



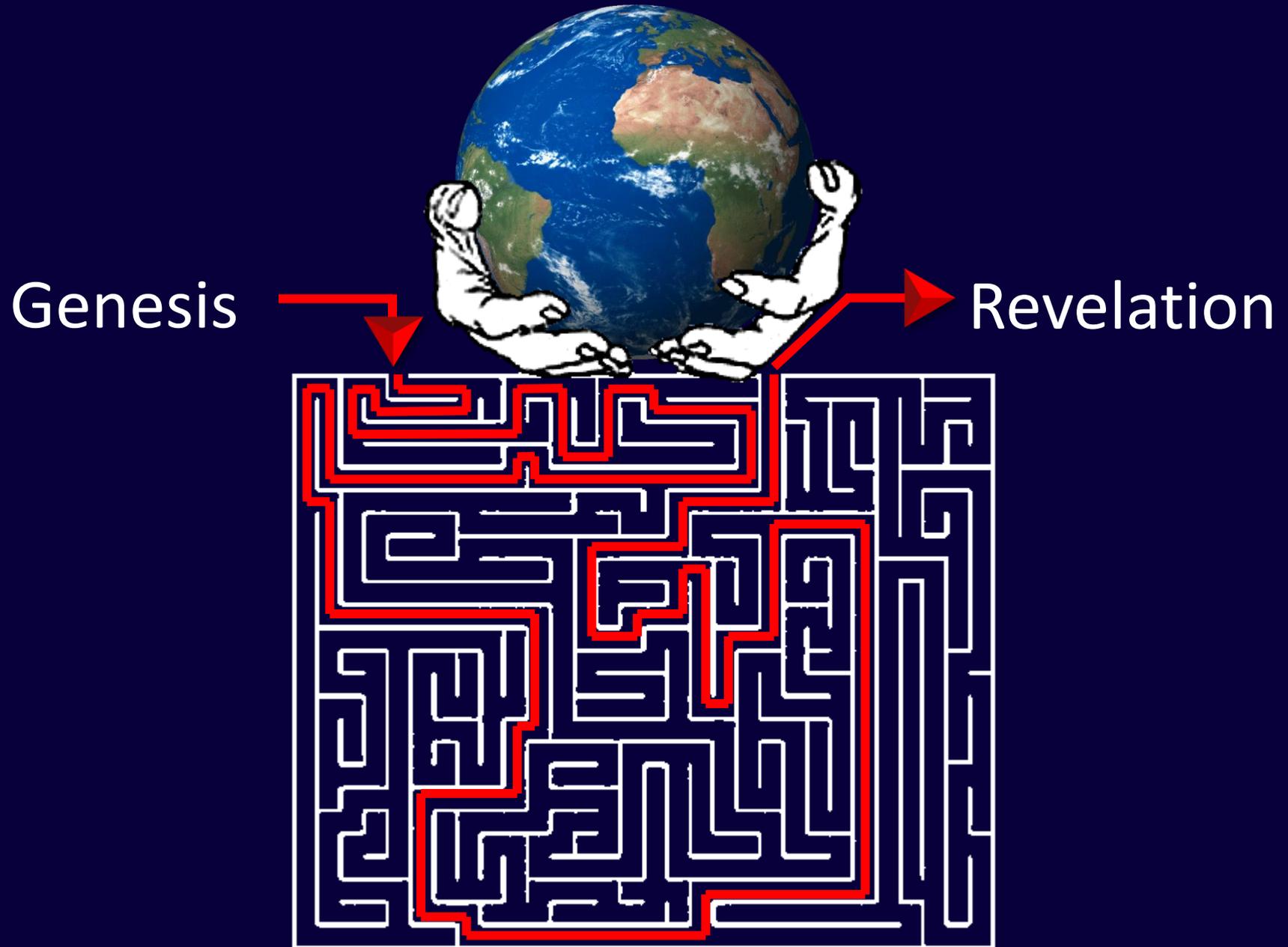
WHAT THE
BIBLE
IS ABOUT

2020
5
SESSION

WHAT THE
BIBLE
Is ABOUT

The book of
Revelation

What started in Genesis ends in Revelation



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*.

A Special Blessing

(Revelation 1:3)

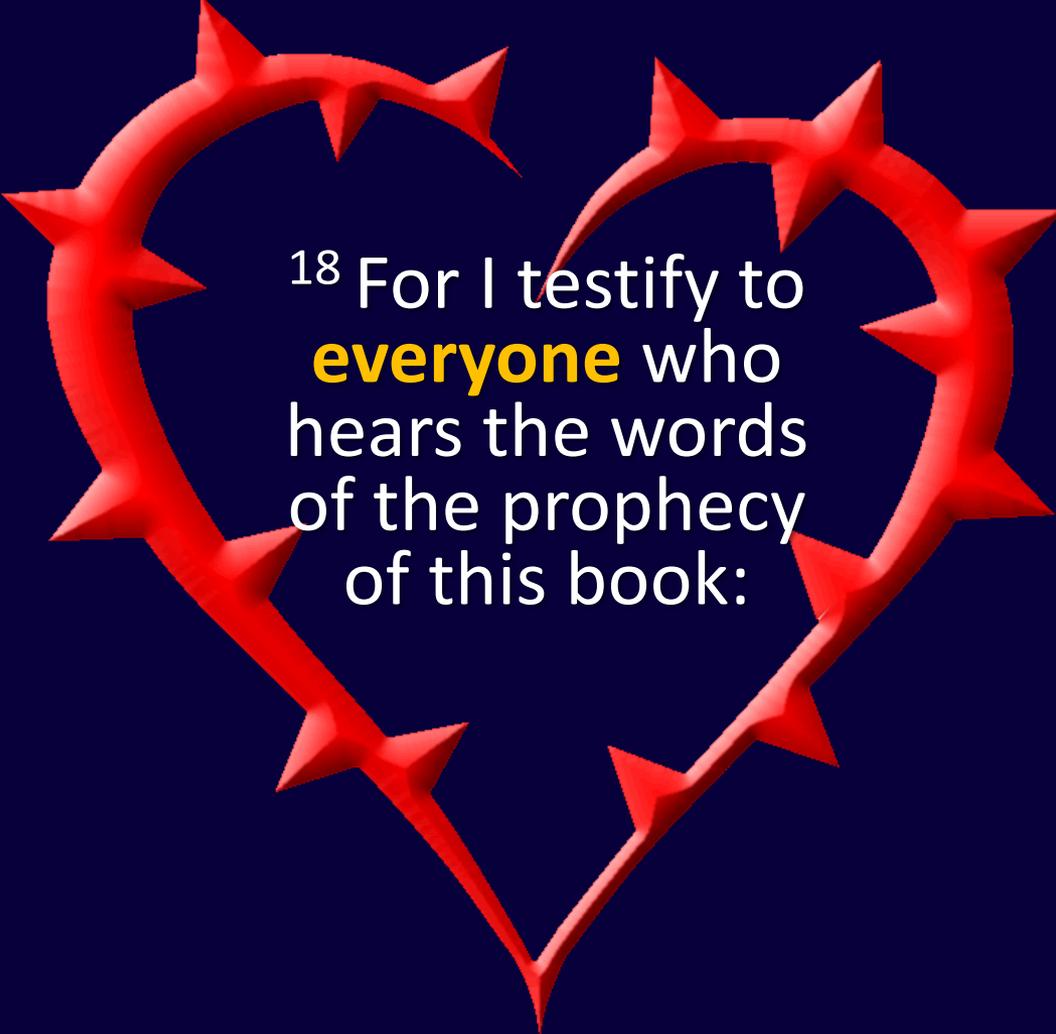


Blessed

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.

And a Special Curse

(Revelation 22:18-19)



¹⁸ For I testify to **everyone** who hears the words of the prophecy of this book:

If anyone adds to these things, **God will add** to him the **plagues** that are written in this book;

¹⁹ and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, **God shall take away** his part from the **Book of Life**, from the **holy city**, and the **things** which are **written** in this book.

The Spirit of this Course

ETSI DOCTRINA
NON DARETUR

(“as if doctrine is not given.”)

The “Divine outline” of the book of Revelation

THINGS
WHICH THOU
HAST SEEN
(Chapter 1)

- John’ vision of the exalted Christ, 1



THINGS
WHICH
ARE
(Chapters 2-3)

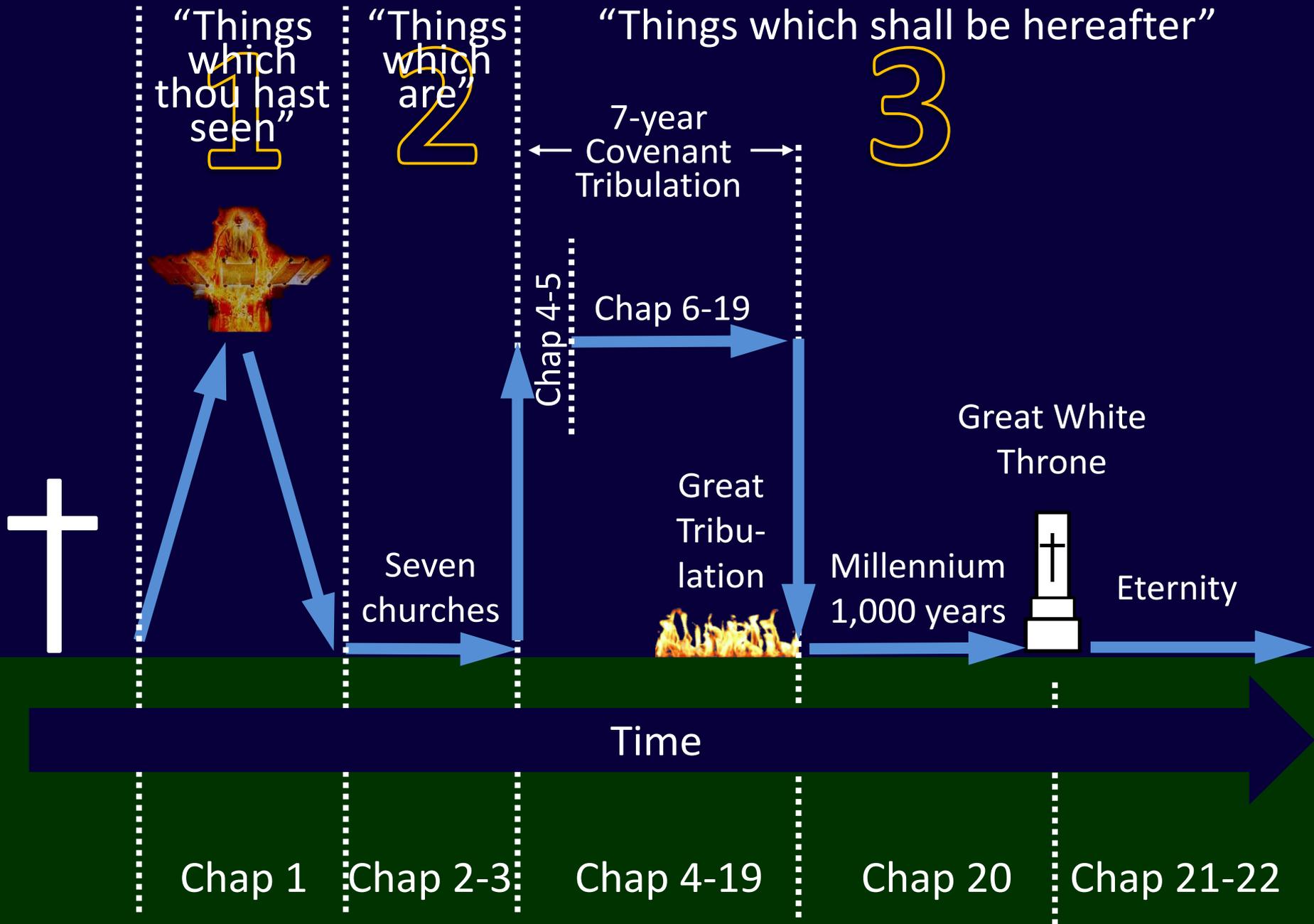
- The messages to the seven churches, 2-3



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





“Things which thou hast seen”

1



“Things which are”

2

“Things which shall be hereafter”

3

7-year Covenant Tribulation

Chap 6-19

Chap 4-5

Great White Throne

Great Tribulation

Millennium 1,000 years

Eternity

Seven churches

Time

Chap 1

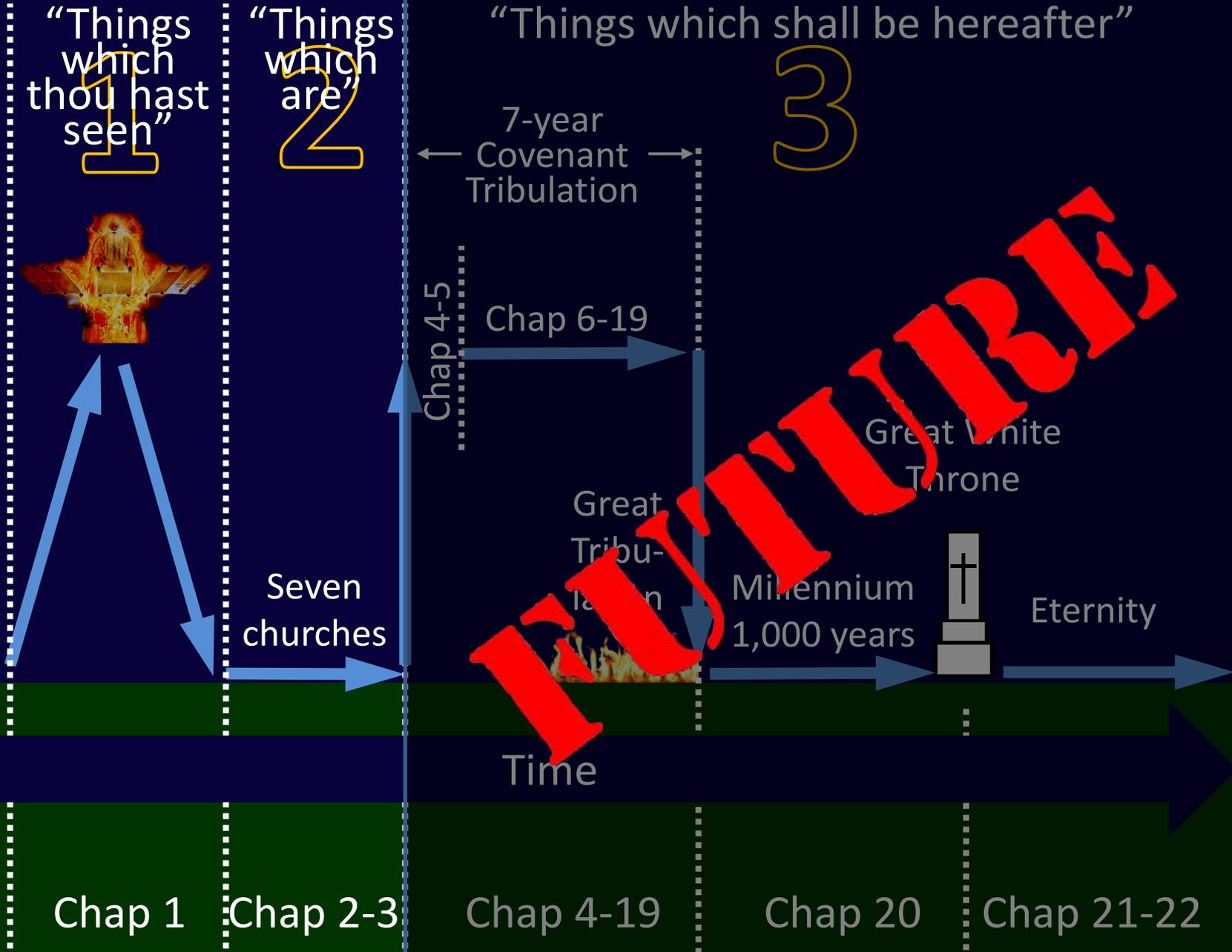
Chap 2-3

Chap 4-19

Chap 20

Chap 21-22

REVISIONABLE



Progress Chart

Daniel's 70 Weeks	Revelation (General)	Revelation (Specific)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Dan. 24-25 Weeks 1-69 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Rev. 1 (things you have seen) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Rev. 1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Dan. 26 Interval 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Rev. 2-3 (things which are) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Rev. 2-3 (Seven churches)
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Rev. 4-5 (Throne room)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Dan. 27 Week 70 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Rev. 4-22 (which shall be hereafter) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Rev. 6-9 – 1st 3½ yr Peace & security
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Rev. 10-14–Middle Abomination
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Rev. 15-18–2nd 3½ Great Tribulation
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Rev. 19-20 The King and His Kingdom
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Rev. 21-22 All things new



**THE THINGS
WHICH YOU
HAVE SEEN!**

Chapter 1

- The Revelation of **Jesus Christ** - the central character, the source and the medium.
- The blessings for those who read, hear and keep
- John's greetings to the churches - for the whole book
 - John introduces the Trinity - Father, Spirit and Son (v 4 & 5)
 - Reference to us being made as Kings and Priests
- John's vision of the Risen Christ – corresponds to the Ancient of Days (OT), transfigured Christ (NT), etc.
- Introduction to and explanation of angels, *ekklesia*, etc. (Subtext: we are meant to **understand** imagery).

ΠΕΡΓΑΜΟΝ



ΘΥΑΤΙΡΑ



ΣΑΡΔΙΣ



THINGS

ΣΜΥΡΝΑ



PHILADELPHIA



WHICH

ARE!

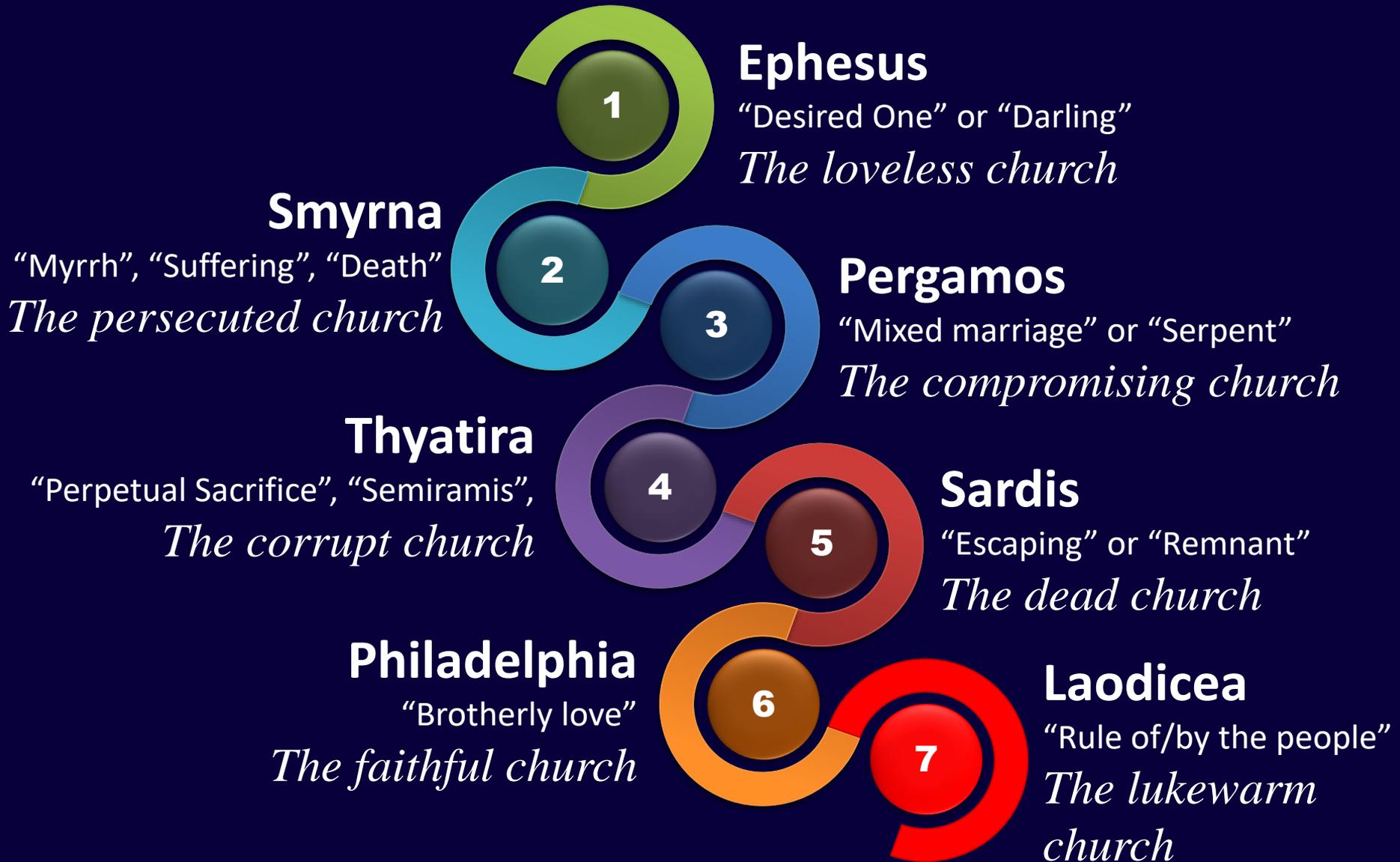
ΕΦΕΣΟΣ



ΛΑΟΔΙΚΕΙΑ



The Seven “Churches”



Four aspects of the 1st Century “Church”

No dedicated buildings

In pagan religions, a bigger temple meant a greater god.



No altars

Pagan religions centred around sacrifices carried out on altars in the centre of their worship/temples.



No professional clergy

Pagan priesthood was a full-time job with influence over kings, wealth and high status.



No competing denominations

Many pagan gods and goddesses all had their own temples, clergy, rites and rituals.



For much of the first three centuries, Christian assembly was unlawful and carried out in homes or even secretly in caves.

Jesus' report cards to ALL congregations

Each was surprised by its report!

Those thinking they **were** doing well, **weren't**.

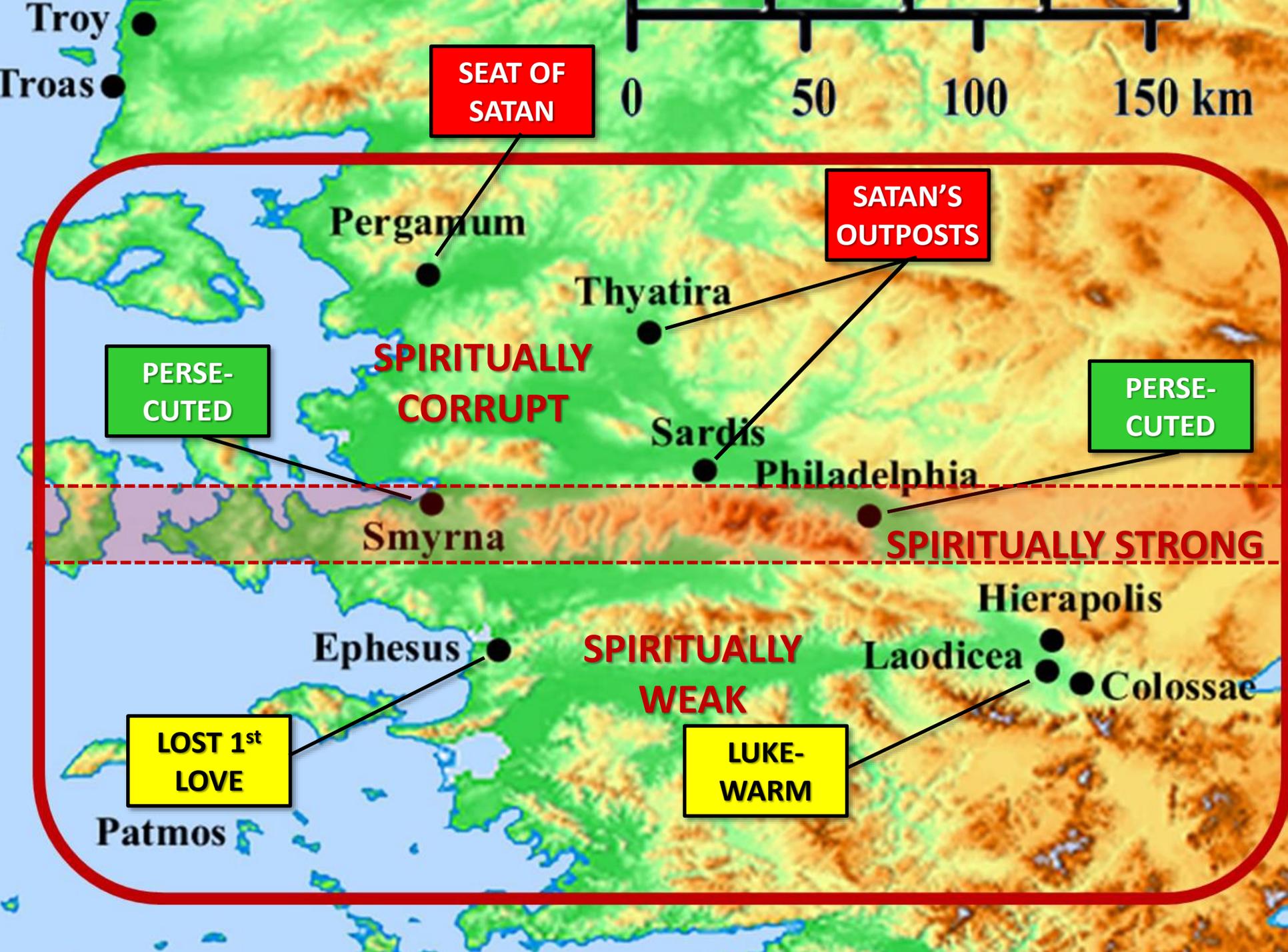
Those thinking they **weren't** doing well, **were**.

Why?

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



SEAT OF SATAN

SATAN'S OUTPOSTS

PERSE-CUTED

PERSE-CUTED

LOST 1st LOVE

LUKE-WARM



**THINGS
WHICH**

**YOU SOON
SHALL SEE!**



Heaven will open;
there will be a voice and
the sound of a trumpet;
and the saints will be
caught up to heaven!

1 Corinthians 15:52; 1 Thessalonians 4:13–18)

**GOD'S
JUDGMENT
OF THE
THE EARTH
WILL BEGIN.**



- 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:

WORSHIP THE CREATOR

Chapter 4

Chapter 5

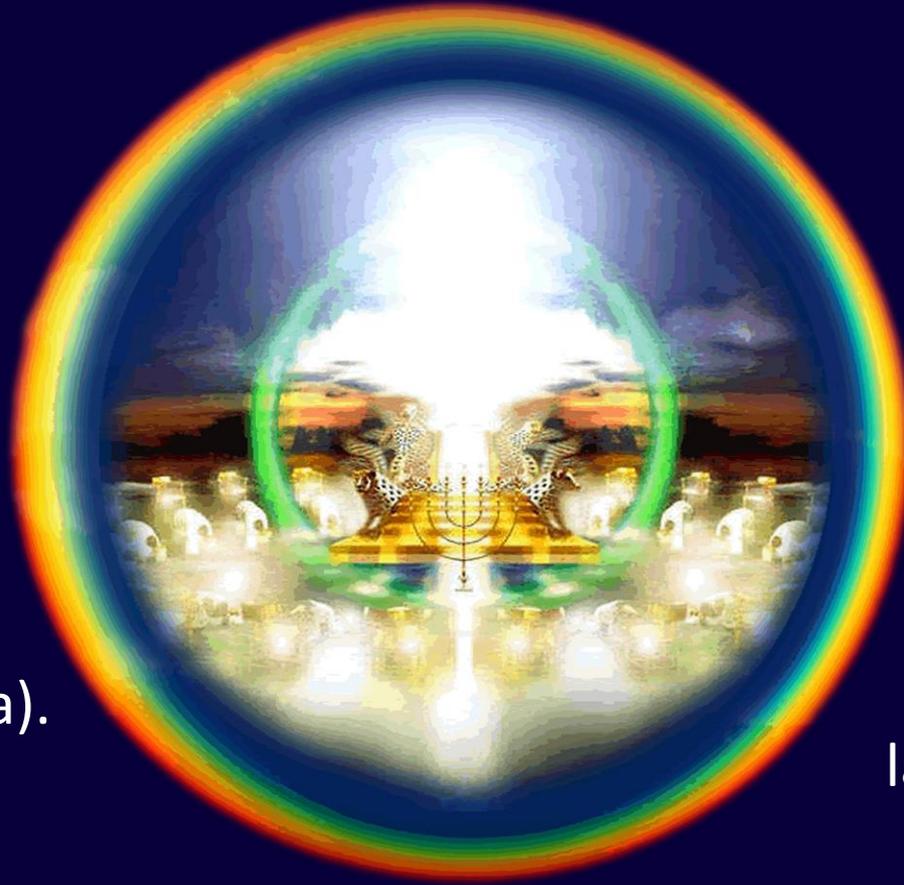
WORSHIP THE REDEEMER

God's people Worship the Creator

Chapter 4

① On the throne—Almighty God (vv. 2–3a).

② Around the throne- a rainbow (v. 3b).



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

⑤ Before the throne - lamps and a sea (vv. 5b–6a).

④ Out of the throne- storm signals (v. 5a).

⑥ To the throne praise (vv. 9–11).

Because of
who He is

(verses 5-7)

1

2

Because of
where He is

(verse 6)

Because of
what He does

(verses 8-10)

3

4

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.

Remember!

1:17 And when I saw Him, I fell at His feet as dead.



- John was unprepared for this experience.
- He had no language to fully express it. Worldly words and symbols did not adequately convey what he saw, so John used jewels, gems (e.g., jasper, sardius stones) and Scriptural references.

Our imaginations must be **engaged** to appreciate and untangle the book's complex imagery.



Logic will get you from A to B.

Imagination will take
you everywhere!

Albert Einstein

WORSHIP

helps us to prepare for the

WRATH

of

GOD

Worship in Rev. 4-5 prepares us for wrath in 6-19

- Revelation was given to *encourage God's people* in every age.
- It not only gives *prophecy* that would be fulfilled in the end times, but also great *theology* and a dramatic revealing of the *character* of God and the *principles* of His kingdom.
- The **worship** described in Revelation 4—5 prepares us for the **wrath** described in Revelation 6—19. God is longsuffering, but eventually He must judge sin and vindicate His servants.



World History
(Satan's world)

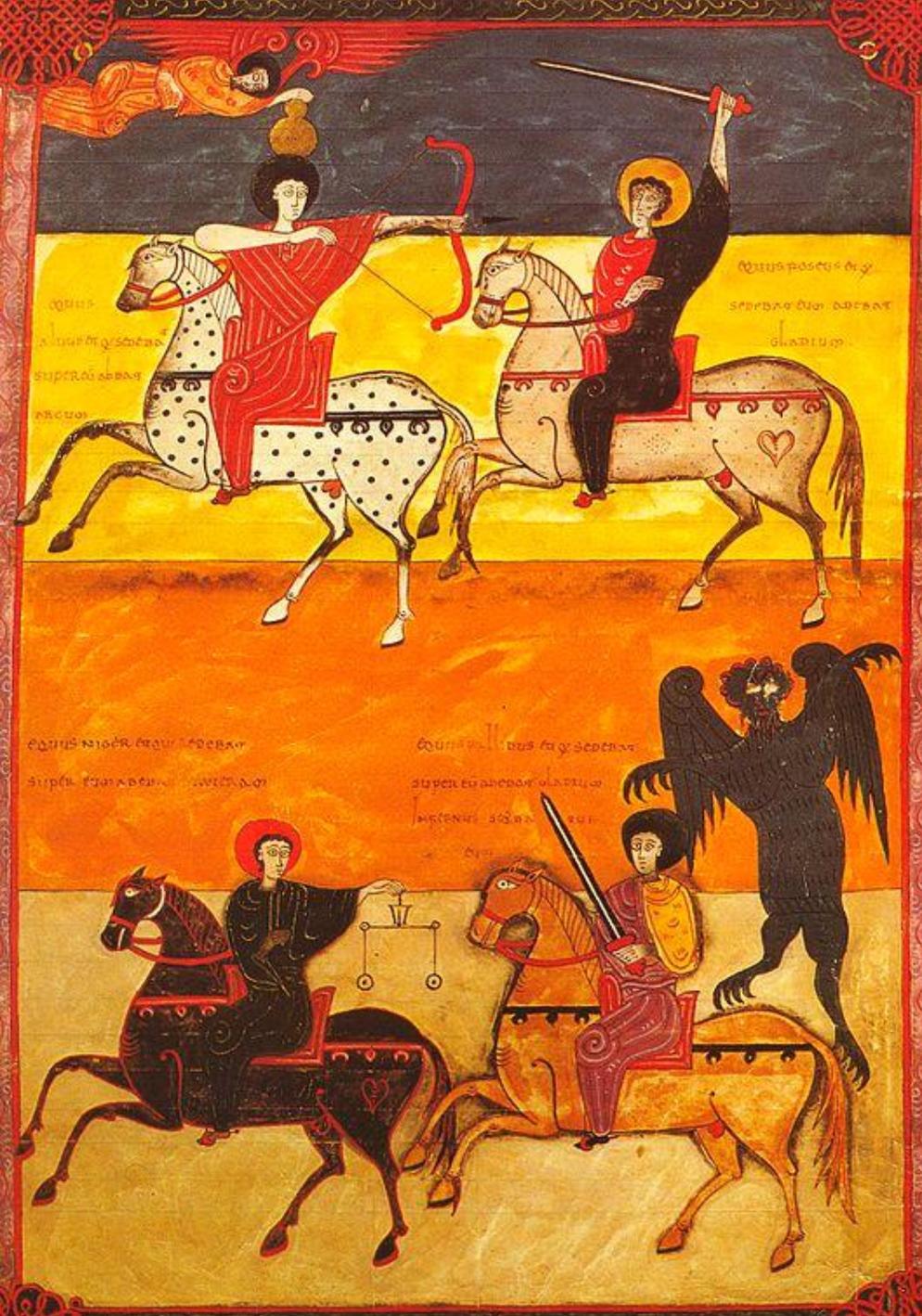
Chaos

Millennium
(Christ judges & rules)

Daniel's
70th Week



*Antichrist breaks covenant with Israel and becomes their persecutor instead of protector.



WHAT THE BIBLE IS ABOUT

The 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.



1

White Horse

Political (conquest)

Covenant of

Peace and Security

2

Red Horse

War

Take peace from

the earth

3

Black Horse

Famine

But hurt not the

powerful wealthy

4

Pale Horse

Pestilence (death)

Death of ¼ of people
by war, hunger, disease

Responses to the opening of the four seals

In Heaven

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)

To the Lamb,
“Avenge us!”



The *Bamberg Apocalypse*, 11th-century

On Earth

Cosmic Changes

- Sun
- Moon
- Stars
- Global shift
- People hide in caves

“Save us!”
From the Lamb.

“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)

The Seven Trumpets

Revelation Chapters 8-15

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



The Seven Bowls of Wrath

Revelation Chapter 16



The Seven Thunders?

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

The First Interval (Interlude) in Revelation 7

- The six seals broken in Chapter 6 provide a preview of the future.
- Opening of the seventh seal is delayed to complete worship, with two additional hymns:



Hymn 6 (Rev 7:9-10): a "Proclamation of Victory."

Salvation is a spiritual deliverance but could also be a military conquest celebrated by the saved from all the nations of the earth. Celebration includes both God on the throne and the Lamb.



Hymn 7 (Rev 7:11-12) the "Amen" brings a sense of finality as the full cast of heavenly creatures attribute a seven-fold blessing to God as a doxology. The singers retrace the progression of the earlier hymns.

- The seven **7** songs complete the heavenly worship.



**144,000
SEALED JEWS**

(Rev. 7:1-8)



**Unnumbered
multitudes of**

SAVED GENTILES

(Rev. 7:9-17)

Review

CHAP

1

John on Patmos, Vision of Christ in Glory, introduction to the Seven Churches.

CHAP

2

Letters to the Angel of the Churches in Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamos, and Thyatira

CHAP

3

Letters to the Angel of the Churches in Sardis, Philadelphia, and Laodicea

CHAP

4

Vision of the throne room of God, God's people worship the Creator

CHAP

5

God's people worship the Redeemer, the sealed scroll and the Slain Lamb

CHAP

6

6 seals opened: 4 horsemen, martyrs in heaven and God's wrath on earth.

CHAP

7

Sealing of the 144,000 Jews and multitude of Tribulation Saints



WHAT THE BIBLE IS ABOUT

Blow the Trumpets

Revelation Chapter 8-9

Beatus de Facundus: "La sixième Trompette.
Les Anges prisonniers au bord de l'Euphrate.
Apoc. IX" (c. 1047)



Silentium in caelum

During the silence in heaven, an angel with a golden censer offered the prayers of the saints up to God.

ALTARE

quarta
luna

And then filled the censer with fire from the altar and hurled it to the earth.



The First Four Trumpets Plague the Environment

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



Vegetation

Hail and Fire

(Rev. 8:7)

Hail, blood and fire hurl down (volcano?); one-third of earth is burned destroying a third of the earth's vegetation.



Oceans & sea life

A Fiery Mountain

(Rev. 8:8-9)

A fiery mountain (asteroid?) falls into the sea, turning it to blood and destroying a third of its creatures and ships.

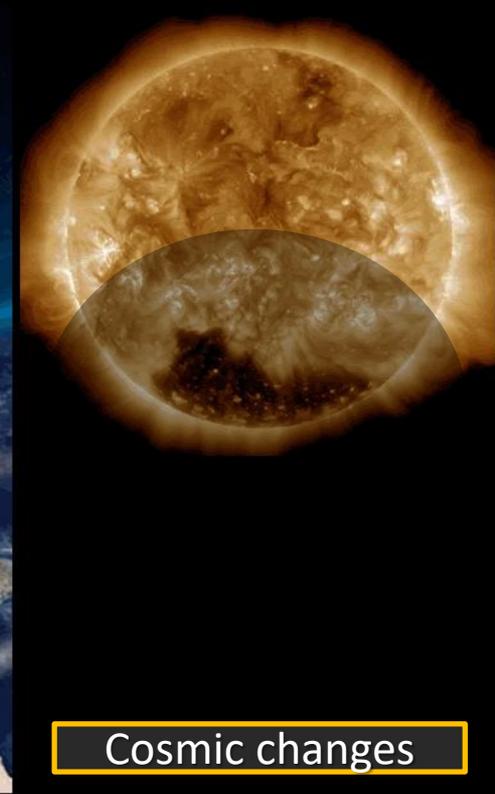


Rivers & fresh water

A Blazing Star

(Rev. 8:10-11)

A blazing star called Wormwood breaks up and pollutes fresh water. Many die from undrinkable water.



Cosmic changes

Darkness

(Rev. 8:12-13)

A third of the sun, moon and stars are struck, darkening them and affecting daylight on earth.



“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!”



The Three Woes

Woe No. 1: ☠️

The 5th Trumpet

Woe No. 2: ☠️

The 6th Trumpet

Woe No. 3: ☠️

The 7th Trumpet

5th

The Army from the Pit (The First Woe)



A fallen angel named the Destroyer (Apollyon (Gk), Abaddon (Heb), Satan?) unlocks the pit to loose locust-like evil creatures with the power of scorpions to torment people without God's seal; for five months. (Revelation 9:1-12)



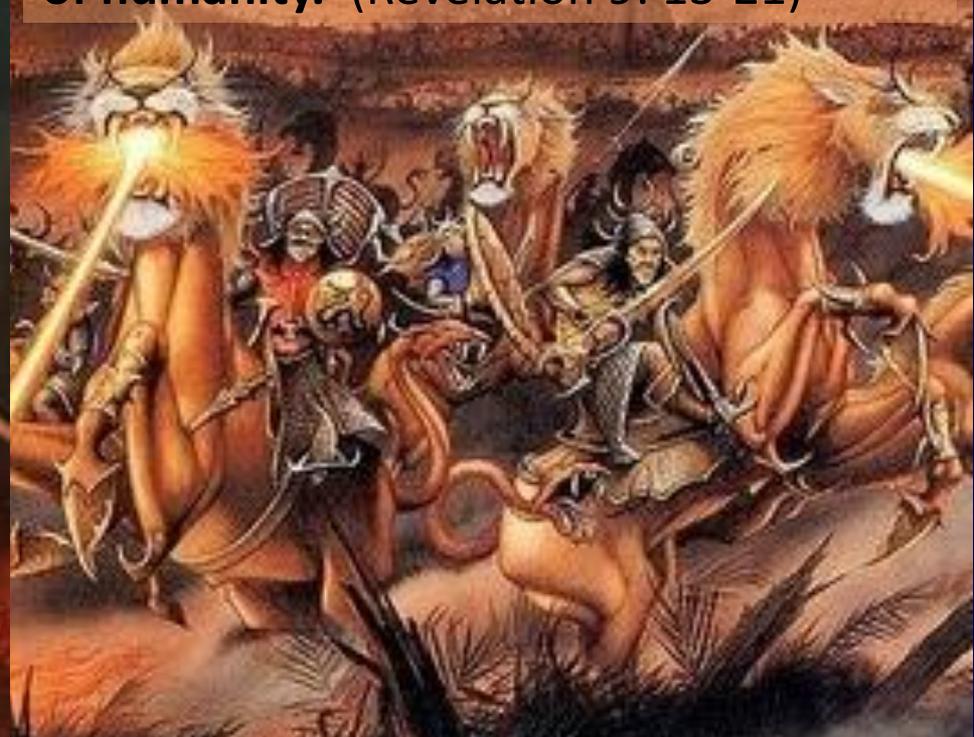
“In those days men will seek death and will not find it; they will desire to die, and death will flee from them.” (Rev. 9:6)

6th

The Army from the East (The Second Woe)

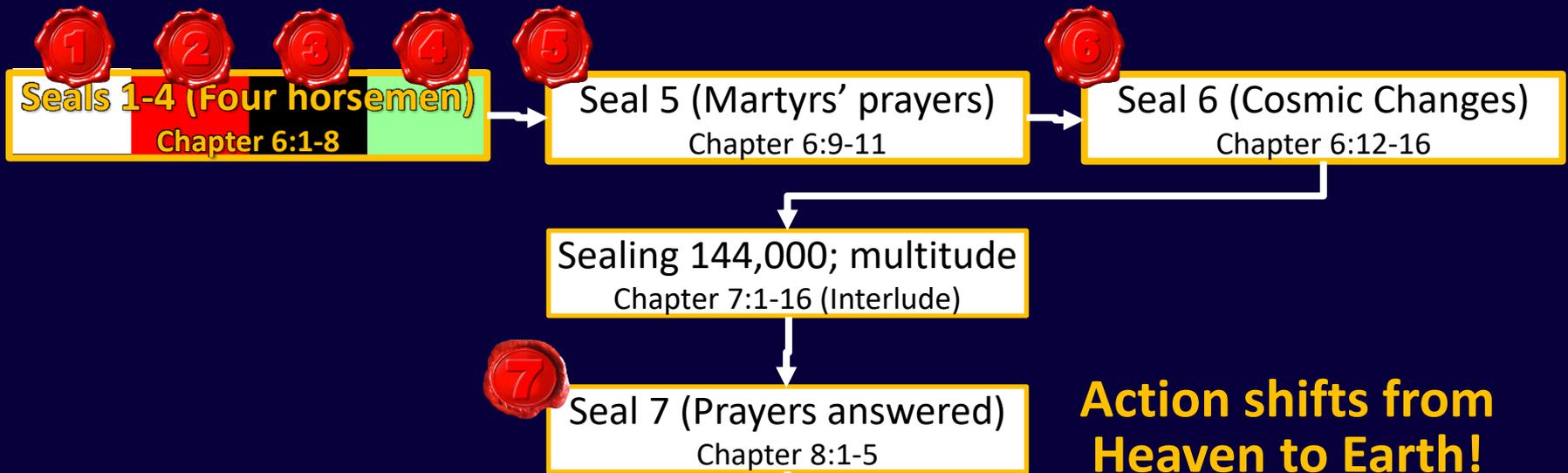


Four fallen angels loose a vast army of myriads upon myriads of warriors mounted on satanic beasts breathing out fire and smoke and brimstone and having tails like serpents, to kill a third of humanity. (Revelation 9: 13-21)

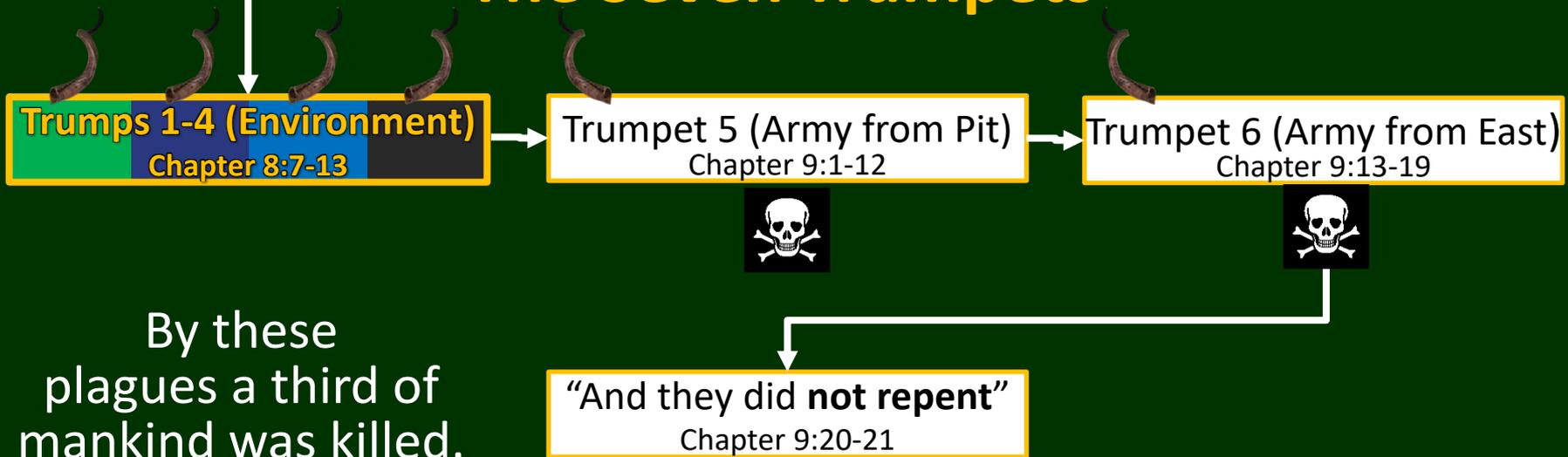


“But the rest of mankind, who were not killed by these plagues, **did not repent...**” (Rev. 9:20-21)

The Seven Seals



The Seven Trumpets



Status Report

The Seven Seals - Revelation Chapters 6-7



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

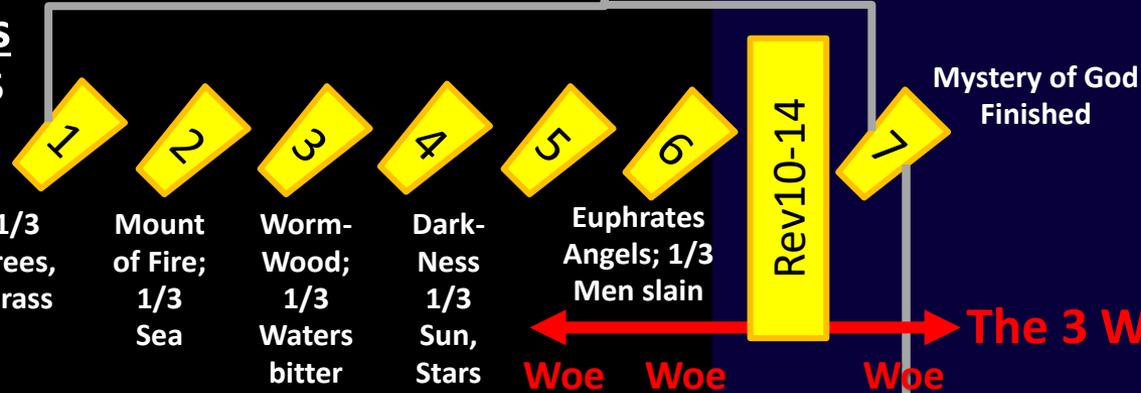
Interval 2: Mighty Angel with the Little Book; Seven thunders; Two witnesses (Revelation Chapters 10-14)

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The Seven Trumpets

Revelation Chapters 8-15

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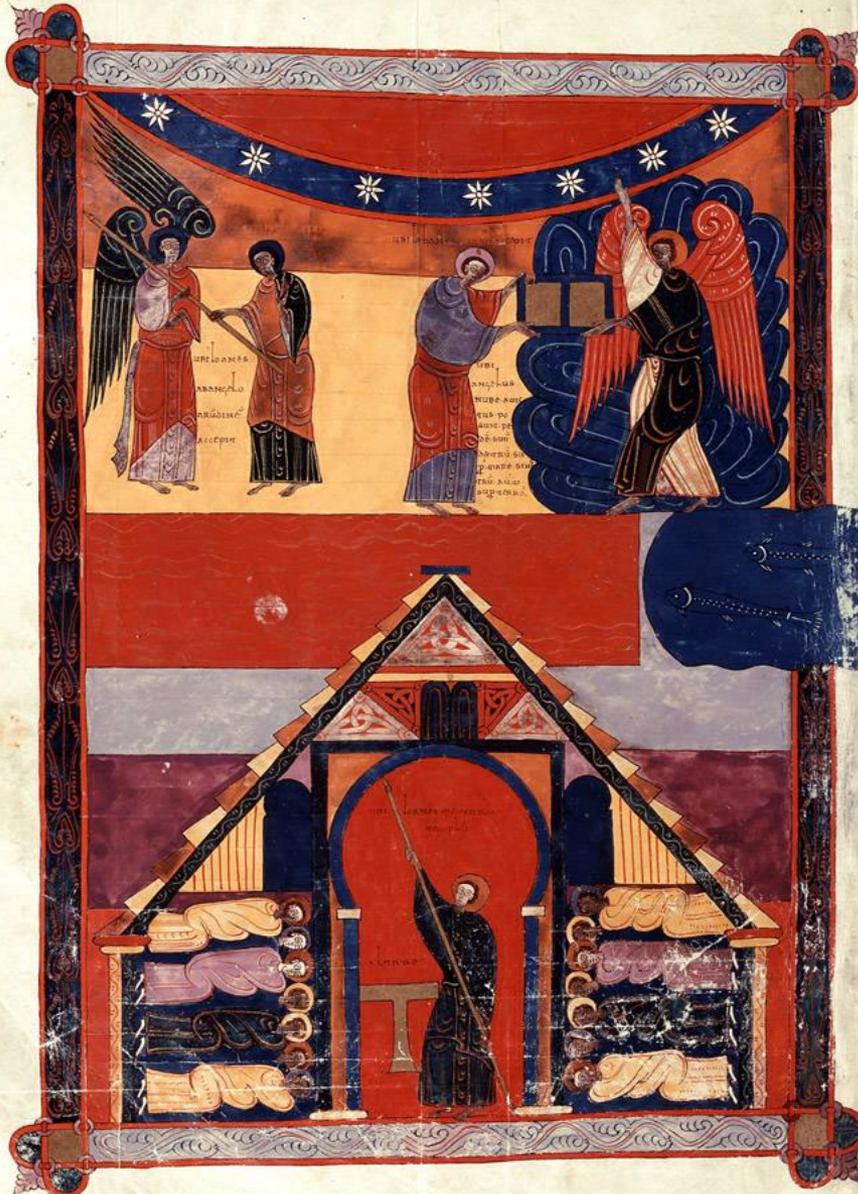
The Seven Bowls of Wrath

Revelation Chapter 16

The Seven Thunders?

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





INERT EXPIANTO

ESUBRA SCRIPTE

ESTORIꝰ
 audi inquit alium angeli
 foram descendens dāto
 nube amicum . Dūc ea amicus gtu .
 Sāmp̄r udo degāta nūcāre . dūom
 uūm modis dīscōbīat . Indūat gtu .
 Nūc sicca lūq̄o hūlū libri lōq̄mū
 nūc abollū candidū sicca p̄r
 dūnelūm . Nūc nube lōq̄m̄ ām

Nūc uūm primūm dīcīa faciā
 lucēre . ar p̄lō uacollūm lōq̄m̄ .
 Ua orāndōre quānū clūmāre nā
 gēt̄s p̄p̄mōnān . cā hūbebuā
 lūmānū sūā libūm ap̄rūm .
 orāndō faciā dūc sicca sol . quū
 ap̄rūm lūm libūm . quā faciā
 sic agnōcā . p̄r libūm ām .
 lūuolūat sic rōp̄mūg rōq̄s .
 eloquūm . quī p̄ofun
 dīcūe rānāq̄urūm lūuolūat
 uā nōn fūcāle rānūm om̄nūm
 p̄rōrānū . quī ānēā lūuolūat
 sicā ḡp̄ndūm . quā corān



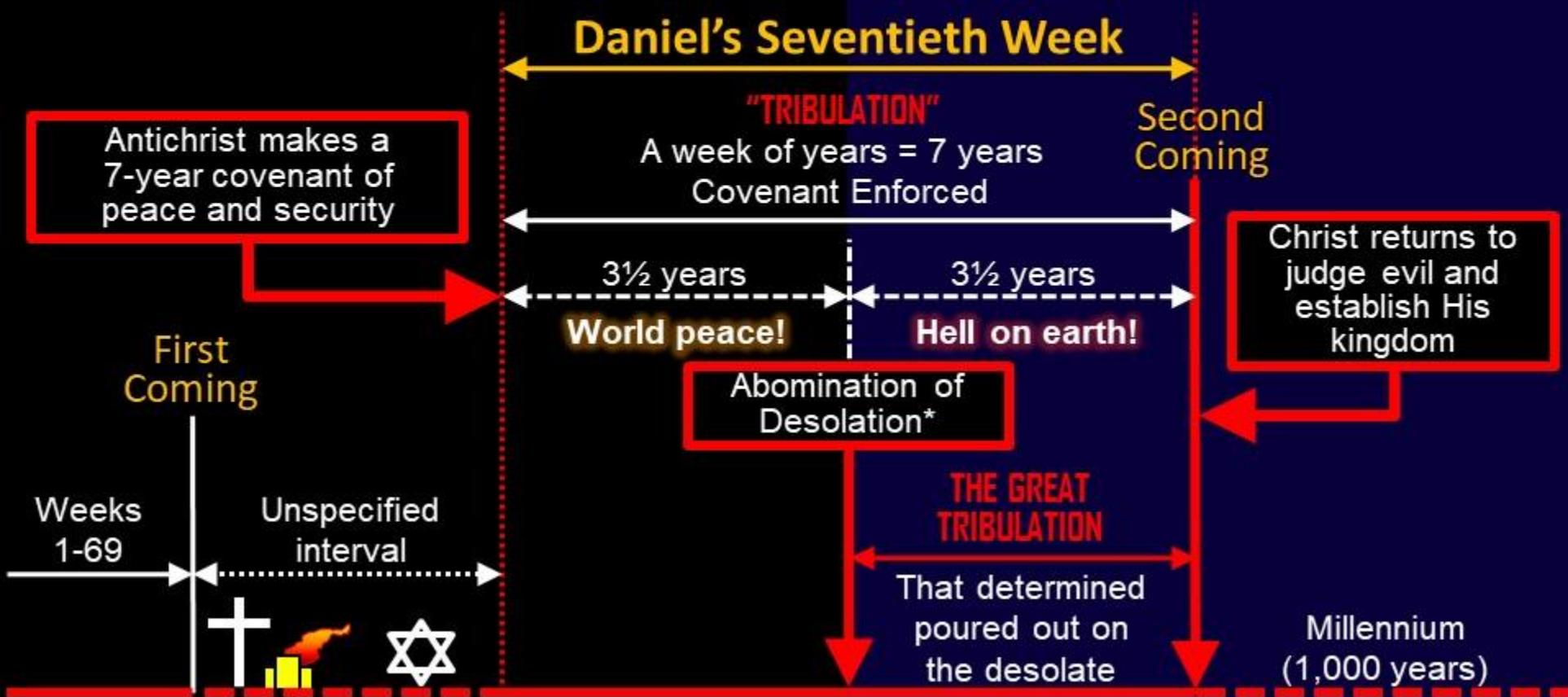
scōr nube uolūna . sicca p̄rāfūm
 quī rānā līcā . quī uānūbā uolūna
 Indomū lūq̄ nube sp̄lū cācō
 corpore . cā rīc rūp̄r cūpūā dūc
 rīc p̄mīssō p̄rōrānūg sic
 ḡ cētū ām dācēnā Indomū .
 cā fūcīā dūc sicca sol . ar p̄lō dūc
 sicca collūm lōq̄m̄ . ar quā hīc
 rāq̄o . cā dūmīnūbīlī quāō .
 Indūq̄o libū dīcīa . p̄rū p̄lō
 lōq̄m̄ . ar p̄rōrānū faciā lucēre
 uā orāndōre . lūhōc mūdo lōq̄m̄
 lūp̄mōne . ar p̄lōrōe lūdūm rōq̄ōne .

p̄rōrānūbū rīcōr eloquī obīcū
 rīcū ap̄rūm . Unde rōp̄mū ām
 ḡp̄ndūre cēlūm . sicca p̄llān . quī
 cāq̄ā lūq̄m̄ rūp̄rōnū cē . quī
 ām cēlū nōmīne . nū rīcū
 rōp̄mūā rīcūā . Nōquī nōbī
 cā rōl rūp̄rāq̄ . ar p̄nāq̄m
 p̄rōrānū rōllē ḡp̄m̄lōrūm . cūq̄
 uīrānūm lucēre . quōd sicca
 p̄rōrānū ḡp̄ndūm . quā p̄r rōp̄mū
 rīc rōrō cūm lūq̄ā fōmūā
 quā ānēā oclōr nōr p̄r uōbū
 dōcōrūm ḡp̄ndū dōp̄līcūā .

Revelation Chapters 10—14

The second major interval
(after the 6th Trumpet and Second Woe)

- At the start of Daniel's 70th Week, a world ruler rose to power and made a 7-year Covenant of Peace and Security, promising to protect the Jews and help rebuild the Temple in Jerusalem.



*Antichrist breaks covenant with Israel and becomes their **persecutor** instead of **protector**.

- After three-and-a-half-years, Antichrist breaks his agreement, invades the temple, and begins to persecute the Jewish people.
- But God is not without His witness to the world. This interval contains five important testimonies:





WHAT THE BIBLE IS ABOUT

A Time for Testimony

Revelation Chapter 10-11

Beatus de Facundus: "L'Ange enveloppé d'un nuage. Jean mesure le Temple de Dieu. Apoc. X et XI" (c. 1047)

YHWH

Jesus Christ
(Lamb of God, Lion,
Man-child,
Bridegroom)

Spirit

Apostle
John

Archangel
Michael

The Target

You
Me

The Woman
clothed
with the
Sun

The
Remnant of
Israel

144,000
(12,000 of
each Tribe
of Israel
sealed
throughout
Tribulation)

Two
Witnesses
(Moses and
Elijah)

Four Living
Creatures,
24 Elders,
the Angels
around the
Throne, All
Creatures

Bride of
Christ
(the Saved,
Redeemed,
inc Martyrs,
Saints,

Angels

REVELATION
Cast of
Characters

Angels

The Seed of the Serpent

The Red
Dragon
(Satan,
Serpent,
Shining
One, Bright
Star, etc.)

Beast out of
the Sea
(Antichrist,
Assyrian.
world
leader, etc.)

Beast out of
the Earth
(False
Prophet)

The Woman
riding the
Beast
(Harlot, the
Great
Whore)

Babylon
(world
capital)

Horsemen
of the
Apocalypse
(politics,
War,
Famine,
Death)

Heads
(kings of the
earth)

Ten Horns
(ten kings)

Earth
Dwellers
(Brood of
Serpent;
unsaved)

The Mighty Angel with the Little Book

- 10 I saw still another (Gk. ἄλλος, *allos* not *heteros*) mighty angel coming down from heaven, clothed with a cloud. And a rainbow on his head, his face like the sun, and his feet like pillars of fire.
- 2 He had a little book open in his hand.

The Little Book
contains the rest of the prophetic message that John will deliver. Note that the book is open.

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.



Is this “Mighty Angel” Jesus Christ?

- *Jesus is elsewhere described as a “mighty angel” (Rev. 5:2).*
- *God is often identified with clouds (Ex. 16:10, 19:9, 24:15, 34:5; Ps. 104:3), and Jesus ascended in a cloud (Acts 1:9) and will return with clouds (Rev. 1:7).*
- *The rainbow around the throne of God (Rev. 4:3) now sits like a crown giving this angel the authority of God’s throne.*
- *The angel’s face “as the sun” (see Rev. 1:16).*
- *His feet correspond to the Lord’s description in Rev. 1:15.*
- *His voice like a lion suggests Rev. 5:5.*
- *Jesus appeared in the OT as “the Angel of the Lord” (Ex. 3:2; Judges 2:4; 6:11–12, 21–22; 2 Sam. 24:16) for special purposes, not as a permanent incarnation. Called a “Theophony.”*



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.”

The Seven Thunders

The Greek word (βροντή) translated as “thunder” is from a word that means “to roar.”

God’s voice is often compared to thunder (Ps. 29; Job 26:14; 37:5; John 12:28–29) (i.e., thunderous rumblings display power, majesty).

*John was forbidden to write what the seven thunders uttered, **the only sealed words in Revelation** (see Dan. 12:9; Rev. 22:10). It is useless to speculate when God chooses to veil His truth (Deut. 29:29).*



THE GOD OF GLORY

THUNDERS

PSALM 29

The Psalm of Thunders – Psalm 29

A Psalm of David.

- 
- 29 Give unto the LORD, O you mighty ones,
Give unto the LORD glory and strength.
- 2 Give unto the LORD the glory due to His name;
Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.
- 3 The voice of the LORD *is* over the waters;
The God of glory thunders;
The LORD *is* over many waters.
- 4 The voice of the LORD *is* powerful;
The voice of the LORD *is* full of majesty.
- 5 The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars,
Yes, the LORD splinters the cedars of Lebanon.
- 6 He makes them also skip like a calf,
Lebanon and Sirion like a young wild ox.
- 7 The voice of the LORD divides the flames of fire.

- 8 The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;
The LORD shakes the Wilderness of Kadesh.
- 9 The voice of the LORD makes the deer give birth,
And strips the forests bare;
And in His temple everyone says, "Glory!"
- 10 The LORD sat *enthroned* at the Flood,
And the LORD sits as King forever.
- 11 The LORD will give strength to His people;
The LORD will bless His people with peace.



- 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.

- *The angel's awesome posture standing on the sea and on the land is that of a conqueror claiming the whole world (see Josh. 1:1–3).*
- *Why an oath? Oaths affirm certainty. God put Himself "under oath" to make His covenant with Abraham (Heb. 6:13–20), when He declared His Son to be High Priest (Heb. 7:20–22), and when He promised David that Christ would be from his family (Acts 2:29–30).*
- *The focus is on God the Creator. Various judgments have already been delivered on the heavens, the earth, and the sea, and more judgments are to come. God has been delaying His judgments to give lost sinners time to repent (2 Peter 3:1–9); but now He will accelerate His judgments and accomplish His purposes.*

What is the “mystery of God”?

- God is sovereign King over all of the universe—over both heaven and earth- but why has He permitted evil in the world to increase until the world is ripe for judgment (2 Thess 2:7; Rev 14:14-20)?
- Many may be surprised to learn that God has never reigned on the earth since Eden.
 - He has ruled, overruled, and intervened upon the earth, but governs in a manner that seems remote and incomplete.
 - **He has never used His absolute power to bring about an end to demonic evil, human rebellion, global injustice and suffering.**
 - He does not even receive the worship and honor that is His due.
- That is all about to change. This is what we pray for when we pray, “Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.”
- **This reign will be inaugurated in Revelation 11:17.**

Something previously unknown revealed

New Testament "Mystery"	Where Revealed
The Kingdom of Heaven	Matthew 13:11
The Kingdom of God	Mark 4:11
Israel's blindness	Romans 11:25
The Rapture	1 Corinthians 15:51
The Will of God	Ephesians 1:9
Christ and the Church	Ephesians 5:32
The Gospel	Ephesians 3:4; Col. 1:26-27; 4:3
Iniquity	2 Thessalonians 2:7
God and Christ	Colossians 2:2
The Faith	1 Timothy 3:9
Godliness	1 Timothy 3:16
The Seven Stars and Seven Golden Lampstands	Revelation 1:20
Babylon the Great	Revelation 17:5
The Harlot	Revelation 17:7

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.”



- *God’s Word must be made part of our inner self. It was not enough for John to read the book, he had to receive it into his inner being.*
- *God’s Word is compared to food: bread (Matt 4:4), milk (1 Pet 2:2), meat (1 Cor. 3:1–2), and honey (Ps. 119:103). The prophets Jeremiah (Jer. 15:16) and Ezekiel (Ezek. 2:9–3:4) knew what it was to “eat” the Word before they could share it with others. The Word is “made flesh” (John 1:14) before it is given to those who need it.*

The Two Witnesses



11 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 underfoot *for* forty-two months.

- *Israel is worshipping at a restored temple in Jerusalem, built under protection of the Antichrist, whose true character is not yet known.*
- *Measuring symbolically shows God laying claim to the Temple.*



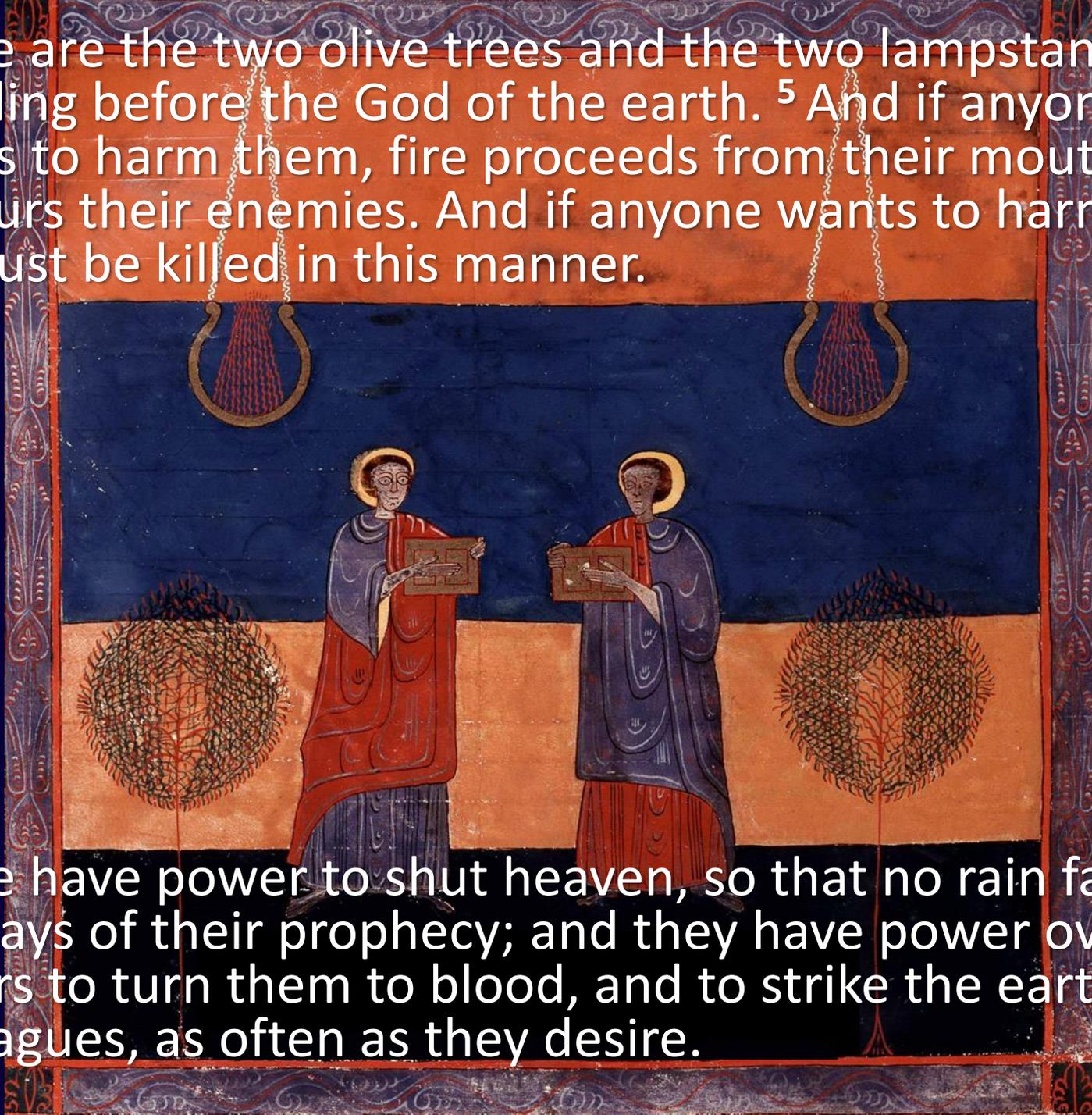
³ And I will give *power* to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy one thousand two hundred and sixty days, clothed in sackcloth.”



3½ years = 42 months =
180 weeks = 1,260 days =

time, times and
half a time.

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 Two Witnesses

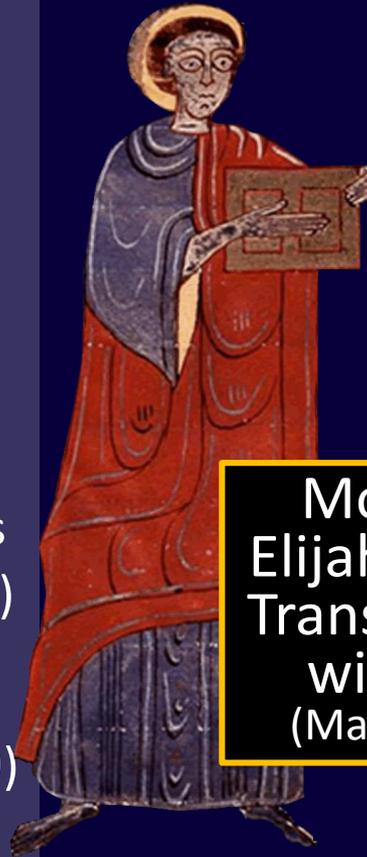
- “Two olive trees and two lampstands” (Zech 4:3-13) refer to two anointed ones at the rebuilding of the Temple after the exile.
- The two witnesses minister during the *first* half of the tribulation. They minister the Word of God outside the Temple.
- Sackcloth was a sign of repentance. It speaks of the Law rather than Grace (i.e., the Old Testament rather than the New).
- Gentiles overrun Jerusalem in the *last* half of the tribulation.
- Moses represented the *Torah* (Law) and Elijah the *Prophets* of the Old Testament, which Jesus came to fulfill (Matthew 5:17).

Who Are The Two Witnesses?

Moses

- “Turning the waters to blood” (Exodus 7:14-24)
- Plagues (Exodus 8-12)
- Unfinished ministry (Numbers 20:12; Deut 3:26-28)
- No body found (Deut. 34:6; Jude 1:9)

Represents the Torah
(**Law**)



Elijah

- Fire from heaven (1 Kgs 18:37; 2 Kgs 1:10,12; Jer 5:14)
- Shut heaven... (1 Kings 17:1) ...for 3.5 years (Luke 4:25; James 5:17,18).
- Unfinished ministry (Kgs 17:1; 19:13-16; 2 Kgs 2:11)
- Raptured (2 Kgs 2:11)

Represents the O.T.
Prophets



Moses and Elijah were the Transfiguration witnesses. (Matthew 17:3)

The Witnesses are 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.

8 And their dead bodies *will lie* in the street of the great city which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also our Lord was crucified.

9 Then *those* from the peoples, tribes, tongues, and nations will **see** their dead bodies three-and-a-half days, and not allow their dead bodies to be put into graves.

10 And those who dwell on the earth will rejoice over them, make merry, and send gifts to one another, because these two prophets tormented those who dwell on the earth.

Prophecy is Pattern!

The beast is any satanic leader who persecutes God's people.

- Antiochus Epiphanes IV
- Emperors Nero/Domitian
- Stalin, Hitler, Mao, etc.



The Witnesses Resurrected

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.**

Finally, people repent! The suffering, death, and resurrection of the two witnesses (i.e. God's chosen people) and the 7,000 dead (the believing remnant per Amos 5:3, Isaiah 6:13, and I Kings 19:18) as they bear witness to Christ brings about repentance.

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!”

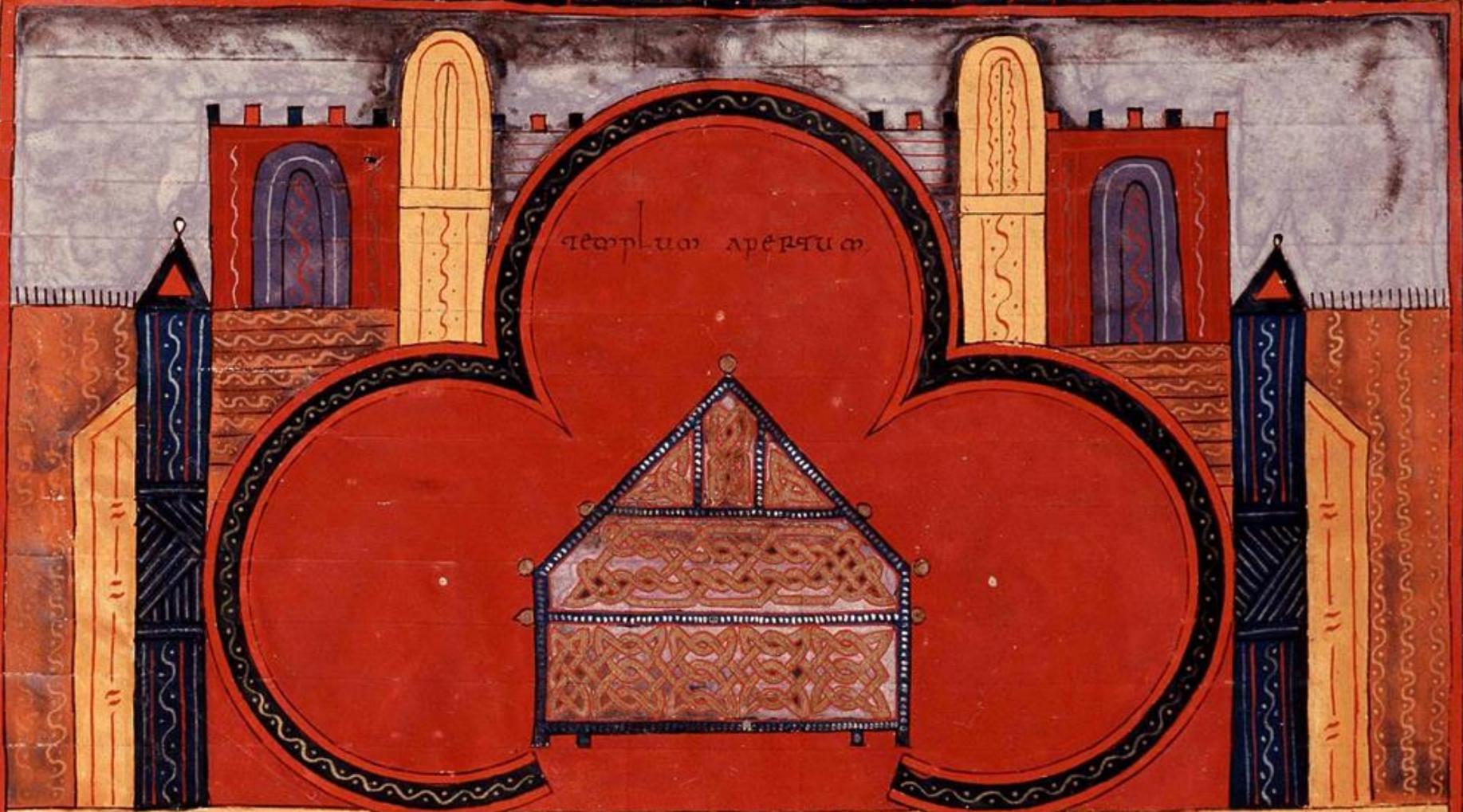
¹⁶ And the twenty-four elders who sat before God on their thrones fell on their faces and worshiped God, ¹⁷ saying:

“We give You thanks, O Lord God Almighty,
The One who is and who was and who is to come,
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, And those who fear Your name, small and great,
And should destroy those who destroy the earth.”

¹⁹ Then the temple of God was opened in heaven, and the ark of His covenant was seen in His temple. And there were lightnings, noises, thunderings, an earthquake, and great hail.

The Ark was seen in the Temple



TEMPLUM APERTUM

IBI BACSTIA

ACCENDIT DELIBISSO



“And they did not repent”

Chapter 9:20-21



Angel and the Little Scroll

Chapter 10:1-10

The Seven Thunders

Chapter 10:3-4

The Two Witnesses

Chapter 11:1-14



Great earthquake; 7000 die

Chapter 11:13-14



Survivors give glory to God

Chapter 11:13



Trumpet 7 (Abyss/locusts)

Chapter 11:15-19



Second Woe



Third Woe



- *The “first movement” in the symphony of Revelation ends. The story has been laid out, and the basic theme has been played.*
- *Revelation 12-22 now brings a “second movement,” with the same story and the same tune on a much greater, more intense scale. More instruments are involved, and the complete, uncovered mystery of God is seen upon a backdrop of cosmic proportions.*

Catch your breath

You should now be able to see how important this book is.

- It is not necessarily “future history recorded in advance.”
- It doesn't attempt to tell us a detailed timetable of end-time history.
- It doesn't say, “This is how the world is going to end.”
- It does speak directly to any believer in any age, saying:

“View your suffering in the light of what Christ has done. Realize that your suffering is part of God's plan to bring about the salvation and judgment of the entire world. The future is sure: God will triumph, so don't worry about that. Let the assurance of God's ultimate victory guide your life today.”



KEEP CALM



**WE'RE HALF
WAY THROUGH**