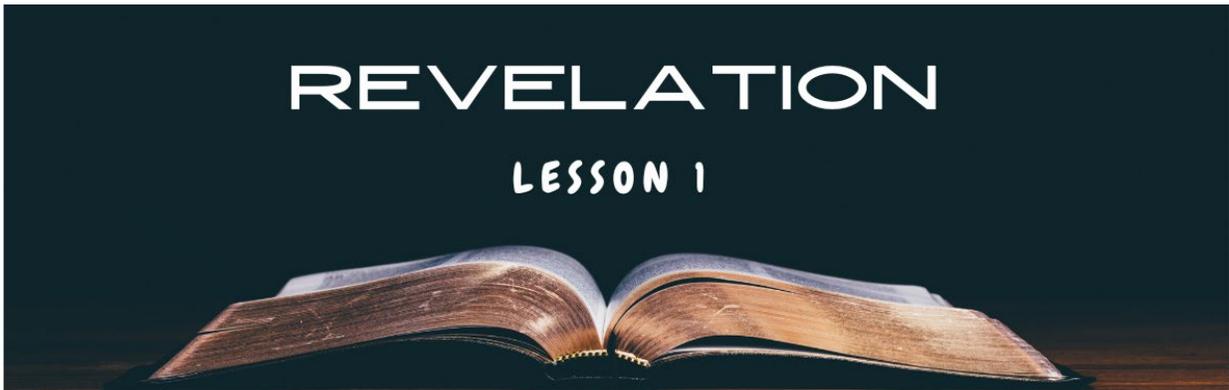


3-LESSON STUDY OF REVELATION





Author: John the Apostle

Audience: The seven churches in Asia and all believers thereafter and everywhere.

When: While exiled on the island of Patmos under Roman rule.

Title of the Book

- Our Bibles carry the title of the book as “The Revelation of John,” or “The Revelation to John” which means it is a revelation given to the apostle John, but the proper name is found in the first words of 1:1, “The Revelation of Jesus Christ.”
- Revelation is from the Greek word *apokalupsis* meaning “a disclosure, an unveiling.”
- The title of the book is singular. It is one revelation expanded over several chapters.

Revelation 1:1. The Delivery of the Revelation



Purpose of the Book: To reveal the full identity of Jesus Christ and to give warning and hope to believers.

Main Theme of the Book:

- Jesus who has overcome and will return to defeat all evil (1:7, 13)
- This one revelation with several visions and unveilings is one book and one total revelation centered around one person and His literal return to earth—the person of the Lord Jesus Christ.

The Seven Blessings Associated with the Book

1. "Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear it and take to heart what is written in it, because the time is near" (1:3).
2. "Then I heard a voice from heaven say, 'Write this: Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on.' 'Yes,' says the Spirit, 'they will rest from their labor, for their deeds will follow them' " (14:13).
3. "Look, I come like a thief! Blessed is the one who stays awake and remains clothed, so as not to go naked and be shamefully exposed" (16:15).
4. "Then the angel said to me, 'Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding supper of the Lamb!' And he added, 'These are the true words of God' " (19:9).
5. "Blessed and holy are those who share in the first resurrection. The second death has no power over them, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with Him for a thousand years" (20:6).
6. "Look, I am coming soon! Blessed is the one who keeps the words of the prophecy written in this scroll" (22:7).
7. "Blessed are those who wash their robes, that they may have the right to the tree of life and may go through the gates into the city" (22:14).

The Outline of the Book (Chapter 1:19)

- The things you saw: Chapter 1
- The things that are: Chapters 2-3
- The things after these things: Chapters 4-22

The Things You Saw: Chapter 1

1. John hears a loud voice like a trumpet behind him – **v. 10**
2. The voice tells him to write what he sees and send it to seven churches – **v. 11**
3. John turns to see the voice and sees seven golden lampstands – **v. 12**
4. Among the lampstands stands One like the Son of Man (Jesus) – **v. 13**
5. He holds seven stars in His right hand – **v. 16**
6. Jesus commands John to write what he has seen, what is, and what will take place – **v. 19**
7. Jesus explains that the seven stars are the angels of the seven churches – **v. 20**
8. Jesus explains that the seven lampstands are the seven churches – **v. 20**

The Things That Are: Chapters 2-3

- Jesus gives special messages to the seven churches of Asia Minor: (1) Ephesus, (2.) Smyrna, (3) Pergamum, (4) Thyatira, (5) Sardis, (6) Philadelphia, (7) Laodicea
- The messages were:
 - Literal: specific, historical
 - Universal: general, timeless
 - Prophetic: symbolic, eschatological

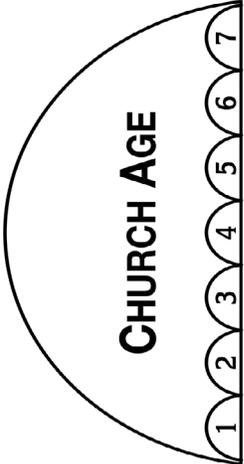
Eschatology: Theological study of the final events of history, or the ultimate destiny of humanity. The "end of the world" or "end times".

Structure of the Letters

- A reference to the City or Assembly, the destination of the letter.
- A description of Christ, the Author and Answer.
- A Commendation or Approval
- A Condemnation or the Ailment
- A Counsel or Admonition
- A Challenge and an Assurance

These letters reveal how Christ evaluates His church. Faithfulness matters more than reputation, and repentance is always paired with promise.

Church	Location	Strengths Commended	Main Warning / Correction	Promise to the Overcomer	Scripture
Ephesus	Ephesus	Hard work, perseverance, sound doctrine	Lost their first love	Right to eat from the tree of life	Rev 2:1-7
Smyrna	Smyrna	Faithful in suffering and poverty	<i>No rebuke given</i>	Crown of life; not hurt by second death	Rev 2:8-11
Pergamum	Pergamum	Held fast to Christ's name	Tolerated false teaching and compromise	Hidden manna; white stone with new name	Rev 2:12-17
Thyatira	Thyatira	Love, faith, service, endurance	Tolerated immorality and false prophecy	Authority over nations; morning star	Rev 2:18-29
Sardis	Sardis	Reputation of being alive	Spiritually dead; needed repentance	Clothed in white; name not blotted out	Rev 3:1-6
Philadelphia	Philadelphia	Faithful obedience; kept God's word	<i>No rebuke given</i>	Made a pillar in God's temple	Rev 3:7-13
Laodicea	Laodicea	<i>None mentioned</i>	Lukewarm faith; self-reliance	Sit with Christ on His throne	Rev 3:14

	Laodicea	Apostate Church, 1900-? AD
	Philadelphia	Missionary Church, 1648-1900 AD
	Sardis	Reformation Church, 1715-1648 AD
	Thyatira	Roman Catholic Church, 600-1517 AD
	Pergamum	Roman Empire Church, 313-600 AD
	Smyrna	Persecuted Church, 100-313 AD
	Ephesus	Apostolic Church, 30-100 AD

Every church reflects a condition that can still be found in believers and congregations today. Jesus doesn't just address churches, He examines hearts, calling each generation to faithfulness, repentance, and wholehearted devotion.

Church	Modern-Day Application
Ephesus	You can be active in ministry yet drift from love for Christ. Guard your passion and intimacy with Him, not just your service.
Smyrna	Faithfulness may bring suffering, but obedience matters more than comfort. Stay loyal to Christ even when it costs you.
Pergamum	Cultural pressure can lead to compromise. Hold firmly to biblical truth without blending in with ungodly values.
Thyatira	Good works do not excuse moral or spiritual compromise. Love must be guided by truth and discernment.
Sardis	A strong reputation does not equal spiritual health. Wake up, examine your faith, and pursue genuine renewal.
Philadelphia	God honors faithfulness over influence or size. Steady obedience opens doors only God can open.
Laodicea	Comfort and self-reliance can weaken spiritual passion. Depend fully on Christ and pursue wholehearted devotion.

Jesus' counsel given to His church must remain true and in effect for as long as His church remains.

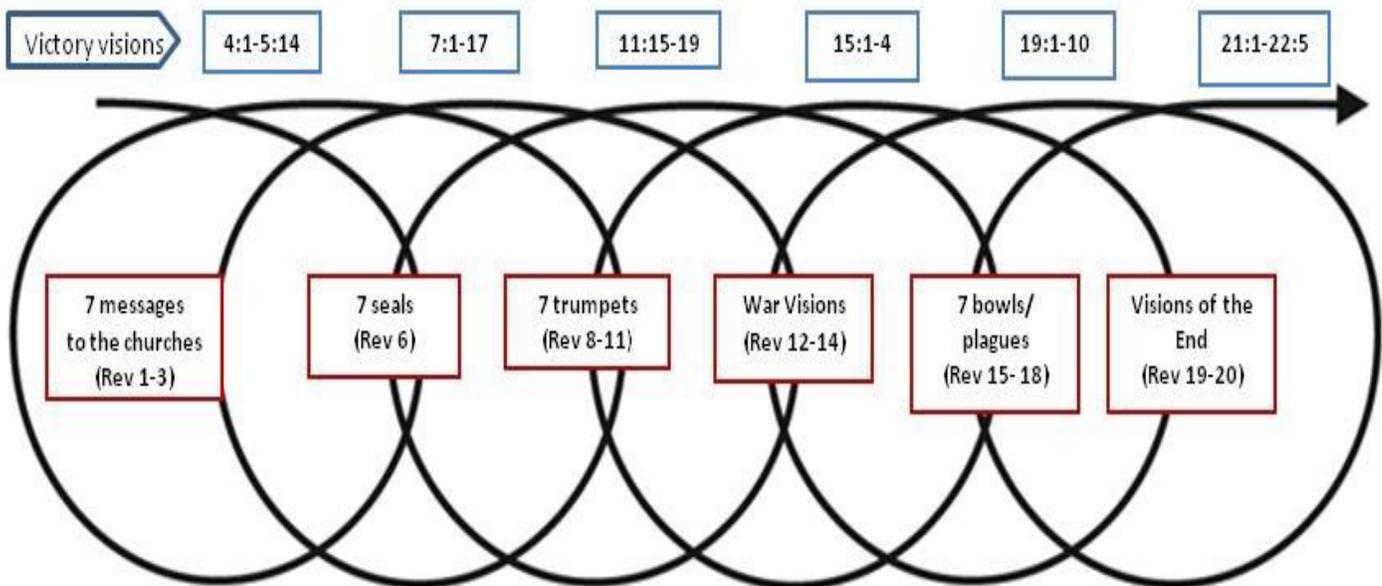
REVELATION

LESSON 2



The Things After These Things: Chapters 4-22, Part 1

General Structure of the Book of Revelation



Seven prophetic visions: (1) the opening vision of Christ (1-3), (2) the heavenly scroll and seals (4-7), (3) the seven trumpets (8-11), (4) the dragon/beasts (12-14), (5) the seven bowls of wrath (15-16), (6) the fall of Babylon (17-19), and (7) the new creation (20-22).

Revelation 4:1 (NLT). After this I looked, and there before me was a door standing open in heaven. And the voice I had first heard speaking to me like a trumpet said, "Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after this."

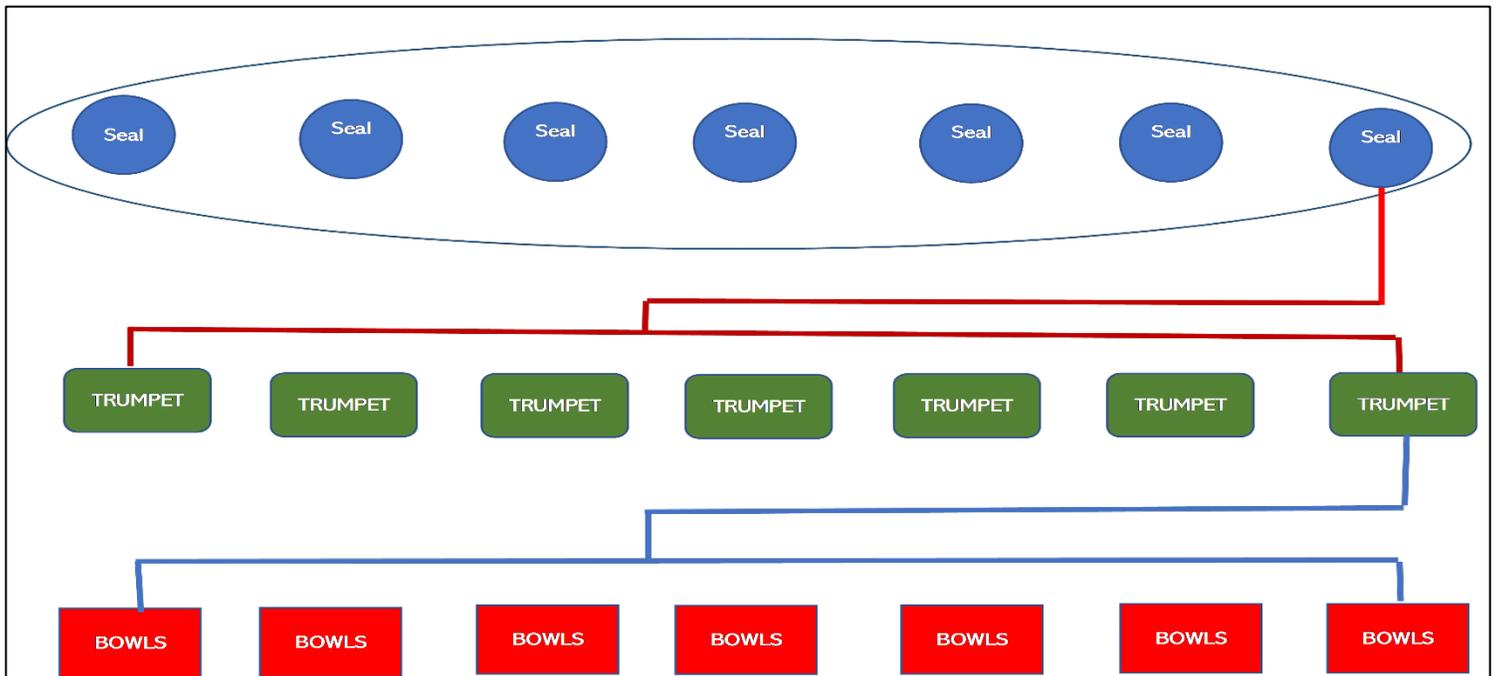
Sequential List of Key Things John Sees in Chapter 4:

1. A door standing open in heaven – **vs. 1**
2. A throne set in heaven – **vs. 2**
3. One seated on the throne – **vs. 2**
4. The One on the throne appears like jasper and carnelian – **vs. 3**

5. Twenty-four thrones surrounding the main throne – **vs. 4**
6. Twenty-four elders seated on the thrones – **vs. 4**
7. The elders wearing white garments – **vs. 4**
8. Golden crowns on the elders’ heads – **vs. 4**
9. Seven lamps of fire burning before the throne (seven Spirits of God) – **vs. 5**
10. The elders fall down before the One on the throne – **vs. 9-10**
11. The elders cast their crowns before the throne – **vs. 10**
12. Worship declaring God worthy as Creator of all things – **vs. 11**

Chapter 5

1. Scroll sealed with 7 seals, **vs 1**
2. “the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has triumphed. He is able to open the scroll and its seven seals.” **vs. 5**



Seals: Initiate the series of judgments and reveal Christ’s authority.

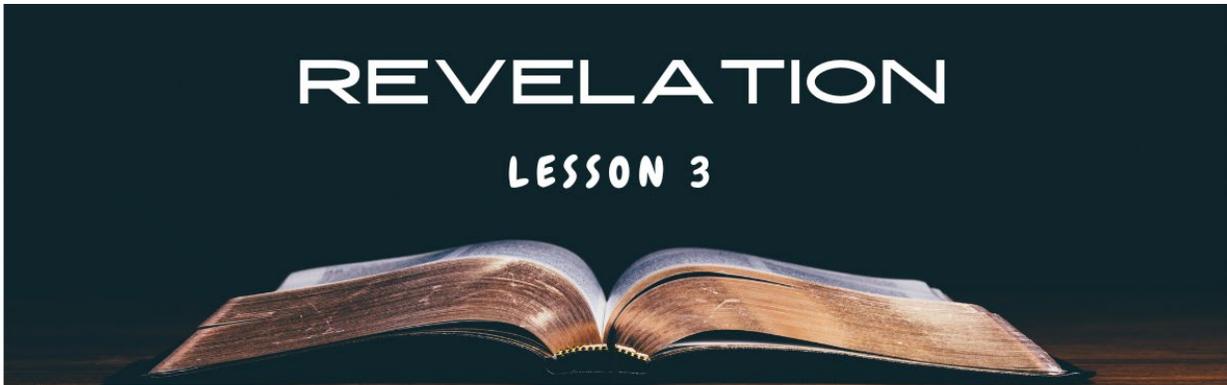
Trumpets: Intensify judgments on the earth, often partial or symbolic.

Bowls: Final, complete outpouring of God’s wrath—full and unstoppable.

#	Seven Seals	Scripture	Seven Trumpets	Scripture	Seven Bowls	Scripture
1	White horse - conquest	Rev 6:1-2	Hail and fire mixed with blood; a third of earth’s trees burned	Rev 8:7	Ugly and painful sores on those with the mark of the beast	Rev 16:2
2	Red horse - war	Rev 6:3-4	A burning mountain thrown into the sea; a third of sea life dies	Rev 8:8-9	Sea turns to blood; every living creature in it dies	Rev 16:3

#	Seven Seals	Scripture	Seven Trumpets	Scripture	Seven Bowls	Scripture
3	Black horse - famine	Rev 6:5-6	Wormwood star falls, making a third of rivers/springs bitter	Rev 8:10-11	Rivers and springs turn to blood	Rev 16:4-7
4	Pale horse - death	Rev 6:7-8	A third of sun, moon, and stars darkened	Rev 8:12	Sun scorches people with fierce heat	Rev 16:8-9
5	Souls of martyrs cry out	Rev 6:9-11	Locusts torment people from the bottomless pit	Rev 9:1-11	Kingdom of the beast is plunged into darkness	Rev 16:10-11
6	Cosmic disturbances - earthquake, sky shakes	Rev 6:12-17	Four angels released, 200 million army kills a third of mankind	Rev 9:13-21	Euphrates dries up to prepare way for kings of the east	Rev 16:12
7	Silence in heaven	Rev 8:1	Loud voices proclaim God's kingdom; temple opened	Rev 11:15-19	Great earthquake, hailstorm, city splits, God's wrath completed	Rev 16:17-21





The Things After These Things: Chapters 4-22, Part 2

The Fall of Babylon (17-19). The Sequence of Events

Chapter / Event	Key Details	Scripture
17 - The Woman on the Beast	John sees a woman (Babylon) on a scarlet beast with seven heads and ten horns	Rev 17:1-3
	The woman is lavishly adorned, holding a golden cup of abominations	Rev 17:4
	The woman represents the great city ruling over the kings of the earth	Rev 17:5-6
	The angel explains the beast and ten horns (kings who have not yet received authority)	Rev 17:7-12
	Babylon is revealed as the corrupt system opposing God and persecuting saints	Rev 17:13-18
18 - Babylon's Doom Proclaimed	Angel announces Babylon's sudden fall; she is a dwelling of demons	Rev 18:1-3
	Judgment for wealth, luxury, and exploitation of nations	Rev 18:4-8
	Kings, merchants, and sailors mourn Babylon's destruction	Rev 18:9-19
	Babylon's destruction is complete and irreversible; God's justice is revealed	Rev 18:20-24
19 - Rejoicing Over Babylon's Fall	Heaven rejoices over Babylon's judgment	Rev 19:1-2
	The marriage of the Lamb is announced (Christ's victory)	Rev 19:6-9
	Christ appears on a white horse, Faithful and True, to judge righteously	Rev 19:11-16
	Beast (Antichrist) and kings of the earth gather for war	Rev 19:19
	Beast and false prophet defeated and thrown into the lake of fire	Rev 19:20
	Satan's armies destroyed; God's righteous rule established	Rev 19:21

THE FALL OF BABYLON

REVELATION 17-19

17 CHAPTER 17 – THE WOMAN ON THE BEAST



John sees Babylon (the woman) riding a scarlet beast

Rev 17:1-7

Angel explains the meaning (the beast & ten horns)

Rev 17:8-14

18 CHAPTER 18 – BABYLON'S DOOM PROCLAIMED



Angel announces Babylon's sudden fall

Rev 18:1-3

Kings and merchants mourn her destruction

Rev 18:4-24

19 CHAPTER 19 – REJOICING OVER BABYLON'S FALL



Heaven praises God for judging Babylon

Rev 18:1-5

19 CHAPTER 19 – REJOICING OVER BABYLON'S FALL



Heaven praises God for judging Babylon
Rev 19:1-5

Christ appears as conqueror on a white horse

Rev 18:4-24

God destroys Babylon and avenges His people

The New Creation (20-22). Summary of the Sequence of Events

#	Event	Scripture
1	Satan is bound for 1,000 years	Rev 20:1-3
2	Christ reigns with His saints during the Millennium	Rev 20:4-6
3	Satan is released for a short time	Rev 20:7-9
4	Satan is defeated and cast into the lake of fire	Rev 20:10
5	Great White Throne Judgment – the dead are raised	Rev 20:11
6	The dead are judged according to their deeds; death and Hades are cast into the lake of fire	Rev 20:12-15
7	A new heaven and a new earth are created	Rev 21:1
8	The New Jerusalem descends from heaven	Rev 21:2
9	God dwells with humanity; there is no more death, mourning, crying, or pain	Rev 21:3-4
10	All things are made new; the faithful are rewarded	Rev 21:5-7
11	Description of the New Jerusalem – streets of gold, foundations, gates	Rev 21:9-21
12	River of the water of life flows from God's throne; tree of life on each side	Rev 22:1-2
13	Christ promises to return	Rev 22:6-7, 12
14	Final invitation and benediction; warning against adding/taking away from the words of the prophecy	Rev 22:17-21

THE NEW CREATION

REVELATION 20-22

SATAN BOUND FOR 1,000 YEARS

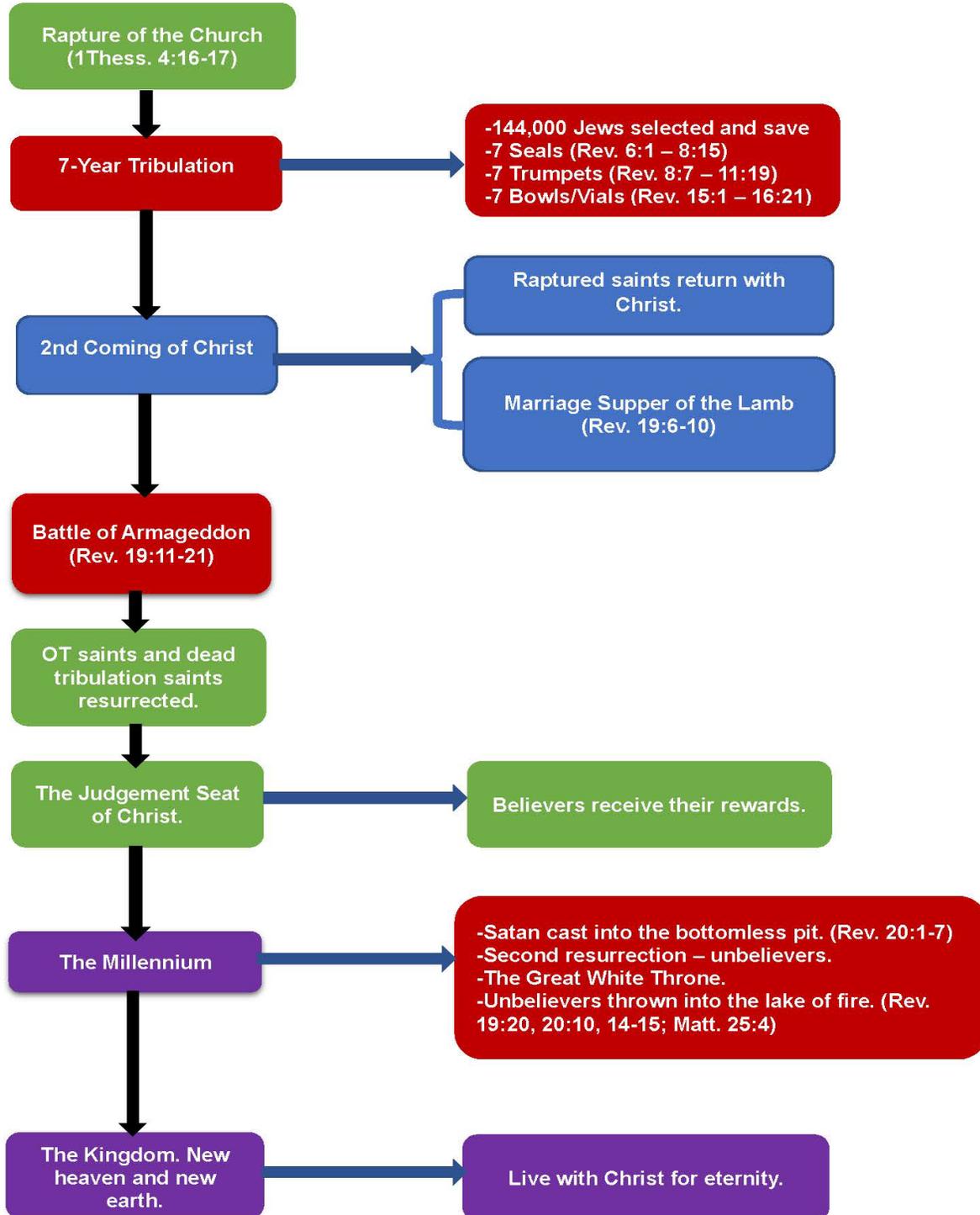
1 Satan is Bound for 1,000 Years
 2 Christ Reigns with His Saints
 3 Satan Released a Short Time
 4 Satan Defeated, Cast into the Lake of Fire

7 New Heaven & New Earth
 8 New Jerusalem Descends
 9 God Dwells with Humanity

11 Description of City
 12 River of the Water of Life
 13 Christ Promises to Return
 14 Invitation & Benediction

God's Eternal Kingdom & Life with Christ

TIMELINE OF ENDTIME EVENTS



Final Word

The vision John received is not just about the distant future, it's about the hope and certainty we have today. God is in control. Satan may rage, nations may rebel, and suffering may come, but the end is victory for those who belong to Christ. The Millennium, the judgment, and the New Creation remind us that evil will be fully defeated, and we will dwell with God in perfect peace.

So live boldly, faithfully, and with hope. Let this vision shape your choices, your faithfulness, and your devotion. Keep your eyes on Jesus, the Alpha and Omega, who makes all things new, and let the promise of eternal life give you courage to endure and joy to serve. The best is yet to come, and God's eternal kingdom awaits those who remain steadfast.

