow which later would become incorporated into canon law).^[45]

He that came to earth in the Name of His Father, the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world, now opens the **Book of 7 Seals: The Decree of the Lord**. When the Lamb opens the 1st Seal thunder was heard first, **the Lion** being the ensign of the Tribe of Judah on the eastern quadrant, announces to come and see: **the lightning white Horse, whose rider had a bow and a crown was given unto him and He went forth conquering unto conquer**. As the Lamb continues to open the other seals no more thunder was heard but instead the lightning horses went forth with their riders after being announced by the other Living Creatures or Beasts: 2nd Seal was announced by the 2nd Beast or Calf, the ensign of the **Tribe of Ephraim now Joseph**, the leading Tribe on the **Western quadrant** and there was seen by John **the lightning fiery red flame horse who took peace from the earth and the rider: they killed one another unto whom was given a great sword**; 3rd Seal was announced by the 3rd Beast or **Man Face**, the ensign of the **Tribe of Ruben**, the Leading Tribe on **the second or Southern Quadrant** and John saw a **black lightning horse**, whose rider had a pair of balances, and he heard a voice among the Four Beasts or Living Creatures: a measure of wheat for

- **Gallic Empire**
- **Roman Empire**
- **Palmyrene Empire**

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a penny and three measures of barley for a penny and see thou hurt not the oil nor the wine.

At Jesus' sentence to death the Jews had said to the Governor let His blood be upon us and our children, **Matthew 27: 25** now the penalty of innocent blood was upon that Nation. In **Matthew 24: 2**, the Disciples wanted to know when the Temple would be destroyed according to Jesus' prophecy in **verse 1 and the sign of His Second Coming and the end of the World, verse 3. Jesus' answer spans the period up to and from the opening of the first seal** unto and after the opening of **the sixth seal**. His answer was in general terms addressing the when and the sign for the destruction of the Temple, His Second Coming and the end of the world.

Because of impenitence and perpetual sins the Jews were without the protection of God and eventually their Temple was destroyed in **AD 70. The sign of the abomination of desolation standing in the holy place spoken of by Daniel the Prophet: the Roman pagan army surrounding Jerusalem, Matthew 24:15, was the first sign, to tell that Jerusalem's Temple was about to be destroyed** and Christians who understood the sign fled as Jesus had advised to the hills or mountains, **Matthew 24: 16-18**. The Roman Empire continued its conquest to conquer all the land around the Mediterranean and enjoyed a period of stability and peace up to **AD 117** to accord with the prophecy of the opening of **the first seal and the white horse**.

According to **Revelation 6: 12-14**: And I beheld when he had opened **the sixth seal**, and, lo, there was a great earthquake (**1755**); and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood(**1780**); And the stars of heaven fell unto the earth(**1833**), even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind. And **the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together**; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places. Jesus said in **Matthew 24: 29: Immediately after the tribulation of those days** shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall

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from heaven, and the powers of the heavens (gospel) shall be shaken. These two passages parallel each other. So in **Matthew 24: 29**, Jesus was indirectly speaking of the opening of **the sixth seal**.

From the destruction of the Temple and the fleeing of the Christians to the mountains Jesus says in **Mathew 24: 21**: For **then shall be great tribulation**, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be.

Under the opening of the **2nd to 5th seals** we see why Jesus refers to this period as the **great tribulation period**. **The fiery red flame lightning horse** of the **2nd seal** and its rider with the great sword which they killed one another (civil war) and take away peace from the earth; **and the black lightning horse** of the **3rd seal** and its rider which had a pair of balances in his hand and voice which said: a measure of wheat for a penny and three measure of barley for a penny and see thou hurt not the oil and the wine; and the **pale horse of lightning** of the **4th seal** and its rider who was Death and Hell followed and they were given power over the fourth part of the earth to kill with the sword, hunger, death, and the beasts of the earth are clearly the instruments of **the destruction and tribulation** which Christians suffered during this time. When the **5th seal** was opened the souls of all who was martyred for the word of God under the preceding seals that were opened was seen by John and they were given white robes, which is understood that their cases were decided hence it resulted in the symbolic giving of white robes (righteousness of Christ) unto them and they were told to wait a little until the others of their brethren who were to be killed like them was accomplished.

These along with the others who were to be killed under the subsequent seal (**the 6th seal**) are seen later in **Chapter 7** among the great multitude which no man could number arrayed in white robes and having palms and shouting before the Throne. And who were said to have come out of great tribulation and have washed their robes white in the blood of the Lamb.

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V14 And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places.

So the last part of the earth, the fourth or northern part, is covered by the opening of the fourth seal, after which two other seals, the fifth and sixth are opened which climaxes in **the heaven departing as a scroll when it is rolled together** causing every mountain and island (will the islands of the Caribbean remain after?) to be moved out of their places and reminds of Jesus' prophecy: till heaven and earth pass not one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law till all be fulfilled, **Matthew 5: 18**. We shall recount the events that led to this occurrence:

8 And I looked, and behold a pale (greenish, verdant, dun-coloured (dark or dull) horse: and his name that sat on him was Death, and Hell followed with him. And power was given unto them over the fourth (northern quadrant) part of the earth, to kill with sword, and with hunger, and with death, and with the beasts of the earth.

By the end of the 5th century only the eastern part of the empire, from Constantinople round the Mediterranean to Alexandria, is a stable area of Christian orthodoxy. The situation in the west is very different. The pope and his entourage in Rome survive as an orthodox enclave within an Italy dominated by the Arian **Ostrogoths**. Spain is in the hands of Arian **Visigoths**. North Africa is controlled by Arian **Vandals** (see the *Spread of Arianism*).

Christians in Gaul and Britain are in an even worse predicament. They struggle to keep the faith in Roman territories encroached upon by **pagan Germanic tribes**, untouched even by Arian Christianity - the *Franks* in Gaul, the *Angles and Saxons* in Britain.

The story of Christianity for the next 1000 years is largely shaped by the way the two halves of the Roman empire, east and west, cope with the challenges posed in about 500. (**This is the period of Thyatira**).

The emperors, based in Constantinople, continue to assert their authority in the east. Under one of them, *Justinian*, that authority is even extended again into part of

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the west, in Italy and north Africa (though this will be more than counteracted, in the next century, by *Losses to Islam*). But in Gaul, Spain and the British Isles, and beyond the boundaries of the empire into Germany, the only civilizing influence comes not from emperors but from leaders of the church - popes and bishops, soon followed by missionaries from the new monastic orders.

When popes make alliances with the secular rulers of the west - as with Pepin in 753, or with Charlemagne in 772 - they do so as equal partners in a relationship of value to both sides. In anointing or crowning these kings, the popes bestow on them a new status. The position of the pope is very different from that of an eastern bishop, whose predecessors were raised to high office by emperors.

The result, long before any doctrinal split, is a clear distinction between eastern and western Christianity. The patriarch in Constantinople is part of the machinery of state of a semi-divine emperor. The pope in Rome views a secular ruler as something between a colleague and a political opponent.

At least by the 4th century, the consensus amongst scholars is that persecution of Christians by Jews has been traditionally overstated; according to James Everett Seaver,^[10]

Much of Christian hatred toward the Jews was based on the popular misconception... that the Jews had been the active persecutors of Christians for many centuries... The... examination of the sources for fourth century Jewish history will show that the universal, tenacious, and malicious Jewish hatred of Christianity referred to by the church fathers and countless others has no existence in historical fact. The generalizations of patristic writers in support of the accusation have been wrongly interpreted from the fourth century to the present day. That individual Jews hated and reviled the Christians there can be no doubt, but there is no evidence that the Jews as a class hated and persecuted the Christians as a class during the early years of the fourth century.

According to Antiochus Strategos, a 7th-century monk in Palestine, shortly after the Persian army entered Jerusalem in 614, unprecedented looting and sacrilege took place. Church after church was burned down alongside the innumerable Christian artifacts, which were stolen or damaged by the ensuing arson. Given that Khosrau II generally practiced religious tolerance and did deem Christians respectfully, it is not known why Shahrbaraz ordered such a massacre. One reason could simply have been Shahrbaraz's rage at the resistance that had been offered by Jerusalem's Christian populace. Accounts from early Christian chroniclers suggest that 26,000 Jewish rebels entered the streets of the city.

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Some Jerusalem Christians were taken captive, gathered together and murdered in mass by Jews. The Greek historian Antiochus Strategos writes that captive Christians were gathered near Mamilla reservoir and the Jews offered to help them escape death if they "become Jews and deny Christ". The Christian captives refused, and the Jews in anger had purchased the Christians from Persians and massacred them on spot. Antiochus writes: Then the Jews... as of old they bought the Lord from the Jews with silver, so they purchased Christians out of the reservoir; for they gave the Persians silver, and they bought a Christian and slew him like a sheep.

According to Antiochus, the total Christian death toll was 66,509, of which 24,518 corpses were found at Mamilla, many more than were found anywhere else in the city. Other manuscripts suggest less were found at Mamilla 4518 or 4618.^[19] Other sources give a figure of 60,000 slain. The Jews destroyed the Christian churches and the monasteries, books were burnt and monks and priests killed. According to Israeli archeologists, there was no destruction of churches. A mass burial grave at Mamilla cave was discovered in 1989 by Israeli archeologist Ronny Reich.

The massacre appeared to have happened after Christians revolted a few months after the capture of Jerusalem. They were able to briefly retake the city for 19 days before the walls were breached. Killing the new ruler of Jerusalem the Exilarch Nehemiah ben Hushiel and his "council of the righteous" and dragging their bodies through the streets. Christians in this time period had allied themselves with the Eastern Roman Empire. Archaeological evidence does not currently support the idea that churches were burnt. Christian sources may well have reason to exaggerate the extent of the massacre as they would later in 628 massacre, forcibly convert and expel the Jews.^[20]

In general, Christians subject to Islamic rule were allowed to practice their religion with some notable limitations, see [Pact of Umar](#). As [People of the Book](#) they were awarded [dhimmi](#) status (along with [Jews](#) and [Mandeans](#)), inferior to the status of Muslims.

At times, anti-Christian pogroms occurred. Under [sharia](#), non-Muslims were obligated to pay [jizya](#) taxes, which contributed a significant proportion of income for the Islamic state and persuaded many Christians to convert to Islam (Stillman (1979), p. 160.). According to the [Hanafi](#) school of sharia, the testimony of a non-Muslim (such as a Christian) was not considered valid against the testimony of a Muslim. Other schools differed. Christian men were not allowed to marry a Muslim woman under sharia. Muslim men on the other hand were allowed to marry Christian women who were then expected to convert. Christians under Islamic rule had the right to convert to Islam or any other religion, while a

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[murtad](#), or apostate of Islam, faced severe penalties or even [hadd](#), which could include the death penalty.

[Tamerlane](#) instigated large scale massacres of Christians in [Mesopotamia](#), [Persia](#), [Asia Minor](#) and [Syria](#) in the 14th century AD. Most of the victims were indigenous [Assyrians](#), [Arameans](#) and [Armenians](#), members of the [Assyrian Church of the East](#) and [Orthodox Churches](#), which led to the decimation of the hitherto majority Assyrian population in northern Mesopotamia and the abandonment of the ancient Assyrian city of [Ashur](#).^[21]

In the medieval period the Roman Catholic Church moved to suppress the [Cathar](#) heresy, the [Pope](#) having sanctioned a [crusade against the Albigensians](#), during the course of which the massacre of [Béziers](#) took place, with between seven and twenty thousand deaths. Papal legate [Arnaud Amalric](#), when asked how Catholics could be distinguished from Cathars once the city fell, famously replied, "Kill them all, God will know His own." Over the twenty-year period of this campaign an estimated 200,000 to 1,000,000 people were killed.^{[22][23]}

[John Huss](#), a [Bohemian](#) preacher of reformation, was burned at the stake on 6 July 1415. [Pope Martin V](#) issued a bull on 17 March 1420 which proclaimed a [crusade](#) "for the destruction of the [Wycliffites](#), [Hussites](#) and all other [heretics](#) in Bohemia".

The [Crusades](#) in the Middle East also spilled over into conquest of [Eastern Orthodox](#) Christians by Roman Catholics and attempted suppression of the Orthodox Church. The [Waldenses](#) were as well persecuted by the Catholic Church, but survive up to this day.

The **Holy Roman Empire** was a multi-ethnic and complex union of territories in [Central Europe](#) existing from 962 to 1806. It was ruled by an emperor who was elected by powerful princes. How much power the Emperor had versus the princes, bishops and the pope was a highly controversial issue. Century by century the Emperor lost power until [Napoleon](#) abolished the empire as a useless anachronism.

The empire grew out of [East Francia](#), a primary division of the [Frankish Empire](#), and explicitly proclaimed itself the continuation of the [Western Roman Empire](#) under the doctrine of *translatio imperii* ("transfer of rule" via a succession of singular rulers vested with supreme power).^[24] Frankish king [Charlemagne](#) was crowned as emperor by [Pope Leo III](#) in 800, restoring the title in the West after more than three centuries.^[25] The title was passed in a desultory manner during the decline and fragmentation of the [Carolingian dynasty](#), eventually falling into abeyance.^[26] The title was revived in 962 when [Otto I](#) was crowned [Holy Roman Emperor](#) (*Latin: Imperator Romanus Sacer*),^[27] beginning an unbroken line of

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emperors running for over eight centuries.^[4] Although Charlemagne was the first to bear the title and the agglomeration grew out of his empire, Otto I is generally regarded as the founder and the date of his coronation as the beginning of the Holy Roman Empire.^[6]

The territories making up the Empire lay predominantly in Central Europe. At its peak in 1050, under [Emperor Henry III](#), it included the [Kingdom of Germany](#), the [Kingdom of Bohemia](#), the [Kingdom of Italy](#), and the [Kingdom of Burgundy](#).^{[7][8]} The Holy Roman Empire never achieved the extent of political unification formed in France, evolving instead into a decentralized, limited elective monarchy composed of hundreds of [smaller sub-units, principalities, duchies, counties, Free Imperial Cities](#), and other domains.^{[9][10]} The power of the emperor was limited, and while the various princes, lords and kings of the Empire were vassals and subjects who owed the emperor their allegiance, they also possessed an extent of privileges that gave them *de facto* sovereignty within their territories.

The last Holy Roman Emperor was [Francis II](#), who abdicated and dissolved the Empire in 1806 during the [Napoleonic Wars](#).^[10]

The **6th century** is the period from [501](#) to [600](#) in accordance with the [Julian calendar](#) in the [Common Era](#). In the West this century marks the end of [Classical Antiquity](#) and the beginning of the [Middle Ages](#).

Following the collapse of the [Western Roman Empire](#) late in the previous century, Europe fractured into many small Germanic Kingdoms, which competed fiercely for land and wealth. From this upheaval the [Franks](#) rose to prominence, and carved out a sizeable domain encompassing much of modern France and Germany. Meanwhile, the surviving [Eastern Roman Empire](#) began to expand under the emperor [Justinian](#), who eventually recaptured North Africa from the [Vandals](#), and attempted to fully recover [Italy](#) as well in the hope of re-establishing Roman control over the lands once ruled by the [Western Roman Empire](#). Following Justinian's death, most of his gains were lost.

During its second Golden Age, the [Sassanid Empire](#) reached the peak of its power under [Khosrau I](#) in the 6th century.^[1] The classical [Gupta Empire](#) of [Northern India](#), largely overrun by the [Huna](#), ended in the mid-6th century. In [Japan](#), the [Kofun period](#) gave way to the [Asuka period](#). After being divided for more than 150 years into the [Southern and Northern Dynasties](#), [China](#) was reunited under the [Sui Dynasty](#) toward the end of the 6th century. The [Three Kingdoms of Korea](#) persisted throughout the 6th century. The [Göktürks](#) became a major power in [Central Asia](#) after defeating the [Rouran](#).

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In the [Americas](#), [Teotihuacan](#) began to decline in the 6th century after having reached its zenith between AD 150 and 450. Classic Period of the [Maya civilization](#) in [Central America](#).

The [Catholic](#) doctrine of papal supremacy is based on the assertion by the [Bishops of Rome](#) that it was instituted by [Christ](#) and that papal succession is traced back to [Peter the Apostle](#) in the [1st century](#). The authority for the position is derived from the [Confession of Peter](#) documented in [Matthew 16:17–19](#) when, in response to Peter's acknowledgment of [Jesus' divinity](#), [Jesus](#) responded: Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jona! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but [my Father](#) who is in [heaven](#). And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the powers of death [gates of hell] shall not prevail against it. I will give you the [keys of the kingdom of heaven](#), and whatever you [bind](#) on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

Critics claim that the creation of the term papal supremacy dates back to the [6th century](#), which was the beginning of the rise of the Bishops of Rome to the position of not just religious authority, but the power to be the ultimate ruler of the [kingdoms](#) within the [Christian](#) community ([Christendom](#)) which it has since retained. Catholics have countered this argument by the fact that in the [first three centuries of Christianity](#) the church in Rome intervened in other communities to help resolve conflicts.^[3] [Pope Clement I](#) did so in [Corinth](#) in the end of the [first century](#).^[4] In the end of the [2nd century](#), [Pope Victor I](#) threatened to excommunicate the Eastern bishops who continued to celebrate [Easter on 14 Nisan](#), not on the following Sunday.^[5] In the [third century](#), [Pope Cornelius](#) convened and presided over a synod of 60 African and Eastern bishops,^[6] and his rival, the [antipope Novatian](#), claimed to have "assumed the primacy".^[7]

In the complex development of papal supremacy, two broad phases may be noted. Examples are:

- [Urban II's](#) launching in 1095 of the [Crusades](#), which, in an attempt to recover the [Holy Land](#) and territories of the [Byzantine Empire](#) which had been conquered by Muslim Seljuk Turks, marshalled European nobility under papal leadership.
- The Papacy determined whom they wished to be the king of various lands by the crowning by Pope Leo III of [Charlemagne](#), first of the Carolingian emperors, rather than a man proclaiming himself king.

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9 And when he had opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar (place of sacrifice, literally or figuratively) the souls of them that were slain for the word of God, and for the testimony which they held:

10 And they cried with a loud voice, saying, How long, O Lord, holy and true, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth?

11 And white robes were given unto every one of them; and it was said unto them, that they should rest yet for a little season, until their fellowservants also and their brethren, that should be killed as they were, should be fulfilled.

This is covered by the period of Sardis from 16th, 17th and half of 18th Centuries the period of reformation.

12 And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and, lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood;

13 And the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely (unripe) figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind.

This is covered by the period of Philadelphia and into our age of Laodicea. The Lisbon earthquake of 1st November 1755; sun darkening on May 19th, 1780 and the Moon turned to blood and the stars fell on November 13th, 1833.

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CONCLUSION:

V15 And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains;

V16 And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb:

V17 For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand (abide, appoint, bring, continue, covenant, establish, hold up, lay, present, set (up), stanch, stand (by, forth, still, up))?

The four horses and riders with their instruments that they carried are like those in **Zechariah 1: 8-10** and **6:1-8**, whom the Lord had sent to and fro in all the earth: east, west, south and north, to bring to pass that which is written in the Oracle of God.