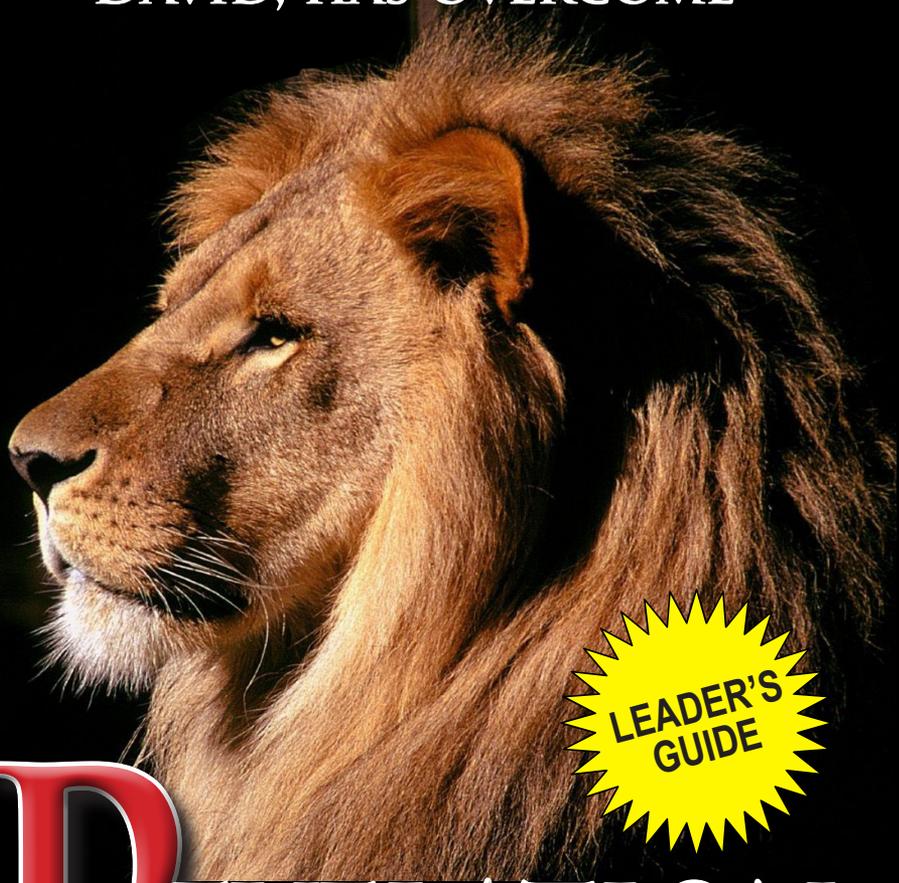


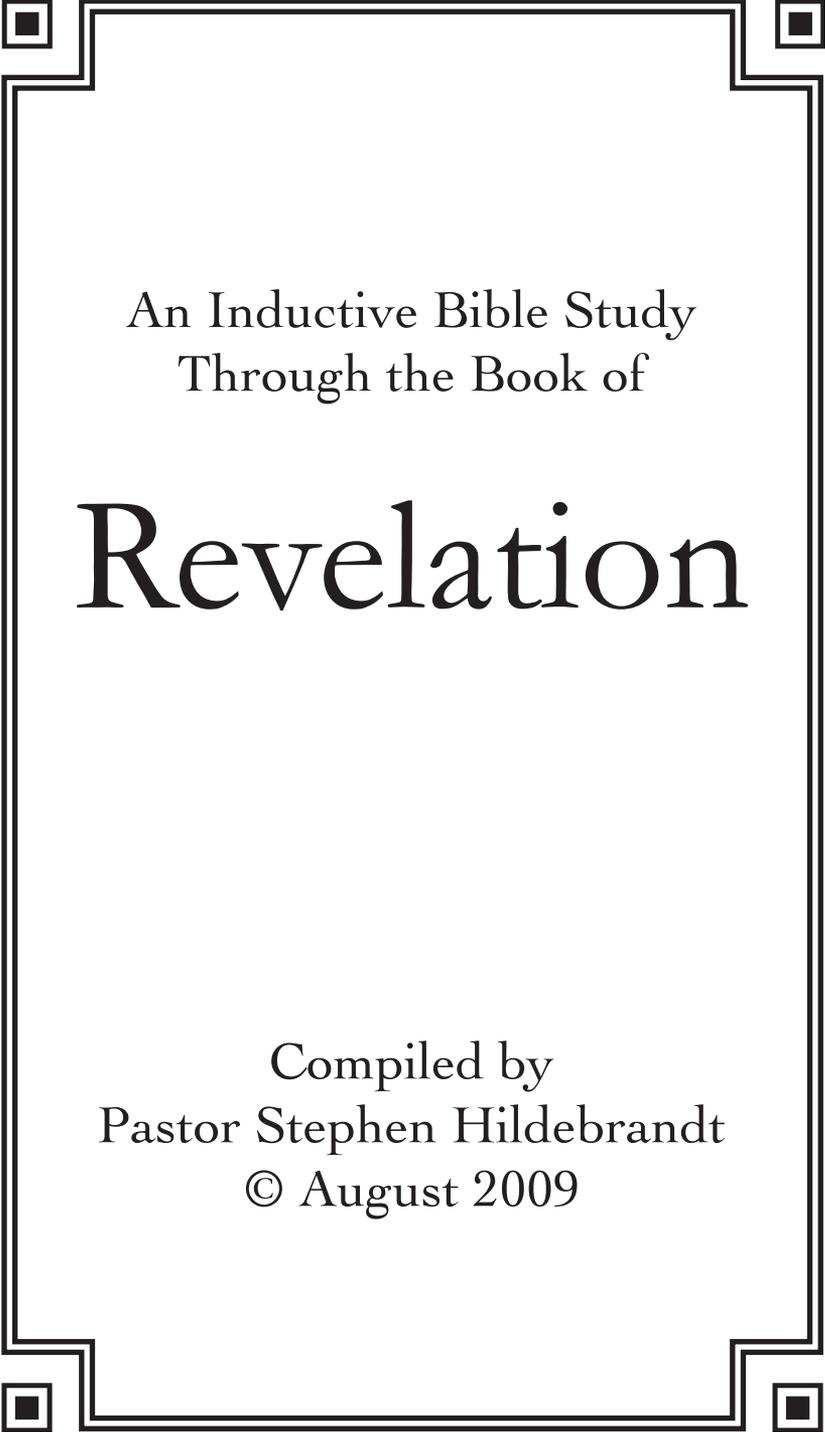
“THE LION THAT IS FROM THE  
TRIBE OF JUDAH, THE ROOT OF  
DAVID, HAS OVERCOME”



LEADER'S  
GUIDE

# R EVELATION

AN INDUCTIVE BIBLE STUDY



An Inductive Bible Study  
Through the Book of

# Revelation

Compiled by  
Pastor Stephen Hildebrandt  
© August 2009



*Dedicated to those whose names are written  
in the Lamb's Book of Life.*

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by Pastor Stephen Hildebrandt

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## *Forward*

 As we think of the glorious hope of the second coming, our hearts are filled with joy; our souls are consumed with a breathless impatience; our eyes attempt to pierce the dark clouds which veil the future, hoping that the glorious descent of the Son of man may burst upon the view. It is a longing which gushes into words: "And the Spirit and the bride say, 'Come.' And he that hears, let him say, 'Come'" (22:17). But as we consider these truths we realize that already He is with us -- with us in the Spirit, walking in the midst of the seven golden lampstands (1:12-20). "And he laid His right hand upon me, saying, 'Fear not; I am the first and the last, and the living one; and I was dead, and behold, I am alive for evermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades.'" We are, indeed, more than conquerors through Him that loved us!

William Hendriksen, 1900-1982

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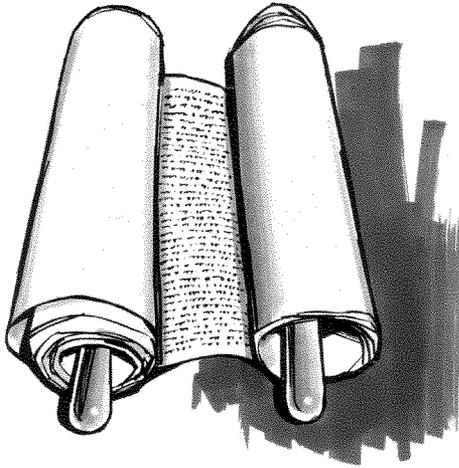
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I.

# BACKGROUND

UNDERSTANDING THE BOOK OF REVELATION



“BLESSED IS HE WHO READS AND  
THOSE WHO HEAR THE WORDS OF THE  
PROPHECY, AND HEED THE THINGS  
WHICH ARE WRITTEN IN IT”

REVELATION 1:3

# 1 Introduction.

## Background to Revelation.

<u>Section Title</u>	<u>Page</u>
A. Approach.	2
B. Author.	3
C. Audience.	4
D. Approximate Date Written.	6
E. Argument & Purpose.	7
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## Theme: Keys to Interpretation.

- Revelation must have practical application to every generation of Christians that reads it.
- The original audience, date, and historical context in which Revelation was written are critical to the interpretation.

BACKGROUND	
<b>Author:</b>	The Apostle John exiled on the Isle of Patmos.
<b>Audience:</b>	The Christian Church.
<b>Theme:</b>	Christ and the Church are ultimately victorious.
<b>Style:</b>	Apocalyptic (Symbolic)
<b>Date:</b>	95 A.D.
<b>Setting:</b>	Intense Persecution.

OUTLINE of REVELATION			
Vision	Chap	Theme	Seven
1	1-3	Christ & Church	Churches
2	4-6	Christ in Control	Seals
3	7-11	World Warned	Trumpets
4	12-13	Satanic Trinity	Heads
5	14-16	God's Wrath	Bowls
6	17-18	Babylon Falls	Kings
7	19-22	New Jerusalem	∞

**A Approach.***Method of Interpretation.***1. Exegesis / Inductive Bible Study.**

(Greek: ἐξηγείσθαι; prefix, *ex* means “out”)

- a. Exegesis - *Draw the meaning out of the text.*
- b. Inductive Study - *Let the text speak for itself and determine the meaning through observation.*

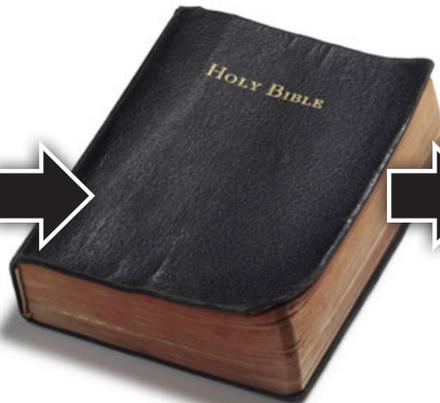
**2. Eisegesis / Deductive Bible Study.**

(Greek prefix, *eis* means “into”)

- a. Eisegesis - *Reading one's own ideas into the text.*
- b. Deductive Study - *Starting with a hypothesis or conclusion and looking for data to support it, i.e. proof-texting.*



**Eisegesis**  
Read in my  
own beliefs



**Exegesis**  
Draw out  
the intended  
meaning

<b>B Author.</b>		
Youngest of 12 disciples.		
A fisherman. (Mt. 4:21-22)		
With his brother James, called Boanerges, “sons of thunder.” (Mk. 3:17)		
“the disciple whom Jesus loved” (Jn. 20:2; 21:7, 20)		
6 AD	Born, son of Zebedee and younger brother of James. (Matt. 4:21)	Age 0
27	Called by Jesus to be an apostle. (Matt. 4:21-22)	21
29	At Jesus’ transfiguration. (Mark 9:2)	23
30	Reclined on Jesus at the Last Supper. (John 13:23-26)	24
	In the Garden of Gethsemene with Christ. (Mk. 14:33)	
	At the Cross. (Mk. 14:32-33; Jn. 19:25-27)	
	At Jesus’ tomb. (Jn. 20:2-10)	
44	His older brother James was the first apostle martyred.	38
<70	Moved from Jerusalem to Ephesus before the destruction of Jerusalem.	
90	Wrote the Gospel of John from Ephesus.	84
95	Exiled to Patmos by Emperor Domitian (reign: 81-96 AD). Wrote the book of Revelation. Mentioned 4x in Revelation as the author (Rev. 1:1, 1:4, 1:9, 22:8).	89
96	Domitian assassinated (Sept. 18, 96 AD). Emperor Nerva (reign: 96-98 AD) stripped Domitian of his honors and freed all his political exiles. John returned to Ephesus.	90
96-101	Wrote 1st, 2nd & 3rd John from Ephesus.	90-95
101	Died in Ephesus under the reign of Emperor Trajan (reign: 98-117 AD).	95

## C Audience.

### 1. Initial Audience.

Rev. 1:4 - "John to the seven churches that are in Asia"

- Seven real first-century Christian churches.
- On a circular trade route.
- Churches whom the Apostle John likely presided over when he lived in Ephesus, the leading city of the Roman province of Asia.



### 2. Historical Setting.

a. Emperor worship.

Rev. 13:3-4 - "The whole earth was amazed and followed after the beast; they worshiped the dragon because he gave his authority to the beast."

- The dragon is Satan (Rev. 12:9)
- The beast is a king (Rev. 17:8-11)
- Roman emperor worship began in Pergamum - first temple to Caesar Augustus; cf. Rev. 2:12-13 - To "the church in Pergamum write: ... 'I know where you dwell, where Satan's throne is.'"



b. Intense Persecution. Christians lost their:

- Jobs. Refusal to sacrifice to patron gods of the trade unions (Economic persecution, cf. Rev. 13:17)
- Homes.

Hebrews 10:32-34 - "... you endured a great conflict of sufferings, partly by being made a public spectacle through reproaches and tribulations, and partly by becoming sharers with those who were so treated. For you showed sympathy to the prisoners and accepted joyfully the seizure of your property"

• Lives.

Rev. 2:13 - "Antipas, My witness, My faithful one, who was killed"

Greek: marturian, martus; root of English word: martyr.

Rev. 6:9 - "those who had been slain because of the Word of God, and because of the testimony" which they maintained."

Rev. 13:15 - "as many as do not worship the image of the beast to be killed."

Rev. 20:4 - "those who had been beheaded because of their testimony of Jesus and because of the Word of God"

**D** **Approximate Date Written.**

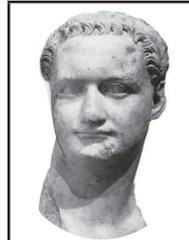
**1. Two Proposed Dates.**

BURNED  
ROME AND  
BLAMED  
IT ON THE  
CHRISTIANS



**Nero**

54-58 AD



**Domitian**

81-96 AD

DEMANDED  
TO BE  
CALLED  
"OUR LORD  
AND GOD"

THE FIRST TEN ROMAN EMPERORS			
#	Caesar	Reign	Comments
	Julius	60-44 BC	Triumverate.
1	Augustus	27 BC-13 AD	During Christ's birth (Lk. 2:1)
2	Tiberius	14-37 AD	
3	Caligula	37-41 AD	
4	Claudius	41-54 AD	
<b>5</b>	<b>Nero</b>	<b>54-68 AD</b>	<b>Local Persecution in Rome.</b>
	Galba	68 AD.	Ruled only 6 months.
	Otho	68 AD.	Ruled only 95 days.
	Vitellius	69 A.D.	Ruled less than one year.
6	Vespasian	70-79 AD	Father of Titus & Domitian.
7	Titus	79-81 AD	Destroyed Jerusalem.
<b>8</b>	<b>Domitian</b>	<b>81-96 AD</b>	<b>Widespread persecution.</b>
9	Nerva	96-98 AD	Released John from Patmos.
10	Trajan	98-117 AD	

## Approximate Date Written. (Cont'd)

### 2. Reasons for Favoring the Later Date.

a. Emperor Worship.

Nero never enforced emperor worship, but Domitian demanded it, insisting on being addressed as *Dominus et Deus Noster*, “Our Lord and God.” According to the Roman historian, Pliny (61-112 AD), Domitian raised himself above all the other gods and chose for his statues the most hallowed sites in the temple and caused entire hosts of victims to be sacrificed who refused to worship him.

b. Early Church Leaders.

Irenaeus (115-202 AD), bishop of Lyons, in Gaul, was a disciple of Polycarp (69-155 AD), who was a disciple of the apostle John (6-101 AD). Irenaeus said that “The apocalypse” was written near the end of the reign of Domitian.” (Irenaeus, *Against Heresies*, Book 5, Chap. 30, ~175 AD). Other early church leaders stated that Revelation was written by John during the reign of Domitian (81-96 AD): Clement (150-215), Hippolytus (170-236 AD), Origen (185-254 AD), Tertullian (196-212 AD), Eusebius (265-339 AD), Jerome (347-420 AD), Sulpicius Severus (363-425 AD).

c. Development of the Seven Churches.

Ephesus. The Ephesian church was planted by Paul (51 AD), and nurtured by the apostle until his death (68 AD). Timothy pastored the church of Ephesus until his death (80 AD). Some amount of time must have elapsed after that for the church of Ephesus to have left its first love (Rev. 2:4).

Sardis. The church of Sardis was not planted until around 64 AD (6 years after Nero’s reign), but at the time Revelation was written it was “dead” (Rev. 3:1).

# Domitian

Born: Oct. 24, 51 AD / Died: Sept. 18, 96 AD  
Reign as Emperor: 81-96 AD

Father: Vespasian (Emperor: 69-79 AD)

Older brother: Titus, destroyed Jerusalem,  
in 70 AD (Titus was emperor from 79-81 AD)

Demanded to be worshiped and to be called  
*Dominus et Deus Noster* – “Our Lord and God”



## **E** Argument & Purpose.

### 1. The General Purpose of All Scripture.

- a. "All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness" (2 Timothy 3:16).
- b. To provide instruction for practical Christian living in every generation.

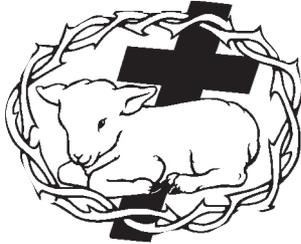
### 2. The Specific Purpose of the Book of Revelation.

- a. To bless. *The Seven Beatitudes of Revelation:*
  - 1:3 "Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of the prophecy, and heed the things which are written in it"
  - 14:13 "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on ... so that they may rest from their labors, for their deeds follow with them."
  - 16:15 "Blessed is the one who stays awake and keeps his clothes, so that he will not walk about naked and men will not see his shame."
  - 19:9 "Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb"
  - 20:6 "Blessed and holy is the one who has a part in the first resurrection; over these the second death has no power"
  - 22:7 "Blessed is he who heeds the words of the prophecy of this book."
  - 22:14 "Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter by the gates into the city."
- b. To encourage:
  - i. An excitement and anticipation for Christ's return.  
(Rom. 8:23-25; 1 Cor. 1:7; Phil. 3:20, 1 Thess. 1:10, 4:13-18; Heb. 9:28)
  - ii. Preparation; [1] Purity; [2] PerSeverance.  
([1] 1 John 3:3; Rev. 7:14, 22:14; [2] Rev. 13:10, 14:12; Heb. 10:36)
- c. This is a Revelation about Jesus Christ (Rev. 1:1), first and foremost. There are more attributes and names of Jesus Christ in the book of Revelation than *any* other book.



### 3. Summary Statement.

This is a revelation about Jesus Christ written to bless and encourage Christians in every generation to live in light of Christ's return and final victory.

<b>F Attributes &amp; Names of Christ.</b>		
Alpha and the Omega, The	3x	22:13 Used of God: 1:8, 21:6
Amen, The	1x	3:14
Bright Morning Star, The	2x	2:28, 22:16
Faithful and True	2x	3:14, 19:11
Faithful Witness, The	2x	1:5, 3:14
First and the Last, The	3x	1:17, 2:8, 22:13
First-Born of the Dead, The	1x	1:5
King of kings and Lord of lords	2x	17:14, 19:16
The Lamb		26x 5:6, 8, 12, 13; 6:1, 16; 7:9, 10, 14, 17; 12:11; 13:8; 14:1, 4, 10; 15:3; 17:14; 19:7, 9, 21:9, 14, 22, 23, 27; 22:1, 3
Lion of the Tribe of Judah, The	1x	5:5
Living One, The	1x	1:18
Root of David, The	2x	5:5, 22:16
Ruler of Kings on Earth, The	1x	1:5
Shepherd, Their	1x	7:17
Word of God, The	1x	19:13

## **G** Apocalyptic Style.

### 1. A Distinct Jewish / Christian Writing Style.

- a. MEANING: “Apocalypse” is a Greek word which means “an unveiling.” Apocalyptic writing was a genre of prophetic writing that began after the Jewish exile.
- b. MISSION: To encourage, and NOT to scare.
- c. MAJOR THEMES:
- (1) God is in sovereign control over human history.
  - (2) God rewards faithfulness under fire.
  - (3) God promises the future destruction of His enemies and victory for His people.
- d. METHOD: Use of signs and symbols that God’s people would understand, but God’s enemies would not.
- e. MOTIVE: To protect the author & audience.
- f. MAIN EXAMPLES: Daniel, Ezekiel & Revelation (plus a dozen or more non-canonical books).

### 2. The Key to Unlocking the Book of Revelation.

- a. MEANS OF DECIPHERING. The rest of Scripture, primarily the Old Testament
- b. MUSEUM OF OLD TESTAMENT ALLUSIONS.  
The 404 verses of the book of Revelation cite or refer to over 330 Old Testament references. Revelation has been called the “museum of Old Testament allusions.”



The Old Testament

The Book of Revelation

S Y M B O L S		
Symbol	Meaning	Reference
Trumpets	<i>Warning</i>	Rev. 8:2; Ex. 19:16-25; Heb. 12:18-21
	<i>Gathering</i>	Mt. 24:31; 1 Cor.15:52; 1 Thess. 4:16
Two-Edged Sword	<i>The Word</i>	Rev. 1:16, 2:12, 16 19:15; Eph. 6:17; Heb. 4:12
Rainbow	<i>Grace</i>	Gen. 9:13; Rev. 4:3, 10:1
Thunder & Lightning	<i>Judgment</i>	Rev. 4:5, 8:5, 11:19, 16:18
Fire	Brimstone	<i>God's Wrath</i>
	Lake	
Water	Sea	<i>Turbulent Masses of Humanity</i>
	Many Waters	
	Sea of Glass	<i>Separation Between God &amp; Man</i>
	Spring from the Throne	<i>Eternal Life</i>
Stars	<i>Angels/Pastors?</i>	Rev. 1:16, 1:20, 3:1
Eyes	<i>Wisdom</i>	Rev. 5:6
Heads & Horns	<i>Power &amp; Rule</i>	Rev. 5:6; 12:3, 13:1, 17:3
Crowns	<i>Salvation &amp; Reward</i>	Rev. 2:10, 4:4, 4:10
	<i>Authority</i>	Rev. 13:1, 19:12
Robes	Christ	<i>Robe of a Judge</i>
	Saints	<i>Imputed Righteousness</i>
		<i>Righteous Deeds</i>
Books	<i>Book of Life</i>	Rev. 3:5, 5:1, 13:8, 20:15, 21:27
	<i>Human History</i>	Rev. 5:1

# N U M B E R S

<b>2</b>	<b>Meaning:</b> <i>Witness &amp; Support</i>	
	• 2 witnesses.	Rev. 11:3; Jn 8:17
	• 2 x 2 disciples sent out by Jesus.	Mk. 6:7
	• 2 people together are better than 1.	Eccl. 4:9-11
<b>3<sup>1/2</sup></b>	<b>Meaning:</b> <i>1/2 of 7, an undisclosed period</i>	
	• 3 1/2 "times" = time, times and half a time.	Rev. 12:14
	• 3.5 years = 1260 days of two witnesses.	Rev. 11:3
	• 3.5 years = 42 mo. of beast's authority.	Rev. 13:5
<b>6</b>	<b>Meaning:</b> <i>Man</i>	
	• 6th day man created.	Gen. 1:27, 31
	• 6 days for man to work.	Ex. 20:9
	• 666 number of man.	Rev. 13:17-18
<b>7</b>	<b>Meaning:</b> <i>Perfection</i>	
	• 7 churches.	Rev. 1:4, 11
	• 7 seals.	Rev. 6:1-8:1
	• 7 horns & 7 eyes on the Lamb.	Rev. 5:6
	• 7 trumpets.	Rev. 8:2
<b>10</b>	<b>Meaning:</b> <i>Completeness, e.g. base 10, 1→10</i>	
	• 10 horns on the dragon.	Rev. 12:3
	• 10 horns on the beast.	Rev. 13:1
	• 10 crowns on the beast.	Rev. 13:1
	• 1000 year reign of Christ = 10 x 10 x 10	Rev. 20:4
<b>12</b>	<b>Meaning:</b> <i>God's People</i>	
	• 12 stars on crown of woman.	Rev. 12:1
	• 12 gates in New Jerusalem.	Rev. 21:12
	• 12 Old Testament tribes of Israel.	Gen. 49:28
	• 12 New Testament apostles.	Matt. 10:2-4
	• 24 = 12 + 12 elders around throne.	Rev. 4:4, 10
• 144,000 = 12 x 12 x 1000 sealed by God.	Rev. 7:4, 14:1, 3	

<b>H</b> <b>Abbreviated Outline</b>				
<b>Transition</b>	<b>Vision</b>	<b>Interlude of Worship</b>		<b>Christ</b>
	<b>1</b>	<b>Revelation 1</b> John worships at Jesus' feet.		<b>Judge</b> (1:12-16)
“After these things I looked, and behold...” (Rev. 4:1)	<b>2</b>	<b>Revelation 4-5</b> Songs from the throne room.		<b>Lion</b> (5:5) <b>Lamb</b> (5:6-13)
“After this I saw...” (Rev. 7:1)	<b>3</b>	<b>Revelation 7</b> Victory chant of the redeemed.		<b>The Lamb that is a Shepherd</b> (7:17)
“And a great sign appeared...” (Rev. 12:1)	<b>Revelation 11</b> Ode to Christ's reign. (11:15-17)		<b>4</b>	<b>The Almighty</b> (11:17)
“Then I looked and behold...” (Rev. 14:1)	<b>5</b>	<b>Revelation 14-15</b> A new song of deliverance. (14:1-3, 15:3-4)		<b>King of the Nations</b> (15:3)
“After these things I saw” (Rev. 18:1)	<b>6</b>			<b>King of kings</b> (17:14)
“After these things I heard” (Rev. 19:1)	<b>7</b>	<b>Revelation 19</b> Wedding song for the marriage supper of the Lamb. (19:1-7)		<b>Alpha &amp; Omega</b> (22:13)

## Abbreviated Outline

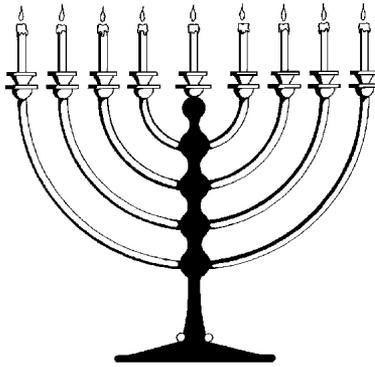
	Theme	Series of Seven		Notes
	<b>Revelation 2-3</b> Christ's communion with the Church.	Lampstands		<i>Like a seven act play.</i>
	<b>Revelation 6</b> Christ's control over Christian suffering.	Seals		<i>"The Cosmic Drama"</i>
	<b>Revelation 8-10</b> The world is warned to repent.	Trumpets		<i>Seven snapshots of history.</i>
	<b>Revelation 12-13</b> Spiritual warfare.	Heads		<i>Between the two comings of Christ</i>
	<b>Revelation 16</b> The wrath of God.	Bowls		<i>From seven different points of view.</i>
	<b>Revelation 17-18</b> Political & economic collapse.	Kings		
	<b>Revelation 20-22</b> Final victory & eternal fellowship.			

# II.

REVELATION, CHAPTERS 1-3

## THE FIRST VISION

CHRIST'S COMMUNION WITH THE CHURCH



“I SAW SEVEN GOLDEN LAMPSTANDS;  
AND IN THE MIDDLE OF THE LAMPSTANDS  
I SAW ONE LIKE A SON OF MAN”

REVELATION 1:12-13

# 2 *Prologue.*

## Revelation, Chapter 1.

<u>Section Title</u>	<u>Revelation</u>	<u>Page</u>
A. Preamble.	1:1-8	16
B. Place of the Visions.	1:9-11	18
C. Picture of Christ.	12-20	20

## Theme: Christ's Self-Revelation.

- This is a revelation of (about) Jesus Christ.
- Jesus is the central life of the church.
- Christ's judgment begins with the household of God.
- Those who read and heed this book will be blessed.

BACKGROUND	
<b>Author:</b>	The Apostle John exiled on the Isle of Patmos.
<b>Audience:</b>	The Christian Church.
<b>Theme:</b>	Christ and the Church are ultimately victorious.
<b>Style:</b>	Apocalyptic (Symbolic)
<b>Date:</b>	95 A.D.
<b>Setting:</b>	Intense Persecution.

OUTLINE of REVELATION			
Vision	Chap	Theme	Seven
▶ 1	1-3	Christ & Church	Churches
2	4-6	Christ in Control	Seals
3	7-11	World Warned	Trumpets
4	12-13	Satanic Trinity	Heads
5	14-16	God's Wrath	Bowls
6	17-18	Babylon Falls	Kings
7	19-22	New Jerusalem	∞

## A Preamble.

### REVELATION 1:1-8

- 1 The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave Him to show to His bond-servants, the things which must soon take place; and He sent and communicated it by His angel to His bond-servant John,
- 2 who testified to the word of God and to the testimony of Jesus Christ, even to all that he saw.
- 3 Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of the prophecy, and heed the things which are written in it; for the time is near.
- 4 John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace, from Him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven Spirits who are before His throne,
- 5 and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To Him who loves us and released us from our sins by His blood --
- 6 and He has made us to be a kingdom, priests to His God and Father -- to Him be the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.
- 7 Behold, He is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see Him, even those who pierced Him; and all the tribes of the earth will mourn over Him. So it is to be. Amen.
- 8 "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, "who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty."

### NOTES

(v. 1) "Revelation" - Gk. *apokalupsis* -

*unveiling*

(v. 1) "of Jesus Christ" -

*Jesus is the Revealer  
& One being revealed.*

(v. 1) "soon" - Gk. *en tachei* -

*with speed,  
i.e. when it happens,  
it will be quick.*

(v. 1) "communicated" - Gk. *semaino* -

*signify; communicate  
with signs & symbols.*

(v. 1) Mode of transmission. (Note 1)

(v. 3) "blessed" -

*The purpose of  
Revelation is to bless;  
not to scare.*

(v. 4-5, 8) Names of God. (Note 2)

(v. 1, 3, 6) Christian character. (Note 3)

(v. 7) What will Jesus' return be like?

(cf. Mt. 24:31; 1 Thess. 4:16; 1 Cor. 15:52) -

*Loud & visible to all*

## 1. THE MODE OF TRANSMISSION. (Rev. 1:1)



The Holy Spirit  
inspires all Scripture  
(2 Tim. 3:16; 2 Pet. 1:21)

\_\_\_\_\_ *God* \_\_\_\_\_ “gave” [this revelation]  
to \_\_\_\_\_ *Jesus Christ* \_\_\_\_\_ “and He sent it”  
by \_\_\_\_\_ *His angel* \_\_\_\_\_ [who communicated it]  
to \_\_\_\_\_ *John* \_\_\_\_\_ [who wrote / sent it]  
to \_\_\_\_\_ *the church* \_\_\_\_\_ (Rev. 1:4)

## 2. NAMES OF GOD. (Rev. 1:4-5, 8)

- “Him who is and who was and who is to come” (2x: Rev. 1:4, 8) -  
*YHWH, I AM*
- “The Alpha and the Omega” (3x: Rev. 1:8, 21:6, 22:13) -  
*first & last letters of Greek alphabet.*
- “The Almighty” (Rev. 1:8, 9x in Revelation) -  
*i.e. mightier than Caesar & antichrist.*
- “The seven Spirits who are before His throne” (Rev. 1:4, cf. Isa. 11:2) -  
*the perfect Holy Spirit*
- “Jesus Christ, the faithful witness” (Rev. 1:5) -  
*witness, from Gk. marturian*
- “the firstborn of the dead”  
(Rev. 1:5, from Psalm 89:27; cf. 1 Cor. 15:20-23, 51-53) -  
*i.e. with an imperishable body.*
- “the ruler of the kings of the earth”  
(Rev. 1:5, from Psalm 89:27; cf. Prov. 21:1; Dan. 2:21; Isa. 40:15) -  
*Jesus is sovereign over kings & gov'ts*

## 3. CHRISTIAN CHARACTER. (Rev. 1:1, 3, 6)

- “bond-servants” (Rev. 1:1; cf. Ex. 21:5-6; 2 Cor. 5:14) -  
*We are bound to Christ by love.*
- “Blessed is he who reads... hears ... and heeds”  
(Rev. 1:3; cf. Matt. 7:24-27; Rom. 2:13; James 1:22) -  
*We must be doers of the Word.*
- a kingdom “of priests” (Rev. 1:6. cf. Ex. 19:6; 1 Peter 2:5-10) -  
*Duty of priests: pray (1 Thess. 5:17);  
sacrifice (Rom. 12:1).*

## B Place of the Vision.

### REVELATION 1:9-11

### NOTES

9 I, John, your brother and fellow partaker in the tribulation and kingdom and perseverance which are in Jesus, was on the island called Patmos because of the Word of God and the testimony of Jesus.

(v. 9) "fellow partaker" (Note 5) -

(v. 9) "Patmos" (Note 6) -

Eastern Mediterranean

(v. 10) "in the Spirit" - ecstatic vision or experience.

(v. 10) "the Lord's day" (Note 4) -

Sunday

10 I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like the sound of a trumpet,

(v. 10) "voice like a trumpet" -

Call to God's people to hear what God has done for them.

11 saying, "Write in a book what you see, and send it to the seven churches: to Ephesus and to Smyrna and to Pergamum and to Thyatira and to Sardis and to Philadelphia and to Laodicea."

(v. 11) "seven churches" -

Seven real churches characteristic of the church of all time.

#### 4. "THE LORD'S DAY" (Rev. 1:9)

- Emperor day.

Roman practice to call whatever day of the week the current Caesar had been coronated "Emperor Day" or "The Lord's Day"

- Shift from the Sabbath to the Lord's Day. (Rev. 1:9)

Christians would not worship Caesar, but Christ alone. Sunday was their "Lord's Day" the day Christ had ascended His throne.

- Christ coronated / enthroned on Sunday. (Rev. 5:6; Heb. 1:3, 12:1-2)
- Christ meets with His people on Sunday. (Rev. 1:10; John 20:19, 26; Acts 20:7)

## 5. "FELLOW PARTAKER" (Rev. 1:9)

- "in the tribulation"

Psalm 34:19 - "many are the afflictions of the righteous"

John 15:20 - "If they persecuted Me, they will persecute you"

John 16:33 - "In the world you will have tribulation"

Acts 14:22 - "through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God"

2 Cor. 1:5 - "Christ's sufferings are ours in abundance"

2 Cor. 4:8-11 - "we are afflicted in every way"

Phil. 3:10 - "fellowship of [Christ's] sufferings"

2 Tim. 3:12 - "all who desire to live a godly life will be persecuted"

James 1:2-3 - "Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance."

James 1:12 - "Blessed is a man who perseveres under trial; for once he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life"

1 Pet. 2:21 - "Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example to follow in His steps."

1 Pet. 4:12 - "do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal ... as though some strange thing were happening to you"

1 Pet. 4:19 - "let those also who suffer according to the will of God entrust their souls to a faithful Creator in doing what is right."

- "and kingdom" (Rev. 1:9; cf. 2 Tim. 2:12; Rom. 8:16-18; 1 Cor. 2:9) -

*Co-heirs with Christ / reign with Him.*

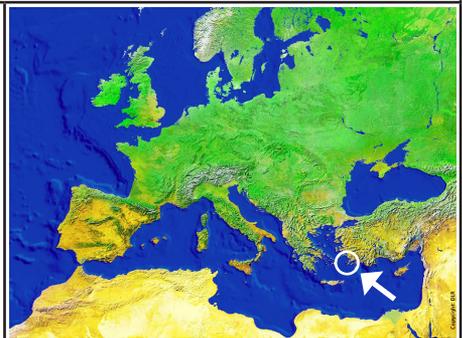
- "and perseverance" - Gk: *hupomone* - a military term -

*The ability to endure the enemy's attacks, yet have reserve strength to countercharge to victory.*

- "which are in Jesus" - *persecution(-), perseverance(+)*  
*and the Kingdom (+++) are only in Christ.*

## 6. PATMOS. (Rev. 1:9)

According to church history, Roman authorities attempted to execute John in a basin of boiling oil, but when John was miraculously delivered he was sentenced to the mines on the island of Patmos, a 10 by 6 mile island in the Mediterranean Sea, 35 miles off the coast of Asia Minor.



**C** **Picture of Christ.**

REVELATION 1:12-20

NOTES

- 12 Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking with me. And having turned I saw seven golden lampstands;
- 13 and in the middle of the lampstands I saw one like a son of man, clothed in a robe reaching to the feet, and girded across His chest with a golden sash.
- 14 His head and His hair were white like white wool, like snow; and His eyes were like a flame of fire.
- 15 His feet were like burnished bronze, when it has been made to glow in a furnace, and His voice was like the sound of many waters.
- 16 In His right hand He held seven stars, and out of His mouth came a sharp two-edged sword; and His face was like the sun shining in its strength.
- 17 When I saw Him, I fell at His feet like a dead man. And He placed His right hand on me, saying, "Do not be afraid; I am the first and the last,
- 18 and the living One; and I was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of death and of Hades.
- 19 Therefore write the things which you have seen, and the things which are, and the things which will take place after these things.
- 20 As for the mystery of the seven stars which you saw in My right hand, and the seven golden lampstands: the seven stars are the angels of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands are the seven churches."

(v. 12-13, 20) Picture of the Church.
(Note 7)
(v. 13-16) Picture of Christ.
(Note 8)
(v. 17) John's Response
(Phil. 2:6-8) Christ's first advent -
<i>Suffering Servant</i>
(John 13:23) John's posture -
<i>reclined on Jesus</i>
(Phil. 2:9-11) Christ's second advent -
<i>Exalted Lord</i>
(Rev. 1:17) John's posture -
<i>trembling at His feet</i>
(v. 17-18) Christ's Response
(v. 17) "I am the first and the last"
(cf. Isaiah 44:6) - <i>Deity</i>
(v. 18) "the living One; and I was
dead, and behold I am alive forev-
ermore" -
<i>behold (surprise!)</i>
<i>I'm alive &amp; in control</i>
(v. 18) "the keys of death & Hades"
(cf. Matt. 10:28) -
<i>Don't fear Rome!</i>

## 7. PICTURE OF THE CHURCH. (Rev. 1:12-13, 20)

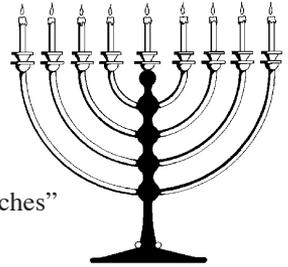
- “the seven lampstands ... are the seven churches”  
(Rev. 1:12, 20; Matt. 5:14-16)

*The Christian Church is the  
ONLY light of the world!*

- “in the middle of the lampstands I saw one like a son of man” (Rev. 1:13; Ex. 25:31-40, John 15:5)

*Christ is the stem / root  
we are the branches.*

- “the seven stars are the angels of the seven churches”  
(Rev. 1:20). “angel,” Greek *angelos*, messenger



Two possibilities have been suggested:

- guardian angel over each church?*
- messenger = pastor?*

## 8. PICTURE OF CHRIST. (Rev. 1:13-16)

- “a son of man” (Rev. 1:3; Psa. 8:4; Dan. 7:13, NT-83x) -

*Title of His humanity.*

- “robe and golden sash” (Rev. 1:13; Dan. 10:5-6; 1 Pet. 4:17) -

*Clothing of the ancient judges*

- “white hair” (Rev. 1:14; Prov. 16:31; Dan. 7:9-10, 13-14) -

*Righteousness & wisdom.*

- “eyes like a flame of fire” (Rev. 1:14; Dan. 10:6; 2 Chron. 16:9) -

*Perfect knowledge & judgment.*

- “feet like burnished bronze” (Rev. 1:15; Dan. 10:6; 1 Cor. 15:25) -

*brass / bronze symbolize judgment.*

- “voice like the sound of many waters” (Rev. 1:15; Ezek. 43:2) -

*Majestic, awesome, power, authority.*

- “out of His mouth came a sharp two-edged sword” -

(Rev. 1:16; cf. Eph. 6:18; Heb. 4:12)

*Able to judge thoughts & intentions.*

- “face shining like the sun in its strength” (Rev. 1:16; Heb. 1:3; Acts 26:13) -

*Glory, majesty & deity.*

## Additional Notes & Applications

1. This book is foremost a revelation about Jesus Christ. I should read it to learn more about Him, so that I can grow closer to Him. (Rev. 1:1)

2. All Scripture, including the Book of Revelation, is profitable for teaching, reproof, correction, and training in righteousness (2 Tim. 3:16), and NOT idle curiosity & fanciful speculation.

3. If I do what the book of Revelation teaches, then I will be blessed. (Rev. 1:3)

4. I should live my Christian life in light of the fact that Christ is going to return to judge me with perfect knowledge of everything that I have ever thought, said or done. (Rev. 1:13-16; 2 Cor. 5:10).

**3**

*The Seven Churches.*

**Revelation, Chapters 2-3.**

<u>Church</u>	<u>Character</u>	<u>Revelation</u>	<u>Page</u>
A. Ephesus	Loyal, but Loveless	2:1-7	24
B. Smyrna	Long-Suffering	2:8-11	26
C. Pergamum	Lenient toward Sin	2:12-17	28
D. Thyatira	Loving, but Liberal	2:18-29	30
E. Sardis	Lifeless	3:1-6	32
F. Philadelphia	Little, but Luminous	3:7-13	34
G. Laodicea	Luke-Warm	3:14-22	36
H. Are the Seven Churches Seven Ages?		--	38

**Theme: Letters to the Churches.**

Seven Elements of the Seven Letters:

1. Christ’s Self-Revelation. *“The One who...”*
2. Commendation. *“I know your deeds...”*
3. Chastisement. *“But I have this against you...”*
4. Corrective Action. *“Remember and repent...”*
5. Consequence. *“Or else I am coming to you...”*
6. Command. *“He who has an ear let him hear...”*
7. Commitment. *“To him who overcomes...”*

BACKGROUND	
<b>Author:</b>	The Apostle John exiled on the Isle of Patmos.
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Vision	Chap	Theme	Seven
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6	17-18	Babylon Falls	Kings
7	19-22	New Jerusalem	∞

## A Ephesus: Loyal But Loveless.

### REVELATION 2:1-7

### NOTES

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <p>1. CHRIST'S SELF-REVELATION. 2:1<br/>         "To the angel of the church in Ephesus write: The One who holds the seven stars in His right hand, the One who walks among the seven golden lampstands, says this:"</p>   | <p>(v. 1) "walks among the seven golden lampstands" -<br/> <u>Christ is the central life of the church.</u></p>  |
| <p>2. COMMENDATION. 2:2-3, 6<br/>         "I know your deeds and your toil and perseverance, and that you cannot tolerate evil men, and you put to the test those who call themselves apostles, and they are not, and you found them to be false; 3 and you have perseverance and have endured for My name's sake, and have not grown weary. ... 6 Yet this you do have, that you hate the deeds of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate."</p> | <p>(v. 2-3, 6) their deeds &amp; doctrine -<br/> <u>Sound doctrine, hard working</u></p> <p>(v. 4) "you have left your first love"<br/>         (cf. Psa. 27:4; Col. 1:18; Phil. 3:13-14) -<br/> <u>beware of dead religion!</u></p> |
| <p>3. CHASTISEMENT. 2:4<br/>         "But I have this against you, that you have left your first love."</p>  | <p>(v. 5) "remove your lampstand" -<br/> <u>No more light and influence in the world.</u></p>  |
| <p>4. CORRECTIVE ACTION. 2:5<br/>         "Therefore remember from where you have fallen, and repent and do the deeds you did at first"</p>  | <p>(v. 6) "Nicolaitans" (cf. Rev. 2:15) -<br/> <u>Gnostic, antinomian sect that "lead lives of unrestrained indulgence."<br/>         (Irenaeus)</u></p>   |
| <p>5. CONSEQUENCE. 2:5<br/>         "or else I am coming to you and will remove your lampstand out of its place --unless you repent."</p>  | <p>(v. 7) "eat of the tree of life which is in the Paradise of God" -<br/> <u>eternal life</u></p>   |
| <p>6. COMMAND. 2:7<br/>         "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches."</p>  |  |
| <p>7. COMMITMENT. 2:7<br/>         "To him who overcomes, I will grant to eat of the tree of life which is in the Paradise of God."</p>  |  |

## 9. EPHESUS

Ephesus was the capital of the Roman province of Asia from 27 B.C. to 297 AD. With over 250,000 free inhabitants, Ephesus was the fourth largest city in the world in the first century, and the richest city in all of Asia.

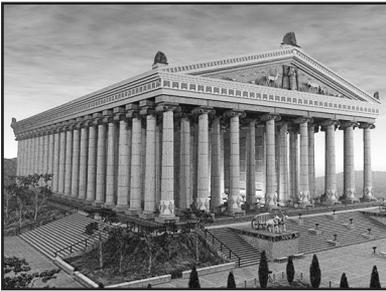


## 10. AMPHITHEATER.

This 25,000 seat amphitheater was the largest in Asia Minor. Built by the king of Thrace (361-281 BC), it was refurbished by the Romans (41-117 AD). An angry mob dragged Paul's traveling companions Gaius and Aristarchus to the amphitheater (Acts 19:29). Paul may have "fought with wild beasts" there (1 Cor. 15:32).

## 11. EMPEROR WORSHIP.

An inscription found in Ephesus names the "divine" Caesar Augustus. When John wrote Revelation in 95 AD, emperor worship led to persecution of Christians who refused to say "Caesar is Lord," but confessed, "Jesus is Lord!" (Rom. 10:9).



## 12. TEMPLE OF ARTEMIS.

The Temple of Artemis was the largest Greek temple ever built. It was one of the seven wonders of the ancient world from 550 BC to 401 AD. In the center of the temple stood a statue of Artemis (Roman: Diana), "she whom all Asia and the world worship" (Acts 19:27), and behind the idol was the Bank of Asia and art gallery.

## 13. TEMPLE OF DOMITIAN.

A huge temple dedicated to the worship of Emperor Domitian has been excavated in Ephesus measuring 60 x 550 yards. The head and left forearm of a 23 foot tall marble statue of Domitian has also been unearthed. Ephesus was honored with the title *neokoros*, temple warden, for its temples for the imperial cult.



**B Smyrna: Long-Suffering.**

REVELATION 2:8-11

NOTES

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <p>1. CHRIST'S SELF-REVELATION. 2:8</p> <p>“And to the angel of the church in Smyrna write: The first and the last, who was dead, and has come to life, says this:</p>   | <p>(v. 8) “who was dead, and has come to life” (Note 15) -</p> <p><i>The city of Smyrna had been raised from the dead.</i></p>   |
| <p>2. COMMENDATION. 2:9-10</p> <p>“I know your tribulation and your poverty (but you are rich), and the blasphemy by those who say they are Jews and are not, but are a synagogue of Satan. <u>10</u> Do not fear what you are about to suffer. Behold, the devil is about to cast some of you into prison, so that you will be tested, and you will have tribulation for ten days. Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.”</p> | <p>(v. 9) “poverty, (but you are rich)” (Mt. 13:45-46; 1 Cor. 2:9; 2 Cor. 4:17) -</p> <p><i>Christ + nothing = everything</i></p> <p>(v. 9) “synagogue of Satan” (Note 16, cf. Rev. 3:9) -</p> <p><i>Persecution by the Jews</i></p> <p>(v. 10) “prison ... death” (cf. Heb.11:32-35 ⇌ 11:36-38) -</p> |
| <p>3. CHASTISEMENT. None</p>   | <p><i>Deliverance from persecution not promised.</i></p>   |
| <p>4. CORRECTIVE ACTION. None</p>  | <p>(v. 10) “be faithful until death”</p>   |
| <p>5. CONSEQUENCE. None</p>  | <p>(Note 17) - <i>e.g. Polycarp</i></p>  |
| <p>6. COMMAND.</p> <p>2:11</p> <p>“He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.”</p>  | <p>(v. 10) “crown of life,” Gk. <i>stephanos</i> victor's wreath</p> <p>(v. 11) “the second death” -</p>   |
| <p>7. COMMITMENT. 2:11</p> <p>“He who overcomes will not be hurt by the second death.”</p>   | <p><i>1st death: physical</i></p> <p><i>2nd death: eternal</i></p> <p><i>born once, die twice</i></p> <p><i>born twice, die once</i></p>   |



## 14. SYMRNA'S NAME.

Smyrna probably got its name from a domestic perfume from the resin of a small thorny tree, *balsamodendron Myrrha*, and known by the ancient Greeks as “smyrna.”

## 15. WAS DEAD AND HAS COME TO LIFE.

In 600 BC Smyrna was completely destroyed in a war with the King of Lydia and the site lay devastated for three centuries. However, in 334 BC Alexander the Great ordered that Smyrna be rebuilt, literally raising the ancient city from the dead. Today the city of Izmir, Turkey occupies the site of ancient Smyrna.



## 16. “SYNAGOGUE OF SATAN” (Rev.2:9)

According to the Jewish historian Josephus (37-100 AD), Antiochus the Great settled 2,000 Jewish families in this area after deporting them from Babylon (c. 200 BC). Judaism was on Rome’s list of “legal religions,” whereas Christianity was not. Christians in Smyrna experienced great persecution by both Jews and Romans.

## 17. “BE FAITHFUL UNTO DEATH” (Rev. 2:10)

A disciple of the Apostle John, Polycarp, served as bishop (pastor) of Smyrna from 115 to 155 AD. The account of his martyrdom was recorded by an ancient historian: A young Christian named Germanicus, being sentenced to be torn to pieces by wild beast on account of his faith, behaved with such astonishing courage, that several of the spectators were converted on the spot to a faith which inspired such fortitude. This enraged the crowd so much, that they cried out, “Death to the Christians!” The ten new converts were martyred, but this only whetted the crowd’s appetite and they cried for Polycarp. The aged bishop was arrested and prevailed upon to recant and revile Christ, but he refused, saying, “Eighty-six years I have served Him and He hath done me no wrong. How then can I speak evil of my King Who saved me?” The authorities continued their urging, but Polycarp only replied, “I am a Christian.” Polycarp, met his fate with calm dignity and unflinching courage as he sang praises to God in the midst of the flames.

## C Pergamum: Lenient Toward Sin.

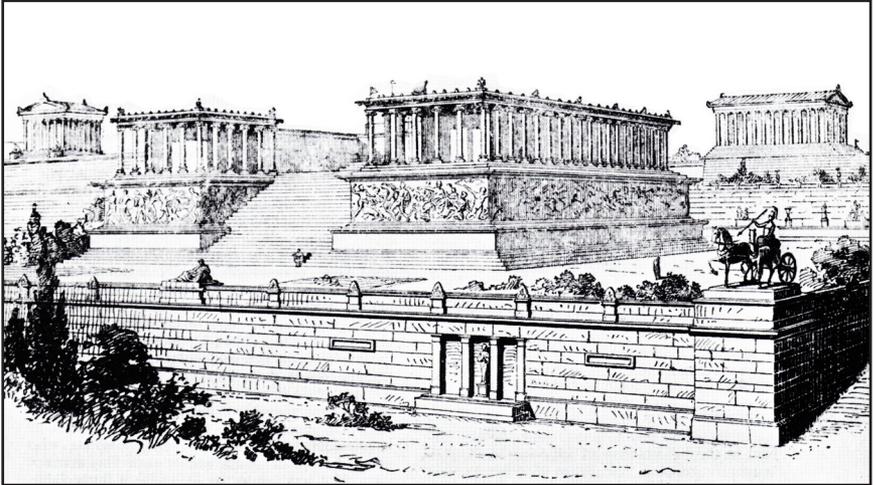
### REVELATION 2:12-17

### NOTES

1. CHRIST'S SELF-REVELATION. 2:12 (v. 12) "sharp two-edged sword" -  
 "And to the angel of the church in Pergamum write: The One who has the sharp two-edged sword says this:" Heb. 4:12- perfect judgment  
(v. 13) "where Satan's throne is" -
2. COMMENDATION. 2:13 (Note 18) - HQ for emperor worship  
 "I know where you dwell, where Satan's throne is; and you hold fast My name, and did not deny My faith even in the days of Antipas, My witness, My faithful one, who was killed among you, where Satan dwells." (v. 13) "you hold fast my name" -  
Rom. 10:9-10 - Jesus is Lord vs. Caesar is Lord
3. CHASTISEMENT. 2:14-15 (v. 13) Antipas...who was killed" -  
 "But I have a few things against you, because you have there some who hold the teaching of Balaam, who kept teaching Balak to put a stumbling block before the sons of Israel, to eat things sacrificed to idols and to commit acts of immorality. 15 So you also have some who in the same way hold the teaching of the Nicolaitans." (Note 19) - 2nd pastor of Pergamum martyred  
(v. 14) "teaching of Balaam" -  
(cf. Num. 22-24; 2 Pet. 2:15) -  
A prophet for profit.
4. CORRECTIVE ACTION. 2:16 (v. 14) "eat things sacrificed to idols" -  
 "Therefore repent; participating in immoral festivals
5. CONSEQUENCE. 2:16 (v. 14) "Nicolaitans" (See Rev. 2:6) -  
 "or else I am coming to you quickly, and I will make war against them with the sword of My mouth." lawless, immoral
6. COMMAND. 2:17 (v. 17) "hidden manna" -  
 "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches." Jn. 6:33-35 - Christ vs. food for idols
7. COMMITMENT. 2:17 (v. 17) "white stone" (Note 20) -  
 "To him who overcomes, to him I will give some of the hidden manna, and I will give him a white stone, and a new name written on the stone which no one knows but he who receives it." (v. 17) "new name" (cf. 3:12, 14:1, 22:4)  
The Name of God

## 18. "YOU DWELL, WHERE SATAN'S THRONE IS" (Rev. 2:13)

In the first century AD, Pergamum was the principle headquarters for the imperial cult of emperor worship in the province of Asia. The temple of Augustus, built in 29 B.C., was the first temple in the Roman Empire constructed for the worship of Caesar. Later, a second temple was built in Trajan's honor (~110. AD), and a third was dedicated to Severus (210 AD), to which everyone had to pay homage.



## 19. "ANTIPAS ... WHO WAS KILLED AMONG YOU" (Rev. 2:13)

The "beloved Gaius," whom John addressed in his third epistle (3 John 1:1), was the first bishop (pastor) of Pergamum. Gaius was followed by Antipas (Antipater) whom history records may have been the first to suffer martyrdom in Pergamum for rejection of the emperor cult (cf. Rev. 2:13). He died during Domitian's reign, by being burned inside a brazen bull.

## 20. "I WILL GIVE HIM A WHITE STONE" (Rev. 2:17)

Pergamum was known for its commercial mining of white stone. In the first century an engraved white stone was used for a variety of uses to signify:

1. Admittance to a feast.
2. Acquittal in a court of law.
3. Reward in a game.
4. Freedom for a slave.
5. Victory of a returning warrior.



## D Thyatira: Loving, But Liberal.

### REVELATION 2:18-29

#### 1. CHRIST'S SELF-REVELATION. 2:18

“And to the angel of the church in Thyatira write: The Son of God, who has eyes like a flame of fire, and His feet are like burnished bronze, says this:”

(v. 18) “eyes like a flame of fire” -

*perfect knowledge  
& judgment  
(cf. v. 23)*

#### 2. COMMENDATION. 2:19

“I know your deeds, and your love and faith and service and perseverance, and that your deeds of late are greater than at first.”

(v. 18) “feet like burnished bronze”

(Note 21) -

*symbol of  
judgment*

#### 3. CHASTISEMENT. 2:20-21

“But I have this against you, that you tolerate the woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess, and she teaches and leads My bond-servants astray so that they commit acts of immorality and eat things sacrificed to idols. 21 I gave her time to repent, and she does not want to repent of her immorality.”

(v. 20) “you tolerate Jezebel” -

(Note 22) -

*participation in  
pagan festivals &  
immoralities.*

#### 4. CORRECTIVE ACTION. 2:24-25

“But I say to you, the rest who are in Thyatira, who do not hold this teaching, who have not known the deep things of Satan, as they call them -- I place no other burden on you. 25 Nevertheless what you have, hold fast until I come.”

(v. 22-23) “sickness,” “tribulation,”

and “death” -

*God's judgment on  
the unrepentant*

#### 5. CONSEQUENCE. 2:22-23

“Behold, I will throw her on a bed of sickness, and those who commit adultery with her into great tribulation, unless they repent of her deeds. 23 And I will kill her children with pestilence, and all the churches will know that I am He who searches the minds and hearts; and I will give to each one of you according to your deeds.”

(v. 23) “I search minds and hearts” -

*“eyes like a flame  
of fire” (cf. v. 18)*

#### 6. COMMAND. 2:29

“He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.”

#### 7. COMMITMENT. 2:26-28

“He who overcomes, and he who keeps My deeds until the end, to him I will give authority over the nations; 27 and shall rule them with a rod of iron, as the vessels of the potter are broken to pieces, as I also have received authority from My Father; 28 and I will give him the morning star”

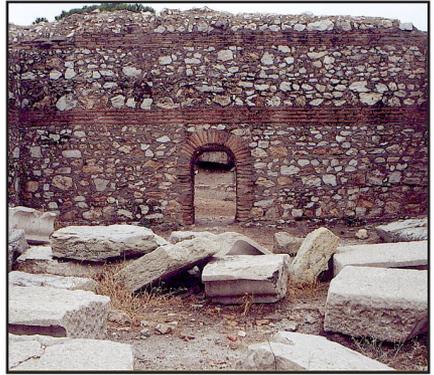
(v. 28) “the morning star” (Note 23)

(cf. Rev. 22:16) -

*Christ Himself*

## 21. "HIS FEET ARE LIKE BURNISHED BRONZE" (Rev. 2:18)

Thyatira was the center of many trade guilds. Lydia, one of the apostle Paul's first converts from Asia, was a native of Thyatira and "a seller of purple fabrics" (Acts 16:14), and likely a member of the guild of linen weavers and wool workers known to exist in Thyatira. But the city was especially renowned for its brass works and bronze armor. To the church in Thyatira, Christ revealed Himself as the One who has feet "like burnished bronze," an image the people of Thyatira could clearly visualize.



## 22. "YOU TOLERATE JEZEBEL"

(Rev. 2:20)

Each trade guild had its own patron god or goddess. Worship often included pagan rituals and gross immorality. Christians abstained from these trade guild festivities, but often lost their jobs as a result. However, in Thyatira a woman, whom John referred to as "Jezebel" (Rev. 2:20), proposed that the Christians compromise, so they could keep their jobs. Recall, Jezebel was the wife of Ahab, king of Israel (874-853 BC), who introduced Israel to Baal worship (1 Kgs. 16:31, 18:19).



## 23. "I WILL GIVE HIM THE MORNING STAR" (Rev. 2:28)

The goddess Ishtar (Greek: Artemis; Roman: Diana), worshiped in Thyatira, was called, among other things, the "Evening Star" and the "Bringer of death." John reminded the Christians in Thyatira that those who overcome would receive the "Morning Star" (Rev. 2:28); that is, Christ Himself (Rev. 22:16), who brings eternal life! (Jn. 3:16).



## E Sardis: Lifeless.

### REVELATION 3:1-6

### NOTES

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. CHRIST'S SELF-REVELATION. 3:1  | (v. 1) "seven Spirits" -<br><u>The Holy Spirit,</u><br><u>who gives life!</u>                    |
| "To the angel of the church in Sardis write: He who has the seven Spirits of God and the seven stars, says this:"   | (v. 1) "you are dead" -<br><u>No persecution.</u><br><u>peaceful - like a</u><br><u>cemetery</u> |
| 2. CHASTISEMENT. 3:1  | (v. 3) "wake up" -<br><u>complacent</u><br><u>spiritually asleep</u>                             |
| "I know your deeds, that you have a name that you are alive, but you are dead."   | (v. 3) "like a thief" (Note 24) -<br><u>unexpectedly</u>   |
| 3. CORRECTIVE ACTION. 3:2-3   | (v. 5) "clothed in white garments" -<br><u>Imputed</u><br><u>righteousness</u>                   |
| "Wake up, and strengthen the things that remain, which were about to die; for I have not found your deeds completed in the sight of My God. 3 So remember what you have received and heard; and keep it, and repent." | (v. 5) "not erase his name" -<br><u>double negative</u><br><u>"never, never"</u>                 |
| 4. CONSEQUENCE. 3:3   | <u>Roman citizens</u><br><u>erased from record</u><br><u>when they died.</u>                     |
| "Therefore if you do not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what hour I will come to you."   | <u>Christ will never</u><br><u>erase our names.</u>  |
| 5. COMMENDATION. 3:4  |  |
| "But you have a few people in Sardis who have not soiled their garments; and they will walk with Me in white, for they are worthy."   |  |
| 6. COMMITMENT. 3:5  |  |
| "He who overcomes will thus be clothed in white garments; and I will not erase his name from the book of life, and I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels."                                   |  |
| 7. COMMAND. 3:6   |  |
| "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches."   |  |

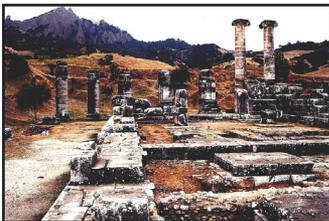
24. "A THIEF IN THE NIGHT" (Rev. 3:3)

The ancient city of Sardis was a mountain-top fortress located atop a 1500 ft plateau with sheer cliffs on three sides. Croesus, the King of Lydia, made Sardis his capital. Believing that his mountain-top fortress was impregnable because of its sheer cliffs, guards were posted only on one side. In 549 BC, while King Croesus slept, the Persian army under King Cyrus scaled the sheer cliffs and entered the city like a "thief in the night" (cf. Rev. 3:2-3; 1 Thess. 5:2). In 214 BC, the armies of Antiochus the Great scaled the cliffs and captured the city in the same way. Thus Sardis became synonymous with an overconfidence that results in ruin.



25. TEMPLE OF ARTEMIS.

Ancient ruins of the temple of Artemis in Sardis (Below).



26. EMPEROR WORSHIP.

Roman Emperor Tiberius (Right) helped finance the reconstruction of Sardis after a great earthquake in 17 AD and in gratitude emperor worship became very strong in Sardis.



27. TIBERIUS CAESAR  
Reign: 14-37 AD

**F Philadelphia: Little, But Luminous.**

REVELATION 3:7-13

NOTES

1. CHRIST'S SELF-REVELATION. 3:7

“And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write: He who is holy, who is true, who has the key of David, who opens and no one will shut, and who shuts and no one opens, says this:”

(v. 7) “key of David” -

*Kingly authority, to open & close doors*

(v. 7) “opens and shuts” -

*sovereignty over history & humanity*

2. COMMENDATION. 3:8

“I know your deeds. ... you have a little power, and have kept My word, and have not denied My name.”

(v. 8) “little power” -

3. CHASTISEMENT. None

4. CORRECTIVE ACTION. None

5. CONSEQUENCE. None

6. COMMITMENT. 3:8-12

“Behold, I have put before you an open door which no one can shut, ... 9 Behold, I will cause those of the synagogue of Satan, who say that they are Jews and are not, but lie -- I will make them come and bow down at your feet, and make them know that I have loved you. 10 Because you have kept the word of My perseverance, I also will keep you from the hour of testing, that hour which is about to come upon the whole world, to test those who dwell on the earth. 11 I am coming quickly; hold fast what you have, so that no one will take your crown. 12 He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God, and he will not go out from it anymore; and I will write on him the name of My God, and the name of the city of My God, the new Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from My God, and My new name.”

*a small church*

(v. 8) “an open door” -

*evangelistic*

*opportunity*

(v. 9) “synagogue of Satan”

(Note 29, cf. Rev. 2:9) - *Jews*

*were persecuting*

*Christians*

(v. 10) “from the hour of testing” -

*Greek: ek, “from” or “through”*

(v. 12) “a pillar in the temple”

(Note 30, cf. Psa. 27:4) -

*The “one thing” David sought after*

(v. 12) “I will write on him the

name of My God ... and city”-

7. COMMAND. 3:13

“He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.”

*ownership*

*& address*

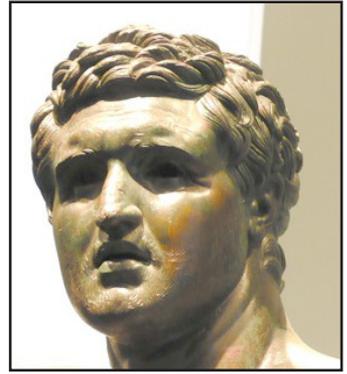
## 28. PHILADELPHIA.

Philadelphia was founded by King Attalus II of Pergamum (159-138 B.C.), whose devotion to his brother Eumenes won him the title “Philadelphus” (Greek: brotherly love).



## 30. “A PILLAR IN THE TEMPLE” (Rev. 3:12)

Despite repeated attacks from the growing Ottoman Empire, Philadelphia remained the last Byzantine city of Asia Minor until 1390, an island of Christian civilization in the Turkish sea. Gibbon paid it eloquent tribute by his reference to Philadelphia as “the standing pillar” (cf. Rev. 3:12). It was a remarkable feat for Philadelphia to have retained its independence from the surrounding Turks for so long, and it follows that the apostolic church here was the strongest of the seven churches.



## 29. “SYNAGOGUE OF SATAN”

(Rev. 3:8)

Philadelphia had a very active synagogue of Jews, which Ignatius (Bishop of Antioch, c. 110 A.D.) also mentioned in a letter to the church. Bitterly nationalistic, the Jews of Philadelphia vigorously persecuted the Christians for converting many of their countrymen to Christianity.



## G Laodicea: Luke-Warm.

### REVELATION 3:14-22

### NOTES

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <p>1. CHRIST'S SELF-REVELATION. 3:14</p> <p>"To the angel of the church in Laodicea write: The Amen, the faithful and true Witness, the Beginning of the creation of God, says this:"</p>  | <p>(v. 14) "The Amen" -<br/> <u>God of Truth</u></p> <p>(v. 14) "Faithful and true Witness" -<br/> <u>No persecution in Laodicea, because no witnessing.</u></p> |
| <p>2. COMMENDATION. None</p>   | <p>(v. 17) "I am rich" (Note 32) -<br/> <u>Matthew 6:21</u></p>  |
| <p>3. CHASTISEMENT. 3:15, 17</p> <p>"I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot; I wish that you were cold or hot. ... 17 Because you say, 'I am rich, and have become wealthy, and have need of nothing,' and you do not know that you are wretched and miserable and poor and blind and naked,"</p>  | <p>(v. 16) "lukewarm"(Note 33) -<br/> <u>An oasis in a desert of paganism, yet the church was not refreshing, but nauseating.</u></p>                            |
| <p>4. CONSEQUENCE. 3:16</p> <p>"So because you are lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, I will spit you out of My mouth."</p>   | <p>(v. 18) "buy from me white garments ... and eye salve" (Notes 34 &amp; 36) -<br/> <u>Local specialties didn't help them</u></p>                               |
| <p>5. CORRECTIVE ACTION. 3:18-19</p> <p>"I advise you to buy from Me gold refined by fire so that you may become rich, and white garments so that you may clothe yourself, and that the shame of your nakedness will not be revealed; and eye salve to anoint your eyes so that you may see. 19 Those whom I love, I reprove and discipline; therefore be zealous and repent."</p> | <p>(v. 20) "I stand at the door and knock" -<br/> <u>Gk. present tense - "I keep knocking" i.e. at a closed door cf. Philadelphia</u></p>                        |
| <p>6. COMMITMENT. 3:20-21</p> <p>"Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and will dine with him, and he with Me. 21 He who overcomes, I will grant to him to sit down with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne."</p>  | <p>(v. 21) "sit with Me on My throne"-<br/> <u>True believers will reign with Christ (Rev. 4:4)</u></p>  |
| <p>7. COMMAND. 3:22</p> <p>"He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches."</p>   |  |



### 31. THE CITY & CHURCH

The city of Laodicea was located ten miles west of Colossae and six miles south of Heirapolis, on a plateau a hundred feet above the Lycus River. The church was founded by Epaphras of nearby Colossae, and assembled in the house of Nympha (Col. 4:13,15).

### 32. "YOU SAY, 'I AM RICH'" (Rev. 3:17)

By the end of the first century BC Laodicea was one of the largest cities in Asia Minor and well known for its wealth. After the earthquake of 60 AD, Laodicea was rebuilt by the private wealth of its citizens, without any financial help from Rome. Pictured right is a Roman denarius minted in Laodicea.



### 33. "YOU ARE LUKEWARM"

(Rev. 3:16)

Laodicea lacked its own water supply. Water was brought in six miles through a stone aqueduct (left). Jesus said Laodicea was neither cold (like the pure, cold, spring waters of nearby Colossae), nor hot (like the hot springs of the neighboring city of Heirapolis).



### 34. "BUY FROM ME ... WHITE GARMENTS" (Rev. 3:18)

According to the Greek historian Strabo, one of the ways Laodicea earned its wealth was through the black woolen garments from the especially soft, black wool of the local sheep.



### 35. ASCLEPIOS.

The Greek god of medicine has become the official seal of the American Medical Association (right).



### 36. "BUY FROM ME ... EYE SALVE SO THAT YOU MAY SEE" (Rev. 3:18)

The Asclepian Academy, a medical school in Laodicea, was known for a popular eye salve called collyrium, also known as "Phrygian powder."

## H Are The Seven Churches Seven Ages?

#	Church	Character	Century	Church Age?
1	Ephesus (Rev. 2:1-7)	Loyal, but Loveless	1st	<u>Second Generation Church</u> As the apostolic age ends, a new generation of Christians arose who had not seen Jesus Christ.
2	Smyrna (Rev. 2:8-11)	Long- Suffering	1st through 4th	<u>The Persecuted Church</u> The Gentile expansion of the church is met with waves of persecution by the Roman Empire.
3	Pergamum (Rev. 2:12-17)	Lenient toward Sin	4th through 6th	<u>The State Church</u> Constantine's Edict of Milan in 313 A.D. legalized Christianity. Pagan & Christian practices are merged.
4	Thyatira (Rev. 2:18-29)	Loving, but Liberal	6th through 11th	<u>The Dark Ages Church</u> Pagan traditions replace the authority of the Scriptures. Power and wealth corrupt the clergy.
5	Sardis (Rev. 3:1-6)	Lifeless	11th through 16th	<u>The Persecuting Church</u> The church represses true believers and the Scriptures, through tyranny, inquisitions, and crusades.
6	Philadelphia (Rev. 3:7-13)	Little, but Luminous	16th through 20th	<u>The Reformed Church</u> Reformation marks a revival of the Word of God and salvation by grace through faith alone.
7	Laodicea (Rev. 3:14-22)	Luke- Warm	21st	<u>The Last Days Church</u> Wealth and worldliness cause the church to lose its spiritual power and purity.

<i>Applications</i>		
#	Church	Lesson Learned
1	Ephesus	<i>Remember your first love. Keep Christ first. (2:4)</i>
2	Smyrna	<i>Endurance wins the prize! (2:10)</i>
3	Pergamum	<i>Live by the sword, i.e. the Word of God. (Eph. 6:17)</i>
4	Thyatira	<i>Don't compromise with sin. (2:20)</i>
5	Sardis	<i>Stay awake! Beware of complacency. (3:2)</i>
6	Philadelphia	<i>Look for open doors. (3:8, 20)</i>
7	Laodicea	<i>Luke-warm Christianity nauseates Christ. (3:16)</i>

# III.

REVELATION, CHAPTERS 4-6

## THE SECOND VISION

CHRIST'S CONTROL OVER CHRISTIAN SUFFERING



“THE LION THAT IS FROM THE TRIBE OF JUDAH,  
THE ROOT OF DAVID, HAS OVERCOME ...  
AND I SAW BETWEEN THE THRONE ...  
A LAMB STANDING, AS IF SLAIN”

REVELATION 5:5-6

## 4

*John's Beatific Vision***Revelation, Chapters 4-5.**

<u>Section Title</u>	<u>Revelation</u>	<u>Page</u>
A. The Throne of God.	4:1-6	42
B. Worshipers Around the Throne.	4:6-11	44
C. Worthy is the Lamb.	5:1-7	46
D. They Sang a New Song.	5:8-14	48

**Interlude: Songs from the Throne Room.**

- Special creatures, myriads of myriads of angels, and the redeemed of mankind of all ages worship around the throne of God in Heaven.
- The central cause of all activity in the physical and spiritual realm is a Lamb enthroned in Heaven.
- Prayer plays an important role in relation to the activity in Heaven.
- Christ is in sovereign control of human history.

**BACKGROUND**

<b>Author:</b>	The Apostle John exiled on the Isle of Patmos.
<b>Audience:</b>	The Christian Church.
<b>Theme:</b>	Christ and the Church are ultimately victorious.
<b>Style:</b>	Apocalyptic (Symbolic)
<b>Date:</b>	95 A.D.
<b>Setting:</b>	Intense Persecution.

**OUTLINE of REVELATION**

<b>Vision</b>	<b>Chap</b>	<b>Theme</b>	<b>Seven</b>
1	1-3	Christ & Church	Churches
▶ 2	4-6	Christ in Control	Seals
3	7-11	World Warned	Trumpets
4	12-13	Satanic Trinity	Heads
5	14-16	God's Wrath	Bowls
6	17-18	Babylon Falls	Kings
7	19-22	New Jerusalem	∞

**A The Throne of God.**

REVELATION 4:1-6

NOTES

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <p>1 After these things I looked, and behold, a door standing open in heaven, and the first voice which I had heard, like the sound of a trumpet speaking with me, said, "Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after these things."</p> | <p>(v. 1) "behold, a door" (cf. Jn. 10:9, 14:6) - <i>Christ</i></p> <p>(v. 1) "the first voice" (cf. Rev. 1:10-13) - <i>Christ</i></p> <p>(v. 2) "in the Spirit" (cf. Rev. 1:10; 2 Cor. 12:1-4) - <i>ecstatic experience</i></p> |
| <p>2 Immediately I was in the Spirit; and behold, a throne was standing in heaven, and One sitting on the throne.</p>   | <p>(v. 2) "a throne was standing" - <i>Imperfect tense: continuous past action - i.e. never a time when there wasn't His throne.</i></p>   |
| <p>3 And He who was sitting was like a jasper stone and a sardius in appearance; and there was a rainbow around the throne, like an emerald in appearance.</p>  | <p>(v. 2) "One sitting" - <i>Room for 1</i></p> <p>(v. 3) "a rainbow" (cf. Ezek. 1:28; Gen. 9:13) - <i>Throne of Grace</i></p>   |
| <p>4 And around the throne were twenty-four thrones; and upon the thrones I saw twenty-four elders sitting, clothed in white garments, and golden crowns on their heads.</p>  | <p>(v. 4) "24 thrones and 24 elders" (Note 37) <i>We reign with Him</i></p> <p>(v. 4) "white garments" (Note 38) - <i>Righteousness</i></p>  |
| <p>5 And from the throne proceed flashes of lightning and sounds and peals of thunder. And there were seven lamps of fire burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God;</p>  | <p>(v. 4) "golden crowns" (Note 39 &amp; p.177, Note 147) - <i>Victor's wreath / rewards</i></p> <p>(v. 5) "lightning &amp; thunder" - <i>Judgment</i></p> <p>(v. 5) "seven Spirits of God" - <i>The perfect Holy Spirit</i></p> |
| <p>6 and before the throne there was, as it were, a sea of glass like crystal...</p>  | <p>(v. 5) "sea of glass" - <i>God's purity &amp; man's separation - Isa. 59:2</i></p>  |

37. TWENTY FOUR ELDERS. (REV. 4:4)

Twelve is the number of God's people.

• <u>Gen. 49:28</u>	- Twelve Old Testament tribes of Israel.	➔	<u>12</u>	=	<u>24</u>
• <u>Mt. 10:24</u>	- Twelve New Testament apostles.	➔	+ <u>12</u>	=	<u>24</u>

*All God's people (Old & New Covenant)*

## 38. WHITE GARMENTS. (Rev. 4:4)

## A. ROBE OF ORIGINAL RIGHTEOUSNESS.

- Original Innocence. “the man and his wife were both naked and not ashamed” - Gen. 2:25
- Original Robe Lost. “Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loin coverings.” - Gen. 3:7
- Blood Covering. “And the Lord God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife, and clothed them.” - Gen. 3:21
- Naked & Don't Know It. “Because you say, ‘I am rich, and have become wealthy, and have need of nothing,’ and you do not know that you are wretched and miserable and poor and blind and naked, I advise you to buy from Me ... white garments, that you may clothe yourself, and that the shame of your nakedness may not be revealed” - Rev. 3:17-18

## B. WORKS WITHOUT FAITH: FILTHY RAGS.

- Even Our Best Works are Filthy. “For all of us have become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy garment” – Isa. 64:6

## C. A NEW ROBE: IMPUTED RIGHTEOUSNESS.

- Clothed with Christ's Righteousness. “For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.” - Gal. 3:27

## D. ONE MIRACLE DETERGENT: CHRIST'S BLOOD.

- Christ's Blood is Sin's Detergent. “‘Come now, and let us reason together,’ says the Lord, ‘Though your sins are as scarlet, they will be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they will be like wool.’” - Isa. 1:18
- Confession & Cleansing. “If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.” - 1 John 1:9
- Filthy Rags Must be Washed. “... they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.” - Rev. 7:14

## E. WE MUST PUT ON CHRIST IN OUR DAILY PRACTICE.

- Alien Righteousness. “I put on righteousness, and it clothed me; my justice was like a robe and a turban.” - Job 29:14
- Daily Dressing. “But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh in regard to its lusts.” - Rom. 13:14

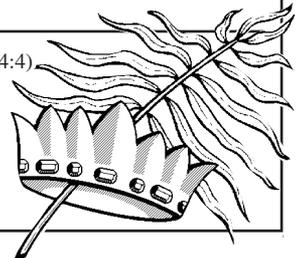
## F. FAITH THAT WORKS: FINE LINEN.

- Works That God Rewards. “Let us rejoice and be glad and give the glory to Him, for the marriage of the Lamb has come and His bride has made herself ready. It was given to her to clothe herself in fine linen, bright and clean; for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints.” - Rev. 19:7-8

## 39. GOLDEN CROWNS. (Rev. 4:4)

Greek: *stephanos*

- 1 Cor. 9:25 - an imperishable wreath
- 2 Tim. 4:8 - a crown of righteousness
- James 1:12 - the crown of life (cf. Rev 2:10)
- 1 Peter 5:4 - the unfading crown of glory.



**B** **Worshippers Around the Throne.**

REVELATION 4:6-11

NOTES

- 6 ... and in the center and around the throne, four living creatures full of eyes in front and behind. (v. 6) "four living creatures" -  
(Note 41) - *cherubim or seraphim?*
- 7 And the first creature was like a lion, and the second creature like a calf, and the third creature had a face like that of a man, and the fourth creature was like a flying eagle. (v. 6) "full of eyes" - *watch to give God glory*
- 8 And the four living creatures, each one of them having six wings, are full of eyes around and within; and day and night they do not cease to say, "Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord God, the Almighty, who was and who is and who is to come." (v. 7) four faces (Note 40) -  
*They reflect the character of Christ*
- 9 And when the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to Him who sits on the throne, to Him who lives forever and ever, (v. 8) "Holy, holy, holy" -  
*God's holiness transcends their own as the sun's light exceeds the moon's.*
- 10 the twenty-four elders will fall down before Him who sits on the throne, and will worship Him who lives forever and ever, and will cast their crowns before the throne, saying, (v. 8) "cast their crowns" -  
*Will I have crowns to cast?*
- 11 "Worthy are You, our Lord and our God, to receive glory and honor and power; for You created all things, and because of Your will they existed, and were created."

40. SPECULATION ON THE FOUR FACES

<b>LION</b>		Jesus is the Lion of Judah (i.e. Messiah)	<u>Gospel of Matthew</u> Written to the Jews
<b>CALF</b>		Jesus was a Suffering Servant	<u>Gospel of Mark</u> Written to the Gentiles
<b>MAN</b>		Jesus is the Son of Man	<u>Gospel of Luke</u> Written to the Romans
<b>EAGLE</b>		Jesus is the Son of God	<u>Gospel of John</u> Written to the Church

41. CREATURES ASSOCIATED WITH GOD’S THRONE.			
	<b>Seraphim</b>	<b>John’s Vision</b>	<b>Cherubim</b>
<b>Primary Text</b>	Isaiah 6	Revelation 4	Ezekiel 1 & 10
<b>Date Written</b>	~700 B.C.	~95 A.D.	~590 B.C.
<b>Designation</b>	Hebrew: saraph	Greek: zo_on “living creatures” (Rev. 4:6)	Hebrew: chayyah “living creatures” (Ezek. 1:5)
			Hebrew: kerub (Ezek. 10)
<b># around the throne</b>	More than one (Isa. 6:2)	Four (Rev. 4:6)	Four (Ezek. 1:5)
<b>Others</b>	None mentioned	None mentioned	Stationed at entrance to Eden (Gen. 3:22-24)
			Satan once an “anointed cherub” (Ezek. 28:13-18; cf. Isa. 14:12-15)
<b>Location</b>	Above the throne of God (Isa. 6:2)	Around the throne of God (Rev. 4:6)	*Under the throne of God (Ezek. 1:26)
<b>Face(s)</b>	One mentioned (Isa. 6:2)	1st Creature: Lion 2nd Creature: Calf 3rd Creature: Man 4th Creature: Eagle (Rev. 4:7)	Four on each (Ezek. 1:6) Man, Lion, Ox, Eagle (Ezek. 1:10)
<b>Wings</b>	Six (Isa. 6:2)	Six (Rev. 4:8)	Four (Ezek. 1:6)
<b>Radiance</b>	Hebrew: saraph means “fiery ones”	Not mentioned	Like burning coals of fire (Ezek. 1:13)
<b>Eyes</b>	None mentioned	“full of eyes” (Rev. 4:6)	“full of eyes” (Ezek. 1:18)
<b>Declaration</b>	“day and night they do not cease to say, “Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord” (Isa. 6:3)	“day and night they do not cease to say, “Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord” (Rev. 4:8)	None mentioned

\* See Psa. 80:1, 99:1; Isa. 37:16

## C Worthy is the Lamb.

### REVELATION 5:1-7

### NOTES

1 And I saw in the right hand of Him who sat on the throne a book written inside and on the back, sealed up with seven seals.

(v. 1) "a book" (Note 42) -

*the future of mankind*

(v. 1) "sealed up with seven seals" -

*sealed by man's sin.*

2 And I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, "Who is worthy to open the book and to break its seals?"

(v. 2-3) "who is worthy" *No one:*

• "in heaven" (i.e angels) - *had to be a man; man had sealed it.*

3 And no one in heaven, or on the earth, or under the earth, was able to open the book, or to look into it.

• "on the earth" - *unworthy*

(v. 4) "I began to weep greatly" -

*Of great importance to first century Christians.*

4 And I began to weep greatly, because no one was found worthy to open the book, or to look into it;

(v. 5) "the Lion from the tribe of Judah"

GENESIS 49:9-10

*"Judah ... lies down as a lion ...  
The scepter shall not depart from  
Judah ... until Shiloh comes"*

5 and one of the elders said to me, "Stop weeping; behold, the Lion that is from the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has overcome so as to open the book and its seven seals."

Shiloh - *the one to whom it belongs.*

6 And I saw between the throne (with the four living creatures) and the elders a Lamb standing, as if slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God, sent out into all the earth.

(v. 6) "a Lamb standing, as if slain" -

Gk. *arnion* - *a little lamb  
literally - freshly slain;  
i.e. right from the cross*

(v. 6) "between" - *our intermediary*

(v. 6) "seven horns" - *perfect power*

(v. 6) "seven eyes" - *omniscience*

7 And He came, and He took it out of the right hand of Him who sat on the throne.

1 Cor. 2:10 - *the [Holy] Spirit  
searches all things*

## 42. CHRIST IS SOVEREIGN OVER HUMAN HISTORY.

*“Behold, the Lion that is from the tribe of Judah,  
the Root of David, has overcome  
so as to open the book and its seven seals.”*

(Revelation 5:5)



- Ezra 1:1-2 - “the Lord stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia, so that he sent a proclamation throughout all his kingdom, and also put it in writing, saying, ‘Thus says Cyrus king of Persia, ‘The Lord, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth, and He has appointed me to build Him a house in Jerusalem, which is in Judah.’”
- Job 12:23 - “He makes the nations great, then destroys them; He enlarges the nations, then leads them away.”
- Prov. 21:1 - “The king’s heart is like channels of water in the hand of the Lord; He turns it wherever He wishes.”
- Isa. 46:9-10 - “For I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is no one like Me, declaring the end from the beginning ... saying, ‘My purpose will be established, and I will accomplish all My good pleasure’”
- Dan. 2:21 - “It is He who changes the times and the epochs; He removes kings and establishes kings”
- Acts 17:26 - “He made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined their appointed times and the boundaries of their habitation”
- Rom. 13:1 - “Every person is to be in subjection to the governing authorities for there is no authority except from God, and those which exist are established by God.”
- Rev. 17:14 - “the Lamb ... is Lord of lords and King of kings”

## D They Sang A New Song.

### REVELATION 5:8-14

### NOTES

8 When He had taken the book, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each one holding a harp and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints.

(v. 8) "incense ... the prayer of the saints"

(p. 67, Note 57) -

*Prayer is a pleasing to God, a fragrant aroma.*

(v. 8) "harp" & "incense" -

*praise & prayer are primary occupations of the saints*

9 And they sang a new song, saying, "Worthy are You to take the book and to break its seals; for You were slain, and purchased for God with Your blood men from every tribe and tongue and people and nation.

(v. 9) "from every tribe ... and nation" -

*The Great Commission (Matthew 28:19) will succeed!*

10 "You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to our God; and they will reign upon the earth."

(v. 10) "priests to our God" (cf. Rev. 1:6, 20:6) -

*pray, sacrifice & intercede*

11 Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels around the throne and the living creatures and the elders; and the number of them was myriads of myriads, and thousands of thousands,

(v. 10) "they reign upon the earth" -

*heaven and earth will be rejoined*

12 saying with a loud voice, "Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power and riches and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing. ..."

(v. 11) "myriads" of angels (Note 43)

Hebrews 1:14 - *angels are ministering spirits to help believers (cf. Psa. 91:11)*

14 And the four living creatures kept saying, "Amen " And the elders fell down and worshiped.

2 Kings 6:15-17 - *More with us than against us.*

## 43. ANGELS IN SCRIPTURE.

(Rev. 5:11)



## A. CREATED DURING THE SIX DAYS OF CREATION.

- Ex. 20:11 – “For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea and all that is in them...” (cf. Gen. 2:1)
- Neh. 9:6 – “Thou alone art the Lord. Thou hast made the heavens, the heaven of heavens with all their host”
- Job 38:4,7 – “when I laid the foundation of the earth ... the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy” ◀ Created first day?
- Psalms 148:2,5 – “Praise Him, all His angels ... For He commanded and they were created.”
- Col. 1:16 – “For by Him all things were created, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities...”

## B. UPPER ECHELONS.

- Cherubim – Gen. 1:24; Ezek. 1; Rev. 4
- Seraphim – Isaiah 6:1-6
- Archangels – 1 Thess. 4:16  
Michael – Dan. 10:13,21; 12:1; Jude 9; Rev. 12:7  
Gabriel – Dan. 8:16; 9:21; Lk. 1:19, 26

## C. MYRIADS.

Deut. 33:2; Psalms 68:17; Dan. 7:9-10; Heb. 12:22

- Rev. 5:11 – “I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels around the throne ... and the number of them was myriads of myriads, and thousands of thousands”

## D. 1/3 FELL.

2 Pet. 2:4; Jude 1:6

- Rev. 12:3-4 – “And another sign appeared in heaven: and behold, a great red dragon ... 4 And his tail swept away a third of the stars [angels] of heaven, and threw them to the earth.”

## E. THEY FIGHT BATTLES IN THE SPIRITUAL REALM.

- Dan. 10:11-13 – Michael fought demons over Persia.
- Rev. 12:7-9 – “there was war in heaven, Michael and his angels waging war with the dragon. And the dragon and his angels waged war ... And the great dragon was thrown down, the serpent of old who is called the devil and Satan ... and his angels were thrown down with him.”

## F. THEY DO GOD’S WILL.

- Psalms 103:20 – “Bless the Lord, you His angels, mighty in strength, who perform His word, obeying the voice of His word!”

## G. THEY PROTECT BELIEVERS.

- Gen. 19; 2 Kgs. 6:15-17; Acts 12:1-11
- Psalms 91:11 – “For He will give His angels charge concerning you, to guard you in all your ways.”
- Matt. 18:10 – “See that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I say to you, that their angels in heaven continually behold the face of My Father who is in heaven.”
- Heb. 1:14 – “Are they not all ministering spirits, sent out to render service for the sake of those who will inherit salvation?”

## H. THEY CAN APPEAR HUMAN.

- Heb. 13:2 – “Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by this some have entertained angels without knowing it.”

## I. NOT TO BE WORSHIPED.

- Col. 2:18; Rev. 19:10, 22:8-9

## Additional Notes & Applications

1. When life gets crazy I need to remember that God has been and always will be on His throne in Heaven, in sovereign control of all things. (Rev. 4:2)
2. God's throne is to the Christian a throne of grace (Rev. 4:3; Heb. 4:16), and I must never be afraid to talk to the Lord.
3. Will I have crowns to cast at Jesus' feet for faithful living? (Rev. 4:8; 1 Cor. 3:11-15)
4. Praise & prayer should be two of my primary occupations. (Rev. 5:8)

## 5

*Seven-Sealed Scroll***Revelation, Chapter 6.**

<u>Section Title</u>	<u>Rev.</u>	<u>Page</u>
A. Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse.	6:1-8	52
B. The Wrath of the Lamb.	6:9-17	54

**Theme: Reaction to the Gospel.**

- Christ is the Word of God whose arrows pierce men's hearts, bring conviction, and conquer unbelief.
- Christians should expect the same response to the Gospel that Christ received: some will receive it and be saved, but others will try to destroy the messenger to silence the message.
- Christ's first advent was as a Suffering Servant, but His second advent will be in judgment and wrath upon unrepentant sinners.

**BACKGROUND**

<b>Author:</b>	The Apostle John exiled on the Isle of Patmos.
<b>Audience:</b>	The Christian Church.
<b>Theme:</b>	Christ and the Church are ultimately victorious.
<b>Style:</b>	Apocalyptic (Symbolic)
<b>Date:</b>	95 A.D.
<b>Setting:</b>	Intense Persecution.

**OUTLINE of REVELATION**

<b>Vision</b>	<b>Chap</b>	<b>Theme</b>	<b>Seven</b>
1	1-3	Christ & Church	Churches
▶ 2	4-6	Christ in Control	Seals
3	7-11	World Warned	Trumpets
4	12-13	Satanic Trinity	Heads
5	14-16	God's Wrath	Bowls
6	17-18	Babylon Falls	Kings
7	19-22	New Jerusalem	∞

## A The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse.

### REVELATION 6:1-8

### NOTES

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1 Then I saw when the Lamb broke one of the seven seals, and I heard one of the four living creatures saying as with a voice of thunder, "Come."   | (v. 2) "a white horse" (Note 44) -<br><u>The Word of God</u><br><u>Christ / Gospel</u>  |
| 2 I looked, and behold, a white horse, and he who sat on it had a bow; and a crown was given to him, and he went out conquering and to conquer.  | (v. 2) "a bow" - <u>conviction</u><br>(v. 2) "a crown" (Rev. 19:12, 16) -<br><u>King of kings</u>   |
| 3 When He broke the second seal, I heard the second living creature saying, "Come."  | (v. 2) "conquering" - <u>one</u><br><u>battle we must</u><br><u>lose!</u>   |
| 4 And another, a red horse, went out; and to him who sat on it, it was granted to take peace from the earth, and that men would slay one another; and a great sword was given to him.  | (v. 4) "red horse" (Note 45) -<br><u>Martyrdom</u>  |
| 5 When He broke the third seal, I heard the third living creature saying, "Come " I looked, and behold, a black horse; and he who sat on it had a pair of scales in his hand.  | (v. 5) "black horse" (Note 46) -<br><u>Economic</u><br><u>persecution</u>   |
| 6 And I heard something like a voice in the center of the four living creatures saying, "A quart of wheat for a denarius, and three quarts of barley for a denarius; and do not damage the oil and the wine."  | (v. 6) "a denarius" -<br><u>one days wages</u>  |
| 7 When the Lamb broke the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth living creature saying, "Come."   | (v. 6) "oil and wine" -<br><u>luxury items only</u><br><u>for the rich</u>  |
| 8 I looked, and behold, an ashen horse; and he who sat on it had the name Death; and Hades was following with him. Authority was given to them over a fourth of the earth, to kill with sword and with famine and with pestilence and by the wild beasts of the earth. | (v. 8) "ashen horse" (Note 47) -<br><u>war &amp; natural</u><br><u>disasters</u><br>(v. 8) "a fourth of the earth" -<br><u>ie. limited in scope,</u><br><u>doesn't affect all</u> |

44. THE FIRST SEAL: A WHITE HORSE. (Rev. 6:1-2)

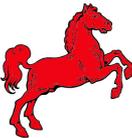
- Rev. 19:11-16 - “And I saw heaven opened; and behold, a *white horse*, and He who sat upon it is called Faithful and True; and in righteousness He judges and wages war. His eyes are a flame of fire, and on His head are many diadems ... And He is clothed with a robe dipped in blood; and His name is called the Word of God. ... And on His robe and on His thigh He has a name written, “King of kings, and Lord of lords.”



- Psalm 38:2 - “O Lord ... Your arrows have sunk deep into me”
- Rev. 17:14 - “These will wage war against the Lamb, and the Lamb will overcome them, because He is Lord of lords and King of kings” (cf. Ex. 15:3; Josh. 5:13-15; Isa. 42:13; Jer. 20:11; Zeph. 3:17; John 16:33)

45. THE SECOND SEAL: A RED HORSE. (Rev. 6:3-4)

- Mt. 10:34-36 - “Do not think that I came to bring peace on the earth; I did not come to bring peace, but a sword. For I came to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; and a man’s enemies will be the members of his household.”



- John 15:20 - “Remember the word that I said to you, ‘A servant is not greater than his master.’ If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you”

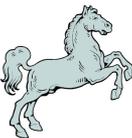
46. THE THIRD SEAL: A BLACK HORSE. (Rev. 6:5-6)

- Rev. 13:17 - [the beast] “provides that no one will be able to buy or to sell, except the one who has the mark”



47. THE FOURTH SEAL: AN ASHEN HORSE. (Rev. 6:7-8)

- Mt. 24:6-7 - “You will be hearing of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not frightened, for those things must take place, but that is not yet the end. For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, and in various places there will be famines and earthquakes.”



**B The Wrath of the Lamb.**

REVELATION 6:9-17

NOTES

- 9 When the Lamb broke the fifth seal, I saw underneath the altar the souls of those who had been slain because of the word of God, and because of the testimony which they had maintained; (v. 9) "underneath the altar"  
 (Note 48) - *The bronze altar used for sacrifices.*
- 10 and they cried out with a loud voice, saying, "How long, O Lord, holy and true, will You refrain from judging and avenging our blood on those who dwell on the earth?" *Martyrs' deaths counted as sacrifice.*
- 11 And there was given to each of them a white robe; and they were told that they should rest for a little while longer, until the number of their fellow servants and their brethren who were to be killed even as they had been, would be completed also. (v. 10) "how long" -  
*i.e it hadn't been a short time*
- 12 I looked when He broke the sixth seal, and there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth made of hair, and the whole moon became like blood; (v. 10) "avenging" (Note 49) -  
*Righteous indignation*
- 13 and the stars of the sky fell to the earth, as a fig tree casts its unripe figs when shaken by a great wind.
- 14 The sky was split apart like a scroll when it is rolled up, and every mountain and island were moved out of their places. (v. 11) "given a white robe"  
 (See p. 43, Note 38) -  
*Imputed righteousness*
- 15 Then the kings of the earth and the great men and the commanders and the rich and the strong and every slave and free man hid themselves in the caves and among the rocks of the mountains; (v. 12) "the sixth seal" (Note 50) -  
*Supernatural events, near the end of the Age.*
- 16 and they said to the mountains and to the rocks, "Fall on us and hide us from the presence of Him who sits on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb;
- 17 for the great day of their wrath has come, and who is able to stand?" (v. 16) "the wrath of the Lamb" -  
*irony*

## 48. THE FIFTH SEAL: SOULS UNDER THE ALTAR. (Rev. 6:9-11)

- Ex. 29:12 - “And you shall take some of the blood of the bull ... and you shall pour out all the blood at the base of the altar.”

## 49. THE VENGEANCE OF GOD. (Rev. 6:10)

- Psalm 94:1-3 - “O Lord, God of vengeance; God of vengeance, shine forth! Rise up, O Judge of the earth; render recompense to the proud. How long shall the wicked, O Lord, How long shall the wicked exult?”
- Nahum 1:2-3 - “A jealous and avenging God is the Lord; The Lord is avenging and wrathful. The Lord takes vengeance on His adversaries, and He reserves wrath for His enemies. The Lord is slow to anger and great in power, and the Lord will by no means leave the guilty unpunished. In whirlwind and storm is His way, and clouds are the dust beneath His feet.”
- Rom. 9:22-23 - “What if God, although willing to demonstrate His wrath and to make His power known, endured with much patience vessels of wrath prepared for destruction? And He did so in order that He might make known the riches of His glory upon vessels of mercy, which He prepared beforehand for glory”
- Rom. 12:19 - “Never take your own revenge, beloved, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, ‘Vengeance is Mine, I will repay,’ says the Lord.”

## 50. THE SIXTH SEAL: SUPERNATURAL EVENTS. (Rev. 6:12-17)

- Joel 2:30-31 - “And I will display wonders in the sky and on the earth, blood, fire, and columns of smoke. The sun will be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and awesome day of the Lord comes.”
- Matt. 24:29 - “But immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will fall from the sky, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken”
- 2 Peter 3:10 - “But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, in which the heavens will pass away with a roar and the elements will be destroyed with intense heat, and the earth and its works will be burned up. ... But according to His promise we are looking for new heavens and a new earth, in which righteousness dwells.”

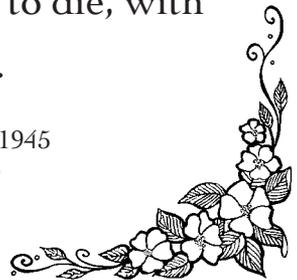
## Additional Notes & Applications

1. Christ is the Rider on the white horse who goes out conquering and to conquer. (Rev. 6:1-2). Have I truly been conquered by Christ? Have self-will, independence and worldly desires been conquered? Or am I still wrestling with God? (cf. Jacob, Gen. 32:24-32)
2. To be a Christian in the first century cost many Christians their lives. What is my Christianity costing me? Am I afraid to share my testimony with others for fear of the Red Horse, i.e. persecution? (Rev. 6:3-4)
3. Would I be willing to accept the loss of a job, a promotion, family, or friends to openly confess Christ and practice Christianity? (Rev. 6:5-6)



he cross is laid on every Christian. The first Christ-suffering which every man must experience is the call to abandon the attachments of this world. ... When Christ calls a man, He bids him come and die. ... death in Jesus Christ, the death of the old man [or nature] at his call. Jesus' summons to the rich young man was calling him to die, because only the man who is dead to his own will can follow Christ. In fact, every command of Jesus is a call to die, with all our affections and lusts.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer, 1906-1945  
*The Cost of Discipleship*



# IV.

REVELATION, CHAPTERS 7-11

## THE THIRD VISION

THE WORLD IS WARNED TO REPENTS



“AND I SAW THE SEVEN ANGELS WHO  
STAND BEFORE GOD, AND SEVEN  
TRUMPETS WERE GIVEN TO THEM.”

REVELATION 5:5-6

## 6

*Signed, Sealed, Delivered***Revelation, Chapter 7.**

<u>Section Title</u>	<u>Revelation</u>	<u>Page</u>
A. God's People Numbered & Sealed.	7:1-8	58
B. The Multitude of the Redeemed.	7:9-17	60

**Interlude: Victory Chant of the Redeemed.**

- God does not administer judgment indiscriminately, but distinguishes between the righteous and the wicked.
- Being numbered and sealed, God's people are protected by the power of God, insuring their eternal security.
- Those sealed on earth leave the tribulation of this life behind and join the multitude of the redeemed in heaven.
- The saints in heaven celebrate their redemption and enjoy eternal fellowship with God.

**BACKGROUND**

<b>Author:</b>	The Apostle John exiled on the Isle of Patmos.
<b>Audience:</b>	The Christian Church.
<b>Theme:</b>	Christ and the Church are ultimately victorious.
<b>Style:</b>	Apocalyptic (Symbolic)
<b>Date:</b>	95 A.D.
<b>Setting:</b>	Intense Persecution.

**OUTLINE of REVELATION**

<b>Vision</b>	<b>Chap</b>	<b>Theme</b>	<b>Seven</b>	
	1	1-3	Christ & Church	Churches
	2	4-6	Christ in Control	Seals
▶	3	7-11	World Warned	Trumpets
	4	12-13	Satanic Trinity	Heads
	5	14-16	God's Wrath	Bowls
	6	17-18	Babylon Falls	Kings
	7	19-22	New Jerusalem	∞

# A I Heard the Number: 144,000.

## REVELATION 7:1-8

## NOTES

- 1 After this I saw four angels standing at the four corners of the earth, holding back the four winds of the earth, so that no wind should blow on the earth or on the sea or on any tree.
- 2 And I saw another angel ascending from the rising of the sun, having the seal of the living God; and he cried out with a loud voice to the four angels to whom it was granted to harm the earth and the sea,
- 3 saying, "Do not harm the earth or the sea or the trees, until we have sealed the bond-servants of our God on their foreheads."
- 4 And I heard the number of those who were sealed, one hundred and forty-four thousand sealed from every tribe of the sons of Israel:
- 5 from the tribe of Judah, twelve thousand were sealed, from the tribe of Reuben twelve thousand, from the tribe of Gad twelve thousand,
- 6 from the tribe of Asher twelve thousand, from the tribe of Naphtali twelve thousand, from the tribe of Manasseh twelve thousand,
- 7 from the tribe of Simeon twelve thousand, from the tribe of Levi twelve thousand, from the tribe of Issachar twelve thousand,
- 8 from the tribe of Zebulun twelve thousand, from the tribe of Joseph twelve thousand, from the tribe of Benjamin, twelve thousand were sealed.

(v. 2) "after this I saw" -

*Transition 3rd vision*

(v. 1) "holding back the four winds"

Jer. 49:36 - *holding back*

*judgment.*

(v. 2) "the seal of the living God"

Eph. 1:13-14 - *Holy Spirit*

Rev. 22:4 - *Name of God*

1. *ownership*

2. *authenticity*

3. *protection*

(v. 4) "I heard the number" -

*didn't see number yet*

(v. 4)  $144,000 = 12 \times 12 \times 10 \times 10 \times 10$

12 = *God's people*

10 = *completeness*

Identity: *all God's*

*people, Jew & Greek*

(v. 4) "sons of Israel" -

Rom. 2:28-29, 4:13-14, 9:6-8

Gal. 3:29, 6:15-16, 1 Cor. 12:13

*Abraham's /*

*Israel's sons =*

*believers*

(v. 5-8) List of names (Note 51) -

*Describe the church*

51. LIST OF NAMES. (Rev. 7:5-8)			
	Name	Meaning	Genesis
1	Judah	<i>praise the Lord</i>	29:35
2	Reuben	<i>behold, a son</i>	29:32
3	Gad	<i>blessed</i>	30:11
4	Asher	<i>happy</i>	30:13
5	Naphtali	<i>wrestling &amp; overcoming</i>	30:8
6	Manasseh	<i>God has made me forget</i>	41:51
7	Simeon	<i>the Lord hears me</i>	29:33
8	Levi	<i>attached</i>	29:34
9	Issachar	<i>reward</i>	30:18
10	Zebulun	<i>dwelling place</i>	30:20
11	Joseph	<i>may the Lord add</i>	30:24
12	Benoni	Rachel: <i>son of my sorrows</i>	35:18
	Benjamin	Jacob: <i>son of my right hand</i>	

1. Normal Old Testament tribal list: (cf. Num. 1:20-49)

- (1) Reuben, (2) Simeon, (3) Gad, (4) Judah, (5) Issachar, (6) Zebulun, (7) Ephraim, (8) Manasseh, (9) Benjamin, (10) Dan, (11) Asher, (12) Naphtali.

2. Five differences in the Revelation 7 list:

- (1) Dan not included.  
 (2) Ephraim not included.  
 (3) Joseph included.  
 (4) Levi included.  
 (5) Judah listed first instead of Reuben.



## B I Saw a Great Multitude.

### REVELATION 7:9-17

- 9 After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude, which no one could count, from every nation and all tribes and peoples and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, and palm branches were in their hands;
- 10 and they cry out with a loud voice, saying, “[the] Salvation to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb.”
- 11 And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures; and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God,
- 12 saying, “Amen, blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might, be to our God forever and ever. Amen.”
- 13 And one of the elders answered, saying to me, “These who are clothed in the white robes, who are they, and from where have they come?”
- 14 And I said to him, “My lord, you know.” And he said to me, “These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation, and they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.
- 15 “For this reason, they are before the throne of God; and they serve Him day and night in His temple; and He who sits on the throne shall spread His tabernacle over them.
- 16 “They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore; neither shall the sun beat down on them, nor any heat;
- 17 for the Lamb in the center of the throne shall be their Shepherd, and shall guide them to springs of the water of life; and God shall wipe every tear from their eyes.”

### NOTES

(v. 9) “after these things I looked”

(cf. Rev. 7:4, John “heard” a number)

(v. 9) “behold, a great multitude”-

*Astonishment!*

*The 144,000 are this multitude.*

(Note 52)

(v. 9) “standing” (Answers Rev. 6:17) -

*Who can stand?*

*The redeemed!*

(v. 9) “white robes”(p. 43, Note 38)

(v. 9) “palm branches”(Notes 53-54)

(v. 10) literally “the salvation”

(Note 55) - *definite article*

*i.e. one salvation*

(v. 14) “coming out” *literally*

*keep coming out*

(v. 14) “great tribulation” (cf. 1:9) -

*John a partaker*

(v. 14) robes washed in blood

1 John 1:7 - *Jesus' blood*

*cleanses from sin.*

(p. 43, Note 38)

(v. 17) “the Lamb...Shepherd” -

Psalm 23:1 - *The Lord*

*(Lamb) is my*

*Shepherd.*

52. ABRAHAMIC COVENANT. (Rev. 7:9)

- Genesis 12:3 - “in you all the families of the earth will be blessed.”
- Genesis 22:17 - “indeed I will greatly bless you, and I will greatly multiply your seed as the stars of the heavens and as the sand which is on the seashore.”



53. PALM BRANCHES & JESUS’ TRIUMPHAL ENTRY. (Rev. 7:9)

- John 12:12-13 - “On the next day the large crowd who had come to the feast, when they heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem, took the branches of the palm trees and went out to meet Him, and began to shout, ‘Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel.’”
- Meaning: Celebrating Jesus as King

54. PALM BRANCHES & THE FEAST OF TABERNACLES. (Rev. 7:9, cf. 7:15)



- Lev. 23-40-43 - “you shall take for yourselves the foliage of beautiful trees, palm branches and boughs of leafy trees and willows of the brook, and you shall rejoice before the Lord your God for seven days. ... You shall live in booths for seven days ... so that your generations may know that I had the sons of Israel live in booths when I brought them out from the land of Egypt. I am the Lord your God.”

- Meaning: Celebrating release from bondage.

55. “THE” SALVATION:  JESUS. (Rev. 7:10)

- Isaiah 43:11 - “I, even I, am the Lord; and there is no savior besides Me.”
- John 14:6 - “Jesus said to him, ‘I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father, but through Me.’”
- Acts 4:12 - “And there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men, by which we must be saved.”
- 1 Tim. 2:5 - “For there is one God, and one Mediator also between God and men, the man Christ Jesus”

**JESUS**  
**THE WAY,**   
**THE TRUTH,**   
**THE LIFE.** 

## Additional Notes & Applications

1. I am sealed by God, which is not a license to sin, but a great assurance of my salvation. (Rev. 7:2-3; Eph 1:13-14)
2. Gospel is "THE salvation" (Rev. 7:10); that is, the only way to be saved.  
My outreach to others must emphasize that Jesus is the ONLY way of salvation.
3. I stand in the presence of God fully accepted, robed in the imputed righteousness of Jesus Christ.  
(Rev. 7:9, 14)
4. Worship is the ultimate priority in Heaven.  
Is it my ultimate priority on Earth?

# 7

## Trumpet Judgments

### Revelation, Chapters 8 & 9.

<u>Section Title</u>	<u>Revelation</u>	<u>Page</u>
A. Silence in Heaven.	8:1-5	66
B. Trumpets One & Two.	8:6-9	68
C. Trumpets Three & Four.	8:10-13	70
D. The Fifth Trumpet.	9:1-12	72
E. The Sixth Trumpet.	9:13-21	74

### Theme: Call to Repentance.

- The trumpet judgments symbolize God's intermediate, but not final, judgments warning mankind to repent.
- The seven trumpets, like the seven seals, are parallel events that take place between the two comings of Christ, leading up to the end of the age.
- Prayer is like fragrant incense to God. Heavenly silence is broken by the prayers of God's people.

#### BACKGROUND

<b>Author:</b>	The Apostle John exiled on the Isle of Patmos.
<b>Audience:</b>	The Christian Church.
<b>Theme:</b>	Christ and the Church are ultimately victorious.
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6	17-18	Babylon Falls	Kings
7	19-22	New Jerusalem	∞

# A Silence in Heaven.

## REVELATION 8:1-5

- 1 When the Lamb broke the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven for about half an hour.
- 2 And I saw the seven angels who stand before God; and seven trumpets were given to them.
- 3 And another angel came and stood at the altar, holding a golden censer; and much incense was given to him, that he might add it to the prayers of all the saints upon the golden altar which was before the throne.  
*Heb. 7:25*
- 4 And the smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints, went up before God out of the angel's hand.
- 5 And the angel took the censer; and he filled it with the fire of the altar and threw it to the earth; and there followed peals of thunder and sounds and flashes of lightning and an earthquake.

## NOTES

(v. 1) "silence in Heaven" -

*A symbol of the importance of prayer.*

(v. 3) "the golden altar" (Note 56) -

*Incense lit in morning and evening; left burning all day and night. (Ex. 30:7-8)*

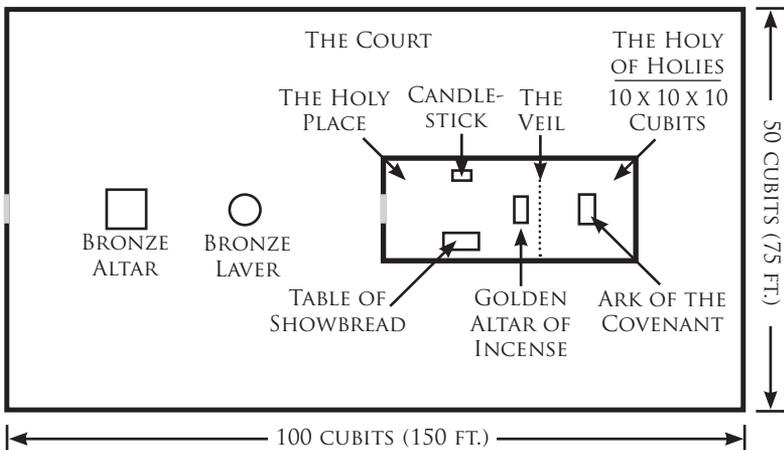
(v. 5) "incense" (Note 57) -

*Symbolized prayer.*

(v. 3) "much incense" (Heb. 7:25) -

*Prayers of Christ*

## 56. THE JEWISH TABERNACLE.



## 57. THE PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE ARE LIKE INCENSE.

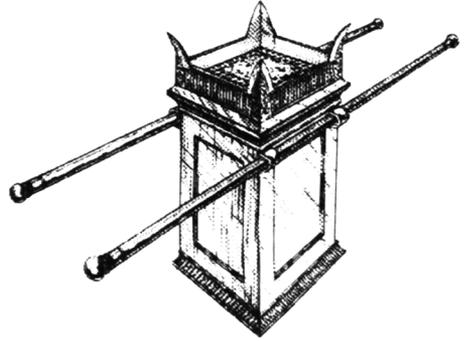
(Rev. 8:3-5)

A. God distinguishes between the prayers of the upright and the prayers of the wicked.



- 1 Pet. 3:12 - “For the eyes of the Lord are toward the righteous, and His ears attend to their prayer, but the face of the Lord is against those who do evil.”
- Prov. 15:8 - “The sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination to the Lord, but the prayer of the upright is His delight.”
- Prov. 28:9 - “He who turns away his ear from listening to the law, even his prayer is an abomination.”

B. Incense burned on the golden altar in the Jewish Tabernacle symbolized the prayers of God's people ascending before the Throne of God as a fragrant aroma.



- Psa. 141:1-2 - “O Lord, I call upon You; hasten to me! Give ear to my voice when I call to You! May my prayer be counted as incense before You.”
- Luke 1:10 - “And the whole multitude of the people were in prayer outside at the hour of the incense offering.”
- Rev. 5:8 - “the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, having each one a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints”
- Rev. 8:3-4 - “Another angel came and stood at the altar, holding a golden censer; and much incense was given to him, so that he might add it to the prayers of all the saints on the golden altar which was before the throne. And the smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints, went up before God out of the angel's hand.”

## B Trumpets One & Two.

### REVELATION 8:6-9

### NOTES

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <p>6 And the seven angels who had the seven trumpets prepared themselves to sound them.</p>  | <p>(v. 6) "seven trumpets" (Note 58)</p> <hr/> <p>8 → Ten Plagues (Note 59) -</p> <hr/>   |
| <p>7 And the first sounded, and there came hail and fire, mixed with blood, and they were thrown to the earth; and a third of the earth was burned up, and a third of the trees were burned up, and all the green grass was burned up.</p> | <p>1. <i>Judging Egypt's idols &amp; way of life.</i></p> <hr/> <p>2. <i>Trumpets are parallel with other series, e.g. seals.</i></p> <hr/> |
| <p>8 And the second angel sounded, and something like a great mountain burning with fire was thrown into the sea; and a third of the sea became blood;</p>   | <p>(v. 7) First trumpet (Note 60) -</p> <hr/> <p><i>agriculture affected</i></p> <hr/>  |
| <p>9 and a third of the creatures, which were in the sea and had life, died; and a third of the ships were destroyed.</p>  | <p>(v. 8) Second trumpet (Note 61) -</p> <hr/> <p><i>commerce affected</i></p> <hr/>  |

### 58. TRUMPETS IN SCRIPTURE. (Rev. 6:6)

#### A. WARNING. *Example: Seven Trumpets At Jericho.*

- Joshua 6:13-20 - "The seven priests carrying the seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark of the Lord went on continually, and blew the trumpets ... and when the people heard the sound of the trumpet, the people shouted with a great shout and the wall fell down flat, so that the people went up into the city, every man straight ahead, and they took the city."

Jericho Trumpets: *Repeated warning (first 6 days they marched around Jericho); leading to final judgment (7th day, 7th trumpet).*

- Ezek. 33:1-7 - Watchman on the wall, warning the people [to repent].

#### B. GATHERING. *Example: The Rapture.*

- Matt. 24:31 - "And He will send forth His angels with a great trumpet and they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of the sky to the other." cf. Num. 10:1-2; 1 Cor. 15:51-52; 1 Thess. 4:16.

#### C. OTHER.

- Exodus 19:16-19 - Giving the Law at Sinai, cf. Heb. 12:18-20
- Num. 29:1 - Feast of trumpets, worship.
- 1 Kings 1:39 - Coronation of the king.

59. COMPARISON TO THE TEN PLAGUES OF EGYPT, EXODUS 5-12.				
#	Plague	Egyptian “god” Judged	Exodus	Trumpet
1	Nile to blood	Hapi, god of the Nile	7:14-24	2
2	frogs	Hekt, toad goddess	7:25-8:11	
3	fleas or lice	Seb, the earth god	8:12-15	
4	flies	Khephi (scarab) god of insects	8:16-28	
5	livestock die	Apis & Hathor, cow gods	9:1-7	
6	boils	Imhotep, god of medicine	9:8-12	
7	hail & fire	Nut, sky goddess	9:18-35	1
8	locust	Seth, god of crops	10:1-20	5
9	darkness	Ra, sun god	10:21-23	4
10	firstborn die	Pharaoh, the god-king	12:29-30	6

60. THE FIRST TRUMPET. (Rev. 8:7)



- cf. Exodus 9:13-35 - 7th plague of Egypt, hail and fire.
- “one-third” - *i.e. not all, only part;*  
*not final judgment.*
- Affect - *agriculture,*  
*drought, famine*

61. THE SECOND TRUMPET. (Rev. 8:8-9)



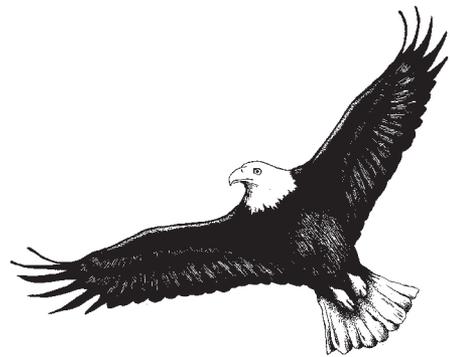
- cf. Exodus 7:14-25 - 1st plague of Egypt, water to blood.
- Jer. 54:24-25 - “But I will repay Babylon ... Behold, I am against you, O destroying mountain”
- “a great mountain” - *Babylon*  
*(This World System)*
- Affect - *commercial*  
*fishing & shipping*

**C Trumpets Three & Four.**

REVELATION 8:10-13

NOTES

- 10 And the third angel sounded, and a great star fell from heaven, burning like a torch, and it fell on a third of the rivers and on the springs of waters; *“him” 9:1*  
 (v. 10) Third Trumpet (Note 62) -  
*Satan's affect on man's thinking (2 Cor. 4:4)*
- 11 and the name of the star is called Wormwood; and a third of the waters became wormwood; and many men died from the waters, because they were made bitter.  
 (v. 10) “a third” -  
*Not all, only part; Not final judgment.*
- 12 And the fourth angel sounded, and a third of the sun and a third of the moon and a third of the stars were smitten, so that a third of them might be darkened and the day might not shine for a third of it, and the night in the same way.  
 (v. 12) Fourth Trumpet (Note 63) -  
*Total inability (Rom. 3:9-18)*
- 13 And I looked, and I heard an eagle flying in midheaven, saying with a loud voice, “Woe, woe, woe, to those who dwell on the earth, because of the remaining blasts of the trumpet of the three angels who are about to sound!”  
 (v. 12) “a third” -  
*Not final judgment.*  
 (v. 13) “woe, woe, woe” -  
*3 woes = last 3 trumpets (5, 6, 7), even worse than 1-4*



“And I looked, and I heard an eagle flying in midheaven, saying with a loud voice, ‘Woe, woe, woe, to those who dwell on the earth, because of the remaining blasts of the trumpet of the three angels who are about to sound!’”

– REVELATION 8:13

## 62. THE THIRD TRUMPET. (Rev. 8:10-11)



- “a great star fell from heaven” - Satan
- Isa. 14:12 - “How you have fallen from heaven, O [Lucifer] star of the morning, son of the dawn!”
- “waters” - that which  
I drink into my spirit  
(philosophies, teachings)
- Jer. 2:13 - “For My people have committed two evils: They have forsaken Me, the fountain of living waters, to hew for themselves cisterns, broken cisterns that can hold no water.” (cf. John 4:14)
- “wormwood” - poisonous philosophies,  
doctrines (cf. 1 Tim. 4:1)
- Jer. 9:15 - “therefore thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel, ‘behold, I will feed them, this people, with wormwood and give them poisoned water to drink.’”

## 63. THE FOURTH TRUMPET. (Rev. 8:12-13)



- cf. Exodus 10:21-29 - 9th plague of Egypt, darkness.
- “darkened” - spiritual  
darkness & confusion
- Rom. 1:21-22 - “For even though they knew God, they did not honor Him as God or give thanks, but they became futile in their speculations, and their foolish heart was darkened. Professing to be wise, they became fools”
- Eph. 4:17-19 - “walk no longer just as the Gentiles also walk, in the futility of their mind, being darkened in their understanding, excluded from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the hardness of their heart; and they, having become callous, have given themselves over to sensuality for the practice of every kind of impurity with greediness.”
- Exodus 10:22-23 - Light in Goshen  
during the plague of darkness.  
(Matt. 5:14-16; Eph. 5:8)

## D The Fifth Trumpet.

### REVELATION 9:1-12

- 1 And the fifth angel sounded, and I saw a star from heaven which had fallen to the earth; and the key of the bottomless pit was given to him.
- 2 And he opened the bottomless pit; and smoke went up out of the pit, like the smoke of a great furnace; and the sun and the air were darkened by the smoke of the pit.
- 3 And out of the smoke came forth locusts upon the earth; and power was given them, as the scorpions of the earth have power.
- 4 And they were told that they should not hurt the grass of the earth, nor any green thing, nor any tree, but only the men who do not have the seal of God on their foreheads.
- 5 And they were not permitted to kill anyone, but to torment for five months; and their torment was like the torment of a scorpion when it stings a man.
- 6 And in those days men will seek death and will not find it; and they will long to die and death flees from them.
- 7 And the appearance of the locusts was like horses prepared for battle; and on their heads, as it were, crowns like gold, and their faces were like the faces of men.
- 8 And they had hair like the hair of women, and their teeth were like the teeth of lions.
- 9 And they had breastplates like breastplates of iron; and the sound of their wings was like the sound of chariots, of many horses rushing to battle.
- 10 And they have tails like scorpions, and stings; and in their tails is their power to hurt men for five months.
- 11 They have as king over them, the angel of the abyss; his name in Hebrew is Abaddon, and in the Greek he has the name Apollyon.
- 12 The first woe is past; behold, two woes are still coming after these things.

### NOTES

(v. 1) Fifth Trumpet (Note 64) -

*First of 3 "woes"*

(v. 1) fallen star (Isa. 14:12) -

*Satan*

(v. 2) "bottomless pit" -

*Hell*

(v. 3) "locusts" (Note 65) -

*demons*



(v. 4) "the seal of God" -

*Eph. 1:13-14 -*

*The Indwelling*

*Holy Spirit*

*Those who  
have the "seal"*

*are believers*

(v. 11) "Abaddon / Apollyon" -

*Means: destroyer*

*i.e. Satan*

## 64. THE FIFTH TRUMPET / FIRST WOE. (Rev. 9:1-12)



- cf. Exodus 10:1-20 - 8th plague of Egypt, locusts.

- “locusts” *Description:*

- v. 2 - They are from the bottomless pit.
- v. 4 - They do not harm any green thing.
- v. 4 - They only harm those without God’s seal.
- v. 5 - They can only torment, not kill.
- v. 7-10 - They are ugly.
- v. 11 - Their king is Abaddon / Apollyon.

- Identity: demonic forces  
(literally hell’s angels)

## 65. CAN CHRISTIANS BE DEMON POSSESSED? (Rev. 9:3-6)

## A. DEMON POSSESSION IS REAL.

- Mt. 9:33 - demon-possessed man
- Mt. 17:14-20 - Man with lunatic son
- Mk. 1:21-28 - demon-possessed man in synagogue at Capernaum
- Mk. 5:1-13 - man with Legion of demons that were sent into herd of swine
- Mk. 7:26-30 - Syrophenician woman’s demon-possessed daughter
- Mk. 9:17-27 - boy with deaf & dumb spirit

## B. NO VACANCY! CHRISTIANS ARE ALREADY POSSESSED.

- 1 Cor. 3:16 – “Do you not know that you are a temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?”(cf. 1 Cor. 6:19)

## C. THE HOLY SPIRIT &amp; DEMONS CANNOT COHABITATE.

- 2 Cor. 6:14-16 – “what partnership have righteousness and lawlessness, or what fellowship has light with darkness? Or what harmony has Christ with Belial ... Or what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For we are the temple of the living God”
- Psalm 5:4 – “For Thou art not a God who takes pleasure in wickedness; no evil dwells with Thee.”
- Mark 5:1-13 – The mere presence of Christ (who indwells the believer) makes demons flee.

## D. JESUS KEEPS BELIEVERS SAFE FROM CLING-ONS.

- 1 John 5:18 – “We know that no one who is born of God continues a lifestyle of sin; but He who was born of God keeps him and the evil one does not touch him.” (“touch”, Greek *hupto* - lit. to lay hold of; translated “cling” in Jn. 20:17)

## E. NO FORCED ENTRY INTO BELIEVERS.

- 1 John 4:4 – “greater is He who is in you than he who is in the world.”

## **E** The Sixth Trumpet.

### REVELATION 9:13-21

- 13 And the sixth angel sounded, and I heard a voice from the four horns of the golden altar which is before God,
- 14 one saying to the sixth angel who had the trumpet, "Release the four angels who are bound at the great river Euphrates."
- 15 And the four angels, who had been prepared for the hour and day and month and year, were released, so that they might kill a third of mankind.
- 16 And the number of the armies of the horsemen was two hundred million; I heard the number of them.
- 17 And this is how I saw in the vision the horses and those who sat on them: the riders had breastplates the color of fire and of hyacinth and of brimstone; and the heads of the horses are like the heads of lions; and out of their mouths proceed fire and smoke and brimstone.
- 18 A third of mankind was killed by these three plagues, by the fire and the smoke and the brimstone, which proceeded out of their mouths.
- 19 For the power of the horses is in their mouths and in their tails; for their tails are like serpents and have heads; and with them they do harm.
- 20 And the rest of mankind, who were not killed by these plagues, did not repent of the works of their hands, so as not to worship demons, and the idols of gold and of silver and of brass and of stone and of wood, which can neither see nor hear nor walk;
- 21 and they did not repent of their murders nor of their sorceries nor of their immorality nor of their thefts.

### NOTES

(v. 13) Sixth Trumpet (Note 66) -

*Symbolizes War:*

*All wars of all times leading up to the final battle.*

cf. Fourth Seal / Ashen Horse

(pp. 52-53, Rev. 6:7-8)

(v. 14) "the great river Euphrates"

*Last physical barrier between Israel and conquering armies from the north.*

(v. 16) "I heard the number...

two hundred million"-

*i.e. A very large number.*

(v. 20-21) "they did not repent" -

*Mankind in general does not repent.*

## 66. THE SIXTH TRUMPET / SECOND WOE. (Rev. 9:13-21)



- “armies of the horsemen” *Description:*
  - v. 15, 18 - “they might kill a third of mankind”
  - v. 16 - “two hundred million ... I heard the number”
  - v. 17 - “breastplates”
  - v. 18 - “out of their mouths proceed fire and smoke”
- Identity: John's interpretation  
of modern weapons?

## Additional Notes & Applications

1. God counts my “effectual fervent prayer” (James 5:16) as fragrant incense. (Rev. 8:3-5)
2. Since this world system is to be judged, I need to be careful not to get too attached to it. (Rev. 8:8-9; Col 3:1-3)
3. Since Satan has “poisoned the waters” of worldly wisdom and knowledge, then I need to filter everything through God's Word. (Rev. 8:10-11)
4. Demonic power & possession are real, but I have been sealed by God's Holy Spirit and I am already “possessed”. (Rev. 9:3-6)



## 8

*The Church's Testimony***Revelation, Chapters 10 & 11.**

<u>Section Title</u>	<u>Revelation</u>	<u>Page</u>
A. The Seven Peals of Thunder.	10:1-4	78
B. The Sweet & Sour Little Book.	10:5-11	80
C. The Temple is Measured.	11:1-6	82
D. The Two Witnesses.	11:7-14	84
E. The Final Trumpet Sounds	11:15-19	86

**Interlude: Ode to Christ's Reign.**

- When the world will not heed the church's testimony, no further warning will be given.
- God's Word is sweet because it saves those who repent, but bitter because it condemns those who reject God's gracious plan of salvation which arouses persecution.
- God distinguishes, measures, and protects what are His people / temple.

**BACKGROUND**

<b>Author:</b>	The Apostle John exiled on the Isle of Patmos.
<b>Audience:</b>	The Christian Church.
<b>Theme:</b>	Christ and the Church are ultimately victorious.
<b>Style:</b>	Apocalyptic (Symbolic)
<b>Date:</b>	95 A.D.
<b>Setting:</b>	Intense Persecution.

**OUTLINE of REVELATION**

<b>Vision</b>	<b>Chap</b>	<b>Theme</b>	<b>Seven</b>
1	1-3	Christ & Church	Churches
2	4-6	Christ in Control	Seals
▶ 3	7-11	World Warned	Trumpets
4	12-13	Satanic Trinity	Heads
5	14-16	God's Wrath	Bowls
6	17-18	Babylon Falls	Kings
7	19-22	New Jerusalem	∞

## A The Seven Peals of Thunder.

### REVELATION 10:1-4

### NOTES

- 1 And I saw another strong angel coming down out of heaven, clothed with a cloud; and the rainbow was upon his head, and his face was like the sun, and his feet like pillars of fire;
- 2 and he had in his hand a little book which was open. And he placed his right foot on the sea and his left on the land;
- 3 and he cried out with a loud voice, as when a lion roars; and when he had cried out, the seven peals of thunder uttered their voices.
- 4 And when the seven peals of thunder had spoken, I was about to write; and I heard a voice from heaven saying, "Seal up the things which the seven peals of thunder have spoken, and do not write them."



(v. 1) The angel's appearance (Note 67) -

*He looks like Christ.*

(v. 1) The angel's power -

*a "strong angel"*

Correlation?

*Likeness to Christ  
= strength?*

(v. 2) "a little book" (See pp. 80-81)

(v. 4) "thunder" (Note 68) -

*A loud, frightening,  
powerful natural  
phenomena, that  
God may employ  
when He is speaking,  
warning, or judging.*

(v. 4) "why are they sealed up?"

(cf. Rev. 9:20-21) -

*• No further warning  
if the trumpets not  
heeded.*

*• Not everything  
is disclosed.*

(cf. Deut 29:29; Mt. 24:36; Acts 1:7)

## 67. THE ANGEL THAT LOOKS LIKE CHRIST. (Rev. 10:1, 3)

- “clothed with a cloud” (Psa. 104:1-3; Dan. 7:13; Mt. 24:30; Rev. 1:7)
- “rainbow was upon His head” (Ezekiel 1:28; Rev. 4:3)
- “His face was like the sun” (Matt. 17:2; Acts 26:13; Rev. 1:16)
- “His feet like pillars of fire” (Ezek. 1:27; Rev. 1:15)
- “loud voice, as when a lion roars” (Gen. 49:8-10; Rev. 5:5)



## 68. THUNDER &amp; THE VOICE OF GOD.

## A. THE LAW GIVEN ON MT. SINAI.

- Exodus 19:16-19 - “So it came about on the third day, when it was morning, that there were *thunder* and lightning flashes and a thick cloud upon the mountain and a very loud trumpet sound, so that all the people who were in the camp trembled. ... When the sound of the trumpet grew louder and louder, Moses spoke and God answered him with *thunder*.”

## B. ISRAEL ROUTS THE PHILISTINES.

- 1 Samuel 7:10 - “Now Samuel was offering up the burnt offering, and the Philistines drew near to battle against Israel. But the Lord *thundered* with a great *thunder* on that day against the Philistines and confused them, so that they were routed before Israel.

## C. ASSOCIATED WITH THE VOICE OF GOD.

- Job 37:2-5 - “Listen closely to the *thunder* of His voice, and the rumbling that goes out from His mouth. Under the whole heaven He lets it loose, and His lightning to the ends of the earth. After it, a voice roars; He *thunders* with His majestic voice, and He does not restrain the lightnings when His voice is heard. God *thunders* with His voice wondrously” (cf. Job 40:9; Psa. 18:13, John 12:28-29)

## D. COMING FROM THE THRONE OF GOD IN HEAVEN.

- Revelation 4:5 - “Out from the throne come flashes of lightning and sounds and peals of *thunder*.”
- Revelation 11:19 - “And the temple of God which is in heaven was opened; and the ark of His covenant appeared in His temple, and there were flashes of lightning and sounds and peals of *thunder* and an earthquake and a great hailstorm.”

**B The Sweet & Sour Little Book.**

REVELATION 10:5-11

NOTES

5 And the angel whom I saw standing on the sea and on the land lifted up his right hand to heaven,

(v. 5) "standing on the sea and the land" -

*This is a message for the whole world.*

6 and swore by Him who lives forever and ever, who created heaven and the things in it, and the earth and the things in it, and the sea and the things in it, that there shall be delay no longer,

(v. 8-10) "the little book" -

7 but in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he is about to sound, then the mystery of God is finished, as He preached to His servants the prophets.



*The = Word of God*

8 And the voice which I heard from heaven, I heard again speaking with me, and saying, "Go, take the book which is open in the hand of the angel who stands on the sea and on the land."

(v. 9) "take and eat it" (Note 69) -

*Daily bread*

9 And I went to the angel, telling him to give me the little book. And he said to me, "Take it, and eat it; and it will make your stomach bitter, but in your mouth it will be sweet as honey."

MATTHEW 4:4  
*"Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God."*

10 And I took the little book out of the angel's hand and ate it, and it was in my mouth sweet as honey; and when I had eaten it, my stomach was made bitter.

(v. 9-10) "bitter" / "sweet" (Note 70) -

11 And they said to me, "You must prophesy again concerning many peoples and nations and tongues and kings."

*Like the white & red horses (Rev. 6:1-4)*

## 69. TAKE IT AND EAT IT. (Rev. 10:9-10)

Cross Reference: Ezekiel 2:8-3:3

- 8 “Now you, son of man, listen to what I am speaking to you; do not be rebellious like that rebellious house. Open your mouth and eat what I am giving you.”
- 9 Then I looked, and behold, a hand was extended to me; and lo, a scroll was in it.
- 10 When He spread it out before me, it was written on the front and back, and written on it were lamentations, mourning and woe.
- 1 Then He said to me, “Son of man, eat what you find; eat this scroll, and go, speak to the house of Israel.”
- 2 So I opened my mouth, and He fed me this scroll.
- 3 He said to me, “Son of man, feed your stomach and fill your body with this scroll which I am giving you “ Then I ate it, and it was sweet as honey in my mouth.
- 4 Then He said to me, “Son of man, go to the house of Israel and speak with My words to them.”

## 70. THE SWEET &amp; SOUR GOSPEL. (Rev. 10:9-10)

## A. THE SWEETNESS OF THE GOSPEL.

- Psa. 19:10 - “Sweeter also than honey and the drippings of the honeycomb.”
- Psa. 119:103 - “How sweet are Your words to my taste! Yes, *sweeter than honey* to my mouth!
- Luke 2:11 - “But the angel said to them, ‘Do not be afraid; for behold, I bring you *good news of great joy* which will be for all the people; for today in the city of David there has been born for you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.’”

## B. THE BITTERNESS OF THE GOSPEL.

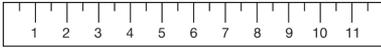
- Lk. 12:52-52 - “... from now on five members in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three. They will be divided, father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.”

# C The Temple is Measured.

## REVELATION 11:1-6

## NOTES

1 And there was given me a measuring rod like a staff; and someone said, "Rise and measure the temple of God, and the altar, and those who worship in it.



(v. 1) "the temple" (Note 71) -  
Greek: naos =  
Holy of holies;  
Today = Church

2 "And leave out the court which is outside the temple, and do not measure it, for it has been given to the nations; and they will tread under foot the holy city for forty-two months.

(v. 1) "measure the temple" -  
same as numbering  
& sealing Israel  
(Rev. 7:3-8)  
to distinguish  
true/false church;  
i.e. line of separation

3 "And I will grant authority to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy for twelve hundred and sixty days, clothed in sackcloth."

& protection  
(v. 2) "42 months" - } 3 1/2  
(v. 3) "1260 days" - } years

4 These are the two olive trees and the two lampstands that stand before the Lord of the earth.

(Note 72)  
(v. 3) "two witnesses" - } The  
(v. 4) "two olive trees" - } Church  
(v. 4) "two lampstands" - } ?

5 And if anyone desires to harm them, fire proceeds out of their mouth and devours their enemies; and if anyone would desire to harm them, in this manner he must be killed.

(Note 73)  
(v. 5) "fire" - Jeremiah 5:14  
(v. 6) "power to shut the sky" -

6 These have the power to shut up the sky, in order that rain may not fall during the days of their prophesying; and they have power over the waters to turn them into blood, and to smite the earth with every plague, as often as they desire.

e.g. Elijah (Jam. 5:17-18)  
(v. 6) "power to turn water to blood" -  
e.g. Moses (Ex. 7:14-24)  
Other Speculations:  
ID = Moses & Elijah  
or Enoch & Elijah

began at resurrection, Rev. 12:5-6

## 71. WHERE IS THE TEMPLE TODAY?. (Rev. 11:1)

- 1 Cor. 3:16 - “Do you not know that you are a temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?”
- 1 Cor. 6:19 - “Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God...”
- 2 Cor. 6:16 - “For we are the temple of the living God”
- Eph. 2:19-21 - “you are fellow citizens with the saints, and are of God’s household, having been built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the cornerstone, in whom the whole building, being fitted together is growing into a holy temple in the Lord”
- 1 Pet. 2:5 - “you also, as living stones, are being built up as a spiritual house”

## 72. HEBREW NUMEROLOGY. (Rev. 11:2-4)

## A. TWO WITNESSES. (Rev. 11:3)

- John 8:17 - “ Even in your law it has been written that the testimony of two men is true.”
- Mark 6:7 - “He summoned the twelve and began to send them out in pairs”
- Ecccl. 4:9-10 - “Two are better than one because they have a good return for their labor. For if either of them falls, the one will lift up his companion. But woe to the one who falls when there is not another to lift him up.”
- Meaning: *witness, testimony & support*

## B. THREE AND ONE HALF YEARS. (Rev. 11:2-3)

- 42 months = 1260 days = 3 ½ years = ½ of 7 (the number of perfection)
- Meaning: *An undisclosed length of time*

## 73. THE TWO WITNESSES. (Rev. 11:3-4)



- Zechariah 4:3, 14 - “two olive trees ... These are the two anointed ones who are standing by the Lord of the whole earth.”



- Revelation 1:20 - “the [seven] lampstands are the [seven] churches.”

**D The Two Witnesses.**

REVELATION 11:7-14

NOTES

- 7 And when they have finished their testimony, the beast that comes up out of the abyss will make war with them, and overcome them and kill them. (v. 7) "beast" from the abyss -  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(Rev. 20:1-3, 7) - *Satan*  
\_\_\_\_\_
  
- 8 And their dead bodies will lie in the street of the great city which mystically is called Sodom and Egypt, where also their Lord was crucified. (v. 8) "Sodom and Egypt" (Note 74) -  
\_\_\_\_\_
  
- 9 And those from the peoples and tribes and tongues and nations will look at their dead bodies for three and a half days, and will not permit their dead bodies to be laid in a tomb. *Earthly Jerusalem*  
\_\_\_\_\_
  
- 10 And those who dwell on the earth will rejoice over them and make merry; and they will send gifts to one another, because these two prophets tormented those who dwell on the earth. (v. 8) "tormented" -  
\_\_\_\_\_
  
- 11 And after the three and a half days the breath of life from God came into them, and they stood on their feet; and great fear fell upon those who were beholding them. *conviction of sin*  
\_\_\_\_\_
  
- 12 And they heard a loud voice from heaven saying to them, "Come up here." And they went up into heaven in the cloud, and their enemies beheld them. (v. 12) "the breath of life of God  
came into them" -  
\_\_\_\_\_
  
- 13 And in that hour there was a great earthquake, and a tenth of the city fell; and seven thousand people were killed in the earthquake, and the rest were terrified and gave glory to the God of heaven. *resurrection*  
\_\_\_\_\_
  
- 14 The second woe is past; behold, the third woe is coming quickly. (v. 12) "come up here" -  
\_\_\_\_\_
  
- \_\_\_\_\_ *rapture*  
\_\_\_\_\_
  
- \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 12) "and their enemies beheld them" -  
\_\_\_\_\_
  
- \_\_\_\_\_ *not a secret rapture*  
\_\_\_\_\_
  
- \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 14) "the second woe" -  
\_\_\_\_\_
  
- \_\_\_\_\_ *Satan unleashed*  
\_\_\_\_\_

## 74. TWO JERUSALEMS. (Rev. 11:8)

## GALATIANS 4

- 22 For it is written that Abraham had two sons, one by the bondwoman and one by the free woman.
- 23 But the son by the bondwoman was born according to the flesh, and the son by the free woman through the promise.
- 24 This is allegorically speaking, for these women are two covenants: one proceeding from Mount Sinai bearing children who are to be slaves; she is Hagar.
- 25 Now this Hagar is Mount Sinai in Arabia and corresponds to the present Jerusalem, for she is in slavery with her children.
- 26 But the Jerusalem above is free; she is our mother.

## HEBREWS 12

- 18 For you have not come to a mountain that can be touched and to a blazing fire, and to darkness and gloom and whirlwind,
- 19 and to the blast of a trumpet and the sound of words which sound was such that those who heard begged that no further word be spoken to them.
- 20 For they could not bear the command, "If even a beast touches the mountain, it will be stoned."
- 21 And so terrible was the sight, that Moses said, "I am full of fear and trembling."
- 22 But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to myriads of angels,
- 23 to the general assembly and church of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the Judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect,
- 24 and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood, which speaks better than the blood of Abel.

## REVELATION 21

- 2 And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, made ready as a bride adorned for her husband.
- 9 Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues came and spoke with me, saying, "Come here, I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb."
- 10 And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me the holy city, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God

# E The Final Trumpet Sounds.

## REVELATION 11:15-19

## NOTES

15 Then the seventh angel sounded; and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, "The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ; and He will reign forever and ever."

(v. 15) "the seventh trumpet" -

*Final trumpet call:  
final judgment*

16 And the twenty-four elders, who sit on their thrones before God, fell on their faces and worshiped God,

(v. 15) "He shall reign for ever and ever" -

*• Handel's Messiah  
(Hallelujah Chorus)  
taken from Rev. 11:15*

17 saying, "We give You thanks, O Lord God, the Almighty, who are and who were, because You have taken Your great power and have begun to reign.

*• Like headline of a  
newspaper article,  
announcing victory.*

18 "And the nations were enraged, and Your wrath came, and the time came for the dead to be judged, and the time to reward Your bond-servants the prophets and the saints and those who fear Your name, the small and the great, and to destroy those who destroy the earth."

*• Then the article  
(Rev. 12ff) describes  
the conflict.*

19 And the temple of God which is in heaven was opened; and the ark of His covenant appeared in His temple, and there were flashes of lightning and sounds and peals of thunder and an earthquake and a great hailstorm.

(v. 16) "twenty-four elders"

(pp. 42-43, Rev. 4:4) -

*The church*

*Recall:*

*12 OT tribes +*

*12 NT apostles*

*24 = all God's people*

*of all times.*



## Additional Notes & Applications

1. I must eat the "little book" (Rev. 10:9-10), which is God's Word. It is my daily bread (Deut. 8:3; Matt. 4:4).

2. God's Word is both sweet and sour (Rev. 10:9-10). If I don't share it with others because I am afraid of a sour response, then I will never have the sweet experience of leading others to Christ.

3. It is Jesus' [great] commission to His people, the church, to witness to the ends of the Earth and to the end of this Age. (Matt. 28:19-20). Am I fulfilling my duty and being an ambassador for Jesus Christ? (2 Cor. 5:20)

# V.

REVELATION, CHAPTERS 12-13

## THE FOURTH VISION

SPIRITUAL WARFARE



“THEN ANOTHER SIGN APPEARED IN HEAVEN:  
AND BEHOLD, A GREAT RED DRAGON  
HAVING SEVEN HEADS AND TEN HORNS,  
AND ON HIS HEADS WERE SEVEN DIADEMS.”

REVELATION 12:3

## 9

*Beauty & The Beast***Revelation, Chapters 12 & 13.**

<u>Section Title</u>	<u>Revelation</u>	<u>Page</u>
A. A Woman Crowned with Stars.	12:1-2	90
B. A Great Red Dragon.	12:3-4	91
C. A Child to Rule the Nations.	12:4-6	92
D. The Fall of Satan.	12:7-12	94
E. The Dragon is Enraged.	12:13-17	96
F. A Beast Out of the Sea.	13:1-10	98
G. Another Beast with Great Signs.	13:11-18	100

**Theme: A Satanic Trinity.**

- Since the beginning of time, Satan has tried to prevent the coming of Messiah.
- Satan works through world governments and counterfeit religion in his effort to deceive the world and destroy the church.
- Great angelic battles take place in the spiritual realm, but Satan and the two “beasts” will ultimately be defeated.

**BACKGROUND**

<b>Author:</b>	The Apostle John exiled on the Isle of Patmos.
<b>Audience:</b>	The Christian Church.
<b>Theme:</b>	Christ and the Church are ultimately victorious.
<b>Style:</b>	Apocalyptic (Symbolic)
<b>Date:</b>	95 A.D.
<b>Setting:</b>	Intense Persecution.

**OUTLINE of REVELATION**

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▶ 4	12-13	Satanic Trinity	Heads
5	14-16	God's Wrath	Bowls
6	17-18	Babylon Falls	Kings
7	19-22	New Jerusalem	∞

# A Woman Crowned with Stars.

REVELATION 12:1-2

NOTES

1 And a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars;

(v. 1) "a great sign" -  
*i.e. a symbol meant to convey a message*

2 and she was with child; and she cried out, being in labor and in pain to give birth.

(v. 1) "a woman" (Note 75) -  
*not a literal woman*

(v. 2) "with child" (p. 92, Rev. 12:4-6)

## 75. DESCRIPTION OF THE WOMAN. (Rev. 12:1-2)

### A. JOSEPH'S DREAM.

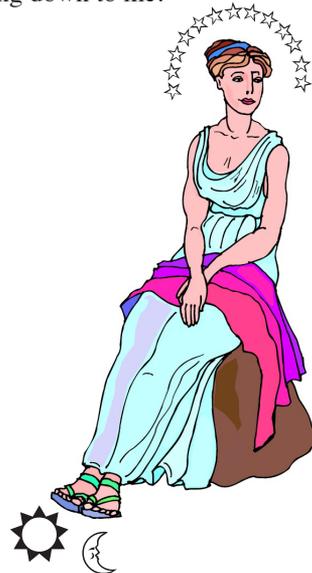
• Genesis 37:9 - "Now [Joseph] had still another dream, and related it to his brothers, and said, 'Lo, I have had still another dream; and behold, the sun and the moon and eleven stars were bowing down to me.'"

- Sun = Jacob
- Moon = Wives
- 11 Stars = Sons

### B. JOHN'S REVELATION.

• Rev. 12:1-2 - "And a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars; and she was with child; and she cried out, being in labor and in pain to give birth."

- Woman = Israel



## B A Great Red Dragon.

### REVELATION 12:3-4

- 3 And another sign appeared in heaven: and behold, a great red dragon having seven heads and ten horns, and on his heads were seven diadems.
- 4 And his tail swept away a third of the stars of heaven, and threw them to the earth. ...

### NOTES

(v. 3) "another sign" -

*again, not literal,  
but a symbol*

(v. 3) "a great red dragon" (Note 76) -

*Identity:  
Satan / the Devil  
(cf. 12:9)*

(v. 4) "a third of the stars" -

*1/3 of angels revolted  
with Satan*

#### 76. DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAGON. (Rev. 12:3-4)

- "seven heads" -  
*heads =  
rule &  
authority*
- "seven crowns" -  
*crowns  
Gk. diadema  
king's crown*
- "ten horns" -  
*10 horns =  
complete  
power*
- "third of the stars" -  
*stars =  
angels*



## C A Child to Rule the Nations.

### REVELATION 12:4-6

### NOTES

- 4 ...And the dragon stood before the woman who was about to give birth, so that when she gave birth he might devour her child. (v. 4) “devour her child” (Note 78) -  
*Failed attempts throughout history to destroy Messiah.*
- 5 And she gave birth to a son, a male child, who is to rule all the nations with a rod of iron; and her child was caught up to God and to His throne. (v. 5) “male child” (Note 77) -  
*Jesus Christ!*
- 6 And the woman fled into the wilderness where she had a place prepared by God, so that there she might be nourished for one thousand two hundred and sixty days. (v. 6) 1260 days -  
*Same time as two witnesses (church)  
 Rev. 11:2-3*

#### 77. DESCRIPTION OF THE CHILD. (Rev. 12:5-6)

*“And she gave birth to a son”*

- Isaiah 9:6 – “For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us; and the government will rest on His shoulders; and His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace.”

*He “shall all the nations them with a rod of iron”*

- Psalms 2:6-9 – “I have installed My King Upon Zion, ... My Son ... I will surely give the nations as Thine inheritance ... Thou shalt break them with a rod of iron”
- Rev. 19:15-16 - “From His mouth comes a sharp sword, so that with it He may strike down the nations, and He will rule them with a rod of iron; and He treads the wine press of the fierce wrath of God, the Almighty. And on His robe and on His thigh He has a name written, ‘King of kings and Lord of lords.’”

*“her child was caught up to God and to His throne”*

- Heb. 1:3– “When He had made purification of sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high”

78. SATAN'S ATTEMPTS TO "DEVOUR" THE CHILD. (Rev. 12:4)	
"And I will put enmity between [the serpent] and the woman, and between [the serpent's] seed and her seed; He shall bruise [the serpent] on the head, and [the serpent] shall bruise Him on the heel." Genesis 3:15	
PROMISED SEED OF THE "WOMAN"	SATAN'S ATTEMPTS TO "DEVOUR"
ADAM  <u>ABEL</u> . "And the Lord had regard for Abel and for his offering; but for Cain and for his offering He had no regard." - Gen. 4:4-5 <u>SETH</u> . "And Adam had relations with his wife again; and she gave birth to a son, and named him Seth, for, she said, 'God has appointed me another offspring...'" - Gen.4:25	<u>MURDER</u> . "Cain rose up against Abel his brother and killed him." - Gen. 4:8 <u>INTERMARRIAGE</u> . "the sons of God saw that the daughters of men were beautiful; and they took wives for themselves ... the wickedness of man was great on the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually." - Gen. 6:2,5
NOAH  <u>NOAH'S LINE</u> . "Then God spoke to Noah and to his sons with him, saying, 'Now behold, I Myself do establish My covenant with you, and with your descendants after you'" - Gen. 9:9	<u>OLDEST CURSED</u> . "And [Noah] drank of the wine and became drunk, and uncovered himself inside his tent. And Ham, the father of Canaan, saw the nakedness of his father ... So he said, 'Cursed be Canaan'" - Gen. 9:21-22,25
ABRAHAM  <u>ABRAHAM'S LINE</u> . "And I will establish My covenant between Me and you and your descendants after you throughout their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your descendants after you." - Gen. 17:7	<u>SUBSTITUTE</u> . "And [Abraham] went in to Hagar, and she conceived ... The angel of the Lord said to her further, 'Behold, you are with child, and you shall bear a son; and you shall call his name Ishmael ... And he will be a wild donkey of a man, His hand will be against everyone'" - Gen. 16:4,11-12
EGYPT  <u>PROPHECY</u> . "God said to Abram, 'Your descendants will be strangers in a land that is not theirs, where they will be enslaved and oppressed 400 years.'" - Gen. 15:13	<u>INFANTICIDE</u> . Pharaoh said to the midwives, "When you are helping the Hebrew women to give birth ... if it is a son, then you shall put him to death" - Ex. 1:16
DAVID  <u>ROYAL LINE</u> . "I will raise up your descendant after you, who will come forth from you ... and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever."- 2 Sam. 7:12-13	<u>INFANTICIDE</u> . "Athaliah ... rose and destroyed all the royal offspring of the house of Judah" - 2 Chron. 22:10
EXILE  <u>PROMISED MESSIAH</u> . "Behold, a virgin will be with child and bear a son, and she will call His name Immanuel." - Isaiah 7:14	<u>GENOCIDE</u> . "Then Haman said to King Ahasuerus, 'There is a certain people scattered among the peoples... let it be decreed that they be destroyed'" - Esther 3:8-9
NEW COVENANT  <u>BIRTH FORETOLD</u> . "And behold, you will conceive in your womb, and bear a son, and you shall name Him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David; and He will reign over the house of Jacob forever; and His kingdom will have no end." - Luke 1:31-33 <u>INCARNATION</u> . "... for today in the city of David there has been born for you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord." - Lk. 2:11-12	<u>INFANTICIDE</u> . "Herod ... sent and slew all the male children who were in Bethlehem and in all its environs, from two years old and under" - Matt. 2:16 <u>TEMPTATION</u> . "[Satan] said to Him, 'All these things will I give You, if You fall down and worship me.'" - Matt. 4:9

## D The Fall of Satan.

### REVELATION 12:7-12

- 7 And there was war in heaven, Michael and his angels waging war with the dragon. And the dragon and his angels waged war,
- 8 and they were not strong enough, and there was no longer a place found for them in heaven.
- 9 And the great dragon was thrown down, the serpent of old who is called the devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him.
- 10 And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, "Now the salvation, and the power, and the kingdom of our God and the authority of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren has been thrown down, who accuses them before our God day and night.
- 11 "And they overcame him because of the blood of the Lamb and because of the word of their testimony, and they did not love their life even to death.
- 12 "For this reason, rejoice, O heavens and you who dwell in them. Woe to the earth and the sea, because the devil has come down to you, having great wrath, knowing that he has only a short time."

### NOTES

(v. 7) "Michael and his angels" -

*Michael is a commander over some large number of angels*

Dan. 10:13 - *Michael is called: "one of the chief princes" among angels.*

(v. 8) "angels waged war" -

*There is angelic warfare in the spiritual realm.  
(Dan. 10:11-13)*

(v. 9) "thrown down" (Notes 79 & 80) -

*Two possibilities:  
(1) Satan's original fall with 1/3 of the angels.  
(2) Satan's defeat at Jesus' resurrection,*

(v. 11) "they overcame him because of" -

*1. Christ's blood  
2. Their testimony  
3. Their selfless love*

(v. 12) "he has only a short time"

(cf. 2 Pet. 3:8) - *a short time on God's timeline.*

## 79. SATAN'S ORIGINAL FALL.

Isaiah 14

- 12 How you have fallen from heaven, O [Lucifer] star of the morning, son of the dawn! You have been cut down to the earth, you who have weakened the nations!
- 13 But you said in your heart, 'I will ascend to heaven; I will raise my throne above the stars of God, and I will sit on the mount of assembly in the recesses of the north.
- 14 I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High.'
- 15 Nevertheless you will be thrust down to Sheol, to the recesses of the pit.

Ezekiel 28

- 13 You were in Eden, the garden of God; every precious stone was your covering: the ruby, the topaz and the diamond; the beryl, the onyx and the jasper; the lapis lazuli, the turquoise and the emerald; and the gold, the workmanship of your settings and sockets, was in you. On the day that you were created they were prepared.
- 14 You were the anointed cherub who covers, and I placed you there. You were on the holy mountain of God; you walked in the midst of the stones of fire.
- 15 You were blameless in your ways from the day you were created until unrighteousness was found in you.
- 16 By the abundance of your trade you were internally filled with violence, and you sinned; therefore I have cast you as profane from the mountain of God. And I have destroyed you, O covering cherub, from the midst of the stones of fire.
- 17 Your heart was lifted up because of your beauty; you corrupted your wisdom by reason of your splendor I cast you to the ground; I put you before kings, that they may see you.

## 80. SATAN'S DEFEAT AT THE CROSS.

Colossians 2:14-15 (cf. Eph. 4:8)

- 14 ... having canceled out the certificate of debt consisting of decrees against us, which was hostile to us; and He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross.
- 15 When He had disarmed the rulers and authorities, He made a public display of them, having triumphed over them through Him.

**E The Dragon is Enraged.**

REVELATION 12:13-17

NOTES

13 And when the dragon saw that he was thrown down to the earth, he persecuted the woman who gave birth to the male child.

(v. 13) "he persecuted the woman"  
 (See p. 93 Note 78) -

14 And the two wings of the great eagle were given to the woman, in order that she might fly into the wilderness to her place, where she was nourished for a time and times and half a time, from the presence of the serpent.

*The Woman =  
 OT believers*

(v. 14) "a time and times and half a time" (Note 81) -  
*= 3 1/2 "times"  
 an undisclosed period*

15 And the serpent poured water like a river out of his mouth after the woman, so that he might cause her to be swept away with the flood.

(v. 15) "the serpent poured waters" -  
*philosophies,  
 demonic wisdom  
 (James 3:15)*

16 And the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened its mouth and drank up the river which the dragon poured out of his mouth.

(v. 14, 16) "nourished" & "helped" -  
*God's sovereignty  
 over His people*

17 And the dragon was enraged with the woman, and went off to make war with the rest of her offspring, who keep the commandments of God and hold to the testimony of Jesus.

(v. 17) "the rest of her offspring who ... hold the testimony of Jesus" (Note 82) -  
*"rest of her  
 offspring" =  
 NT believers*

81. A TIME, TIMES AND HALF A TIME. (Rev. 12:14)

A. ANTICHRIST’S BLASPHEMY & PERSECUTION OF THE SAINTS.

- Daniel 7:25 - “He [antichrist] will speak out against the Most High and wear down the saints of the Highest One, and he will intend to make alterations in times and in law; and they will be given into his hand for a time, times, and half a time.”

B. OUTSIDE THE TEMPLE GIVEN TO THE NATIONS.

- Rev. 11:2 - “Leave out the court which is outside the temple and do not measure it, for it has been given to the nations; and they will tread under foot the holy city for forty-two months.”

C. THE TWO WITNESSES PREACH.

- Rev. 11:3 - “And I will grant authority to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy for twelve hundred and sixty days, clothed in sackcloth.”

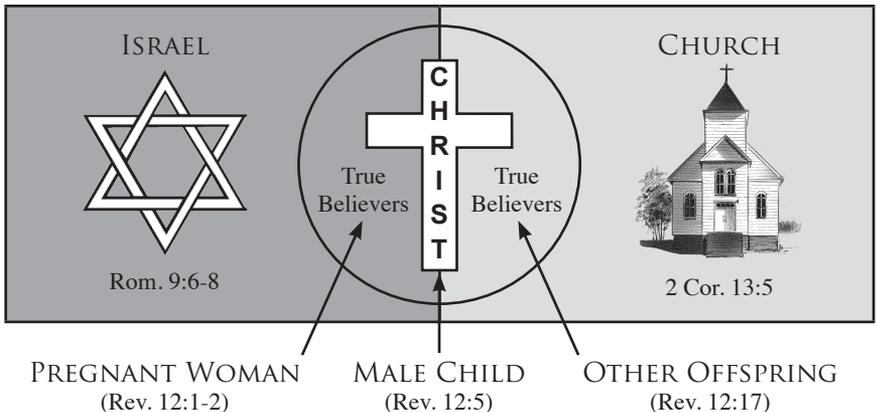
D. THE WOMAN NOURISHED.

- Rev. 12:6 - “Then the woman fled into the wilderness where she had a place prepared by God, so that there she would be nourished for one thousand two hundred and sixty days.”

E. ANTICHRIST’S BLASPHEMY & AUTHORITY.

- Rev. 13:5 - “There was given to him a mouth speaking arrogant words and blasphemies, and authority to act for forty-two months was given to him.”

82. THE “REST OF HER OFFSPRING”. (Rev. 12:17)



# F A Beast Out of the Sea.

## REVELATION 13:1-10

- 1 And he stood on the sand of the seashore. And I saw a beast coming up out of the sea, having ten horns and seven heads, and on his horns were ten diadems, and on his heads were blasphemous names.
- 2 And the beast which I saw was like a leopard, and his feet were like those of a bear, and his mouth like the mouth of a lion. And the dragon gave him his power and his throne and great authority.
- 3 And I saw one of his heads as if it had been slain, and his fatal wound was healed. And the whole earth was amazed and followed after the beast;
- 4 and they worshiped the dragon, because he gave his authority to the beast; and they worshiped the beast, saying, "Who is like the beast, and who is able to wage war with him?"
- 5 And there was given to him a mouth speaking arrogant words and blasphemies; and authority to act for forty-two months was given to him.
- 6 And he opened his mouth in blasphemies against God, to blaspheme His name and His tabernacle, that is, those who dwell in heaven.
- 7 And it was given to him to make war with the saints and to overcome them; and authority over every tribe and people and tongue and nation was given to him.
- 8 And all who dwell on the earth will worship him, everyone whose name has not been written from the foundation of the world in the book of life of the Lamb who has been slain.
- 9 If anyone has an ear, let him hear.
- 10 If anyone is destined for captivity, to captivity he goes; if anyone kills with the sword, with the sword he must be killed. Here is the perseverance and the faith of the saints.

## NOTES

- (v. 1) "he" - the Dragon  
(the Devil)
- (v. 1) "the sea" (Note 83) -  
The turbulent  
fallen masses of  
humanity
- (v. 1) "a beast" -  
world government
- (v. 1) "ten horns" -  
complete power
- (v. 1) "seven heads" -  
perfect  
(but counterfeit)  
authority
- (v. 2) "like a leopard ... bear ...  
lion" (Note 84) -  
symbol of all  
world government
- (v. 3) "fatal wound healed" -  
Gen. 3:15 - Satan's head  
wounded at cross  
- but he lives on.
- (v. 4) "who is able" (cf. Rev. 17:14) -  
Christ!
- (v. 8) dragon / beast worship -  
emperor worship
- (v. 10) "perseverance" (p. 19, Note 5)

83. OUT OF THE SEA. (Rev. 13:1)

- Isaiah 17:12 - “Alas, the uproar of many peoples who roar like the roaring of the seas, and the rumbling of nations who rush on like the rumbling of mighty waters!”
- Isaiah 57:20 - “But the wicked are like the tossing sea, for it cannot be quiet, and its waters toss up refuse and mud.”
- Rev.17:15 - “The waters which you saw ... are peoples and multitudes and nations and tongues.”

84. WORLD EMPIRES IN DANIEL & REVELATION.

Daniel 7:3-7

“And four great beasts were coming up from the sea, different from one another. 4 The first was like a lion ... 5 And behold, another beast, a second one, resembling a bear ... 6 After this I kept looking, and behold, another one, like a leopard ... 7 After this I kept looking in the night visions, and behold, a fourth beast ... and it had ten horns.”

Statue seen in Nebuchadnezzar’s Dream (Daniel 2)	Beast(s) in Daniel’s Dream & John’s Vision (Daniel 7 & Rev. 13)		Date
	Head of Gold: Babylonian Empire, Nebuchadnezzar		Lion  606-539 BC
	Chest of Silver: Persian Empire, Cyrus the Great		Bear  539-331 BC
	Belly of Bronze: Greek Empire, Alexander the Great		Leopard  331-169 BC
	Legs of Iron: Roman Empire, Caesar	10-Horned Beast	

Revelation 13:1-2

“And I saw a beast coming up out of the sea, having ten horns and seven heads, and on his horns were ten diadems, and on his heads were blasphemous names. And the beast which I saw was like a leopard, and his feet were like those of a bear, and his mouth like the mouth of a lion.”

## G Another Beast with Great Signs.

### REVELATION 13:11-18

### NOTES

- 11 And I saw another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb, and he spoke as a dragon. (v.11) "another beast" (cf. Rev. 16:13, 19:20) - Called "false prophet"
- 12 And he exercises all the authority of the first beast in his presence. And he makes the earth and those who dwell in it to worship the first beast, whose fatal wound was healed. (v. 11) "out of the earth" - JAMES 3:25  
*"This wisdom is not that which comes down from above, but is earthly, natural, demonic."*  
i.e. worldly wisdom
- 13 And he performs great signs, so that he even makes fire come down out of heaven to the earth in the presence of men. (v. 11) "like a lamb" (Note 85) - Looks like Christ
- 14 And he deceives those who dwell on the earth because of the signs which it was given him to perform in the presence of the beast, telling those who dwell on the earth to make an image to the beast who had the wound of the sword and has come to life. (v. 11) "spoke as a dragon" - The source of his message is Satan.
- 15 And there was given to him to give breath to the image of the beast, that the image of the beast might even speak and cause as many as do not worship the image of the beast to be killed. (v. 12) "makes earth worship 1st beast" - Emperor worship.
- 16 And he causes all, the small and the great, and the rich and the poor, and the free men and the slaves, to be given a mark on their right hand, or on their forehead. (v. 13) "great signs" (Note 86) cf. Deut. 13:1-4; Mt. 24:24, 2 Thess 2:8-9 - Counterfeit miracles
- 17 and he provides that no one should be able to buy or to sell, except the one who has the mark, either the name of the beast or the number of his name. (v. 16-18) "a mark" (Note 87) - Ownership & control
- 18 Here is wisdom. Let him who has understanding calculate the number of the beast, for the number is that of a man; and his number is six hundred and sixty-six. (v. 16) "right hand or their forehead" - Actions & thoughts  
 (v. 17) "no one able to buy and sell" (See pp. 52-53, 3rd Seal, Rev. 6:5-6) - Economic persecution

85. THE SECOND BEAST DRESSED AS A LAMB. (Rev. 13:11)

- Matt. 7:15 - “Beware of the false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly are ravenous wolves”
- 2 Cor. 11:13-15 - “For such men are false apostles, deceitful workers, disguising themselves as apostles of Christ. 14 And no wonder, for even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light. 15 Therefore it is not surprising if his servants also disguise themselves as servants of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their deeds.”

86. THE SECOND BEAST IMITATES TRUE RELIGION. (Rev. 13:13)

Called the “False Prophet” (Rev. 19:20)	The Prophet Elijah (1 Kings 18:22)
“he even makes fire come down out of heaven” (Rev. 13:13)	Fire from heaven on Mount Carmel (1 Kings 18:36-39)
Exhorts people to worship the beast (Rev. 13:12)	Exhorted people to worship God (1 Kings 18:21)
Kills the saints (Rev. 13:15)	Destroyed the prophets of Baal (1 Kings 18:40)

The Second Beast	He Imitates the Holy Spirit
“he even makes fire come down out of heaven” (Rev. 13:13)	“tongues of fire” at Pentecost (Acts 2:1-3)
breathes life into “the image of the beast” (Rev. 13:15)	“breathes life into men who are in the image of God” (John 20:22)
Sealed for earthly security (Rev. 13:16-17)	Sealed for eternal security (Eph. 1:13-14)

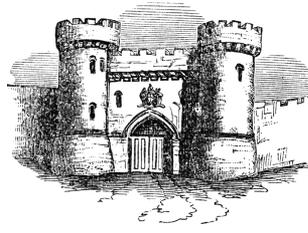
87. “666” THE MARK OF THE BEAST. (Rev. 13:13)

- Rev. 13:18 - “His number is that of man” (See p. 11)
- Rev. 13:16 - Notice the “6” classes of mankind listed.
- Meaning: 6 = one short of seven (perfection)  
6 = falling short, missing mark (Rom. 6:23)  
666 = failure, failure, failure!

Greek & Hebrew letters were assigned numerical equivalents:  
 Graffiti at Pompey, “I love her whose number is 545”

## Additional Notes & Applications

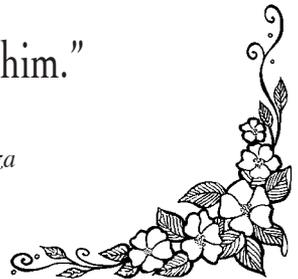
1. I overcome the work of the devil:
  - [1] by continually remembering all the benefits of Christ's death on the cross;
  - [2] by living a godly life and combining that with a clear verbal testimony; and
  - [3] by selfless love. (Rev. 12:11)
2. I should not be surprised if local, state and national governments are hostile toward Christianity. (Rev. 13:7)
3. I will persevere in my faith in Jesus Christ (Rev. 13:10), because Christ perseveres in me. (Phil. 1:6; Heb. 13:5)
4. Satan & false religion can perform counterfeit miracles, signs & wonders (Ex. 7:11-12; Matt. 24:24; 2 Thess. 2:8-9). The message, not supposed miracles, authenticate a ministry.



*A Mighty Fortress*  
*By Martin Luther*

“And though this world, with devils filled,  
Should threaten to undo us,  
We will not fear, for God hath willed  
His truth to triumph through us.  
The Prince of Darkness grim,  
We tremble not for him;  
His rage we can endure,  
For lo, his doom is sure;  
One little word shall fell him.”

*A Mighty Fortress, 1528, Third Stanza*



# VI.

REVELATION, CHAPTERS 14-16

## THE FIFTH VISION

THE WRATH OF GOD



“THEN I HEARD A LOUD VOICE FROM THE TEMPLE, SAYING TO THE SEVEN ANGELS, “GO AND POUR OUT ON THE EARTH THE SEVEN BOWLS OF THE WRATH OF GOD.”

REVELATION 12:3

## 10

*The Church Worship***Revelation, Chapters 14 & 15.**

<u>Section Title</u>	<u>Revelation</u>	<u>Page</u>
A. They Sang a New Song.	14:1-5	106
B. Angels Prepare for Final Judgment.	14:6-12	108
C. The Earth is Reaped.	14:13-20	110
D. A Sea of Glass Mixed with Fire.	15:1-8	112

**Theme: A New Song of Deliverance.**

- The church is a worshiping company of saved and sealed believers with a new song of redemption in their heart.
- Because of God's holiness and man's sin, there is a separation between God and man that can only be bridged by faith in Jesus Christ.
- John reveals the most horrifying description of God's wrath and eternal punishment in all of Scripture.

BACKGROUND	
<b>Author:</b>	The Apostle John exiled on the Isle of Patmos.
<b>Audience:</b>	The Christian Church.
<b>Theme:</b>	Christ and the Church are ultimately victorious.
<b>Style:</b>	Apocalyptic (Symbolic)
<b>Date:</b>	95 A.D.
<b>Setting:</b>	Intense Persecution.

OUTLINE of REVELATION			
Vision	Chap	Theme	Seven
	1	1-3	Christ & Church Churches
	2	4-6	Christ in Control Seals
	3	7-11	World Warned Trumpets
	4	12-13	Satanic Trinity Heads
▶	5	14-16	God's Wrath Bowls
	6	17-18	Babylon Falls Kings
	7	19-22	New Jerusalem ∞

**A They Sang A New Song.**

REVELATION 14:1-5

NOTES

1 And I looked, and behold, the Lamb was standing on Mount Zion, and with Him one hundred and forty-four thousand, having His name and the name of His Father written on their foreheads.

(v. 1) "Mount Zion" (Note 88)  
 (v. 1) "144,000" (Note 89)



*The worshipping church*

2 And I heard a voice from heaven, like the sound of many waters and like the sound of loud thunder, and the voice which I heard was like the sound of harpists playing on their harps.

(v. 1) "name...on their foreheads"  
 (cf. Eph. 1:13-14, 4:30; Rev. 7:3-4) -

*seal of ownership*

(v. 2) "sound of many waters & thunders"  
 (cf. Rev. 1:15) - *like Christ*

3 And they sang a new song before the throne and before the four living creatures and the elders; and no one could learn the song except the one hundred and forty-four thousand who had been purchased from the earth.

(v. 3) "a new song" [of their "purchase"] -

*Song of redemption*

(v. 3) "no one could learn" or earn it -

*By faith not works*

(v. 4) "not defiled with women" -

*Spiritual adultery.*

The church is married to Christ.

(Eph. 5:25; 1 Cor. 11:2; Hosea 2:19-20)

Celibacy is not more "spiritual"

(cf. 1 Tim. 4:1-3)

4 These are the ones who have not been defiled with women, for they have kept themselves chaste. These are the ones who follow the Lamb wherever He goes. These have been purchased from among men as first fruits to God and to the Lamb.

(v. 4) "first fruits" (Note 90) -

*first fruits (tithe)*

*belongs to God*

*(Lev. 27:30)*

5 And no lie was found in their mouth; they are blameless.

(v. 5) "blameless" -

*forgiven, not faultless*

88. ZION. (Rev. 14:1)

- Isaiah 35:10 - “And the ransomed of the Lord will return and come with joyful shouting to *Zion*, with everlasting joy upon their heads, they will find gladness and joy, and sorrow and sighing will flee away.”
- Heb. 12:22-24 - “But you have come to *Mount Zion* and to the city of the living God, the *heavenly Jerusalem*, and to myriads of angels, to the general assembly and *church* of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the Judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood, which speaks better than the blood of Abel.”

Mount Zion = Heavenly Jerusalem = the Church

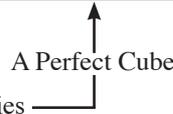
89. 144,000. (Rev. 14:1)

$$144,000 = 12 \times 12 \times \boxed{10 \times 10 \times 10}$$

12 = Number of OT - Tribes of Israel

12 = Number of NT - Apostles

10 x 10 x 10 = Dimensions of the Holy of Holies



- 1 Cor. 3:16 - “Do you not know that you are a temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?”
- 1 Cor. 6:19 - “Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own?”

144,000 = The Worshiping Company of Believers of All Times

90. FIRST FRUITS. (Rev. 14:4)

- Lev. 23:9-14 - Feast of first fruits is the day after Passover.
- 1 Cor. 5:7 - Christ was crucified on Friday (day before Passover), as our Passover Lamb.
- 1 Cor. 15:20 - Jesus rose on Sunday (The Feast of First Fruits), as the first fruits from the dead.
- Eph. 2:4-6 - God’s people were raised with Christ.
- James 1:8 - God’s people are the first fruits among His creatures.

## B Angels Prepare for Final Judgment.

### REVELATION 14:6-12

### NOTES

- 6 And I saw another angel flying in midheaven, having an eternal gospel to preach to those who live on the earth, and to every nation and tribe and tongue and people; (v. 6) "eternal" (cf. Matt. 24:35) -  
*"Heaven & earth shall pass away, but my Word shall never pass away"*
- 7 and he said with a loud voice, "Fear God, and give Him glory, because the hour of His judgment has come; and worship Him who made the heaven and the earth and sea and springs of waters." (v. 6) "gospel" (cf. Lk. 2:10-11) -  
*Means: "good news"*
- 8 And another angel, a second one, followed, saying, "Fallen, fallen is Babylon the great, she who has made all the nations drink of the wine of the passion of her immorality." (v. 7) "fear God" (Note 91) -  
*Not merely an OT concept*
- 9 And another angel, a third one, followed them, saying with a loud voice, "If anyone worships the beast and his image, and receives a mark on his forehead or upon his hand, (v. 8) "Babylon" -  
*World system of commerce (More Rev. 17-18)*
- 10 he also will drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is mixed in full strength in the cup of His anger; and he will be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb. (v. 8) drink of her wine -  
*partake of her philosophies*
- 11 "And the smoke of their torment goes up forever and ever; and they have no rest day and night, those who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name." (v. 10) "the wine of the wrath of God" (Bottom of Note 91) -  
*On those with mark of beast, i.e. non-Christians*
- 12 Here is the perseverance of the saints who keep the commandments of God and their faith in Jesus. (v. 10) "wrath" (Greek: thumos) -  
*boiling rage*  
(v. 11) "forever and ever" -  
*No soul annihilation*

## 91. THE CHRISTIAN'S FEAR OF THE LORD. (Rev. 14:7)

*"I know that it will be well for those who fear God,  
who fear Him openly."* - Eccl. 8:12

**F**ilial Dread of Displeasing Our Heavenly Father.

- Malachi 1:6 - "A son honors his father, and a servant his master. Then if I am a father, where is My honor? And if I am a master, where is My *fear*?" says the Lord of hosts to you"
- 1 Peter 1:17 - "If you address as Father the One who impartially judges according to each one's work, conduct yourselves in *fear* during the time of your stay on earth"

**E**clipsing Fear of Anything or Anyone Else. (See also Psa. 27:1-3; Rom. 8:31)

- Isaiah 8:12-13 - "And you are not to fear what they fear or be in dread of it. It is the Lord of hosts whom you should regard as holy. And He shall be your *fear*, and He shall be your dread."
- Matt. 10:28 - "Do not fear those who kill the body but are unable to kill the soul; but rather *fear* Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell."

**A**wareness of Our Accountability to God for all of Our: (See note at the bottom)

[1] Words (Mt. 12:36)	[2] Actions (2 Cor. 5:10)	[3] Thoughts (Psa. 139:1-2)	[4] Motives (Prov. 16:2)	[5] Attitudes (Jer. 12:3)
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- 2 Cor. 5:10-11 - "For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad. Therefore, knowing the *fear* of the Lord, we persuade men..."
- Phil. 2:12 - "So then, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your salvation with *fear* and trembling"

**R**everence and Awe. (See also Psa. 99:1)

- Heb. 12:28-29 - "Therefore, since we receive a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us show gratitude, by which we may offer to God an acceptable service with *reverence and awe*; for our God is a consuming fire."
- Isaiah 66:2 - "But to this one I will look, to him who is humble and contrite of spirit, and who *trembles* at My word."

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NOTE

- The Christian should fear God's discipline which may be sorrowful (Heb. 12:5-11), but should never fear God's punishment or wrath (1 John 4:17-18; Rom. 5:9; 1 Thess. 1:10, 5:9).
- The non-Christian, on the other hand, should fear the wrath of God (Rev. 14:9-11; Rom. 1:18-20, 2:5, 9:22; Eph. 2:1-3; 5:5-6; Col. 3:5-6)

## C The Earth is Reaped.

### REVELATION 14:13-20

### NOTES

- 13 And I heard a voice from heaven, saying, "Write, 'Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on!'" "Yes," says the Spirit, "that they may rest from their labors, for their deeds follow with them."  
 (v. 13) "deeds follow" (Note 92) -  
*Deeds don't get you into Heaven; they follow you in.*
- 14 And I looked, and behold, a white cloud, and sitting on the cloud was one like a son of man, having a golden crown on His head, and a sharp sickle in His hand.  
 (v. 14) "son of man" - *Christ*  
 (v. 14) "golden crown" (Greek: *stephanos*) -  
*A victor's wreath; no longer a crown of thorns.*
- 15 And another angel came out of the temple, crying out with a loud voice to Him who sat on the cloud, "Put in your sickle and reap, because the hour to reap has come, because the harvest of the earth is ripe."  
 (v. 16) "the earth was reaped" -  
*The Rapture*
- 16 And He who sat on the cloud swung His sickle over the earth; and the earth was reaped.  
 (v. 17) the reapers - *the angels*  
 Matt. 13:36-43 - *Parable of the Wheat & Tares*
- 17 And another angel came out of the temple which is in heaven, and he also had a sharp sickle.  
 (v. 18) "fire" - *Judgment: Real or symbolic?*  
*(No comfort, because reality > symbol)*
- 18 And another angel, the one who has power over fire, came out from the altar; and he called with a loud voice to him who had the sharp sickle, saying, "Put in your sharp sickle, and gather the clusters from the vine of the earth, because her grapes are ripe."  
 (v. 18) "her grapes are ripe" -  
*The patience of God.*  
 (cf. Gen. 15:16 - God waited 400 years until the iniquity of the Amorites was full.)
- 19 And the angel swung his sickle to the earth, and gathered the clusters from the vine of the earth, and threw them into the great wine press of the wrath of God.  
 (v. 20) "two hundred miles" -  
*Greek: 1600 furlongs*  
 $= 4 \times 4 \times 10 \times 10$   
*= complete universal judgment.*
- 20 And the wine press was trodden outside the city, and blood came out from the wine press, up to the horses' bridles, for a distance of two hundred miles.

## 92. SALVATION BY FAITH NOT WORKS. (Rev. 14:13)

- Isa. 64:6 - “All of us have become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous acts are like filthy rags”
- Rom. 3:20 - “by the works of the Law no flesh will be justified in His sight; for through the Law comes the knowledge of sin.”
- Rom. 3:28 - “For we maintain that a man is justified by faith apart from works of the Law.”
- Rom. 4:5 - “But to the one who does not work, but believes in Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is reckoned as righteousness”
- Gal. 2:16 - “nevertheless knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the Law but through faith in Christ Jesus, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, that we may be justified by faith in Christ, and not by the works of the Law; since by the works of the Law shall no flesh be justified.”
- Gal. 2:21 - “if righteousness comes through the Law, then Christ died needlessly.”
- Gal. 3:11 - “Now that no one is justified by the Law before God is evident; for, ‘The righteous man shall live by faith.’”
- Gal. 3:21-22 - “Is the Law then contrary to the promises of God? May it never be! For if a law had been given which was able to impart life, then righteousness would indeed have been based on law. But the Scripture has shut up all men under sin, that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe.”
- Gal. 5:4 - “You have been severed from Christ, you who are seeking to be justified by law; you have fallen from grace.”
- Eph. 2:8-9 - “For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, that no one should boast.”
- 2 Tim. 1:9 - God “has saved us, and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was granted us in Christ Jesus from all eternity”
- Titus 3:5 - “He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit”

Works Follow  
Salvation

- Matt. 5:16
- Eph 2:10
- Phil. 2:12
- 1 Tim. 6:18
- Titus 2:14, 3:8
- James 2:20

## D A Sea of Glass Mixed With Fire.

### REVELATION 15:1-8

### NOTES

- 1 And I saw another sign in heaven, great and marvelous, seven angels who had seven plagues, which are the last, because in them the wrath of God is finished. (v. 1) "seven plagues" (p. 116ff) -  
*Final judgments*
- 2 And I saw, as it were, a sea of glass mixed with fire, and those who had come off victorious from the beast and from his image and from the number of his name, standing on the sea of glass, holding harps of God. (v. 2) "sea of glass" (Note 93) -  
*God's holiness;  
 man's separation.*
- 3 And they sang the song of Moses the bond-servant of God and the song of the Lamb, saying, "Great and marvelous are Thy works, O Lord God, the Almighty; Righteous and true are Thy ways, Thou King of the nations. (v. 2) "mixed with fire" - i.e. red  
*A fiery red sea  
 cf. Israel & Egypt  
 at the Red Sea.*
- 4 "Who will not fear, O Lord, and glorify Thy name? For Thou alone art holy; for all the nations will come and worship before Thee, for Thy righteous acts have been revealed." (v. 2) "standing on the sea" (Note 93) -  
*• Saints washed in  
 the bloody red sea &  
 pass through.  
 • Sinners destroyed,  
 like Pharaoh's army.*
- 5 After these things I looked, and the temple of the tabernacle of testimony in heaven was opened, (v. 3) "the song of Moses" -  
*A Song of deliverance  
 • God's people saved  
 • Enemies destroyed*
- 6 and the seven angels who had the seven plagues came out of the temple, clothed in linen, clean and bright, and girded around their breasts with golden girdles. (v. 6) "clothed in linen ... girded  
 around their breasts golden girdles" -  
*Clothing of the  
 ancient judges.*
- 7 And one of the four living creatures gave to the seven angels seven golden bowls full of the wrath of God, who lives forever and ever. (v. 8) "the temple was filled with smoke" -  
*No more  
 intercession;  
 only judgment.*
- 8 And the temple was filled with smoke from the glory of God and from His power; and no one was able to enter the temple until the seven plagues of the seven angels were finished.

### 93. A Sea Of Glass. (Rev. 15:2)

#### Reference

Rev. 4:6 -

“and before the throne there was, as it were, a sea of glass like crystal”

Rev. 15:2 -

“And I saw, as it were, a sea of glass mixed with fire, and those who had come off victorious from the beast ... standing on the sea of glass, holding harps of God.”

Rev. 21:1 -

“And I saw a new heaven and a new earth ... and there is no longer any sea.”

#### Reflection

- God’s purity & holiness.
- Man’s separation.
- God’s people pass through as at the Red Sea.
- God’s enemies are destroyed.
- No more separation between God and man.

## Additional Notes & Applications

1. *Spiritual adultery is loving anything more than Jesus Christ.*

2. *I should fear God's discipline because He is my heavenly Father (Heb. 12:5-11), but I never need to fear His wrath (1 John 4:17-18).*

3. *Good works do not save me or keep me saved, but are the natural overflow of a saved life. The Christian's service and sacrifice will "follow with them" into Heaven and be rewarded. (Rev. 14:13; 1 Cor. 3:11-15)*

## 11

*The Seven Bowls***Revelation, Chapter 16.**

<u>Section Title</u>	<u>Revelation</u>	<u>Page</u>
A. Bowls One, Two & Three.	16:1-7	116
B. Bowls Four, Five & Six.	16:8-16	118
C. Bowl Seven.	16:17-21	120

**Theme: Final Judgments.**

- God is long-suffering, but after repeatedly warning those who will not repent, His righteous judgment falls.
- The seven bowl judgments symbolize God's final judgment, punishment and wrath upon unrepentant men.
- If God did not judge evil, He would not be holy. God's judgments are always righteous and just.
- Those upon whom God's judgments fall show their true nature by their refusal to repent of their evil deeds.

**BACKGROUND**

<b>Author:</b>	The Apostle John exiled on the Isle of Patmos.
<b>Audience:</b>	The Christian Church.
<b>Theme:</b>	Christ and the Church are ultimately victorious.
<b>Style:</b>	Apocalyptic (Symbolic)
<b>Date:</b>	95 A.D.
<b>Setting:</b>	Intense Persecution.

**OUTLINE of REVELATION**

<b>Vision</b>	<b>Chap</b>	<b>Theme</b>	<b>Seven</b>
1	1-3	Christ & Church	Churches
2	4-6	Christ in Control	Seals
3	7-11	World Warned	Trumpets
4	12-13	Satanic Trinity	Heads
▶ 5	14-16	God's Wrath	Bowls
6	17-18	Babylon Falls	Kings
7	19-22	New Jerusalem	∞

## A Bowls One, Two & Three.

### REVELATION 16:1-7

### NOTES

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 And I heard a loud voice from the temple, saying to the seven angels, "Go and pour out the seven bowls of the wrath of God into the earth."   | (v. 1) "seven bowls" (Note 94) -<br><hr/> <i>Final judgments</i><br><hr/> <i>(e.g. Herod, Acts 12:21-23)</i><br><hr/>                 |
| 2 And the first angel went and poured out his bowl into the earth; and it became a loathsome and malignant sore upon the men who had the mark of the beast and who worshiped his image. | (v. 2) The first bowl (Note 96) -<br><hr/> <i>judgment on adherents</i><br><hr/> <i>of false religion</i><br><hr/>                    |
| 3 And the second angel poured out his bowl into the sea, and it became blood like that of a dead man; and every living thing in the sea died.   | (v. 3) The second bowl (Note 97) -<br><hr/> <i>Maritime calamities;</i><br><hr/> <i>judgment on</i><br><hr/> <i>commerce</i><br><hr/> |
| 4 And the third angel poured out his bowl into the rivers and the springs of waters; and they became blood.   | (v. 4-6) The third bowl (Note 98) -<br><hr/> <hr/> <hr/>  |
| 5 And I heard the angel of the waters saying, "Righteous art Thou, who art and who wast, O Holy One, because Thou didst judge these things;   | <hr/> <i>Those who shed</i><br><hr/> <i>innocent blood shall</i><br><hr/> <i>drink / bathed in blood</i><br><hr/>                     |
| 6 for they poured out the blood of saints and prophets, and Thou hast given them blood to drink. They deserve it."  | (v. 5, 7) "righteous... judgments" -<br><hr/> <hr/>   |
| 7 And I heard the altar saying, "Yes, O Lord God, the Almighty, true and righteous are Thy judgments."  | <hr/> <i>If God didn't judge,</i><br><hr/> <i>He wouldn't be holy</i><br><hr/> <hr/>  |

#### 94. SYMBOLISM OF THE SEVEN BOWLS. (Rev. 16)

- |                  |   |  |     |                   |
|------------------|---|--|-----|-------------------|
| A. They are:     | P | <i>arallel</i>                                   | NOT | <i>successive</i> |
| B. They are:     | P | <i>resent between the two comings of Christ.</i> |     |                   |
| C. They are:     | P | <i>unishments</i>                                | NOT | <i>warnings</i>   |
| D. They are NOT: | P | <i>artial</i>                                    | but | <i>final</i>      |
| E. OT Key:       | P | <i>lagues on Egypt (Ex. 7-12)</i> (Note 95)      |     |                   |

95. COMPARISON TO THE TEN PLAGUES OF EGYPT. (Exodus 5-12)					
#	Plague	Egyptian “god” Judged	Exodus	Trumpet	Bowl
1	Nile to blood	Hapi, god of the Nile	7:14-24	2	2 & 3
2	frogs	Hekt, toad goddess	7:25-8:11		
3	fleas or lice	Seb, the earth god	8:12-15		
4	flies	Khepfi, god of insects	8:16-28		
5	livestock die	Apis & Hathor, cow gods	9:1-7		
6	boils	Imhotep, god of medicine	9:8-12		1
7	hail & fire	Nut, sky goddess	9:18-35	1	7
8	locust	Seth, god of crops	10:1-20	5	
9	darkness	Ra, sun god	10:21-23	4	5
10	firstborn die	Pharaoh, the god-king	12:29-30	6	



96. THE FIRST BOWL. (Rev. 16:2)

- cf. Ex. 9:8-11 - 6th plague of Egypt: “boils were on the magicians as well as on all the Egyptians” (Ex. 9:11).
- “a loathsome and malignant sore”
- “upon men who had the mark of the beast”



97. THE SECOND BOWL. (Rev. 16:3)

- cf. Ex. 7:14-25 - 1st plague of Egypt, water to blood.
- “every living thing in the sea died”
- Increasing severity & affect of each successive series:  
Seals (Rev. 6:8) = ¼; Trumpets (Rev. 8:8-9) = ⅓;  
Bowls (Rev, 16:3) = ALL



98. THE THIRD BOWL. (Rev. 16:4-7)

- cf. Ex. 7:14-25 - 1st plague of Egypt, water to blood.
- “the rivers ... became blood”
- “they poured out the blood of saints and prophets, and Thou hast given them blood to drink”

## B Bowls Four, Five & Six.

### REVELATION 16:8-16

### NOTES

- 8 And the fourth angel poured out his bowl upon the sun; and it was given to it to scorch men with fire. (v. 8) The fourth bowl (Note 99) -  
*The unrestrained rays of sun are a picture of God's wrath.*
- 9 And men were scorched with fierce heat; and they blasphemed the name of God who has the power over these plagues; and they did not repent, so as to give Him glory. (v. 9, 11) "they blasphemed ... God ...and they did not repent" -  
*Point of no return -- only thing left is judgment & wrath.*
- 10 And the fifth angel poured out his bowl upon the throne of the beast; and his kingdom became darkened; and they gnawed their tongues because of pain, (v. 10) The fifth bowl (Note 100) -  
*darkness denotes confusion & corruption.*
- 11 and they blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores; and they did not repent of their deeds. (v. 12) The sixth bowl (Note 101) -  
*A final decisive battle*
- 12 And the sixth angel poured out his bowl upon the great river, the Euphrates; and its water was dried up, that the way might be prepared for the kings from the east. (v. 12) "Euphrates ... dried up" -  
*God withdraws His restraint on evil.*
- 13 And I saw coming out of the mouth of the dragon and out of the mouth of the beast and out of the mouth of the false prophet, three unclean spirits like frogs; (v. 10) "the kings of the east" -  
*All Israel's invaders came from the east: Babylon, Assyria, Greece, Rome.*
- 14 for they are spirits of demons, performing signs, which go out to the kings of the whole world, to gather them together for the war of the great day of God, the Almighty. (v. 10) "Har-Megedon" (Note 102) -  
*Only time in Bible*
- 15 (" Behold, I am coming like a thief. Blessed is the one who stays awake and keeps his garments, lest he walk about naked and men see his shame.") Megiddo - a place of historic battles
- 16 And they gathered them together to the place which in Hebrew is called Har-Magedon.



## 99. THE FOURTH BOWL. (Rev. 16:8-9)

- “men scorched with fierce heat”
- “they blasphemed the name of God ... and they did not repent, so as to give Him glory”



## 100. THE FIFTH BOWL. (Rev. 16:10-11)

- cf. Ex. 10:21-29 - 9th plague on Egypt, darkness
- “upon the throne of the beast”
- “his kingdom was darkened”
- “they blasphemed the God of heaven ... and they did not repent of their deeds.”



## 101. THE SIXTH BOWL. (Rev. 16:12-14)

- “the great river, the Euphrates; and its water was dried up”
- “out of the mount of the dragon, the beast, and the false prophet, three unclean spirits like frogs”
- “go out to the kings of the whole world, to gather them together for war”

## 102. THE BATTLE OF ARMAGEDDON. (Rev. 16:12-16)

Hebrew: “Har-Megedon,” literally “Mount of Megiddo”  
25 miles west of the southern tip of the Sea of Galilee.

Location of many decisive ancient Battles:

- ~1200 BC Deborah & Barak [W] vs. Canaanites Judges 5:19
- ~1150 BC Gideon [W] vs. Midianites Judges 7 & 8
- 1011 BC King Saul (died) vs. Philistines [W] 1 Samuel
- 609 BC King Josiah (died) vs. Egypt [W] 2 Kings 23:29

Historians believe that more battles were fought at this location than anywhere else on earth, including the armed conflict of Assyrians, Canaanites, Egyptians, Greeks, Israelites, Persians, Philistines, and Romans.

## C Bowl Seven.

### REVELATION 16:17-21

### NOTES

17 And the seventh angel poured out his bowl upon the air; and a loud voice came out of the temple from the throne, saying, "It is done."

(v. 17) upon the air (Note 103) -

*Bowls' affects  
on all of creation:*

18 And there were flashes of lightning and sounds and peals of thunder; and there was a great earthquake, such as there had not been since man came to be upon the earth, so great an earthquake was it, and so mighty.

*Bowl 1 - earth*

*Bowl 2 - sea*

*Bowl 3 - fresh water*

*Bowl 4 - sun*

*Bowl 7 - air*

19 And the great city was split into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell. And Babylon the great was remembered before God, to give her the cup of the wine of His fierce wrath.

(v. 17) "it is done" -

*Final judgment*

(v. 18-20) "every island fled away and the mountains were not found" (Note 104) -

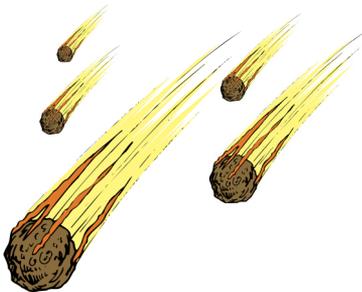
*Destruction of  
the universe.*

20 And every island fled away, and the mountains were not found.

(v. 21) "men blasphemed God" -

*Unrestrained by  
God; given over to  
their own sin nature  
(for all eternity).*

21 "And huge hailstones, about one hundred pounds each, came down from heaven upon men; and men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail, because its plague was extremely severe."



*"And huge hailstones, about one hundred pounds each, came down from heaven upon men; and men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail, because its plague was extremely severe."*

## 103. THE SEVENTH BOWL. (Rev. 16:17-21)



- cf. Ex. 9:13-26 - 7th plague of Egypt: hail.
- “poured out his bowl upon the air”
- “flashes of lightning and sounds and peals of thunder”
- “a great earthquake, such as there had not been since man came to be upon the earth, so great an earthquake was it, and so mighty. And the great city was split into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell.”
- “every island fled away, and the mountains were not found”
- “huge hailstones, about one hundred pounds each, came down from heaven upon men”

## 104. THE RE-CREATION OF THE UNIVERSE. (Rev. 16:18-21)

- Haggai 2:6 - “For thus says the Lord of hosts, ‘Once more in a little while, I am going to shake the heavens and the earth, the sea also and the dry land.’”
- Matt. 24:29-30 - “But immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will fall from the sky, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken. And then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of the sky with power and great glory.”
- 2 Pet. 3:10-13 - “But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, in which the heavens will pass away with a roar and the elements will be destroyed with intense heat, and the earth and its works will be burned up.... and the elements will melt with intense heat! But according to His promise we are looking for new heavens and a new earth, in which righteousness dwells.”
- Rev. 6:12-14 - “I looked when He broke the sixth seal, and there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth made of hair, and the whole moon became like blood; and the stars of the sky fell to the earth, as a fig tree casts its unripe figs when shaken by a great wind. The sky was split apart like a scroll when it is rolled up, and every mountain and island were moved out of their places.”
- Rev. 16:18-21 - “And there were flashes of lightning and sounds and peals of thunder; and there was a great earthquake, such as there had not been since man came to be upon the earth, so great an earthquake was it, and so mighty. ... and the cities of the nations fell. ... And every island fled away, and the mountains were not found. And huge hailstones, about one hundred pounds each, came down from heaven”

## Additional Notes & Applications

1. God is long-suffering and gives a person time to repent (Rev. 2:21).  
But after repeated warnings judgment falls. (Rom. 9:22-23)
2. God is not bad because He judges evil men. On the contrary, His judgment demonstrates His perfect holiness. (Rev. 16:5)
3. The reason that Hell is so bad is not because God is not there, but because God is there in His "fierce wrath" (Rev. 16:19; Rom 1:18-20).



he wrath of God is like great waters that are dammed for the present; they increase more and more, and rise higher and higher, till an outlet is given; and the longer the stream is stopped, the more rapid and mighty is its course, when once it is let loose. ... If God should only withdraw his hand from the flood-gate, it would immediately fly open, and the fiery floods of the fierceness and wrath of God, would rush forth with inconceivable fury.”

Jonathan Edwards (1703-1758)  
“Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God”  
Enfield, Connecticut, July 8, 1741



# VII.

REVELATION, CHAPTERS 17-18

## THE SIXTH VISION

POLITICAL & ECONOMIC COLLAPSE



“I SAW A WOMAN SITTING ON A SCARLET BEAST ... AND ON HER FOREHEAD A NAME WAS WRITTEN, A MYSTERY, ‘BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.’”

REVELATION 18:2-3

# 12 *Babylon the Great*

## Revelation, Chapters 17 & 18.

<u>Section Title</u>	<u>Revelation</u>	<u>Page</u>
A. The Mother of Harlots.	17:1-8	126
B. The Kingdoms of the Beast.	17:9-18	130
C. The World Laments Babylon's Fall.	18:1-24	144

## Theme: An Evil Alliance.

- In the Book of Revelation, two women are contrasted, one is a harlot who rides upon the back of the beast, and the other is the bride of Christ, awaiting the marriage supper of the Lamb.
- God will bring about the total collapse of world religion, government and commerce.

BACKGROUND	
<b>Author:</b>	The Apostle John exiled on the Isle of Patmos.
<b>Audience:</b>	The Christian Church.
<b>Theme:</b>	Christ and the Church are ultimately victorious.
<b>Style:</b>	Apocalyptic (Symbolic)
<b>Date:</b>	95 A.D.
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OUTLINE of REVELATION			
Vision	Chap	Theme	Seven
1	1-3	Christ & Church	Churches
2	4-6	Christ in Control	Seals
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4	12-13	Satanic Trinity	Heads
5	14-16	God's Wrath	Bowls
▶ 6	17-18	Babylon Falls	Kings
7	19-22	New Jerusalem	∞

## A Babylon, The Mother of Harlots.

### REVELATION 17:1-8

### NOTES

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 And one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls came and spoke with me, saying, "Come here, I shall show you the judgment of the great harlot who sits on many waters,  | (v. 1) "many waters"<br>_____<br>(cf. p. 99, Note 83 & Rev. 17:15) -<br>_____<br><i>The turbulent masses of mankind, like waves of the sea - constant upheaval.</i><br>_____              |
| 2 with whom the kings of the earth committed acts of immorality, and those who dwell on the earth were made drunk with the wine of her immorality. "  | (v. 1) She sits on "many waters" -<br>_____<br><i>unstable foundation</i><br>_____<br>(v. 2-3) "acts of immorality" -<br>_____<br><i>adultery between the harlot &amp; beast</i><br>_____ |
| 3 And he carried me away in the Spirit into a wilderness; and I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast, full of blasphemous names, having seven heads and ten horns.  | (v. 3-4) "scarlet beast," & harlot<br>_____<br><i>"clothed in scarlet" (Note 105) -</i><br>_____<br><i>sin &amp; rebellion</i><br>_____   |
| 4 And the woman was clothed in purple and scarlet, and adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls, having in her hand a gold cup full of abominations and of the unclean things of her immorality,  | (v. 3) "beast" (p. 98) -<br>_____<br><i>world government</i><br>_____   |
| 5 and upon her forehead a name was written, a mystery, "Babylon the Great, the mother of harlots and of the abominations of the earth."   | (v. 4) "cup full of abominations"<br>_____<br>(cf. Third Trumpet, p. 71, Note 62) -<br>_____<br><i>Won't drink water of life, So God gives them cup of "unclean things"</i><br>_____      |
| 6 And I saw the woman drunk with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the witnesses of Jesus. And when I saw her, I wondered greatly.   | (v. 5) "Babylon" (Note 106)<br>_____<br>(v. 6) "drunk with blood" (Note 107)<br>_____<br>(v. 6) "I wondered greatly" -<br>_____<br><i>Same woman as Rev. 12?</i><br>_____                 |
| 7 And the angel said to me, "Why do you wonder? I shall tell you the mystery of the woman and of the beast that carries her, which has the seven heads and the ten horns.   |   |
| 8 "The beast that you saw was and is not, and is about to come up out of the abyss and to go to destruction. And those who dwell on the earth will wonder, whose name has not been written in the book of life from the foundation of the world, when they see the beast, that he was and is not and will come. |   |

## 105. SCARLET. (Rev. 17:3-4)

- Isa. 1:18 - “‘Come now, and let us reason together,’ Says the Lord, ‘Though your sins are as *scarlet*, they will be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they will be like wool.’”

## 106. BABYLON THE GREAT? (Rev. 17:5)

## A. EARTHLY JERUSALEM = SYMBOL OF WORLDLY RELIGION.

- Isa. 1:21 - “How the faithful city has become a harlot, she who was full of justice! Righteousness once lodged in her, but now murderers.”
- Hosea 1:2 - “When the Lord first spoke through Hosea, the Lord said to Hosea, ‘Go, take to yourself a wife of harlotry and have children of harlotry; for the land commits flagrant harlotry, forsaking the Lord. ... 4:12 For a spirit of harlotry has led them astray, and they have played the harlot, departing from their God.”

## B. ROME = CAPITAL OF THE BEAST. (1st century)

- 1 Pet. 5:13- “She who is in Babylon, chosen together with you, sends you greetings, and so does my son, Mark.

## 107. DRUNK WITH THE BLOOD OF THE SAINTS. (Rev. 17:6)

- Rev. 17:6 - “And I saw the woman drunk with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the witnesses of Jesus.”

A. Verb tense: present active - she is continuously drunk

B. Whatever the Harlot / Babylon represent, she:

1. Is rich (Rev. 17:4); 2. Hates the saints (Rev. 17:6)

C. Historically, the biggest persecutors of true Christianity have been:

1. Man-made religion
2. Anti-Christian governments

D. First murder in history: Cain killed Able  
(Gen. 4:3-8 - religiously motivated)

E. Other: e.g. Crusades, inquisitions,  
St. Bartholomew's Day massacre, etc.

## Semiramis: The Rise of Harlot.

### GENESIS 10:8-12

- 8 Now Cush became the father of Nimrod; he became a mighty one on the earth. (Nimrod: grandson of Ham, great-grandson of Noah)
- 9 He was a mighty hunter before the Lord; therefore it is said, "Like Nimrod a mighty hunter before the Lord."
- 10 The beginning of his kingdom was Babel and Erech and Accad and Calneh, in the land of Shinar.
- 11 From that land he went forth into Assyria, and built Nineveh and Rehoboth-Ir and Calah,
- 12 and Resen between Nineveh and Calah; that is the great city.

### THE HISTORY OF RELIGIONS

- Nimrod married a harlot from the city of Erech, named Semiramis. History records that she was extremely beautiful.
- From her name, "Semiramis," comes the word Sumeria, and the Hebrew "Shinar."
- This harlot rose to power through Nimrod to become Queen of Babylon.
- Emperor worship began when Nimrod and Semiramis declared themselves to be the gods Marduk and Astarte.
- Nimrod was murdered (by Semiramis) and Semiramis bore a son Tammuz whom she said was by miraculous conception and was Marduk reborn.
- Semiramis declared herself to be "The Queen of Heaven" and the "Mother of God"
- Worship centered around statues of the "holy" mother with the god-incarnate son in her arms.

### NOTES

(v. 8) "Nimrod" -

Grandson of Ham;  
Great-grandson  
of Noah

(v. 10) "kingdom" -

World's first  
"kingdom"

(v. 10) "Babel" - (Babylon)

Nimrod built tower  
~2240 BC (Gen. 11)

Erech (cf. Gen. 10:10) -

Home of Semiramis

Land of Shinar (Gen. 10:10) -

Land of Semiramis

Through Nimrod (cf. Rev. 17:3) -

On the back of  
world government.

Mother / goddess worship -

• Worship of  
mother & child  
statues, as:

• Queen of Heaven  
(cf. Rev. 18:7)

• Mother of God.

• Gross immorality,  
power, riches.

108. SPREAD OF THE MOTHER  
GODDESS CULT FROM BABEL.

<u>Civilization</u>	<u>Mother</u>	<u>Child</u>
Babel	Semiramis	Tammuz
Egypt	Isis	Horus
Baylonians	Ishtar & Assyrians	
Phoenicians	Astarte	
Philistines	Ashtoreth	
China	Shingmoo	“Holy Mother”
Israel	Baali	
Germans	Hertha	w/child
Scandinavians	Disa	w/child
Etruscans	Nutria	
Druids	Virgo-Paitura	“Mother of God”
India	Indrani Isi	w/child Iswara
Asia (Anatolia)	Cybele	Deoius
Greeks	Aphrodite	Eros
Romans	Venus	Jupiter
Catholic Church	Madonna	Christ



BABEL  
Semiramis  
& Tammuz



EGYPT  
Isis &  
Horus



GREECE  
& ROME  
Statue  
of Diana  
(Artemis)  
The tower of  
Babel adorned  
the top of her  
crown.

109. ABSORPTION OF  
MOTHER / GODDESS WORSHIP  
INTO THE CHURCH.

- 313 Roman Emperor Constantine’s Edict of Milan legalized Christianity, effectively making it the state religion. In some cases the very same statues that had been worshipped as Isis (with her child) were simply renamed as Mary and the Christ child.
- 431 The Council of Ephesus officially called Mary the “Mother of God.”
- 1854 Doctrine of the “immaculate conception” pronounced and defined by Pius IX that “Mary in the first instant of her conception ... was preserved exempt from all stain of original sin”
- 1954 Mary officially called the “Queen of Heaven” by a papal encyclical issued by Pope Pius XII.



CATHOLIC  
Madonna & Child

## C The Kingdoms of the Beast.

### REVELATION 17:9-18

### NOTES

- 9 “Here is the mind which has wisdom. The seven heads are seven mountains on which the woman sits,
- (v. 9) “the 7 heads = 7 mountains”  
 (Note 110) - Rome
- 10 and they are seven kings; five have fallen, one is, the other has not yet come; and when he comes, he must remain a little while.
- (v. 10) “the 7 heads = 7 kings”  
 (Note 111, 112) -  
Roman emperors  
or world empires?
- 11 “And the beast which was and is not, is himself also an eighth, and is one of the seven, and he goes to destruction.
- (v. 12) “10 horns = 10 kings” -  
cf. feet & toes  
of iron & clay in  
Nebuchadnezzar's  
dream (Dan. 2:33)
- 12 “And the ten horns which you saw are ten kings, who have not yet received a kingdom, but they receive authority as kings with the beast for one hour.
- (v. 14) “the Lamb will overcome” -  
The Lamb defeats  
the Dragon & Beast
- 13 “These have one purpose and they give their power and authority to the beast.
- (v. 14) “King of kings” -  
The King over all  
earthly kings!
- 14 “These will wage war against the Lamb, and the Lamb will overcome them, because He is Lord of lords and King of kings, and those who are with Him are the called and chosen and faithful.”
- (v. 15) “the waters” -  
the nations of  
the world.
- 15 And he said to me, “The waters which you saw where the harlot sits, are peoples and multitudes and nations and tongues.
- (v. 16) “hate the harlot” -  
They turn on  
each other.
- 16 “And the ten horns which you saw, and the beast, these will hate the harlot and will make her desolate and naked, and will eat her flesh and will burn her up with fire.
- (v. 18) “the woman ...  
 is the great city” -  
The harlot =  
Babylon “the Great”
- 17 “For God has put it in their hearts to execute His purpose by having a common purpose, and by giving their kingdom to the beast, until the words of God should be fulfilled.
- 18 “And the woman whom you saw is the great city, which reigns over the kings of the earth.”

The map shows the seven hills of Rome: Quirinal Hill (Collis Quirinalis), Viminal Hill (Collis Viminalis), Esquiline Hill (Collis Esquilinus), Palatine Hill (Collis Palatinus), Caelian Hill (Collis Caelius), Aventine Hill (Collis Aventinus), and the Servian Wall (Murus Servii Tullii). Other landmarks include the Field of Mars (Campus Martius) and Tiber Island (Insula Tiberina).

### 110. THE SEVEN HILLS OF ROME.

*“Here is the mind which has wisdom. The seven heads are seven mountains on which the woman sits, and they are seven kings; five have fallen, one is, the other has not yet come ... And the beast which was and is not, is himself also an eighth”*

- Rev. 17:9-11

111. VIEW #1. THE 7 HEADS = 7 ROMAN EMPERORS.				
#	#	Caesar	Reign	Comments
	1	Julius	60-44 BC	Triumverate.
1	2	Augustus	27 BC-13 AD	During Christ’s birth (Lk. 2:1)
2	3	Tiberius	14-37 AD	
3	4	Caligula	37-41 AD	
4	5	Claudius	41-54 AD	
5	6	Nero	54-68 AD	Persecution in Rome.
		Galba	68 AD	Ruled only 6 months.
		Otho	68 AD	Ruled only 95 days.
		Vitellius	69 AD	Ruled less than one year.
6	7	Vespasian	70-79 AD	Father of Titus & Domitian.
7	8	Titus	79-81 AD	Destroyed Jerusalem.
<b>8</b>		<b>Domitian</b>	<b>81-96 AD</b>	<b>Widespread persecution.</b>
9		Nerva	96-98 AD	Released John from Patmos.
10		Trajan	98-117 AD	

112. VIEW #2. THE 7 HEADS = 7 WORLD EMPIRES.			
<i>“five have fallen”</i>			
1	Nimrod	2350-1100 BC	Babel / Old Babylon.
2	Tiglath-Pileser	1100-612 BC	The Assyrian Empire.
3	Nebuchadnezzar	612-539 BC	The Babylonian Empire.
4	Cyrus	539-333 BC	The Medo-Persian Empire
5	Alexander	333-200 BC	The Greco-Macedonian Empire.
<i>“one is”</i>			
<b>6</b>	<b>Caesar</b>	<b>200 BC-476 AD</b>	<b>The Roman Empire.</b>
<i>“not yet come”</i>			
7	Feet of iron/clay	476-Present	Current world governments
8	The Beast	2???	Plus the “ten kings”

## The Kingdom of Babel, 2350 - 1100 BC

### GENESIS 10:8-12

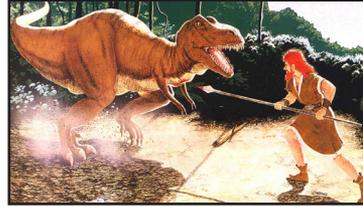
- 8 Now Cush became the father of Nimrod; he became a mighty one on the earth.
- 9 He was a mighty hunter before the Lord; therefore it is said, "Like Nimrod a mighty hunter before the Lord."
- 10 And the beginning of his kingdom was Babel and Erech and Accad and Calneh, in the land of Shinar.
- 11 From that land he went forth into Assyria, and built Nineveh and Rehoboth-Ir and Calah, 12 and Resen between Nineveh and Calah; that is the great city."

### GENESIS 11:3-9

- 3 And they said to one another, "Come, let us make bricks and burn them thoroughly." And they used brick for stone, and they used tar for mortar.
- 4 And they said, "Come, let us build for ourselves a city, and a tower whose top will reach into heaven, and let us make for ourselves a name; lest we be scattered abroad over the face of the whole earth."
- 6 And the Lord said, "Behold, they are one people, and they all have the same language.
- 7 "Come, let Us go down and there confuse their language, that they may not understand one another's speech."
- 8 So the Lord scattered them abroad from there over the face of the whole earth; and they stopped building the city.
- 9 Therefore its name was called Babel, because there the Lord confused the language of the whole earth; and from there the Lord scattered them abroad over the face of the whole earth.

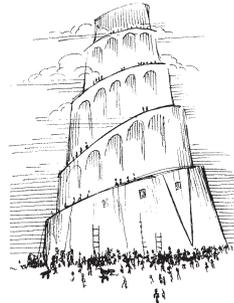
### 113. NIMROD.

"He was a mighty hunter"  
(~2350 BC)



### 114. BABEL.

"the beginning of his kingdom was Babel ... in the land of Shinar." (Gen 10:10)



### 115. MUD BRICKS.

'Come, let us make bricks and burn them thoroughly.' And they used brick for stone, and they used tar for mortar." (Gen. 11:3)



Very ancient bricks and tar unearthed on the plains of Shinar.



### 116. THE HISTORY OF BABEL.

- 2450 BC Flood subsides; Ham, Shem & Japheth settle in the plains of Shinar (The Fertile Crescent).
- 2350 Nimrod conquered or built eight cities: Babel, Erech, Akkad, Calneh, Nineveh, Rehoboth-Ir, Calah, & Resen. (Gen. 10:8-12)  
Languages confounded. Mankind is scattered throughout the earth. (Gen. 11:1-9)  
Sumerian Civilization. Eridu, Uruk & Ur built.
- 2200 Independent Summerian city-states.
- 2150 Sargon of Akkad, history's 2nd great empire builder, conquers and unites Summerian city-states. Akkadian replaces Summerian as spoken language. Cuneiform, first known written language, developed.
- 2100-1950 The "Golden Age of Ur". 12-city states. First law code.
- 2000 Abraham (75) is called out of Ur (pop. 200,000).
- 1792-1750 Hammurabi, King of Babylon / Code of Hammurabi ~ 300 laws.
- 1600 Conquest of Babylon by Hittites.
- 1446 Exodus / 40 year wandering.
- 1406 Israel's conquest of Canaan.
- 1100 Conquest of Babylon by Tiglath-pileser I of Assyria.

# The Assyrian Empire, 1100 - 612 BC



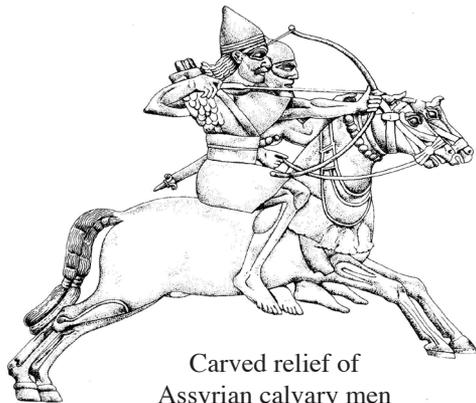
2 KINGS 19:35-37

35 “Then it happened that night that the angel of the Lord went out and struck 185,000 in the camp of the Assyrians; and when men rose early in the morning, behold, all of them were dead.

36 So Sennacherib king of Assyria departed and returned home, and lived at Nineveh.

37 It came about as he was worshiping in the house of Nisroch his god, that Adrammelech and Shazzer killed him with the sword ; and they escaped into the land of Ararat And Esarhaddon his son became king in his place.”

117. THE HISTORY OF ASSYRIA.	
1115 to 1077 BC	Tiglath-Pileser I, Assyria first great monarch, seizes Babylon 1100 B.C.
1048 to 1015	Reign of King David in Israel.
770	Jonah calls the Assyrian capital of Ninevah to repent.
734	First deportation of Israel into exile (2 Kgs 15:29; 16:7-9), by Assyrian King Tiglath-Pileser III (Pul).
722	Second deportation of Israel after a three year siege of the Northern Kingdom of Israel by Assyrians. 27,900 deported.
701	Invasion of Judah by Sennacherib. 185,000 Assyrians slain by the angel of the Lord (2 Kgs 19:35-37).
669 to 627	Reign of Ashurbanipal, last great monarch of Assyria.
655	Nahum prophecies the fall of Ninevah.
626	Assyrian-held Babylon falls to Nabopolassar.
612	Fall of Ninevah & Calah.



Carved relief of Assyrian calvary men

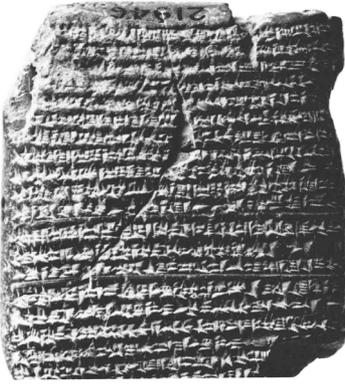


118. THE ASSYRIAN EMPIRE.

Restored gate at ancient city of Ninevah, capital of the Assyrian Empire (Below).



# The Babylonian Empire, 612 - 539 BC



## 120. INVASION OF JUDAH.

(Above) Cuneiform tablet in the British Museum relating Nebuchadnezzar's invasion of Judah and the siege and surrender of Jerusalem in 597 BC.

## 121. BABYLON, A LION.

In Daniel chapter 7, Daniel recorded a dream that the Lord had given him of four beasts symbolizing four successive world empires (Babylonian, Persian, Greek & Roman). In his dream Babylon was a lion. (Below) A carved relief of a lion unearthed on the walls of ancient Babylon.

119. HISTORY OF BABYLON.	
612 BC	The Chaldeans (a Semitic people from Arabia) led by Nabopolasser, Medes, and Scythians formed a coalition to overthrow the Assyrian Empire. Ninevah is sacked.
605	Crown Prince Nebuchadnezzar, Nabopolasser's son, defeated Egyptians at Carchemish. (Jer. 46:2-12)
597	Nebuchadnezzar captured Jerusalem on March 16th. King Jehoiachin was deported to Babylon. (2 Kings 24:6-12)
589	Zedekiah revolted against Babylon.
586	Nebuchadnezzar attacked Jerusalem in August. The city was burned and temple destroyed (Jer. 52:12-14). More Judeans were deported to Babylon (2 Kgs. 25:1-21; Jer. 52:1-30)
539	Conquest of Babylon by Cyrus the Great of Persia.

1st

2nd

3rd





### 122. THE BAYLONIAN EMPIRE.

Nebuchadnezzar's Babylon occupied an area of 200 square miles. The Hanging Gardens of Babylon were ranked one of the seven wonders of the ancient world. The wall around the city had eight gates and was wide enough to accommodate two chariots abreast. Remnants of the tower of Babel (background) were intact for many centuries.



## The Medo-Persian Empire, 539 - 333 BC

### 2 CHRONICLES 36:23

“Thus says Cyrus king of Persia, ‘The Lord, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth, and He has appointed me to build Him a house in Jerusalem, which is in Judah. Whoever there is among you of all His people, may the Lord his God be with him, and let him go up!’”

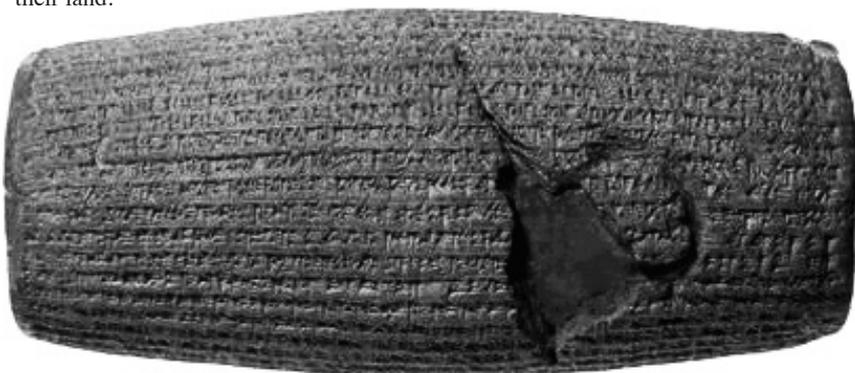


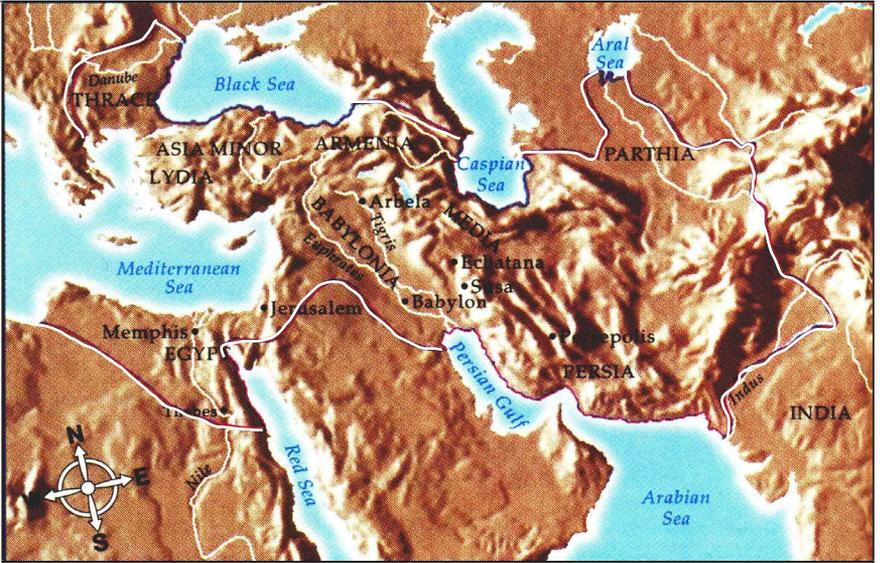
### 124. CYLINDER OF CYRUS

(Below) A clay cylinder, written in Akkadian around 536 BC, with 40+ lines of text, was discovered in 1879 in Nineveh, Iraq, containing Cyrus’ decree permitting the Jews to return to their land.

### 123. THE HISTORY OF PERSIA.

- 700 BC Isaiah’s prophesy of Cyrus’ decree to rebuild Jerusalem and the Temple (Isa. 44:28).
- 539 Conquest of Babylon by Cyrus the Great.
- 536 Cyrus’ decreed that the Jews could return to Israel and rebuild the Temple. 49,697 Jews returned with Zerubbabel.
- 521-486 During the reign of Darius the Mede, the Persian Empire reached its greatest extent, stretching from India to Egypt, including portions of three continents.
- 486-465 Reign of Xerxes, called Ahasuerus. Xerxes married Esther.
- 465-424 Reign of Artaxerxes I. Nehemiah served as his cupbearer (Neh. 2:1). Artaxerxes granted Nehemiah’s request to go to Judah (Neh. 2:5-6) and appointed him governor (Neh. 5:14).
- 333 Alexander the Great defeated the Persian Empire.





125. THE MEDO-PERSIAN EMPIRE.

(Right) On a rock face at Behistun, on the caravan route from Baghdad to Teheran, is a colossal carving of King Darius I. (Below) The central palace stairway at Persepolis, the Persian capital built by Darius, decorated with stone carvings.



## The Greco-Macedonian Empire, 333-200 BC

### DANIEL 8:8

“Then the male goat magnified himself exceedingly. But as soon as he was mighty, the large horn was broken; and in its place there came up four conspicuous horns”



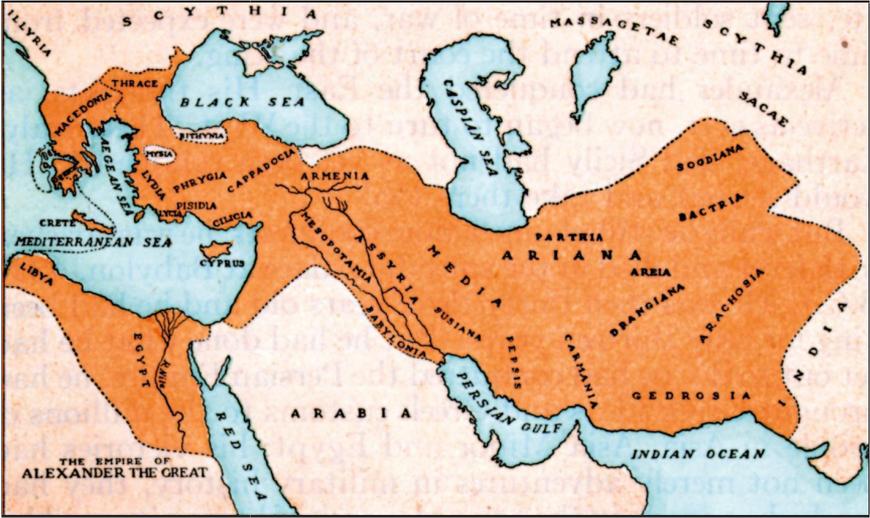
### 127. ALEXANDER.

(Below) Alexander the Great (356- 323 BC), became king at the age of 20, after the death of his father, Philip II of Macedon. By the age of 23 he had conquered the Persian Empire. Alexander died at age 33 and his empire was divided among his four generals, just as Daniel prophesied.



### 126. THE HISTORY OF GREECE.

- 1200 BC Trojan War. A ten-year war between Troy and Greece, result in the burning and destruction of Troy.
- 800 Development of Greek city-states.
- 776 First Olympic games in Greece.
- 700 Beginning of Hellenic Age of Greece.
- 490 Battle of Marathon. Though greatly outnumbered, the Athenians repel Darius' 600 ships and 25,000 men.
- 480 Battle of Thermopylae. The vast armies of Xerxes I (Ahasuerus) defeat the Greeks under the command of Leonidas.
- 479 Battle of Salamis. The first major naval battle in history. Xerxes lost a third of his fleet to Themistocles before retreating. The defeat placed a limit on the westward expansion of the Persian Empire.
- 461-429 The Golden Age of Greece. Development of democracy under Pericles.
- 431-404 Peloponnesian Wars. Sparta defeats Athens.
- 333 Persian War. With 35,000 Greek and Macedonian soldiers, Alexander the Great defeated the Persian Army, under Darius III.
- 323 Death of Alexander the Great, age 33. After the battle of Ipsus, the empire was divided among four generals, fulfilling Daniels prophecy (Dan. 8:8). Three dynasties descended from three of Alexander's generals: Ptolemies, Selucids, and Antigonids.
- 323- 30 Ptolemies. An Egyptian dynasty of Macedonian kings: Ptolemy I, a general in Alexander the Great's army who succeeded him as ruler of Egypt (323-285), and Ptolemy XV (47-30), who ruled as coregent (44-30) with his mother, Cleopatra.
- 323-64 Seleucids. A Hellenistic dynasty, founded by Alexander's general, which ruled over Syria, Mesopotamia, and Persia.
- 323-148 Antigonids. A dynasty founded by Alexander's general Antigonus, which ruled over Macedonia and Greece.
- 200 Roman armies conquer Philip V of Macedonia.
- 148 Macedonia becomes a Roman province.



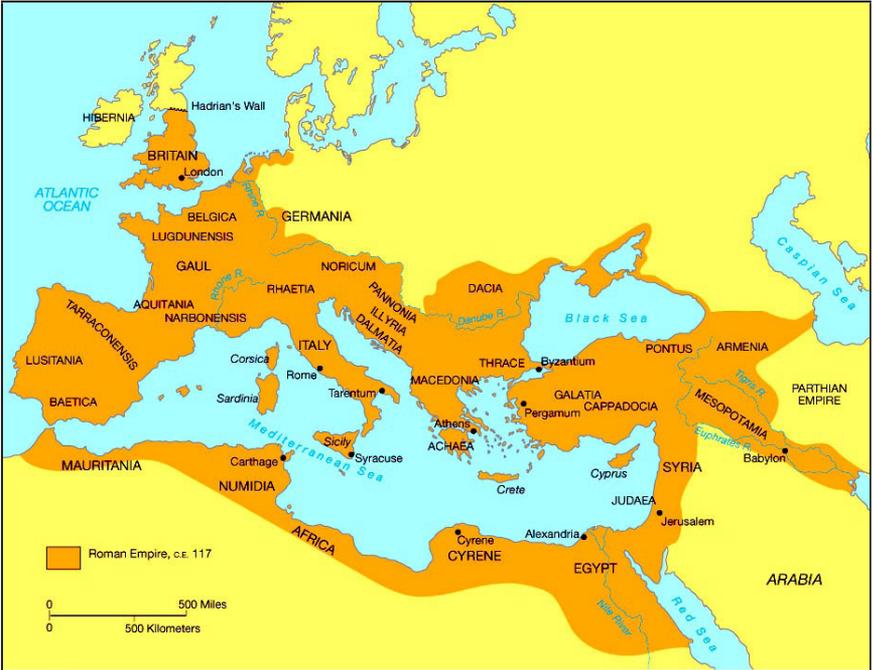
128. THE GRECO-MACEDONIAN EMPIRE.

(Left) Pericles, Athenian political leader (460-429 BC), noted for advancing democracy in Athens. He also ordered the construction of the Parthenon (Below), chief temple of the goddess Athena, built on the acropolis in Athens between 447 and 432 BC. The Acropolis in Athens rises 500 ft above sea level from the plain of Attica.



# The Roman Empire, 200 B.C. - 476 A.D.

129. THE HISTORY THE ROME.		
509 BC	The Roman Republic established.	
264 - 146 B.C.	<u>Punic Wars.</u> War between Rome and Carthage. Rome conquered Macedonia and Greece.	
87 - 81 BC	<u>First Civil War.</u>	
60 BC	First Triumverate.	
50 - 43 BC	<u>Second Civil War.</u> Julius Caesar declared himself “perpetual dictator” (44 B.C.). Assassinated on ides of March.	
27 BC	<u>Third Civil War.</u> Octavian (Caesar Augustus) becomes first Roman Emperor. End of Roman Republic; beginning of the Roman Empire. Beginning of the so-called “Pax Romana”.	
4 BC - 30 AD	<u>The Life of Christ.</u> Born during the reign of Augustus Caesar (Lk. 2:1ff) and crucified during the reign of Tiberius Caesar (Lk. 3:1ff).	
54 - 68 AD	<u>Nero.</u> On separate occasions Nero murdered his step-brother, mother, wife, mistress, burned Rome, and killed Christians in the arena.	
70 AD	<u>House of Flavius.</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vespasian (father), emperor: 69-79 A.D., built coliseum where Christians slaughtered.</li> <li>• Titus (oldest son), emperor: 79-81 A.D., destroyed Jerusalem, temple, &amp; the Jews.</li> <li>• Domitian (youngest son), emperor: 81-96 A.D., demanded worship. (Picture, right)</li> </ul>	
98 - 117 AD	<u>Reign of Trajan.</u> “bathed the empire red in the blood of Christians”	
284 - 305 AD	<u>Reign of Diocletian.</u> Greatest persecution of Christians.	
306 - 17 AD	<u>Reign of Constantine I.</u> Edict of Milan (313 B.C.), which effectively made Christianity the state religion of Rome.	
410 AD	Rome sacked by Goths.	
476 AD	End of Western Roman Empire.	



130. THE ROMAN EMPIRE IN 117 AD.

(Below) the Roman coliseum. Construction of the coliseum was started by Domitian's father, Emperor Vespasian, around 70 AD, completed by Domitian's brother, Emperor Titus, around 80 AD and further modified by Domitian himself (81-96 AD). Many Christians lost their lives in the coliseum.



## C The World Laments Babylon's Fall.

### REVELATION 18:1-24

- 3 “For all the nations have drunk of the wine of the passion of her immorality, and the kings of the earth have committed acts of immorality with her, and the merchants of the earth have become rich by the wealth of her sensuality.”
- 4 And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, “Come out of her, my people, that you may not participate in her sins and that you may not receive of her plagues;”
- 7 “To the degree that she glorified herself and lived sensuously, to the same degree give her torment and mourning; for she says in her heart, ‘I sit as Queen and I am not a widow, and will never see mourning.’”
- 9 “And the kings of the earth, who committed acts of immorality and lived sensuously with her, will weep and lament over her when they see the smoke of her burning”
- 15 “The merchants of these things, who became rich from her, will stand at a distance because of the fear of her torment, weeping and mourning,
- 16 saying, ‘Woe, woe, the great city, she who was clothed in fine linen and purple and scarlet, and adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls’
- 20 “Rejoice over her, O heaven, and you saints and apostles and prophets, because God has pronounced judgment for you against her.”
- 24 “And in her was found the blood of prophets and of saints and of all who have been slain on the earth.”

### NOTES

(v. 3) “immorality,” “wealth,”

“sensuality” - *The Harlot = the incestuous relationship of power, politics, wealth, religion & commercialism.*

(v. 4) “come out” (Note 131) -

*We are in the world, but not of the world.*

(v. 7) “Queen” -

*The Harlot calls herself the “Queen of Heaven”*

(v. 16) “gold” -

*Man-made religion is a multi-billion dollar business. (cf. Acts 3:6)*

(v. 24) “blood” -

*The harlot is the biggest persecutor of the church.*

131. COME OUT OF HER MY PEOPLE. (Rev. 18:4)

- Jeremiah 51:6 - “Flee from the midst of Babylon, and each of you save his life! Do not be destroyed in her punishment, for this is the Lord’s time of vengeance; He is going to render recompense to her.”
- Jeremiah 51:45 - “Come forth from her midst, My people, and each of you save yourselves from the fierce anger of the Lord.”
- 1 Cor. 15:33 - “Do not be deceived: Bad company corrupts good morals.”
- 2 Cor. 6:14-18 - “Do not be bound together with unbelievers; for what partnership have righteousness and lawlessness, or what fellowship has light with darkness? Or what harmony has Christ with Belial, or what has a believer in common with an unbeliever? Or what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For we are the temple of the living God ... ‘Therefore, Come out from their midst and be separate,’ says the Lord.”
- Eph. 5:11 - “Do not participate in the unfruitful deeds of darkness, but instead even expose them”

132. SATAN’S COUNTERFEIT.

Trinity: Father, Son, Holy Spirit	<i>false</i> <u>dragon, beast, prophet</u> (12:3-9) (13:1-8) (13:11-18)
God the Father: God of Truth (Psalm 31:5; Isaiah 65:15)	Satan / Dragon: “father of lies” (John 8:44)
God the Son: Many crowns (Rev. 19:12)	Beast: Ten crowns (Rev. 13:1)
God the Spirit He causes believers to worship God. (John 4:24)	False Prophet “he causes men to worship the beast” (Rev. 13:12-17)
The Bride of Christ (Rev. 19:7, 21:2, 9; 22:17)	A Harlot (Rev. 17:1-5, 15f; 19:2)
The New Jerusalem (Rev. 20:9, 21:2)	Babylon “The Great” (Rev. 14:8, 16:19, 17:5, chap. 18)

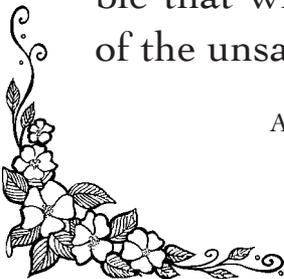
## Additional Notes & Applications

1. Christians should not be surprised if government & commerce show a prejudice against Christianity and a preference toward man-made religions.
2. John is "carried away in the Spirit" (Rev. 17:3) when he is shown the harlot, and again when he is shown the bride of Christ (Rev. 21:9-10). In other words, apart from the Spirit of God (Who lives inside true believers - 1 Cor. 12:13; Eph. 1:13-14), one might mistake the two.
3. Christians must be in the world to be a light to the world (Matt. 5:14-16), but not attached to the world. (Rev. 18:4)
4. Satan loves man-made religion and is happy if people are religious zealots, as long as their religion is not Christianity.



Satan is the arch-counterfeiter. The Devil is now busy at work in the same field in which the Lord sowed the good seed. He is seeking to prevent the growth of the wheat by another plant, the tares, which closely resemble the wheat in appearance. Therefore, as Christ has a Gospel, Satan has a gospel too; the latter being a clever counterfeit of the former. So closely does the gospel of Satan resemble that which it parodies, multitudes of the unsaved are deceived by it. "

Arthur W. Pink (1886-1952)  
"Another Gospel"



# VIII.

REVELATION, CHAPTERS 19-22

## THE SEVENTH VISION

FINAL VICTORY AND ETERNAL FELLOWSHIP



“AND I HEARD A LOUD VOICE FROM THE THRONE, SAYING, ‘BEHOLD, THE TABERNACLE OF GOD IS AMONG MEN, AND HE WILL DWELL AMONG THEM, AND THEY SHALL BE HIS PEOPLE, AND GOD HIMSELF WILL BE AMONG THEM.’”

REVELATION 21:3-4

## 13

*Marriage of the Lamb***Revelation, Chapter 19.**

<u>Section Title</u>	<u>Revelation</u>	<u>Page</u>
A. The Bride of Christ.	19:1-8	150
B. The Rider on the White Horse.	19:9-16	152
C. Feast of the Fowl.	19:17-21	154

**Interlude: A Wedding & A War.**

- Christ will return at the end of the age, as a Bridegroom to be forever wedded to His bride, the church.
- Christ will also return at the end of the age, as a Warrior to wage war and forever defeat and destroy His enemies.

## BACKGROUND

<b>Author:</b>	The Apostle John exiled on the Isle of Patmos.
<b>Audience:</b>	The Christian Church.
<b>Theme:</b>	Christ and the Church are ultimately victorious.
<b>Style:</b>	Apocalyptic (Symbolic)
<b>Date:</b>	95 A.D.
<b>Setting:</b>	Intense Persecution.

## OUTLINE of REVELATION

Vision	Chap	Theme	Seven
1	1-3	Christ & Church	Churches
2	4-6	Christ in Control	Seals
3	7-11	World Warned	Trumpets
4	12-13	Satanic Trinity	Heads
5	14-16	God's Wrath	Bowls
6	17-18	Babylon Falls	Kings
▶ 7	19-22	New Jerusalem	∞

## A The Bride of Christ.

### REVELATION 19:1-8

### NOTES

- 1 After these things I heard, as it were, a loud voice of a great multitude in heaven, saying, "Hallelujah! Salvation and glory and power belong to our God;
- 2 because His judgments are true and righteous; for He has judged the great harlot who was corrupting the earth with her immorality, and He has avenged the blood of His bond-servants on her."
- 3 And a second time they said, "Hallelujah! Her smoke rises up forever and ever."
- 4 And the twenty-four elders and the four living creatures fell down and worshiped God who sits on the throne saying, "Amen. Hallelujah!"
- 5 And a voice came from the throne, saying, "Give praise to our God, all you His bond-servants, you who fear Him, the small and the great."
- 6 And I heard, as it were, the voice of a great multitude and as the sound of many waters and as the sound of mighty peals of thunder, saying, "Hallelujah! For the Lord our God, the Almighty, reigns.
- 7 "Let us rejoice and be glad and give the glory to Him, for the marriage of the Lamb has come and His bride has made herself ready."
- 8 And it was given to her to clothe herself in fine linen, bright and clean; for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints.

(v. 1, 3, 4, 6) "Hallelujah" -

*Hallelujah!*

- Hebrew: Hallel + Ya [weh] = *Praise + The Lord*
- The Hallel: Psalms 113-118
- The Hallel was recited by the priest during Passover.
- The people would respond, "Hallelujah!"
- 4x in Rev. 19 - i.e. Let all the earth praise the Lord
- Psalm 117:1 - "Praise the Lord, all nations; Laud Him, all peoples!"

(v. 6) "sound of many waters & thunder"

(cf. Rev. 1:15, 14:2-3) -

*They sound like Christ*

(v. 7) "His bride" (Hosea 2:19-10; 2 Cor. 11:2) -

*The church*

(v. 7) "the marriage of the lamb" (Note 133) -

*Union of Christ with  
His glorified bride  
(church)*

(v. 8) "fine linen ... righteous acts"

(p. 43, Note 38 & p. 177, Note 147) -

*actions - rewarded*

## 133. JEWISH BETROTHAL &amp; MARRIAGE. (Rev. 19:7)

A. SELECTION. *The father selected a wife for his son.*

- Gen. 2:21-22 - God chose / created Eve for Adam.
- Gen. 24:3f - Abraham chose Rebekah for Isaac.
- Gen. 38:6 - Judah chose Tamar for Er.
- Eph. 1:3-4 - God the Father chose / elected Christ's bride.

B. DEPOSITE / PLEDGE. *Paid by the groom's father. (opposite of our dowry).*

- Gen. 24:10, 22, 53 - Abraham's gifts to Isaac's bride, Rebekah.
- Eph. 1:13-14 - "In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation-- having also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise, who is given as a pledge ..."

## C. ENGAGEMENT / BETROTHAL PERIOD.

- Gen. 29:21 - Jacob & Rachel / Leah.
- Matt. 1:18 - Joseph & Mary.
- Considered legally binding.
- Christ's betrothal period = Church Age

D. READINESS. *The groom could arrive at any time.*

- Matt. 25:1-13 - Parable of the ten virgins.
- Rev. 19:7 - "His bride has made herself ready"
- The bride was brought out to the groom.
- Christ's bride brought to Him at rapture
- Psalm 45:14 - "She will be led to the King in embroidered work; the virgins, her companions who follow her, will be brought to Thee."

## E. WEDDING SUPPER.

- Gen. 29:22 - Wedding feast of Jacob & Leah.
- Matt. 22 - Jesus' parable of the wedding feast.
- Prefigured by Lord's Supper (Communion)

## F. BY INVITATION ONLY.

- Matt. 22:1-14 - Jesus' parable of the wedding feast.
- Rev. 19:9 - "And he said to me, 'Write, "Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb."'"

G. ELIGIBILITY. *Must be properly clothed.*

- Matt. 22:11-14 - Parable of the wedding feast.
- Rev. 19:8 - "And it was given to her to clothe herself in fine linen, bright and clean; for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints"
- Good works don't save us; they adorn us.

## B The Rider on the White Horse.

### REVELATION 19:9-16

### NOTES

9 And he said to me, "Write, 'Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.'" And he said to me, "These are true words of God."

(v. 1) "invited" (cf. Jn 15:16; Eph. 1:4) -

*chosen*

*(by invitation only)*

(v. 10) "I fell at his feet to worship"

10 And I fell at his feet to worship him. And he said to me, "Do not do that; I am a fellow servant of yours and your brethren who hold the testimony of Jesus; worship God. For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy."

(cf. Col. 2:18; Rev. 22:8-9) -

*Only Christ is  
worthy of worship.*

(v. 11) Rider on the "white horse"

11 And I saw heaven opened; and behold, a white horse, and He who sat upon it is called Faithful and True; and in righteousness He judges and wages war.

(Note 134; cf. Rev. 6:1-2) -

*Christ*

(v. 11) "He ... wages war" (Note 135) -

*Christ is a warrior.*

12 And His eyes are a flame of fire, and upon His head are many diadems; and He has a name written upon Him which no one knows except Himself.

(v. 12) "eyes are a flame of fire"

(cf. Rev. 1:14, Note 2, p. 21) -

*Perfect knowledge &  
judgment*

13 And He is clothed with a robe dipped in blood; and His name is called The Word of God.

(v. 12) "many diadems" -

*Anointed Prophet,  
Priest & King*

14 And the armies which are in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, were following Him on white horses.

(v. 15) "His mouth ... a sharp sword"

15 And from His mouth comes a sharp sword, so that with it He may smite the nations; and He will rule them with a rod of iron; and He treads the wine press of the fierce wrath of God, the Almighty.

(cf. Rev. 1:16; Heb. 4:12; Note 2, p. 21) -

*Able to judge  
thoughts & intentions*

(v. 16) "King of kings..."

16 And on His robe and on His thigh He has a name written, "King of kings, and Lord of lords."

(cf. Rev. 17:14; 1 Tim. 6:15-16) -

*Sovereignty*

## 134. THE RIDER ON THE WHITE HORSE. (Rev. 19:11-16)



## REVELATION 19

- v. 11 - called Faithful and True
- v. 11 - He judges & wages war
- v. 12 - eyes are a flame of fire
- v. 12 - many diadems
- v. 13 - a robe dipped in blood
- v. 13 - called The Word of God
- v. 14 - armies with Him
- v. 15 - from His mouth a sword
- v. 15 - will rule with a rod of iron
- v. 15 - administers God's wrath
- v. 16 - name is the King of kings

## 135. THE LORD IS A WARRIOR. (Rev. 19:11)

- Ex. 15:3 - "The Lord is a warrior"
- Josh. 5:13-15 - "Captain of the host of the Lord."
- Psalms 24:8 - "Who is the King of glory? The Lord strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle."
- Isa. 42:13 - "The Lord will go forth like a warrior, He will arouse His zeal like a man of war."
- Jer. 20:11 - "But the Lord is with me like a dread champion; therefore my persecutors will stumble and not prevail."
- Zeph. 3:17 - "The Lord your God is in your midst, a victorious warrior."
- John 16:33 - "In the world you have tribulation, but take courage; I have overcome the world."
- Rom. 8:31 - "If God is for us, who can stand against us?"
- 1 John 4:4 - "greater is He who is in you than he who is in the world."
- Rev. 19:11-16 - "in righteousness He judges and wages war"

**C Feast of the Fowl.**

REVELATION 19:17-21

NOTES

17 And I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried out with a loud voice, saying to all the birds which fly in midheaven, "Come, assemble for the great supper of God;

(v. 17) "the great supper" -

*complete slaughter*

18 in order that you may eat the flesh of kings and the flesh of commanders and the flesh of mighty men and the flesh of horses and of those who sit on them and the flesh of all men, both free men and slaves, and small and great."

(v. 19) "assembled to make war"

(p. 119, Note 102) -

*Armageddon*

19 And I saw the beast and the kings of the earth and their armies, assembled to make war against Him who sat upon the horse, and against His army.

20 And the beast was seized, and with him the false prophet who performed the signs in his presence, by which he deceived those who had received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image; these two were thrown alive into the lake of fire which burns with brimstone.

(v. 20) "lake of fire" (p. 161, Note 139) -

*Eternal damnation*

(v. 20) "thrown alive" -

*no soul annihilation;  
conscious  
eternal torment*

21 And the rest were killed with the sword which came from the mouth of Him who sat upon the horse, and all the birds were filled with their flesh.

*If won't live  
by the Word,  
then die  
by the  
Word*



MATTHEW 24:27  
"For just as the lightning comes from the east, and flashes even to the west, so shall the coming of the Son of Man be. Wherever the corpse is, there the vultures will gather."

## Additional Notes & Applications

1. The church is betrothed to Christ (Rev. 19:7). As a betrothed woman keeps herself for her husband to be, so Christ's people keep themselves pure as they await Christ's return. (1 John 3:2-3)
2. Marriage between a Christian man and woman is a picture of Christ's relationship to the church (Eph. 5:22-33). Is my marriage reflecting that picture? (Men) Are you sacrificing yourself for your wife? (Eph. 5:25) Are you loving and cherishing her? (Eph. 5:28-29). And (women) are you submitting to your Christian husband as unto the Lord? (Eph. 5:22-24). Are you showing him respect? (Eph. 5:33)
3. Christ is the Prince of peace (Isa. 9:6) to those who have been justified by grace through faith in His substitutionary atonement (Rom. 5:1). But He is a Warrior, who comes to wage war with those who reject God's gracious plan of salvation (Rev. 19:11).



## 14

*Deceiver of the Nations***Revelation, Chapter 20.**

<u>Section Title</u>	<u>Revelation</u>	<u>Page</u>
A. The Strong Man is Bound.	20:1-6	158
B. Satan is Released & Overthrown.	20:7-15	160

**Theme: New Global Outreach.**

- Satan is bound and thrown into the abyss where his ability to deceive the nations is restricted.
- The final battle between good and evil is not a battle at all, for the Lord will destroy all of His enemies with the breath of His nostrils.
- John describes two births in his Gospel (John 3:3), as well as two deaths and two resurrections in the Book of Revelation. Understanding these is essential to salvation.

**BACKGROUND**

<b>Author:</b>	The Apostle John exiled on the Isle of Patmos.
<b>Audience:</b>	The Christian Church.
<b>Theme:</b>	Christ and the Church are ultimately victorious.
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**OUTLINE of REVELATION**

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1	1-3	Christ & Church	Churches
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5	14-16	God's Wrath	Bowls
6	17-18	Babylon Falls	Kings
▶ 7	19-22	New Jerusalem	∞

**A The Strong Man is Bound.**

REVELATION 20:1-6

NOTES

- 1 And I saw an angel coming down from heaven, having the key of the abyss and a great chain in his hand.
- 2 And he laid hold of the dragon, the serpent of old, who is the devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years,
- 3 and threw him into the abyss, and shut it and sealed it over him, so that he should not deceive the nations any longer, until the thousand years were completed; after these things he must be released for a short time.
- 4 Then I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was given to them, and judgment was given to them. And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of the testimony of Jesus and because of the word of God, and those who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received the mark upon their forehead and upon their hand; and they came to life and reigned with Christ for a thousand years.
- 5 The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were completed. This is the first resurrection.
- 6 Blessed and holy is the one who has a part in the first resurrection; over these the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with Him for a thousand years.

- (v. 1) "an angel" (cf. Rev. 12:7-9) - Michael?
- (v. 2-3) "bound" (Note 137) - How? His deceit is limited.
- (v. 2) "a thousand years" (Note 138 p. 161) - literal or symbolic number?
- (v. 3) "deceive the nations" - Satan's primary weapon
- (v. 5-6) "first resurrection" (Note 136) - Soul goes to heaven to be with Christ.
- Born 1x, die 2x.
- Born 2x, die 1x.

136. FIRST & SECOND BIRTH, DEATH & RESURRECTION. (Rev. 20:6)		
	FIRST	SECOND
Birth	Physical	Spiritual - Born-Again (John 3:3; 2 Cor. 5:17)
Death	Physical	Eternal - The Lake of Fire (Rev. 20:6, 10, 14, 15, 21:8)
Resurrection	Soul (Rev. 20:5-6; 2 Cor. 5:6, 8)	Body (1 Cor. 15:51-54; 1 Thess 4:16-17)

137. WHAT HAPPENED TO SATAN AT JESUS' RESURRECTION?

A. WHAT IS SATAN'S PRIMARY WEAPON? ➔ lies

- Genesis 3:4 - "the serpent said to the woman, "You surely shall not die!"
- John 8:44 - "... there is no truth in him. Whenever he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own nature; for he is a *liar*, and *the father of lies*."
- Rev. 12:9 - "And the great dragon was thrown down, the serpent of old who is called the devil and Satan, who *deceives the whole world* ..."

B. EFFECT OF THE CROSS ON SATAN? ➔ disarmed

- Col. 2:14-15- "... [Christ] canceled out the certificate of debt consisting of decrees against us and which was hostile to us; and [He] has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross. When He had *disarmed* the rulers and authorities, He made a public display of them, having triumphed over them through Him."

C. EFFECT OF RESURRECTION ON SATAN? ➔ bound

	REVELATION 12:7-10	REVELATION 20:1-3
Angel	"Michael" (12:7)	"an angel" (20:1)
Satan	"the serpent of old who is called the devil and Satan" (12:9)	"the serpent of old who is called the devil and Satan" (20:2)
Action	"the great dragon was thrown down" (12:9)	"threw him into the abyss" and bound for 1000 years (20:3)
When?	Rev. 12:5 - <u>Jesus' Resurrection</u>	

D. EFFECT ON THE CHURCH'S IMPACT. ➔ evangelism

- Rom. 9:29 - Old Covenant: Evangelism ≤ 0
- Matt. 28:19 - New Covenant: "make disciples of all the nations"

E. WHAT CHANGED? ➔ Satan bound

- Matt. 12:29 - "Or how can anyone enter the strong man's house and carry off his property, unless he first binds the strong man? And then he will plunder his house."
- Matt. 16:18 - "I will build My church; and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it."

**B Satan is Released & Overthrown.**

REVELATION 20:7-15

NOTES

- 7 And when the thousand years are completed, Satan will be released from his prison,
- 8 and will come out to deceive the nations which are in the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together for the war; the number of them is like the sand of the seashore.
- 9 And they came up on the broad plain of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city, and fire came down from heaven and devoured them.
- 10 And the devil who deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are also; and they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.
- 11 And I saw a great white throne and Him who sat upon it, from whose presence earth and heaven fled away, and no place was found for them.
- 12 And I saw the dead, the great and the small, standing before the throne, and books were opened; and another book was opened, which is the book of life; and the dead were judged from the things which were written in the books, according to their deeds.
- 13 And the sea gave up the dead which were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead which were in them; and they were judged, every one of them according to their deeds.
- 14 And death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire.
- 15 And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

- (v. 7) "thousand years" (Note 138) -  
A symbolic number?  
(2 Pet. 3:8)  
10 = complete period  
3 1/2 = undisclosed length  
The Church Age?
- (v. 8) "deceive the nations" -  
Satan is bound /  
limited in this regard  
during church age
- (v. 8) "Gog & Magog" (Ezek 38) -  
Terrible persecution  
Antiochus Epiphanes:  
last under old cov.
- (v. 8) "fire" from heaven -  
No fight!
- 2 THESS. 2:8  
"Then that lawless one will be revealed whom the Lord will slay with the breath of His mouth and bring to an end by the appearance of His coming"
- (v. 10) "lake of fire" (Note 139) -  
eternal punishment
- (v. 11) "earth and heaven fled away"  
(p. 165, Note 140) - Recreated
- (v. 12) "book of life" (p. 169, Note 143)

138. ONE THOUSAND YEARS. (Rev. 20:7)

A. REFERENCES TO 1000 YEARS IN REVELATION 20.

- Rev. 20:2 - Satan is bound for a thousand years.
- Rev. 20:3 - Satan is released “for a short time” after a thousand years.
- Rev. 20:4 - God’s people reign with Christ for a thousand years.
- Rev. 20:5 - “The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were completed.”
- Rev. 20:6 - “Blessed and holy is the one who has a part in the first resurrection; over these the second death has no power.”
- Rev. 20:7 - “And when the thousand years are completed, Satan will be released from his prison”

B. IS 1000 YEARS MENTIONED ANYWHERE ELSE IN THE BIBLE?

- Psalm 90:4 - “For a thousand years in Thy sight are like yesterday when it passes by, or as a watch in the night.”
- 2 Peter 3:8 - “But do not let this one fact escape your notice, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.”

C. SYMBOLIC MEANING.

- 1000 = 10 x 10 x 10 = Dimensions of Holy of holies = Church Age?
- 10 = Number of completion = A period in which something is completed:  
Worldwide evangelism & this present world system, etc.

139. LAKE OF FIRE / THE SECOND DEATH. (Rev. 20:10, 14)

- Dan. 12:2 - “disgrace and everlasting contempt”
- Mt. 3:12 - “unquenchable fire”
- Mt. 13:41-42 - “furnace of fire”
- Mt. 13:41-42 - “weeping and gnashing of teeth”
- Mt. 22:13 - “outer darkness”
- Mt. 25:41 - “eternal fire”
- Mt. 25:46 - “eternal punishment”
- Lk. 16:19-31 - consciousness
- Lk. 16:28 - “place of torment”
- 2 Thess. 1:9 - “everlasting destruction”
- Heb. 9:27 - no second chance
- Rev. 14:10 - “wrath of God in full strength in the cup of His anger”
- Rev. 21:8 - “fire and brimstone”

DEGREES OF PUNISHMENT

- Mt. 11:24
- Mk. 12:40
- Lk. 12:47-48
- Jam. 3:1

## Additional Notes & Applications

1. The Word of the Lord did not go forth to the nations of the world under the Old Covenant, and all but a believing remnant of Israel apostatized (Isa. 9:29). But something significant has happened, under the New Covenant, that prevents Satan from stopping worldwide evangelism.
2. Christians have been given a Great Commission to make disciples of all nations (Matt 28:19), and the the gates of hell cannot prevail against us (Matt. 16:18), i.e. and keep us from plundering his house. (Matt. 12:29)
3. Whether or not the "lake of fire" is literal fire offers no comfort, because reality is always greater than the symbol.

**15***The New Jerusalem***Revelation, Chapter 21.**

<u>Section Title</u>	<u>Revelation</u>	<u>Page</u>
A. A New Heaven & Earth.	21:1-8	164
B. The Bride of Christ: A City?	21:9-18	166
C. The Glory of the Lord.	21:19-27	168

**Theme: A Picture of the Church.**

- From of the burned out ashes of this present universe, God will create a new Heaven and a new Earth in which righteousness dwells.
- The Book of Revelation uses several symbols to describe various aspects of the church. The last symbol of the church in Revelation is a beautiful city called the New Jerusalem.
- The New Jerusalem has no temple because the whole city is God's temple.

**BACKGROUND**

<b>Author:</b>	The Apostle John exiled on the Isle of Patmos.
<b>Audience:</b>	The Christian Church.
<b>Theme:</b>	Christ and the Church are ultimately victorious.
<b>Style:</b>	Apocalyptic (Symbolic)
<b>Date:</b>	95 A.D.
<b>Setting:</b>	Intense Persecution.

**OUTLINE of REVELATION**

<b>Vision</b>	<b>Chap</b>	<b>Theme</b>	<b>Seven</b>
1	1-3	Christ & Church	Churches
2	4-6	Christ in Control	Seals
3	7-11	World Warned	Trumpets
4	12-13	Satanic Trinity	Heads
5	14-16	God's Wrath	Bowls
6	17-18	Babylon Falls	Kings
▶ 7	19-22	New Jerusalem	∞

# A New Heaven & Earth.

## REVELATION 21:1-8

## NOTES

- 1 And I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth passed away, and there is no longer any sea. (v. 1) "new heaven & earth" (Note 140) -  
*Recreation out of the elements of the old burned-out universe.*
- 2 And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, made ready as a bride adorned for her husband. *- people, not a bldg* (v. 1) "no longer any sea" -
- 3 And I heard a loud voice from the throne, saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is among men, and He shall dwell among them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself shall be among them, (p. 113, Note 93) -  
*No more separation between God and man.*
- 4 and He shall wipe away every tear from their eyes; and there shall no longer be any death; there shall no longer be any mourning, or crying, or pain; the first things have passed away. " (v. 2) "new Jerusalem ... as a bride" (p. 167, Note 142) -  
*More info next page.*
- 5 And He who sits on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new." And He said, "Write, for these words are faithful and true." (v. 3) "tabernacle of God among men" -  
*Heaven on earth, God among men as in Eden.*
- 6 And He said to me, "It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give to the one who thirsts from the spring of the water of life without cost. (v. 4) no crying, death, or pain (Note 141) - *Why? No sin! We were created for everlasting joy! (Isa. 35:10)*
- 7 "He who overcomes shall inherit these things, and I will be his God and he will be My son. (v. 6) "Alpha & Omega" (p. 17, Note 2) -  
*First & last word*
- 8 "But for the cowardly and unbelieving and abominable and murderers and immoral persons and sorcerers and idolaters and all liars, their part will be in the lake that burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death." (v. 6) "water of life without cost" -  
*Free gift of God's grace*

140. A NEW HEAVEN & EARTH. (Rev. 21:1)

- Isaiah 65:17 - “For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth; and the former things will not be remembered or come to mind.”
- 2 Peter 3:7-13 - “But by His word the present heavens and earth are being reserved for fire, kept for the day of judgment and destruction of ungodly men ... in which the heavens will pass away with a roar and the elements will be destroyed with intense heat, and the earth and its works will be burned up. ... But according to His promise we are looking for new heavens and a new earth, in which righteousness dwells.”
- Rev. 6:14 - “The sky was split apart like a scroll when it is rolled up, and every mountain and island were moved out of their places.”
- Rev. 20:11 - “Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat upon it, from whose presence earth and heaven fled away, and no place was found for them.”

141. THE THREE [RE]CREATIONS OF THE EARTH. (Rev. 21:4)

NEW EARTH		MAN’S SPIRITUAL CONDITION	RESULT
ADAM		<u>Original</u> <u>or unconfirmed</u> <u>righteousness</u>	<u>Gen. 3:7-10</u> Adam was shamed in his nakedness.
NOAH		<u>Fallen nature</u>	<u>Gen. 9:21f</u> Noah was shamed in his nakedness.
CHRISTIAN		<u>2 Peter 3:13</u> “But according to His promise we are looking for new heavens and a new earth, in which righteousness dwells.”	<u>Rev. 19:7</u> We will be robed in righteousness

## B The Bride of Christ: A City?

### REVELATION 21:9-18

### NOTES

- 9 And one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues, came and spoke with me, saying, "Come here, I shall show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb." (v. 9) "the wife of the Lamb ... [heavenly] Jerusalem" (Note 142) -
- *Lamb = Christ*
  - *Wife = New Jerusalem*
  - *≠ literal city*
  - *Christ not married to a city*
  - *Jerusalem = church*
- 10 And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me the holy city, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God,
- 11 having the glory of God. Her brilliance was like a very costly stone, as a stone of crystal-clear jasper.
- 12 It had a great and high wall, with twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels; and names were written on them, which are those of the twelve tribes of the sons of Israel. (v. 12) "twelve gates -
- *12 = God's people*
- 13 There were three gates on the east and three gates on the north and three gates on the south and three gates on the west. (v. 14) "twelve foundation stones" -
- *foundation of the apostle's teaching*
- 14 And the wall of the city had twelve foundation stones, and on them were the twelve names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.
- EPH. 2:19-20

*"you are fellow citizens with the saints, and are of God's household, having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the cornerstone"*
- 15 And the one who spoke with me had a gold measuring rod to measure the city, and its gates and its wall.
- 16 And the city is laid out as a square, and its length is as great as the width; and he measured the city with the rod, fifteen hundred miles; its length and width and height are equal. (v. 16) "fifteen hundred miles" -
- *Greek: 12,000 stadia (stadia ~ 600 ft)*
- 17 And he measured its wall, seventy-two yards, according to human measurements, which are also angelic measurements. (v. 17) "seventy-two yards" -
- *144 cubits*
- 18 And the material of the wall was jasper; and the city was pure gold, like clear glass.

## 142. THE NEW JERUSALEM. (Rev. 21:16)

“And the city is laid out as a square, and its length is as great as the width; and he measured the city with the rod, fifteen hundred miles; its length and width and height are equal.”

A. SCI-FI - A 1500 mile cube hovering above the earth.  
Volume = 3.375 billion mi<sup>3</sup>

## B. IDENTITY.

- Heb. 12:22-24 - “But you have come to *Mount Zion* and to the city of the living God, the *heavenly Jerusalem*, and to myriads of angels, to the general assembly and *church* of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven...”
- Rev. 21:9-1 - “And one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues, came and spoke with me, saying, ‘Come here, I shall show you the *bride*, the wife of the Lamb.’ And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me the holy city, *Jerusalem*, coming down out of heaven from God”

## C. CONNECT THE DOTS.

- Mount Zion = The Heavenly Jerusalem = The Church = The Bride of Christ

## D. SYMBOLOGY.

- If New Jerusalem = church (God’s people), what number might we expect to describe it? 12 = The symbolic # of God’s people
- Rev. 21:12 - “It had a great and high wall, with *twelve* gates, and at the gates *twelve* angels; and names were written on them, which are those of the *twelve* tribes of the sons of Israel.”
- Rev. 21:14 - “And the wall of the city had *twelve* foundation stones, and on them were the *twelve* names of the *twelve* apostles of the Lamb.”
- Rev. 21:16 - “And the city is laid out as a square, and its length is as great as the width; and he measured the city with the rod, ~~fifteen hundred miles~~ (Greek: *twelve* thousand stadia); its length and width and height are equal.”  
12,000 = 12 x (10 x 10 x 10)  
12 = God’s people; 10 x 10 x 10 = Holy of holies  
God’s people = the Temple / Holy of holies
- Rev. 21:17 - “And he measured its wall, ~~seventy-two yards~~ (Greek: 144 cubits = 12 x 12 ), according to human measurements, which are also angelic measurements.”

## C The Glory of the Lord.

### REVELATION 21:19-27

### NOTES

19 The foundation stones of the city wall were adorned with every kind of precious stone. The first foundation stone was jasper; the second, sapphire; the third, chalcedony; the fourth, emerald;

(v. 19) "twelve stones" (Ex. 28:17-29) -

• 12 stones in  
High Priest's  
breastplate.

• Close to  
his heart.

• Christ our  
High Priest  
(Heb. 4:14)



20 the fifth, sardonyx; the sixth, sardius; the seventh, chrysolite; the eighth, beryl; the ninth, topaz; the tenth, chrysoptase; the eleventh, jacinth; the twelfth, amethyst.

21 And the twelve gates were twelve pearls; each one of the gates was a single pearl. And the street of the city was pure gold, like transparent glass.

(v. 21) "twelve pearls" -

• Pearl made by  
blood, suffering  
and death.

• We enter church  
through Christ's  
suffering & death.

22 And I saw no temple in it, for the Lord God, the Almighty, and the Lamb, are its temple.

23 And the city has no need of the sun or of the moon to shine upon it, for the glory of God has illumined it, and its lamp is the Lamb. *-Holy of holies*

(v. 22) "no temple in it" -

The whole city is  
the Holy of holies

24 And the nations shall walk by its light, and the kings of the earth shall bring their glory into it.

(v. 23) "God has illumined it" -

God is the only  
illumination in the  
Holy of holies.

25 And in the daytime (for there shall be no night there) its gates shall never be closed;

26 and they shall bring the glory and the honor of the nations into it;

(v. 27) "Lamb's book of life" (Note 143) -

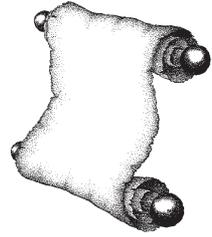
Contains the only  
names of God's  
people.

27 and nothing unclean and no one who practices abomination and lying, shall ever come into it, but only those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life.



143.  
THE LAMB'S  
BOOK OF LIFE.

(Rev. 21:27)

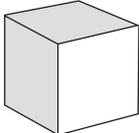


- Phil. 4:3 - “Indeed, true companion, I ask you also to help these women who have shared my struggle in the cause of the gospel, together with Clement also and the rest of my fellow workers, whose names are in the *book of life*.”
- Luke 10:20 - “Nevertheless do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rejoice that your names are *recorded in heaven*.”
- Rev. 3:5 - “He who overcomes shall thus be clothed in white garments; and I will not erase his name from *the book of life*, and I will confess his name before My Father, and before His angels.”  
*Double - negative*
- Rev. 13:8 - “And all who dwell on the earth will worship [the beast], everyone whose name has not been written from the foundation of the world in *the book of life of the Lamb* who has been slain.” (cf. Rev. 17:8)
- Rev. 20:12 - “And I saw the dead, the great and the small, standing before the throne, and books were opened; and another book was opened, which is *the book of life*; and the dead were judged from the things which were written in the books, according to their deeds.”
- Rev. 20:15 - “And if anyone’s name was not found written in *the book of life*, he was thrown into the lake of fire.”
- Rev. 21:27 - “and nothing unclean and no one who practices abomination and lying, shall ever come into [the heavenly Jerusalem], but only those whose names are written in *the Lamb’s book of life*.”

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**Note.** The “book of the living” discussed in Psa. 69:28 (KJV), cf. Ex. 32:32-33 is not the Lamb’s Book of [Eternal] Life, but rather a metaphor for those living on earth. To be blotted out of the book of the living was to die (physically). In ancient townships, names were “blotted out” from the city census upon death.

144. PICTURES OF GOD'S PEOPLE IN REVELATION.		
FIRST VISION	 7 LAMPSTANDS	<p style="text-align: center;">GOD'S PEOPLE ARE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(Rev. 1:12-13, 20)</p> <p>Christ shining through the church is the light of the world (Matt. 5:14-16). Christ is the central stem of the 7-branched candlestick, and we are the branches (cf. John 15:5). Christ is the central life and source of light in the church.</p>
SECOND VISION	 24 ELDERS ON 24 THRONES	<p style="text-align: center;">GOD'S PEOPLE WILL REIGN WITH CHRIST.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(Rev. 4:4, 9-11)</p> <p>The 24 elders enthroned in heaven represent the church reigning with Christ (Eph. 2:6). 24 represents the 12 Old Testament tribes of Israel plus the 12 New Testament apostles, symbolizing the people of God of all times (Old and New Covenant).</p>
SECOND VISION	 SOULS UNDER BRONZE ALTAR	<p style="text-align: center;">GOD'S PEOPLE WILL BE MARTYRED FOR THEIR FAITH.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(Rev. 6:9-11)</p> <p>The martyrdom of God's people for their faith in Jesus Christ is considered a holy sacrifice unto the Lord, like the animal sacrifices on the bronze altar under the Old Covenant. God will avenge the blood of His people and reward their sacrifice.</p>
THIRD VISION	 144,000	<p style="text-align: center;">GOD'S PEOPLE ARE THE TRUE TEMPLE OF GOD.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(Rev. 7:2-4, 14:1-3)</p> <p>144,000 = 12 x 12 x 10 x 10 x 10: 12 is the number of God's people, and 10 x 10 x 10 are the dimensions of the Holy of holies, signifying that God's people are the true temple of God (1 Cor. 3:16, 6:19). The 144,000 are God's people on earth sealed unto the day of redemption (Eph. 1:13-14).</p>

PICTURES OF GOD'S PEOPLE IN REVELATION (CONT'D).		
FOURTH VISION	 <p>Two Olive Trees</p>  <p>Two Lampstands</p> <p>2 WITNESSES</p>	<p>GOD'S PEOPLE MUST PREACH THE GOSPEL TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH.</p> <p>(Rev. 11:3-12)</p> <p>The two witnesses symbolized by the two olive trees and the two lampstands represent the church's testimony in the world. Christians are ambassadors for Christ (2 Cor. 5: 120), and must testify until their testimony is silenced by the beast.</p>
FOURTH VISION	 <p>THE WOMAN &amp; HER OFFSPRING</p>	<p>GOD'S OLD &amp; NEW COVENANT PEOPLE HAVE ONE COMMON BOND: CHRIST.</p> <p>(Rev. 12)</p> <p>The Old Covenant people of God are pictured as a pregnant woman whose pregnancy develops throughout the whole Old Testament with each new prophecy concerning Messiah. She finally gives birth to Christ and "other offspring," the church.</p>
SEVENTH VISION	 <p>THE BRIDE OF CHRIST</p>	<p>GOD'S PEOPLE ARE BETROTHED TO JESUS CHRIST.</p> <p>(Rev. 19:7-9)</p> <p>The church is betrothed to Christ (Isa. 54:4; Hosea 2:19-20; 2 Cor. 11:2), who will return for His bride at the end of the age. This "marriage" represents the closest possible relationship between the Creator and the creature.</p>
SEVENTH VISION	 <p>THE NEW JERUSALEM</p>	<p>GOD'S PEOPLE WILL ENJOY ETERNAL FELLOWSHIP WITH GOD.</p> <p>(Rev. 21:2, 21:10-22:5)</p> <p>The New Jerusalem is described as a perfect cube, where there is no external light, because God who dwells there illuminates it. This is a beautiful symbol of the only other cube in the Bible, the Holy of holies, i.e. God's people (1 Cor. 3:16, 6:19).</p>

## Additional Notes & Applications

1. As in Eden, God will dwell with man in the newly created Heaven & Earth. (cf. Gen. 3:8 & Rev. 21:3). Then the spiritual & physical realms will merge back into one, and Heaven will be on Earth. The greatest feature of the eternal state is face-to-face fellowship with God. Is fellowship with God my greatest desire now?

2. The foundation of the church is the written Word of God, i.e. the teachings of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus being the chief cornerstone (Eph. 2:19-20; Rev. 21:14). Am I building my life upon that Rock or upon something less stable? (Matt. 7:24-27)

3. Receiving Jesus Christ as Lord & Savior is the only way to know that my name is written in the Lamb's Book of Life.

## 16

*I Am Coming Quickly***Revelation, Chapter 22.**

<u>Section Title</u>	<u>Revelation</u>	<u>Page</u>
A. The River & the Tree of Life.	22:1-7	174
B. My Reward is With Me.	22:8-15	176
C. The Spirit & the Bride say, "Come!"	22:16-21	178

**Theme: Be Ready!**

- Repeatedly throughout Scripture and especially in the Book of Revelation, God promises eternal rewards in Heaven for faithful service and sacrifice on Earth.
- The New Jerusalem is a picture of paradise restored on earth. Those who come into it eat of the Tree of [eternal] Life and live forever.
- The time of Christ's second advent is unknown and when Jesus does return it will be sudden, emphasizing the need to live in a constant state of readiness.

## BACKGROUND

<b>Author:</b>	The Apostle John exiled on the Isle of Patmos.
<b>Audience:</b>	The Christian Church.
<b>Theme:</b>	Christ and the Church are ultimately victorious.
<b>Style:</b>	Apocalyptic (Symbolic)
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## OUTLINE of REVELATION

Vision	Chap	Theme	Seven
1	1-3	Christ & Church	Churches
2	4-6	Christ in Control	Seals
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6	17-18	Babylon Falls	Kings
▶ 7	19-22	New Jerusalem	∞

## A The River & the Tree of Life.

### REVELATION 22:1-7

- 1 And he showed me a river of the water of life, clear as crystal, coming from the throne of God and of the Lamb,
- 2 in the middle of its street. And on either side of the river was the tree of life, bearing twelve kinds of fruit, yielding its fruit every month; and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.
- 3 And there shall no longer be any curse; and the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it, and His bond-servants shall serve Him;
- 4 and they shall see His face, and His name shall be on their foreheads.
- 5 And there shall no longer be any night; and they shall not have need of the light of a lamp nor the light of the sun, because the Lord God shall illumine them; and they shall reign forever and ever.
- 6 And he said to me, "These words are faithful and true"; and the Lord, the God of the spirits of the prophets, sent His angel to show to His bond-servants the things which must shortly take place.
- 7 "And behold, I am coming quickly. Blessed is he who heeds the words of the prophecy of this book."

### NOTES

(v. 1) "river... of life" (Note 145) -

*Eternal life, but only  
"from the throne"*

(v. 2) "tree" - (Note 146) -

*• Literally "wood," same  
word used for cross  
(Acts 5:30, 10:39)  
• Man driven out of the  
garden, now back in.*

(v. 3) "the throne of God and  
of the Lamb shall be in it" -

*• Christ spiritually in  
the church now.  
• Physically present  
throughout eternity.*

(v. 4) "they shall see His face"

*Matt. 5:8; 1 John 3:2-3 - the pure in  
heart for they shall  
see God.*

(v. 5) "the Lord God shall illumine them"

*1 John 1:5 - God is light:  
He enlightens us  
spiritually, emotionally,  
& intellectually.*

(v. 6,7) "shortly...quickly" (p. 179, Note 149)

(v. 7) "Blessed is he who heeds" (p. 17, Note 3)

*Doers are wise men.*

145. A RIVER OF LIFE. (Rev. 22:1)

- Psalm 36:8-9 - “They drink their fill of the abundance of Your house; and You give them to drink of the river of Your delights. For with You is the fountain of life ...”
- Psalm 46:4 - “There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy dwelling places of the Most High.”
- Jer. 2:13 - God calls Himself, “The fountain of living waters”
- John 4:7-14 - “Jesus answered and said to her, “If you knew the gift of God, and who it is who says to you, ‘Give Me a drink,’ you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water. ... whoever drinks of the water that I will give him shall never thirst; but the water that I will give him will become in him a well of water springing up to eternal life.”
- John 7:38 - “He who believes in Me, as the Scripture said, ‘From his innermost being will flow rivers of living water.’”
- Rev. 7:17 - “For the Lamb in the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and will guide them to springs of the water of life; and God will wipe every tear from their eyes.”
- Rev. 22: 17 - “... And let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who wishes take the water of life without cost.”



	146. PARADISE RESTORED. (Rev. 22:1)	
	EDEN	NEW JERUSALEM
TREE OF LIFE	“in the midst” (Gen. 2:9)	“in the middle” (Rev 22:2)
RIVER	“flowed out of Eden” (Gen. 2:10)	“Coming from the throne” (22:1)
GOLD	“in Havilah” (Gen. 2:12)	“the city was pure gold” (Rev. 21:18)
PRECIOUS STONES	bdellium & onyx (Gen. 2:12)	12 precious stones (Rev. 21:19-20)
THE LORD	Walked in the garden (Gen. 3:8)	“He shall dwell among them” (Rev. 21:3)
THE SERPENT	In the garden (Gen. 3:1)	In the lake of fire (Rev. 20:10, 21:27)

**B My Reward is With Me.**

REVELATION 22:8-15

NOTES

8 And I, John, am the one who heard and saw these things. And when I heard and saw, I fell down to worship at the feet of the angel who showed me these things.

(v. 8) "to worship" (cf. Rev. 19:10; Col. 2:18)

9 And he said to me, "Do not do that; I am a fellow servant of yours and of your brethren the prophets and of those who heed the words of this book; worship God."

10 And he said to me, "Do not seal up the words of the prophecy of this book, for the time is near.

11 "Let the one who does wrong, still do wrong; and let the one who is filthy, still be filthy; and let the one who is righteous, still practice righteousness; and let the one who is holy, still keep himself holy."

12 "Behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to render to every man according to what he has done.

13 "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end."

14 Blessed are those who wash their robes, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter by the gates into the city.

15 Outside are the dogs and the sorcerers and the immoral persons and the murderers and the idolaters, and everyone who loves and practices lying.

(v. 10) "do not seal up" - This is inspired Scripture.

(v. 11) "let the one who does wrong..." -

After repeated warnings, God gives the evil man over to his sin (Rom. 1:18-32)

(v. 12) "My reward is with Me" (Note 147) -

For faithful service & sacrifice to Christ.

(v. 14) "Alpha and Omega" -

3x in Revelation:  
2x of Father (1:8, 21:6)  
1x of Christ (22:13)

Shows Christ's deity

(v. 14) "Blessed are those..." (cf. p.7) -

7th & final beatitude.

(v. 14) "wash their robe" - i.e. in

the blood of Jesus (Rev. 7:14) = eternal life.

(v. 15) "Outside" -

• Now: Those outside Christ/the church.

• Eternity: Those in the Lake of Fire.

## 147. ARE THERE REWARDS IN HEAVEN? (Rev. 22:12)

- Matt. 6:19-20 - “Do not lay up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves do not break in or steal”
- Mt. 10:41-42 - “He who receives a prophet in the name of a prophet shall receive a prophet’s reward; and he who receives a righteous man in the name of a righteous man shall receive a righteous man’s reward. And whoever in the name of a disciple gives to one of these little ones even a cup of cold water to drink, truly I say to you he shall not lose his reward.”
- Mt. 16:27 - “For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of His Father with His angels; and will then recompense every man according to his deeds.”
- Mt. 25:14-23 - “His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful slave; you were faithful with a few things, I will put you in charge of many things, enter into the joy of your master.’” (Parable of the Talents)
- 1 Cor. 3:8 - “Now he who plants and he who waters are one; but each will receive his own reward according to his own labor.”
- 1 Cor. 3:11,14 - “For no man can lay a foundation other than the one which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if any man builds upon the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, each man’s work will become evident; for the day will show it, because it is to be revealed with fire; and the fire itself will test the quality of each man’s work. If any man’s work which he has built upon it remains, he shall receive a reward. If any man’s work is burned up, he shall suffer loss; but he himself shall be saved, yet so as through fire.”
- 2 Cor. 5:10 - “For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.”
- Eph. 6:7-8 - “With good will render service, as to the Lord, and not to men, knowing that whatever good thing each one does, this he will receive back from the Lord, whether slave or free.
- 2 John 1:8 - “Watch yourselves, that you might not lose what we have accomplished, but that you may receive a full reward.”

## C The Spirit & the Bride Say, "Come!"

### REVELATION 22:16-21

### NOTES

16 "I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things for the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, the bright morning star."

(v. 16) "sent My angel" (p. 17, Note1).

(v. 16) "root and offspring of David" -

*Divinity & Humanity*

(v. 16) "the bright morning star" -

*Announces the dawn  
of a new day.*

17 And the Spirit and the bride say, "Come." And let the one who hears say, "Come." And let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who wishes take the water of life without cost.

(v. 17) "the Spirit and the bride" -

*Must always work  
together*

(v. 17) "come" - *Present*

18 I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: if anyone adds to them, God shall add to him the plagues which are written in this book;

*imperative; literally -  
"be coming;"*

1. *Call for Jesus' return  
as in 22:20?*

2. *Call for lost people to  
come to Jesus?*

19 and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part from the tree of life and from the holy city, which are written in this book.

(v. 17) "water of life without cost" -

*Eternal life is a free gift  
of God's grace*

(v. 18-19) "add to" or "take away" -

20 He who testifies to these things says, "Yes, I am coming quickly." Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

*• Revelation is inspired by  
God (22:16)*

*• Therefore it cannot be  
edited.*

21 The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all. Amen.

(v. 20) "I am coming quickly" (Note 149) -

*Can be rendered  
"suddenly"*



*“I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things for the churches.  
I am the root and the offspring of David, the bright morning star.”*

149. I AM COMING QUICKLY. (Rev. 22:17, 20)

- Rev. 1:1 - “must shortly take place”
- Rev. 1:3 - “the time is near”
- Rev. 2:16 - “I am coming to you quickly”
- Rev. 3:11 - “I am coming quickly”
- Rev. 22:6 - “must shortly take place”
- Rev. 22:7 - “I am coming quickly”
- Rev. 22:10 - “the time is near”
- Rev. 22:12 - “I am coming quickly”
- Rev. 22:20 - “I am coming quickly”

**MARANATHA**  
*Come Quickly*

## Additional Notes & Applications

1. *There are eternal rewards in heaven for Christian service and sacrifice. (Rev. 22:12; cf. 1 Cor. 3:11-15; 2 Cor. 5:10)*
2. *The greatest thing about Heaven and the worst thing about Hell is that God is there.*
3. *Throughout eternity the born-again believer will enjoy the chief end for which he was made, namely to glorify God and enjoy Him forever.*
4. *Since eternal fellowship with God will be glorified man's greatest purpose and enjoyment, are those who plan to spend eternity with Him practicing that now?*

## Revelation Summary

1. **Praise** - Man's chief end is to glorify God by enjoying Him. Worship is the redeemed man's ultimate priority now and forever. Praise is the overflow of a sanctified heart.
2. **Prayer** - The prayer of the upright is God's delight, ascending before the throne of God as a sweet aroma. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man accomplishes much.
3. **Perseverance** - True believers continue to trust in God even through tribulation. They persevere because God perseveres in them. They are sealed by God unto the day of redemption.
4. **Purity** - Salvation cannot be lost, but fellowship with God can be interrupted. Those whose chief delight is fellowship with God purify themselves in readiness for Christ's return.
5. **Providence** - God is in sovereign control of human history, including Christian suffering. Christ and His people will be victorious, and evil will be completely vanquished.

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Alpha & Omega

The King of kings  
Lamb Lord of lords

Faithful & True

Root of David The Word

of God RULER  
of the kings  
of the earth

FIRST-BORN  
OF THE DEAD

The Almighty

The FAITHFUL  
First & WITNESS  
the Last

Beginning and the End

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