



Christ's Prophecies of the

END TIMES

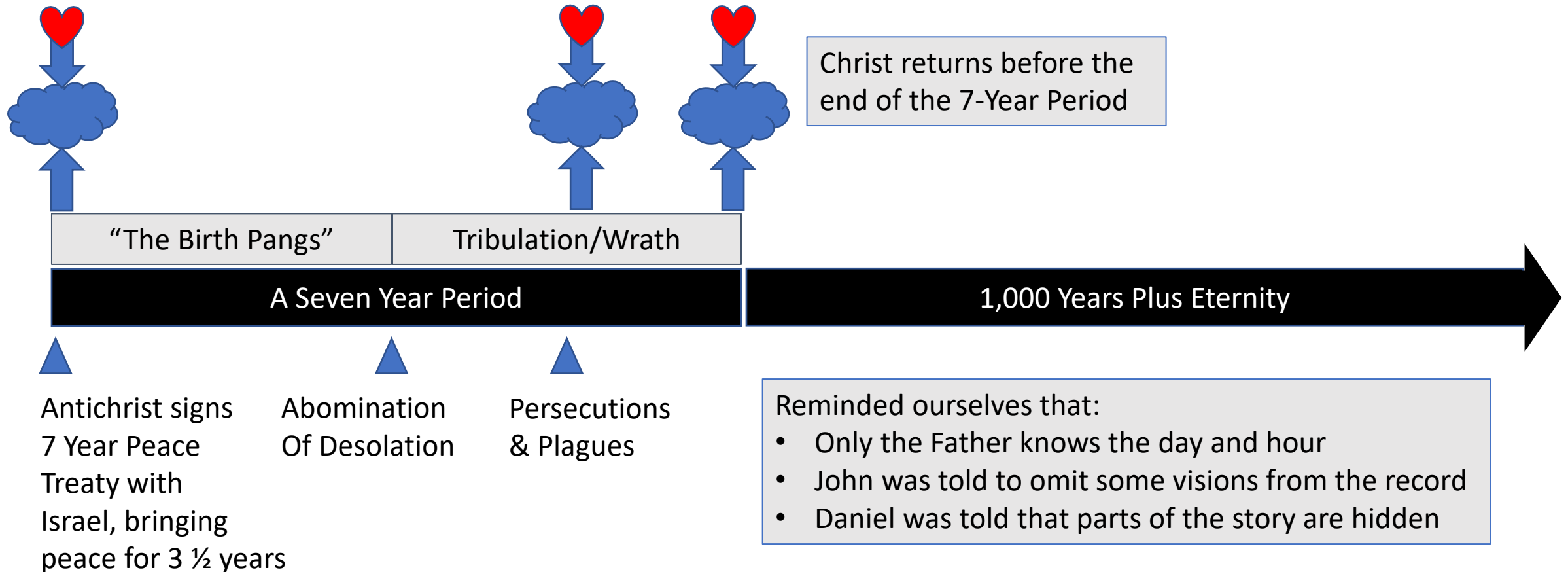
Part 2

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Created & Sponsored By The Willowdale Small Group Leadership Team

Summary: What We Know So Far...



Events Leading To “the Birth Pangs”

Old Testament prophecies (already fulfilled):

- Israel will be reborn in a day (Isa. 66:7-8)....May 14, 1948
- Jerusalem regained by Israel (Dan. 9:26b-27b)....1967

New Testament prophecies: Getting closer to the ‘start date’:

- Moral decay (2 Tim. 3:5)
- Corruption in religious thought (1 Tim. 4:1)
- The Temple in Jerusalem is rebuilt (Thess. 2:3-4)
- The Gospel is preached to the whole world (Matt. 24:14)





Key Players

Our Arch-Enemy Satan

- When he fell from heaven, according to Revelation 12:
 - He is called The Red Dragon
 - He “swept 1/3 of the stars from heaven”
 - “Stars” are angels; they become his minions (demons)
- He mimics God to keep us fooled
- He is the source of power for the Antichrist



“A great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet and a crown of twelve stars on her head. She was pregnant and cried out in pain as she was about to give birth. Then another sign appeared in heaven: **an enormous red dragon** with seven heads and ten horns and seven crowns on its heads. **Its tail swept a third of the stars out of the sky** and flung them to the earth. The dragon stood in front of the woman who was about to give birth, so that it might devour her child the moment he was born.” (Rev. 12:1-4)



The Antichrist and the False Prophet

- What have you heard about the Antichrist?
- What have you heard about the False Prophet?

The Antichrist

- He is a man (“the Beast out of the Sea”)
- He will be a dynamic leader and will:
 - arise among “a union of ten kings”
 - be regarded as “brilliant”
 - rule “the world” and unite all leaders under him
 - perform *miracles*
- The “number of his name” will be 666
- He will set up a 7-year peace treaty with Israel
- After 3 ½ years, he will violate the treaty & declare himself to be god
- He will sustain a wound (die?) and be “resurrected”
- He will align himself with a “false prophet” who helps him subdue the world’s nations



The False Prophet



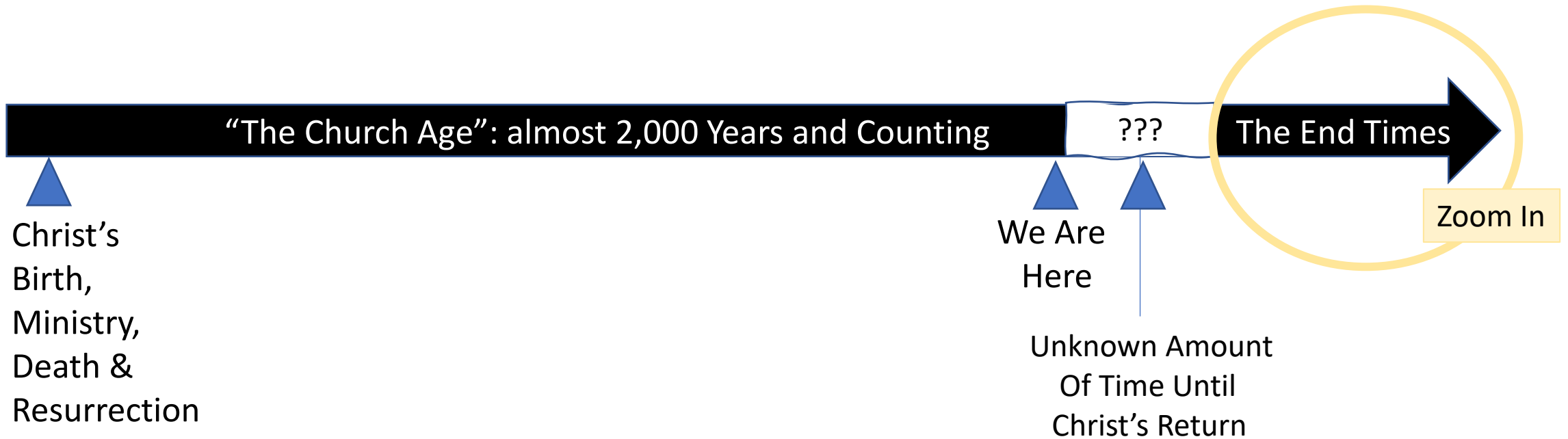
- He is a man (“the Beast out of the Earth”)
- He will perform miracles such as pulling fire from the sky
- He will make an image of the Antichrist that speaks so all can worship
- He will force the world to worship the Antichrist as God
- He will place economic sanctions on any who won't worship the Antichrist and take his mark on their forehead or right hand (Rev. 13:16-17)
- Later, he will kill any who won't worship the Antichrist

Satan, Antichrist, False Prophet – does this unholy “trinity” seem familiar?



Delving into the Prophecies

Zooming In on the “End Times Timeline”

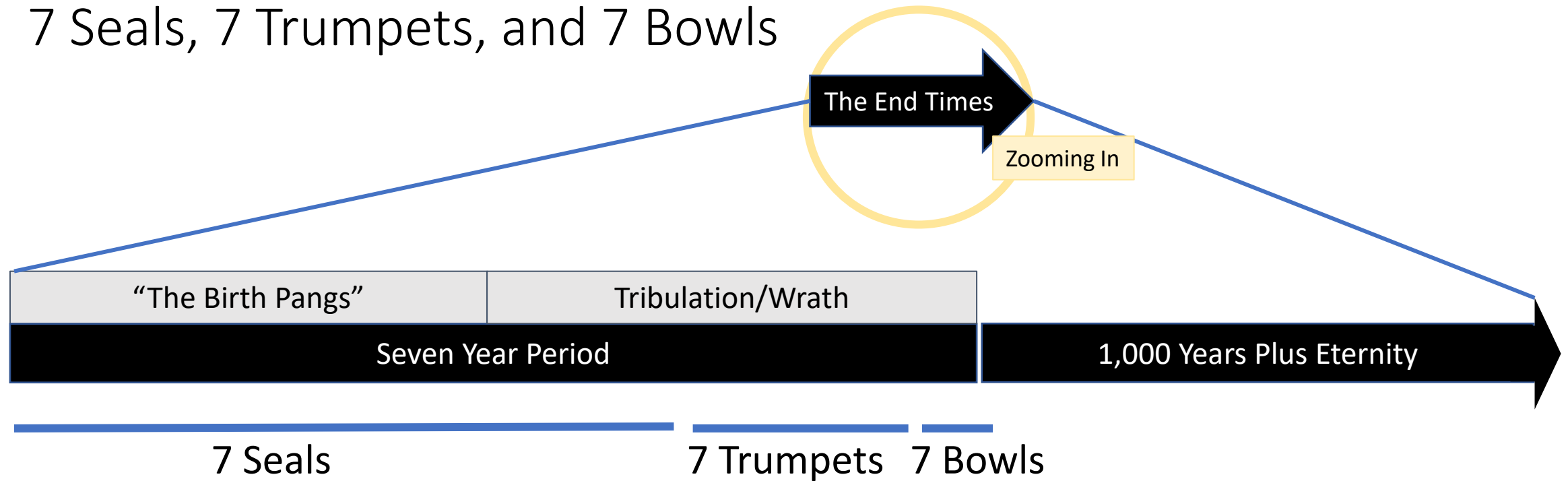




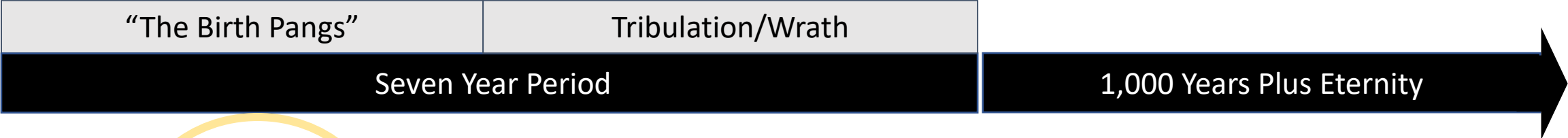
The Visions of John

- Revelation 4: Begins “*What Will Take Place Later*”
- Dense prophetic imagery
- Reflective of Matthew 24, passage on End Times
- Two views in parallel:
 - Matthew’s predictions: the view *from earth*
 - John in Revelation: the view *from heaven*

Several Groupings of Events in 7 Year Period: 7 Seals, 7 Trumpets, and 7 Bowls



The Opening of the 7 Seals



7 Seals



The First Four Seals: The 4 Horsemen of the Apocalypse



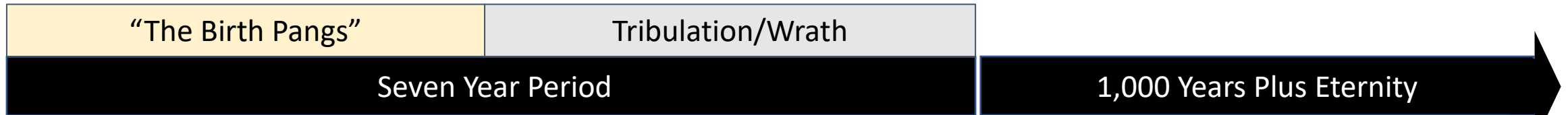
“The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse”

The 1st Seal: The White Horse & Rider



The View from Heaven

The First Seal is the white horse and rider. He is understood to be false religion personified in the Antichrist: “I looked, and there before me was a white horse! Its rider held a bow, and he was given a crown, and he rode out as a conqueror bent on conquest.” (Rev. 6:1-2)



The View from Earth

“For many shall come in my name, saying I am Christ; and shall deceive many.” (Matt. 24:5)

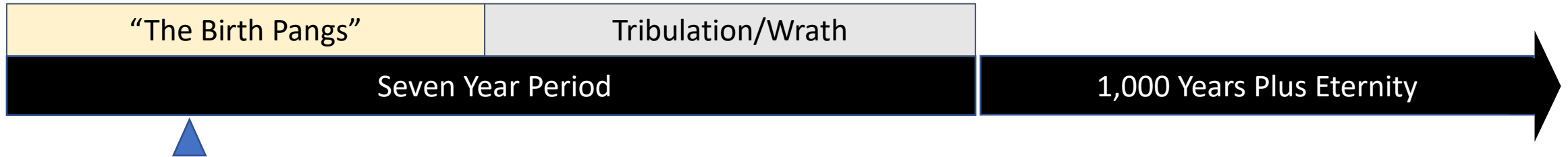
“At that time if anyone says to you, ‘Look, here is the Messiah!’ or, ‘There he is!’ do not believe it. For false messiahs and false prophets will appear and perform great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect. See, I have told you ahead of time. So if anyone tells you, ‘There he is, out in the wilderness,’ do not go out; or, ‘Here he is, in the inner rooms,’ do not believe it.” (Matt. 24:23-26)

The 2nd Seal: The Red Horse & Rider



The View from Heaven

The Second Seal is the red horse and rider. He is given a sword and power to conquer through war: “Then another horse came out, a fiery red one. Its rider was given power to take peace from the earth and to make people kill each other. To him was given a large sword.” (Rev. 6:3-4)



The View from Earth

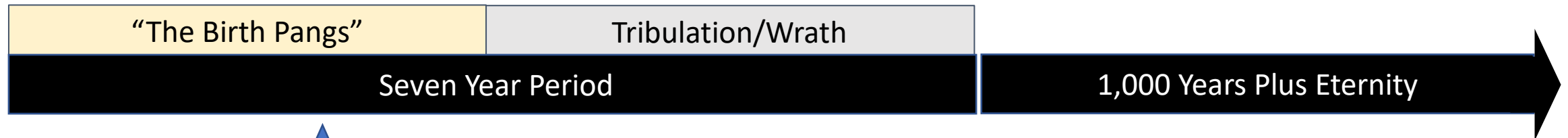
And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars; see that you are not troubled; for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. (Matt. 24:6-7a)

The 3rd Seal: The Black Horse & Rider



The View from Heaven

The Third Seal is the black horse and rider. He will bring inflation and **famine**: “When the Lamb opened the third seal, I heard the third living creature say, ‘Come and see!’ I looked, and there before me was a black horse! Its rider was holding a pair of scales in his hand. Then I heard what sounded like a voice among the four living creatures, saying, ‘One quart of wheat for a day’s wages, and three quarts of barley for a day’s wages’”. (Rev. 6:5-6)



The View from Earth

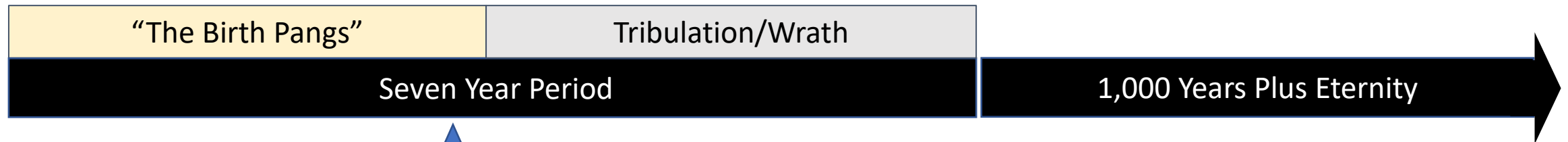
“And there shall be **famines.**” Matt. 24:7b

The 4th Seal: The Pale Horse & Rider



The View from Heaven

The Fourth Seal is the pale horse and rider. He represents death and pestilence. He kills with hunger and beasts of the earth: “When the Lamb opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth living creature say, “Come and see!” I looked, and there before me was a pale horse! Its rider was named Death, and Hades was following close behind him. They were given power over a fourth of the earth to kill by sword, famine and **plague**, and by the wild beasts of the earth. ” (Rev. 6:7-8)



The View from Earth

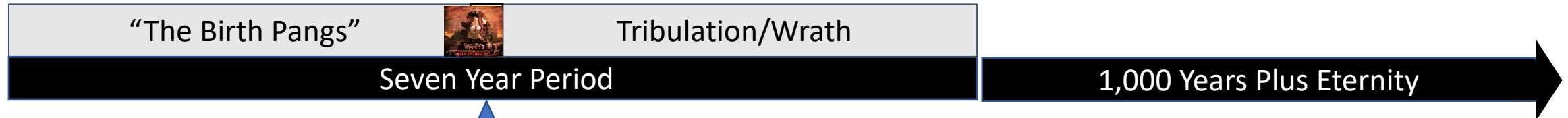
“And there will be famines, **pestilences**, and earthquakes in various places. All these are the beginning of sorrows.” (Matt. 24:7c-8)

Midpoint of the Seven Year Period



The View from Heaven

- Satan empowers Antichrist for 42 months (Rev. 13:5)
 - Antichrist breaks covenant at the midpoint of the 7 years (Dan. 9:27)
 - He is given authority to make war against the saints (Rev. 13:7)
 - He sets up a statue in the Temple and declares himself to be God (2 Thess. 2:1-4, Dan. 9:27 & 11:31)
 - He forces all to worship him and requires The Mark to buy and sell (Rev. 13:8, 16-17); all worship him except those whose names are written in the Book of Life.
- The full gospel and a warning are given by 3 angels to the world, warning all not to take the Antichrist's mark (Rev. 14:6, 8-9)
 - The "falling away of believers" begins (Matt. 24:9-12, 2 Thess. 2:30)
 - Two God-protected witnesses appear in Jerusalem and prophesy (Rev. 11: 3-10)



The View from Earth

Abomination of Desolation

“So when you see standing in the holy place the Abomination that causes Desolation spoken of by the Prophet Daniel, then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains...” (Matt. 24:15-16)

“For then there will be great distress [Tribulation] unequalled from the beginning of the world until now, and never to be equaled again.” (Matt. 24:21)

Please put questions on 3x5 cards and pass them to the front



Table Discussion Followed by Break

- How close in time do you think we are to the “beginning of the end?” What do you see around you that makes it feel like it’s getting closer?
 - Moral decay
 - Corruption in religious thought
 - Other observations
- The second seal says “[*This horseman*] was given power to take peace from the earth and to make people kill each other.” How might he try to influence believers to do this?



Short Break



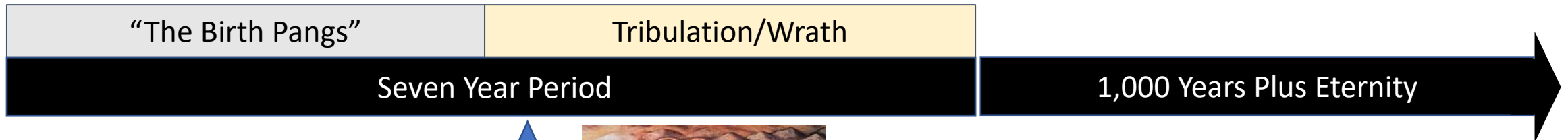
Questions and Answers

The 5th Seal: The Martyrs Start the Tribulation



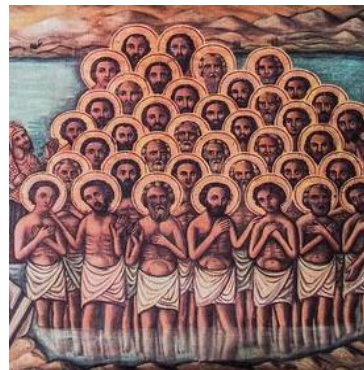
The View from Heaven

The Fifth Seal reveals a faithful remnant who are martyred: “When he opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of those who had been slain because of the word of God and their testimony. They called out in a loud voice, “How long, Sovereign Lord, holy and true, until you judge the inhabitants of the earth and avenge our blood?” Then each of them was given a white robe, and they were told to wait a little longer, until the full number of their fellow servants, their brothers and sisters, were killed just as they had been.”



The View from Earth

“Then they shall deliver you up to be afflicted and shall kill you; and you will be hated by all nations for my name’s sake.” (Matt. 24:9)



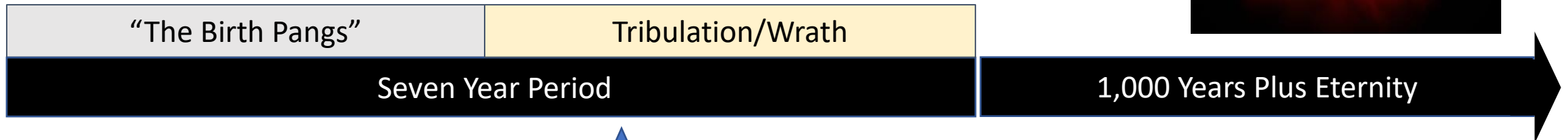
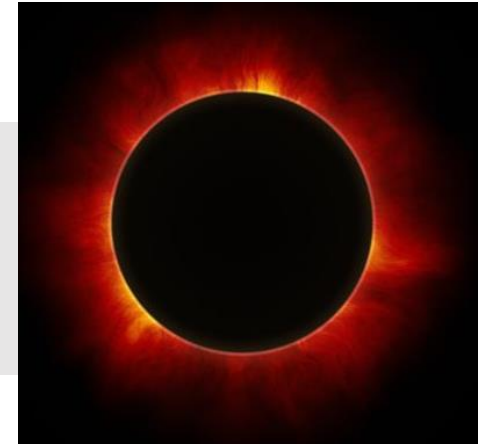
- Many [believers] will fall away (Matt. 24:10)
- Love of most will grow cold (Matt. 24:12)
- He who stands firm to the end will be saved (Matt. 24:13)

The 6th Seal: Great Cosmic Disturbances



The View from Heaven

The Sixth Seal reveals terrifying cosmic disturbances: “And I beheld, when he had opened the sixth seal, a great earthquake, and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became like blood; and the stars of heaven fell onto the earth, even as a fig tree drops her figs when she is shaken by a mighty wind.” (Rev. 6:12-13)



The View from Earth

“Immediately after the tribulation of those days, the sun shall be darkened, and the moon shall not give its light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken.” (Matt. 24:29), (Mark 13:24-25)

“And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and waves roaring.” (Luke 21:25)

The 6th Seal: Earthly Events

- After the 6th Seal, and immediately before the 7th Seal, 144,000 Jews are set aside and “sealed”:
 - "Then I saw another angel coming up from the east, having the seal of the living God. He called out in a loud voice to the four angels who had been given power to harm the land and the sea: “Do not harm the land or the sea or the trees until we put a seal on the foreheads of the servants of our God.” Then I heard the number of those who were sealed: 144,000 from all the tribes of Israel.” (Rev. 7:2-5)
 - They remain on earth and preach the gospel
 - Stand with Christ later on Mt. Zion (Jerusalem)
- People on earth see the cataclysmic cosmic events:
 - They are terrorized and curse God
 - They hide in caves
 - They call to the mountains to *“fall on us and hide us from the face of Him who sits on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb for the great day of their wrath has come and who can stand?”* (Rev. 6:15-17)



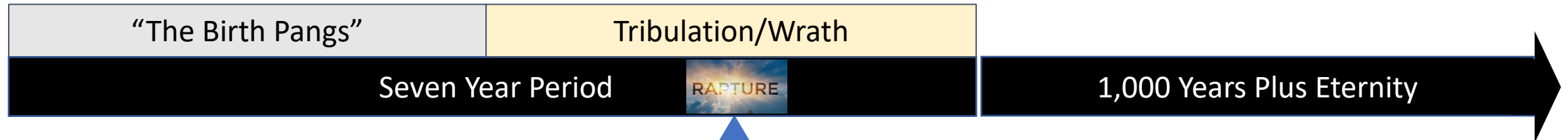
The Rapture?

Christ Calls Us Up



The View from Heaven

After this I looked and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people, and language, standing before the throne and in front of the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and holding palm branches.... Then one of the elders asked me, “Those in white robes – who are they and where did they come from?” I answered, “Sir, you know!” And he said, “These are they who have come out of the great tribulation; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.” (Rev. 7:9-15)



The View from Earth

Christ's Rapture: Before the 7 Trumpets?

“Immediately after the tribulation of those days...the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, and all the nations of the earth will mourn. They will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of the sky with power and great glory. And He will send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they will gather His elect from the four winds.... (Matt. 24:29-31)

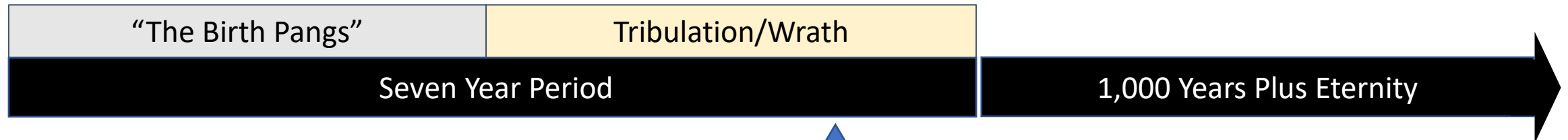
Just as the lightening comes from the East to the West, so shall the coming of the Son of Man be. (Matt. 24:7)

The Day of the Lord: 7th Seal Introduces The Seven Trumpets



The View from Heaven

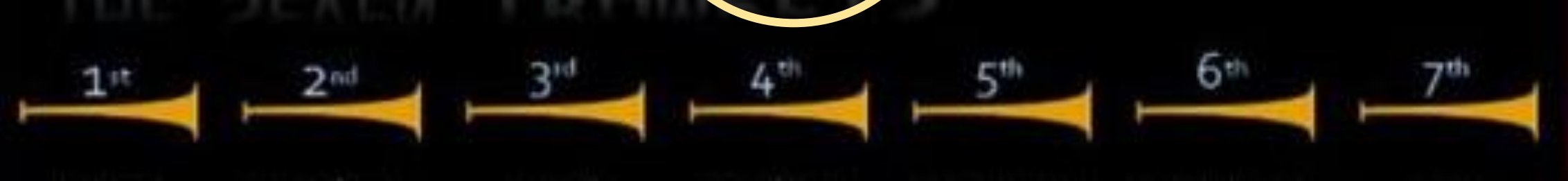
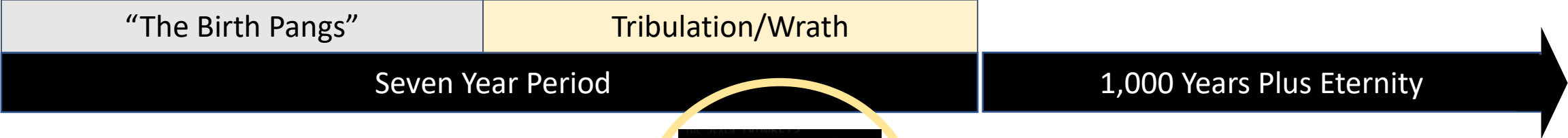
The Seventh Seal: “When he opened the 7th Seal, there was silence in heaven for about half an hour. And I saw the seven angels who stand before God, and seven trumpets were given to them.... ” (Rev. 8:1-4)



The View from Earth

“Then the angel took the censer, filled it with fire from the altar and hurled it on the earth. And there came peals of thunder, rumblings, flashes of lightning and an earthquake.” (Rev. 8:5)

The Seven Trumpets



The Day of the Lord: The Seven Trumpets




The Seven Trumpet Judgments affect 1/3 of the earth:

1. Hail, fire, and blood rain down and 1/3 of the earth and trees are burned up
2. 1/3 of the sea is impacted by a “fiery mountain” and the sea is turned to blood; 1/3 of the sea creatures die
3. A great star, named Wormwood, comes from the sky and 1/3 of rivers and waters turn bitter, killing people who drink it
4. 1/3 of the sun, moon, and stars darken, darkening daylight and nighttime
5. An angel opens the abyss and smoke pours out, blotting out the sky. Stinging locusts emerge and torture nonbelievers for 5 months. They beg to die and curse God.
6. Four angels and countless horses and riders kill 1/3 of mankind by fire, smoke, and sulfur pouring from the horse’s mouths
7. The 7th Trumpet sounds, ushering in the Bowl Judgments

The seventh Trumpet signals that God is re-establishing His reign on earth.





Please pass your
questions to the front of
the room



Table Discussion

- How does this knowledge affect your view of God? Your faith?
- Why do you think God tells us this information?
- How might believers help one another during the Seals and the Trumpet judgments?



Questions and Answers

Key Takeaways

- Satan is empowered, deceives men; his AntiChrist has rule over the earth until the 7th Trumpet sounds
- There will be terrible persecutions of believers; many will be martyred
- Cosmic events, earthquakes, fire, and pestilences will be pounding the earth while angels, witnesses, and 144,000 Jews remind us, “He who remains faithful to the end will be saved.”
- Under the Pre-Trib and Pre-Wrath views, believers will have been raptured before the Day of the Lord’s Wrath (Trumpets)

Summary and Preview of Next Week

- Looked at the Key Players in the End Times events
- Discussed the prophesied events leading up to the Birth Pangs
- Examined the Seals and the Trumpet Judgments – on earth & heaven
- Where we are leaving off: at the last Trumpet Judgment
- Next week: Events before the Bowl Judgments, The 7 Bowl Judgments, the Battle of Armageddon, the Millennium, Satan's Ultimate Doom, Judgment Day, and the New Heaven & Earth

Copies of these slides can be found on the Willowdale website under:

Our Church/Resources/Christ's Prophecies of the End Times