HAT THE



BUBLE Is ABOUT

The book of Revelation

Revelation 1:1-2

The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave Him to show His servants - things which must shortly take place. And He sent and signified it by his angel to His servant John:

Who bore witness to the word of God, and to the testimony of Jesus Christ, to all things that he saw.

servant ($\delta o \tilde{u} \lambda o \varsigma$, doulos): devoted to another to the disregard of one's own interests.

signified (σημαίνω, sēmainō): to give a sign, to signify, indicate, render into signs; from sema (mark), translated as sign, wonder or miracle in the Bible (e.g., a spiritual code)

the revelation

noun rev∙e·la·tion \ rĕv′ə-lā′shən \

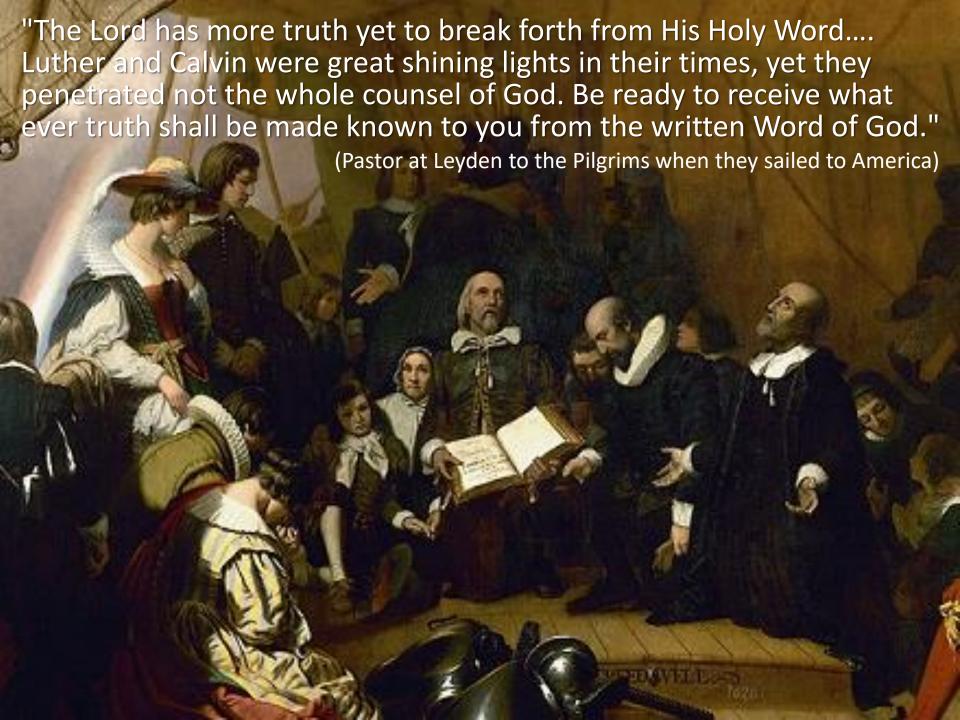
- 1. a. The act of unveiling, revealing or disclosing.
 - Something revealed, especially a dramatic disclosure of something not previously known or realised.
 - c. A sudden insight or idea.
- 2. Theology. A manifestation of divine will or truth.

Middle English revelacion, from Old French revelation, from Latin revēlātiō, revēlātiōn-, from revēlātus, past participle of revēlāre, "to reveal"; originally translated from the Greek noun ἀποκάλυψις, apokalypsis (root ἀποκαλύπτω, apokalyptō (v)) meaning "laying bare, making naked, unveiling, disclose what before was unknown."

The first word of this book, Ἀποκάλυψις [*Apokalypsis, unveiling*],

should be kept in mind throughout the book.

For it is God's intention to *reveal* rather than *conceal*.



Spirit

ETSI DOCTRINA Non Daretur

("as if doctrine is not given.")

The book of Revelation

THINGS
WHICH THOU
HAST SEEN
(Chapter 1)

 John' vision of the exalted Christ, 1



THINGS
WHICH
ARE
(Chapters 2-3)

 The messages to the seven churches, 2-3

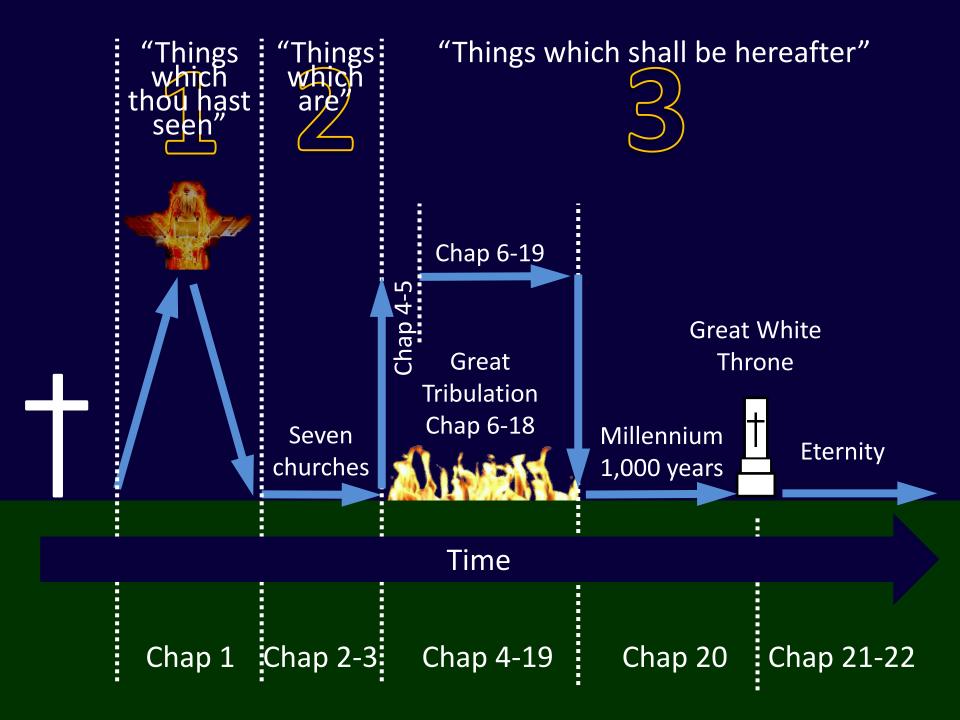


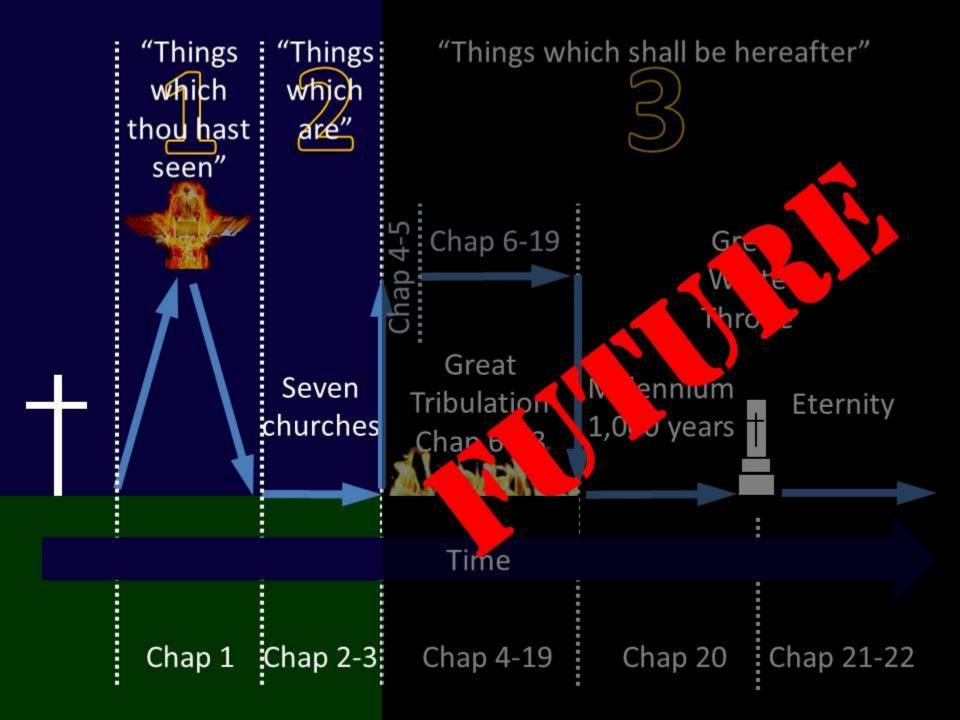
THINGS
WHICH SHALL
BE HEREAFTER

(Chapters 4-22)

- Throne in heaven, 4-5
- Tribulation on earth, 6-19
- The Kingdom of Christ, 20
- The new heavens and earth







Chap 1. The things which John has seen in his vision.

- Heavenly Christ and
- Earthly churches



- Corrupted world
- Compromised church



Chap 4-5. Things are alright in Heaven.

- God is on the throne (all of history)
- Christ is in charge (end of history)

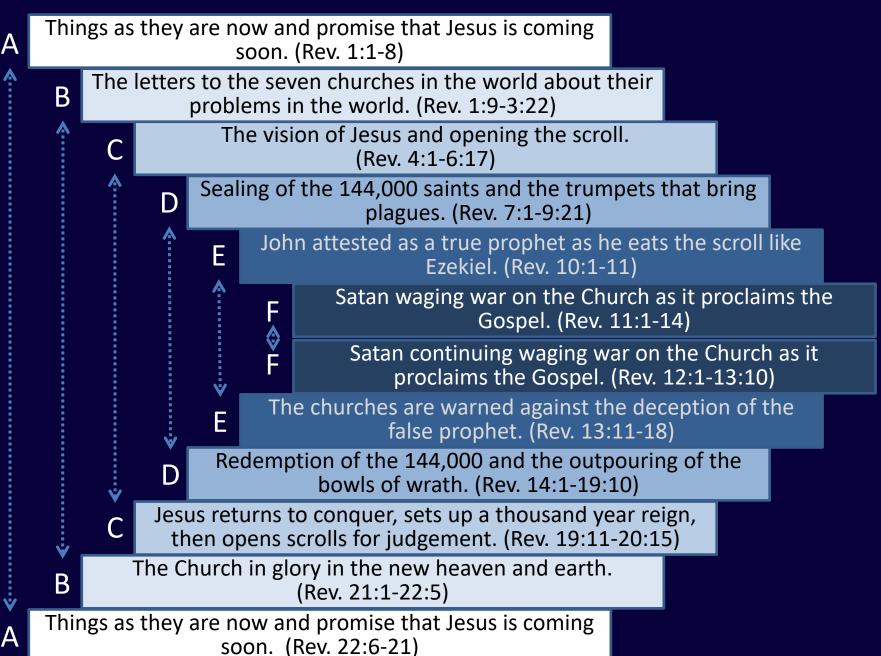
Chap 6-18. Things will get much worse before they get better.

- For world: war, bloodshed, famine, disease, natural disasters, many deaths
 For Israel: 3.5 years peace followed by 3.5 years of strife by unholy trinity (Satan, antichrist, false prophet); Babylon; deaths.
- For the Church: depends upon your view of Eschatology

Chap 19-22. Things will get much better after they get worse.

Return of Christ to earth; 1,000 year reign of Christ on earth; people still sin; Day of judgement (heaven or lake of fire); new heaven and new earth; New Jerusalem; Bride of Christ

Structure of the book of Revelation



"I've read the last page of the Bible. It's all going to turn out all right."

Billy Graham

Key Points

The book of Revelation is in code

Every code is explained in Scripture

Virtually every book in the Bible is required to interpret the code.

PROPHECY S PATER 3

A Unique Promise

- ³ Blessed *is* he who reads and those who hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written in it; for the time *is* near.
- ⁴ John to the seven churches which 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,

(Revelation 1:3-4)

Blessed (μακάριος, *makarios*)-hallowed, consecrated, approved, made happy or prosperous

The Divine Outline of the book of Revelation

¹⁹Write the things which you have seen,

The Vision of Christ Chapter 1

and the things which are,

The Seven Churches Chapters 2,3

and the things which will take place after this.

What follows after the Churches .. Chapters 4-22

(Revelation 1:19)



The Risen Christ (Rev. 1:12-17)

- 12 Then I turned to see the voice that spoke with me. And having turned I saw seven golden lampstands;
- and in the midst of the seven lampstands *One* like the Son of Marclothed with a garment down to the feet and girded about the chast with a golden band.
- as white as snow, and His or like a flame of fire;
- 15 His feet were like fine brass, as if refined in a furnace, and His voice as the sound of many waters;
- 16 He had in His right hand seven stars, out of His mouth went a sharp two-edged sword, and His countenance was like the sun shining in its strength.

Hair; head Daniel 7:9

Eyes, Heb 1:13; 4:13; Flame of fire 1 Cor 3:13; Malachi 3:2, etc

Feet, symbol of walk; Brass = judgment

Voice, many waters Ezekiel 1:24; 43:2; Dan 10:6

Right Hand 7 stars, lampstands: in the midst; in His hand

Mouth: two-edged sword Heb 4:12; Eph 6:17; Isa 49:2; Judges unbelievers John 12:48; Earth smitten Isa 11:4; Antichrist consumed 2 Thess 2:8

Countenance, Sun Matt 17



Who or what is a "church"?

- The 1st Century "Church" had:
- No dedicated buildings
- Np altars
- No professional clergy



- No competing denominations or religions
- For much of the time, Christian assembly was unlawful and carried out in homes or even secretly in caves.

ἐκκλησία, ekklēsia, assembly

- 1. From ek, "out of," and klesis, "a calling" (kaleo, "to call"); a body of citizens "gathered" to discuss the affairs of State, Acts 19:39.
- The "gathering" of Israel, summoned for any definite purpose, or a "gathering" regarded as representative of the whole nation.
- 3. It has two specific Christian applications:
 - a. to the whole company of redeemed throughout the present era of which Christ said, "I will build My Church," (Mat 16:18) and "the Church which is His Body," (Eph 1:22; 5:23),
 - b. in the singular (Mat 18:17), to a company (congregation or assembly) of professed believers, and in the plural, with reference to all believers in a community or district.

The name of each church is relevant

- Ephesus ("Desired One" or "Darling")
 - Smyrna ("Myrrh", "Suffering" or "Death")
 - Pergamos ("Mixed marriage" or "Serpent")
 - Thyatira* ("Sacrifice" or "Daughter")
 - Sardis ("Escaping" or "Remnant")
 - Philadelphia ("Brotherly love")
 - Laodicea ("Rule of/by the people")

^{*} Formerly named "Semiramis"

The Seven Churches

- 1. Each city/region had active Christian believers in the day.
- Each letter alludes to known prior history relevant to each city/region.
- 3. Each letter alludes to known current events relevant to each city/region in the 1st Century.
- 4. Each letter contains prophetic allusions to current events, over-horizon events, and future events.
- 5. Each letter was intended to be read by believers in all cities/regions in the day.
- Lessons from each church can be applied to our own lives.
- 7. Each letter can be equated to a period in the history of Western Christianity from the 1st Century to today.

Jesus' report cards to ALL congregations

Each was surprised by its report!

Those thinking they were doing well, weren't.

Those thinking they weren't doing well, were.



The reports are through **God's eyes**, not Man's!

"For my thoughts *are* not your thoughts, neither *are* your ways my ways, saith the LORD."

Isaiah 55:8

Chiastic Church Correlation

Ephesus

Abandoned first love (Rev 2:4).

Ardour becomes lukewarm Smyrna

Problems with false Jews (Rev 2:9). Crown of life promised (Rev 2:10)

Faithfulness through trials Pergamos

By apostasy (Rev 2:14)

Living faith threatened

Thyatira

Sardis

By formalism (Rev 3:2)

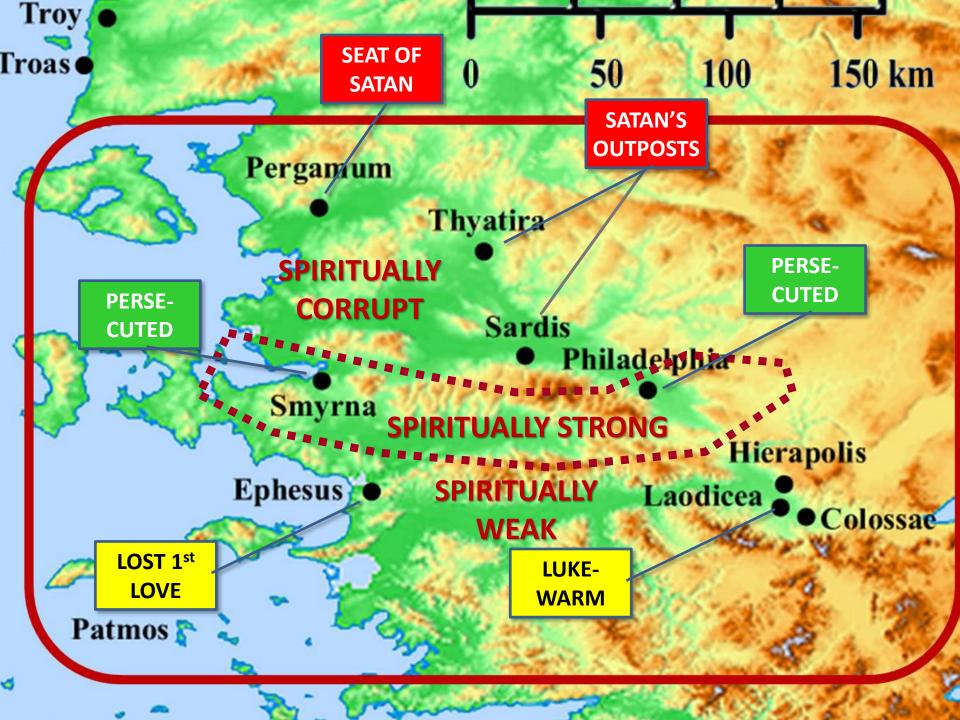
Philadelphia

Victory over false Jews (Rev 3:9). Crown of life promised (Rev 3:11)

Laodicea

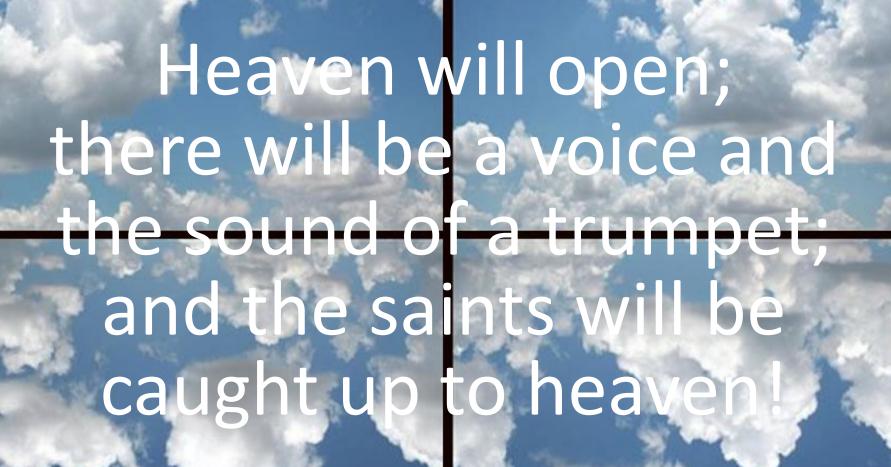
Neither hot nor cold (Rev 3:15).

Plunged into greatest spiritual darkness in history - into the depths of Satan (Rev 2:24).



The Bible says to not be afraid in 145 verses.





GOD'S JUDGMENT THEEMAIN WILLBEGIN

- But first He gives us a glimpse into glory and permits us to witness worship in heaven.
- Two aspects of worship are presented for our instruction and imitation:



Chapter 5 REDEFIER

Worship

God's people Worship the Creator (Chapter 4)

- On the throne—Almighty God (vv. 2–3a).
- Around the throne—a rainbow (v. 3b).
- Around the throne—elders and living creatures (vv. 3–4, 6–7).
- Out of the throne—storm signals (v. 5a).
- Before the throne—lamps and a sea (vv. 5b–6a).
- Praise to the throne (vv. 9–11).

God's people Worship the Redeemer (Chapter 5)

- Because of who He is (vv. 5–7).
- Because of where He is (v. 6).
- Because of what He does (vv. 8–10).
- Because of what He has (vv. 11–14).

God's people Worship the Creator



On the throne—Almighty God (vv. 2–3a).

Around the thronear a rainbow (v. 3b).

Out of the throne-storm signals (v. 5a).

Around the throne-elders and living creatures (vv. 3–4, 6–7).

Before the thronelamps and a sea (vv. 5b–6a).

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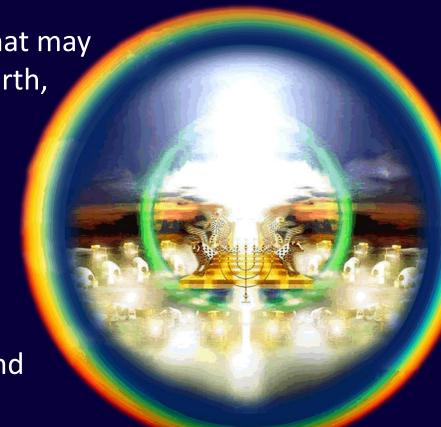
A singular focus in heaven

Focal point is the throne (used 14x this chapter, 46x in Revelation).

No matter what may happen on earth, God is in complete

The imagery emphasizes God's glory and sovereignty.

control.



The Father is on His throne (4.2-3).

The Holy Spirit is before the throne (4.5).

John sees the Lamb of God (5.6).

The rainbow is a circle vertically (complete). Judgment will fall, but the rainbow reminds us that God is merciful. Usually, a rainbow appears after the storm, but here, we see it before the storm.

Parallels

Earthly Temple	Heavenly Sanctuary
Holy of Holies	Throne of God
 Seven-branched candlestick 	Seven lamps of fire before the Throne
Bronze Laver	Sea of glass
 Cherubim over the mercy seat 	Four living creatures
Priests	Elders (kings and priests)
Bronze Altar	Altar (Rev. 6:9-11)
Incense Altar	Incense altar (Rev. 8:3-5)
Ark of the Covenant	Ark of the Covenant (Rev 11:10)

They worship the Redeemer



Because of

who He is

(verses 5-7)

Because of where He is (verse 6)

Because of

what He does

(verses 8-10)

Because of what He has (verses 11-14)

Hymns of Praise in Revelation 4 and 5

Revelation 4 and 5 include five praise hymns that rise to a magnificent crescendo throughout the universe for the One on the throne and for the One in the midst of the throne!

- There is a progression in the praise.
 - More and more beings join in as the praise is given.
 - They progress in time from creation to the end of the world.



Hymn 1: The eternal existence and holiness of God is seen (from eternity past) (4:8).



Hymn 2: Creation is reason for praise (4:11).



Hymn 3: Ascribes merits from the cross. He then empowers us with the gift of the Spirit (at Pentecost) (5:9).

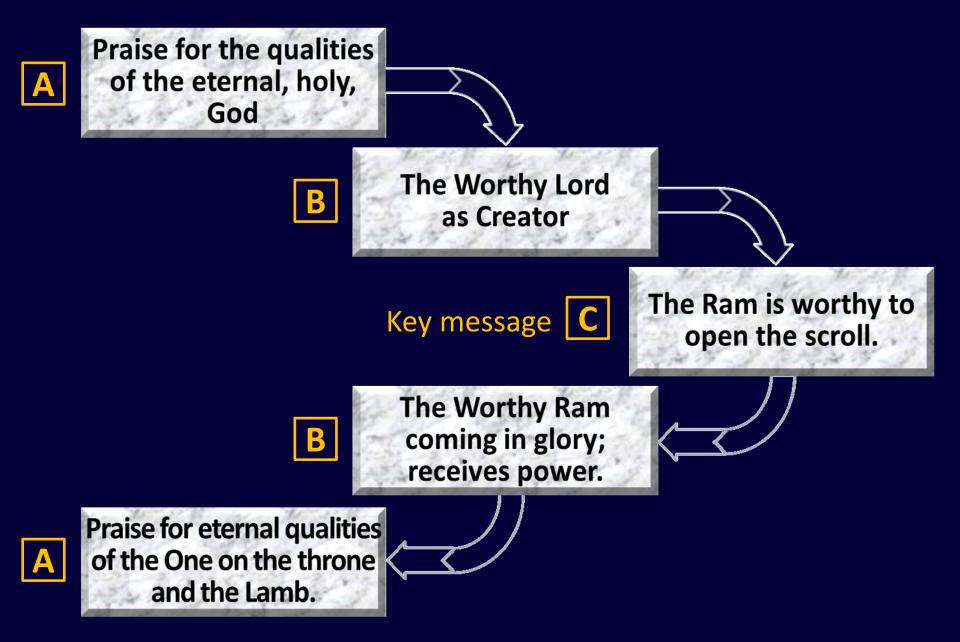


Hymn 4: He has Power. According to Rev 7, this He receives in the judgment (5:10-12).



Hymn 5: The whole universe is involved in the praise. Every knee will bow around the Great White Throne at the end of the Millennium (5:13).

The five hymns follow a chiastic pattern



BUE BILE ISABOUT

Daniel's Seventy Weeks

The most remarkable passage in Scripture

Daniel 9:24-27

Revelation Chapters 6-19

Daniel's Seventieth Week Second Antichrist makes a Coming A week of years = 7 years 7-year covenant of Covenant Enforced peace and security 3½ years 3½ years World peace! Hell on earth! First Abomination Coming of Desolation THE GREAT Weeks Interval TRIBULATION 1-69 That determined poured out on

The consummation

the desolate

And then....

IWILL GO AND RETURN TO MY PLACE
TIL THEY ACKNOWLEDGE
THEIR OFFENSE
AND SEEK MY FACE

IN THEIR AFFLICTION THEY WILL SEEK ME EARNESTLY

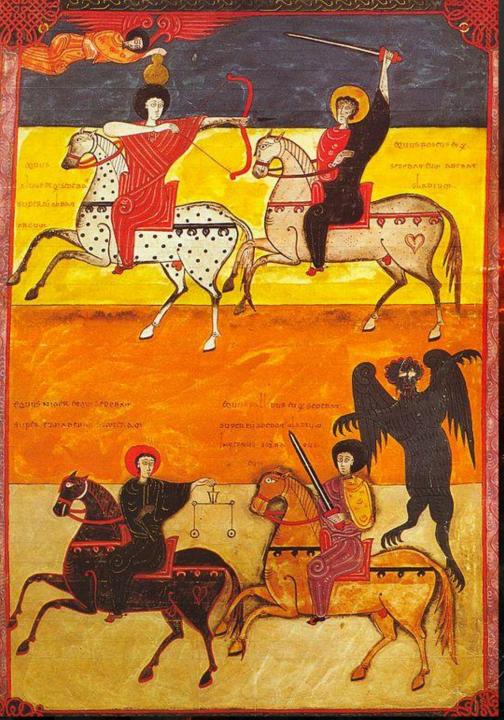






Progress Chart

Daniel's 70 Weeks		Revelation (General)		Revelation (Specific)	
•	Dan. 24-25 Weeks 1-69	•	Rev. 1 (things you have seen)		Rev. 1
•	Dan. 26 Interval	9	Rev. 2-3 (things which are)	9	Rev. 2-3 (Seven churches)
					Rev. 4-5 (Throne room)
	Dan. 27 Week 70	•	Rev. 4-5 (which shall be hereafter)	9	Rev. 6-9 – 1 st 3½ yr Peace & security
				9	Rev. 10-14–Middle Abomination
				9	Rev. 15-19–2 nd 3½ Great Tribulation
				9	Rev. 19-20 The King and His Kingdom
				9	Rev. 21-22 All things new



BIBLE SEALS

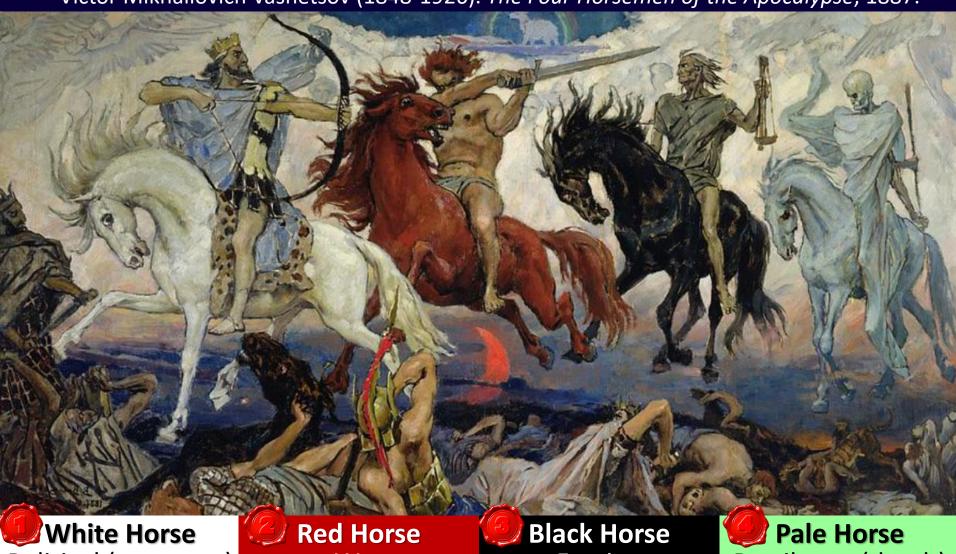
and the Sealed

Revelation Chapter 6-7

Beatus de Facundus: "Les quatre Cavaliers. Apoc. VI" (c. 1047)

The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse

Victor Mikhailovich Vasnetsov (1848-1926). The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse, 1887.



Political (conquest)

Covenant of
Peace and Security

Red Horse
War
Take peace from
the earth

Black Horse
Famine
But hurt not the
powerful wealthy

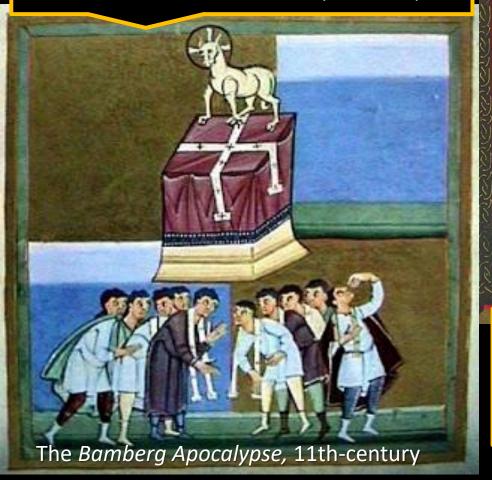
Pale Horse
Pestilence (death)
Death of ¼ of people
by war, hunger, disease

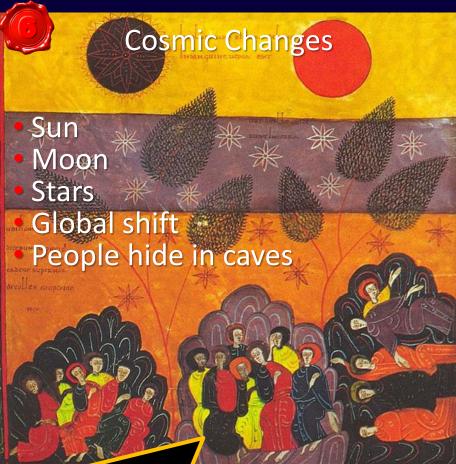
The Fifth and Sixth Seals



The Cries of the Martyrs

"How long, O Lord, holy and true, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth?" (Rev. 6:10)





"Fall on us and hide us from the face of Him who sits on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb! For the great day of His wrath has come, and who is able to stand?"

Revelation 6:16-17

Order from Chaos in Daniel 9:27 (Rev. 6-19)

The Seven Seals - Revelation Chapters 6-7



Interval 1: Sealing of the 144,000 of the **12 tribes of Israel** (Revelation Chapter 7)

Interval 2: Mighty Angel with the Little Book: Seven thunders: Two witnesses (Revelation Chapters 10-14)

Interval 3: Three Demon Spirits like Frogs; Gathers for Battle of God Almighty (Revelation 16:13-16)

Mystery of God

Finished

The Seven Trumpets

Revelation Chapters 8-15

The first six Trumpets are the "Judgments of the Thirds"

1/3 Trees, Grass

Mount of Fire; 1/3 Sea

Worm-Wood: 1/3 Waters

Stars

bitter

Euphrates Dark-Angels; 1/3 Ness Men slain 1/3 Sun,

Woe

Woe

5

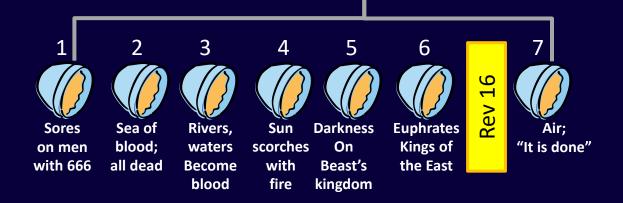
The 3 Woes

The Seven Bowls of Wrath

Revelation Chapter 16

The Seven Thunders?

(See Dan. 12:9; Rev. 22:10)



Rev10-14

Comparison of Matthew 24 and Revelation 6

Matthew 24 (Jesus' prophecy)

Revelation 6

- False Christs (vv. 4–5)
- Wars (v. 6)
- Famines (v. 7a)
- Death (vv. 7b–8)
- Martyrs(v. 9)
- Worldwide chaos (vv. 10–13)

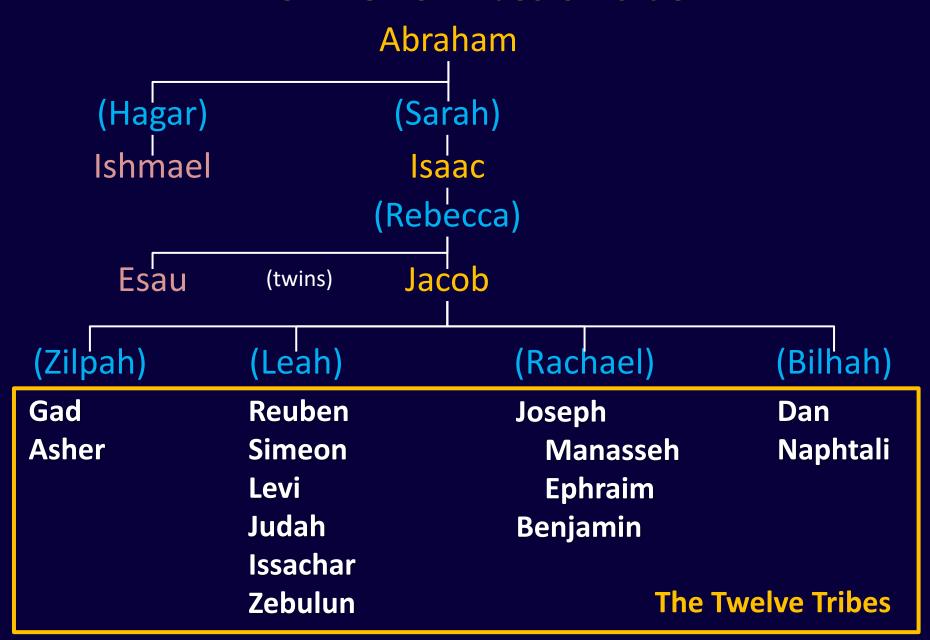
- White horse rider (vv. 1–2)
- Red horse—war (vv. 3–4)
- Black horse—famine (vv. 5–6)
- Pale horse—death (vv. 7–8)
- Martyrs under the altar (vv. 9–11)
- Worldwide chaos (vv. 12–17)

Revelation 7

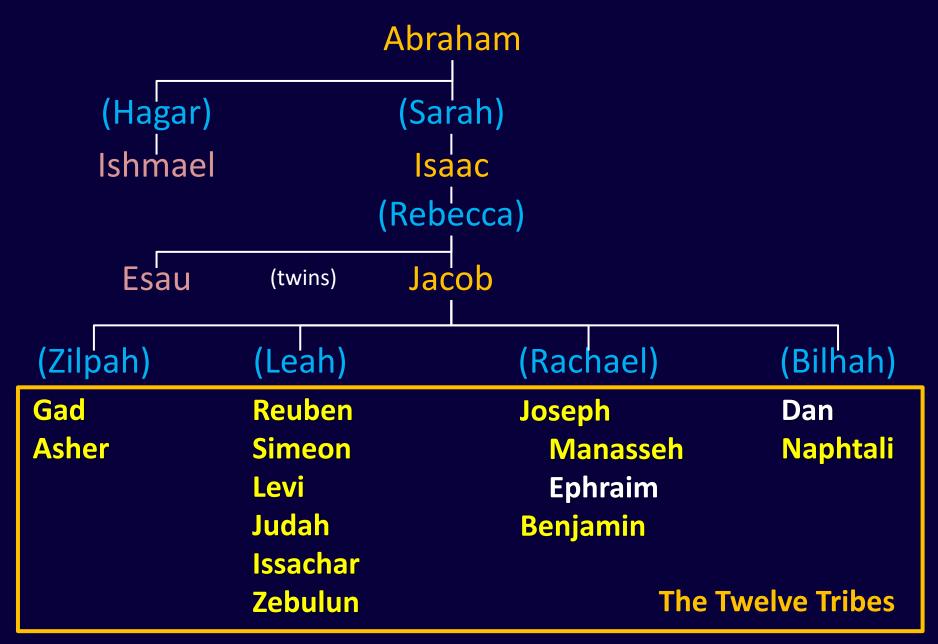
- 1. After these things I saw four angels standing at the four corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth, that the wind should not blow on the earth, on the sea, or on any tree.
- 2. Then I saw another angel ascending from the east, having the seal of the living God. And he cried with a loud voice to the four angels to whom it was granted to harm the earth and the sea, ³ saying,
 - "Do not harm the earth, the sea, or the trees till we have sealed the servants of our God on their foreheads."
- 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:

- 5. Of the tribe of Judah twelve thousand were sealed. Of the tribe of Reuben twelve thousand were sealed. Of the tribe of Gad twelve thousand were sealed.
- 6. Of the tribe of Asher twelve thousand were sealed.
 Of the tribe of Naphtali twelve thousand were sealed.
 Of the tribe of Manasseh twelve thousand were sealed.
- 7. Of the tribe of Simeon twelve thousand were sealed. Of the tribe of Levi twelve thousand were sealed. Of the tribe of Issachar twelve thousand were sealed.
- 8. Of the tribe of Zebulon twelve thousand were sealed.
 Of the tribe of Joseph twelve thousand were sealed.
 Of the tribe of Benjamin twelve thousand were sealed.

The Twelve Tribes of Israel



The Twelve Tribes of Israel sealed in Rev. 7



Why not Dan?

- There were several prophecies against Dan:
 - Moses (Deut. 33:22): "He shall leap from Bashan."
 - Jacob (Deut. 49:16-17): "Dan shall be a serpent...."
- They left their land allocated by God (Judges 18).
- Per Deborah, Dan were in ships in Judges 5:17.
- Dan is omitted from genealogies in 1 Chronicles 1-8.
- Dan is not sealed in the Tribulation (Revelation 7).

However:

- Dan will judge the people as one of the tribes (Gen 49:16)
- Dan will inherit in the Millennium (Ezekiel 48:1)

So who are the 144,000 sealed, exactly?

There are three basic differing views:

- The Bible says that they are the Twelve Tribes of Israel.
- Denominations which claim that the "Church" has replaced Israel say that they are (1) specific saints or (2) representative of all believers.
- Some posit that the numbers represent both the 12 Tribes of Israel (Jews) and the 12 Apostles (Christians) and therefore 12x12 = 144 while 1000 represents "many people", and therefore the 144,000 are the true people of God (both Jewish and Christian believers) who will go through the Tribulation.

Most holding any of the above views tend to see the number as representing people sealed through the Great Tribulation, even if their definitions of "sealed" and "which people" vary a bit.

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, and thanksgiving, and honour, and power, and might, be unto our God for ever and ever. Amen.

- Then one of the elders answered, saying to me, "Who are these arrayed in white robes, and where did they come from?"
- ¹⁴ And I said to him, "Sir, you know."
 - So he said to me, "These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation, and washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.
- Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve Him day and night in His temple. And He who sits on the throne will dwell among them.
- They shall neither hunger anymore nor thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any heat; ¹⁷ for the Lamb who is in the midst of the throne will shepherd them and lead them to living fountains of waters. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

Hymn 6: Revelation 7:9, 10

Recognition of great salvation has been given to God's people, and this should be attributed to both God and the Lamb.

After this I **looked**, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, **standing before the throne and before the Lamb**, **robed in white**, **with palm branches in their hands.** They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

"Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!"

Hymn 6: Revelation 7:9, 10

- Chapter 6 has the breaking of the first six seals. This serves as a prophetic vehicle for the things that were to take place in the future. The opening of the seventh seal is delayed for the resumed worship scene of chapter 7.
- This hymn has been called a "Proclamation of Victory."
- "Salvation," then, may not just be a spiritual deliverance but could be military conquest. The conquest is celebrated by the saved from all the nations of the earth.
- This great multitude reminds us of the immense throng of the fifth hymn. As in that hymn, the celebration includes both God on the throne and the Lamb.
- No Worship is now complete without inclusion of the Lamb.

Hymn 7: Revelation 7:11, 12

 Now a final, unified song of all the cast of heavenly characters attributes to God a seven-fold blessing.

And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, singing,

"Amen!

Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

Hymn 7: Revelation 7:11, 12

- The "Amen" brings a sense of finality, and appropriately is used to begin and end the last hymn of this section.
- This final hymn of the section also has a seven-fold ascription of attributes to God in a doxological fashion. The seven are identical to those of the third hymn with the exception that "wealth" has been replaced by "thanksgiving."
- The singers of this hymn retrace the progression of the earlier hymns.
- Worship began with the four living creatures, passed to the twenty-four elders, expanded to the combined creatures and elders, progressed to the angel throngs, and climaxed with the chorus of all creation. Chapter 7 narrows to an uncountable human multitude for the sixth hymn.
- The final hymn has the angels, elders and living creatures represented. This is almost like a rough chiasmus, walking into the content then walking out to the original position. This indicates that the music of this section of Revelation is now complete.

What is our message from Revelation 4-7?

- Having witnessed true worship, we must not tolerate or sanction false worship in any way.
- Singing is a form of worship (but not the only one). Doctrine in songs is important! Doctrine cannot be separated from worship. We must sing what we believe, and believe what we sing.
- The ultimate test is who do we worship? Is who we worship worthy? Is he/she worthy by a heavenly reality, not an earthly standard?
- The Lamb is worthy of our worship!

Worship songs inspired by Rev 4-5

- 4-5 "How Great Is Our God" ("the Lion and the Lamb"... "beginning and the end"), by Christ Tomlin, Ed Cash, Jesse Reeves (2004, worshiptogether.com)
- 4:8 "Holy, Holy," words: Reginald Heber (1826); music: "Nicaea, John B. Dykes (1861)
- 4:8; "Revelation Song" ("Holy, holy, holy ... Worthy is the Lamb") by
- 5:12 Jennie Lee Riddle (2004, Gateway Create)
- 4:11 "Thou Art Worthy," by Pauline Michael Mills (1963, 1975, Fred Bock Music Co.)
- 5:5 "It's Rising Up," by Martin Smith and Matt Redman (1995, Thankyou Music)
- 5:6- "You are Worthy" by Esther Mui (2014, Scripture Songs for Worship)
- 5:11 "O, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing," words: Charles Wesley (1739), music: "Azmon," Carl G. Gläser (1828)
- 5:12 "Worthy," by Rich Cook (© 1977, John T. Benson Publ Co.)

Worship songs inspired by Rev 4-7

- 5:12 "Worthy Is the Lamb," by Robert C. Clatterbuck (1988, Hope Publishing Company)
- 5:12 "Worthy Is the Lamb," by Don Wyrtzen (1973, Singspiration Music / ASCAP)
- 5:12 "Worthy Is the Lamb," by Darlene Zschech (2000, Hillsong)
- 5:13 "Agnus Dei," Michael W. Smith (1990, Sony/ATV Milene Music)
- 5:12 "I Will Praise Him" ("praise the Lamb for sinners slain"), words and music by Margaret J. Harris (1898)
- 5:13 "Lamb of Glory," by Greg Nelson and Phill McHugh (1982 River Oaks Music / Shepherd's Fold Music)
- 7:9 "Behold a Host," by Hans Adolph Brorson (1760) translated by Gracia Grindal, traditional Norwegian folk melody, ca. 1600)
- 7:14 "Are You Washed in the Blood," words and music: Elisha A. Hoffman (1878)
- 7:14 "There's Power in the Blood," words and music: Lewis E. Jones (1899)