Though Salvation is based on belief in Yahshua, we cannot simply believe that Yahshua existed and was a wise man and expect to be saved. Unless we truly believe in all these points about Yahshua and our need to truly love, follow and listen to Him, we risk not being saved at all, and being ripe for God's Wrath and Judgment (See 1 John 2 and 1 John 3 - Entire Chapters).

The Rapture Revealed in the Parable of the Ten Virgins

As discussed in my book "The Language of God in Humanity", several of Yahshua's Parables are related to the subject of the Rapture and the Wedding of the Lamb at Yahshua's Father's House in Heaven. In this heavenly wedding, Yahshua will be the Groom who will come to take His Bride and five of her virgin handmaidens who are wise to the Wedding Supper in His Father's House in Heaven. The one most pertinent to this discussion in relation to the Two Rapture theory is "The Parable of the Ten Virgins" in Matthew, Chapter 25. Also known as "The Parable of the Wise and Foolish Virgins", it offers an amazing allegorical picture of events that will happen during the Tribulation period. Here is a portion of this amazing Parable that explains why there may be a need for Christ to come to catch away some of His beloved saints a second time:

> *"And at midnight a cry was heard: 'Behold, the bridegroom is coming; go out to meet him!' Then all those virgins arose and trimmed their lamps. And the foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise answered, saying, 'No, lest there should not be enough for us and you; but go rather to those who sell, and buy for yourselves.' And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the wedding; and the door was shut." - Matthew 25:6-10*

This Parable is filled with allegorical references that can be interpreted as follows. The door that was shut is referring to the open door in Revelation 3:8. This door will be opened to admit the Bride of Christ and the Five Wise Virgins, and then it will be shut. The Bridegroom, of course, is Yahshua Ha Mashiach. However, the Bridegroom also signifies all literal Jewish believers, while the Bride signifies the Israelite Tribe of Ephraim that is spoken of so often along with Judah in many Bible prophecies. In ancient times, the Ephraimites mingled among the Gentiles when they sinned against God, and they were subsequently carried away from Israel as captives and refugees by

the Assyrians around the 8th Century BC, and again by the Babylonians in the 5th Century BC.

The Ten Lost Tribes of Israel allegorically refers to two groups of believers. First, they signify the Gentiles that have hidden Israelite blood in their heritage, and have lost their Israelite identity, but still cling closely to Christ and His Cross for their salvation. Secondly, they signify the Gentiles that have been grafted into Israel as adopted sons and daughters due to their love for Christ and His Kingdom. These two groups form a special class of deeply devoted Gentile and Lost Israelite believers that are allegorically described as the Bride of Christ and her five Wise Virgin attendants. Therefore, the Bride is not formed by all believers, but represents only the elect among the people of the world whose relationship with and love for God and His Son and Spirit are beyond reproach. Meanwhile, the Wise Virgins are those who love and support the Bride, and always try to help her even though they may not be as faithful in their walk with God.

The Ephraimite Bride is signified by the true believers that spiritually belong to only one of the Seven Churches spoken of in Revelation, Chapter 2 and Chapter 3. This is the Church of "Philadelphia", or "Brotherly Love", which is filled with believers who love God with their whole heart and soul, and love others as they love God and themselves. The Five Wise Virgins that have enough oil of the Holy Spirit in their lamps signify another portion of the faithful among the spiritual and literal Israelites who also love God dearly, and do their best to follow His Laws to love one another as Yahshua loves us, although they may be a bit backslidden or weak in their execution of their faith at times. Meanwhile, the Five Foolish Virgins that don't have enough oil and are left-behind signify those who are technically saved among the Gentiles and Lost Israelites, but whose spiritual walk with God is virtually non-existent, and leaves much to be desired.

In the Parable of the Ten Virgins, five of the virgin attendants of the essentially Gentile Bride of Christ are ready to leave with her when the Jewish Bridegroom arrives to take her to His Father's House in Heaven for the wedding. However, five of the virgins attending the Bride do not get to join the bridal procession because they have to go out and buy more oil for their lamps. This oil refers to the anointing of the Holy Spirit, and harkens back to the Israelite practice of anointing everything that was to be set apart for holy service in Israel. This anointing was done with a special blend of olive oil that was scented with aromatic plant extracts including spikenard, frankincense, aloe, and myrrh.

Since five of the Ten Virgins have no oil or Holy Spirit power as the seal guaranteeing their inheritance in the Kingdom of God (See Ephesians 1:13 and Ephesians 4:30), Yahshua sadly must reprimand them by telling them that *"I do not know you."* This suggests that those who are left behind will have the appearance of godliness (being described as "virgins") without knowing God's Spirit. Since the Holy Spirit helps us know the Will of God in our lives, this means that those with little oil will have a very weak relationship with Christ, if they have any at all.

To truly "know" Yahshua, we must have a connection to Him beyond merely reading His Word in the Bible. Only those who love Yahshua have the ability to hear God speaking through words of knowledge, dreams and visions, and are able to accurately apply and interpret what the Holy Spirit shows them so it is in full agreement with the Bible. With the exception of young children, those who have not cultivated this ability by drawing near to God are the Foolish Virgins, who are to be left behind! Sadly, they will temporarily be barred from Heaven for their failure to flee from sin and procure the indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit. It is this same Spirit of God that brings true believers the spiritual gifts of love, peace, kindness, gentleness, long-suffering, visions, dreams, words of knowledge, discernment, and Christ's power to help the needy, heal the sick, rescue the outcast, and cast out demons.

The singling out of five of the ten virgin bridesmaids also suggests that Yahshua will have to leave behind about half of those who claim Yahshua as their Messiah today. This will be due to the fact that - though all these believers have accepted that Christ did exist and the He was the Son of God made flesh - they do not flee from sin and seek holiness so that they will receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit, Who is the Seal of our Salvation, and Who encourages us to do good works in keeping with God's Will.

In light of this, and the fact that the Scriptures explored earlier in this chapter clearly hint that the Rapture will occur in two distinct phases, the Parable of the Ten Virgins suggests that a Second Rapture may have to occur. This Second Rapture will be to gather up the Foolish Virgins, or the wayward believers that are not ready when Yahshua initially comes for His Bride and her Five Wise Virgin attendants.

The Fate of the Foolish Virgins

Exactly when the First and Second Rapture may fall within the Tribulation Period is anybody's guess, for only God the Father knows the day or hour, and He has chosen not to reveal it to His servants. Indeed, these rescues of the saints to a place of refuge and safety may not even occur during the harvest seasons that they can be associated with, but just before or after them. Nobody really knows for sure but God the Father.

But there are Scriptural hints concerning the timing of these Two Rapture events. These suggest that the First Rapture will occur toward the beginning of the Great Tribulation at the Mid-Tribulation point, and just before the Antichrist begins enforcing the Mark of the Beast to control commerce. Meanwhile, the Second Rapture may occur toward the end of Great Tribulation - at the same time that the Two Witnesses will be raised up, which is just before final Tribulation plagues known as the Seven Bowls of God's Wrath are poured out, and the Battle of Armageddon ensues.

One hint that this is true is found in the Book of Revelation, Chapter 7, where we are given a vision of the saints who have *"come out of the Great Tribulation"* and are now in Heaven praising God for their deliverance:

> *"After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, with palm branches in their hands, 10 and crying out with a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" 11 All the angels stood around the throne and the elders and the four living creatures, and fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, 12 saying:*
>
> *"Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom, Thanksgiving and honor and power and might, Be to our God forever and ever. Amen."*
>
> *Then one of the elders answered, saying to me, "Who are these arrayed in white robes, and where did they come from?" 14 And I said to him, "Sir, you know."*
>
> *So he said to me, "**These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation,** and washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. 15 Therefore they are before the throne of*

God, and serve Him day and night in His temple. And He who sits on the throne will dwell among them. 16 They shall neither hunger anymore nor thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any heat; 17 for the Lamb who is in the midst of the throne will shepherd them and lead them to living fountains of waters. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

These saints are likely tied to the Wise Virgins in the Parable of the Ten Virgins in Matthew, Chapter 25. The Wise Virgin handmaidens who attend the Bride of Christ are ready with their spiritual lamps full of the oil of the Holy Spirit when the Bridegroom arrives to retrieve His Bride. These lamps are shining brightly for all to see, and represent the faithful walk of the Wise Virgins with Yahshua as they follow the Way of Yahweh, which is the Way of the Cross. Meanwhile, Yahshua says of the Foolish Virgins who are left behind in the Rapture that "Assuredly, I say to you, I do not know you!" This means that the Foolish Virgins are those in the Churches and Messianic Synagogues that have no personal relationship with Christ, and are not following the Way of the Cross by acting as though they are dead to the world, but fully alive in Christ.

Instead, the Foolish Virgins are flirting with the world, and are thus being unfaithful to their Bridegroom. It is this illicit love affair with the world's carnal desires and pleasures that forces Christ to leave the Foolish Virgins behind when He departs with the Wise Virgins for the Wedding of the Lamb in Heaven. The Parable of the Ten Virgins therefore makes it clear that the Foolish Virgins are a part of the Church, but are to be left behind after the First Rapture because of their unfaithfulness. This suggests that they must be cleansed in the fire of the Great Tribulation a little longer than the Wise Virgins. The fact that they are a part of the Church also suggests that they are to be rescued from the Great Tribulation also, but at a later time. In that regard, the command to "Come up here!" appears for a second time in reference to the resurrection of the Two Witnesses:

"Now after the three-and-a-half days the breath of life from God entered them (i.e. the Two Witnesses), and they stood on their feet, and great fear fell on those who saw them. And they heard a loud voice from heaven saying to them, 'Come up here.' And they ascended to heaven in a cloud, and their enemies saw them. In the same hour there was a great earthquake, and a tenth of the city fell. In the earthquake seven thousand men were killed, and the rest were afraid and gave glory to the God of heaven." - Revelation 11:11-13

This resurrection and subsequent translation of the Two Witnesses will occur just before the Bowls of God's Wrath are poured out during the seven-year Tribulation period that is identified in Scripture as Daniel's Seventieth Week. At the time that the Two Witnesses are caught up to Heaven with the command *"Come up here!"*, it is my contention that a final wave of attendees to the Wedding of the Lamb will be snatched away with them.

This miraculous translation and snatching up of many millions of new and left behind believers that have been made worthy in the cleansing fire of suffering during the Great Tribulation may actually release an enormous amount of supernatural energy when they are translated, which in turn could trigger the massive earthquake that Scripture indicates will accompany the ascension of the Two Witnesses into Heaven. In this way, the world may easily be duped into thinking that those who are missing in this second wave of disappearances were merely lost in this fierce quake rather than saved by Yahweh's Grace and mercy. Interestingly, this is also when the last of the Seven Trumpets of Judgment will be sounded:

> *"The second woe is past. Behold, the third woe is coming quickly. Then the seventh angel sounded: And there were loud voices in heaven, saying, "The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever!" - Revelation 11:14-15*

Could this be the Last Trumpet that the Apostle Paul spoke about in his description of the Rapture in 1 Thessalonians, as shown in the following Scripture?

> *"Behold, I tell 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 trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed" - 1 Corinthians 15:51-52*

Even though the Book of Revelation wasn't likely written until the Apostle Paul had gone to be with the Lord, there is no reason to doubt that the Last Trumpet that Paul spoke about in the above passage could be a prophetic reference to the last or Seventh Trumpet of God's Wrath that is mentioned in the Book of Revelation. It may also be tied to the Shofars or ram's horn trumpets sounded on the Feast of Trumpets or Yom Teruah, as well as on New Moon days and other Jewish Feast Days.

Could it be that Paul, who always preached to the Jews that he found in each community before preaching to the Gentiles, was preaching

to the Jews when he said the above, and that he was referring specifically to the time when many Jews will at last believe that Yahshua is the Messiah, which will be toward the end of the Great Tribulation? Furthermore, could these saved Jews be meant to be taken out of the Tribulation just before the Bowls of God's Wrath are poured out during a Second Rapture event? If so, this will likely occur when the Two Witnesses and the 144,000 Witnesses chosen at the beginning of the Tribulation are caught up to Heaven, along with the newly sanctified believers found throughout the world.

From the references in the Book of Revelation pertaining to the 144,0000, it appears that Yahshua will retrieve them and the rest of His bridal party when the Two Witnesses are raised up, as described in the Book of Revelation, Chapter 11. At that time, it may be that Yahshua will take all the believing, sanctified Jews and Gentiles on the Earth to Heaven. In Heaven, they will join the already translated Bride of Christ and the Wise Virgins in celebration until it is time for them to return to Earth with Yahshua at the Battle of Armageddon, when they will be seen riding on white horses alongside Christ. In fact, it could be Yahshua's miraculous appearance and snatching away of the carnal world's hated Messianic and Christian hostages before then that will drive the wicked in their final detestable assault on the Promised Land of Israel.

In their insane efforts to annihilate the remaining unsaved Jewish people that our Messiah nonetheless still loves, the wicked armies of the Antichrist will perish by the sword. After this, their bodies will become food for the carrion birds after their blood floods the Valley of Jehoshaphat (i.e. the Valley of Judgment) in Israel that is mentioned in Joel 3:2. When their wicked blood is shed, it will be in atonement for the murder of God's people throughout history. The Valley of Jehoshaphat can be associated with two literal valleys in Israel where several important battles in Jewish history were fought. One, the Valley of Megiddo, is to the north of Jerusalem, and one, the Kidron Valley, is to the south of it.

The Testing of the Foolish Virgins

Now, though many passages in Scripture hint at a Rapture or catching up of the Church, many naysayers within the Body of Christ argue that belief in a Rapture will leave many unprepared for coming disasters and hard times, as well as the Tribulation period to come when Yahweh will pour out His wrath on mankind. Many of these naysayers think it would be a great honor to be called to fight for the cause of the

righteous (by their skewed definition) during the coming time of Jacob's Trouble. These war-minded people are often filled with suspicion and hate against specific groups of non-believers or apostates and believe that God expects His followers to rise up against any and all oppressors with force of arms and deadly violence if peaceful means fail to gain them their right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness (as they define it, not God).

However, there is not one Scripture in the entire Brit Chadashah or New Covenant Scriptures known as the New Testament that advocates using force of arms to protect our individual liberties, or to preserve our nation, culture or lives. In fact, there are several Scriptures that tell us not to use violence for any reason, even when we are being harassed and humiliated by those who hate us for our faith. Support for this teaching is found in the following words of Yahshua:

> *"You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you, that you may be sons of your Father in heaven; for He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust." - Matthew 5:43-48*

> *"And suddenly, one of those who were with Yahshua stretched out his hand and drew his sword, struck the servant of the high priest, and cut off his ear. 52 But Yahshua said to him, 'Put your sword in its place, for all who take the sword will perish by the sword. 53 Or do you think that I cannot now pray to My Father, and He will provide Me with more than twelve legions of angels?'" - Matthew 26:51-53*

This message is echoed in Chapter 13 of the Book of Revelation when the Beasts that are the enemies of God are described. But even in the midst of the evil of the Beasts who rise against God, the saints are told not to use violence to defend themselves, or they will die by violence:

> *"He who leads into captivity shall go into captivity; he who kills with the sword must be killed with the sword. Here is the patience and the faith of the saints." - Revelation 13:10*

Nonetheless, a few Scriptures are consistently taken out of context by those with no spiritual discernment in order to support their desire to use violence to advance the Kingdom of God. Though there may be some point in the future when hardened warriors will be specifically called by

God to fight against the Antichrist and the New World Order, just as the Israelites were called to do in the far past, there is absolutely no current provision for the use of hard violence in any of Yahshua's teachings.

On the contrary! Rather than ask us to fight with force of arms, Yahshua asks His true followers to love their enemies, bless those who curse and use them, rejoice when they are reviled and persecuted, and turn the other cheek when they are slapped in the face either emotionally or physically (See Matthew 5:38-44; Luke 6:26-35). Yahshua also asks His followers to take up their Cross and follow Him. This means that God's children need to develop a close personal relationship with Christ, to follow Him, and to longingly and expectantly pray, wait and watch for His return to Earth to rescue the Church from the coming Wrath of God upon the wicked (See Matthew 24:38-47; John 10:27-30; 2 Timothy 2:19).

Nonetheless, there are many believers today who think that they will have to live through the entire Tribulation, and that they will have to fight with physical weapons of war against God's enemies. God is aware of these backslidden believers, and He also has plans for them that do not include being a part of the First Rapture. Instead, they will be connected to the Foolish Virgins in the Church who will be left behind to work on their level of sanctification.

As we discussed earlier when examining "The Parable of the Ten Virgins", the Foolish Virgins do not have a right relationship with God or a correct view of His Kingdom. In fact, some of them think that they must win a physical Kingdom of God on Earth for Yahshua before He returns. Still others believe that the Church already represents that Kingdom, and no further one will be forthcoming. Some of these Foolish Virgins even deny that there will be a literal Second Coming of Christ to the Earth, but see the presence of the Holy Spirit in believers as the manifestation of God's promised Kingdom on Earth. Many who fall in this category are within the apostate branches of the Lutheran Church and the Roman Catholic Church, which - to their detriment - do not see the Book of Revelation as a prophecy that dualistically applies to both the past and the future.

Finally, there are some among the Foolish Virgins that recognize the Book of Revelation as a past and future prophecy, but either don't believe in the Rapture, or don't want to be taken up when it happens! Instead, they think that they may have been chosen by God to stay behind to fight against demonic spiritual principalities and powers. Some of them think they will fight the Antichrist and his armies by wielding the power of the Holy Spirit against the unseen wicked spiritual realms controlling the Devil's followers. They also believe that they will win

many lost souls for Christ through evangelism and spiritual warfare during the Great Tribulation.

It could very well be true if they are among the 144,000 chosen witnesses of Israel that are chosen in the Book of Revelation, Chapter 6, right after the first Five Seals of Judgment on a sacred heavenly scroll are opened by Yahshua, Who is the Lamb of God. I believe that the 144,000 will be taken up in the First Rapture, but then will be returned to the Earth shortly after they are chosen by Yahshua in Heaven. To see my ideas concerning the 144,000 Witnesses, look for the following section of this chapter entitled: "Who Are The 144,000 Witnesses Of Revelation?"

Due to these huge doctrinal schisms between various groups of believers concerning the Tribulation period, it may be that Yahweh always intended to leave the Rapture in the realm of **choice**. In other words, it may truly be up to the individual believer to decide whether they will attend the Wedding of the Lamb in Heaven, or be left behind here on Earth to save the lost and/or fight the Antichrist and his wicked armies either through force of physical arms, or spiritual power, or both.

As a case in point, one day while I was in deep prayer, I was specifically asked by God if I would be willing to stay on Earth during the Tribulation to be a witness for Him. At that time, I knew I had a right to refuse because God knew how much I wanted to attend the Wedding Supper of the Lamb in Heaven, and He had already promised that I would be a part of it. Nonetheless, after some deep contemplation of the severe suffering I might have to experience first hand and the loss I might find from not being part of the Rapture, I told God that I would stay if it would help further His kingdom.

But I also asked that He take away my fear, and He did by promising me that those who would willingly stay behind to be witnesses would be protected and unable to be harmed. I realized then that God was trying to show me two things. First, that Revelation's 144,000 chosen ones of Israel are not all Jews, but also of the Lost Tribes of Israel like me. Second, He was showing that these saints will be immortal when they are chosen to serve God during the Tribulation, having already taken part in the Rapture!

Whether or not one chooses to believe that what I just described was a bonafide supernatural encounter with the Living God of Abraham, Scripture makes it clear that our God Yahweh loves to present paradoxes and mysteries for His human children to ponder, and, with the aid of the Holy Spirit, to eventually help them to understand and embrace these paradoxes. I believe that this is one of those: that while to go to be with Yahshua is the desire of every spiritually baptized believers' heart, the

desire to stay and serve God may override that desire in certain people because they want to win souls for Christ by taking part in the spiritual harvest that will take place during the first part of the Great Tribulation. I believe that the most dedicated individuals among this group of Jewish and Israelite believers are destined to become the 144,000 Witnesses, who I will focus on at the end of this chapter.

The Signs That The Great Tribulation Is Near

Taking my cue from all of my Language of God Series books, I want to stress that I am not attempting to set exact dates for the Rapture or Tribulation. Instead, I am presenting heavenly and biblical evidence that strongly suggests that the Rapture and Tribulation could be imminent, coupled with the fact that there are specific days, months and years associated with these signs that I did **not** pick or predict. They were hidden in these signs, which I have done my best to interpret using the discernment of the Holy Spirit. Both the Solar Eclipse of July 2010 over Easter Island and the Lunar Eclipse of December 2010 suggest that the Tribulation already started, and the five comets and Sign of the Woman Clothed with the Sun that appeared in October 2013 suggest that the First Rapture will be very soon. But this is relative to God's timing, which is not the same as our own! Coupling these heavenly signs with the physical evidence of the birth pains of the Tribulation that can be seen in the major increase in the amount and severity of severe weather, volcanic eruptions and earthquakes in 2010 through 2013, there is no doubt in my mind that the Rapture and Great Tribulation are fast approaching.

The political climate is even more tell-tale, with Russia and China dropping the US dollar as their monetary standard for trade and tensions between China, North Korea and the United States brewing in the North Pacific. Meanwhile, Muslim-controlled Pakistan is dangerously unstable and already has nuclear weapons in its military arsenal, and Iran is developing nuclear weapons and may soon act on its mandate to destroy Israel when nuclear warheads are readily available to them. Adding to these potential war zones, the publishing of hundreds of sensitive communications between US diplomats, embassy heads, and political leaders that made world news in November of 2010 bodes very badly for the United States and Israel in the coming months.

Personally, I believe that we are already in the final seven year Tribulation Period known as Daniel's Seventieth Week. This is partly due to the Prophecies in the Hallel Psalms, which I discussed at length earlier in this book. These are Psalms 110 through 118, and they appear to