

**1a OPENING**

**APOCALYPSE (1:1)** GREEK: αποκαλυψις

• A TYPE OF JEWISH LITERATURE (EZEKIEL, DANIEL, 4 EZRA, 1 ENOCH)

• **SYMBOLIC VISIONS** THAT REVEAL A HEAVENLY PERSPECTIVE ON HISTORY IN LIGHT OF ITS FINAL OUTCOME

MEANINGFUL IMAGES DRAWN FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT

**JOHN** THE BELOVED DISCIPLE? ANOTHER JOHN?

**LETTER (1:4, 22-21)** SENT TO: 7 CHURCHES

ITS MEANING FOR US MUST BE ANCHORED IN JOHN'S MEANING FOR THEM.

**PROPHECY (1:3)**

• GOD'S WORD THROUGH A PROPHET

• BRINGS OLD TESTAMENT PROPHECY TO ITS CLIMAX

# THE REVELATION OF JESUS



A SYMBOLIC VISION FOR EVERY GENERATION OF THE CHURCH

HISTORY'S PATTERN: ALL HUMAN KINGDOMS BECOME BABYLON & MUST BE RESISTED

GOD'S PROMISE: JESUS WILL RETURN TO REMOVE EVIL FROM HIS WORLD

**1b-3 MESSAGE TO THE 7 CHURCHES**

THE SEVEN CHURCHES (SEE ZECHARIAH 4)

EPHESUS, SMYRNA, PERGAMUM, THYATIRA, SARDIS, PHILADELPHIA & LAODICEA

APATHY

PERSECUTION

IMMORALITY

"TRIBULATION" (2:9-10)

COMPROMISE

DOMITIAN

FAITHFULNESS

THE CONQUERORS ARE REWARDED in the NEW CREATION (chs. 21 & 22)

**6-16 3 SETS OF 7 DIVINE JUDGMENTS**

LITERAL SEQUENCE OF EVENTS (A) (PAST, PRESENT, OR FUTURE)

**BUT NOTICE:**

• BOWLS CONTAINED WITHIN 7th TRUMPET, TRUMPETS WITHIN 7th SEAL

• EACH SET CONCLUDES WITH FINAL JUDGMENT

THE TIME PERIOD BETWEEN JESUS' RESURRECTION & RETURN FROM THREE PERSPECTIVES (B)

**6-8a SEVEN SEALS**

1 WAR

2 CONQUEST

3 FAMINE

4 DEATH

5 HOW LONG, O LORD?

6 THE DAY OF THE LORD! (ISAIAH 2, JOEL 2)

REST A LITTLE LONGER...

WHO CAN STAND?!

THEY CAN!

SEE ZECHARIAH ch. 1

**ch. 7 THE LAMB'S ARMY**

MARK GOD'S SERVANTS: the 144,000 MILITARY CENSUS of 12 TRIBES (SEE NUMBERS 1)

HEARS

SEES

85

THE MESSIANIC ARMY OF GOD'S KINGDOM FROM ALL NATIONS

**4-5 THE THRONE OF GOD & THE LAMB**

HOLY! HOLY! HOLY!

SEE ISAIAH 6, EZEKIEL 1, DANIEL 7

MESSAGE OF THE PROPHETS (ISAIAH 8:16, EZEKIEL 2-3, DANIEL 12) ABOUT HOW GOD'S KINGDOM WILL COME ON EARTH AS IT IS IN HEAVEN

WHO CAN OPEN THE SCROLL?

THE LION OF JUDAH! (GENESIS 49:9) THE ROOT OF DAVID! (ISAIAH 11:1)

SEES

HEARS

**THE SACRIFICED LAMB**

• GOD'S KINGDOM WAS INAUGURATED THROUGH THE CRUCIFIED MESSIAH WHO DIED FOR HIS ENEMIES.

• HIS DEATH WAS CONQUEST OVER EVIL.

**8b-11 SEVEN TRUMPETS**

THE EXODUS PLAGUES (SEE EXODUS ch. 7-11)

1 HAIL

2 BLOOD

3 DARKNESS

4 POISON WATER

5 DEMON LOCUSTS

6 THE FOUR HORSEMEN

THE NATIONS DON'T REPENT (9:20-21)

**10-11:13 THE LAMB'S SCROLL**

EAT THIS & PROPHECY... OKAYYYY...

MEASURE THE TEMPLE...

PROTECTION (SEE ZECHARIAH 2)

...BUT EXCLUDE THE COURTS

A) LITERAL DESTRUCTION OF JERUSALEM

B) NEW TEMPLE = SYMBOL OF GOD'S PEOPLE

1 CORINTHIANS 3:16

HEBREWS 3:6

1 PETER 2:4-5

TWO WITNESSES PROPHECY... (11:4-12:0)

... & ARE KILLED...

LAMPSTANDS = CHURCHES

2 LITERAL PROPHETS

3 SYMBOLS OF THE CHURCH'S PROPHECIC ROLE (SEE DANIEL 7)

THE SCROLL REVEALS THE CHURCH'S MISSION:

• IMITATE THE LOVING SACRIFICE OF THE LAMB

• GOD'S MERCY BRINGS REPENTANCE

...BUT THEN VINDICATED... GLORY TO GOD!

...& THE NATIONS DO REPENT (11:13)

11:19

**12-14 SEVEN SIGNS (=SYMBOLS)**

**12 THE COSMIC BATTLE** (BASED ON GENESIS 3:15)

THE MESSIAH & HIS PEOPLE

THEY CONQUER THE DRAGON THROUGH THE BLOOD OF THE LAMB (12:11)

NOT THE REAL ENEMY

**13 THE EARTHLY BATTLE** (BASED ON DANIEL 7:12)

MILITARY POWER

666 ECONOMIC MACHINE

BABYLON

PERSIA

GREECE

ROME, etc....

1) THE ANTI-SHEMIA PRAYER OF ALLEGIANCE FROM DEUTERONOMY 6:4-9 WRITTEN ON FOREHEAD & HAND (THOUGHTS) (ACTIONS)

2) THE NUMBER 666 = 70ק 177 (NERO CAESAR) = 11" 171 (BEAST)

**14a THE LAMB'S ARMY**

THE ETERNAL GOSPEL (14:6)

BABYLON HAS FALLEN!

FEAR GOD & GIVE HIM GLORY!

THE NEW JERUSALEM

**14b FINAL JUSTICE**

THE GRAIN HARVEST of GOD'S PEOPLE

THE GRAPE HARVEST of HUMANITY'S EVIL

**THE CHOICE**

RESIST BABYLON TO FOLLOW THE LAMB

OR

FOLLOW THE BEAST & SUFFER ITS DEFEAT

**15-16 SEVEN BOWLS**

THE EXODUS PLAGUES (AGAIN!)

1 SORES

2 BLOOD

3 DARKNESS

4 FIRE

5 DARKNESS

**ARMAGEDDON:**

LOCATION OF MANY ISRAELITE BATTLES (JUDGES 5:19, 2 KINGS 23:29)

SYMBOL OF REBELLIOUS NATIONS (EZEKIEL 38-39)

**16:17-21**

**17-19a THE FALL OF BABYLON**

BABYLON → ROME'S MILITARY & ECONOMIC POWER → ARCHETYPE OF HUMANITY'S REBELLION AGAINST GOD

BLOOD OF THE INNOCENT (18:24)

WOE!

BLEND OF OLD TESTAMENT IMAGES (ISAIAH 13, 23, 34, 47; JEREMIAH 50-51; EZEKIEL 26-27)

**19b-20 THE FINAL BATTLE**

17:11-21 THE FINAL BATTLE I

ARMAGEDDON IS NOT A BLOODBATH

JESUS DIED FOR HIS ENEMIES & NOW HOLDS THEM ACCOUNTABLE.

JUSTICE

20:1-7 THE MARTYRS VINDICATED

THE MARTYRS REIGN...

FOR 1,000 YEARS!

20:8-15 THE FINAL BATTLE II (SEE DANIEL 7)

LITERAL SEQUENCE

A 1,000 YEAR KINGDOM

B THOUSAND YEARS = SYMBOL OF JESUS' PRESENT VICTORY

TWO BATTLES = JESUS' RETURN FROM TWO ANGLES

JESUS' RETURN

FINAL JUDGEMENT

THE POINT: JESUS WILL RETURN AS A KING TO DEAL WITH EVIL & VINDICATE HIS FOLLOWERS

THE DRAGON BABYLON & ALL WHO CHOOSE THEM ARE ETERNALLY QUARANTINED

**21-22 THE MARRIAGE OF HEAVEN & EARTH**

I AM MAKING ALL THINGS NEW. (21:5)

ALL CREATION IS THE TEMPLE of GOD & THE LAMB

HUMANITY RULES AS GOD'S IMAGE (GENESIS 1:27-28)

THE BRIDE OF THE LAMB

KALEIDOSCOPE of OLD TESTAMENT PROMISES

• NEW HEAVEN & EARTH (ISAIAH 65:17)

• NEW GARDEN OF EDEN (GENESIS 2, EZEKIEL 47)

• NEW JERUSALEM (ISAIAH 2, ZEPHANIAH 3)