

A NOTE ON THE THREE WOES & BABYLON/TYRE PARALLELS

By C White, 2004
Version 1.1

What do the Three Woes of Rev 9 refer to? What is their relationship to end-time Babylon? And why are Babylon and Tyre referred to in similar term in the prophecies?

NB: the intent of this 'note' is to provide some additional background information and cross-references to relevant scriptures.

Introductory Remarks

The Book of Revelation, like the Book of Ezekiel, contains a story flow from beginning to end. However, the story is sometimes interrupted by inset chapters that are inserted with other information.

To fully understand this, I have included traditional charts toward the end of the paper.

For instance, Ezekiel is interspersed with inset chapters, somewhat like the book of Revelation.

- Chapters 27 & 28 – Tyre typifying the end-time Tyre/Babylon/US of Europe
- Chapter 33 – end-time warning message
- Chapter 34 – scattering of Israel and the Church (the Great Tribulation)
- Chapter 35 – punishment upon Seir and Idumea
- Chapter 36 – return of Israel to the Holy Land at the Messiah's return (Second Exodus)
- Chapter 37 – Israel and Judah re-united under the Messiah

- Chapters 38 & 39 – invasion by the forces of Gog and Magog
- Chapters 40-48 – Millennial Temple

Then book of Revelation contains a similar time sequence when overlaid by Matthew 24 and Daniel 7, 8, 11:

1. First the build up to the Great Tribulation.
2. This is followed by the Great Tribulation itself – a 3 ½ year period of terror upon Israel. During the Great Tribulation period Israel would be destroyed and the world will rejoice. The lands of Israel will be conquered, the people enslaved and scattered to the four corners of the earth – punishment upon God's physical and spiritual Israel would have arrived.
3. This is followed by signs in the heavens heralding the soon coming Messiah.
4. But with the Day of the Lord following on from that terrible period, punishment next falls upon the gentiles, and especially those that have taken the place of Israel. And upon the Great False Church which thinks that she is the bride of Christ!
5. The return of the Messiah and the calling of Israel in the Second Exodus. In the final Day of the year long Day of the Lord (overlapping with the last year of the Tribulation), the final plagues are poured out upon God's enemies.

This is where the Three Woes fit in – they occur at the beginning of the Day of the Lord after about 2 ½ years of Tribulation.

But prior to that, the Anglo-Saxon Powers would have been invaded and enslaved during the Great Tribulation. In many ways this is pre-figured by the events of World War Two.

For instance, people today do not realize how advanced the Nazi war machine was:

“The irony, of course, is that US troops did not fight much against the Germans. It was Stalin's Red Army [supplied by the West. The weather and vastness of the conquest also played major roles] that really destroyed Nazism [typed by the second woe], taking 4 million Axis soldiers – which was 80 per cent of Germany's armed forces – on the Eastern Front. The Soviet Union inflicted almost 90 per cent of all German war casualties.” (R Lusetich, “Hollywood stiks to a winner that never fades”, *The Australian*, 6 June 2004).

“Southern England became an enormous armed camp, so that by June 1944, the Allies outnumbered the Germans by 8-1 in aircraft and 4-1 in tanks ... The British contribution to D-Day should not be underestimated. Out of Britain's working population of 32 million, more than 22 million men and women were working in the war effort.

“...while the Russian people fought with a grim determination, they also suffered grievously at the hands of their own government. At the siege of Stalingrad, Communist commanders shot 13,000 of their own men because their commitment to Stalin's cause was suspect. This level of brutality explains why the Nazi forces in Normandy contained thousands of Russians who preferred to fight for their country's

enemy rather than their own political masters.” (S Matachett, “Manufacturing Victory”, *The Australian*, 6 June 2004).

According to James C Bennett:

“The US prevailed in the Machine Age because of its general mastery of machinery, its enormous industrial base, and its ability to find and give command to generals such as Dwight Eisenhower. Eisenhower and his peers understood how to use these assets to win in the face of clear German superiority in weapons, morale, and training throughout most of the war. Germans had, for most of the war’s length, better tanks, planes, and guns – the US had better trucks.” (“An Anglosphere Primer”, presented to the Foreign Policy Research Institute, page 10)

And so it shall be again – European technological superiority to America’s is one of the ways they will win the war against the Anglo-Saxon Powers.

Currently 50% of all military spending in the world is by America. The European Union accounts for 25-30%. Yet they are only 1/10th as effective as America due to their divided militaries – there is no single military command structure or weapons system in Europe. But when there is, watch out America!

First Woe

Revelation 9:1 And the fifth angel sounded, and I saw a star fall from heaven unto the earth: and to him was given the key of the bottomless pit.

2 And he opened the bottomless pit; and there arose a smoke out of the pit, as the smoke of a great furnace; and the sun and the air were darkened by reason of the smoke of the pit.

3 And there came out of the smoke locusts upon the earth: and unto them was given power, as the scorpions of the earth have power.

4 And it was commanded them that they should not hurt the grass of the earth, neither any green thing, neither any tree; but only those men which have not the seal of God in their foreheads.

5 And to them it was given that they should not kill them, but that they should be tormented five months: and their torment was as the torment of a scorpion, when he striketh a man.

6 And in those days shall men seek death, and shall not find it; and shall desire to die, and death shall flee from them.

7 And the shapes of the locusts were like unto horses prepared unto battle; and on their heads were as it were crowns like gold, and their faces were as the faces of men.

8 And they had hair as the hair of women, and their teeth were as *the teeth* of lions.

9 And they had breastplates, as it were breastplates of iron; and the sound of their wings was as the sound of chariots of many horses running to battle.

10 And they had tails like unto scorpions, and there were stings in their tails: and their power was to hurt men five months.

11 And they had a king over them, *which is* the angel of the bottomless pit, whose name in the Hebrew tongue *is* Abaddon, but in the Greek tongue hath *his* name Apollyon.

12 One woe is past; *and*, behold, there come two woes more hereafter.

Comment:

Here we have a mighty fallen angel (Satan) having fallen from heaven, now being given the capacity to unleash the full fury of German-led Europe on its endless mission to conquer Russia and the east.

The 'bottomless pit' or abyss may well refer to a condition of underground maneuverings of groups and circles to forge a militaristic fascistic Europe. Reference to this abyss is referred to again in verse 11 and 17:8.

And it is in 17:8 that we are told exactly what it is – the end-time Beast power.

The force, power and magnitude of the weaponry of Europe is so extensive and destructive it is associated with hell itself! The fallout darkens the heavens, contributing to the Day of the Lord plagues (verse 2).

Out from the smoke pours forth 'locusts' or weaponry that can only be described in such terminology in the first century.

Let us consider these locusts:

- Firstly, they ascend from the 'bottomless pit', out of the smoke. They clearly have a mission to go to battle which they accomplish quickly
- The shape of these locusts is that of a horse
- Their sting is like that of a scorpion's and is in their tails
- They do not hurt the grass or trees
- They can only men hurt for five months but the sting does not actually kill anyone
- The pain of the sting is so tremendous, that people will seek death without finding it
- On the heads of the locusts are gold-coloured crowns
- Their faces are like men's but their hair is like women's (long hair)
- Their teeth are strong and big like a lion's
- The armour they wear is like iron and, as such, it is difficult to kill them
- Because they have wings, they are able to fly. These wings make a tremendous noise

It would seem that these are some kind of flying vehicle for chemical or biological weapons. Perhaps micro-weapons or something like an anti-gravity flying craft that spits out the most awful debilitating poisons which do not kill, but weaken – making the recipients ripe for slavery.

A similar description is given in the book of Joel concerning the armies which came against Israel (Joel 1:4; 2:11, 20, 25. Cp Amos 4:9). The theme of Joel is the mighty northern Assyrian armies that invaded Israel. Similar wording is used of such armies in the Book of Revelation.

The prophecy of Nahum contains a blistering warning to ancient and modern Assyria.

15 There shall the fire devour thee; the sword shall cut thee off, it shall eat thee up like the cankerworm: make thyself many as the cankerworm, make thyself many as the locusts.

16 Thou hast multiplied thy merchants above the stars of heaven: the cankerworm spoileth, and flieth away.

17 Thy crowned *are* as the locusts, and thy captains as the great grasshoppers, which camp in the hedges in the cold day, *but* when the sun ariseth they flee away, and their place is not known where they *are*.

How like Napoleon (whose army included a very large German component) or the Teutonic Knights and later Germany in World Wars I and II which invaded Russia, only to be defeated. Napoleon also invaded the Near East in similitude to the Crusaders and Hitler; and like Hitler and the Germans in World War I, had plans to invade Britain (history repeats and repeats). Hitler's fascination with Napoleon went so far as to actually invading Russia by crossing the Nieman River, the same river that Napoleon crossed in AD 1812, on the exact same day of the year, June 22.

In essence the First Woe represents German-led Europe's last attempt at the conquest of Russia. Perhaps this time it will be almost successful.

But then the Second Woe is announced.

Second Woe

Revelation 9:13 And the sixth angel sounded, and I heard a voice from the four horns of the golden altar which is before God,

14 Saying to the sixth angel which had the trumpet, Loose the four angels which are bound in the great river Euphrates.

15 And the four angels were loosed, which were prepared for an hour, and a day, and a month, and a year, for to slay the third part of men.

16 And the number of the army of the horsemen *were* two hundred thousand thousand: and I heard the number of them.

17 And thus I saw the horses in the vision, and them that sat on them, having breastplates of fire, and of jacinth, and brimstone: and the heads of the horses *were* as the heads of lions; and out of their mouths issued fire and smoke and brimstone.

18 By these three was the third part of men killed, by the fire, and by the smoke, and by the brimstone, which issued out of their mouths.

19 For their power is in their mouth, and in their tails: for their tails *were* like unto serpents, and had heads, and with them they do hurt.

20 And the rest of the men which were not killed by these plagues yet repented not of the works of their hands, that they should not worship devils, and idols of gold, and silver, and brass, and stone, and of wood: which neither can see, nor hear, nor walk:

21 Neither repented they of their murders, nor of their sorceries, nor of their fornication, nor of their thefts.

Comment:

This is clearly Russia and her allies counter-attacking Europe. Here are the Great Russians, Byelorussians, Central Asian Turks, China, India and South-east Asia (their remnants are described in Ezekiel 38 & 39). A Two hundred million horde strong! Further information is supplied in Daniel 11:44.

The imagery used by John concerns their terrible weaponry causing terrible long-term suffering in the Europeans. Yet, as verse 21 states, they refused to repent of their murders (of Israelites and the Church), sorceries (false beliefs), fornication (spiritual mixing with this world's religions) and thefts (stealing from other nations and peoples).

The stubbornness of them and their Beast & False Prophet leaders, has been typed by the behaviour of Hitler (and the Pharaoh of the Exodus), who refused to repent, despite his end being in sight.

Next comes the Third Woe.

Third Woe

Revelation 11:14 The second woe is past; *and*, behold, the third woe cometh quickly.

15 And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become *the kingdoms* of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever.

16 And the four and twenty elders, which sat before God on their seats, fell upon their faces, and worshipped God,

17 Saying, We give thee thanks, O Lord God Almighty, which art, and wast, and art to come; because thou hast taken to thee thy great power, and hast reigned.

18 And the nations were angry, and thy wrath is come, and the time of the dead, that they should be judged, and that thou shouldest give reward unto thy servants the prophets, and to the saints, and them that fear thy name, small and great; and shouldest destroy them which destroy the earth.

19 And the temple of God was opened in heaven, and there was seen in his temple the ark of his testament: and there were lightnings, and voices, and thunderings, and an earthquake, and great hail.

The Seventh Angel trumpets the Third Woe, heralding the seven final plagues at the return of Christ. Revelation chapters 15 and 16 provide detailed information about this great and awesome event.

Surely mankind will be in a state of 'shock and awe' when God pours His wrath upon the earth and end-time Babylon in particular.

Revelation 17 & 18 - Babylon

This system that is destroyed, in the main, by the eastern hordes, is also described in Revelation 17 and 18. These chapters are not part of the story-flow of Revelation, but inserts overlapping other portions of Revelation.

Chapters 17 and 18 are not the only prophecies concerning prophetic Babylon. Ezekiel 27 labels this same system as 'Tyre'. Compare Revelation 18 with Ezekiel 27 (Tyre), Isaiah 47 & 48, Jeremiah 50 & 51 and other scriptures:

Revelation 18

Comment/Associated Scriptures

1 And after these things I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power; and the earth was lightened with his glory.

Is 13:21-22

2 And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying,

Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird.

3 For all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, and the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies.

4 And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues.

5 For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities

6 Reward her even as she rewarded you, and double unto her double according to her works: in the cup which she hath filled fill to her double

7 How much she hath glorified herself, and lived deliciously, so much torment and sorrow give her: for she saith in her heart, I sit a queen, and am no widow, and shall see no sorrow.

8 Therefore shall her plagues come in one day, death, and mourning, and famine; and she shall be utterly burned with fire: for strong is the Lord God who judgeth her.

9 And the kings of the earth, who have committed fornication and lived deliciously with her, shall bewail her, and lament for her, when they shall see the smoke of her burning

10 Standing afar off for the fear of her torment, saying, Alas, alas, that great city Babylon, that mighty city! for in one hour is thy judgment come

11 And the merchants of the earth shall weep and mourn over her; for no man buyeth their merchandise any more:

12 The merchandise of gold, and silver, and precious stones, and of pearls, and fine linen, and purple, and silk, and scarlet, and all thyine wood, and all manner vessels of ivory, and all manner vessels of most precious wood, and of brass, and iron, and marble,

13 And cinnamon, and odours, and ointments, and frankincense, and wine, and oil, and fine flour, and wheat, and beasts, and sheep, and horses, and chariots, and slaves, and souls of men.

14 And the fruits that thy soul lusted after are departed from thee, and all things which were dainty and goodly are departed from thee, and thou shalt find them no more at all.

15 The merchants of these things, which were made rich by her, shall stand afar off for the fear of her torment, weeping and wailing,

16 And saying, Alas, alas, that great city, that was clothed in fine linen, and purple, and scarlet, and

Dan. 8:25, 12-13. "Jer. 50 and 51 should be carefully studied in connection with these two ch., as many of the things predicted there await fulfillment in the coming evil days." (Bullinger, *Companion Bible*, p. 1907)

"My People" – Israel and the Church. See John 17:5; II Cor 6:17; Zech 2:6; Is. 49:20; 52:11; Hos 4:6-12. See also Jer. 50:4-9; Is 10:20, 24

Jer 5:7; John 18:11

Is 47:8

Rev 17:16; Is 47:11; 13;20; Jer 50: 13, 39, 40; 51:29, 37, 43

Rev 17:2; Ezek 28: 18-19; 26:15-17

Is 47:11, 15

Ezek 27:28-32

Dan 8:25

Ezek 27:13; Jer 50:11; Is 47:6

Jude 14

Eph 6:17; Is 11:4; Is 63:1-4; Joel 3:13; Rev 14: 18-20

The colours of the Vatican revealed here

decked with gold, and precious stones, and pearls!

17 For in one hour so great riches is come to nought. Ezek 27:29-30
And every shipmaster, and all the company in ships,
and sailors, and as many as trade by sea, stood afar
off,

18 And cried when they saw the smoke of her Different event to Ezek 39:17-22
burning, saying, What *city* is like unto this great city!

19 And they cast dust on their heads, and cried, v.10; Is 47:11; Jer 50:24; 51:8
weeping and wailing, saying, Alas, alas, that great
city, wherein were made rich all that had ships in the
sea by reason of her costliness! for in one hour is she
made desolate.

20 Rejoice over her, *thou* heaven, and *ye* holy Rev 11:2; Is 47:6; Jer 50:28; 51:11
apostles and prophets; for God hath avenged you on
her.

21 And a mighty angel took up a stone like a great Zech 9:3-4; Ezek 26:20-21
millstone, and cast *it* into the sea, saying, Thus with
violence shall that great city Babylon be thrown
down, and shall be found no more at all.

22 And the voice of harpers, and musicians, and of Is 13:19; Ezek 28:18-19
pipers, and trumpeters, shall be heard no more at all
in thee; and no craftsman, of whatsoever craft *he* be,
shall be found any more in thee; and the sound of a
millstone shall be heard no more at all in thee;

23 And the light of a candle shall shine no more at all Jer 25:10 Is 47:9
in thee; and the voice of the bridegroom and of the
bride shall be heard no more at all in thee: for thy
merchants were the great men of the earth; for by thy
sorceries were all nations deceived.

24 And in her was found the blood of prophets, and Rev 3:8; 6:11; 7:9,14; 11:2; 12:17;
of saints, and of all that were slain upon the earth. 13:7,10,15; 16:6 17:6; 18:13; 19:2; 20:4 Is
47:6; Jer 50:11

From the above we can see that the Bible has much to say about the end-time Babylonian power and its persecution of God's people.

The Story Flow of Revelation

<u>Matthew 24</u>	<u>Revelation</u>	<u>Comment</u>
24:3-4	1st Seal--False Prophets	False Christianity
24:5-6	2nd Seal--War	Various global battles
24:7-8	3rd Seal--Famine	Famines weakening Israel
24:7-8-13	4th Seal--Pestilence	Disease epidemics weakening Israel
24:21-28	5th Seal—Great Tribulation	3 ½ years of terror against Israel and the Church
24:29	6th Seal--Heavenly Signs	Signs of God's impending intervention
24:30	7th Seal-----Trumpets-----> (Day of the Lord)	1st, 2nd, 3rd Trumpet --Injure the earth, sea, trees and rivers 4th Trumpet 5th Trumpet--First Woe 6th Trumpet--Second Woe 7th Trumpet--Third Woe or The Seven Last Plagues
24:31		(The Battle of ARMAGEDDON) SECOND COMING OF CHRIST

Chapter Outline of the Book of Revelation

Chapter	The Story Flow	Insets
1	Introduction	
2-3		Messages to the Seven Churches
4-5	Prelude--Setting	
6	1st Six Seals	
7	The Two Companies	
8-10	The Trumpets	
11	The Two Witnesses	
12		The True Church
13		The Two Beasts
14		The Three Messages
15-16	The 7 Last Plagues	
17-18		The False Church and System
19	The Second Coming	
20	The Millennium	
21-22	The New Heaven & The New Earth	

David Hill in his booklet, *The Correlation between God's Holy Feast Days and the Book of Revelation* provides fascinating insights. The Feast day undergirding of the Book of Revelation may be summarised as such:

Holy Feast Day/Book of Revelation Parallels

Chapter	Prophecy/Event	Holy Feast Day
1	Introduction – Christ the Lamb of God	Passover
2-3	Seven Churches – sin in spiritual Israel and examining the self	Seven Days of Unleavened Bread
4-5	Christ the Lamb, Redeemer, worthy to open the scroll	Sheaf of the Firstfruits during the DUB
6 – 8:6	Seven Seals of the Scroll	Pentecost
7:4,9; 14:4	Two Wave Loaves and Two Multitudes – Israel and the Gentiles	Pentecost
8:7 – 11:19	Seven Trumpets	Trumpets
12	INSET	
13 – 19	Great Tribulation	Trumpets
20:1-3	Satan bound	Atonement
20:4-6	Millennial reign of the Messiah	Tabernacles
20:7-15	Judgment	Last Great Day

If one were to undertake a personal study of the above, one would find that some variations are possible. But overall, the above is general proof that the book of Revelation is based upon the Holy Days! In other words the Apostle John clearly had those days in mind when he crafted this book. God inspired John's visions and when John came to write the book, God would have led him to base it upon the Holy Days. There would have been no need to do so if these days were abolished.

Suggested Reading

- Alexander, B *How Hitler could have won World War II*. Random House, USA, 2001
- Armstrong, GT “*And they Worshipped the Beast*”, 1991.
- Armstrong, GT “And when you see the ABOMINATION ...”, *Plain Truth*, July 1963.
- Armstrong, GT “Australia’s Deadly Peril”, *Plain Truth*, February 1963.
- Armstrong, GT “Great National Tribulation Coming on America and Britain – But Why?”, *The International News*, January 1991
- Armstrong, GT “The New Germany – Friend ... or Frankenstein Monster?”, *Plain Truth*, December 1963.
- Armstrong, GT “Is America In Decline?”, *Twentieth Century Watch*, August 1992.
- Armstrong, GT “Is Naziism Dead?”, *Plain Truth*, April 1960.
- Armstrong, GT “How Dictators will Seize Power in Europe”, *Twentieth Century Watch*, Dec 1992
- Armstrong, GT “Japan. Supergiant of the Orient”, *Twentieth Century Watch*, March 1995.
- Armstrong, GT “Just Where are we Now in Prophecy?”, *Twentieth Century Watch*, Sept 1994.
- Armstrong, GT “New Order Coming in GERMANY”, *Twentieth Century Watch*, Dec/Jan 1990.
- Armstrong, GT “The Birth of the Beast”, *Plain Truth*, August 1959.
- Armstrong, GT “The New Germany – is it Dangerous?”, *Plain Truth*, April 1963.
- Armstrong, GT “Where are we, Now, in Prophecy?”, *Twentieth Century Watch*, Sept 1994.
- Armstrong, GT *Who, What is the “Beast” of Revelation?*, 1985.
- Armstrong, GT “Work of the Watchman”, *Twentieth Century Watch*, Sept/Oct 1995.
- Armstrong, HW “Biggest World News Happening in Germany”, *Plain Truth*, August 1959
- Armstrong, HW “America the Beautiful. America the Condemned”, *Plain Truth*, August 1980.
- Armstrong, HW “Now God Speaks to you Ministers”, *The Good News*, Oct/Nov 1979.
- Armstrong, HW *Co-Worker Letter*, 29 January 1970.
- Armstrong, HW “Personal from the Editor”, *The Plain Truth*, November 1967.
- Armstrong, HW *Co-worker Letter*, 11 Nov 1985.
- Armstrong, HW Britain’s Doom Prophesied for Seeking Common Market Membership!, *Plain Truth*, July 1962.
- Armstrong, HW “Hitler’s Thousand-Year Plan versus God’s”, *Plain Truth*, May-June 1941.
- Armstrong, HW *What Lies Ahead NOW in Prophecy?* (article reprint).
- Armstrong, HW “USA Riding to Total Collapse”, *Plain Truth*, February 1956.
- Armstrong, HW “What is Armageddon?”, *Plain Truth*, Nov-Dec 1955.
- Bennett, J “An Anglosphere Primer”, presented to the Foreign Policy Research Institute, 2001
- Boraker, RC “Nazi Plotting World War III”, *Plain Truth*, November 1962.
- Boraker, RC “Papacy Answers Red Threat”, *Plain Truth*, October 1960.
- Hill, DJ “What is Germany’s Destiny?”, *Plain Truth*, March 1962.
- Hill, DJ “Christ or Antichrist”, *Plain Truth*, April 1961.

- Hoeh, HL "Germany in Prophecy", *Plain Truth*, December 1962.
- Hoeh, HL "If World War III Comes – There is a Way of Escape", *Plain Truth*, June 1963.
- Hogberg, GH "Coming: Greatest Economic Crash Ever!", *Plain Truth*, September 1963.
- Matachett, S "Manufacturing Victory", *The Australian*, 6 June, 2004
- McNair, RF "The Decline and Fall of the British Commonwealth!", *Plain Truth*, April 1963.
- Meredith, RC "Ten Reasons Why Christ MUST Return!", *Plain Truth*, December 1963.
- Meredith, RC "The Beast of Revelation Rears its Head!", *Plain Truth*, June 1963.
- Meredith, RC "Now Revealed – The False Prophet of Revelation", *Plain Truth*, July 1963.
- Meredith, RC "I Remember", *Plain Truth*, January 1961.
- Neff, LL "Sins of "Modern" Babylon Exposed", *The Good News*, January 1964.
- Neff, LL "You May NOT Escape the Tribulation!", *The Good News*, January 1962.
- Stump, KW "Ahead! Japanese Rearmament", *Plain Truth*, March 1981.
- Stump, KW "Uncovering a 2500 year old Time Capsule", *Plain Truth*, March 1981.
- Torrance, LE "What will the "Tribulation" Really be Like?", *Plain Truth*, August 1961.
-