
Revelation

I. The Message to the Seven Churches (1-3)

A. A Picture of Christ (1:1-20)

1. The Background to Revelation (1:1-3)

- a. The Revelation of Jesus Christ was given by God to reveal the future (1:1a).
- b. Jesus Christ made known the Revelation by sending an angel to John (1:1b-2).
- c. John declared a blessing on those who read and heed the Revelation (1:3).

2. The Glory of the Triune God (1:4-8)

- a. John addressed the seven churches of Asia with the grace and peace of the triune God (1:4-5a).
- b. John pronounced a benediction on Jesus Christ for His redeeming work (1:5b-6).
- c. John instructed his readers to look up in anticipation of the return of Jesus Christ (1:7).
- d. The Lord God declared Himself the Alpha and Omega, the Almighty (1:8).

3. The Vision of the Son of God (1:9-20)

- a. While in exile on the island of Patmos, John heard a voice commanding him to record and distribute what he was about to see (1:9-11).
- b. John turned and saw Jesus in all the radiance of His glory (1:12-16).
- c. John fell at Jesus' feet and Jesus reassured him, saying that He is the divine, resurrection Lord (1:17-18).
- d. Jesus instructed John to record the revelation and identified seven messengers and seven churches as recipients (1:19-20).

B. A Picture of the Church (2:1—3:22)

1. The Church at Ephesus—A Legalistic Church (2:1-7)

- a. Church—Jesus addressed the messenger of the church at Ephesus (2:1a).
- b. Christ—Jesus is the one who holds the seven stars and walks among the seven golden lamp stands (2:1b).
- c. Commendation—the church at Ephesus had a reputation for hard work, spiritual discernment, and tireless perseverance (2:2-3).
- d. Critique—the church at Ephesus had forsaken its first love (2:4).
- e. Correctives—Jesus instructed the church at Ephesus to remember its past strengths, repent for its present condition, and return to its original spiritual fervor (2:5a).
- f. Caution—Jesus warned the church at Ephesus that He would remove its lamp stand, although the church did despise the Nicolaitans (2:5b-6).
- g. Comfort—Jesus promised all who overcome to have the right to eat from the tree of life in paradise (2:7).

2. The Church at Smyrna—A Persecuted Church (2:8-11)

- a. Church—Jesus addressed the messenger of the church at Smyrna (2:8a).
- b. Christ—Jesus is the First and the Last, the one who died and rose again (2:8b).
- c. Commendation—The church at Smyrna had a reputation for enduring afflictions, poverty, and slander (2:9).
- d. Caution—Jesus warned the church at Smyrna about impending suffering, imprisonment, and persecution, but promised the crown of life to the faithful (2:10).
- e. Comfort—Jesus promised all who overcome that they will not be hurt by the second death (2:11).

3. The Church at Pergamum—A Compromising Church (2:12-17)

- a. Church—Jesus addressed the messenger of the church at Pergamum (12:12a).
- b. Christ—Jesus is the one who holds a sharp two-edged sword (12:12b).
- c. Commendation—The church at Pergamum had a reputation for spiritual faithfulness in the presence of Satanic authority and in the face of martyrdom (12:13).
- d. Critique—The church at Pergamum had tolerated the teachings of Balaam and the Nicolaitans (12:14-15).
- e. Correctives—Jesus instructed the church at Pergamum to repent (12:16a).

- f. Caution—Jesus warned the church at Pergamum that He would come and fight against the false teachers with the sword of His mouth (12:16b).
 - g. Comfort—Jesus promised all who overcome that He will give them hidden manna and a white stone engraved with a new name (12:17).
4. The Church at Thyatira—A Persevering Church (2:18-29)
- a. Church—Jesus addressed the messenger of the church at Thyatira (2:18a).
 - b. Christ—Jesus is the Son of God whose eyes are like blazing fire and whose feet are like polished bronze (2:18b).
 - c. Commendation—the church at Thyatira had a reputation for love, faith, service, perseverance, and increased activity (2:19).
 - d. Critique—the church at Thyatira had tolerated Jezebel and followed her teachings into immorality and idolatry (2:20).
 - e. Caution—Jesus warned the church at Thyatira that He would bring suffering on Jezebel and her followers and death to her children (2:21-23).
 - f. Correctives—Jesus instructed the church at Thyatira to hold on to its spiritual possessions (2:24-25).
 - g. Comfort—Jesus promised all who overcome to be given authority to rule over the nations and to be given the morning star (2:26-29).
5. The Church at Sardis—A Sleeping Church (3:1-6)
- a. Church—Jesus addressed the messenger of the church at Sardis (3:1a).
 - b. Christ—Jesus is the one who holds the seven spirits and the seven stars (3:1b).
 - c. Critique—The church at Sardis had a reputation for being alive even though it was dead (3:1c).
 - d. Correctives—Jesus instructed the church at Sardis to wake up, strengthen itself, remember what it possessed, be obedient, and repent (3:2-3a).
 - e. Caution—Jesus warned the church at Sardis that He would come to them like a thief (3:3b).
 - f. Commendation—the church at Sardis included some people who had not become impure and who would walk with Jesus dressed in white (3:4).
 - g. Comfort—Jesus promised all who overcome to be dressed in white, to retain their names in the book of life, and to be acknowledged before God the Father and the angels (3:5-6).
6. The Church at Philadelphia—A Serving Church (3:7-13)
- a. Church—Jesus addressed the messenger of the church at Philadelphia (3:7a).

- b. Christ—Jesus is the one who is holy, true, and holds the key of David (3:7b).
 - c. Commendation—the church at Philadelphia had a reputation for its deeds and its faithfulness in spite of having little strength (3:8).
 - d. Caution—Jesus warned the church at Philadelphia that He would make its enemies acknowledge His love, and that He would protect the church from the hour of trial (3:9-10).
 - e. Correctives—Jesus instructed the church at Philadelphia to hold on to its spiritual possessions in light of His imminent return (3:11).
 - f. Comfort—Jesus promised all who overcome to have a permanent place as pillars in God’s temple and a new identity as God’s people (3:12-13).
7. The Church at Laodicea—A Lukewarm Church (3:14-22)
- a. Church—Jesus addressed the messenger of the church at Laodicea (3:14a).
 - b. Christ—Jesus is the one who is the Amen, the faithful and true witness, and the ruler of creation (3:14b).
 - c. Critique—the church at Laodicea had a reputation for being spiritually lukewarm and impoverished in spite of thinking of itself as rich (3:15-17).
 - d. Correctives—Jesus instructed the church at Laodicea to secure true spiritual wealth in the form of refined gold, white clothes, and eye salve (3:18).
 - e. Caution—Jesus warned the church at Laodicea that He rebukes and disciplines those He loves and that He will eat with any who open the door to Him (3:19-20).
 - f. Comfort—Jesus promised all who overcome that He will grant the right to sit with Him on His royal throne (3:21-22).

II. The Worship of the Lamb (4-5)

A. The Throne Room in Heaven (4:1-11)

1. An Invitation to Heaven (4:1)

- a. John saw in front of him an open door into heaven (4:1a).
- b. John heard the voice of Jesus inviting him to come and see what would take place in the future (4:1b).

2. The Splendor of God in Heaven (4:2-6a)

- a. John saw God in His radiant splendor sitting on a throne in heaven surrounded by a rainbow (4:2-3).

- b. John saw twenty-four thrones with twenty-four elders surrounding the throne of God (4:4).
 - c. John saw lightening coming from the throne of God (4:5a).
 - d. John saw seven lamps representing the seven-fold Spirit of God in front of the throne of God (4:5b).
 - e. John saw a sea of crystal clear glass in front of the throne of God (4:6a).
3. The Worship of God in Heaven (4:6b-11)
- a. John saw four unusual and unique angelic creatures in front of the throne of God constantly acclaiming the holiness of God (4:6b-8).
 - b. John saw the twenty-four elders join the angelic creatures in praising God, laying their crowns at His feet (4:9-11).
- B. The Lamb on the Throne (5:1-14)
1. “And I saw a scroll”—when we see the throne room of God we will begin to understand that there are mysteries Christ alone can comprehend, that Christ alone is worthy to hold (5:1-5).
 - a. The mysteries of God far surpass our limited minds (5:1).
 - b. The mysteries of God far surpass our unworthy nature (5:2-4).
 - c. The mysteries of God belong to Jesus Christ (5:5).
 2. “And I saw a Lamb”—when we see the Lord Jesus Christ we will begin to understand that Christ’s redeeming work should strike our hearts with fear, our lips with praise (5:6-10).
 - a. Jesus is the Lamb of God who died for our sins (5:6).
 - b. Jesus is the Lamb of God who redeemed people of every nation (5:7-9).
 - c. Jesus is the Lamb of God who elevates us to positions of undeserved honor (5:10).
 3. “And I saw a multitude”—when we see the throngs of heaven we will begin to understand that there is no greater privilege than to worship Christ, no greater fulfillment than to be in His presence (5:11-14).
 - a. One day we will join countless myriads in heaven worshipping Christ (5:11).
 - b. One day we will sing a new song in worshipping Christ (5:12-13).
 - c. One day we will fall down in reverence in worshipping Christ (5:14).

III. The Wrath of the Lamb (6-16)

A. The Seal Judgments (6:1-17)

1. The First Seal—The Antichrist (6:1-2)
 - a. John watched the Lamb open the first seal and heard one of the living creatures say “Come” (6:1).
 - b. John saw a white horse whose rider had a bow and a crown and who was bent on conquest (6:2).
2. The Second Seal—Warfare (6:3-4)
 - a. John watched the Lamb open the second seal and heard another living creature say “Come” (6:3).
 - b. John saw a red horse whose rider had a large sword and who was given power to remove peace from the earth (6:4).
3. The Third Seal—Famine (6:5-6)
 - a. John watched the Lamb open the third seal and heard another living creature say “Come” (6:5a).
 - b. John saw a black horse whose rider had a pair of scales (6:5b).
 - c. John heard a voice describing a shortage of wheat and barley (6:6).
4. The Fourth Seal—Death (6:7-8)
 - a. John watched the Lamb open the fourth seal and heard another living creature say “Come” (6:7).
 - b. John saw a pale horse whose rider was named Death, with Hades following close behind, who were given the power to kill a fourth of the earth (6:8).
5. The Fifth Seal—Martyrdom (6:9-11)
 - a. When the Lamb opened the fifth seal John saw the souls of martyrs under the altar (6:9).
 - b. The martyrs asked God how long it would be until He would judge the world (6:10).
 - c. Each martyr was given a white robe and told to wait until the full number of martyrs is reached (6:11).

6. The Sixth Seal—Cataclysm (6:12-17)

- a. When the Lamb opened the sixth seal there were great cataclysmic events in the celestial heavens and on earth (6:12-14).
- b. People of all social classes hid in caves and called for the rocks to hide them from the face of God and from the wrath of the Lamb (6:15-17).

B. The First Interlude (7:1-17)

1. The Sealing of 144,000 Jews (7:1-8)

- a. John saw four angels holding back the four winds of the earth (7:1).
- b. John saw another angel who told the four angels to withhold their destructive power until they put a seal on God's servants (7:2).
- c. John heard that 144,000 Israelites would be sealed (7:3).
- d. The 144,000 Israelites consisted of 12,000 from each of the twelve tribes of Israel (7:4-8).

2. The Salvation of the Great Multitude (7:9-17)

- a. John saw an innumerable multitude representing every people group standing before the Lamb (7:9).
- b. The great multitude cried out in praise to God and the Lamb for salvation (7:10).
- c. All the angels around the throne joined in praising God (7:11-12).
- d. One of the elders explained to John that the great multitude consisted of those who had come out of the great tribulation (7:13-14).
- e. The elder declared that the great multitude would never again experience sorrow or suffering because the Lamb will be their shepherd (7:15-17).

C. The Seventh Seal Judgment and the Trumpet Judgments (8:1—9:21)

1. The Seventh Seal—Silence (8:1)

- a. The Lamb opened the seventh seal (8:1a).
- b. There was silence in heaven for about half an hour (8:1b).

2. The Angels with the Seven Trumpets (8:2-6)

- a. John saw seven angels who were given seven trumpets (8:2).
- b. Another angel with a censer was given incense to offer with the prayers of God's people (8:3-4).

- c. The angel threw the censer on the earth, causing thunder, rumblings, lightning, and an earthquake (8:5).
 - d. The seven angels prepared to sound their seven trumpets (8:6).
- 3. The First Trumpet—Destruction of Vegetation (8:7)
 - a. The first angel sounded his trumpet, bringing hail and fire on earth (8:7a).
 - b. A third of the earth and the trees and all of the grass were burned up (8:7b).
- 4. The Second Trumpet—Destruction of the Seas (8:8-9)
 - a. The second angel sounded his trumpet, causing a huge, blazing mountain to be thrown into the sea (8:8a).
 - b. A third of the sea, its living creatures, and its ships were destroyed (8:8b-9).
- 5. The Third Trumpet—Destruction of Pure Water Sources (8:10-11)
 - a. The third angel sounded his trumpet, causing a great, blazing star called Wormwood to fall from the sky (8:10-11a).
 - b. A third of the rivers and springs of water became undrinkable and many people died (8:11b).
- 6. The Fourth Trumpet—Diminishing of Celestial Lights (8:12)
 - a. The fourth angel sounded his trumpet (8:12a).
 - b. A third of the sun, moon, and stars turned dark (8:12b).
 - c. John heard an eagle cry out three woes in anticipation of the final three trumpets (8:13).
- 7. The Fifth Trumpet—Locusts from the Abyss (9:1-12)
 - a. The fifth angel sounded his trumpet, causing a star to fall from the sky and which was given a key to the Abyss (9:1).
 - b. When the star opened the Abyss, smoke darkened the sun and the sky (9:2).
 - c. Locusts came out of the smoke with instructions to harm only people, no plants, and the torture they inflicted was severely painful (9:3-6).
 - d. The locusts had an unusual appearance and possessed power to torture for five months (9:7-10).
 - e. The locusts had as their king the angel of the Abyss named Abaddon and Apollyon (9:11-12).

8. The Sixth Trumpet—The Army from the East (9:13-21)

- a. The sixth angel sounded his trumpet causing a voice from the golden altar to command the release of four angels who were bound at the Euphrates River (9:13-14).
- b. The four angels were released to kill a third of the people on earth, mobilizing an army of two hundred million (9:15-16).
- c. The horses and riders composing this great army a fierce and frightening appearance (9:17).
- d. A third of the people on earth were killed by fire, smoke, and sulfur that come out of the horses' mouths (9:18-19).
- e. The survivors did not repent of their idolatry or their immorality (9:20-21).

D. The Second Interlude (10:1—11:14)

1. The Mighty Angel (10:1-7)

- a. John saw a mighty angel come from heaven carrying a little scroll (10:1-2a).
- b. The angel planted his right foot on the sea and his left foot on the land and gave a great shout (10:2b-3a).
- c. The voice of seven thunders spoke, but a voice from heaven forbid John to write what the thunders said (10:3b-4).
- d. The angel swore by God that there would be no more delay (10:5-7).

2. The Little Scroll (10:8-11)

- a. John heard a voice telling him to take the little scroll from the mighty angel (10:8).
- b. The angel told John to eat the scroll, which would taste sweet but turn sour (10:9).
- c. John ate the scroll, which tasted sweet but turned sour (10:10).
- d. John was told to prophesy about many peoples, nations, languages, and kings (10:11).

3. The Temple of God (11:1-2)

- a. John was instructed to measure the temple of God and altar with its worshipers (11:1).
- b. John was instructed to exclude the outer court, which had been given to the Gentiles (11:2a).
- c. The Gentiles will trample the holy city for 42 months (11:2b).

4. The Two Witnesses (11:3-14)

- a. God will appoint two witnesses with miraculous powers who will prophesy for 1,260 days (11:3-6).
- b. The beast from the Abyss will kill the two prophets in Jerusalem while their bodies will lie for three and a half days for the entire world to see (11:7-10).
- c. God will resurrect the two witnesses and take them to heaven in full public view (11:11-12).
- d. At the moment of the resurrection of the two witnesses an earthquake will destroy a tenth of the city and kill 7,000 people (11:13-14).

E. The Final Trumpet Judgment (11:15-19)

1. Praise by a Heavenly Chorus (11:15)

- a. The seventh angel sounded his trumpet, causing loud voices to speak from heaven (11:15a).
- b. The voices declared the eternal rule of Christ over the kingdoms of the world (11:15b).

2. Worship by the Twenty-Four Elders (11:16-18)

- a. The twenty-four elders fell on their faces and worshiped God (11:16).
- b. The twenty-four elders gave thanks to God for ushering in the time for reigning over, judging, and rewarding all people (11:17-18).

3. The Opening of the Temple in Heaven (11:19)

- a. God's temple in heaven was opened and the Ark of the Covenant was visible inside (11:19a).
- b. The opening of God's temple produced lightning, rumblings, thunder, an earthquake, and hail (11:19b).

F. The Third Interlude (12:1—14:20)

1. The Woman, the Dragon, and the Birth of a Male Child (12:1-6)

- a. A sign appeared in heaven of an expectant woman clothed with the sun (12:1-2).
- b. A second sign appeared in heaven, an enormous red dragon with seven heads and ten horns waiting to devour the woman's child (12:3-4).

- c. The woman gave birth to a male child who will rule the earth and the child was snatched up to God (12:5).
 - d. The woman fled into the desert where God protected her for 1,260 days (12:6).
2. Michael, Satan, and the War in Heaven (12:7-12)
- a. A war broke out in heaven between Michael and his angels against the dragon and his angels (12:7).
 - b. The dragon, who is Satan, and his angels were defeated and cast out of heaven (12:8-9).
 - c. A voice in heaven declared the arrival of God's kingdom and warned the earth about the devil's intensified wrath (12:10-12).
3. The Woman, the Dragon, and the War on Earth (12:13-17)
- a. The dragon, having been hurled to the earth, pursued the woman (12:13).
 - b. The woman was given wings to fly to safety in the wilderness (12:14).
 - c. The dragon tried to drown the woman, but the earth swallowed the water (12:15-16).
 - d. The dragon went away to fight with the rest of the woman's children, followers of Jesus (12:17).
4. The Beast out of the Sea—the Antichrist (13:1-10)
- a. John saw a beast coming out of the sea, a beast with ten heads and seven horns with characteristics of a leopard, a bear, and a lion (3:1-2).
 - b. One of the heads of the beast had been healed of a fatal wound and the whole world worshiped the beast (3:3-4).
 - c. The beast blasphemed God for forty-two months (3:5-6).
 - d. The best waged war with God's people and ruled over all people (3:7-8).
 - e. Captivity and death will be inevitable, requiring God's people to show endurance and faithfulness (3:9-10).
5. The Beast out of the Earth—the False Prophet (13:11-18)
- a. John saw a second beast coming out of the earth, a beast with two horns that spoke like a dragon (13:11).
 - b. The second beast made the people of the earth worship the first beast (13:12).
 - c. The second beast performed great signs, deceiving the people of the earth (13:13-14a).

- d. The second beast set up an image of the first beast, gave the image the ability to speak, and killed anyone who refused to worship the image (13:14b-15).
 - e. The second beast forced the people of the earth to receive the mark of the first beast whose number is 666 (13:16-18).
6. The 144,000 and the Lamb (14:1-5)
- a. John saw the Lamb with the 144,000 standing on Mount Zion (14:1).
 - b. John heard a sound from heaven like rushing water, thunder, and harps (14:2).
 - c. John heard a new song that only the 144,000 could learn (14:3).
 - d. The 144,000 were morally pure followers of the Lamb (14:4-5).
7. Three Angels (14:6-13)
- a. John saw an angel flying in midair proclaiming the everlasting gospel to the inhabitants of the earth (14:6-7).
 - b. A second angel proclaimed the fall of Babylon the Great (14:8).
 - c. A third angel proclaimed eternal punishment for all who worship the beast or receive its mark (14:9-11).
 - d. The angelic warning calls for patient endurance on the part of God's people (14:12).
 - e. John heard a voice from heaven commanding him to write about the blessing on those who die in the Lord (14:13).
8. The Son of Man and the Harvest on Earth (14:14-16)
- a. John saw a white cloud on which was seated someone like a son of man wearing a gold crown and holding a sharp sickle (14:14).
 - b. An angel called to the one sitting on the cloud to reap the harvest on the earth (14:15).
 - c. The one seated on the cloud swung his sickle and reaped the harvest on the earth (14:16).
9. The Winepress of God's Wrath (14:17-20)
- a. Another angel came out of the temple in heaven with a sharp sickle (14:17).
 - b. Another angel came from the altar and told the angel with the sickle to gather the grapes on earth (14:18).
 - c. The angel with the sickle gathered the grapes and put them in the winepress of God's wrath (14:19).

- d. Outside the city massive amounts of blood flowed from the wine press (14:20).

G. The Bowl Judgments (15:1—16:21)

1. The Preparation of the Seven Bowl Judgments (15:1-8)

- a. John saw in heaven seven angels with seven last plagues (15:1).
- b. John saw those who were victorious over the beast standing a sea of glass singing the song of Moses and the Lamb (15:2-4).
- c. John saw in heaven the temple from which came the seven angels who were given seven golden bowls containing the seven plagues (15:5-8).

2. The First Bowl—Festering Sores (16:1-2)

- a. John heard a voice from the temple telling the seven angels to pour out their bowls on the earth (16:1).
- b. The first angel poured out his bowl on the earth (16:2a).
- c. Sores broke out on those who received the mark of the beast (16:2b).

3. The Second Bowl—Bloody Seas (16:3)

- a. The second angel poured out his bowl on the sea (16:3a).
- b. The sea turned into blood and everything living in the sea died (16:3b).

4. The Third Bowl—Bloody Rivers (16:4-7)

- a. The third angel poured out his bowl on the rivers, which became blood (16:4).
- b. John heard an angel declare God's justice in His judgment on the waters (16:5-6).
- c. John heard the altar respond in affirming God's judgment (16:7).

5. The Fourth Bowl—Scorching Sun (16:8-9)

- a. The fourth angel poured out his bowl on the sun (16:8a).
- b. The sun scorched people with fire (16:8b).
- c. The people cursed God and refused to repent (16:9).

6. The Fifth Bowl—Agonizing Darkness (16:10-11)

- a. The fifth angel poured out his bowl on the throne of the beast (16:10a).

- b. The beast's kingdom was plunged into darkness, bringing great agony on the people (16:10b).
 - c. The people cursed God and refused to repent (16:11).
- 7. The Sixth Bowl—Invitation to Armageddon (16:12-16)
 - a. The sixth angel poured out his bowl on the Euphrates River (16:12a).
 - b. The waters of the river dried up, preparing the way for the kings from the east (16:12b).
 - c. John saw three demonic spirits that looked like frogs come from the dragon, the beast, and the false prophet (16:13).
 - d. The demonic spirits gathered the kings of the whole world to a place called Armageddon (16:14-16).
- 8. The Seventh Bowl—Cataclysmic Earthquakes (16:17-21)
 - a. The seventh angel poured out his bowl into the air (16:17a).
 - b. A voice from the temple declared the end (16:17b).
 - c. The earth experienced its most severe earthquake in history (16:18).
 - d. Cities collapsed and Babylon the Great came under God's wrath (16:19).
 - e. The islands and mountains of the earth were destroyed (16:20).
 - f. Huge hailstones fell from the sky causing people to curse God (16:21).

IV. The Triumph of the Lamb (17-20)

A. The Wickedness of Babylon the Great (17:1-18)

- 1. The Vision of the Prostitute on the Scarlet Beast (17:1-6)
 - a. An angel invited John to see the punishment of the great prostitute (17:1-2).
 - b. John saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast (17:3-4).
 - c. The woman bore the title of Babylon the Great (17:5).
 - d. The woman was drunk on the blood of martyrs (17:6).
- 2. The Angelic Interpretation of the Scarlet Beast (17:7-14)
 - a. The beast once was, now is not, and will return out of the Abyss (17:7-8).
 - b. The seven heads on the beast are seven hills and seven kings (17:9-10).
 - c. The beast is an eighth king who is heading for destruction (17:11).

- d. The ten horns on the beast are ten kings who will reign briefly (17:12-13).
 - e. The ten kings will make war with Christ who will overcome them (17:14).
3. The Angelic Interpretation of the Prostitute (17:15-18)
 - a. The waters on which the prostitute sits are people and nations (17:15).
 - b. The beast and his allied kings will destroy the prostitute in accordance with God's purposes (17:16-17).
 - c. The prostitute is the great city that rules over the kings of the earth (17:18).
- B. The Fall of Babylon the Great (18:1-24)
1. The Angelic Pronouncement of the Fall of Babylon (18:1-3)
 - a. John saw an authoritative angel who illuminated the earth with his splendor (18:1).
 - b. The angel shouted that Babylon the Great is fallen and desolate (18:2-3).
 2. The Heavenly Warning to Escape from the Fall of Babylon (18:4-8)
 - a. John heard a voice from heaven warning God's people to leave Babylon (18:4-5).
 - b. The voice called for Babylon to experience the kind of torment that she inflicted on others (18:6-7a).
 - c. The voice declared that Babylon would fall quickly as a result of her pride (18:7b-8).
 3. Earthly Mourning over the Fall of Babylon (18:9-19)
 - a. The kings of the earth will mourn Babylon's fall (18:9-10).
 - b. The merchants of the earth will mourn Babylon's fall (18:11-17a).
 - c. The mariners of the sea will mourn Babylon's fall (18:17b-19).
 4. Heavenly Rejoicing over the Fall of Babylon (18:20)
 - a. Heaven and its inhabitants are invited to rejoice over Babylon's fall (18:20a).
 - b. Babylon's fall is a judgment of God for the way she treated God's people (18:20b).

5. The Angelic Enactment of the Fall of Babylon (18:21-24)

- a. Babylon's judgment will be violent (18:21).
- b. Babylon's judgment will be complete (18:22-23a).
- c. Babylon's judgment will be just (18:23b-24).

C. The Marriage Supper of the Lamb (19:1-10)

1. Praise from the Inhabitants of Heaven for Babylon's Destruction (19:1-4)

- a. John heard a great multitude in heaven praising God for condemning the great prostitute (19:1-3).
- b. John heard the twenty-four elders and the four living creatures join in praise to God (19:4).

2. Praise from the Inhabitants of Heaven for the Marriage Supper of the Lamb (19:5-8)

- a. A voice from the throne invited praise to God (19:5).
- b. John heard the multitude in heaven praising God for the arrival of the marriage supper of the Lamb (19:6-8).

3. The Invitation to the Marriage Supper of the Lamb (19:9-10)

- a. An angel pronounced a blessing on all who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb (19:9).
- b. John attempted to worship the angel, but the angel directed John to worship God (19:10).

D. The Second Coming of Jesus Christ (19:11-16)

1. The Vision of the Lord Jesus Christ (19:11)

- a. John saw a rider on a white horse in heaven (19:11a).
- b. The rider on the white horse judges with righteousness (19:11b).

2. The Appearance of the Lord Jesus Christ (19:12-13)

- a. The rider on the white horse has eyes like fire and wears many crowns (19:12).
- b. The rider on the white horse is dressed in a robe dipped in blood (19:13).

3. The Armies of the Lord Jesus Christ (19:14)
 - a. The armies of heaven followed the rider on the white horse (19:14a).
 - b. The armies of heaven also rode white horses and were dressed in white linen (19:14b).
 4. The Power of the Lord Jesus Christ (19:15)
 - a. A sharp sword comes from the mouth of the rider on the white horse (19:15a).
 - b. The rider on the white horse will rule with an iron scepter (19:15b).
 5. The Title of the Lord Jesus Christ (19:16)
 - a. The rider on the white horse has a name written on his robe and on his thigh (19:16a).
 - b. The rider on the white horse is named “King of Kings and Lord of Lords” (19:16b).
- E. The Final Battle of Armageddon (19:17-21)
1. Preparation for the Final Battle (19:17-18)
 - a. John saw an angel who invited all the birds to gather for a great feast (19:17).
 - b. The birds would feast on the flesh of fallen warriors and common people (19:18).
 2. Opposing Forces in the Final Battle (19:19)
 - a. John saw the beast, the kings of the earth, and their armies gathered for war (19:19a).
 - b. The armies of earth gathered to make war with the Lord Jesus Christ and His heavenly armies (19:19b).
 3. Christ’s Ultimate Victory in the Final Battle (19:20-21)
 - a. The beast and the false prophet were captured and thrown into the lake of fire (19:20).
 - b. The rider on the white horse destroyed the opposing armies with the sword from his mouth (19:21).

F. The Millennium (20:1-6)

1. The Binding of Satan (20:1-3)

- a. John saw an angel descend from heaven with a key to the Abyss (20:1).
- b. The angel overpowered Satan and bound him for one thousand years (20:2).
- c. The angel threw Satan into the Abyss to confine him for a thousand years (20:3).

2. The Raising of the Saints (20:4-6)

- a. John saw thrones with those who had authority to judge (20:4a).
- b. John saw Christian martyrs raised to life to reign for one thousand years (20:4b).
- c. Others would not be raised in the first resurrection but would be raised at the end of the thousand years (20:5).
- d. Those raised in the first resurrection are blessed to reign with Christ for one thousand years (20:6).

G. The Great White Throne (20:7-15)

1. Satan's Release and Final Doom (20:7-10)

- a. At the end of the Millennium Satan will be released (20:7).
- b. Satan will deceive the nations and gather a massive army (20:8).
- c. Satan's army will surround God's people but God will quickly destroy it (20:9).
- d. Satan will be thrown into the lake of fire to suffer forever (20:10).

2. The Judgment of the Wicked at the Great White Throne (20:11-15)

- a. John saw a great white throne on which sat One from whom earth and sky fled (20:11).
- b. John saw the dead standing before the throne and being judged according to their deeds recorded in the books (20:12-13).
- c. Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire, which is the second death (20:14).
- d. Anyone whose name was not found in the book of life was thrown into the lake of fire (20:15).

V. The Heavenly Jerusalem (21-22)

A. The New Heaven, New Earth, and New Jerusalem (21:1-8)

1. We look forward to a new, glorious, physical existence in eternity (21:1).
 - a. John saw a new heaven and a new earth (21:1).
 - b. John saw the new Jerusalem descending from heaven (21:2).
2. We look forward to the personal, comforting, protective presence of God (21:3-4).
 - a. John heard a loud voice proclaiming God's personal presence with His people (21:3).
 - b. The voice declared that God will wipe away every tear and remove all death, sorrow, and pain (21:4).
3. We look forward to a trustworthy, living, relational inheritance from Jesus Christ (21:5-8).
 - a. Jesus declared that He is making everything new (21:5).
 - b. Jesus promised to give freely from the water of life to all who are thirsty (21:6).
 - c. Jesus assured all spiritual victors that they will inherit the new Jerusalem (21:7).
 - d. Jesus warned that all the ungodly will experience the second death in the lake of fire (21:8).

B. The Design of the New Jerusalem (21:9-21)

1. Our future, eternal home will radiate the glory of God (21:9-14).
 - a. An angel invited John to examine the bride of the Lamb, the New Jerusalem (21:9-10).
 - b. The New Jerusalem brilliantly radiated the glory of God (21:11).
 - c. The New Jerusalem had a high wall with twelve gates bearing the names of the twelve tribes of Israel (21:12-13).
 - d. The New Jerusalem had twelve foundations bearing the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb (21:14).
2. Our future, eternal home will have sufficient room for all of us (21:15-17).
 - a. The angel measured the city's dimensions—it was 12,000 stadia long, wide, and high (21:15-16).
 - b. The angel measured the city's wall—it was 144 cubits thick (21:17).

3. Our future, eternal home will dazzle us with its beauty (21:18-21).
 - a. The wall of the city was made of jasper and the city itself of pure gold (21:18).
 - b. The twelve foundations of the city's wall were decorated with twelve different gemstones (21:19-20).
 - c. The twelve gates of the city were each made of a single pearl (21:21a).
 - d. The street of the city was made of pure gold (21:21b).

C. The Splendor of the New Jerusalem (21:22—22:5)

1. Some things will be missing in the heavenly Jerusalem, replaced by better things (21:22-27).
 - a. The city has no temple because God and the Lamb are its temple (21:22).
 - b. The city has no need for the sun and moon because God and the Lamb give it light (21:23-24).
 - c. The city has no night so its gates are never shut (21:25-26).
 - d. The city has no sin because only those whose names are in the Lamb's book of life will live there (21:27).
2. Some things will be restored in the heavenly Jerusalem, reflecting previous things (22:1-2).
 - a. As in the Garden of Eden, a river will run through the city (22:1-2a).
 - b. As in the Garden of Eden, a tree of life will continually bear fruit (22:2b).
3. God's people will be active in the heavenly Jerusalem, surpassing present things (22:3-5).
 - a. Relieved from the curse, God's people will serve Him (22:3-4).
 - b. Relieved from darkness, God's people will reign with Him (22:5).

D. An Invitation to the New Jerusalem (22:6-21)

1. We have an invitation to heaven based on God's revealed truth (22:6-11).
 - a. The angel told John that this revelation was true (22:6).
 - b. Jesus declared that He is coming soon (22:7).
 - c. The angel instructed John to worship God alone (22:8-9).
 - d. The angel instructed John not to seal this revelation since the time for its fulfillment is near (22:10-11).

2. We have an invitation to heaven based on Christ's redemptive authority (22:12-16).
 - a. Jesus declared that He is coming soon (22:12-13).
 - b. Jesus pronounced a blessing on all who wash their robes, granting access to the heavenly Jerusalem (22:14-15).
 - c. Jesus identified Himself as the source of this revelation and as the anticipated Messiah (22:16).

3. We have an invitation to heaven based on history's inevitable outcome (22:17-21).
 - a. John voiced an invitation for anyone to come (22:17).
 - b. John expressed a warning about this book (22:18-19).
 - c. John underscored Jesus' promise to come soon by declaring his own "amen" and invitation for Jesus' return (22:20-21).