AN OUTLINE OF THE BOOK

From the onset of this book (1:1) we note that this “Revelation” is of Jesus Christ Himself (v.1). The events are “shown” (Gk. deiknumi) to us as John writes what was shown to him. (This verb occurs eight times in the book.) However, “Revelation” (Gk. apocalupsis: “apocalypse” is an English transliteration) only occurs once, and it establishes both the title and the focus of the book: Jesus Christ is unveiled as Lord of History.

Accordingly, this outline notes how “The Revelation” reveals (1) His Person—glorified, ascended, worshiped, and confident of victory; (2) His Purpose—to administrate and to lead His church, and for us to partner with Him in victory; (3) His People—disciplined, worshiping, beleaguered, protected, smitten, delivered, and exalted with Him as His Bride; (4) His Primary Opponent—the spirit of the world—called “the dragon,” seen in “Babylon” and epitomized in the Beast—the Devil; (5) His Prophesied Triumph, “conquering” throughout history and “to conquer” at its climax; Christ the Conqueror above and beyond all history.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter</th>
<th>Content</th>
<th>The Revelation of…</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>The Introduction</td>
<td>Christ’s Person, Authority, and Presence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2, 3</td>
<td>The Epistles to the Churches</td>
<td>Christ’s Administrating of His Church</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4, 5</td>
<td>The Throne of God in Heaven</td>
<td>Christ’s Right and Claim to Earth (The Lamb receives title to this planet.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>The Breaking Open of Seals 1-6</td>
<td>Christ’s Ministry as Savior and Judge (Savior, “going forth”; Judge, “great wrath”)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>The 144,000–The Redeemed Host</td>
<td>Christ’s Own: Sealed and Delivered (Both are the Church; on earth/in heaven)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8, 9</td>
<td>The 7th Seal—the first 6 trumpets (The 7th Trumpet–The Last Trump 1Cor. 15:52; 1Thess.4:16–appears as Revelation 11:15-19.</td>
<td>Christ’s People Precipitating release Through Prayer (Opening a mighty concept)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>The Mighty Angel Announcing the End</td>
<td>Christ as Consummator of History and as Commissioner of the End Times’ Message</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11, 13</td>
<td>Two Witnesses The Wonder Woman The Beast</td>
<td>Christ’s Church in Confrontation with Evil (In persecution, in spiritual warfare, and in conflict with the world-system)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
From the date of the giving of this Revelation, the simplest outline is in the words of Revelation 1:19: (1) the things you have seen, Chapter 1, being those things John had just beheld in his initial encounter with the glorified Christ; (2) the things which are, Chapters 2 and 3, being those things which were present (and throughout history) in the Church; and (3) the things which shall be hereafter, Chapters 4-22, being those things forthcoming from that time, through the present and into the future of this world and unto eternity.
## Studies in the Book of Revelation Study Guide

### A BRIEF ON CHRIST’S LETTERS TO THE SEVEN CHURCHES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Revelation Chapters 2, 3</th>
<th>Christ’s Person and Perception</th>
<th>Christ’s Accusation and Approval</th>
<th>Christ’s Call and Command</th>
<th>Christ’s Threat and Promise</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ephesus 2:1-7</td>
<td>He that holds the seven stars</td>
<td>Lost first Love, Tenacity for truth and work, Hate Nicolaitans deeds</td>
<td>Remember your fall, Repent, do first works</td>
<td>Will remove candlestick, Overcomer will eat of tree of life</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smyrna 2:8-11</td>
<td>He that was dead, now alive—first and last</td>
<td>No accusation, Endurance against the Synagogue of Satan</td>
<td>Fear not, Be faithful unto death, through tribulation</td>
<td>No threat, Will not be hurt by second death; Overcomer will receive crown of life</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pergamos 2:12-17</td>
<td>He that has the sharp two-edged sword</td>
<td>Received doctrine of Balaam; doctrine of Nicolaitans Steadfastness</td>
<td>Repent</td>
<td>Will fight with Sword, Retribution, Overcomer will receive manna; white stone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thyatira 2:18-29</td>
<td>He that is the Son of God; eyes aflame, brazen feet, I know your works, charity, service, faith, patience</td>
<td>Received doctrine of Jezebel v. 24, Moral rebellion, Carnal indulgence, Unrepentant after warning</td>
<td>Submit to heart searching, Hold fast to what you have ’til I come</td>
<td>Will kill Jezebel’s offspring, Retribution, Overcomer will rule nations; in heavenlies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sardis 3:1-6</td>
<td>He that has the seven spirits of God; and seven stars I know your works, reputation for life (but dead)</td>
<td>Works that remain about to die, Some have walked in purity</td>
<td>Remember what you have received; heard Repent, Watch; strengthen what remains</td>
<td>Sudden visitation, Overcomer will be clothed; have an abiding name</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philadelphia 3:7-13</td>
<td>He that is holy and true; has the keys of David controlling access and egress I know your works</td>
<td>No accusation, You kept the “word of My patience”</td>
<td>Hold what you have</td>
<td>Vindication v. 9, Deliverance v. 10, Overcomer will be a pillar with heavenly identification</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laodicea 3:14-22</td>
<td>He that is the Amen, faithful and true witness; beginning of creation of God I know your works, uncommitted</td>
<td>Self-satisfied, materialistic, wretched, blind, miserable, naked, poor</td>
<td>Rebuiking love, Repent by getting pure gold, getting pure clothing; anoint eyes with salve, Open the door</td>
<td>Spen from His mouth, If repent, I will return within, Overcomer will rule with Me</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A STANCE ALLOWING A GLIMPSE OF THE ULTIMATE

REVELATION CHAPTERS 4 AND 5
Revelation 4 presents an entry into “the heavenlies.” John is invited to a place (the Throne Room of the Universe) where successive visions will be unfolded to him; visions which he has been instructed to record (Rev. 1:9/compare with 4:1).

DIFFERENT VIEWS EXIST OF JOHN’S MOVEMENT “IN THE SPIRIT” (4:2).
1. Some think it portrays the rapture of the Church, and that John’s call to “come up here” (4:1) depicts the Church’s movement to heaven at Christ’s coming.
2. Others see this as a straightforward description of John’s own experience, as he is captivated by this heavenly vision so thoroughly that he is “there” in the Spirit of God.

In any case, we are presented with the one stance that allows us a glimpse of the ultimate tomorrow; the unfolding of events which culminate in the coming of Christ, the vanquishing of Satan, and the unveiling of the New Heaven and Earth.

Chapters 4 and 5 are one vision. Do not let the chapter change confuse you. This vision “sets up” everything which follows, showing us (1) the Scroll which becoming unsealed “reveals” the unfolding judgments of The Revelation; and (2) the Savior, Who being the One unsealing the Scroll is “revealed as the Lord and King of The Revelation.” There are four primary features:

I. THE PERSPECTIVE
“Behold, a throne in heaven” (4:2). John is seeing something very much the same as Daniel did in his vision (Dan. 7:9, 10). Our viewpoint is one at the center of “all power.” The Sovereign God, Who “has the whole world in His hands,” is seen with the document determining earth’s destiny. Perspective on this world’s affairs is never gained apart from seeing things from “on high” (Eph. 2:6).

II. THE PERSONNEL
Verses 4:3: Here is God the Father
Verses 4:5: Here is God the Spirit
Verse 5:6: Here is God the Son

Verse 4:4: The 24 elders probably represent the complete “believing communities” of both the OT and NT.
Verse 4:6: The 4 living creatures are of the cherub order; angels who direct and sustain worship at God’s Throne.

III. THE PURPOSE
Central to this whole scene is The Scroll. Its contents are not specifically stated, but its significance is clear. We will refer to this document as The Title Deed to Planet Earth. The purpose of the vision is to show that Jesus Christ is being given the right to overthrow all hostile rule alien to God’s purposes here. It is as “the Lamb who was slain” that this authority has been given to Him. All Christ’s judgments are following through the accomplishing of what His consummate victory at the Cross secured.
IV. THE PRAYERS
The place of worship, praise, and prayer must be perceived if we are to grasp the deeper message contained in this passage. Worship (4:8), Praise (4:11; 5:9-10, 12-13), and Prayer (5:8) are the keys to the release of The Purpose. Throughout this book at crucial turning points, worship, praise, and prayer appear in conjunction with each new “step” of redemption’s advance in delivering earth from evil. “Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done,” is our assigned prayer of this genre. Note: 5:8–no prayer is forgotten!!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Seal</th>
<th>Revealing</th>
<th>Message</th>
<th>Matthew</th>
<th>Mark</th>
<th>Luke</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First</td>
<td>White horse</td>
<td>Depicts the advance of the Church during the age</td>
<td>24:14 “Gospel will be preached…”</td>
<td>13:10 “times of nations”</td>
<td>21:24 “times of nations”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third</td>
<td>Black horse</td>
<td>Depicts the endlessness of poverty and famine amid plenty.</td>
<td>24:7 “famines”</td>
<td>13:8</td>
<td>21:11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fourth</td>
<td>Pale horse</td>
<td>Depicts the spreading scourge of death and hell’s power.</td>
<td>24:7 “pestilences/ earthquakes…”</td>
<td>13:8</td>
<td>21:11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fifth</td>
<td>Martyrs/altar</td>
<td>Declares the righteous cry for justice and heaven’s patience and promise.</td>
<td>24:9, 10 “they shall… kill you…”</td>
<td>13:9</td>
<td>21:12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sixth</td>
<td>Wrath of God</td>
<td>Describes the culminating outpouring of judgment from the throne of God.</td>
<td>24:29 “sun darkened/ stars fall…”</td>
<td>13:19, 20</td>
<td>21:25, 26</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
UNLOCKING REVELATION

Chapter 6

The Lamb begins to unseal The Scroll; i.e., to unleash the processes of judgment and deliverance which will eventuate in the restoration of earth’s rule under the Son of Man. (This is Jesus’ title as the Second Adam, the divinely appointed “Representative Man,” God incarnated as “the Son of Man,” in order to restore and secure for redeemed mankind what we could never obtain by our own hand or merit.)

6:1-17 The Unsealing of Six of the Seven Seals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Seal</th>
<th>Agency</th>
<th>Text</th>
<th>Implications</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>One</td>
<td>White horse</td>
<td>6:1-2</td>
<td>The commissioned spread of the Gospel (Matt. 24:14)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two</td>
<td>Red horse</td>
<td>6:3-4</td>
<td>The increasing curse of war and bloodshed. (Matt. 24:6, 7a)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Three</td>
<td>Black horse</td>
<td>6:5-6</td>
<td>The age-long bane of famine and hunger. (Matt. 24:7b, 8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Five</td>
<td>Martyrs’ prayers</td>
<td>6:9-11</td>
<td>The timeless viciousness against the godly; the promised time of exacting divine justice. (Matt. 24:9)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Six</td>
<td>God’s wrath</td>
<td>6:12-17</td>
<td>The beginning of The End; noting the great earthquake as the correlating feature. (Matt. 24:30; Rev. 11:15-19; see also 8:5 and 15:1-8)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Seal Seven is at 8:1 and “releases” the Seven Trumpets.
UNLOCKING REVELATION

Chapter 7:9-17

Revelation and “The Rapture”

Although the term “The Rapture” is not in the Bible, the idea it represents is clearly present. By “The Rapture” we refer to the literal, imminent (any moment) appearing of Jesus Christ from heaven, to take His redeemed Church—the “translated” living and the resurrected dead—to be with Him.

Key Texts:
2. The fact that this “return” shall be literal/physical–Acts 1:9-11.
3. The miraculous “change” we shall experience at his coming–1Cor. 15:52.

The Timing
1. Jesus indicated the time of His coming would be “as in Noah’s time,” when the righteous were kept from the judgment on the earth. Matthew 24:42; Luke 17:26; Mark 13:33.
2. The Thessalonian epistles both note our promised deliverance from God’s visitation of His wrath on the earth. II Thess. 1:6, 7, 9, 10; I Thess. 5:9.
3. The Revelation may be easily seen to unfold this (a) as a promise to the faithful (3:10); and (b) as an event accentuatedly “pre-wrap.” See 7:9-17, as it follows 6:12-17; and 15:1-4, as it precedes 16:1-21. (This may also be seen depending upon one’s view of the Two Witnesses, noting 1:15-19 as it follows the event of 11:11-14, which some see as symbolic of the Raptured Church.)
UNLOCKING REVELATION

Chapter 7: 1-8

Revelation and “The 144,000”

John relates two visions of a multitude described as “The 144,000” in this prophecy. In the first vision (7:1-8), they are on earth and are being “sealed” to insure their preservation from the judgments due to the opening of the Seals and sounding of the Trumpets. In the second vision they are in heaven, and worshipping the Lamb with a song which is only theirs to sing.

Three different views exist as to who the 144,000 may be.

- **The first** is that they are a select group of Jewish converts to the Messiah who, in the wake of “Tribulation” judgements (7 year concept), turn to Jesus as Lord. They are then “sealed” to preach the Gospel to the world during this period after the Church has been raptured.

- **The second** is that they are a symbolic representation of the whole Church, including Jews and Gentiles (Rom. 2:28, 29); a preserved people kept throughout the age-long era of the tribulation (classical concept) as witnesses to Christ.

- **The third** is that they represent the full measure of God’s fulfilling His commitment to His chosen people, the Jews. The Word of God clearly states that He has not left Israel derelict from His purposes (Romans 9-11). Though they were “broken off” (Rom. 11:17), there shall come a “resurrection” of His purposed will for national Israel (11:18) and a full complement of Jews shall be among the redeemed of all nations (11:26). (The author holds view #3; that the 144,000 are a symbolic representation of all redeemed Jewry, as God draws them unto His fulfilled purposes throughout this age.)
UNLOCKING REVELATION

Chapter 8, 9

Essentially, the Trumpets are a different order of judgment than the Seals. They result from a release of satanic viciousness, as compared with the Seals which result from man’s disobedience and just recompense. The Seals are judgments due to “the flesh” seeking its own way; the Trumpets, due to “the devil” being given his own way.

8:1-9:21 The Sounding of Six of the Seven Trumpets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trumpet</th>
<th>Agency</th>
<th>Text</th>
<th>Implications</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First</td>
<td>Hail, fire and blood “thrown”</td>
<td>8:7</td>
<td>Foliage, grass, grain are ruined.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second</td>
<td>“a great mountain thrown” into the sea</td>
<td>8:8, 9</td>
<td>Sea “dies” (blood); loss of food supply/commerce.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third</td>
<td>“a great star”(9:1,2) named Wormwood</td>
<td>8:10, 11</td>
<td>Earth’s water supply embittered; toxic deaths.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fourth</td>
<td>Atmosphere is “struck”</td>
<td>8:12</td>
<td>All natural light reduced by one-third.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fifth</td>
<td>Fallen angel with key to “The Abyss”</td>
<td>9:1-11</td>
<td>Last days intensification of demonic assault.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sixth</td>
<td>Four angels “bound” unto appointed time</td>
<td>9:12-21</td>
<td>End times proliferation of Satan’s killing and harming of humanity.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Seventh Trumpet (“the last trump”) is (a) announced at Revelation 11:15 and (b) described at 16:1-21

UNLOCKING REVELATION

Chapter 10

Christ’s Declaration: “Delay No Longer”

I. The “Angel” (Messenger) of the Lord.
Resolving the question of “another mighty angel.”

A. **The term**: Acts 7:30; Isa. 63:9; Exo. 14:19; Mal. 3:1b are sufficient evidence to affirm this is Jesus Himself. The description makes clear we are to understand this. Note: “cloud” (1:7); “rainbow” (4:16); “face” (1:16); “feet” (1:15); “a little book” (5:1-9); “open” (8:1); “lion” (5:5).

B. **John’s perspective**: We can hardly imagine the stunning appearance of these heavenly beings in the untainted atmosphere of heaven’s own Throne room. Grant space for John’s terminology (1) on biblical terms, as noted; but also (2) allowing for his human bewilderment (see Rev. 19:10; 22:8, 9).

II. The “Message” of the “Angel” (Messenger)

A. **Its Scope**: (1) spanning all of earth (10:2); (2) summing up all “mysteries” (10:3-5); (3) standing as the Representative Man (10:5, 6); and (4) setting loose the consummating events (10:6).

B. **The prophetic implications**: (1) In light of Daniel’s prophecy (Dan. 12:6-9; 10:5). (2) In light of “the mystery of God” (see Isa. 11:12, 2:6; 60:3; Jer. 16:19; Amos 9:11, 12/Acts 11:18; see especially Romans 11:22.25).

C. This “message” gives context to the commission John receives, v. 8-11 (see also Ezek. 2:10-3:3 for a parallel). The scope of John’s commission (v. 11) provides a frame of reference for defining the “Two Witnesses” (11:6 “the earth” and 11:6, 10 and 11:8 “spiritually.” The author sees “the city” as synonymous with 18:10).
UNLOCKING REVELATION

Chapter 11

“The Two Witnesses”

I. Compare John’s commission (v. 1) with Ezekiel’s (Eze. 40:3-5, plus chapters 40-48). This helps us understand the “Israel Factor” in unlocking Revelation; as noted (7:1-8; 14:1-5). This Book carefully affirms God’s intent to come full circle in His dealings with national “Israel” (i.e., the Jews–His people of ancient covenant and promise).

II. Interpretations re: “Who are the two witnesses?”

A. Two men, somewhat like Moses and Elijah, who are divinely appointed for a short-term miraculous ministry–especially in Israel–during a season of “the great tribulation.”

B. Symbolic of a renewal of the office ministries of the apostle and prophet in the last times.

C. Symbolic of the Church’s age-long witness (11:3) including Gentiles and Jews anointed throughout the Church age to minister (1) prophetically and miraculously–11:5, 6; (2) facing constant persecution and martyrdom (11:7-10); and finally being raptured at Christ’s coming (11:11-13).

D. They bespeak an age-long continuance of God’s prophetic word being witnessed to by His dealing through both Gentile and Jewish believers; finally focusing in a special last-times demonstration of His power which will give rise to demonic assault, persecution unto death, and ultimate reward (essentially the same as “C” but progressing toward a consummation possibly as literal as “A but not timed” in the same way).

(Revelation 11:15-19 is one of our earlier discussed “Rapture” passages, viewed from the heaven side of the event; compared with 11:11, 12, from the earth side.)
UNLOCKING REVELATION

Chapter 12

The Age-Long Struggle

I. The Roots of the Struggle: Three principals—12:1-5a

A. The Woman: Israel (v. 1/Gen. 37:9; v. 2/Rom. 9:5b; v. 6a/Rev. 1:1-8; v. 6b/11:1-3; v. 114a?Ex. 19:4; v. 17/Dan. 7:21-27)

B. The Child: Jesus (v. 5a/Ps. 2:7-9; 5b/Acts 2:33; neg. v. 17)

C. The Dragon: Satan (v. 9; v.3/Rev. 13:1; v.4/Isa 14:12,13 and Ps. 82; v.4b/Matt. 2:16; v.13; Dan. 12:1-2)

II. The Arena of the Struggle: Earth—v.4, 9, 12, 16

A. As a battlefield, v.4, 9c (I John 5:19; John 12:31; 17:15)

B. Focusing on deception, v.9b (Matt 24:4-5, 11, 26)

C. An inescapable setting, v.12 (9:1-21; lost desire for life, lost hope for life)

D. An occasional scene of mercy, v.16

II. The Issue in the Struggle: Kingdom Dominion—v.10

A. The expulsion of evil: from the heavenlies (v.7-9)

from the lives of the redeemed (v.11a)

B. The confrontation with evil: Propagating the Kingdom (v.10a)

Neutralizing the accuser (v.10B) and

Bearing witness at all costs (v.11b)
Chapter 13

"The Beast, The Dragon, and The Deceiver/Destroyer 'Prophet’”

I. Revelation and “the Beast”

A. Part of a “satanic trinity”: the dragon (12:17; 13:1); the beast (13:2-10); and the “False Prophet” (13:11-17).

B. Full list of references in Revelation:
   
   11:7 Conflict with 2 witnesses—kills them (c.p. 12:11;13:7)
   14:9-11 Implications of 13:15-18
   15:2 Those victorious over him
   16:2 The marked experience God’s wrath
   16:10 The judgment on his throne
   16:13 Spirits emitting from their mouths
   19:19, 20 Armies of the Lord vanquish him (c.p. II Thess. 2:8)
   20:4 Those who overcome him
   20:10 His end—the Lake of Fire

II. The biblical idea of “the Anti-Christ” (5x)

A. A general spirit—I John 2:18, 22; 4:3; II John 7; Rev. 13:1,2


III. The Beast’s Ministry

A. Through the “Church age” (13:5; consistently blasphemous of God (13:5,6); assailing and killing the saints (13:7,8).

B. Through “anointed” (13:15a) systems of demonic deception (13:11, he deceives (13:4), directs worship to himself (13:15), martyrs believers (13:15), and controls society (13:16,17); see Eph. 2:2,3.

IV. The Mark of the Beast

A. Involves worshiping the Beast or his system (13:8).

B. Involves prioritizing material interests over spiritual but specifically and ultimately finally involves a decision (13:7).

C. Involves a physical mark on the hand or the head; (unless 7:1-5 might parallel II Cor. 1:21,22; Eph. 1:13,14).

D. Involves participation in a “spirit” (13:14).
Chapter 14

“The Angels of Chapter 14”

Angel #1  (v.6,7)  The call to honor the Creator

Angel #2  (v.8)  The declaration of doom.

Angel #3  (v.9-12)  A. The warning of eternal judgment on those Beast-marked.

B. The announcement of eternal justice for the God-obeyers. (see also 16:4-7/c.p. 6:10; 19:1-4)

C. The promise of ongoing fruitfulness for the Dead in Christ.

Angel #4  (v. 14-16)  The initiating of the “Homegoing Harvest.”

Angel #5  (v. 17-20)  The initiating of final judgment. (V.20—The possible implications of Israel as a

and Angel #6  last earthly battle site—Ezekiel 38:39; Zech. 14; see also Rev. 16:12-16).
Chapters 15 and 16

“The Seven Bowls of Wrath”

A. The processional of the seven angels bearing the bowls (v.1,6,7).

B. The Redeemed Host, glorifying the Lord (v.2-5).

C. The Heavenly Temple, readied for the final execution of judgment against the Adversary and his works (v.5,9; 16:1,19).

D. The Seven Plagues, 16:1-21:

1. Horrible sores on the Beast-marked, v.2.

2. Sea polluted unto total devastation, v.3 (c.p. 8:8-9).

3. Waters turn to blood—pollution, v.4-7 (c.p. 8:10,11).


Conclusion: Christ’s hope-filled promise: 16:15.
THE HEAVENLY TEMPLE

Threaded throughout this book, as shown here, are repeated references to a Temple in heaven. It seems likely that with a correlation of these references we might (1) see more precisely and confirm more completely our proposition re: the overlapping and integrating of the Seal/Trumpet/Bowl judgments. But (2) there is another concept which seems to flow out of this aspect of the collected visions.

The relationship of the heavenly Temple to the outflowing of God’s concluding judgment on rebellious mankind, the beast, the “Babylon” world order and the dragon, seems to give us a clue regarding a larger issue threaded throughout the whole of God’s Word. First, let us see the Revelation texts regarding the Temple (Tabernacle) and altar.

REVELATION

6:9 Souls in heaven at the altar inquiring as to when justice will prevail for those persecuted unto death.

7:15 Redeemed in white robes serving God in the Temple day and night after they have “come out of great tribulation.”

8:2-5 As the worship of 7:15 continues, the 7th Seal is opened. Note: Compare what occurs in the Temple at these points: 7th Seal—8:5 7th Trumpet—11:19 7th Bowl—16:17-18

9:13 Voice from the altar announcing action pursuant upon the 6th Trumpet; an “expediting” of judgment.

11:1-2 John’s assignment to measure the Temple and the altar, but not the outer court of the Gentiles. (c.p. Ezek. 40-48)

11:19 Temple “opened” (c.p. 15:5) and the ark of the covenant is seen. (See notes on 8:2-5.)

13:6 The Beast identified as the one who “blasphemés God’s name and His Tabernacle.” (c.p. II Thess. 2:4; Isa. 14:12-15; Ezek. 28:14-15. Also, Ezek. 28:1-10 may be analogous to the “Beast,” the human representation of Satan, and Ezek. 28:11-19 of the “Dragon,” the Arch-deceiver himself.)

14:15-17, Angels from the Temple (v.15,17) and the altar (v.18) direct and expedite the earth harvest of souls (v.14-16) and harvest of judgment (v.17-20).

15:5,6,8 A procession of angels comes forth from the Temple with the seven bowls of God’s wrath. (c.p. “opened,” v.5 with 11:19.) Primary Note: “The temple of the tabernacle.”
16:1,7,17 A voice from the Temple directs the pouring of the bowls (v.7). Another voice from the altar confirms the justice of the judgment on murderous persecutors (v.1-7); probably response from those in 6:9,10. Then a voice from the Temple announces, “It is done!” (v.17); probably an answer to 10:6, “Delay no longer.”

21:3,22 The Temple is seen as a temporary structure, eventually swallowed up in the New Jerusalem, the Holy City, the Bride.

In the light of this finale, consider the following:

I. The Pollution of the Heavenly Temple

   A. The boast of Lucifer (Isa. 14; Ezek. 28)
   B. The demise of his office (Isa. 14; Ezek. 28)

II. The Adversary Strikes Again

   A. The assault on God’s “image” (Gen. 3)
   B. The declaration of ultimate vanquishing (Gen. 3:15)
   C. The setting in motion “on earth” of the plan already established “in heaven” (John 17:24; Eph. 1:4; Heb. 4:3; Rev. 13:8)

III. The Preparation of Human Understanding

   A. The Tabernacle of Moses; the pathway of sacrifice (Ex. 25:8;9,40; 26:30; 27:8; 39:32; especially note Heb. 8:1-5)
   B. The Incarnate Tabernacle (John 1:14,29; 2:19-21)

IV. The Accomplishment of the Plan

   A. The completion of the Sacrifice (John 19:30)
   B. The presentation of the Blood (John 20:17)
   C. The declaration of this fact (Heb. 9:23-26)
V. The Consummation of the Purification

A. The “just slain” Lamb appears (rev. 5:6).
B. His administration first purifies the heavens (Rev. 21:7-10).
C. He then evicts the Dragon’s kingdom from the earth (16:1-18; 24; note 16:10).

VI. The Revelation of “All Things New”

A. What has been polluted by rebellion, in both heaven and earth, are purified first, then dissolved (II Peter 3:10-13 Matt. 24:35; Rev. 21:1,5).
B. A new order without a temple is revealed (Rev. 21:3,22).
C. The rebellion is forever damned (20:10-15).

VII. The Interim

A. We are the Temple of His Body; a dwelling place of God’s glory where He is worshiped in purity (Eph. 2:19-22; I Peter 2:4-10).
B. We are “sons” authorized to advance against the adversary (John 1:12; Eph. 3:8-13).
C. We are the redeemed “sons” who Christ is bringing “to glory” to rule and reign with Him forever (Heb. 2:10; Rev. 20:6).
D. In the absence of the deposed “sons of God” who lost their “first estate” (Jude 6; II Peter 2:4), we shall serve the Father’s purpose in Glory throughout His whole creation (Rom. 8:18-21; Dan. 12:2-3).
KEY CONCEPTS

Key Concepts which are unlocked and released when Revelation is approached by other than in the popularized way.

Remembering that the approach to this Book which (1) puts the Rapture at 4:1, and (2) makes all that follows as future matters has barely 150 years of tradition in the Church and is generally not accepted by the majority of Christians; and also remembering that those who had such an approach are no less intelligent, spiritual, or sincere than those who do not, let us summarize key points we have noted which differ.

1. The unfolding chapter-to-chapter reading of the Book is not seen as a constant succession of events listed in chronological order, BUT the Book of Revelation is seen as a record of prophetic visions and words recorded by John in the sequence he received them, but not intended to relate the order of their outworking or fulfillment.

2. The Seven Seals, Trumpets, and Bowls are best understood as being overlapping and integrated judgments;

   The Seals beginning with the birth of the Church and continuing age-long until #6, the final expression of Divine wrath (c.p. 6:12-17 with 16:17-21);

   The Trumpets are cumulative, announcing the processes of decay as fallen man’s sinful rule of a doomed planet erodes all human life and our environment and gives place to evil spiritual activities;

   The Bowls are climactic, occurring following the pre-wrath rapture of the Church, and consummating God’s dealings with rebellious flesh and devils.

3. The 144,000 and The Two Witnesses are not conclusively interpreted as a specific number of people, but more indicative of God’s commitment to fulfill His promised purpose among His anciently chosen people, the Jews (see Romans 9-11).

4. The recurrent mention of the Heavenly Temple and Altar and the mentioned place of that Temple and the climactic passages of judgment signal for us a recognition of something profoundly being accomplished in heaven itself, as well as on earth; as the impact of Christ’s (a) Sacrifice on the Cross, (b) Resurrection and Ascension, (c) reclamation and cleansing of all things through the execution of divine justice, culminates in (d) the final judgment of the Wicked One and all who follow in his rebellion, and (e) the unveiling of an entirely new heaven as well as a new earth (21:1).

5. The Beast is seen as (a) a representative of the evil power being exercised in advancing and administrating the anti-God systems of this world (Rev. 13:1-3; 17:7-8), (b) an age-long
influence which assails the Church and regularly takes casualties (Rev. 13:4-7), and (c) a spirit that will probably be manifest in a human leader at some point near the end of the age (II Thess. 2:3-4).

6. The Rapture of the Church is seen as literal, physical, and pre-millennial. It is seen as distinguished from the interpretation of a “pre-tribulation” rapture preceding a 7-year tribulation; instead, being a “pre-wrath” event preceding the final, conclusive, and sudden judgment described (for the most part) in Chapters 16-18. The Rapture is seen as being described from both the earth-side and heaven-side of the event, at least at 3 places in this Book: 11:11-15; 14:1-5; and 15:1-4. (Rev. 7:9-17 is another possible reference, but this scene probably describes the state and ministry of those who die “in Christ” during the Church age.)

7. The “Woman” of Rev. 12 is seen as Israel; the “Great Harlot” of Rev. 17,18,19 as the world system or “Babylon”; and the “Bride” of Rev. 17 and 21 as the redeemed—the Church of Jesus Christ.
The Last Six Chapters (17-22)

From the time the climactic judgments described as the outpouring of the bowls of God’s wrath occur (Rev. 16), a series of visions recorded a succession of events which, unlike the earlier Chapters 4-16, do seem to follow in a basic chronological order. We are shown:

I. Rev. 17 and 18 The Destruction of the world order and the lamentation which follows it.

II. Rev. 19 The Exultation of the Church Triumphant and their following their King in “Conquest: Earth.”

III. Rev. 20:1-6 The Restriction of Satan for the duration of Christ’s millennial reign on earth with His redeemed.

IV. Rev. 20:7-10 The Release of the Adversary to allow the last testing of mankind and the last battle.

V. Rev. 20:11-15 The Last Judgment, consigning unto eternal damnation all who have chosen it through sin’s rebellion.

VI. Rev. 21-22:5 The establishment of the new heaven and earth, and the symbolic description of the Holy City (People)—the Bride.

VII. Rev. 22:6-21 The summary exhortation concluding the prophecy.

SEVEN BLESSINGS IN REVELATION

1. 1:3 Upon all who read, hear, and obey this prophecy.

2. 14:13 Upon those who die in Christ, that their lives will bear ceaseless fruit.

3. 16:15 Upon those who live purely, in anticipation of Jesus’ coming.

4. 19:9 Upon those who accept their invitation to the Marriage Supper of the Lamb.

5. 20:6 Upon those who, through redemption, participate in “the first resurrection.”

6. 22:7 Upon those who repent and regard the prophecies of this book.

SUMMARY LESSONS

FROM OUR STUDY OF REVELATION

1. Jesus Christ is Lord of the Church and is actively present all the while,
   a. to receive our worship;
   b. to evaluate our actions;
   c. to sustain us in trial; and
   d. to lead us to overcoming victory.

2. Jesus Christ is Lord of the Earth, and as Creator/Redeemer,
   a. has unfolded the “deed” (scroll) to reclaim it;
   b. has commissioned His own to evangelize it;
   c. is executing justice and judgment toward its ultimate cleansing and renewal; and
   d. will ultimately rule it in righteousness.

3. The Godhead’s tireless dealings with Israel as a people,
   a. are constant in a personal sense now;
   b. are suspended in a national sense until “about now”; and
   c. will be ultimately realized in a way yet undefined, though partially prophesied.

4. The Adversary, the Devil, is a relentless, age-long foe, who,
   a. is manifest in the world system by controlling it;
   b. is systematic in opposing God by blaspheming all that pertains to Him;
   c. is merciless in his deployment of demon beings to torment and destroy mankind; and
   d. is to be ultimately and conclusively judged and consigned to eternal torment.

5. This world is on a certain “path” of deterioration; so that,
   a. all its environment is deteriorating as man violates it;
   b. all its political, economic, and spiritual systems are damned; and
   c. it will ultimately be disintegrated and replaced by a new creation.

6. Each member of Christ’s Church is called
   a. to ever live in faithful anticipation of Jesus’ return;
   b. to stand firm when experiencing apparent defeat, being confident of ultimate victory;
   c. to faithful intercessory prayer and constant praise-filled worship “Unto Him Who is worthy!”; and
   d. to hear the Spirit’s voice, to know the Father’s Word, and to walk the Savior’s pathway of obedience.
INTRODUCTION

This simple way of clustering Revelation’s segments within brackets through the book is a device intended to help the reader/student. I have found that by this means, the seeming relentless flow of events, so easily confused and run together, is kept in clearer perspective for analysis. I have not adapted this from anyone else, so I accept any responsibility for either absence of insight or mistakes in interpretation. However, the several interpretive approaches historically applied to the NT book certainly make clear that until “that day,” only the arrogant can pretend absolute certainty as to details in the outworking and timing of these great things. May God bless us as we study together, with humbled hearts and expectant faith: Jesus is coming!

Pastor Jack Hayford

THE UNLEASHING OF THE IMPLICATIONS OF THE SCROLL’S UNFOLDING

The Path and the Price of Evil’s Overthrow
And the Son of Man’s Restored Rule

The “core” of the events constituting Revelation is in the three sets of sevens—the seals, trumpets, and bowls. Our approach to this study does not interpret these as historically sequential—i.e. following one another. Rather, they are seen as integrated and overlapping, except for those events which are defined as “God’s wrath.”

SEALS These seem to be AGE-LONG, as with Jesus’ prophecies, and essentially involve Man’s actions.

30 A.D. (*) THE END

TRUMPETS These seem to be PROPORTIONS of destructiveness cumulative through the age, and essentially involve Demonic action.

30 A.D. (*) THE END

BOWLS These are clearly CLIMACTIC outpourings of His final “wrath,” and essentially involve Ch. 16 God’s action.

CULMINATIVE (begins in Last Times) (*) (**) THE END

- The common denominator or coordinating factors regarding “The End” are earthquakes (“an earthquake” or “a great earthquake” —Rev. 6:12; 11:13; 16:18). There seem to be two: one (*) at the beginning of God’s wrath outpoured (6:12) which is the probable time of the rapture of the Church (I Thess. 1:10; 5:9); and the second (**) at the conclusion of this display of wrath in judgment (16:18). Some feel the 7th Trumpet is the same as “the last trump” (see I Cor. 15:52 and I Thess. 4:16).
A “Map” of the Book of Revelation

HEAVEN’S THRONE ROOM
Where worship continues, and God’s purpose is revealed.

THE SEVEN CHURCHES
The Lord of the Church tending the flame of our witness.

PATMOS
The place where struggle is faced, Christ revealed, and the Church confronted

SEALS Chapter 6
1 2 3 4 5 6 7

BOWLS Chapter 16
1 2 3 4 5 6 7

The Processing of Judgment as “Deliverance.”
A Pathway from Patmos to the New Jerusalem via a disintegrating Babylon

TRUMPETS  Chapters 8, 9

DIVINE GRACE
SEALS:
Age-long
(The visible Church in a violent world.)

DIVINE PATIENCE
TRUMPETS: Cumulative (Invisible evil impacting the visible realm.)

DIVINE WRATH
BOWLS:
Climaxing (A concentrated season of judgment.)

The Personalities Involved in the Process.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Seal</th>
<th>Chapters</th>
<th>Commentary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7 Seals</td>
<td>7, Ch. 15</td>
<td>The Worshipping Host—Delivered from Wrath (15:1-8; cp 11:15-19)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Trumpets</td>
<td>10, Ch. 15-18</td>
<td>Mankind’s Progressive Political Demise and Consummate Destruction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Bowls</td>
<td>10, Ch. 19</td>
<td>The Church in Triumph with Christ… “at supper” (v. 1-10)…in the final battle (v. 11-21)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Trumpets</td>
<td>11, Ch. 20</td>
<td>The Savior’s Millennium Rule, followed by the Final Judgment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Bowls</td>
<td>12, Ch. 21-22</td>
<td>Paradise Restored “all things new” (21:1-22; 5) Invitation to eternal life (22:6-21)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


10 I was in the Spirit on the Lord’s Day, and I heard behind me a loud voice, as of a trumpet, saying, “I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last.”

11 Then I turned to see the voice that spake with me. And having turned I saw seven golden lampstands; and in the midst of the seven lampstands one like the Son of Man, clothed with a garment down to the feet and girded about the chest with a golden band.

12 His feet were like fine brass, as if refined in a furnace, and His eyes like a flame of fire; His head and hair were white like wool, as white as snow, and His eyes like a flame of fire; His countenance was like the sun shining in its strength.

13 And when I saw Him, I fell at His feet as dead. But He laid His right hand on me, saying to me, “Do not fear; I am the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End.”

14 Then He said to me, “Write, for these words are true and faithful.”

15 Then He said to me, “Because you are an eager worker in the word of My grace, keep My works and do them, as you have heard Me say from the beginning. Behold, I am coming quickly. Blessed is he who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book.”

16 Then the angel who spoke with me said to me, “离去, go, write these words in a book and send it to the seven churches which are in Asia: to Ephesus, to Smyrna, to Pergamos, to Thyatira, to Sardis, to Philadelphia, and to Laodicea.”

17 And in the Spirit He showed me clearly about the seven golden lampstands. For the seven lampstands are the seven churches. The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches. The seven golden lampstands are the seven churches.

18 And to the angel of the church in Smyrna, write:

19 And to the angel of the church in Pergamos, write:

20 And to the angel of the church in Thyatira, write:

21 And to the angel of the church in Sardis, write:

22 And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia, write:

23 And to the angel of the church in Laodicea, write:

24 The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave Him to show His servants—things which must shortly take place. He sent and signified it by His angel to His servant John, who bore witness to the word of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ. The Spirit and the Bride say, “Come.” The one who hears, let him who hears say, “Come.” The one who thirsts, let him who thirsts come. The one who is faithful and true, let him enter in. The one who is vile and base, let him be vile and base no longer. I will make the one who is vile and base a place of honor and renown. But the one who is vile and base shall not be hurt by the second death.”
The four living creatures, each having six wings, were standing before the throne, and they were full of eyes all around and in front of them.

And the first voice which I heard was like the voice of a trumpet. When I heard it, I fell at its feet as though dead.

When the voice I heard spoke to me as a trumpet, I said, "O Lord, what will I do?"

And one of the elders said to me, "Do not weep, O messenger of God. The Lord God Almighty, the faithful and true Witness, has sent me to show you His servant's faithfulness to the end, just as I have shown you these things.

Therefore be zealous and repent. For I am coming quickly. Hold fast that which you have, that no one may take your crown.

He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God, and he shall go no more out. 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 I will write on him My new name.

He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. "He who overcomes, I will give him a white stone, and on the stone a new name written inside and on the front, which no one knows except he who receives it."
A Multitude from the Great Tribulation

1. After these things I saw four angels standing before the altar of God; and they were saying with a loud voice, “How long, O Lord, holy and true, until You judge and avenge our blood on those who dwell on the earth?”

2. And they were cried over by the twenty-four elders and the four living creatures, saying, “How long, O Lord, holy and true, until You judge and avenge our blood on those who dwell on the earth?”

3. Then I looked, and behold, a white cloud, and on the white cloud one sat as if on a throne, a man clad in a garment reaching to the feet, and girded about the waist with a gold girdle.

4. And he was given a reed like a g保荐nal, and he was given a name and a title written on it, saying, “King of Kings and Lord of Lords.”

5. And I saw a spirit coming down from heaven like a witness, saying, “Be worshiped before the Lamb!”

6. And he said to me, “Do not harm the earth, the sea, or the trees till we have sealed the servants of our God on their foreheads.”

7. And I heard the number of those who were sealed: one hundred and forty-four thousand, of every tribe of the children of Israel.

8. Now I heard every creature in heaven and on the earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all that are in them, saying:“Amen! Praise Be to our God forever and ever.”

9. And the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each having a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints.

10. And they sang a new song, saying: “You are worthy to take the scroll, and open its seals; for without you nothing can begin to be opened or come to pass.”

11. And I beheld, and I heard the voice of many angels round about the throne and the living creatures and the elders; and no one could count the number of them.

12. And I heard every creature in heaven and on the earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that are in them, 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 the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each having a golden bowl full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints.

14. And they sang a new song, saying: “You are worthy to receive glory and honor and power; for You created all things, and by Your will they were created and [made] and exist.”

15. And the four living creatures said, “Amen!” And the twenty-four elders fell down and worshiped God, saying: “Amen! You are worthy to receive glory and honor and power, for You created all things, and by Your will they were created and made.”

16. And after this, I looked, and behold, a door standing open in heaven; and the first voice I heard, as of a trumpet, said, “Come and see.”

17. And I lifted up my eyes and looked, and behold, four living creatures were standing before the throne, each having twelve seats, and filling the four corners of the earth. 

18. And they were filled with a Lamb’s songs saying: “Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and rich glory and wisdom and might and honor and strength and blessing.”

19. And every creature which is in heaven and on the earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all that are in them, said: “Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever. Amen.”

20. And the twenty-four elders fell down and worshiped God, saying: “Amen! You are worthy to receive glory and honor and power; for You created all things, and by Your will they were created and made.”
And I looked, and I heard an angel flying from heaven saying to me, "Seal up the things from the Euphrates through the midst of heaven, saying with a loud voice, 'Woe, woe, woe to the inhabitants of the earth, because of the remaining blasts of the trumpet of the three angels who are about to sound!'"

And the smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints, ascended before God from the angel's hand. Then another angel, having a golden censer, was given to him, to add fire to the censer from the altar before God, and he add fire to the fire which was in the censer before God; and the smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints, ascended from the angel's hand. Then the angel took the censer, filled it with fire from the altar before God, and threw it to the earth; and there were sounds, thunders, lightnings; and a great earthquake. Then the seventh angel sounded: And I heard a voice from heaven, saying, 'Now there is saved up for the inhabitants of the earth a great fear, because of those things which are coming on the inhabitants of the earth, because of the rest of the vials of the wrath of God; for God is now finished their wrath.'"
worshiped God, saying: “We give You thanks, O Lord God Almighty, who are and who were, and who are to come, because You have taken Your great power and reigned. For the nations were angry, and Your wrath has come, and the time of the dead, that they may be judged...”

Then I saw another beast coming up out of the earth, and he had two horns like a lamb and spoke like a dragon.

...Then I saw one of his heads as if it had been mortally wounded, and his deadly wound was healed. And all the world marveled and followed the beast... And the time of the dead, that they may be judged...”

Revelation 1:7

The Woman Persecuted

So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil, and Satan, who deceives the whole world. He was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him...

...So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil, and Satan, who deceives the whole world. He was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him...”

Revelation 12:9

The Witnesses Resurrected

...11 Then being with child, she cried out in travail, and was about to give birth. And she cried out with pangs, having travailed many days in giving birth. And I saw another mighty angel coming out of heaven, and he had the key of the bottomless pit. And he set the key upon his right hand. And his name was...”

Revelation 12:18-19

The Beast from the Earth

...12 Then I saw one of his heads as if it had been mortally wounded, and his deadly wound was healed. And all the world marveled and followed the beast...”

Revelation 13:12

The Beast From the Sea

...13 Now when he opens the seventh seal, the seven angels who have the seven trumpets...”

Revelation 8:2

The Seventh Trumpet: The Kingdom Proclaimed

...14 Then I heard the voice of the first beast, saying, “Come, and let us take shares in the wealth of the Gentile nations, in the wealth of their glory.””

Revelation 18:13

The Woman Clothed with the Sun

...Then being with child, she cried out in travail, and was about to give birth. And she cried out with pangs, having travailed many days in giving birth. And I saw another mighty angel coming out of heaven, and he had the key of the bottomless pit. And he set the key upon his right hand. And his name was...”

Revelation 12:18-19

God on their thrones fell on their faces and worshiped God.

And I saw one of his heads as if it had been mortally wounded, and his deadly wound was healed. And all the world marveled and followed the beast.

And I saw one of his heads as if it had been mortally wounded, and his deadly wound was healed. And all the world marveled and followed the beast.

And I saw one of his heads as if it had been mortally wounded, and his deadly wound was healed. And all the world marveled and followed the beast.

And I saw one of his heads as if it had been mortally wounded, and his deadly wound was healed. And all the world marveled and followed the beast.

And I saw one of his heads as if it had been mortally wounded, and his deadly wound was healed. And all the world marveled and followed the beast.

And I saw one of his heads as if it had been mortally wounded, and his deadly wound was healed. And all the world marveled and followed the beast.

And I saw one of his heads as if it had been mortally wounded, and his deadly wound was healed. And all the world marveled and followed the beast.

And I saw one of his heads as if it had been mortally wounded, and his deadly wound was healed. And all the world marveled and followed the beast.

And I saw one of his heads as if it had been mortally wounded, and his deadly wound was healed. And all the world marveled and followed the beast.

And I saw one of his heads as if it had been mortally wounded, and his deadly wound was healed. And all the world marveled and followed the beast.

And I saw one of his heads as if it had been mortally wounded, and his deadly wound was healed. And all the world marveled and followed the beast.

And I saw one of his heads as if it had been mortally wounded, and his deadly wound was healed. And all the world marveled and followed the beast.

And I saw one of his heads as if it had been mortally wounded, and his deadly wound was healed. And all the world marveled and followed the beast.

And I saw one of his heads as if it had been mortally wounded, and his deadly wound was healed. And all the world marveled and followed the beast.

And I saw one of his heads as if it had been mortally wounded, and his deadly wound was healed. And all the world marveled and followed the beast.

And I saw one of his heads as if it had been mortally wounded, and his deadly wound was healed. And all the world marveled and followed the beast.

And I saw one of his heads as if it had been mortally wounded, and his deadly wound was healed. And all the world marveled and followed the beast.

And I saw one of his heads as if it had been mortally wounded, and his deadly wound was healed. And all the world marveled and followed the beast.

And I saw one of his heads as if it had been mortally wounded, and his deadly wound was healed. And all the world marveled and followed the beast.

And I saw one of his heads as if it had been mortally wounded, and his deadly wound was healed. And all the world marveled and followed the beast.

And I saw one of his heads as if it had been mortally wounded, and his deadly wound was healed. And all the world marveled and followed the beast.

And I saw one of his heads as if it had been mortally wounded, and his deadly wound was healed. And all the world marveled and followed the beast.

And I saw one of his heads as if it had been mortally wounded, and his deadly wound was healed. And all the world marveled and followed the beast.

And I saw one of his heads as if it had been mortally wounded, and his deadly wound was healed. And all the world marveled and followed the beast.
Revelation 14
The Lamb and the 144,000

1 Then I looked, and behold, a Lamb standing on Mount Zion, and with Him one hundred and forty-four thousand, having His Father’s name written on their foreheads.

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

3 They sang as it were a new song before the throne, before the four living creatures, and the elders: and no one could learn that song except the hundred and forty-four thousand who were redeemed from the earth.

4 These are the ones who follow the Lamb wherever He goes. These were redeemed,68 but those who are not redeemed,69 for they are without fault before the throne of God.69

The Proclamations of Three Angels

6 Then I saw another angel flying in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach to those who dwell on the earth—to every nation, tribe, tongue, and people—saying with a loud voice, “Fear God and give glory to Him, for the hour of His judgment has come; and worship Him who made heaven and earth, the sea and springs of water.”

7 And another angel came, saying, “Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she has made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication.”

8 Then a third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, “If anyone worships the beast and his image, and receives his mark on his forehead or on his hand,”

9”Thrust in your sharp sickle and gather the clusters of the vine of the earth, for her grapes are fully ripe.”

10 So the angel thrust his sickle into the earth and gathered the vine of the earth, and threw it into the great winepress of the wrath of God.

11 And the smoke of their torment ascends forever and ever; and they have no rest day or night, who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name.”

12 Here are the patience of the saints; here are those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus.

13 Then I heard a voice from heaven saying to me, “Write: Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on.” “Yes,” says the Spirit, “that they may rest from their labors, and their works follow them.”

Reaping the Earth’s Harvest

14 Then I looked, and behold, a white cloud, and on the cloud sat One like the Son of Man, having on His head a golden crown, and in His hand a sharp sickle.

15 And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to Him who sat on the cloud, “Thrust in Your sickle and reap, for the time has come for You to reap, for the harvest of the earth is ripe.”

16 So He who sat on the cloud thrust in His sickle on the earth, and the earth was reaped.

Reaping the Grapes of Wrath

17 Then another angel came out of the temple which is in heaven, he also having a sharp sickle.

18 And another angel came out from the altar, who had power over fire, and he cried with a loud cry to him who had the sharp sickle, saying, “Thrust in your sharp sickle and gather the clusters of the vine of the earth, for her grapes are fully ripe.”

19 So the angel thrust his sickle into the earth and gathered the vine of the earth, and threw it into the great winepress of the wrath of God.

20 And the winepress was trampled outside the city, and blood came out of the winepress, up to the horses’ bridles, for one thousand six hundred furlongs.

Revelation 15
Prelude to the Bowl Judgments

1 Then I saw another sign in heaven, great and marvelous: seven angels having the seven last plagues, for in them the wrath of God is complete.

2 And I saw something like a sea of glass mingled with fire, and those who have the victory over the beast, over his image and over the mark of his name, standing on the sea of glass, having harps of God.

3 They sing the song of Moses, the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying:

4 “Great and marvelous are Your works, Lord God Almighty! Just and true are Your ways, O King of the saints!”

5 Who shall not fear You, O Lord, and worship You, for You alone are holy.

6 And those who were written in the book were taken from the earth. For the time has come for You to reap, for the harvest of the earth is ripe.”

7 Then he who sits on the cloud thrust in His sickle on the earth, and the earth was reaped.

8 Then he who sits on the cloud reaped the earth with a sharp sickle. He who reaped was clothed in a white robe, and He who reaped the earth was called Faithful and True, and in His robe was covered a white sash.

Revelation 16
First Bowl: Loathsome Sores

1 Then a third angel came out, saying with a loud voice, “If anyone worships the beast and his image, and receives his mark on his forehead or on his hand,”

2 “You are righteous, O Lord, for You alone are holy.”

3 For You alone are holy. For You alone are holy. For You alone are holy. And all nations have sinned and are worthy of the wrath of God.”

4 And I heard the voice of the first and second angels, saying, “The fifth and sixth bowls are poured out, and there will be no day of the sun!”

5 And I saw another angel coming out of the temple, having a sharp sickle.

6 And he set his site firmly on the earth, and gathered together into it all the nations.

7 Then a bowl was poured out on the sea, and it became blood as of a dead man; and every living creature in the sea died.

8 And the smoke of their torment ascends forever and ever; and they have no rest day or night, who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name.”

9 Here is wisdom. Let him who has understanding calculate the number of the beast, for it is the number of a man: His number is 666.

Second Bowl: The Sea Turns to Blood

10 Then he poured out the second bowl on the sea, and it became blood as of a dead man; and every living creature in the sea died.

11 And the smoke of their torment ascends forever and ever; and they have no rest day or night, who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name.”

12 Here is the patience of the saints; here are those who were not defiled with women, for they are virgins. These are the ones who follow the Lamb wherever He goes. These were redeemed from among men, being firstfruits to God and to the Lamb.

13 And in their mouth was found no deceit, for they are without fault before the throne of God.

Third Bowl: The Waters Turn to Blood

14 Then he poured out the third bowl on the rivers and springs of water, and they became blood.

15 And the smoke of their torment ascends forever and ever; and they have no rest day or night, who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name.”

16 Here is the patience of the saints; here are those who were not defiled with women, for they are virgins. These are the ones who follow the Lamb wherever He goes. These were redeemed from among men, being firstfruits to God and to the Lamb.

17 And in their mouth was found no deceit, for they are without fault before the throne of God.

Fourth Bowl: Men Are Scorched

18 Then he poured out the fourth bowl on the sun, and power was given to him to scorch men with fire.

19 And men were scorched with great heat, and they blasphemed the name of God who has power over these plagues; and they did not repent and give Him glory.

Fifth Bowl: Darkness and Pain

20 Then he poured out the fifth bowl on the throne of the beast, and his kingdom became full of darkness; and they gnawed
The Woman Mourns Babylon's Fall

1. The queen sits and is no widow, and will not see sorrow.

2. The great harlot who sits on many waters, and on whose head are many crowns of gold and pearls, and precious stones, and her name is that of Babylon, the great, the mother of harlots and of the abominations of the earth.

3. The merchants of these things, who become rich by her, will stand at a distance for fear of her torment, weeping and wailing, saying, 'Alas, alas, that great city Babylon, that mighty city! For in one hour your judgment has come.'

4. She is the mother of harlots and of the abominations of the earth.

5. The merchants of old fashioned the word with the beast, and the merchants of old fashioned the abomination of her fornication.

6. In one hour I have made all this great city desolate and naked, am torn and burned with fire.

7. The fruit that your soul longed for has come, and you have prepared it, and have fulfilled His purpose; to be of one mind, and to give their kingdom to the beast, until the words of God are fulfilled.

8. The ten horns which you saw are ten kings who have received no kingdom yet, but receive authority as kings for one hour, as kings of the earth.

9. The woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet, and adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls, having in her hand a golden cup full of abominations and the filthiness of her fornication.

10. The bridegroom and his bride, the woman whom you saw, is that great city Babylon.

11. She is the mother of harlots and of the abominations of the earth.

12. I will throw into a sea of fire the cities of the nations, and Babylon, the great, will be remembered before God, to give her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of His wrath.

13. The fruit that your soul longed for has come, and you have prepared it, and have fulfilled His purpose; to be of one mind, and to give their kingdom to the beast, until the words of God are fulfilled.

14. Her name is that of Babylon, the great, the mother of harlots and of the abominations of the earth.

15. The beast that was, and is not, is himself the beast that was, and is not, and is about to come out of the bottomless pit.

16. And I heard another voice from heaven saying, 'Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is no more the city of the kings of the earth.'

17. And I heard another voice from heaven saying, 'It is done!' And the seventh angel poured out his bowl into the air, and a loud voice came out of the temple of heaven, from the throne, saying, 'It is done!'

18. They have rejoiced, and have clothed themselves with purple and scarlet, and withgold and precious stones and pearls, having in their hand a golden cup full of abominations and the filthiness of their fornication.

19. The merchants of these things, who become rich by her, will stand at a distance for fear of her torment, weeping and wailing, saying, 'Alas, alas, that great city Babylon, that mighty city! For in one hour your judgment has come.'

20. The final overthrow of the world's political and commercial powers

My name is the author and living water ministries.
on the sea became rich by her wealth!
For in one hour she is made desolate.
20 "Rejoice over her, O heaven, and you holy apostles and prophets, for God has avenged you on her!"

Finality of Babylon's Fall
21 Then a mighty angel took up a stone like a great millstone and threw it into the sea, saying, "Thus with violence the great city Babylon shall be thrown down, and shall not be found anymore.
22 The sound of harps, musicians, flutes, and trumpets shall not be heard in you anymore. No craftsmen of any craft shall be found in you anymore, and the sound of a millstone shall not be heard in you anymore.
23 The light of a lamp shall not shine in you anymore, and the voice of bridegroom and bride shall not be heard in you anymore. For your merchants were the great men of the earth, for by your sorcery all the nations were deceived.
24 And in her was found the blood of prophets and saints, and of all who were slain on the earth."
And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.

Then He who sat on the throne said, “Behold, I make all things new.” And He said to me, “Write, for these words are true and faithful.”

And He said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. I will give of the fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirsts.

11 And the rivers of streams shall flow into the midst of the city. Moreover, the waters of the rivers shall be clear; and it shall be the place of pastures. And the waters shall be healed. There shall be nothing unclean or anything abominable in it, but only the righteous shall live there.

12 “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 and Morning Star.”

13 And the Spirit and the bride say, “Come!” And he who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son.

The Heavenly City…Unto Eternity

And He said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. I will give of the fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirsts.

And He said to me, “Come! I will show you the bride, the Lamb’s wife.”

And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me the holy city, Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God.

And having the glory of God. Her light was like a most precious stone, like a jasper stone, clear as crystal.

And she had a great and high wall with twelve gates, and twelve angels at the gates, and names written on them, which are the names of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel:

three gates on the east, three gates on the south, three gates on the west, three gates on the north.

And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

And He who talked with me had a gold reed to measure the city, its gates, and its wall.

And the city is laid out as a square; its length is as great as its breadth. And He measured the city with the reed: twelve thousand furlongs. Its length, breadth, and height are equal.

Then He measured its wall: one hundred and forty-four cubits, according to the measure of a man, that is, of an angel.

The construction of its wall was of jasper; and the construction of the foundations of the wall of the city was of jasper, and sapphire, and chalcedony, and emerald, and carnelian, and jasper, and sardonyx, and sardius, and chrysolite, and beryl, and topaz, and chrysoprase, and jacinth, and amethyst.

The tree of life was in the middle of its street, and on either side of the river, was the tree of life, which bore twelve fruits, each tree yielding its fruit every month. The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.

The twenty gates were twelve pearls: each individual gate was of one pearl. And the street of the city was pure gold, like transparent glass.

The foundations of the wall of the city were called names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

And the Spirit and the bride say, “Come!” And he who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son.

To him who overcomes, I will give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the Paradise of God.

And I will grant him a white stone, and on the stone a new name written, which no one knows except he who receives it.

The River of Life

And I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Now the Jerusalem which is above, is the city of the living God. It is laid out as a square; and its length is as great as its breadth. And one of its gates has twelve pearls, each pearl is like the sun.

The foundations of the wall of the city were of jasper; and the foundation of the gates was of pearls. Reed measure was used to measure the city, its gates, and its wall.

And the city has no need of the sun or of the moon to shine in it, for the glory of God is its light, and the lamp of the Lamb.

The Time Is Near

And He said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. I will give of the fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirsts.

He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son.

Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. I will give of the fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirsts.

1. The rivers of streams shall flow into the midst of the city. Moreover, the waters of the rivers shall be clear. And it shall be the place of pastures. And the waters shall be healed. There shall be nothing unclean or anything abominable in it, but only the righteous shall live there.

2. And He who talked with me had a gold reed to measure the city, its gates, and its wall.

3. And He measured the city with the reed: twelve thousand furlongs. Its length, breadth, and height are equal.

4. Then He measured its wall: one hundred and forty-four cubits, according to the measure of a man, that is, of an angel.

5. The construction of its wall was of jasper; and the construction of the foundations of the wall of the city was of jasper, and sapphire, and chalcedony, and emerald, and carnelian, and jasper, and sardonyx, and sardius, and chrysolite, and beryl, and topaz, and chrysoprase, and jacinth, and amethyst.

6. And the tree of life was in the middle of its street, and on either side of the river, was the tree of life, which bore twelve fruits, each tree yielding its fruit every month. The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.

7. The twenty gates were twelve pearls: each individual gate was of one pearl. And the street of the city was pure gold, like transparent glass.

8. The foundations of the wall of the city were called names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

9. And the Spirit and the bride say, “Come!” And he who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son.

10. To him who overcomes, I will give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the Paradise of God.

11. And I will grant him a white stone, and on the stone a new name written, which no one knows except he who receives it.

12. The rivers of streams shall flow into the midst of the city. Moreover, the waters of the rivers shall be clear. And it shall be the place of pastures. And the waters shall be healed. There shall be nothing unclean or anything abominable in it, but only the righteous shall live there.

13. And He who talked with me had a gold reed to measure the city, its gates, and its wall.

14. And He measured the city with the reed: twelve thousand furlongs. Its length, breadth, and height are equal.

15. Then He measured its wall: one hundred and forty-four cubits, according to the measure of a man, that is, of an angel.

16. The construction of its wall was of jasper; and the construction of the foundations of the wall of the city was of jasper, and sapphire, and chalcedony, and emerald, and carnelian, and jasper, and sardonyx, and sardius, and chrysolite, and beryl, and topaz, and chrysoprase, and jacinth, and amethyst.

17. And the tree of life was in the middle of its street, and on either side of the river, was the tree of life, which bore twelve fruits, each tree yielding its fruit every month. The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.

18. And there shall be no more curse, but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it, and His servants shall serve Him.

19. And they shall see His face, and His name shall be on their foreheads.

20. There shall be no night there: They need no lamp nor light of the sun, for the Lord God gives them light. And they shall reign forever and ever.

The Time Is Near

6 Then he said to me, “These words are faithful and true,” and the Lord God of the holy prophets sent His angel to show His servants the things which must shortly take place.

7 “Behold, I am coming quickly. Blessed is he who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book.”

8 Now I, John, saw and heard: these things, and wrote them in a book. And here is the spirit of the prophecy of this book: If anyone adds to these things, God will add unto him the chastisement of these words, and the place in the which the spirits of the prophets do prophesy.

9 And if anyone takes away from the words of this book, God shall take away his part from the Book of Life, from the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.

I Am Coming Quickly

20 He who testifies to these things says, “Surely I am coming quickly.” Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus! 21 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.

UNLOCKING REVELATION:
Untangling the interlocking visions of the Rapture, and addressing the question of Two Witnesses: Chapters 7, 10, 11

The Sealed of Israel
Chapter 7
1 After these things I saw four angels standing at the four corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth, that the wind should not blow on the earth, on the sea, or on any tree.
2 Then I saw another angel ascending from the east, having the seal of the living God. And he cried with a loud voice to the four angels to whom it was granted to harm the earth and the sea, saying, “Do not harm the earth, the sea, or the trees till we have sealed the servants of our God on their foreheads.”
3 And I heard the number of those who were sealed. One hundred and forty-four thousand of all the tribes of the children of Israel were sealed:

of the tribe of Judah twelve thousand were sealed;
of the tribe of Reuben twelve thousand were sealed;

The Lamb and the 144,000
Chapter 14
1 Then I looked, and behold, a Lamb standing on Mount Zion, and with Him one hundred and forty-four thousand, having His Father’s name written on their foreheads.
2 And I heard a voice from heaven, like the voice of many waters, and like the voice of loud thunder. And I heard the sound of harpists playing their harps.

A Multitude from the Great Tribulation
Chapter 7
9 After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, with palm branches in their hands,
10 and crying out with a loud voice, saying, “Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!”
11 All the angels stood around the throne and the elders and the four living creatures, and fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God,
12 saying:
“Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom,
Thanksgiving and honor and power and might,
Be to our God forever and ever. Amen.”

13 Then one of the elders answered, saying to me, “Who are these arrayed in white robes, and where did they come from?”
14 And I said to him, “Sir, you know.” So he said to me, “These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation, and washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.
15 Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve Him day and night in His temple. And He who sits on the throne will shepherd them and lead them to living fountains of waters. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

We view the possibility as a likelihood that the following texts converge at the same time; being viewed by the prophet John from different perspectives in the unveiling of the prophecies and at different times in each one’s distinct unfolding in history. They constitute one rapture—The Church—including the Jews (first fruits), the Gentiles (every tribe/nation) as well as the unusually anointed “witnesses”: 7:9-14; 11:11-13; 14:1-5; 14:1-4; 19:1-3, 6-7.

The Witnesses Resurrected
Chapter 11
11 Now after the three-and-a-half days the breath of life from God entered them, and they stood on their feet, and great fear fell on those who saw them.
12 And they heard a loud voice from heaven saying to them, “Come up here.” And they ascended to heaven in a cloud, and their enemies saw them.
13 In the same hour there was a great earthquake, and a tenth of the city fell. In the earthquake seven thousand people were killed, and the rest were afraid and gave glory to the God of heaven.
14 The second woe is past. Behold, the third woe is coming quickly: 2:13

Seventh Trumpet:
The Kingdom Proclaimed
15 Then the seventh angel sounded: And there were loud voices in heaven, saying, “The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever!”
16 And the twenty-four elders who sat before God on their thrones fell on their faces and worshiped God,
17 saying:
“We give You thanks, O Lord God Almighty,
The One who is and who was
and who is to come,66
Because You have taken Your great power and reigned.
18 The nations were angry, and Your wrath has come, And the time of the dead, that they should be judged, And that You should reward Your servants the prophets and the saints,
Revelation 11
The Two Witnesses
1 Then I was given a reed like a measuring rod. And the angel stood, saying, “Rise and measure the temple of God, the altar, and those who worship there.
2 But leave out the court which is outside the temple, and do not measure it, for it has been given to the Gentiles. And they will tread the holy city under foot for forty-two months.
3 And I will give power to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy one thousand two hundred and sixty days, clothed in sackcloth.”
4 These are the two olive trees and the two lampstands standing before the God of the earth.
5 And if anyone wants to harm them, fire proceeds from their mouth and devours their enemies. And if anyone wants to harm them, he must be killed in this manner.
6 These have power to shut heaven, so that no rain falls in the days of their prophecy; and they have power over waters to turn them to blood, and to strike the earth with all plagues, as often as they desire.

The Witnesses Killed
7 When they finish their testimony, the beast that ascends out of the bottomless pit will make war against them, overcome them, and kill them. 9:11

Revelation 10
The Mighty Angel with the Little Book
1 I saw still another mighty angel coming down from heaven, clothed with a cloud. And a rainbow was on his head, his face was like the sun, and his feet like pillars of fire.
2 And he had a little book open in his hand. And he set his right foot on the sea and his left foot on the land.
3 And cried with a loud voice, as when a lion roars. When he cried out, seven thunders uttered their voices.
4 Now when the seven thunders uttered their voices, I was about to write; but I heard a voice from heaven saying to me, “Seal up the things which the seven thunders uttered, and do not write them.”
5 The angel whom I saw standing on the sea and on the land raised up his hand to heaven
6 and swore by Him who lives forever and ever, who created heaven and the things that are in it, the earth and the things that are in it, and the sea and the things that are in it, that there should be delay no longer,
7 but in the days of the sounding of the seventh angel, when he is about to sound, the mystery of God would be finished, as He declared to His servants the prophets.

John Eats the Little Book
8 Then the voice which I heard from heaven spoke to me again and said, “Go, take the little book which is open in the hand of the angel who stands on the sea and on the earth.”
9 So I went to the angel and said to him, “Give me the little book.” And he said to me, “Take and eat it; and it will make your stomach bitter, but it will be as sweet as honey in your mouth.”
10 Then I took the little book out of the angel’s hand and ate it, and it was as sweet as honey in my mouth. But when I had eaten it, my stomach became bitter.
11 And he said to me, “You must prophesy again about many peoples, nations, tongues, and kings.”