

RELATIONSHIP OF THE TRUMPET SECTION TO THE SEALS AND MATTHEW 24

Our study of Matthew 24 revealed that the Sermon on the Mount of Olives

- a. is closely connected to the Book of Revelation in that both share the following characteristics:
- Same Literary Genre
 - Same source
 - Same recipients
 - Cover same time period
- b. can be subdivided into three parts:

THE BEGINNING OF THE BIRTH PAINS vv.4-8	THE DAY OF TRIBULATION vv.9-28	THE SIGNS OF IMMINENT ADVENT vv.29-31
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- c. The characteristics of each of these parts are shared by the Seven Seals which in effect EXPRESSES the Sermon on the Mount of Olives under the guise of APOCALYPTIC IMAGERY or SYMBOLS. So we obtain the following equivalencies:

THE BEGINNING OF THE BIRTH PAINS Matt. 24:4-8	THE DAY OF TRIBULATION Matt.24:9-28	THE SIGNS OF IMMINENT ADVENT Matt.24:29-30a	THE ADVENT Matt.24:30b-31
SEALS 1-4 THE FOUR HORSEMEN “war/slaughter/famine/ plague” Rev.6:1-8	SEAL 5 “Fellow Servants to be killed as souls under altar had been” Rev.6:9-11	SEAL 6 “Signs in heavens/ Terror of wicked Rev.6.:29-31	SEAL 7 Rev. 8:1a

I. THE STRUCTURE OF THE TRUMPET SECTION OF REVELATION

In this session we will consider the relationship of the Trumpets to the Seals. But first let us obtain an overview of the Trumpet Section of Revelation as we will be focussing on the Trumpet Section in this Session. The Trumpet Section in Revelation extends from Revelation 8:2 to the end of Chapter 14.

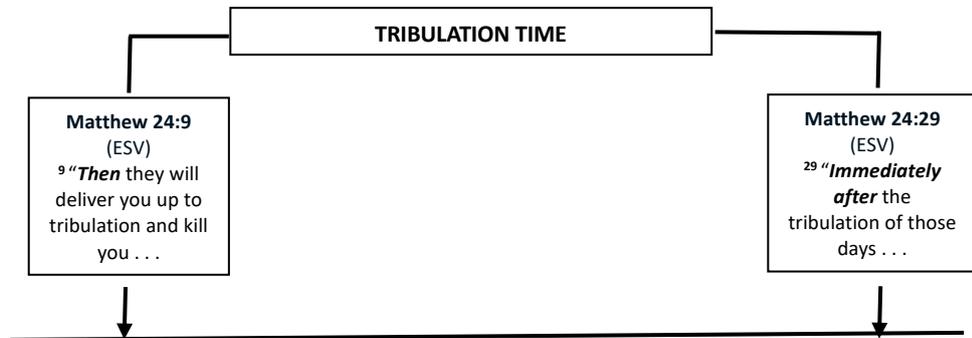
The following parts may be identified:

1. The introductory Sanctuary Vision (8:2-6)
2. The First Four Trumpets (8:7-12)
3. The FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT: Three Woes to Come (8:13)
4. Trumpet Five (9:1-11)
5. The SECOND ANNOUNCEMENT: The First Woe is Passed (9:12)
6. Trumpet Six (9:13-19)
7. The THIRD ANNOUNCEMENT: Failure of the World to Repent (9:20-21)
8. PARENTHESIS (10:1-11:13)
9. The FOURTH ANOUNCEMENT: The Second Woe is Passed (11:14)

10. Trumpet Seven (11:15- 18)
11. The FIFTH ANNOUNCEMENT: Temple in Heaven Opened (11:19)
12. COMMENTARY on the Fifth and Sixth Trumpets (Ch.12-14)

II. REVIEW OF MATTHEW 24:9-28

Matthew 24:9-28 covers the Day of Tribulation. It is sandwiched between two time-markers.



Jesus outlines in this section various events that are to occur during this time. In this session we will work our way through Matthew 24:9-28 systematically and compare its contents with events that take place in the Trumpet Section of Revelation.

III. EVENTS IN THE INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY OF TRIBULATION in Matthew 24:9-10.

Matthew 24:9-10 introduces the Tribulation Time in the Sermon on the Mount of Olives and provides an overview of the period:

Matthew 24:9-10 (ESV)

⁹ *“Then they will deliver you up to **tribulation** and **put you to death**, and **you will be hated by all nations** for my name's sake. ¹⁰ And then **many will fall away**^[a] and **betray one another** and **hate one another**.*

Three “events” will take place and characterize the tribulation period:

EVENT 1: The saints will be delivered up to tribulation (v.9)

EVENT 2: The saints to be killed (v.9)

EVENT 3: The saints to be “hated by all nation” (v.9)

The same events play a prominent role in the Trumpet Section of Revelation.

EVENT 1: In the TRUMPET Section the saints undergo a Time of Tribulation as the Dragon makes war against them.

Revelation 12:13, 17 (ESV)

¹³ Now when *the dragon* saw that he had been cast to the earth, he *persecuted the woman* . . . ¹⁷ And *the dragon* was enraged with the woman, and *he went to make war with the rest of her offspring*, who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus ^[a]Christ.

He works through two agents who are brought to view in Revelation 13. The first of these is “the beast that rises from the sea”.

Revelation 13:1, 7 (ESV)

Then ^[a] stood on the sand of the sea. And I saw **a beast** rising up **out of the sea**, . . .⁷ It was granted to him to **make war with the saints** and to overcome them.

So the Church will face a time of Tribulation as the Dragon persecutes the woman (12:6, 14) and then “Makes war on the rest of her offspring” (12:17). As we will see, this tribulation time of the church is a major concern of the Trumpet Section of Revelation.

EVENT 2: In the TRUMPET Section the Saints are to be KILLED

Revelation 11:7-10 (ESV)

⁷ When they finish their testimony, **the beast** that ascends out of the bottomless pit **will make war against them**, overcome them, and kill them. ⁸ And **their dead bodies will lie in the street** of the great city

Revelation 13:15 (ESV)

¹⁵ He was granted **power** to give breath to the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak and cause as many as would not worship the image of the beast **to be killed**.

So the killing of the Saints is a key concern of both the Tribulation Time in Matthew 24 and the Trumpet Section of Revelation

EVENT 3: In the TRUMPET SECTION the saints are portrayed as “Hated by all nations”

In Revelation 11 the two witnesses who have been tormenting the world with their prophesying are killed and their bodies treated with the utmost contempt:

Revelation 11:7-10 (ESV)

⁷ When they finish their testimony, **the beast** that ascends out of the bottomless pit **will make war against them**, overcome them, and kill them. ⁸ And **their dead bodies will lie in the street** . . .⁹ Then **those** from the peoples, tribes, tongues, and nations ^[d]will . . . **not allow their dead bodies to be put into graves**. ¹⁰ And those who dwell on the earth will **rejoice over them**, make merry, and **send gifts to one another**, because these two prophets tormented those who dwell on the earth.

The way in which their dead bodies are treated demonstrates the hatred of the nations for the Lord’s two witnesses. They do not allow their bodies to be buried and rejoice over them and celebrate with the exchange of gifts.

So the saints in the trumpet section of Revelation are hated because their messages have tormented those who dwell on the earth.

IV. THE CHIASM OF MATTHEW 24:11-14 and vv.21-25

In Matthew 24 a CHIASM formed by vv.11-14 and vv.21-25 presents the MAIN DESCRIPTION of the Day of Tribulation:

¹¹ And many **false prophets will arise** and lead many astray. ¹² And because lawlessness will be increased, the love of many will grow cold.

¹³ But the **one who endures to the end will be saved**. ¹⁴ And this **gospel of the kingdom will be proclaimed throughout the whole world** as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come . . .

²¹ For then there will be **great tribulation**, such as has not been from the beginning of the world until now, no, and never will be.

²² And if **those days had not been cut short**, no human being **would be saved**. But for the sake of the elect those days will be cut short.

²³ Then if anyone says to you, 'Look, here is the Christ!' or 'There he is!' do not believe it. ²⁴ For **false christs and false prophets** will arise and **perform great signs and wonders**, so as **to lead astray**, if possible, even the elect.

V. THE CENTRAL ELEMENT OF THE CHIASM (Matt. 24:21)

The CENTRAL ELEMENT of the chiasm in v.21 provides the focus. It draws attention to the INTENSITY of the Tribulation the Church is to pass through. It is "great" – such a day "has not been from the beginning of the world until now . . . and never will be". Thus the INTENSITY of the Day is emphasized.

VI. THE EVENTS OF THE INNER PAIR OF ELEMENTS (Matt.24:13-14 & v.22)

The pair of chiastic elements (vv.13-14 & v.22) on either side of the central focal element (v.21) emphasize SALVATION. The shared element is

v.13 – "will be saved"

v. 22 – "would be saved"

In the first element (v.13) it is emphasized that salvation will require "endurance" on the part of the saints. The word indicates remaining strong under pressure.

This element also introduces the proclamation of the Gospel throughout the whole world as a precursor to the end (v.14)

In the second element (v.22) the emphasis is on God who "**cuts short**" the "**days**" of Tribulation as a contributing factor to the salvation of the saints.

So THREE MORE EVENTS that occur on the Day of Tribulation are added:

- a. **EVENT 4:** On the part of the saints: ENDURANCE (v.13)
- b. **EVENT 5:** Out of His Great Love for His Church the Lord SHORTENS THE TRIBULATION TIME (v.22)
- c. **EVENT 6:** The Gospel of the Kingdom to be preached to the whole world then the end will come (v.14)

Each of these themes emerges in the Trumpet Section of Revelation:

EVENT 4: In the TRUMPET Section the Tribulation Time will require ENDURANCE on the part of the Saints:

In Revelation 14 the need for endurance is explicitly stated:

Revelation 14:12 (ESV)

¹² Here is the ^[a]**patience** of the saints; here ^[b] *are* those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus.

“patience” is variously translated:

“**patient endurance**” – NIV

“**steadfast endurance**” – NET Bible

“**endurance**” – WNT, YLT

“**must endure**” – NLT

“**the endurance**” – ESV, BSB, BLB, CSB, GNT, ISV, DBT

“**the perseverance**” – NASB, HCSB

“**the patience**” – KJV, NKJV, NHEB, DRB, ERV, WBT, WEB

The Greek word, “Hupumone” is derived from a combination of a preposition meaning “under and another word meaning “to remain” or “abide”. i.e. “to remain under pressure” – literally “to remain steadfast under pressure”. Thus Revelation 14:12 is a call for the saints to ENDURE during the pressures of the Tribulation time.

It has been translated by three English Words, each with its own specific meaning:

“patience” – “the quality of being patient”¹ ; “the **ability to accept** delay or trouble **calmly**”²

“endurance” - “the act, quality, or power of withstanding hardship or stress,”³ “the ability to hold on and not succumb to the obstacles of life”

“perseverance” - “steady persistence in adhering to a course of action, a belief, or a purpose; steadfastness.”⁴

EVENT 5: IN THE TRUMPET SECTION THE LORD SHORTENS THE TRIBULATION TIME BY CANCELLING OUT A FURTHER SERIES OF SEVEN – THE SEVEN THUNDERS.

Revelation 10:1,3-4, (ESV)

¹I saw still another **mighty angel** coming down from heaven . . . ³and cried with a loud voice, as *when* a lion roars. When he cried out, **seven thunders uttered their voices**. ⁴ Now when the seven thunders ^[a]uttered their voices, *I was about to write*; but I heard a voice from heaven saying ^[b]to me, “Seal up the things which the seven thunders uttered, and **do not write them**.”

⁵The angel whom I saw standing on the sea and on the land raised up his ^[c]hand to heaven ⁶and swore by Him who lives forever and ever, who created heaven and the things that are in it, the earth and the things that are in it, and the sea and the things that are in it, that **there should be delay no longer**, ⁷but in the days of the sounding of the seventh angel, when he is

¹ <https://wikidiff.com/patience/endurance>

² <https://www.differencebetween.com/difference-between-patience-and-vs-endurance/#:~:text=Patience%20vs%20Endurance&text=Patience%20can%20be%20defined%20as,understood%20in%20the%20following%20manner.>

³ <https://bible.org/seriespage/mark-12-endurance-or-perseverance-and-patience>

⁴ American Heritage dictionary

about to sound, *the mystery of God would be finished*, as He declared to His servants the prophets.

EVENT 6: In the TRUMPET SECTION the world-wide PROCLAMATION of the GOSPEL occurs and then THE END comes

Revelation 14:6-11 (ESV)

⁶Then I saw another angel flying in the midst of heaven, *having the everlasting gospel to preach to those who dwell on the earth—to every nation, tribe, tongue, and people*—⁷ saying with a loud voice, “Fear God and give glory to Him, for the hour of His judgment has come; and worship Him who made heaven and earth, the sea and springs of water.”

⁸And *another angel followed*, saying, “Babylon^[f] is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she has made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication.”

⁹Then *a third angel followed them*, saying with a loud voice, “If anyone worships the beast and his image, and receives *his* mark on his forehead or on his hand, ¹⁰he himself shall also drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out full strength into the cup of His indignation. He shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb. ¹¹And the smoke of their torment ascends forever and ever; and they have no rest day or night, who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name.”

The Proclamation of the Three Messages in Revelation 14:6-11 ushers in the Harvesting of the Earth which is associated with the Second Coming

Revelation 14:14-20 (ESV)

¹⁴Then I looked, and behold, a white cloud, and seated on the cloud one like a son of man, with a golden crown on his head, and a sharp sickle in his hand. ¹⁵And another angel came out of the temple, calling with a loud voice to him who sat on the cloud, “Put in your sickle, and reap, for the hour to reap has come, for the harvest of the earth is fully ripe.” ¹⁶So he who sat on the cloud swung his sickle across the earth, and the earth was reaped.

¹⁷Then another angel came out of the temple in heaven, and he too had a sharp sickle. ¹⁸And another angel came out from the altar, the angel who has authority over the fire, and he called with a loud voice to the one who had the sharp sickle, “Put in your sickle and gather the clusters from the vine of the earth, for its grapes are ripe.” ¹⁹So the angel swung his sickle across the earth and gathered the grape harvest of the earth and threw it into the great winepress of the wrath of God. ²⁰And the winepress was trodden outside the city, and blood flowed from the winepress, as high as a horse's bridle, for 1,600 stadia.^[g]

VII. THE EVENTS OF THE OUTER PAIR OF ELEMENTS (Matt.24:11-12 & vv. 23-24)

The outer pair of chiastic elements (vv.11-12 & v.23-24) focus on “false Prophets” (vv.11, 23) who are joined by “false christs” (v.23). They are “FALSE” in the sense that they are COUNTERFEITS of the GENUINE. They come in the guise of prophets of God and Christ but are not.

With respect to the “false prophets and false Christs” verse 24 reveals that they perform “great signs and wonders (v.24b) which are designed “to lead astray, if possible, even the elect” (v.24c).

So close is the counterfeit to the genuine that even the elect will be in danger of being deceived. Paul comments:

2 Corinthians 11:13-15 (ESV)

¹³For such *are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into apostles of Christ.* ¹⁴And no wonder! *For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light.* ¹⁵Therefore *it is* no great thing if *his ministers also transform themselves into ministers of righteousness*, whose end will be according to their works.

So close is the counterfeit to the genuine that even the elect will be in danger of being deceived.

However, both here and in Revelation the Lord protects the elect against deception. Our understanding of Revelation is two-fold: it is for the PROTECTION of the Saints as well as for the PREPARATION of the saints for PROCLAMATION of the Gospel in the context of

So the outer pair of elements add THREE more EVENTS to the list of happenings during the Tribulation:

- a. **EVENT 7:** the appearance of “false prophets” and “false christs” (vv.11, 23)
- b. **EVENT 8:** they perform “great signs and wonders (v.24b)
- c. **EVENT 9:** They are designed “to lead astray, if possible, even the elect” (v.24c).

These three events are also developed in the Trumpet Section of Revelation.

EVENT 7: In the TRUMPET Section a “FALSE CHRIST” and a “FALSE PROPHET” occupy a central role.

Revelation 12 and 13 introduce three actors of evil who form the COUNTERFEIT TRINITY OF EVIL:

- a. The “Dragon” (12:3] who energizes the “Sea Beast” (13:2) and the “Land Beast” (13:13). He is in effect the UNHOLY FATHER.
- b. The “Sea Beast” parodies the Christ in that he undergoes death and resurrection:

Revelation 13:3 (ESV)

³One of its heads seemed to have *a mortal wound*, but *its mortal wound was healed*, and the whole earth marveled as they followed the beast.

- c. The “land beast” sets up “an image to the beast” through the performance of Great Signs” (13:13-14). He parodies the Holy Spirit. He is called “the False Prophet”:

Revelation 16:13 (ESV)

“And I saw, coming out of the mouth of the dragon and out of the mouth of the beast and out of the mouth of the **false prophet**, three unclean spirits like frogs.”

Revelation 19:20 (ESV)

“And the beast was captured, and with it the **false prophet** who in its presence had done the signs by which he deceived those who had received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped its image. These two were thrown alive into the lake of fire that burns with sulfur.”

Revelation 20:10 (ESV)

and the devil who had deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and sulfur where the beast and the **false prophet** were, and they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.

EVENT 8 & 9: In the TRUMPET section the unholy trinity work GREAT SIGNS in order to DECIEVE.

Revelation 13:13-14 (ESV)

¹³ It performs **great signs**, even making fire come down from heaven to earth in front of people, ¹⁴ and **by the signs** that it is allowed to work in the presence of^[d] the beast **it deceives** those who dwell on earth . . .”

Revelation 16:13-14 (ESV)

¹³ And I saw, coming out of the mouth of **the dragon** and out of the mouth of **the beast** and out of the mouth of **the false prophet, three unclean spirits** like frogs. ¹⁴ For they are **demonic spirits, performing signs**, who go abroad to the kings of the whole world, **to assemble** them for battle on the great day of God the Almighty.

Revelation 19:20 (ESV)

²⁰ And the beast was captured, and with it **the false prophet** who in its presence^[e] had done **the signs** by which **he deceived** those who had received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped its image.

VIII. IN MATTHEW 24:15-20 THE ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION RESULTS IN THE FLIGHT OF THE CHURCH:

In Matthew 24:15-20 Jesus introduces the “abomination of Desolation” in Daniel who causes the flight of the church. This occurred in AD 66 when the appearance of the Roman armies cased the young church to flee.

Matthew 24:15-20 (ESV)

¹⁵ “Therefore when you see the ‘**abomination of desolation**,’ spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place” (whoever reads, let him understand), ¹⁶ “then let those who are in Judea **flee to the mountains**. ¹⁷ Let him who is on the housetop not go down to take anything out of his house. ¹⁸ And let him who is in the field not go back to get his clothes. ¹⁹ But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days! ²⁰ And pray that **your flight** may not be in winter or on the Sabbath.

This foreshadowed the tribulation time for the church.

The “abomination of desolation” in Daniel refers to Rome in both its pagan and papal forms. Here it is introduced in its pagan form as the destroyer of the city of Jerusalem in AD 70. Papal Rome, the Little Horn of Daniel 7, would continue its oppression of God’s people during the tribulation time. This would be the main power opposing the saints during the Tribulation time.

This introduces two final events associated with the Tribulation Time in Matthew 24:

- a. **THEME 10:** The “abomination that makes desolate plays a key role in the persecution of the saints
- b. **THEME 11:** The flight of the saints

THEME 10: THE TRUMPET SECTION IN REVELATION INTRODUCES THE LITTLE HORN OF DANIEL 7:

Revelation 13:1-2 (ESV)

And I saw a **beast** rising out of the sea, with ten horns and seven heads, with ten diadems on its horns and blasphemous names on its heads. ²And the beast that I saw was like **a leopard**; its feet were like **a bear's**, and its mouth was like **a lion's** mouth.

The characteristics given direct us back to Daniel 7 where the lion, bear and leopard are distinct beasts. The fact that the horns of the beast are crowned in Revelation 13 direct us to the horns of Daniel 7. Among them we find a little horn who makes war on the saints and blasphemes. Thus, the first beast is the little horn of Daniel 7. It is the “abomination that desolates” mentioned by Jesus in Matthew 24.

THEME 11: IN THE TRUMPET SECTION THE SAINTS FLEE INTO THE WILDERNESS.

Revelation 12: 6, 14 (ESV)

⁶Then the woman **fled into the wilderness**, where she has a place prepared by God, that they should feed her there one thousand two hundred and sixty days. ¹⁴But the woman was given two wings of a great eagle, that she **might fly into the wilderness to her place**, where she is nourished for a time and times and half a time, from the presence of the serpent.

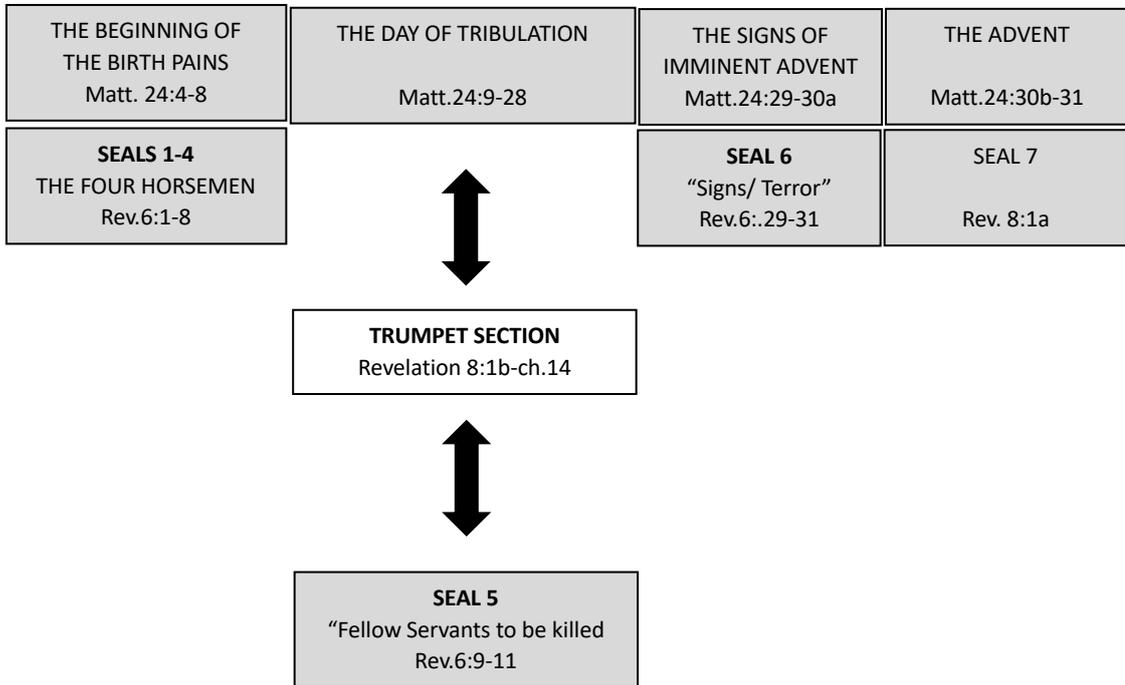
IX. THE TRUMPET SECTION THUS MATCHES THE TRIBULATION PERIOD OF MATTHEW 24:9-28

Thus point by point the 11 events of the tribulation period in Matthew 24 match the 11 events of the trumpet section:

Matthew 24:11	Saints delivered up to Tribulation	Revelation 12:6,14,17 & 13:5,15
Matthew 24:14	The saints are killed for his name’s sake	Revelation 11:7
Matthew 24:14	The saints are hated by all nations for his name’s sake	Revelation 11:7; 13:15
Matthew 24:12-13	A time for the endurance of the saints	Revelation 14:12
Matthew 24:21	Tribulation time shortened for the sake of the saints	Revelation 10:2-7
Matthew 24:14	The Gospel to be preached to all nations then the end comes	Revelation 14:6-11, 14-20
Matthew 24:11, 23-24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • False prophets and Christs • Deceive • by great signs and wonders 	Revelation 13:12-14 & 19:20
Matthew 24:12	The Abomination of Desolations occupies the centre stage	Revelation 13:1-2
Matthew 24:12	The saints are driven by persecution into the “mountains” / “wilderness”	Revelation 14:6, 14

X. CONCLUDING REMARKS

So we can now conclude that the MATTHEW 24:9-28 parallels the trumpet section of Revelation as well as the FIFTH SEAL So the trumpet section elaborates and expands the fifth seal.



THE TRIBULATION TIME IN MATTHEW 24:9-28 (ESV)

⁹ “Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and put you to death, and you will be hated by all nations for my name's sake. ¹⁰ And then many will fall away^[a] and betray one another and hate one another.

Note: Matthew 24

¹¹ And many **false prophets** will arise and **lead many astray**. ¹² And because lawlessness will be increased, the love of many will grow cold.

¹³ But the one who endures to the end **will be saved**. ¹⁴ And this gospel of the kingdom will be proclaimed throughout the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.

¹⁵ “So when you see the abomination of desolation spoken of by the prophet Daniel, standing in the holy place (let the reader understand), ¹⁶ then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains. ¹⁷ Let the one who is on the housetop not go down to take what is in his house, ¹⁸ and let the one who is in the field not turn back to take his cloak. ¹⁹ And alas for women who are pregnant and for those who are nursing infants in those days! ²⁰ Pray that your flight may not be in winter or on a Sabbath

²¹ For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been from the beginning of the world until now, no, and never will be.

²² And if those days had not been cut short, no human being **would be saved**. But for the sake of the elect those days will be cut short.

²³ Then if anyone says to you, ‘Look, here is the Christ!’ or ‘There he is!’ do not believe it. ²⁴ For **false christs** and **false prophets** will arise and perform great signs and wonders, so as **to lead astray**, if possible, even the elect.

²⁵ See, I have told you beforehand. ²⁶ So, if they say to you, ‘Look, he is in the wilderness,’ do not go out. If they say, ‘Look, he is in the inner rooms,’ do not believe it. ²⁷ For as the lightning comes from the east and shines as far as the west, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ²⁸ Wherever the corpse is, there the vultures will gather.