



# THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST

Vision 2 , Part 6 (9:13-10:4) - Trumpet 6, Part I



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# TRUMPET #5 - THE RISE OF ISLAM AND THE ARAB OPPOSITION TO BYZANTIUM

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“One woe is past. Behold, still two more woes are coming after these things.”

–Revelation 9:13

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**Byzantine Empire**  
mid-8th century

● **Constantinople**  
Byzantine capital  
from 330 C.E.

**Umayyad  
Caliphate**

Google



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# TRUMPET #6

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- The rise of the Turkish power, Constantinople falls, the Byzantine Empire ends.
  - The fall of Constantinople sets the stage for momentous events in European Christendom (11:1-13).
  - 11:14: “The second woe is past. Behold, the third woe is coming quickly.”
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6, 6, 6

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- Sixth seal prepares God's people for the tribulation to come
  - Sixth trumpet signals that the end of the world approaches
  - Sixth bowl warns God's people to prepare
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# TRUMPET #7 - DAY OF JUDGMENT

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- “...coming quickly” - catchphrase for the return of Jesus
    - 11:18, “The nations were angry, and Your wrath has come, And the time of the dead, that they should be judged, And that You should reward Your servants the prophets and the saints, And those who fear Your name, small and great, And should destroy those who destroy the earth.”
  - Proleptic: to see something in the future as if it is happening in the present
  - The seventh trumpet is the last trumpet in Revelation: “...in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the *last trumpet*...” (1 Corinthians 15:52)
  - Trumpet #7 signals the end of Vision #2 (4:1-11:18)
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# TRUMPET #6 - THE RISE OF THE TURKISH POWER

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# TRUMPET #6 - WHAT JOHN SAW

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- “a voice from the four horns of the golden altar” — remember 8:3-5
  - “Release the four angels” - four destructive forces
  - “bound at the River Euphrates” - prevented from crossing until the appointed time
  - “River Euphrates” - a restraint against the powers of the East
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# “HOUR...DAY...MONTH...YEAR”

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- Points to a precise time (applying the day – year theory)
  - “hour”:  $1/12$  day (Jesus, “are there not 12 hours in a day?”) = 1 month ( $1/12$  of a year)
  - “month”: 30 days = 30 years
  - “day” = 1 day = 1 year
  - “year” - a solar year, 365.25 days = 365  $\frac{1}{4}$  days or 365 years and 3 months
  - Time period of 396 years and 4 months
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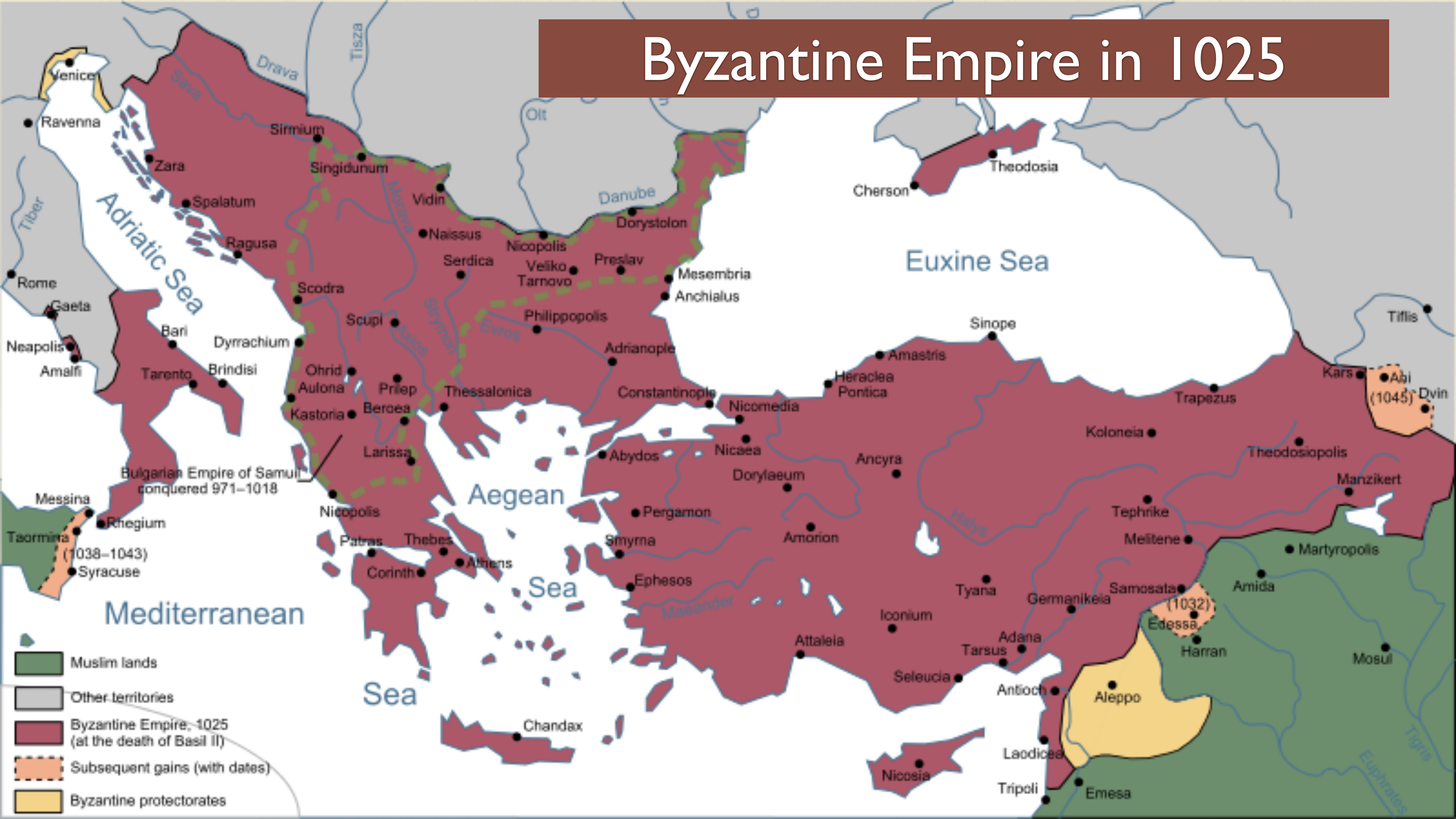
# THE ARMY

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- “two hundred million” cavalry - an overwhelming host
  - “breastplates of fiery red, hyacinth blue, and sulfur yellow” - strong emphasis on sulfur
  - “By these three plagues a third of mankind was killed” - a significant, but not complete, loss of life
  - “For their power is in their mouth and in their tails”
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# Byzantine Empire in 1025





under Seljuq pressure  
Ca. 1000 - 1200 CE

ASIA

EUROPE

Heartland  
of the  
SELJUQS

BYZANTINE  
EMPIRE

Constantinople

Battle of  
Manzikert  
1071

Present-day  
Turkey

Caspian  
Sea

SELJUQS

Mediterranean Sea

Damascus

Bagdad

Cairo

FATIMIDS

ARABIAN  
PENINSULA

Persian  
Gulf

Medina

Mecca

AFRICA

1000 Km

**Seljuqs**

1037 - 1194

**Byzantine  
Empire**

Ca. 1000 CE

Ca. 1100 CE

Ca. 1450 CE

**Fatimids**

909 - 1171

Present-day





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# THE SELJUK TURKS

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- 1055 -- Conquered Baghdad
  - 1057 -- Cross the river Euphrates in January (beginning the 396 years and four months)
  - 1071 - Battle of Manzikert shows the Seljuk Turks to be a threat against Byzantium
  - 1095 - Pope Urban II issues call for the First Crusade
  - Conquered territory well into Asia Minor by the end of the 12th century
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# OTTOMAN TURKS RISE TO POWER



- 1361 -- Turkish army invades Thrace and capture Adrianople, attacks continue throughout the Balkans
- 1366 -- Murad I, Turkish sultan, makes Adrianople his capital
- 1422 -- Murad II lays siege to Constantinople; abandoned siege due to Balkan revolt – city pays tribute to Turks



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# MAY 29, 1453

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- Constantinople falls to the Ottoman Turks
  - The use of cannons and gunpowder gave the edge to the Turkish army
  - The final iteration of the Roman Empire is destroyed
  - January, 1057 - May, 1453 = 396 years and four months
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“The capture of Constantinople shook every throne in Europe. The bulwark had fallen that had protected Europe from Asia for over a thousand years.”

–Will Durant, *The Reformation*, p. 183

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“The fear which this Islamic aggression engendered in Europe was an essential background to the Reformation, convincing many on both sides that God’s anger was poised to strike down the Christian world, and so making it all the more essential to please God by affirming the right form of Christian belief against other Christians. It is impossible to understand the mood of sixteenth-century Europe without bearing in mind the deep anxiety inspired by the Ottoman Empire.”

–*Diarmid McCulloch, The Reformation, p. 57*

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“The rest of mankind, who were not killed by these plagues, did not repent of the works of their hands nor give up worshiping demons and idols of gold and silver and bronze and stone and wood, which cannot see or hear or walk, nor did they repent of their murders or their sorceries or their sexual immorality or their thefts.”

—Revelation 9:20-21

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# AN END, BUT NOT THE END

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- “but the rest of mankind” - those who were not directly affected by these events, specifically the Latin Church
  - Heavy emphasis on apostasy and idolatry
  - “nor did they repent of their murders” - the Crusades, the Inquisitions
  - “...or their sorceries” - Latin church claimed miraculous power
  - “...or their thefts”
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# CHAPTER 10 - JOHN'S TESTIMONY MUST CONTINUE

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# JOHN SEES “ANOTHER MIGHTY ANGEL”

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- “clothed with a cloud” - a divine mission
  - “...a rainbow was on his head” - fidelity of God to His promises
  - “face was like the sun” - countenance like one who has been in the presence of God
  - “feet like pillars of fire” -- trampling judgment of God
  - “a little book open in his hand” - a revelation available to all people
  - “right foot on the sea and his left foot on the land” - a universal message relevant to all.
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# SEVEN THUNDERS RESPOND

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- The angel, “cried with a loud voice, as when a lion roars.”
    - Jesus is the “Lion of the tribe of Judah” (Revelation 5:5)
    - Book of Revelation: God to Jesus, Jesus to angel, angel to John (1:1)
  - “When he cried out, seven thunders uttered their voices” - thunder describes the voice of God (e.g. Psalms 29:3)
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# “SEAL UP THE THINGS WHICH THE SEVEN THUNDERS UTTERED”

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- God does not want what was said to be known.
  - “...how he was caught up into Paradise and heard inexpressible words, which it is not lawful for a man to utter.” (2 Corinthians 12:4)
    - Not everything that is said in heaven needs to be known by us
  - Seven thunders respond to the “little book”
    - The “little book” = remainder of the book of Revelation
    - Seven thunders mimic the voice of God but are not the voice of God
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# SUMMARY OF 9:13-10:4

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- The Turkish power supplants the Arab power and threatens the Byzantine Empire
  - Nearly 400 years after crossing the Euphrates, the Ottoman Turks conquer Constantinople
  - The fall of Constantinople does not cause the Latin church to repent
  - John's testimony against the Roman Empire is nearly concluded; but God has more for John to prophesy
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