

# SEALS

(Revelation  
6:1-17; 8:1-2)



**SETTING  
CONDITIONS  
BEFORE THE  
WRATH OF GOD  
BEGINS**

# REVELATION 'SEALS' BRIEF

## THE PRINCE - BEAST

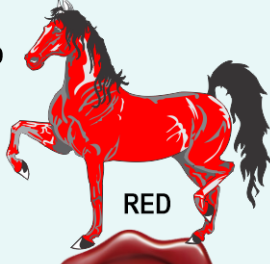
Daniel's 70th Week Begins



### SEAL

This person will dominate politically (**Rv.6:1-2**). He will establish a peace treaty with Israel for 7 years (**Da.9:24-27**).

Tribulation Begins



### SEAL

The person of SEAL 1 breaks his treaty with Israel 3½ years after it was confirmed (**Da.7:8, 20; 8:23**). This begins the reign of the Beast (**Rv.13:3-7**) and the start of the Great Tribulation (**Mt.24:15-28**).

## CONDITIONS AFTER BREAKING COVENANT

Economic Controls



### SEAL

The Beast will use a Mark (666) to control economic currency (**Rv.6:5-6; 13:16-18**). He will have control over resources so he has the authority to restrict buying and selling.

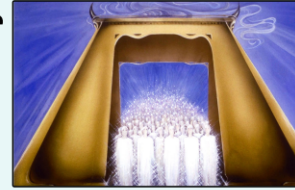
Much Death



### SEAL

There will be death from the sword, famine, disease, and wild animals (**Rv.6:8**).

Represents All Martyrs

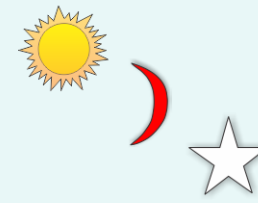


### SEAL

Martyrs from all ages are represented as being under an altar (**Rv.6:9; 13:7; Da.7:21**).

## BLESSING THEN WRATH

Christ Coming for Believers



### SEAL

Signs in the heavens appear as Christ comes to rescue believers (**Rv.6:12-17**). This interrupts the Great Tribulation (**Mt.24:22**, "shortened"), and begins the Day of the Lord, bringing God's wrath upon the earth.

TRUMPETS: Wrath of God



### SEAL

The wrath of God falls upon the earth dwellers through the 7 TRUMPET judgments (**Rv.6:12-17**). The 7th SEAL is the half hour of silence in Heaven (**Rv.8:1-6**), and becomes the first TRUMPET.

# THE SEALS OF REVELATION

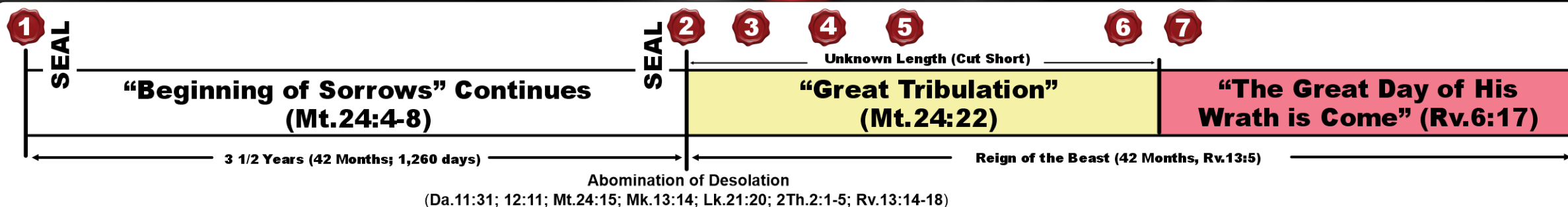
## SEAL 1 — The Antichrist

Rv.6:1-2

Daniel's 70th Week begins (Da.9:24-27)

- This is the activity of a specific person (the Prince) that appears to dominate the world of politics by going out to conquer politically (Da.8:21-25; Rv.6:1-2).
- For 3½ years he will be a benevolent dictator appearing to solve economic, social, and military issues in the world, at least partly through a 7-year peace covenant made with Israel (Da.9:24-27) and other nations.
- Israel, as a nation, will attempt to realize Messianic promises through a human agency (Da.9:27; 2Th.2:4; Mt.24:15). Notice sacrifices and the Temple presence.
- “And there are seven kings: five are fallen, and one is, and the other is not yet come; and when he cometh, he must continue a short space” (Rv.17:10).
- This 7th kingdom will become the 8th kingdom at Seal 2 (Rv.17:10-11).

<b>FALLEN:</b>	1. Egypt	<b>ONE IS:</b>	<b>NOT YET COME:</b>
	2. Assyria		
	3. Babylon		
	4. Persia		
	5. Greece		
	6. Rome	7. Antichrist (Prince, Da.9:26-27)	
		8. Antichrist (Man of sin, 2Th.2:3)	



# THE SEALS OF REVELATION

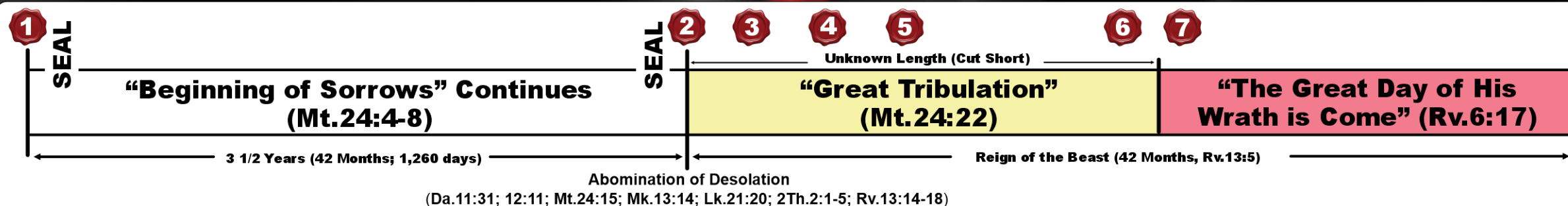
## SEAL 2 — The Beast

Rv.6:3-4

The Tribulation begins

(Je.30:4-7; Da.12:1; Mt.24:21; 2Th.2:4-10)

- This is the midpoint of Daniel's 70th Week (Da.9:27).
- When he interrupts THE peace, this deceitful world leader becomes known as the man of lawlessness (2Th.2:3) and the Beast (Rv.13:1-2).
- The daily sacrifice shall be taken away (Da.8:11; Mt.24:15).
- He will declare himself to be God (2Th.2:4; Da.11:36-37).
- Along with this broken treaty, the conquering one will become empowered by Satan (2Th.2:9). He will demand that everyone worship him. He will become very oppressive.
- The middle of Daniel's 70th week (Da.9:27; 12:1,6-7; Mt.24:9-15) is the beginning of the Tribulation. This is also the beginning of the reign of the beast (Antichrist, Rv.13:5, i.e., 42 months).
- Revelation 17 tells us this ruler is the SEVENTH ruler who becomes the EIGHTH. So this SEVENTH ruler is represented by Seal 1, and the EIGHTH ruler is represented by Seal 2. This is why two Seals are used to symbolize the same person.



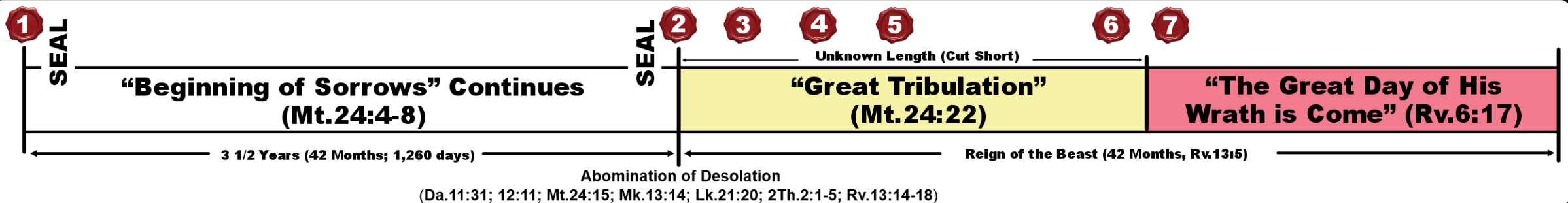
# THE SEALS OF REVELATION

## SEAL 3 — Condition: Beast Economy

Rv.6:5-6

Beast Control Over Economy

- This seal involves famine caused by the strict economic control by the Beast.
- Seal 3 represents some kind of economic control. Because the Beast takes control of resources, he has the ability to restrict who can buy and sell based on whether or not they have the Mark of the Beast.
- The use of “scales” represents control over the money system.
- The “penny” is the Roman denarius which was one days work wage. To buy one measure of wheat is to eat one meal for that day. To buy the cheaper grain, barley, is to eat three meals a day.
- There appears to be massive food shortages for anyone not working within the Beast system.
- For those working under the Beast system things may appear to function “normally” (Rv.13:17). That is, they will be able to buy and sell the oil and wine.
- The Beast will offer “peace” and safety to those who accept Beast worship and take the mark of the beast. This time of safety is short lived as it will be cut short as the Day of the Lord arrives, and shall catch them by surprise like a thief (1Th.5:1-3)



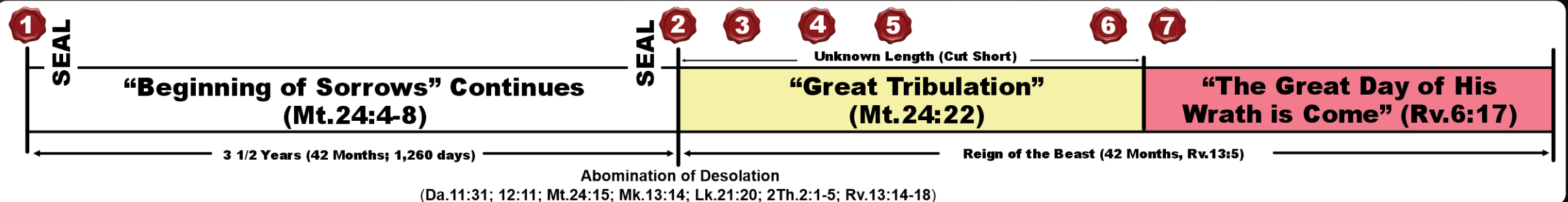
# THE SEALS OF REVELATION

## SEAL 4 — Condition: Death

Rv.6:7-8

Much Death Everywhere

- There will be much death coming from multiple sources.
  1. Death from the sword. The Beast will try to kill anyone who will not take the mark.
  2. Death from famine. Since the Beast controls resources, he can allow shortages for those outside his domain.
  3. Death from disease. The natural result of massive food shortages (famine) is death from starvation and disease.
  4. Death from animals. Hungry wild animals will encroach civilized areas seeking food for their survival. These appear to be predator and scavengers.
- The killings appear to be the result of the Beast's attempt to control the world.
- One quarter (1/4) of earth's land area will be subject to physical death (Rv.6:8). This is not 1/4 of the earth's population. This suggests that the Beast's authority extends to 3/4 of the earth.

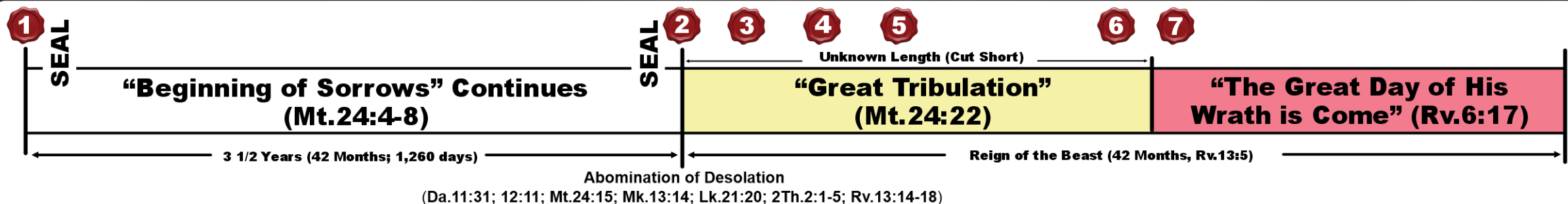


# THE SEALS OF REVELATION

## SEAL 5 — Condition: Martyrs

Rv.6:9-11  
Martyrs in Heaven

- This seal recognizes all believers who have been killed for their faith. Many will die as martyrs.
- These martyrs are already in Heaven. Thus, it is not next in a chronological sense.
- This is a representative group for all martyrs throughout history. This is a symbolic image for the vision.
- These are not simply recent martyrs who are hanging out underneath the altar waiting (Rv.6:9) for justice to be poured out on the world.
- When we die we are brought face to face with our Lord. They are experiencing peace and joy in Christ's presence.
- These martyrs are called “souls” (6:9). That is, they do not yet have bodies. After the sixth seal these martyrs are in heaven wearing “white robes” (7:9) because they have already been resurrected (raptured). The martyrs do not consider their martyrdom to be God’s wrath upon them (Rv.6:10). They believe the wrath is still future (v.10).



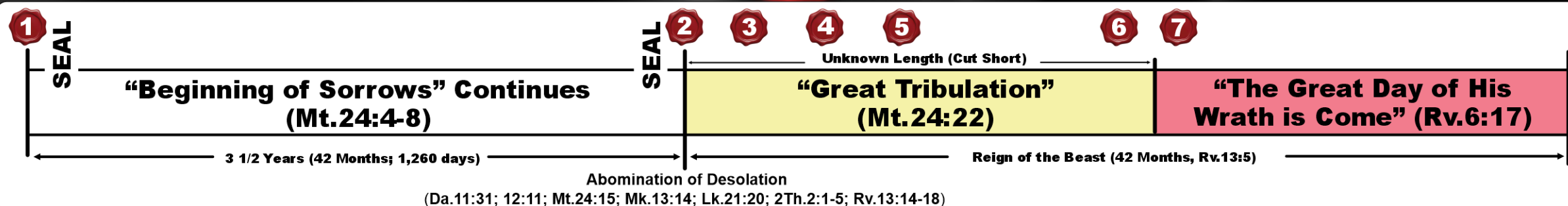
# THE SEALS OF REVELATION

## SEAL 6 — Day of Christ

Rv.6:12-14

Cosmic Signs (Jl.2:30-31; Mt.24:29)  
then Resurrection (Rv.7:9-17)

- The Day of Christ is the arrival of Christ to gather all believers (2Th.2:1).
- **AFTER** the Tribulation of those days, Christ comes in the clouds. He does not come all the way to the earth. Believers are gathered together with Christ in the clouds (1Th.4:13-18; 2Th.2:1-2; Ti.2:13).
- This Seal interrupts the oppression of the Beast and ends the Tribulation by being “cut short” (Mt.24:22).
- The signs in the Sun, Moon, and stars will be followed by darkness (Jl.2:10, 30-31; 3:15; Am.5:20; Mt.24:29). Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear (Mt.24:30a). Believers will respond with expectation, and unbelievers will panic, mourn (Mt.24:30b) and try to hide from the face of the Father and Jesus Christ (Is.2:12-21; Rv.6:15-17).
- The arrival of Christ and the rapture occur after Revelation 6:14. The vision does not mention the arrival of Christ (Mt.24:30), nor the rapture (2Th.4:13-18). But the vision does show the response of the earth dwellers (Rv.6:15-17).
- If a rapture had just taken place, we would expect the narrative to describe (1) the condition on the earth (Rv.7:1-8) and (2) the raptured saints in Heaven (Rv.7:9-17). Chapter 7 gives us this very description. John sees the raptured saints **STANDING** before the throne as if they just got there.





# THE SEALS OF REVELATION

## SEAL 7 — Day of the Lord

Rv.6:15-17; 8:1-2

Wrath of God (Judgment, Rv.6:17)

- The content of the 7th Seal are the 7 Trumpets (Rv.8:1-6).
- The wrath of God begins to fall upon the earth dwellers via the 7 Trumpet judgments.
- This will be a judgment upon all the proud (Is.2:12-22).
- In Rv.6:17, the verb “is come” is an aorist active of erchomai, which indicates that the Day of wrath has NOW arrived. It speaks of the cosmic signs that just occurred.
- The 7 Seals, Trumpets, and Bowls are connected together and are three succeeding series. The 7th Seal introduces the 7 Trumpets. And the 7th Trumpet introduces the 7 Bowls.
- There is silence in Heaven for about half an hour, indicating something huge is about to happen (Rv.8:1).

### 7 SEALS



- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
7. →

### 7 TRUMPETS



- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
7. →

### 7 VIALS



- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.

