

Scenario of Events in These Last Days, part 7 quotes

1 Event #19 — The 7th plague closes with Christ's second coming, the righteous dead raised, the wicked destroyed, and all the righteous being taken to heaven.

"...the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power...because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved." 1 Thessalonians 1:7-9; 2 Thessalonians 2:10.

"Behold, I show you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed." 1 Corinthians 15:51-52.

"He will swallow up death in victory; and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from off all faces; and the rebuke of his people shall he take away from off all the earth: for the LORD hath spoken it. And it shall be said in that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, and he will save us: this is the LORD; we have waited for him, we will be glad and rejoice in his salvation." Isaiah 25:8-9.

"For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord." 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17.

"The voice of God is heard from heaven, declaring the day and hour of Jesus' coming, and delivering the everlasting covenant to His people...."

"Soon there appears in the east a small black cloud, about half the size of a man's hand. It is the cloud which surrounds the Saviour and which seems in the distance to be shrouded in darkness. The people of God know this to be the sign of the Son of man. In solemn silence they gaze upon it as it draws nearer the earth, becoming lighter and more glorious, until it is a great white cloud, its base a glory like consuming fire, and above it the rainbow of the covenant. Jesus rides forth as a

mighty conqueror. Not now a "Man of Sorrows," to drink the bitter cup of shame and woe, He comes, victor in heaven and earth, to judge the living and the dead. "Faithful and True," "in righteousness He doth judge and make war." **And "the armies which were in heaven" (Revelation 19:11, 14) follow Him. With anthems of celestial melody the holy angels, a vast, unnumbered throng, attend Him on His way. The firmament seems filled with radiant forms--"ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands."** No human pen can portray the scene; no mortal mind is adequate to conceive its splendor. "His glory covered the heavens, and the earth was full of His praise. And His brightness was as the light." Habakkuk 3:3,4. **As the living cloud comes still nearer, every eye beholds the Prince of life. No crown of thorns now mars that sacred head; but a diadem of glory rests on His holy brow. His countenance outshines the dazzling brightness of the noonday sun. "And He hath on His vesture and on His thigh a name written, King of kings, and Lord of lords."** Revelation 19:16.

"Before His presence "all faces are turned into paleness;" upon the rejecters of God's mercy falls the terror of eternal despair. "The heart melteth, and the knees smite together,...and the faces of them all gather blackness." Jeremiah 30:6; Nahum 2:10. The righteous cry with trembling: "Who shall be able to stand?" The angels' song is hushed, and there is a period of awful silence. Then the voice of Jesus is heard, saying: "My grace is sufficient for you." The faces of the righteous are lighted up, and joy fills every heart. And the angels strike a note higher and sing again as they draw still nearer to the earth.

"The King of kings descends upon the cloud, wrapped in flaming fire. The heavens are rolled together as a scroll, the earth trembles before Him, and every mountain and island is moved out of its place....

"The derisive jests have ceased. Lying lips are hushed into silence. The clash of arms, the tumult of battle, "with confused noise, and garments rolled in blood" (Isaiah 9:5), is stilled. Nought now is heard but the voice of prayer and the sound of weeping and lamentation. The cry bursts forth from lips so lately scoffing: "The great day of His wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?" The wicked pray to be buried beneath the rocks of the mountains rather than meet the face of Him whom they have despised and rejected....

"There are those who mocked Christ in His humiliation. With thrilling power come to their minds the Sufferer's words, when, adjured by the high priest, He solemnly declared: "Hereafter shall ye see the Son of man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of heaven." Matthew 26:64. Now they behold Him in His glory, and they are yet to see Him sitting on the right hand of power.

"Those who derided His claim to be the Son of God are speechless now. There is the haughty Herod who jeered at His royal title and bade the mocking soldiers crown Him king. There are the very men who with impious hands placed upon His form the purple robe, upon His sacred brow the thorny crown, and in His unresisting hand the mimic scepter, and bowed before Him in blasphemous mockery. The men

who smote and spit upon the Prince of life now turn from His piercing gaze and seek to flee from the overpowering glory of His presence. Those who drove the nails through His hands and feet, the soldier who pierced His side, behold these marks with terror and remorse.

"With awful distinctness do priests and rulers recall the events of Calvary. With shuddering horror they remember how, wagging their heads in satanic exultation, they exclaimed: 'He saved others; Himself He cannot save'. If He be the King of Israel, let Him now come down from the cross, and we will believe Him. He trusted in God; let Him deliver Him now, if He will have Him." Matthew 27:42, 43....

"Those who would have destroyed Christ and His faithful people now witness the glory which rests upon them. In the midst of their terror they hear the voices of the saints in joyful strains exclaiming: 'Lo, this is our God; we have waited for Him, and He will save us.' Isaiah 25:9.

"Amid the reeling of the earth, the flash of lightning, and the roar of thunder, the voice of the Son of God calls forth the sleeping saints. He looks upon the graves of the righteous, then, raising His hands to heaven, He cries: 'Awake, awake, awake, ye that sleep in the dust, and arise!' Throughout the length and breadth of the earth the dead shall hear that voice, and they that hear shall live. And the whole earth shall ring with the tread of the exceeding great army of every nation, kindred, tongue, and people. From the prison house of death they come, clothed with immortal glory, crying: 'O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?' 1 Corinthians 15:55. And the living righteous and the risen saints unite their voices in a long, glad shout of victory.

"All come forth from their graves the same in stature as when they entered the tomb. Adam, who stands among the risen throng, is of lofty height and majestic form, in stature but little below the Son of God. He presents a marked contrast to the people of later generations; in this one respect is shown the great degeneracy of the race. But all arise with the freshness and vigor of eternal youth....The mortal, corruptible form, devoid of comeliness, once polluted with sin, becomes perfect, beautiful, and immortal. All blemishes and deformities are left in the grave. Restored to the tree of life in the long-lost Eden, the redeemed will "grow up" (Malachi 4:2) to the full stature of the race in its primeval glory. The last lingering traces of the curse of sin will be removed, and Christ's faithful ones will appear in "the beauty of the Lord our God," in mind and soul and body reflecting the perfect image of their Lord....

"The living righteous are changed "in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye." At the voice of God they were glorified; now they are made immortal and with the risen saints are caught up to meet their Lord in the air. Angels "gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other." Little children are borne by holy angels to their mothers' arms. Friends long separated by death are united, nevermore to part, and with songs of gladness ascend together to the City of God.

“On each side of the cloudy chariot are wings, and beneath it are living wheels; and as the chariot rolls upward, the wheels cry, "Holy," and the wings, as they move, cry, "Holy," and the retinue of angels cry, "Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty." And the redeemed shout, "Alleluia!" as the chariot moves onward toward the New Jerusalem.” Great Controversy, p 640-645.

2 How much time does it take for all these plagues to fall?

"For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities....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." Revelation 18:5, 8.

“And after His work there is finished, He will come to the door of the first apartment, and confess the sins of Israel upon the head of the Scape Goat. Then He will put on the garments of vengeance. Then the plagues will come upon the wicked, and they do not come till Jesus puts on that garment, and takes His place upon the great white cloud. Then while the plagues are falling, the Scape Goat is being led away. He makes a mighty struggle to escape, but he is held fast by the hand that leads him. If he should effect his escape, Israel would lose their lives. **I saw that it would take time to lead away the Scape Goat into the land of forgetfulness after the sins were put on his head.”** Spalding-Magan Collection, p 2.

“As they (144,000) endeavor to wait trustingly for the Lord to work they are led to exercise faith, hope, and patience, which have been too little exercised during their religious experience. Yet for the elect's sake the time of trouble will be shortened. "Shall not God avenge His own elect, which cry day and night unto Him? . . . I tell you that He will avenge them speedily." Luke 18:7, 8. **The end will come more quickly than men expect.”** Great Controversy, p 630.

The “one day” mentioned in Revelation for these 7 plagues to fall is not to be taken literally as a single day. Because we were told that it takes time to lead away the Scape Goat while the plagues are falling. Neither can we take this “one day” to be prophetic time, or a whole year. Because we were also told that the amount of time it takes will be much shorter than many expect, as God will shorten it for the elect’s sake! So we can safely conclude that the “day” mentioned refers to just a short period of time, instead of any specific set amount of time.

3 How long does it take for the Synagogue of Satan to worship at the saints feet during the 7th plague before Jesus comes in the clouds of heaven?

“And I saw a flaming cloud come where Jesus stood. Then Jesus laid off his priestly garment and put on his Kingly robe, and took His place on the cloud which carried Him to the East, where it first appeared to the saints on earth—a small black cloud which was the sign of the Son of man. **While the cloud was passing from the Holiest to the East, which took a number of days, the synagogue of Satan worshipped at the saint’s feet.**” Broadside #1, April 6, 1846 par. 8.

The plagues begin to fall after Christ’s puts on His kingly robes of vengeance. But we are not told how long it is after Christ puts this garment on that He actually gets onto the fiery cloud and then leaves heaven and comes to the earth. So then when does Christ actually leave heaven on that cloud for the earth?

“By the people of God a voice, clear and melodious, is heard, saying, “Look up,” and lifting their eyes to the heavens, they behold the bow of promise. **The black, angry clouds that covered the firmament are parted, and like Stephen they look up steadfastly into heaven and see the glory of God and the Son of man seated upon His throne. In His divine form they discern the marks of His humiliation; and from His lips they hear the request presented before His Father and the holy angels: ‘I will that they also, whom Thou hast given Me, be with Me where I am.’** John 17:24.” Great Controversy, p 636.

During the 7th plague the 144,000 are able to look up into heaven and see the glory of God and Jesus Himself sitting upon His throne. Where is the throne of God located? In the Most Holy Place of the heavenly Sanctuary. So after Christ puts on His kingly robes He first goes to sit with His Father on His throne until the saints see Him there and hear His voice. This means that Christ was still in heaven all throughout the falling of these 7 last plagues, and He does not leave heaven on that fiery cloud until at least the Voice of God has delivered the saints. Then “while the cloud was passing from the Holiest to the East, which took a number of days, the synagogue of Satan worshipped at the saint’s feet.

Jesus would not want to needlessly delay His coming to get His beloved bride and the righteous wedding guests, because He is anxious to go and get them and bring them to His Father’s home for the wedding feast. Thus the amount of time in which the plagues fall and Christ comes to get His bride is indeed quicker than many people expect!

“He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still. And, behold, I come quickly, and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be.” Revelation 22:11-12.

Verse 11 reveals the closing of probation, and right after it closes then Christ immediately declares “behold, I come quickly” in verse 12!

So the amount of time it takes for the plagues to fall until Christ comes is not a long period of time at all, because He is coming quickly! This means that the period of time for the plagues to fall cannot be a literal re-application of the 42 months prophecy of Revelation 11 & 13 as many believe; neither can it be a literal re-application of the 1260 day prophecy of Daniel 12 and Revelation 11 & 12, or of the 1290 or the 1335 day prophecies of Daniel 12 as some teach; neither can it be a literal re-application of the 3 ½ year prophecy of Daniel 7 & 12 and Revelation 12 as some speculate; and neither can it be a literal re-application of the hour, day, month and year - or the 391 days and 1 hour - prophecy of Revelation 11, or even the 2300 day prophecy of Daniel 8 as some interpret it to be! This is because this period is only a short time!

“Probation is ended a short time before the appearing of the Lord in the clouds of heaven.” Great Controversy, p 490.

4 Once Christ comes and gathers all His faithful followers to Him on the cloudy chariot, how much time does it then take for them to all travel from earth back to heaven?

“Then Jesus' silver trumpet sounded, as He descended on the cloud, wrapped in flames of fire. He gazed on the graves of the sleeping saints, then raised His eyes and hands to heaven, and cried, "Awake! awake! awake! ye that sleep in the dust, and arise." Then there was a mighty earthquake. The graves opened, and the dead came up clothed with immortality. **The 144,000 shouted, "Alleluia!" as they recognized their friends who had been torn from them by death, and in the same moment we were changed and caught up together with them to meet the Lord in the air.**

“We all entered the cloud together, and were seven days ascending to the sea of glass”. Early Writings, p 16.

After all the saints get on that cloudy chariot and it leaves the earth it will take just 7 days of travel in order to reach heaven! We already discovered that heaven is located just beyond the open space in the Orion Nebula, and this open space is some 1400 ly away from earth - or about 8.21 quadrillion miles. This means that this cloudy chariot is traveling about 200 ly a day - or about 1.17 quadrillion miles a day, or 48.75 trillion miles an hour, or 81.25 billion miles a minute, or 1.35 billion miles a second!