

8. Transition

**At the mid-point of the seven years,
Israel turns to Jesus Christ.**

The mid-point of the end-time seven year period is filled with world-changing events. First God unveils a mystery; the seven thunders spoke, but John did not write down what was said. *And when the seven thunders spoke, I was about to write; but I heard a voice from heaven say, "Seal up what the seven thunders have said and do not write it down."* (Revelation 10:4)

Much mystery about "who God is" persists to this day. With the information disclosed in the seven thunders, this mystery will be over, this mystery will be finished, this great *mystery of God will be accomplished*. Scripture records this event saying, *But in the days when the seventh angel is about to sound his trumpet, the mystery of God will be accomplished.* (Revelation 10:7) The seven thunders reveal information about God's very nature, which will prompt Israel to accept Jesus as Messiah. At this time the final Gentile to become a believer in Christ steps forward and eternal salvation becomes a gift to Israel alone.

Two witnesses who preached in Jerusalem the initial half of the final seven years will be martyred, resurrected and then raptured to heaven. The entire world will see this event (Revelation 11:3-12). God also raptures the reformed Laodicea Church into heaven; this second rapture of the Church removes every Gentile believer, with none left behind (Revelation 14:16).

Also at this time the Antichrist travels to the Temple Mount in Jerusalem. There he will proclaim himself to be the Messiah that Israel has sought since ancient times. Paul wrote concerning Antichrist – *He will oppose and will exalt himself over everything that is called God or is worshiped, so that he sets himself up in God's temple, proclaiming himself to be God.* (2 Thessalonians 2:4). However Israel will reject Antichrist and embrace Jesus Christ (Zechariah 12:10); Israel will give *glory to the God of heaven* (Revelation 11:13).

Israel's rejection of Antichrist sets the stage for Israeli martyrs the second half of the final seven years. The Israeli harvest lasts three and a half years, and ends with Christ rescuing Israel at the Second Coming (Revelation 14:18-20; 19:11-21).

Events at the mid-point in the seven years are transitional; the course of world events is forever changed.

THE FINAL SEVEN YEARS

First Half	Transition (Mid-Point)	Second Half
Seven Seals	Seven Thunders	Israel Persecuted
Early Rapture	- reveal the mystery of God	Seven Bowls of Wrath
Seven Trumpets	Two Witnesses	The Second Coming
Christians Persecuted	- martyred, resurrected, raptured	
	Dead in Christ	
	- resurrected	
	Alive in Christ	
	- raptured	
	Unbelieving Gentiles	
	- cut off from salvation	
	Israel	
	- receives salvation	