

AN IN DEPTH STUDY OF THE BOOK OF  
**REVELATION**

WITH PASTOR GARY HAMRICK

STUDY GUIDE



CORNERSTONE CHAPEL

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# REVELATION

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## Letter from Pastor Gary

**Jesus is coming again!** There are three times as many prophecies in the Bible concerning the second coming of Jesus than there are prophecies concerning His first coming. In the book of Revelation, God pulls back the curtain and allows us to have a glimpse of things that are to come. He shows us the Judgments, the Antichrist, the False Prophet, the rise and fall of the one-world economic and political system, and the Battle of Armageddon, to name a few scenes. But He also shows us how He rescues the righteous before the Tribulation, how He saves those who repent during the Tribulation, and how He even dispatches an angel to proclaim the gospel around the world so that as many people as possible might accept the good news of Jesus Christ. The closing chapters of Revelation are about the Second Coming of Jesus Christ and the amazing future that He promises for all who belong to Him!

While parts of Revelation can be alarming and unsettling to say the least, the ultimate message is one of triumph and hope...the triumph of Good over evil and the hope of eternal life for all who believe in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. The invitation is for all...

*"The Spirit and the bride say, 'Come!' And let him who hears say, 'Come!' Whoever is thirsty, let him come; and whoever wishes, let him take the free gift of the water of life." (Rev. 22:17)*

May we thirst for more of Him. May we all be ready!



Gary Hamrick  
Sr. Pastor  
Cornerstone Chapel



# REVELATION

## STUDY GUIDE

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# REVELATION

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## INTRODUCTION

**Writer:** John the Apostle

**When:** ca. 95 A.D.

**Where:** From the island of Patmos in the Aegean Sea

### 3 Methods of Interpretation

#### **1. Allegorical**

Everything is about symbolism: good vs. evil, paganism vs. Christianity, and the ultimate triumph of Christ in our lives. The book is seen as a spiritual allegory for the comfort and encouragement of the church, denying prophecies of literal, future events.

#### **2. Historical**

*A) Preterist view* - deals with church history that includes only the early church's struggle against Imperial Rome; is somewhat similar to the Allegorical method of a symbolic rather than prophetic view.

*B) Total view* - considers all of church history beyond the Roman Empire to today culminating in the Second Coming; a symbolic interpretation of the Church's struggle against the world system.

#### **3. Literal / Futuristic**

The events beginning in 4:1 are futuristic. Frequent symbolism is recognized, but events will be fulfilled in a literal way. There are differences within this view as to the timing of the rapture of the church.

**Literal/Futuristic is our method of interpretation.**

# REVELATION

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## CHAPTER 1

Revelation 1:1 - It is the "revelation" of Jesus Christ (not of John)

a. Greek: apokalupsis - "an unveiling;" "a revealing"

b. Titles for Jesus:

1. The Faithful Witness (1:5)

2. The Firstborn from the dead (1:5)



3. The Ruler over the kings of the earth (1:5)
4. The Alpha and the Omega (1:8)
5. Who is, Who was, Who is to come (1:8)
6. The Almighty (1:8)
7. The Son of Man (1:13)
8. The First and the Last (1:17)
9. The Living One (1:18)

## Outline of Revelation from Rev. 1:19

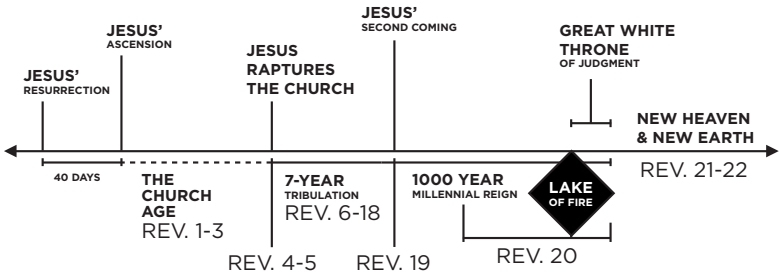
I. "...have seen..." – Ch. 1 (The Appearance of Jesus)

II. "...what is now..." – Ch. 2-3 (The Church Age)

III. "...what will take place later..." – Ch. 4-22

- a. Ch. 4-5: The rapture of the church with saints kept in heaven
- b. Ch. 6-18: The Tribulation
- c. Ch. 19: Jesus our Lord Returns!
- d. Ch. 20: The Millennial (1000 year) Reign on earth
- e. Ch. 21-22: New heaven and earth

## END TIMES TIMELINE



# REVELATION

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## CHAPTER 2-3 | THE SEVEN CHURCHES

### Letters to the 7 Churches (Rev. 2-3)

#### 1. *LITERAL in existence*

Each church was an actual church located in Turkey during the 1st century.

#### 2. *SPIRITUAL in relevance*

Each church addresses spiritual issues relevant to believers today.

#### 3. *HISTORICAL in significance*

Each church represents a distinct time period of church history.

### The Seven Churches/Church Periods

- I. Church of Ephesus - 33 to 100 AD
- II. Church of Smyrna - 100 to 312 AD
- III. Church of Pergamum - 312 to 606 AD
- IV. Church of Thyatira - 606 to 1517 AD
- V. Church of Sardis - 1517 to 1750 AD
- VI. Church of Philadelphia - 1750 AD to Rapture
- VII. Church of Laodicea - 1900 AD through Tribulation

### Similarities of the Letters to the 7 Churches:

- All begin with a special title for Jesus, the author of each
- All are addressed to the “angel” or pastor of each church
- All begin with Jesus knowing their “works” or “deeds”
- All contain either a commendation, a complaint, or both
- All close with an allusion to Jesus’ Second Coming
- All close with a special promise or reward to the “overcomers”
- All close with the same challenge— “He who has an ear...”

# Map of the 7 Churches



## **I. EPHESUS -The Apostolic Church (33-100 AD)**

AD 33 – Pentecost to AD 100 – the death of John (end of Apostolic Age; first century church)

- JESUS' TITLE: “Him who holds the seven stars in His right hand and walks among the seven golden lampstands”
- COMMENDATION: Hardworking; persevering; discerning of false doctrine (the Nicolaitans)
- COMPLAINT: Left their first love
- REWARD: To eat from the tree of life in the paradise of God

## **II. SMYRNA -The Suffering Church (100-312 AD)**

AD 100 to AD 312 – Constantine made Christianity a state religion permeated with pagan customs and practices

- JESUS' TITLE: “Him who is the First and the Last, who died and came to life again”
- COMMENDATION: Afflicted, poor, persecuted, yet faithful and “rich” in the Lord
- COMPLAINT: -----
- REWARD: The crown of life; unhurt by the second death

## **III. PERGAMUM -The State Church (312-606 AD)**

AD 312 to AD 606 – Beginning of the Roman Catholic Church

- JESUS' TITLE: “Him who has the sharp, double-edged sword”
- COMMENDATION: They have not renounced their faith despite the martyrdom of Antipas
- COMPLAINT: A “marriage” of the church and the world  
*[Doctrine of Balaam; Doctrine of Nicolaitans]*
- REWARD: Hidden manna; white stone with a new name

## **IV. THYATIRA -The Roman Catholic/Idolatrous Church (606-1517 AD)**

AD 606 – Roman Catholic Church (ongoing) to AD 1517 – Beginning of Protestant Reformation

- JESUS' TITLE: “The Son of God”
- COMMENDATION: Love, faith, service, perseverance
- COMPLAINT: Tolerant of sin (the “Jezebel” issue)—authority equal to Scripture; seduced God’s people with idolatry; a system of works
- REWARD: Authority to rule; given the morning star

## V. SARDIS -The Protestant / Dead Church (1517-1750 AD)

AD 1517 - Protestant Reformation (ongoing) to AD 1750 - Great Awakening (Jonathan Edwards 1735; John Wesley started preaching in America, 1738)

- JESUS' TITLE: "Him who holds the seven spirits of God and the seven stars"
- COMMENDATION: A remnant of holy people
- COMPLAINT: Alive in reputation, dead in actuality; incomplete in deeds
- REWARD: Dressed in white; name in the book of life

## VI. PHILADELPHIA -The Evangelistic Church (1750-Rapture)

AD 1750 - Great Awakening (Jonathan Edwards 1735; John Wesley started preaching in America, 1738) to the Rapture

- JESUS' TITLE: "Him who is holy and true, who holds the key of David. What he opens no man can shut."
- COMMENDATION: A little strength; kept God's Word; did not deny His Name.
- COMPLAINT: -----
- REWARD: Kept from the "hour of trial" coming upon the whole world; made a pillar in the temple of God; written upon him the name of God, name of the new city, new name of the Lord.

**CHURCH AGE**

PHILADELPHIA (EVANGELISTIC)

LAODICEA (APOSTATE)

## VII. LAODICEA -The Apostate Church

AD 1900's - neo-orthodoxy; liberal seminaries; challenge of biblical inspiration: goes through the Great Tribulation

- JESUS' TITLE: "the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the ruler of God's creation."
- COMMENDATION: -----
- COMPLAINT: Lukewarm; self-sufficient; wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked
- REWARD: To sit with the Lord on His throne

# REVELATION

## CHAPTER 4 | THE THRONE IN HEAVEN

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I. “after this”, Greek – meta tauta (*cf. Rev. 4:1 with Rev. 1:19*)

### Outline of Revelation from Rev. 1:19

1. “have seen” – Ch. 1 (The Appearance of Jesus)
2. “what is now” – Ch. 2-3 (The Church Age)
3. “what will take place later” – Ch. 4-22

### “WHAT WILL TAKE PLACE LATER”

- Ch. 4-5: the Rapture of the church with saints kept in heaven
- Ch. 6-18: the Tribulation
- Ch. 19: Jesus our Lord Returns!
- Ch. 20: The Millennial (1000 year) Reign on earth

### Rev. 4:1 – the “rapture” of the Church

1. Similar to events of 1 Thess. 4:13-18 (“voice,” “trumpet,” “come up here”)

*-Luke 17:26-30, 1 Thess. 5:9, Jer. 30:7, Daniel 12:1*

2. We return with Christ

*-1 Thess. 3:13, Jude 14-15, Rev. 19:11-14*

3. Absence of the Church

*- (“church” appears 19x in Rev. 1-3, but not again until Rev. 22:16)*

4. Heaven is “standing open”

*-Only other time: Rev. 19:11*

5. “Come up here”

*-Only other time: Rev. 11:12*

### Description of the Throne (Rev. 4-5)

- “On the throne” (4:2, 9, 10; 5:1, 7, 13)
- “Around the throne” (4:3, 4, 6; 5:11-13)
- “From the throne” (4:5)
- “Before the throne” (4:5, 6, 10)
- “In the center of the throne” (5:6)

# REVELATION

## CHAPTER 5 | THE SCROLL AND THE LAMB

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A symphony of SIGHTS and SOUNDS (“I saw” -5:1, 2, 6, 11; “I heard” - 5:11, 13)

### **A Scroll with 7 Seals:** *The “Title Deed” to the Earth*

- In God’s right hand
- Written on both sides
- Only One who is worthy to open the scroll

### **I. Identification of the Lamb (5:6)**

- The Lamb is JESUS CHRIST
- John the Baptist referred to Jesus as “the Lamb” (John 1:29); Paul referred to Jesus as our “Passover Lamb” (1 Cor. 5:7)
- “Lamb” is Jesus’ favorite description of Himself in Revelation (29 times)

### **II. Description of the Lamb (5:6)**

- “Slain” - Jesus will bear the marks of crucifixion
- “Seven Horns” - seven means perfection; horn means authority; Jesus appears in the fullness of his authority
- “Seven Eyes” - (“which are the seven spirits”) Jesus appears in the fullness of the Spirit and of knowledge

### **III. Location of the Lamb**

- “Standing” - Though Jesus appears as a Lamb that was slain, He is standing. . . a reminder of His victory over sin and death!
- “In the center of the throne” - Jesus appears in direct proximity to the throne of God the Father. He is in the “center” and at the “right hand” of God (Rom. 8:34, Heb. 1:3)

### **IV. Adoration of the Lamb (5:8-14)**

- The twenty-four elders sang a “new song” (5:9-10)
- Many angels sang (5:11-12)
- All creation sang (5:13)
- Cherubim (*four living creatures*) said “Amen” (5:14)

# REVELATION

## CHAPTER 6 | THE SEVEN SCROLLS

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### I. THE FIRST SCROLL: WHITE HORSE (6:1-2) - *The Antichrist*

- **TITLES of the Antichrist** - “Man of Lawlessness”; “The Abomination that Causes Desolation”; “The Beast” (2 Thess. 2; Rev. 13)
- **TRAITS of the Antichrist** - He will blaspheme God, oppose God, and exalt himself; he will set himself up in God’s Temple proclaiming himself to be God (2 Thess. 2; Dan. 7, 9, 11; Rev. 13)
- **TIMING of the Antichrist** - He will come to power after the rapture of the church; he will be overthrown and destroyed by the Lord Jesus Christ when Jesus returns (2 Thess. 2; Rev. 19)

### II. THE SECOND SCROLL: RED HORSE (6:3-4) - War

*“Then another horse came out, a fiery red one. Its rider was given power to take peace from the earth and to make men slay each other. To him was given a large sword.”* (Revelation 6:4)

- Red is the color of terror and carnage

### III. THE THIRD SCROLL: BLACK HORSE (6:5-6) - Famine and Economic Collapse

*“...And there before me was a black horse! Its rider was holding a pair of scales in his hand.”* (Revelation 6:5)

- “Quart of wheat for a day’s wage” - a loaf of bread will cost about **\$200** by today’s standard
- “Oil and wine” - idioms for the wealthy



#### **IV. THE FOURTH SCROLL: PALE (GREEN) HORSE (6:7-8) Death of many Unbelievers**

*"I looked, and there before me was a pale horse! Its rider was named Death, and Hades was following close behind him."*

(Revelation 6:8a)

- "Pale" - chloros (Gk.); "chlorophyll" - pale green
- 4 weapons: sword (war), famine, plague, and wild beasts
- 1/4 of the world's population dies (1.5+ billion)

#### **V. THE FIFTH SCROLL: Death of some Believers during the Tribulation Period (6:9-11)**

*"When he opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of those who had been slain because of the word of God and the testimony they had maintained."* (Revelation 6:9)

- During the Tribulation, Believers die for not worshipping the Beast or for not receiving his mark (Rev. 13:15-18)

#### **VI. THE SIXTH SCROLL: Universal Natural Catastrophes (6:12-14)**

*"I watched as he opened the sixth seal. There was a great earthquake. The sun turned black like sackcloth made of goat hair, the whole moon turned blood red..."* (Revelation 6:12)

- Earthquake, volcanic explosions, meteors, asteroids, giant tidal waves

#### **VII. THE SEVENTH SCROLL: Intro to the Seven Trumpets of Judgment (8:1-2)**

*"When he opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven for about half an hour. And I saw the seven angels who stand before God, and to them were given seven trumpets."*

(Revelation 8:1-2)

- The 7th SEAL is not another judgment, but the introduction to six more judgments in the form of TRUMPETS

# REVELATION

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## CHAPTER 7 | THE 144,000

### I. Who are the 144,000? (7:1-8)

- They are “sealed” on their foreheads (7:3)
- They are “servants of God” (7:3)
- They are from “all the tribes of Israel” (7:4)
- **They are Jewish Believers** who have been “redeemed from the earth” (14:3) –saved during the Tribulation and protected from it

### II. Who are the Great Multitude in White Robes? (7:9-17)

- **The Tribulation Saints** -those who were saved during the Tribulation period and martyred for their faith (also mentioned in 6:9-11)

# REVELATION

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## CHAPTER 8-9 | THE SEVEN TRUMPET JUDGMENTS

### I. THE FIRST TRUMPET JUDGMENT (REVELATION 8:7)

- a. 1/3 of the earth burned up
- b. 1/3 of the trees burned up
- c. All green grass burned up

- The phrase “mixed with blood” probably indicates many will die
- This judgment is similar to one of the plagues of Egypt (Exodus 9:13-26)

### II. THE SECOND TRUMPET JUDGMENT (REVELATION 8:8-9)

- a. 1/3 of the sea (salt water) becomes blood
- b. 1/3 of sea life is killed
- c. 1/3 of sea vessels are destroyed

- The “huge mountain ablaze” may refer to a comet or an asteroid that hits the earth

### III. THE THIRD TRUMPET JUDGMENT

(REVELATION 8:10-11)

- 1/3 of all fresh water becomes bitter

- The “great star blazing like a torch” may also be an asteroid or a comet

- “Wormwood” is referenced in Lam. 3:15, Amos 5:7, and Jer. 23:15 in the KJV (usually “bitterness” in NIV). It is a bitter plant used literally for medicinal purposes and figuratively as God’s judgment upon those who disobey

- *“Wormwood” in Ukrainian is “Chornobyl.” The Chernobyl disaster of 1986 released 8 tons of radioactive material into the atmosphere resulting in 8,000 deaths and many more illnesses. This event is not the fulfillment of Revelation, just a small sample of things to come.*

### IV. THE FOURTH TRUMPET JUDGMENT

(REVELATION 8:12)

- All light sources are darkened by 1/3

Jesus said: “There will be signs in the sun, moon and stars. On the earth, nations will be in anguish...” (Luke 21:25, NIV)

### THE FIFTH & SIXTH TRUMPET JUDGMENTS

(REVELATION 9)



### V. THE FIFTH TRUMPET JUDGMENT (REVELATION

9:1-11)

- Mankind tortured by demons (except those 144,000 who have been sealed)

- “Star” = Satan (Lk. 10:18; Is. 14:12-14; Ezek. 28:12-17)

- “Abyss” – Greek, abussos (lit., “without depth”), (Luke 8:26-31; 2 Peter 2:4; Jude 6)

- “Locusts” = demons (likened unto scorpions, snakes, lions)
- “Abaddon” (Hebrew), “Apollyon” (Greek) = Destroyer (Satan)

## VI. THE SIXTH TRUMPET JUDGMENT

(REVELATION 9:12-21)

- 1/3 mankind killed by demons (1.5 billion)

“Four angels” - are “bound,” meaning these are fallen angels (demons)

Those who were not killed still did not repent of their: idolatry, murder, drugs, sexual immorality, theft

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## REVELATION

### CHAPTER 10 | THE ANGEL AND THE LITTLE SCROLL

#### THE MIGHTY ANGEL

- The identity of the “mighty angel” - probably the archangel, Michael (whose name means “*Who Is Like God*”)
- The “voices of the seven thunders”
- The end of any more “delay”
- The scroll John was commanded to eat

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## REVELATION

### CHAPTER 11 | THE TWO WITNESSES

#### THE TWO WITNESSES

- **THEIR LOCATION:** Jerusalem—where the Temple is located (11:1) and where “their Lord was crucified” (11:8)
- **THEIR COMMISSION:** To preach a message of repentance (11:3 - “prophecy,” “sackcloth”)
- **THEIR DURATION:** 1,260 days = 3 years (11:3 - using 360 days/year as in Dan. 9; they preach in the first half of the Tribulation)

- **THEIR PROTECTION:** Fire comes from their mouths if anyone tries to harm them (11:5)
- **THEIR IDENTIFICATION:** Probably Elijah and Moses (11:6)
- **THEIR ASSASSINATION:** The Beast (Antichrist) overpowers and kills them after their testimony is finished (11:7)
- **THEIR CELEBRATION:** Their bodies will lie in the street of Jerusalem for 3 days while people celebrate their death (11:8-10)
- **THEIR RESURRECTION & ASCENSION:** They will come to life by the breath of God and ascend to heaven (11:11-12)
- **THEIR CONTRIBUTION:** Many of the survivors become believers in the Lord Jesus Christ, giving “glory to the God of heaven” (11:13b)

## VII. THE SEVENTH TRUMPET JUDGMENT (REVELATION 11:15)

- An announcement that God is going to take over the earth as Judge and King

- The 24 elders (*the raptured church*) fall on their faces to worship God. This is the third time Revelation says that they did such a thing:

1. CHAPTER 4 -Praise God as CREATOR
2. CHAPTER 5 -Praise God as REDEEMER
3. CHAPTER 11 -Praise God as JUDGE and KING over all the earth!

# REVELATION

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## CHAPTER 12

### THREE MAIN FIGURES

1. The Dragon
2. The Male Child
3. The Woman

#### 1. THE DRAGON (12:3) is Satan (See Rev. 12:9)

- **12:3** - “red” is symbolic of death, Satan’s ambition
- **12:3** - “7 heads, 10 horns, 7 crowns” - Satan is behind evil world powers and world kingdoms
- **12:4** - “his tail swept 1/3 of the stars” - that many angels rebelled with him

#### 2. THE MALE CHILD (12:5) IS JESUS

- **12:5** - “who will rule all the nations with an iron scepter” (See Psalm 2:7-9, Rev. 2:27, 19:15)

- **v. 5b** - “snatched up to heaven” -Jesus ascended to heaven after His resurrection and is coming again!

## **THE WOMAN (12:1) is Israel** (See Genesis 37:3-11)

- Joseph’s dream represents the nation of Israel

## **THREE MAIN FIGURES**

1. The Dragon is **Satan**
2. The Male Child is **Jesus**
3. The Woman is **Israel**

- **The explanation** of God’s redemptive plan through “a woman” and “a child” (Revelation 12)
- **The opposition** to that plan by the “dragon,” “the beast out of the sea,” and “the beast out of the earth” (*Revelation 12-13*)
- **The proclamation** of that plan by three angels (*Revelation 14*)

# REVELATION

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## **CHAPTER 13**

### **I. “Five have fallen...”** (Revelation 17:10)

1. Egypt
2. Assyria
3. Babylonia
4. Medo-Persia
5. Greece

### **II. “One is...”** (Revelation 17:10)

6. Rome

### **III. “The other is not yet come...”** (Revelation 17:10)

1. (Rev. 17:10-13 & Dan. 7:24-25)
  - 7th Empire: a 10-nation Confederation that includes the Antichrist and rules “for a little while”
2. “The beast who once was, and now is not, is an eighth king. He belongs to the seven...” (Rev. 17:11)
  - From among this “7th” the Antichrist arises to become the “8th” and dominates the world for 3 years

## THE ANTICHRIST (REVELATION 13:1-10)

1. The **WICKEDNESS** of... (13:2)
2. The **WOUNDING** of... (13:3)
3. The **WORSHIP** of... (13:4, 8, 12)
4. The **WORDS** of... (13:5-6)
5. The **WARFARE** of... (13:7)

## THE BEAST OUT OF THE SEA (THE ANTICHRIST)

1. "Sea" (13:1) = humanity; he arises from among the nations
2. "10 horns...7 heads...10 crowns" (13:1) - He will emerge from a 7th kingdom of 10 nations and become an "8th" (Rev. 17:9-11)
3. "A fatal wound" (13:3) - an assassination attempt on the Antichrist; his miraculous "healing" leads to his worship and the worship of the dragon
4. "Blasphemes God" (13:5)
5. "Makes war against the saints and conquers them" (13:7) - these are those who become Christians during the Tribulation Period spoken of in Rev. 6:9. The 144,000 are divinely protected
6. "All the inhabitants of the earth will worship the beast" (13:8) (except for believers who will die for their testimony—Rev. 13:15, 20:4)

## THE BEAST OUT OF THE EARTH (THE FALSE PROPHET)

1. "Another" - Greek, allos (another of the same kind)
2. "Two horns" - 2 is the number for testimony; horns for authority
3. "Like a lamb...like a dragon" - lamb represents religion; dragon represents deception
4. Derives his power and authority from the Antichrist
5. "Made" people worship the Beast (Antichrist)
6. "Performed great and miraculous signs" - see Matt. 24:24
7. "Forced everyone...to receive a mark...666" - those who refused the mark were killed

# REVELATION

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## CHAPTER 14

### THE THREE ANGELS

1. **The First Angel** (Revelation 14:6-7)
  - Proclaims the gospel to all people on earth
  - Exhorts people to "fear God" and to "worship Him"
  - Warns of God's judgment
  - Declares God as Creator

## THE BEAST OUT OF THE EARTH

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## REVELATION

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### CHAPTER 14 | THE LAMB AND THE 144,000

#### THE THREE ANGELS

1. **The First Angel** (Revelation 14:6-7)
  - Proclaims the gospel to all people on earth
  - Exhorts people to "fear God" and to "worship Him"
  - Warns of God's judgment
  - Declares God as Creator
2. **The Second Angel** (Revelation 14:8)
  - Predicts the fall of "Babylon the Great"
3. **The Third Angel** (Revelation 14:9-11)
  - Warns of God's judgment coming upon the inhabitants of the earth who have:
    1. Worshiped the Beast and his image
    2. Received the mark of the Beast
  - Their torment is eternal (see Rev. 20:10, Mark 9:48)



## 2. The Second Angel (Revelation 14:8)

- Predicts the fall of “Babylon the Great”

## 3. The Third Angel (Revelation 14:9-11)

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## REVELATION 14:14-20

Jesus is the one “like a son of man” (14:14) (see Rev. 1:13, Dan. 7:13).

### He comes—

- Seated upon a white cloud (*Purity*)
- Wearing a golden crown (*Victory*)
- Holding a sharp sickle (*Authority*)

### Two Aspects of the Final Harvest [14:14-20]

- **1st Part** -“of the earth” (v. 15) (*the Wheat*)  
-This is a harvest of **separation**; in-gathering of believers (14:15-16)
- **2nd Part** - “of the earth’s vine” (v. 18) (*the Grapes*)  
-This is a harvest of **destruction**; judgment of nonbelievers (14:17-20)

# REVELATION

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## CHAPTER 15-16

### REVELATION 15

Introduction to the Bowl Judgments of Revelation 16

#### I. THE FIRST BOWL JUDGMENT

Ugly and painful sores break out on all who have the mark of the beast

#### II. THE SECOND BOWL JUDGMENT

The sea turns into blood; every living thing in the sea dies

#### III. THE THIRD BOWL JUDGMENT

The rivers and streams become blood; drinking water is polluted

#### **IV. THE FOURTH BOWL JUDGMENT**

People are scorched by the intense heat of the sun

#### **V. THE FIFTH BOWL JUDGMENT**

Darkness covers “the kingdom of the beast”

#### **VI. THE SIXTH BOWL JUDGMENT**

The Euphrates River dries up; demons entice kings of the East to wage war against Israel in Har Megiddo (Armageddon)

#### **VII. THE SEVENTH BOWL JUDGMENT**

A severe earthquake splits Jerusalem into three parts; topography of the earth changes; 100-pound hailstones fall upon men

## REVELATION

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### CHAPTER 17

#### **The Woman on the Beast** (Revelation 17)

- The “woman” is called a “prostitute” three times (17:1, 15, 16) and she is associated with “Babylon” (17:5)
- Babylon historically was the center for idolatry (see Gen. 10:8-12, 11:1-9, 9:1)

**THE WOMAN** represents a false, world religion that rises on the back of the Antichrist and seduces the nations

- 17:1 – She “sits on many waters” (see 17:15) – **GLOBAL INFLUENCE**
- 17:2 – “With her the kings of the earth committed adultery...” – **FALSE RELIGION** (which is **SPIRITUAL ADULTERY**)
- 17:3 – She is “sitting on a scarlet beast...” – **RODE TO PROMINENCE WITH THE ANTICHRIST**
- 17:4 – She is “dressed in purple and scarlet...glittering with gold, precious stones and pearls.” – **ASSOCIATED** with **WEALTH** and **ROYALTY**
- 17:5 – her title:

**MYSTERY**  
**BABYLON THE GREAT**  
**THE MOTHER OF PROSTITUTES**  
**AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH**

- 17:6 – She was “drunk with the blood of the saints...” – **PROMOTED THROUGH VIOLENCE** against **BELIEVERS**
- 17:9 – She sits on “seven hills” which are “seven kings” or “kingdoms” – **ASSOCIATED** with a **POLITICAL SYSTEM**
- 17:16-17 – The beast and ten horns will “hate the prostitute” and “bring her to ruin...” – **OVERTHROWN** and **REPLACED** so that the **ANTICHRIST** rules and is worshiped

## REVELATION

### CHAPTER 18

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#### **Fall of Babylon** (Revelation 18)

- Rev. 17 – Spiritual Babylon represents the world religious system
- Rev. 18 – Commercial Babylon represents the world economic system
- Ch. 17 – **Spiritual Babylon:** “Mystery, Babylon the Great, the Mother of Prostitutes and of the Abominations of the Earth”
- Ch. 18 – **Commercial Babylon:** “Babylon the Great”

#### **Similarities between Spiritual and Commercial Babylon**

- Both are under the rule of the Antichrist
  - Both are ruling like royalty and filled with blasphemy
  - Both hate and kill God’s people
  - Both are under the judgment of God
- In Ch. 17, Babylon is a woman guilty of religious evil
  - In Ch. 18, Babylon is a city guilty of commercial greed
  - In Ch. 17, Religious Babylon is destroyed by Antichrist
  - In Ch. 18, Commercial Babylon is destroyed by God

#### **Identifying “Babylon the Great”...**

- Is both a **System** and a **City**

- In **Ch. 17**, Babylon is a woman guilty of religious evil
- In **Ch. 18**, Babylon is a city guilty of commercial greed
- In **Ch. 17**, Religious Babylon is destroyed by Antichrist
- In **Ch. 18**, Commercial Babylon is destroyed by God

### **Identifying “Babylon the Great”...**

- Is both a **System** and a **City**

## REVELATION

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### **CHAPTER 19 | THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST**

#### **“I heard...” (Revelation 19:1)**

- Heaven rejoicing over the destruction of the great prostitute

#### **“I heard...” (Revelation 19:6)**

- Heaven rejoicing over the wedding of the Lamb

#### **“I saw...” (Revelation 19:11)**

- The Second Coming of Jesus with the saints!

#### **“I saw...” (Revelation 19:17)**

- The destruction of the armies gathered for war at Armageddon

#### **“I saw...” (Revelation 19:19)**

- The punishment of the Antichrist (Beast) and False Prophet in the Lake of Fire

# REVELATION

## CHAPTER 19

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## Contrast of the First and Second Coming of Jesus Christ

First Coming	Second Coming
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Gentle, riding on a donkey (Matt. 21:5)</li><li>• Weeping (Luke 19:41)</li><li>• Wearing a crown of thorns (Matt. 27:29)</li><li>• Jesus' blood on His enemies (Matt. 27:25)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Making war, riding on a white horse (Rev. 19:11)</li><li>• Eyes ablaze with fire (Rev. 19:12)</li><li>• Wearing many crowns (Rev. 19:12)</li><li>• His enemies' blood on Jesus (Rev. 19:13,15)</li></ul>

# REVELATION

## CHAPTER 20

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### 3 Views of the Millennial Reign

#### 1. Amillennial (Symbolic)

The 1000 years are symbolic for the Church Age—the period in which we are presently living; Satan is currently bound; as people get saved, they are part of the 1st resurrection; the 2nd resurrection will take place when Jesus returns at the end of the Tribulation and judges the dead (Augustine held to this view)

- **PROBLEM with this VIEW:** Satan is not currently bound! (1 Peter 5:8-9)

## **2. Postmillennial (Literal)**

Christ returns after the 1000 years; the 1000 years are literal years and believed to be the most evangelistic years leading up to Christ's return

- **PROBLEM with this VIEW:** 1 Tim. 4:1 and Matt 24:10 tell us that the time preceding Christ's return will not be evangelistic, but a time of apostasy

## **3. Premillennial (Literal)**

Jesus Christ returns at the end of the seven years of Tribulation to establish His Kingdom on earth for 1000 years. Thus, Jesus returns before the 1000 years, during which time believers will rule and reign with Him

- **This is our view and the only one we consider biblically sound**

## **At the end of the Tribulation Period**

Jesus Christ will return to establish His Kingdom on earth for 1,000 years, during which time believers will rule and reign with Him. That millennial period will be marked by the following characteristics:

- Satan is bound for 1,000 years (Rev. 20:1-3)
- Tribulation saints are resurrected (Rev. 20:4)
- Christians will rule and reign with Jesus (Rev. 20:6)
- Survivors of the Tribulation are judged (Matt. 25:31-46)
- A time of Righteousness & Peace (Isaiah 2:1-5)
- A time of Tame Animals (Isaiah 11:1-10)
- A time of Longevity (Isaiah 65:19-25)
- A time of Worshiping Jesus in Jerusalem (Zech. 14:16-21)

## **Great White Throne Judgment (Rev. 20:11-15)**

### **1. For UNBELIEVERS**

#### **2. Like a COURTROOM scene, with a few noticeable differences:<sup>1</sup>**

- a. There will be no debate about guilt or innocence
- b. There will be a prosecutor but no defense
- c. There will be a judge but no jury
- d. There will be sentencing without appeal
- e. There will be punishment without parole

<sup>1</sup> Heitzig, Skip, REVELATION Study Guide, p. 233

# REVELATION

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## CHAPTER 21

### The New Jerusalem (Revelation 21)

1. **Rev. 21:3** –God will be present
2. **Rev. 21:4** –All of our sorrows will be absent
3. **Rev. 21:7** –Believers will be present
4. **Rev. 21:8** –Sinners will be absent
5. **Rev. 21:11,23** –The light will be bright (with God’s glory)
6. **Rev. 21:12** –The wall will be high and wide (with 12 gates)
7. **Rev. 21:14** –The foundation will be deep (with 12 layers)
8. **Rev. 21:16** –The city will be large (about 1,500 miles square)
9. **Rev. 21:18-21** –The city will be beautiful (with every precious stone)

# REVELATION

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## CHAPTER 22

### The Holy City, the New Jerusalem

- The description of the city  
*–Beautiful; adorned with every precious stone*
- The population in the city  
*–Believers are present and Unbelievers are absent*
- The invitation to the city  
*–“Whoever is thirsty, let him come...” (22:17b)*

- **“Water of life”** (21:6, 22:1, 22:17)
- **“Tree of life”** (2:7, 22:2, 22:14, 22:19)
- **“I am coming soon!”** (22:7, 22:12, 22:20)

### The 7 Beatitudes of Revelation

1. **Rev. 1:3** –Blessed are those who read, hear, and take to heart what is written in Revelation.
2. **Rev. 14:13** –Blessed are the saints who die during the Tribulation.
3. **Rev. 16:15** –Blessed are the saints on earth during the Tribulation who are watching for the return of Christ.
4. **Rev. 19:8** –Blessed are those invited to the wedding supper of the Lamb.
5. **Rev. 20:6** –Blessed are those who have part in the first resurrection.
6. **Rev. 22:7** –Blessed are those who keep the words of the prophecy of Revelation.
7. **Rev. 22:14** – Blessed are those who are righteous in Christ (“who wash their robes”).

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