## Fitting the Seven Seals into the frameworks of Jesus and Paul

• Read through the seven seals in Revelation 6

Matt 24:3-51	Rev 6:1-8:1	II Thessalonians 2:1-12
The Tribulation ("Beginning of sorrows") & Falling away  Many deceivers and false Christs  Wars and rumours of wars  Famines, disease and earthquakes  Tribulation & persecution  Many will fall away/grow cold because of lawlessness  Gospel preached to whole world	The Tribulation  • 2nd seal: wars  • 3rd seal: famine  • 4th seal: disease famine & sword causing death	The Falling away  Falling away comes first  "Mystery of Lawlessness" is already at work  (see also 1 John 4:1-4 The Antichrist is already at work)
<ul> <li>The Great Tribulation</li> <li>The Abomination is revealed</li> <li>False christs and false prophets do signs and wonders</li> <li>Great endurance is required [Mk 13:13]</li> </ul>	Time of endurance  • 5th seal:  • Many have been martyred  • But the time is not quite ready for it to end	<ul> <li>Man of Sin is revealed</li> <li>The "son of perdition"</li> <li>"opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God"</li> <li>The coming of the lawless one is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders</li> </ul>
Shaking of Powers of Heaven  The sun is darkened, moon fails and the stars fall from heaven	Shaking of Powers of Heaven  • 6th seal: The sun is darkened, moon fails and the stars fall from heaven	
Return of Christ  Great sound of a trumpet  As obvious and visible as lightening flashing from the east to the west  Come with power & great glory  The nations will be terrified  Elect will be gathered in  so be prepared!	<ul> <li>Return of Christ</li> <li>6th seal continued</li> <li>As obvious and visible as the sky rolling up</li> <li>The nations will be terrified</li> <li>Elect will be gathered in to glory and every tear will be wiped away</li> <li>7th seal: (judgement in next section)</li> </ul>	**Return of Christ*     ** "the Lord will consume the lawless one with the breath of his mouth and destroy with the brightness of his coming"     ** believers will admire and glorify him**     ** unbelievers will be punished with everlasting destruction**

## Connection between the Seals and the Trumpets

- There is a key connection that gives us a huge clue into the relationship between these two sets of visions
  - Since both of them end with a judgement scene, the temptation is to make them run in parallel

-1				seal 4			
	trump 1	trump 2	trump 3	trump 4	trump 5	trump 6	trump 7

- However, [7:2] tells us that near the beginning of the 6th seal, the first trumpet is about to be sounded
  - The angels who hurt the earth, sea etc (trumpets) cannot start until the 144,000 have been marked to keep them safe
- This is so helpful because it places the whole sequence of trumpets as an expansion of the 6th and 7th seals
  - o particularly the 6th, but synchronizing when they get to the 7th

seal 1	seal 2	seal 3	seal 4	seal 5	seal 6	seal 7
					trumps	1234567