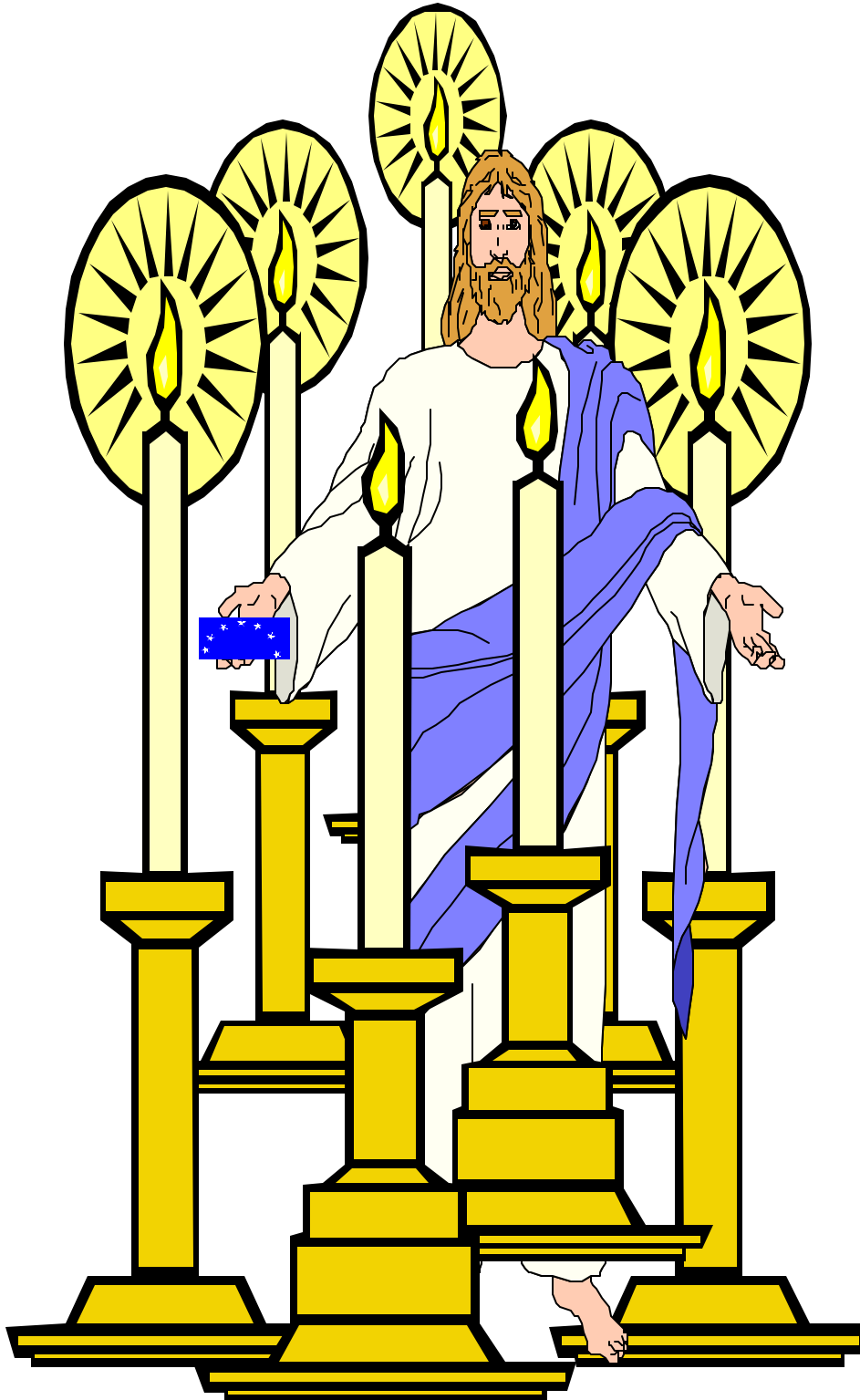


Revelation

c 1998 Ministry of the Saviour Wayne Deer

It was the Lord's day and I was worshipping in the Spirit. Suddenly, I heard a loud voice behind me, a voice that sounded like a trumpet blast. It said, "Write down what you see, and send it to the seven churches: Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia, and Laodicea."

When I turned to see who was speaking to me, I saw seven gold lampstands and standing in the middle of the lampstands was the Son of Man. He was wearing a white robe with a gold sash across his chest. His head and his hair were white like wool as white as snow. His eyes were bright like flames of fire. His feet were as bright as bronze refined and his voice thrndered like mighty ocean waves.



He held seven stars in his right hand, and a sharp two-edged sword came from his mouth. And his face was as bright as the sun in all its brilliance.

When I saw him, I fell at his feet as dead. But he laid his right hand on me and said, "Don't be afraid! I am the First and the Last. I am the living one who died, Look, I am alive forever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and the grave. Write down what you have seen both the things that are now happening and the things that will happen later. This is the meaning of the seven stars you saw in my right hand and the seven gold lampstands. The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands are the seven churches. NLT

ABOUT REVELATION

REVELATION OF JOHN

The last book of the Bible, and the only book of APOCALYPTIC LITERATURE in the New Testament. Apocalypse, the title of this book in the original Greek, means "unveiling" or "disclosure" of hidden things known only to God. Other examples of apocalyptic literature can be found in the Old Testament in Daniel <chaps. 7--12>, Isaiah <chaps. 24--27>, Ezekiel <chaps. 37--41>, and Zechariah <chaps. 9--12>.

Like its counterparts, the Book of Revelation depicts the end of the present age and the coming of God's future kingdom through symbols, images, and numbers. These symbols include an angel whose legs are pillars of fire, men who ride on horses while smiting the earth with plagues of destruction, and a fiery red dragon with seven heads and ten horns who crouches before a heavenly woman about to deliver a child.

Why was apocalyptic literature written in such imagery? One reason is that these books were written in dangerous times when it was safer to hide one's message in images than to speak plainly. Moreover, the symbolism preserved an element of mystery about details of time and place. The purpose of such symbolism, however, was not to confuse, but to inform and strengthen believers in the face of persecution.

Although the keys to some symbols have been lost, the overall message of this book is clear: God is all-powerful. No countermoves of the devil, no matter how strong, can frustrate the righteous purposes of God.

Structure of the Book. The Book of Revelation contains seven visions.

The first vision <chaps. 1--3> is of Christ Almighty exhorting His earthly church to remain loyal against all hostile attacks.

The second vision <chaps. 4--7> is of Christ the Lamb standing with a sealed scroll before God in heaven. As the Lamb opens each of the seven seals, which symbolize knowledge of the destinies of individuals and nations, a series of disasters befall the earth.

A series of seven angels blowing seven trumpets forms vision three <chaps. 8--11>. At the sound of these trumpets more disasters occur.

The fourth vision <chaps. 12--14> consists of the persecution of the church-- symbolized by a heavenly woman and by two witnesses (Moses and Elijah)-- by Satan and the beast.

Vision five <chaps. 15--16> is another series of seven: seven bowls pouring out God's wrath.

The judgment of Babylon (a symbol for Rome) forms the sixth vision <chaps. 17:1--19:10>.

The final victory, final judgment, and final blessedness form the seventh and final vision <chap. 19:11-22>.

The consummation of God's eternal kingdom finds expression in the word new. Christ comes with the promise to make all things new: a new heaven, a new earth, and a new Jerusalem <21>. The book closes with the sigh and longing of all Christians, "Come, Lord Jesus!" <22:20>.

Authorship and Date. The author identifies himself as John <1:4,9; 21:2; 22:8>, a prophet <1:1-4; 22:6-7>. He was familiar enough with his readers to call himself their "brother and companion in tribulation" <1:9>. He indicates that he was exiled to the island of PATMOS <1:9> off the west coast of ASIA MINOR (modern Turkey) and that on the "Lord's Day" (Sunday) he was caught up "in the Spirit" <1:10> and saw the visions recorded in his book. An examination of the Greek language of the book of Revelation reveals that it has some strong similarities with the Gospel and Epistles of John, but also some striking stylistic differences. The author seems to think in Hebrew and write in Greek.

As a whole, this evidence points to John the Apostle, who spent his latter years in Ephesus or on the island of Patmos. The earliest church tradition was unanimous in attributing the Book of Revelation to John. Although later voices have found problems with this identification, the apostle John remains the strongest candidate for authorship. The Book was probably written during the latter years of the reign of the Roman Emperor Domitian (A. D. 81-96).

Historical Setting. John tells us, "The seven heads [of the beast] are seven mountains" <17:9>, undoubtedly a reference to the famed seven hills of Rome. <Chapter 13> tells us that the dragon (Satan) gave authority to the beast (Rome) to exact worship from its inhabitants <v. 4>. The first Roman emperor to demand that his subjects address him as "Lord and God" on an empire-wide basis was Domitian. It was under Domitian that the apostle John was banished to Patmos. Christians, of course, were forbidden by the First Commandment <Ex. 20:3> to worship anyone other than God. In the Book of Revelation, John sounded the trumpet alert to Domitian's challenge.

ABOUT REVELATION

Theological Contribution. The grand theme of the Book of Revelation is that of two warring powers, God and Satan, and of God's ultimate victory. It would be a mistake to consider the two powers as equal in might. God is stronger than Satan, and Satan continues his scheming plots only because God permits him to do so. Thus, at the final battle Satan and his followers are utterly destroyed-- without a contest-- by fire from heaven <20:7-10>.

John portrays God's majesty and power through two key words. The first is the image of the throne. Elsewhere in the New Testament this word is found 15 times, but in Revelation it occurs 42 times! The throne stands for the rightful reign of God over the course of history. Angelic choruses bow before God's throne and chant, "Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty" <4:8>.

The second term is Almighty. Outside Revelation this term is found only once in the New Testament <2 Cor. 6:18>, but here it occurs nine times (once as Omnipotent in <19:6>). Almighty means "without contenders." No matter how fierce and wicked Satan may be, he cannot defeat God. In God's time and in His way He will fulfill His promises and accomplish His sovereign purpose in history.

The central figure in the army of God the King is Jesus Christ. The Book of Revelation begins with the words, "The Revelation of Jesus Christ" <1:1>. This is not a book of revelations, but of one revelation-- Jesus Christ. John's first vision is of Christ standing in the midst of His churches with eyes like fire (all-seeing), feet like fine brass (all-powerful), hair like wool, white as snow (eternal and allknowing), and with a sharp two-edged sword coming out of His mouth (the word of truth). Christ is "the First and the Last" <1:11; 22:13>, whose final promise is "Surely I am coming quickly" <22:20>.

Throughout the Book of Revelation Christ appears in various images, each illuminating a special function or characteristic. He appears as a lion <5:5>, representing royal power. As a root <5:5; 22:16>, He represents Davidic lineage. As the rider on a white horse <19:11>, He symbolizes victory over evil. Most important is the symbol of the Lamb who was slain <5:6>. By His sacrifice on the cross, Christ has redeemed humankind <1:5>. Because of His humble obedience to the will of the Father, He alone is worthy to open the sealed book that discloses events to come <5:6-10>.

This Lamb is victorious. He shares in the power of God's throne <7:17>. At the end of time, He will come in judgment <19:11>. Then He will reveal Himself as the Lord of the world who was foretold in the Old Testament <2:26; 12:5; 19:15> and the source of new life with God in the heavenly Jerusalem <21:22; 22:1>.

In its own way, each metaphor tells an important truth about Christ. Christ is before all things, and all things were created in Him and for Him. This is the abiding message of Revelation: Jesus Christ is the fulfillment of the hopes of believers, no matter how grim circumstances may appear.

Special Considerations. Revelation was written originally for first-century Christians who faced severe trials under a totalitarian political system. Its imagery reflects the historical realities of that time. This is not to say, however, that it is not also addressing succeeding generations, including our own. As is true of all biblical prophecy, God's Word comes to a particular situation; but it yields a harvest to later generations as they receive it. Thus, Revelation assures us that God is present, purposeful, and powerful today, no matter what forms the beast may take.

One of the unique characteristics of Revelation is its use of four, twelve, and seven. Thus, we find four living creatures, four horsemen, and four angels; twelve elders, twelve gates to the city of God, twelve foundations, and twelve varieties of fruit on the tree of life; and seven churches, seven spirits of God, seven thunders, seven seals, seven trumpets, seven bowls, and seven beatitudes. In apocalyptic literature these numbers represent completeness and perfection. Conversely, 3 1/2 is a number frequently associated with Satan <11:2; 13:5>; 42

(months or 3 1/2 years); this number symbolizes a fracturing and diminishing of God's unity.

With this in mind, the 144,000 elect in <chapter seven> should not be taken literally. Immediately following this passage <v. 9>, John mentions that he saw "a great multitude [of the redeemed] which no one could number." Actually, the 144,000 refers to martyrs-- 12,000 from each of the twelve tribes of Israel. One hundred and forty-four thousand (a multiple of 12,000 times 12) stands for totality. This means that no martyr will fail to see God's reward.

Finally, the number of the beast, 666 <Rev. 13:18>, probably refers to Nero, or more specifically to the idea that Nero would return alive to lead the armies of Satan against God. In Hebrew and Greek, letters of the alphabet also served as numbers, and in this case the numerical value of "Nero Caesar" amounts to 666, the number of the beast.

(from Nelson's Illustrated Bible Dictionary)

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ABOUT REVELATION

REVELATION

apokalupsis ⁶⁰², "an uncovering" (akin to apokalupto; see above), "is used in the NT of (a) the drawing away by Christ of the veil of darkness covering the Gentiles, <Luke 2:32>; cf. <Isa. 25:7>; (b) 'the mystery,' the purpose of God in this age, <Rom. 16:25; Eph. 3:3>; (c) the communication of the knowledge of God to the soul, <Eph. 1:17>; (d) an expression of the mind of God for the instruction of the church, <1 Cor. 14:6,26>, for the instruction of the Apostle Paul, <2 Cor. 12:1,7; Gal. 1:12>, and for his guidance, <Gal. 2:2>; (e) the Lord Jesus Christ, to the saints at His Parousia, <1 Cor. 1:7>, RV (KJV, 'coming'); <1 Pet. 1:7, RV (KJV, 'appearing'), <13; 4:13>; (f) the Lord Jesus Christ when He comes to dispense the judgments of God, <2 Thes. 1:7>; cf. <Rom. 2:5>; (g) the saints, to the creation, in association with Christ in His glorious reign, <Rom. 8:19>, RV, 'revealing' (KJV, 'manifestation'); (h) the symbolic forecast of the final judgments of God, <Rev. 1:1> (hence the Greek title of the book, transliterated 'Apocalypse' and translated 'Revelation')." See APPEARING, COMING, LIGHTEN, B, Note, MANIFESTATION.#

From Notes on Thessalonians, by Hogg and Vine, pp. 228, 229.

(from Vine's Expository Dictionary of Biblical Words)

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602 apokalupsis (ap-ok-al'-oop-sis); from 601; disclosure:
KJV-- appearing, coming, lighten, manifestation, be revealed, revelation.

The book gives things past, things present, and things to come.

The book gives seven sevens with five parenthetical passages:

- | | |
|-------------------------|------------|
| 1. The seven churches | 2:1-3:22 |
| 2. The seven seals | 4:1-8:1 |
| 3. The seven trumpets | 8:2-11:19 |
| 4. The seven personages | 12:1-14:20 |
| 5. The seven vials | 15:1-16:21 |
| 6. The seven dooms | 17:1-20:15 |
| 7. The seven new things | 21:1-22:21 |

The five parenthetical passages are:

- | | |
|--|------------|
| 1. The Jewish remnant and tribulation saints | 7:1-17 |
| 2. The angle, the little book, two witnesses | 10:1-11:14 |
| 3. The Lamb, the remnant, the everlasting gospel | 14:1-13 |
| 4. The gathering of kings at Armageddon | 16:13-16 |
| 5. The four alleluias in heaven | 19:1-6 |

The Revelation Given to John by Jesus Christ From God

Chapter 1:

This is the revelation from Jesus Christ which God gave him to make known to His servants things which will soon happen. An angel was sent to God's servant John so that John could share the revelation with God's other servants. John in turn testifies to the word of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ telling both what he heard and everything he saw. Blessed, happy, and to be envied is the man who reads aloud in the assemblies the word of this prophecy and blessed, happy, and to be envied are those who hear it read and who deep themselves true to the things which are written in it, heeding them and laying them to heart for the time for them to be fulfilled is near.

This letter is from John to the seven churches in the province of Asia. Grace and peace from the one who is, who always was, and who is still to come and from the sevenfold Spirit before his throne (*It is written in Isaiah 11:2: And the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD;*) and from Jesus Christ who is the faithful witness these things, the first to rise from the dead, and the commander of all the rulers of the world. Unto him that loved us and has once for all loosed and freed us from our sins by His own blood, and formed us into his kingdom, and his priests to serve before God his Father. It is written in Isaiah 61:6: *But ye shall be named the Priests of the LORD: men shall call you the Ministers of our God: ye shall eat the riches of the Gentiles, and in their glory shall ye boast yourselves.* Give to Him everlasting glory and power and majesty and dominion for he rules forever and ever. It is written in Psalms 89:27: *Also I will make him my firstborn, higher than the kings of the earth.*

Look! He comes with the clouds of heaven. It is written in Daniel 7:13: *I saw in the night visions, and, behold, one like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him.14: And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed. See Zech.12:8-11* Everyone shall see him, even those who pierced him. All of the nations of the earth will weep in sorrow and terror when he comes. It must be so! "I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end." says the Lord God. "I am the one who is , who always was and who is still to come, the Almighty One." For it is written in Isaiah.9:6: *For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.*

THE FIRST VISION

JESUS THE SON OF MAN

Rev 1:9-20

I, John, your brother and fellow partaker in the tribulation and kingdom and perseverance which are in Jesus, was on the island called Patmos, because of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like the sound of a WAR trumpet, saying, **"Write in a book what you see, and send it to the seven churches: to Ephesus and to Smyrna and to Pergamum and to Thyatira and to Sardis and to Philadelphia and to Laodicea."**

And I turned to see the whose was the voice that was speaking with me. And having turned I saw seven golden lampstands; and in the middle of the lampstands one like a son of man, clothed in a robe reaching to the feet, and girded across His breast with a golden girdle. It is written in Daniel 10:5: *Then I lifted up mine eyes, and looked, and behold a certain man clothed in linen, whose loins were girded with fine gold of Uphaz:* And His head and His hair were white like white wool, like snow; and His eyes were like a flame of fire; and His feet were like burnished bronze, when it has been caused to glow in a furnace, and His voice was like the sound of many waters. And in His right hand He held seven stars; and out of His mouth came a sharp two-edged sword; and His face was like the sun shining in its strength. It is written in Daniel 7:9: *I beheld till the thrones were cast down, and the Ancient of days did sit, whose garment was white as snow, and the hair of his head like the pure wool: his throne was like the fiery flame, and his wheels as burning fire.* And when I saw Him, I fell at His feet as a dead man. And He laid His right hand upon me, saying, **"Do not be afraid; I am the first and the last, and the living One;** (It is written in Isaiah 44:6: *Thus saith the LORD the King of Israel, and his redeemer the LORD of hosts; I am the first, and I am the last; and beside me there is no God.* **and I was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of death and of Hades. "Write therefore the things which you have seen, and the things which are, and the things which shall take place after these things. "As for the mystery of the seven stars which you saw in My right hand, and the seven golden lampstands: the seven stars are the angels of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands are the seven churches. (NAS)**

THE MESSAGE TO THE CHURCH AT EPHESUS

Rev 2:1-7

"To the angel of the church in Ephesus write:

the One who holds the seven stars in His right hand, the One who walks among the seven golden lampstands, says this: I know your deeds and your toil and perseverance, and that you cannot endure evil men, and you put to the test those who call themselves apostles, and they are not, and you found them to be false; As written in I John 4:1-2: *Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world. Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God:* and you have perseverance and have endured for My name's sake, and have not grown weary.

'But I have this against you, that you have left your first love and you no longer love me and others as you did at first look how far you have fallen from your first love. 'Remember therefore from where you have fallen, and repent and do the deeds you did at first; or else I am coming to you, and will remove your lampstand out of its place-- unless you repent. 'Yet this you do have, that you hate the deeds of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate.

'He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes, I will grant to eat of the tree of life, which is in the Paradise of God.' (NAS) Anyone who is willing to hear should listen to the Spirit and understand what the Spirit is saying to the churches. Everyone who is victorious will eat from the tree of life in the paradise of God.

1st Church

May also represent the first church age before 315 A.D.



THE MESSAGE TO THE CHURCH IN SMYRNA

Rev 2:8-11

"And to the angel of the church in Smyrna write:

The first and the last, who was dead, and has come to life, says this: 'I know your tribulation and sorrow and your poverty (but you are rich!), and the slander and blasphemy by those who say they are Jews and are not, but are a synagogue of Satan.

'Do not fear what you are about to suffer. Behold, the devil is about to cast some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and you will have tribulation ten days. Be faithful even when facing death, and I will give you the crown of life.

'He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. He who overcomes shall not be hurt by the second death.' (NAS) Anyone who is willing to hear should listen to the Spirit and understand what the Spirit is saying to the churches. Whoever is victorious will not be hurt by the second death.



2nd Church
May also represent the second church age under a period of great persecutions until 316 A.D.

THE MESSAGE TO THE CHURCH IN PERGAMUM

Rev 2:12-17

"And to the angel of the church in Pergamum write:

The One who has the sharp two-edged sword says this: 'I know where you dwell, where Satan's throne is; and you hold fast My name, and did not deny My faith, even in the days of Antipas, My witness, My faithful one, who was killed among you, where Satan dwells.

'But I have a few things against you, because you have there some who hold the teaching of Balaam, who kept teaching Balak to put a stumbling block before the sons of Israel, to eat things sacrificed to idols, and to commit acts of immorality. 'Thus you also have some who in the same way hold the teaching of the Nicolaitans. 'Repent therefore; or else I am coming to you quickly, and I will make war against them with the sword of My mouth.

'He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes, to him I will give some of the hidden manna, and I will give him a white stone, and a new name written on the stone which no one knows but he who receives it.' (NAS) Anyone who is willing to hear should listen to the Spirit and understand what the spirit is saying to the churches. Everyone who is victorious will eat of the manna that has been hidden away in heaven. And I will give to each one a white stone, and on the stone will be engraved a new name that no one knows except the one who receives it.

3rd Church

May also represent the third church age
316 A.D. until Jesus returns.



THE MESSAGE TO THE CHURCH IN THYATIRA

Rev 2:18-29

"And to the angel of the church in Thyatira write:

The Son of God, who has eyes like a flame of fire, and His feet are like burnished bronze, says this: 'I know your deeds, and your love and faith and service and perseverance, and that your deeds of late are greater than at first.

'But I have this against you, that you tolerate the woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess, and she teaches and leads My bond-servants astray, so that they commit acts of immorality and eat things sacrificed to idols. 'And I gave her time to repent; and she does not want to repent of her immorality. 'Behold, I will cast her upon a bed of sickness, and those who commit adultery with her into great tribulation, unless they repent of her deeds. 'And I will kill her children with pestilence; and all the churches will know that I am He who searches the minds and hearts; and I will give to each one of you according to your deeds. 'But I say to you, the rest who are in Thyatira, who do not hold this teaching, who have not known the deep things of Satan, as they call them-- I place no other burden on you. 'Nevertheless what you have, hold fast until I come.

'And he who overcomes, and he who keeps My deeds until the end, to him I will give authority over the nations; and he shall rule them with a rod of iron, as the vessels of the potter are broken to pieces, as I also have received authority from My Father; and I will give him the morning star. 'He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.'

(NAS) Anyone who is willing to hear should listen to the Spirit and understand what the Spirit is saying to the churches.

4th Church
May represent the fourth church age
500-1500 A.D.



THE MESSAGE TO THE CHURCH IN SARDIS

Rev 3:1-6

"And to the angel of the church in Sardis write:

He who has the seven Spirits of God, and the seven stars, says this: 'I know your deeds, that you have a name that you are alive, but you are dead. 'Wake up, and strengthen the things that remain, which were about to die; for I have not found your deeds completed in the sight of My God. 'Remember therefore what you have received and heard; and keep it, and repent.

If therefore you will not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what hour I will come upon you. 'But you have a few people in Sardis who have not soiled their garments; and they will walk with Me in white; for they are worthy.

'He who overcomes shall thus be clothed in white garments; and I will not erase his name from the book of life, and I will confess his name before My Father, and before His angels.

'He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.' (NAS) Anyone who is willing to hear should listen to the Spirit and understand what the Spirit is saying to the churches.

5th Church

May also represent the fifth church age which is the period of the reformations.



THE MESSAGE TO THE CHURCH IN PHILADELPHIA

Rev 3:7-13

"And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write: He who is holy, who is true, who has the key of David, who opens and no one will shut, and who shuts and no one opens, says this: 'I know your deeds. Behold, I have put before you an open door which no one can shut, because you have a little power, and have kept My word, and have not denied My

name. 'Behold, I will cause those of the synagogue of Satan, who say that they are Jews, and are not, but lie-- behold, I will make them to come and bow down at your feet, and to know that I have loved you.

'Because you have kept the word of My perseverance, I also will keep you from the hour of testing, that hour which is about to come upon the whole world, to test those who dwell upon the earth.

'I am coming quickly; hold fast what you have, in order that no one take your crown. 'He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God, and he will not go out from it anymore; and I

will write upon him the name of My God, and the name of the city of My God, the new Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from My God, and My new name.

'He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.' (NAS) Anyone who is willing to hear should listen to the Spirit and understand what the Spirit is saying to the churches.

6th Church

May also represent the 6th church age which is the true church within the professing church.



THE MESSAGE TO THE CHURCH IN LAODICEA

Rev 3:14-22

"And to the angel of the church in Laodicea write:

The Amen, the faithful and true Witness, the Beginning of the creation of God, says this: 'I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot; I would that you were cold or hot. 'So because you are lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, I will spit you out of My mouth. 'Because you say, "I am rich, and have become wealthy, and have need of nothing," and you do not know that you are wretched and miserable and poor and blind and naked,

I advise you to buy from Me gold re-fined by fire, that you may become rich, and white garments, that you may clothe yourself, and that the shame of your nakedness may not be revealed; and eye salve to anoint your eyes, that you may see. 'Those whom I love, I re-prove and discipline; be zealous therefore, and repent. 'Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him, and will dine with him, and he with Me.

'He who overcomes, I will grant to him to sit down with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne. 'He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.' " (NAS)

Anyone who is willing to hear should listen to the Spirit and understand what the Spirit is saying to the churches.

7th Church

May be also the seventh church age which is the final state of apostasy.



HEAVENLY THINGS: WORSHIP HIM WHO SITS ON THE THRONE

Rev 4:1-11

After this I looked, and there before me was a door standing open in heaven. And the voice I had first heard before speaking to me like the sound of a mighty trumpet said, **"Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after this."** At once I was in the Spirit, and there before me I saw a throne in heaven with someone sitting on it. And the one who sat there had the brilliant appearance of jasper and carnelian. A rainbow, resembling an emerald, encircled the throne.

Surrounding the throne were twenty-four other thrones, and seated on them were twenty-four elders. They were dressed in white and had crowns of gold on their heads. From the throne came flashes of lightning, rumblings and peals of thunder. Before the throne, seven lamps were blazing. These are the seven spirits of God. Also before the throne there was what looked like a sea of glass, clear as crystal. In the center, around the throne, were four living creatures, and they were covered with eyes, in front and in back.

The first living creature was like a lion, the second was like an ox, the third had a face like a man, the fourth was like a flying eagle with wings spread out. Each of the four living creatures had six wings and was covered with eyes all around, even under his wings. Day and night they never stop saying: *"Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty, who was, and is, and is to come."* Whenever the living creatures give glory, honor and thanks to him who sits on the throne and who lives for ever and ever, the twenty-four elders fall down before him who sits on the throne, and worship him who lives for ever and ever. They lay their crowns before the throne and say: *"You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being."* (NIV)

Ezekiel 1:1 I was among the captives by the river of Chebar, that the heavens were opened, and I saw visions of God.

Daniel 2:29: As for thee, O king, thy thoughts came into thy mind upon thy bed, what should come to pass hereafter: and he that revealeth secrets maketh known to thee what shall come to pass.

Zechariah 4:2: And said unto me, What seest thou? And I said, I have looked, and behold a candlestick all of gold, with a bowl upon the top of it, and his seven lamps thereon, and seven pipes to the seven lamps, which are upon the top thereof:

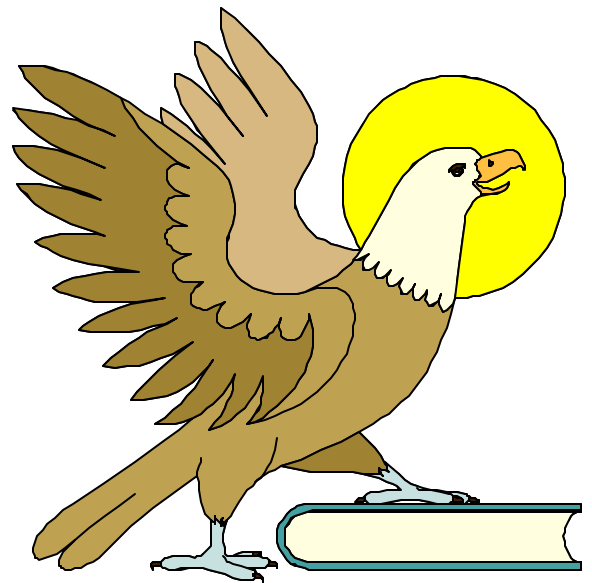
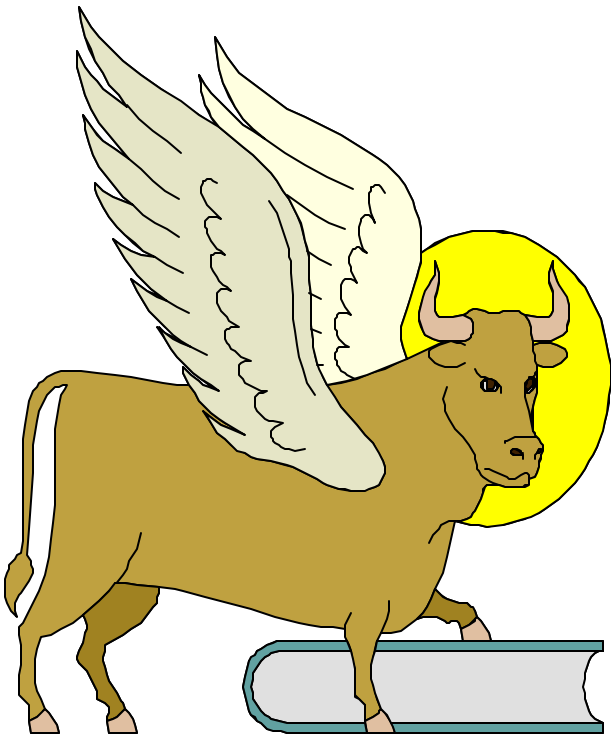
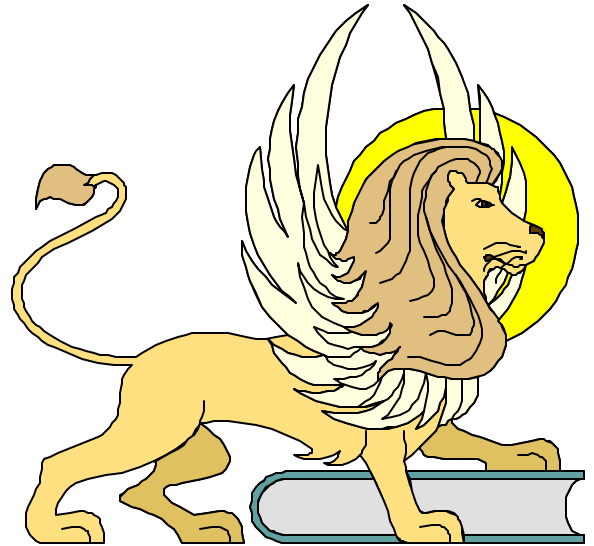
3: And two olive trees by it, one upon the right side of the bowl, and the other upon the left side thereof.

4: So I answered and spake to the angel that talked with me, saying, What are these, my lord?

5: Then the angel that talked with me answered and said unto me, Knowest thou not what these be? And I said, No, my lord.

6: Then he answered and spake unto me, saying, This is the word of the LORD unto Zerubbabel, saying, Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the LORD of hosts.

THE FOUR LIVING CREATURES



THE SCROLL WITH SEVEN SEALS

CHAPTER 5

Isiah 29:11: And the vision of all is become unto you as the words of a book that is sealed, which men deliver to one that is learned, saying, Read this, I pray thee: and he saith, I cannot; for it is sealed:

Ezek 2:9: And when I looked, behold, an hand was sent unto me; and, lo, a roll of a book was therein;

10: And he spread it before me; and it was written within and without: and there was written therein lamentations, and mourning, and woe.

Daniel 12:4: But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased.

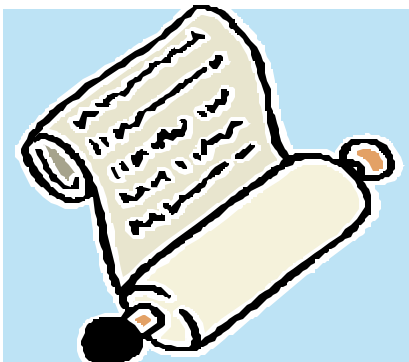
I Chr. 29:11: Thine, O LORD, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty: for all that is in the heaven and in the earth is thine; thine is the kingdom, O LORD, and thou art exalted as head above all.

Then I saw in the right hand of him who sat on the throne a scroll with writing on both sides and sealed with seven seals. And I saw a mighty angel proclaiming in a loud voice, "Who is worthy to break the seals and open the scroll?" But no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth could open the scroll or even look inside it. I wept and wept because no one was found who was worthy to open the scroll or look inside. Then one of the elders said to me, "Do not weep! See, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has triumphed. He is able to open the scroll and its seven seals."

Isaiah 11:10: And in that day there shall be a root of Jesse, which shall stand for an ensign of the people; to it shall the Gentiles seek: and his rest shall be glorious.

Then I saw a Lamb, looking as if it had been slain, standing in the center of the throne, encircled by the four living creatures and the elders. He had seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth. He came and took the scroll from the right hand of him who sat on the throne. And when he had taken it, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb. Each one had a harp and they were holding golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints.

Psalms 144:9: I will sing a new song unto thee, O God: upon a psaltery and an instrument of ten strings will I sing



THEY SANG A NEW SONG

And they sang a new song:
"You are worthy to take the
scroll and to open its seals,
because you were slain, and
with your blood you purchased
men for God from every tribe
and language and people and nation.
You have made them to be a kingdom
and priests to serve our God, and
they will reign on the earth."

Then I looked and heard the voice of many
angels, numbering thousands upon thousands, and ten
thousand times ten thousand. They encircled the
throne and the living creatures and the elders.

In a loud voice they sang:

"Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain,
to receive power and wealth and wisdom
and strength and honor and glory and praise!"

Then I heard every creature in heaven and on
earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all that is in them, singing:

"To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb
be praise and honor and glory and power,
for ever and ever!"

The four living creatures said, "Amen," and the elders fell down and worshiped. (NIV)



THE LAMB BREAKS THE SEALS

CHAPTER 6

I watched as the Lamb opened the first of the seven seals. Then I heard one of the four living creatures say in a voice like thunder, "Come!"

I looked, and there before me was a **white horse!** Its rider held a bow, and he was given a crown, and he rode out as a conqueror bent on conquest. (A king or world leader in authority, the antichrist, riding a white horse which is the symbol of peace but having the ability to make war as represented by the bow and power to overcome any nation of the earth which resists him.)

When the Lamb opened the second seal, I heard the second living creature say, "Come!"

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. (The antichrist, came with the symbol for peace but he brings war.)

When the Lamb opened the third seal, I heard the third living creature say, "Come!" I looked, and there before me was a **black horse!** Its rider was holding a pair of scales in his hand. (War brings famine and food shortages so that it takes a day's work to buy a quart of wheat!) Then I heard what sounded like a voice among the four living creatures, saying, "A quart of wheat for a day's wages, and three quarts of barley for a day's wages, and do not damage the oil and the wine!"

When the Lamb opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth living creature say, "Come!" I looked, and there before me was a **pale horse!** Its rider was named Death, and Hades was following close behind him. (Famine is followed by death and Hell for those who know not the saving power of Jesus Christ because death is not the end but the beginning of judgment for those who are lost.) They were given power over a fourth of the earth to kill by sword, famine and plague, and by the wild beasts of the earth.

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.** They called out in a loud voice, "How long, Sovereign Lord, holy and true, until you judge the inhabitants of the earth and avenge our blood?" Then each of them was given a white robe, and they were told to wait a little longer, until the number of their fellow servants and brothers who were to be killed as they had been was completed. (More believers have been killed for the cause of Christ in the last hundred years than in all of the time from Jesus until 1900 and it appears that they are anxious for God to bring judgment and justice to the world.)

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,** and the stars in the sky fell to earth, as late figs drop from a fig tree when shaken by a strong wind. The sky receded like a scroll, rolling up, and every mountain and island was removed from its place. Then the kings of the earth, the princes, the generals, the rich, the mighty, and every slave and every free man hid in caves and among the rocks of the mountains. They called to the mountains and the rocks, "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 their wrath has come, and who can stand?" (NIV) (It has started, not a gradual increase of earthquakes but an exponential increase, El neno is just one of the winds, islands will disappear and maps will change. The wrath of God is mighty!)

HOLD THAT SEVENTH SEAL FOR THE SAVED OF THE LORD

CHAPTER 7

After this I saw four angels standing at the four corners of the earth, holding back the four winds of the earth to prevent any wind from blowing on the land or on the sea or on any tree.

Then I saw another angel coming up from the east, having the seal of the living God. He called out in a loud voice to the four angels who had been given power to harm the land and the sea: "Do not harm the land or the sea or the trees until we put a seal on the foreheads of the servants of our God."

Then I heard the number of those who were sealed: 144,000 from all the tribes of Israel.
From the tribe of Judah 12,000 were sealed,
from the tribe of Reuben 12,000,
from the tribe of Gad 12,000,
from the tribe of Asher 12,000,
from the tribe of Naphtali 12,000,
from the tribe of Manasseh 12,000,
from the tribe of Simeon 12,000,
from the tribe of Levi 12,000,
from the tribe of Issachar 12,000,
from the tribe of Zebulun 12,000,
from the tribe of Joseph 12,000,
from the tribe of Benjamin 12,000.

The number 12 represents divine administration.
These numbers represent the number of people brought to salvation according to the perfect will of God exactly as He had planned before the foundations of the Earth.
144,000 is 12 X 12 one thousand fold.

After this I looked and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and in front of the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. And they cried out in a loud voice: "Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb."

All the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures. They fell down on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, people and language, standing before the throne and in front of the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. saying: "Amen! Praise and glory and wisdom and thanks and honor and power and strength be to our God for ever and ever. Amen!"

Then one of the elders asked me, "These in white robes-- who are they, and where did they come from?" I answered, "Sir, you know." And he said, "These are they who have come out of the great tribulation; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Therefore, "they are before the throne of God and serve him day and night in his temple; and he who sits on the throne will spread his tent over them. Never again will they hunger; never again will they thirst. The sun will not beat upon them, nor any scorching heat. For the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd; he will lead them to springs of living water. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes." (NIV)

THE SEVENTH SEAL IS BROKEN FROM IT ARE SEVEN TRUMPETS

CHAPTER 8

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. Another angel, who had a golden censer, came and stood at the altar. He was given much incense to offer, with the prayers of all the saints, on the golden altar before the throne. The smoke of the incense, together with the prayers of the saints, went up before God from the angel's hand.

Then the angel took the censer, filled it with fire from the altar, and hurled it on the earth; and there came peals of thunder, rumblings, flashes of lightning and an earthquake. Then the seven angels who had the seven trumpets prepared to sound them.

The first angel sounded his trumpet, and there came hail and fire mixed with blood, and it was hurled down upon the earth. A third of the earth was burned up, a third of the trees were burned up, and all the green grass was burned up.



The second angel sounded his trumpet, and something like a huge mountain, all ablaze, was thrown into the sea. A third of the sea turned into blood, a third of the living creatures in the sea died, and a third of the ships were destroyed.

The third angel sounded his trumpet, and a great star, blazing like a torch, fell from the sky on a third of the rivers and on the springs of water-- the name of the star is Wormwood. A third of the waters turned bitter, and many people died from the waters that had become bitter.



The fourth angel sounded his trumpet, and a third of the sun was struck, a third of the moon, and a third of the stars, so that a third of them turned dark. A third of the day was without light, and also a third of the night.

As I watched, I heard an eagle that was flying in midair call out in a loud voice: "Woe! Woe! Woe to the inhabitants of the earth, because of the trumpet blasts about to be sounded by the other three angels!" (NIV)

THE LAST THREE TRUMPETS

Chapter 9:



The fifth angel sounded his trumpet, and I saw a star that had fallen from the sky to the earth. The star was given the key to the shaft of the Abyss. When he opened the Abyss, smoke rose from it like the smoke from a gigantic furnace. The sun and sky were darkened by the smoke from the Abyss. And out of the smoke locusts came down upon the earth and were given power like that of scorpions of the earth.

They were told not to harm the grass of the earth or any plant or tree, but only those people who did not have the seal of God on their foreheads. They were not given power to kill them, but only to torture them for five months. And the agony they suffered was like that of the sting of a scorpion when it strikes a man. During those days men will seek death, but will not find it; they will long to die, but death will elude them.

The locusts looked like horses prepared for battle. On their heads they wore something like crowns of gold, and their faces resembled human faces. Their hair was like women's hair, and their teeth were like lions' teeth. They had breastplates like breastplates of iron, and the sound of their wings was like the thundering of many horses and chariots rushing into battle. They had tails and stings like scorpions, and in their tails they had power to torment people for five months. They had as king over them the angel of the Abyss, whose name in Hebrew is Abaddon, and in Greek, Apollyon. The first woe is past; two other woes are yet to come.



The sixth angel sounded his trumpet, and I heard a voice coming from the horns of the golden altar that is before God. It said to the sixth angel who had the trumpet, "Release the four angels who are bound at the great river Euphrates." And the four angels who had been kept ready for this very hour and day and month and year were released to kill a third of mankind. The number of the mounted troops was two hundred million. I heard their number. The horses and riders I saw in my vision looked like this: Their breastplates were fiery red, dark blue, and yellow as sulfur. The heads of the horses resembled the heads of lions, and out of their mouths came fire, smoke and sulfur. A third of mankind was killed by the

three plagues of fire, smoke and sulfur that came out of their mouths. The power of the horses was in their mouths and in their tails; for their tails were like snakes, having heads with which they inflict injury.

The rest of mankind that were not killed by these plagues still did not repent of the work of their hands; they did not stop worshipping demons, and idols of gold, silver, bronze, stone and wood-- idols that cannot see or hear or walk. Nor did they repent of their murders, their magic arts, their sexual immorality or their thefts.

Rev 11:15-19



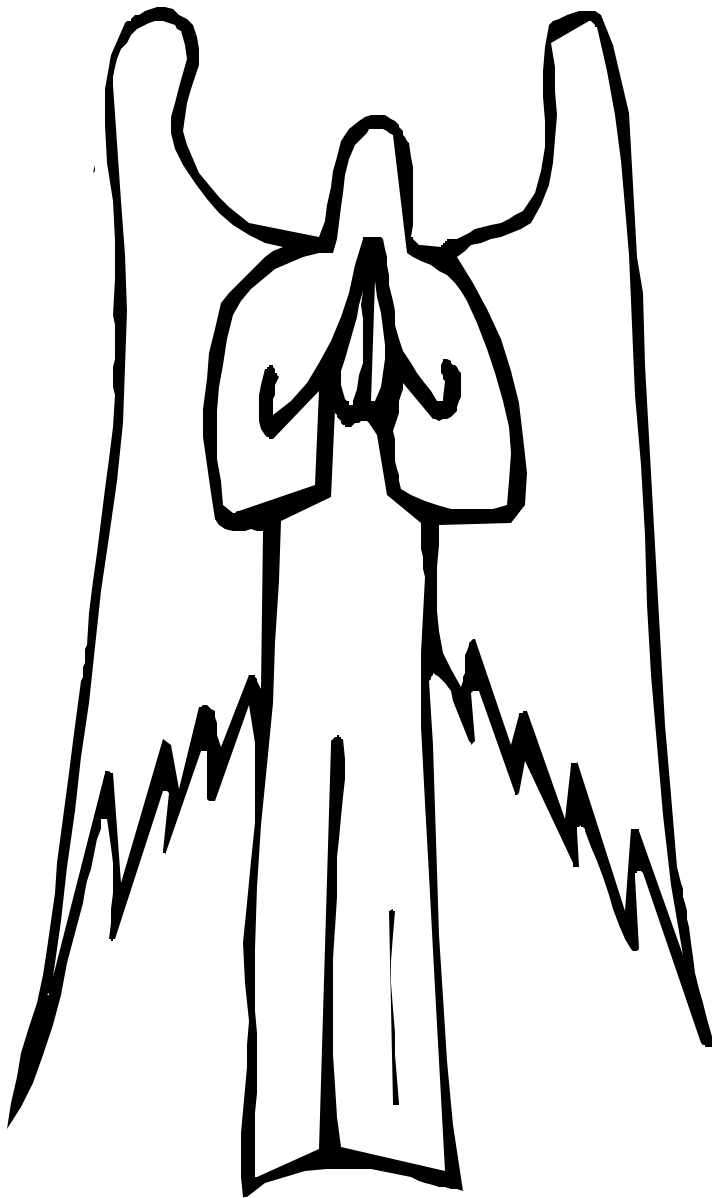
The seventh angel sounded his trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven, which said: "The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he will reign for ever and ever." And the twenty-four elders, who were seated on their thrones before God, fell on their faces and worshiped God, saying: "We give thanks to you, Lord God Almighty, the One who is and who was, because you have taken your great power and have begun to reign. The nations were angry; and your wrath has come. The time has come for judging the dead, and for rewarding your servants the prophets and your saints and those who reverence your name, both small and great-- and for destroying those who

destroy the earth." Then God's temple in heaven was opened, and within his temple was seen the ark of his covenant. And there came flashes of lightning, rumblings, peals of thunder, an earthquake and a great hailstorm. (NIV)

THE MIGHTY ANGLE AND THE LITTLE BOOK

CHAPTER 10

And I saw another strong angel coming down out of heaven, clothed with a cloud; and the rainbow was upon his head, and his face was like the sun, and his feet like pillars of fire; and he had in his hand a little book which was open.



And he placed his right foot on the sea and his left on the land; and he cried out with a loud voice, as when a lion roars; and when he had cried out, the seven peals of thunder uttered their voices. And when the seven peals of thunder had spoken, I was about to write; and I heard a voice from heaven saying, "Seal up the things which the seven peals of thunder have spoken, and do not write them." And the angel whom I saw standing on the sea and on the land lifted up his right hand to heaven, and swore by Him who lives forever and ever, who created heaven and the things in it, and the earth and the things in it, and the sea and the things in it, that there shall be delay no longer, but in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he is about to sound, then the mystery of God is finished, as He preached to His servants the prophets.

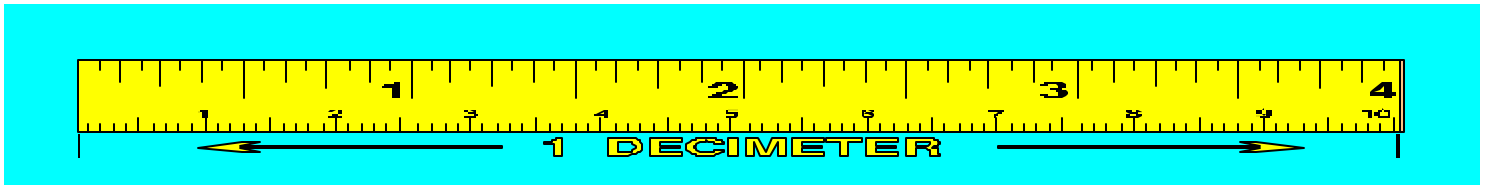
And the voice which I heard from heaven, I heard again speaking with me, and saying, "Go, take the book which is open in the hand of the angel who stands on the sea and on the land." And I went to the angel, telling him to give me the little book. And he said to me, "Take it, and eat it; and it will make your stomach bitter, but in your mouth it will be sweet as honey." And I took the little book out of the angel's hand and ate it, and it was in my mouth sweet as honey; and when I had eaten it, my stomach was made bitter. And they said to me, "You must prophesy again concerning many peoples and nations and tongues and kings." (NAS)

“TIMES OF THE GENTILES”

CHAPTER 11

And there was given me a measuring rod like a staff; and someone said, "Rise and measure the temple of God, and the altar, and those who worship in it. "And leave out the court which is outside the temple, and do not measure it, for it has been given to the nations; and they will tread under foot the holy city for forty-two months. "And I will grant authority to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy for twelve hundred and sixty days, clothed in sackcloth."

These are the two olive trees and the two lampstands that stand before the Lord of the earth. And if anyone desires to harm them, fire proceeds out of their mouth and devours their enemies; and if anyone would desire to harm them, in this manner he must be killed. These have the power to shut up the sky, in order that rain may not fall during the days of their prophesying; and they have power over the waters to turn them into blood, and to smite the



earth with every plague, as often as they desire.

And when they have finished their testimony, the beast that comes up out of the abyss will make war with them, and overcome them and kill them. And their dead bodies will lie in the street of the great city which mystically is called Sodom and Egypt, where also their Lord was crucified. And those from the peoples and tribes and tongues and nations will look at their dead bodies for three and a half days, and will not permit their dead bodies to be laid in a tomb. And those who dwell on the earth will rejoice over them and make merry; and they will send gifts to one another, because these two prophets tormented those who dwell on the earth. And after the three and a half days the breath of life from God came into them, and they stood on their feet; and great fear fell upon those who were beholding them.

And they heard a loud voice from heaven saying to them, "Come up here." And they went up into heaven in the cloud, and their enemies beheld them. And in that hour there was a great earthquake, and a tenth of the city fell; and seven thousand people were killed in the earthquake, and the rest were terrified and gave glory to the God of heaven. The second woe is past; behold, the third woe is coming quickly.

And the seventh angel sounded; and there arose loud voices in heaven, saying, "The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord, and of His Christ; and He will reign forever and ever." And the twenty-four elders, who sit on their thrones before God, fell on their faces and worshiped God, saying, "We give Thee thanks, O Lord God, the Almighty, who art and who wast, because Thou hast taken Thy great power and hast begun to reign. "And the nations were enraged, and Thy wrath came, and the time came for the dead to be judged, and the time to give their reward to Thy bond-servants the prophets and to the saints and to those who fear Thy name, the small and the great, and to destroy those who destroy the earth." And the temple of God which is in heaven was opened; and the ark of His covenant appeared in His temple, and there were flashes of lightning and sounds and peals of thunder and an earthquake and a great hailstorm. (NAS)

THE WOMAN, SATAN CHRIST & WAR

CHAPTER 12

And a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars; and she was with child; and she cried out, being in labor and in pain to give birth.

And another sign appeared in heaven: and behold, a great red dragon having seven heads and ten horns, and on his heads were seven diadems. And his tail swept away a third of the stars of heaven, and threw them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the woman who was about to give birth, so that when she gave birth he might devour her child.

And she gave birth to a son, a male child, who is to rule all the nations with a rod of iron; and her child was caught up to God and to His throne. And the woman fled into the wilderness where she had a place prepared by God, so that there she might be nourished for one thousand two hundred and sixty days.

And there was war in heaven, Michael and his angels waging war with the dragon. And the dragon and his angels waged war, and they were not strong enough, and there was no longer a place found for them in heaven.

And the great dragon was thrown down, the serpent of old who is called the devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him. And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, "Now the salvation, and the power, and the kingdom of our God and the authority of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren has been thrown down, who accuses them before our God day and night.

"And they overcame him because of the blood of the Lamb and because of the word of their testimony, and they did not love their life even to death. "For this reason, rejoice, O heavens and you who dwell in them. Woe to the earth and the sea, because the devil has come down to you, having great wrath, knowing that he has only a short time."

And when the dragon saw that he was thrown down to the earth, he persecuted the woman who gave birth to the male child. And the two wings of the great eagle were given to the woman, in order that she might fly into the wilderness to her place, where she was nourished for a time and times and half a time, from the presence of the serpent. And the serpent poured water like a river out of his mouth after the woman, so that he might cause her to be swept away with the flood.

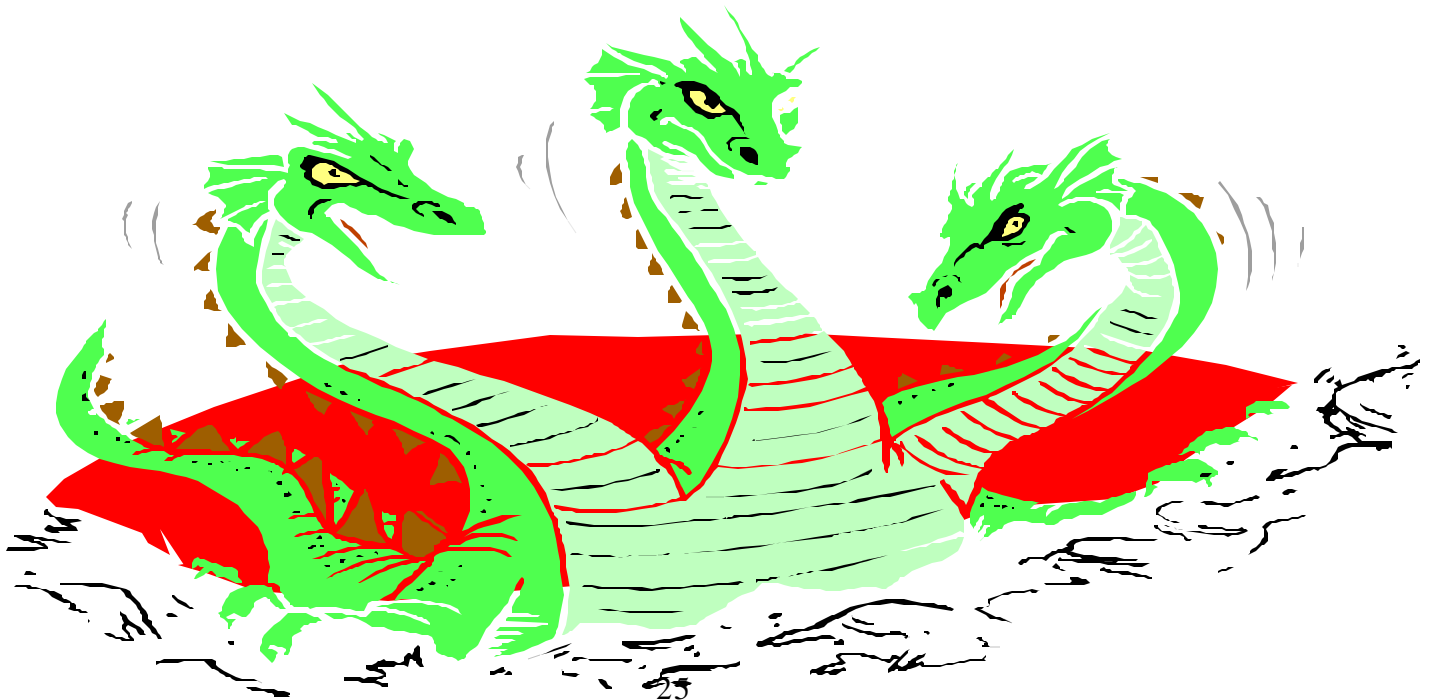
And the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened its mouth and drank up the river which the dragon poured out of his mouth. And the dragon was enraged with the woman, and went off to make war with the rest of her offspring, who keep the commandments of God and hold to the testimony of Jesus. (NAS)

THE BEAST FROM THE SEA

CHAPTER 13

And he stood on the sand of the seashore. And I saw a beast coming up out of the sea, having ten horns and seven heads, and on his horns were ten diadems, and on his heads were blasphemous names. And the beast which I saw was like a leopard, and his feet were like those of a bear, and his mouth like the mouth of a lion. And the dragon gave him his power and his throne and great authority. And I saw one of his heads as if it had been slain, and his fatal wound was healed. And the whole earth was amazed and followed after the beast; and they worshiped the dragon, because he gave his authority to the beast; and they worshiped the beast, saying, "Who is like the beast, and who is able to wage war with him?"

And there was given to him a mouth speaking arrogant words and blasphemies; and authority to act for forty-two months was given to him. And he opened his mouth in blasphemies against God, to blaspheme His name and His tabernacle, that is, those who dwell in heaven. And it was given to him to make war with the saints and to overcome them; and authority over every tribe and people and tongue and nation was given to him. And all who dwell on the earth will worship him, everyone whose name has not been written from the foundation of the world in the book of life of the Lamb who has been slain. If anyone has an ear, let him hear. If anyone is destined for captivity, to captivity he goes; if anyone kills with the sword, with the sword he must be killed. Here is the perseverance and the faith of the saints. (NAS)



THE BEAST OUT OF THE EARTH

Rev 13

And I saw another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb, and he spoke as a dragon. And he exercises all the authority of the first beast in his presence. And he makes the earth and those who dwell in it to worship the first beast, whose fatal wound was healed. And he performs great signs, so that he even makes fire come down out of heaven to the earth in the presence of men. And he deceives those who dwell on the earth because of the signs which it was given him to perform in the presence of the beast, telling those who dwell on the earth to make an image to the beast who had the wound of the sword and has come to life.

And there was given to him to give breath to the image of the beast, that the image of the beast might even speak and cause as many as do not worship the image of the beast to be killed. And he causes all, the small and the great, and the rich and the poor, and the free men and the slaves, to be given a mark on their right hand, or on their forehead, and he provides that no one should be able to buy or to sell, except the one who has the mark, either the name of the beast or the number of his name. Here is wisdom. Let him who has understanding calculate the number of the beast, for the number is that of a man; and his number is six hundred and sixty-six. (NAS)



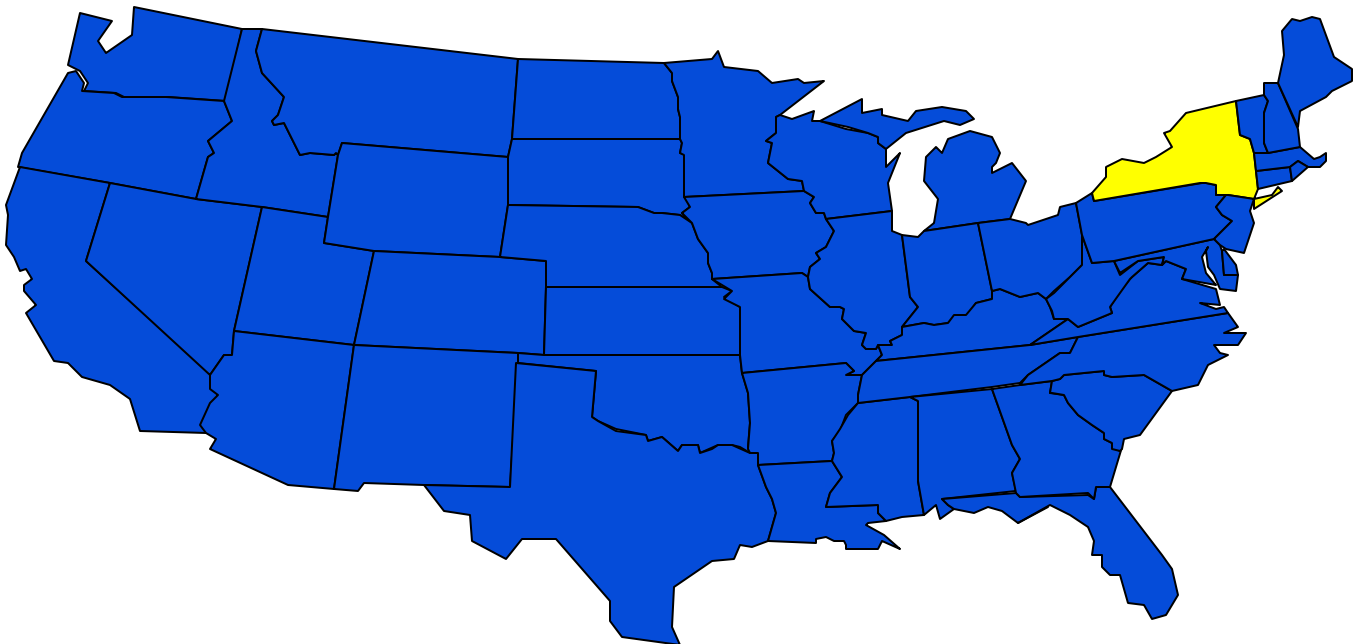
VISIONS

CHAPTER 14

And I looked, and behold, the Lamb was standing on Mount Zion, and with Him one hundred and forty-four thousand, having His name and the name of His Father written on their foreheads. And I heard a voice from heaven, like the sound of many waters and like the sound of loud thunder, and the voice which I heard was like the sound of harpists playing on their harps. And they sang a new song before the throne and before the four living creatures and the elders; and no one could learn the song except the one hundred and forty-four thousand who had been purchased from the earth. These are the ones who have not been defiled with women, for they have kept themselves chaste. These are the ones who follow the Lamb wherever He goes. These have been purchased from among men as first fruits to God and to the Lamb. And no lie was found in their mouth; they are blameless.

And I saw another angel flying in midheaven, having an eternal gospel to preach to those who live on the earth, and to every nation and tribe and tongue and people; and he said with a loud voice, "Fear God, and give Him glory, because the hour of His judgment has come; and worship Him who made the heaven and the earth and sea and springs of waters."

And another angel, a second one, followed, saying, "Fallen, fallen is Babylon the great, she who has made all the nations drink of the wine of the passion of her immorality."



VISIONS

And another angel, a third one, followed them, saying with a loud voice, "If anyone worships the beast and his image, and receives a mark on his forehead or upon his hand, he also will drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is mixed in full strength in the cup of His anger; and he will be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb. "And the smoke of their torment goes up forever and ever; and they have no rest day and night, those who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name." Here is the perseverance of the saints who keep the commandments of God and their faith in Jesus.

And I heard a voice from heaven, saying, "Write, 'Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on!'" "Yes," says the Spirit, "that they may rest from their labors, for their deeds follow with them."

And I looked, and behold, a white cloud, and sitting on the cloud was one like a son of man, having a golden crown on His head, and a sharp sickle in His hand. And another angel came out of the temple, crying out with a loud voice to Him who sat on the cloud, "Put in your sickle and reap, because the hour to reap has come, because the harvest of the earth is ripe." And He who sat on the cloud swung His sickle over

the earth; and the earth was reaped. And another angel came out of the temple which is in heaven, and he also had a sharp sickle. And another angel, the one who has power over fire, came out from the altar; and he called with a loud voice to him who had the sharp sickle, saying, "Put in your sharp sickle, and gather the clusters from the vine of the earth, because her grapes are ripe." And the angel swung his sickle to the earth, and gathered the clusters from the vine of the earth, and threw them into the great wine press of the wrath of God. And the wine press was trodden outside the city, and blood came out from the wine press, up to the horses' bridles, for a distance of two hundred miles. (NAS)



SEVEN VIALS

CHAPTER 15

And I saw another sign in heaven, great and marvelous, seven angels who had seven plagues, which are the last, because in them the wrath of God is finished. And I saw, as it were, a sea of glass mixed with fire, and those who had come off victorious from the beast and from his image and from the number of his name, standing on the sea of glass, holding harps of God. And they sang the song of Moses the bond-servant of God and the song of the Lamb, saying, "Great and marvelous are Thy works, O Lord God the Almighty; Righteous and true are Thy ways, Thou King of the nations. "Who will not fear, O Lord, and glorify Thy name? For Thou alone art holy; for all the nations will come and worship before Thee, for Thy righteous acts have been revealed."

After these things I looked, and the temple of the tabernacle of testimony in heaven was opened, and the seven angels who had the seven plagues came out of the temple, clothed in linen, clean and bright, and girded around their breasts with golden girdles. And one of the four living creatures gave to the seven angels seven golden bowls full of the wrath of God, who lives forever and ever. And the temple was filled with smoke from the glory of God and from His power; and no one was able to enter the temple until the seven plagues of the seven angels were finished.

CHAPTER 16

And I heard a loud voice from the temple, saying to the seven angels, "Go and pour out the seven bowls of the wrath of God into the earth." And the **first angel** went and poured out his bowl into the earth; and it became a loathsome and malignant sore upon the men who had the mark of the beast and who worshiped his image. And the **second angel** poured out his bowl into the sea, and it became blood like that of a dead man; and every living thing in the sea died. And the **third angel** poured out his bowl into the rivers and the springs of waters; and they became blood. And I heard the angel of the waters saying, "Righteous art Thou, who art and who was, O Holy One, because Thou didst judge these things; for they poured out the blood of saints and prophets, and Thou hast given them blood to drink. They deserve it." And I heard the altar saying, "Yes, O Lord God, the Almighty, true and righteous are Thy judgments." And the **fourth angel** poured out his bowl upon the sun; and it was given to it to scorch men with fire. And men were scorched with fierce heat; and they blasphemed the name of God who has the power over these plagues; and they did not repent, so as to give Him glory. (NAS)

SEVEN VIALS

Rev 16:10-12

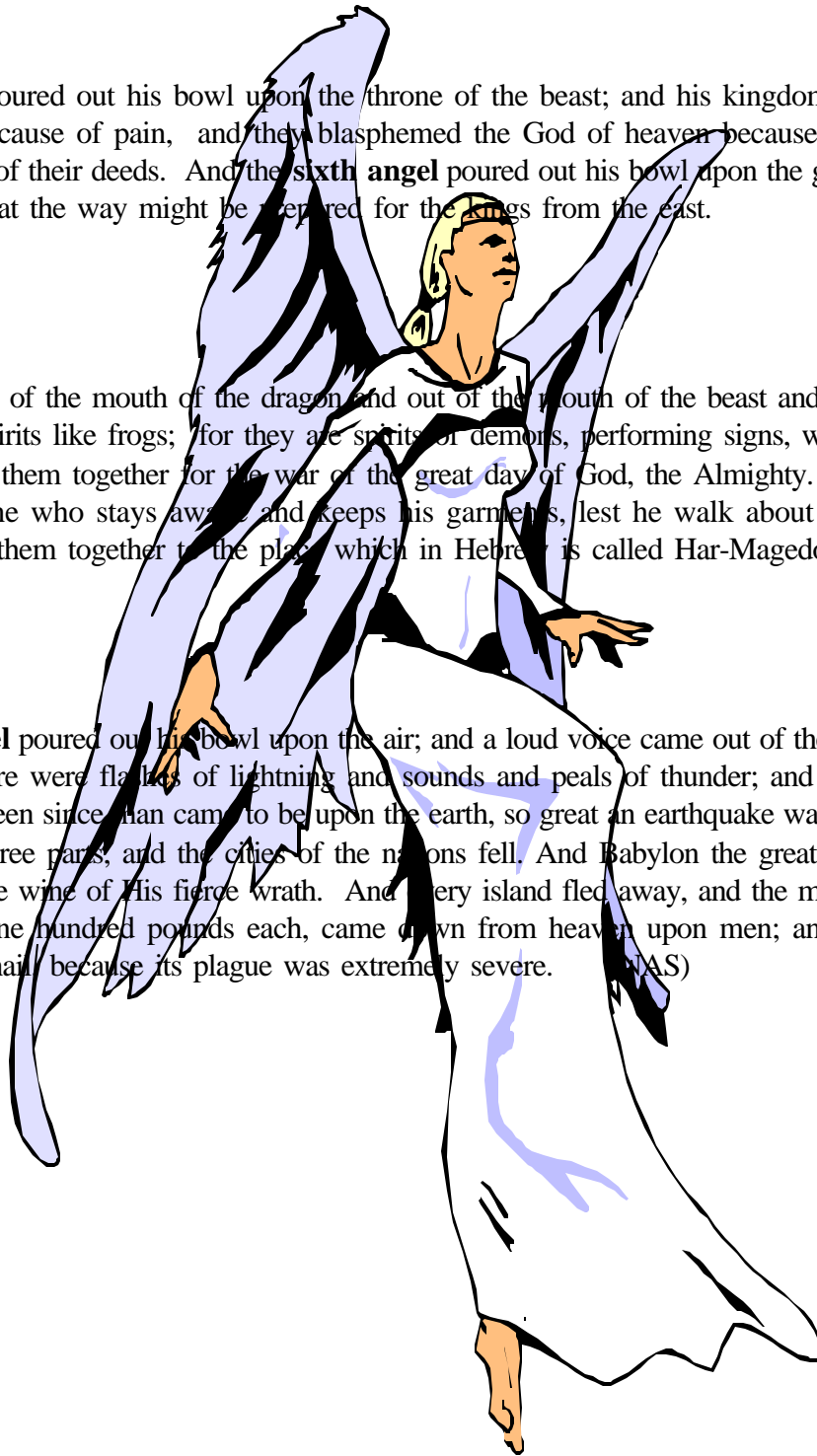
And the **fifth angel** poured out his bowl upon the throne of the beast; and his kingdom became darkened; and they gnawed their tongues because of pain, and they blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores; and they did not repent of their deeds. And the **sixth angel** poured out his bowl upon the great river, the Euphrates; and its water was dried up, that the way might be prepared for the kings from the east.

VISION

Rev 16:13-16

And I saw coming out of the mouth of the dragon and out of the mouth of the beast and out of the mouth of the false prophet, three unclean spirits like frogs; for they are spirits of demons, performing signs, which go out to the kings of the whole world, to gather them together for the war of the great day of God, the Almighty. ("Behold, I am coming like a thief. Blessed is the one who stays awake and keeps his garments, lest he walk about naked and men see his shame.") And they gathered them together to the place which in Hebrew is called Har-Magedon.

And the **seventh angel** poured out his bowl upon the air; and a loud voice came out of the temple from the throne, saying, "It is done." And there were flashes of lightning and sounds and peals of thunder; and there was a great earthquake, such as there had not been since man came to be upon the earth, so great an earthquake was it, and so mighty. And the great city was split into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell. And Babylon the great was remembered before God, to give her the cup of the wine of His fierce wrath. And every island fled away, and the mountains were not found. And huge hailstones, about one hundred pounds each, came down from heaven upon men; and men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail, because its plague was extremely severe. (NAS)



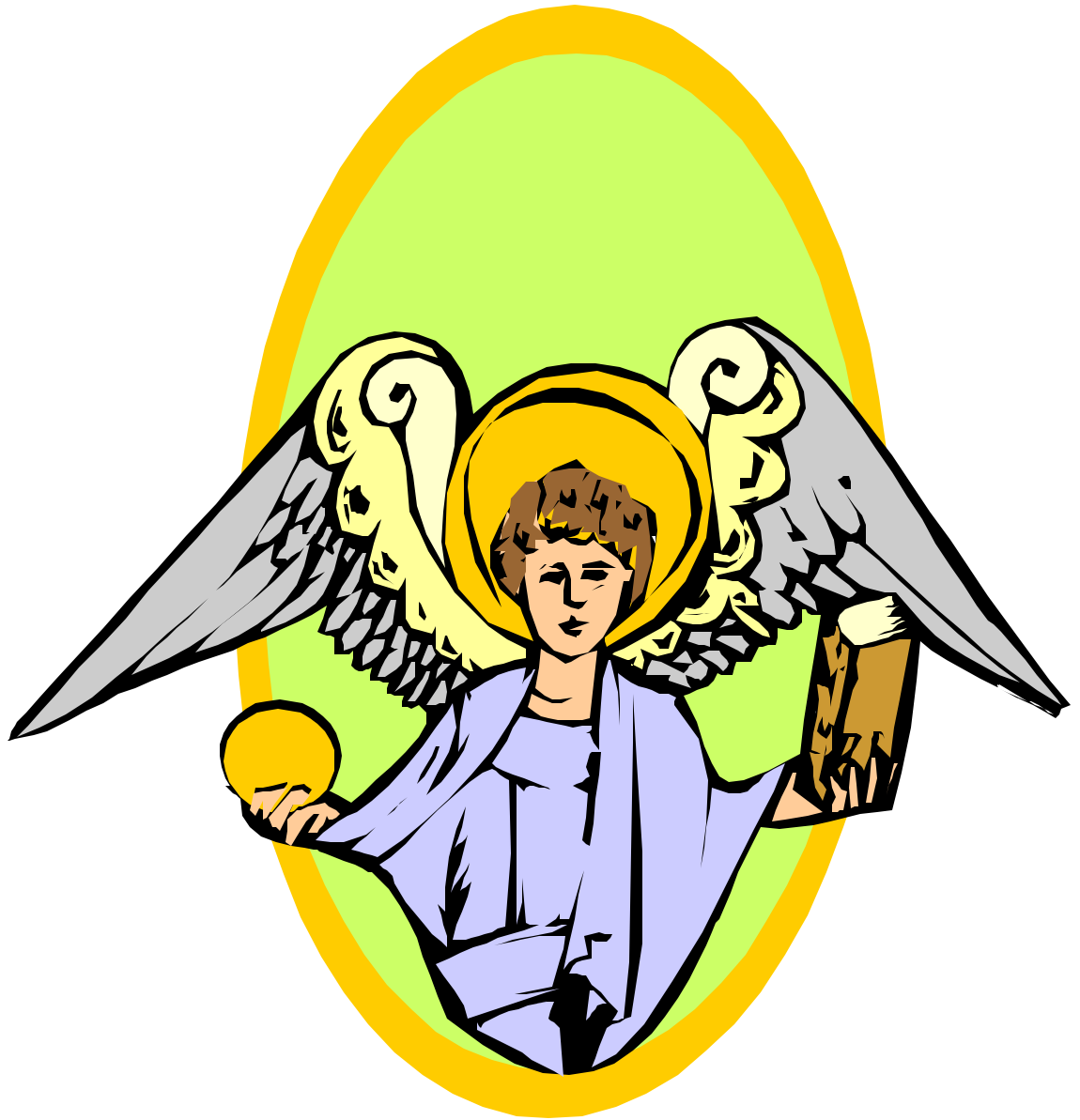
SEVEN DOOMS

THE DOOM OF BABYLON

Rev 17:1-7

CHAPTER 17

And one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls came and spoke with me, saying, "Come here, I shall show you the judgment of the great harlot who sits on many waters, with whom the kings of the earth committed acts of immorality, and those who dwell on the earth were made drunk with the wine of her immorality." And he carried me away in the Spirit into a wilderness; and I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast, full of blasphemous names, having seven heads and ten horns. And the woman was clothed in purple and scarlet, and adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls, having in her hand a gold cup full of abominations and of the



unclean things of her immorality, and upon her forehead a name was written, a mystery, "BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH." And I saw the woman drunk with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the witnesses of Jesus. And when I saw her, I wondered greatly. And the angel said to me, "Why do you wonder? I shall tell you the mystery of the woman and of the beast that carries her, which has the seven heads and the ten horns. (NAS)

THE LAST GENTILE WORLD POWER

Rev 17:8-18

"The beast that you saw was and is not, and is about to come up out of the abyss and to go to destruction. And those who dwell on the earth will wonder, whose name has not been written in the book of life from the foundation of the world, when they see the beast, that he was and is not and will come. "Here is the mind which has wisdom. The seven heads are seven mountains on which the woman sits, and they are seven kings; five have fallen, one is, the other has not yet come; and when he comes, he must remain a little while. "And the beast which was and is not, is himself also an eighth, and is one of the seven, and he goes to destruction.

"And the ten horns which you saw are ten kings, who have not yet received a kingdom, but they receive authority as kings with the beast for one hour. "These have one purpose and they give their power and authority to the beast. "These will wage war against the Lamb, and the Lamb will overcome them, because He is Lord of lords and King of kings, and those who are with Him are the called and chosen and faithful."

And he said to me, "The waters which you saw where the harlot sits, are peoples and multitudes and nations and tongues. "And the ten horns which you saw, and the beast, these will hate the harlot and will make her desolate and naked, and will eat her flesh and will burn her up with fire. "For God has put it in their hearts to execute His purpose by having a common purpose, and by giving their kingdom to the beast, until the words of God should be fulfilled. "And the woman whom you saw is the great city, which reigns over the kings of the earth." (NAS)



WARNING TO GOD'S PEOPLE

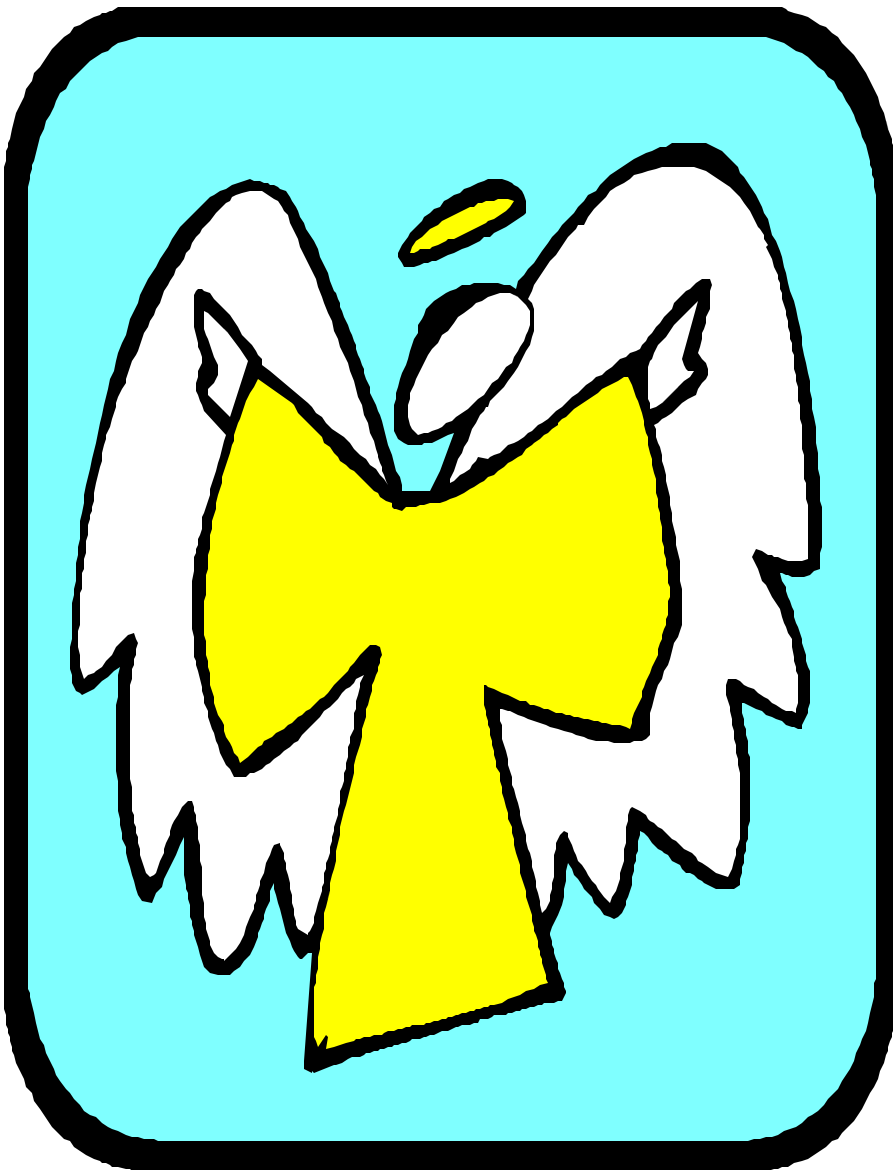
Rev 18:1-8

CHAPTER 18

After these things I saw another angel coming down from heaven, having great authority, and the earth was illumined with his glory. And he cried out with a mighty voice, saying, "Fallen, fallen is Babylon the great! And she has become a dwelling place of demons and a prison of every unclean spirit, and a prison of every unclean and hateful bird.

"For all the nations have drunk of the wine of the passion of her immorality, and the kings of the earth have committed acts of immorality with her, and the merchants of the earth have become rich by the wealth of her sensuality."

And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, "Come out of her, my people, that you may not participate in her sins and that you may not receive of her plagues; for her sins have piled up as high as heaven, and God has remembered her iniquities. "Pay her back even as she has paid, and give back to her double according to her deeds; in the cup which she has mixed, mix twice as much for her. "To the degree that she glorified herself and lived sensuously, to the same degree give her torment and mourning; for she says in her heart, 'I sit as a queen and I am not a widow, and will never see mourning.' "For this reason in one day her plagues will come, pestilence and mourning and famine, and she will be burned up with fire; for the Lord God who judges her is strong. (NAS)



MAN'S VIEW OF BABYLON

Rev 18:9-19

"And the kings of the earth, who committed acts of immorality and lived sensuously with her, will weep and lament over her burning, standing of her torment, city, Babylon, the your judgment of the earth weep one buys their car- and silver and pre- linen and purple kind of citron and every article and bronze and and spice and in- incense and wine wheat and cattle horses and chari- "And the fruit you all things that have passed away longer find them. who became rich tance because of ing and mourning, city, she who was and scarlet, and stones and pearls; wealth has been ter and every pas- as make their liv- tance, and were smoke of her like the great city? heads and were mourning, saying,



when they see the smoke of her at a distance because of the fear saying, 'Woe, woe, the great strong city! For in one hour has come.' "And the merchants and mourn over her, because no goes any more; cargoes of gold cious stones and pearls and fine and silk and scarlet, and every wood and every article of ivory made from very costly wood iron and marble, and cinnamon cense and perfume and frank- and olive oil and fine flour and and sheep, and cargoes of ots and slaves and human lives. long for has gone from you, and were luxurious and splendid from you and men will no "The merchants of these things, from her, will stand at a dis- the fear of her torment, weep- saying, 'Woe, woe, the great clothed in fine linen and purple adorned with gold and precious for in one hour such great laid waste!' And every shipmas- senger and sailor, and as many ing by the sea, stood at a dis- crying out as they saw the burning, saying,' What city is ' "And they threw dust on their crying out, weeping and 'Woe, woe, the great city, in which all who had ships at sea became rich by her wealth, for in one hour she has been laid waste!' (NAS)

HEAVENLY VIEW OF BABYLON

Rev 18:20-24



"Rejoice over her, O heaven, and you saints and apostles and prophets, because God has pronounced judgment for you against her." And a strong angel took up a stone like a great millstone and threw it into the sea, saying, "Thus will Babylon, the great city, be thrown down with violence, and will not be found any longer. "And the sound of harpists and musicians and flute-players and trumpeters will not be heard in you any longer; and no craftsman of any craft will be found in you any longer; and the sound of a mill will not be heard in you any longer; and the light of a lamp will not shine in you any longer; and the voice of the bridegroom and bride will not be heard in you any longer; for your merchants were the great men of the earth, because all the nations were deceived by your sorcery. "And in her was found the blood of prophets and of saints and of all who have been slain on the earth." (NAS)

PAUSE FOR ALLELUIA

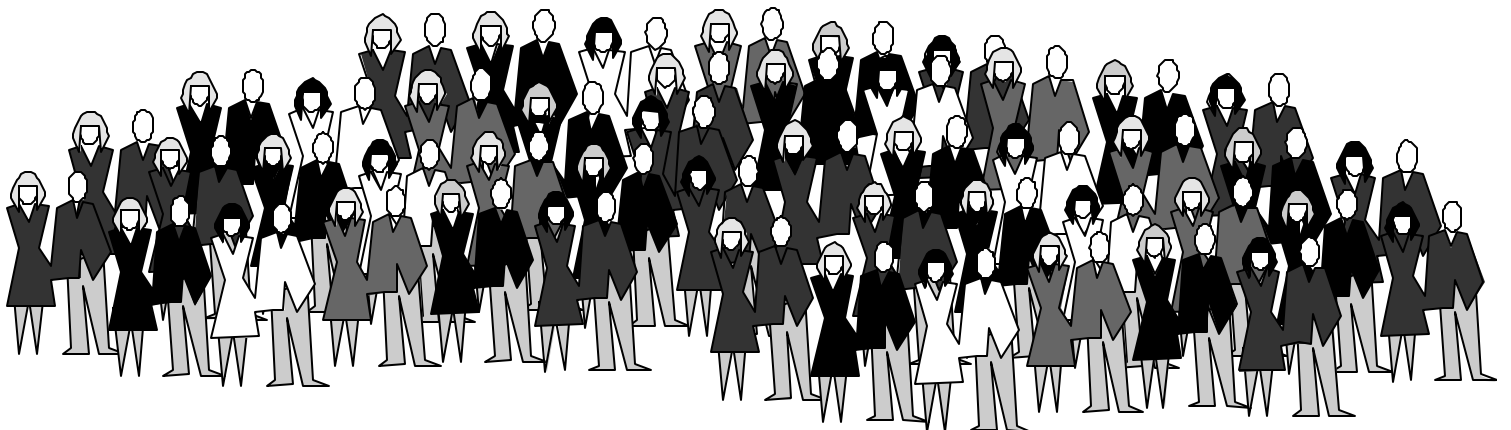
Rev 19:1-16

CHAPTER 19

After these things I heard, as it were, a loud voice of a great multitude in heaven, saying, "Hallelujah! Salvation and glory and power belong to our God; because His judgments are true and righteous; for He has judged the great harlot who was corrupting the earth with her immorality, and He has avenged the blood of His bond-servants on her." And a second time they said, "Hallelujah! Her smoke rises up forever and ever." And the twenty-four elders and the four living creatures fell down and worshiped God who sits on the throne saying, "Amen. Hallelujah!" And a voice came from the throne, saying, "Give praise to our God, all you His bond-servants, you who fear Him, the small and the great."

And I heard, as it were, the voice of a great multitude and as the sound of many waters and as the sound of mighty peals of thunder, saying, "Hallelujah! For the Lord our God, the Almighty, reigns. "Let us rejoice and be glad and give the glory to Him, for the marriage of the Lamb has come and His bride has made herself ready." And it was given to her to clothe herself in fine linen, bright and clean; for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints. And he said to me, "Write, 'Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.'" And he said to me, "These are true words of God." And I fell at his feet to worship him. And he said to me, "Do not do that; I am a fellow servant of yours and your brethren who hold the testimony of Jesus; worship God. For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy."

And I saw heaven opened; and behold, a white horse, and He who sat upon it is called Faithful and True; and in righteousness He judges and wages war. And His eyes are a flame of fire, and upon His head are many diadems; and He has a name written upon Him which no one knows except Himself. And He is clothed with a robe dipped in blood; and His name is called The Word of God. And the armies which are in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, were following Him on white horses. And from His mouth comes a sharp sword, so that with it He may smite the nations; and He will rule them with a rod of iron; and He treads the wine press of the fierce wrath of God, the Almighty. And on His robe and on His thigh He has a name written, "KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS." (NAS)



ARMAGEDDON, AND DOOM FOR : BEAST, FALSE PROPHET, AND KINGS SATAN BOUND IN THE ABYSS

Rev 19:17-21

And I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried out with a loud voice, saying to all the birds which fly in midheaven, "Come, assemble for the great supper of God; in order that you may eat the flesh of kings and the flesh of commanders and the flesh of mighty men and the flesh of horses and of those who sit on them and the flesh of all men, both free men and slaves, and small and great." And I saw the beast and the kings of the earth and their armies, assembled to make war against Him who sat upon the horse, and against His army. And the beast was seized, and with him the false prophet who performed the signs in his presence, by which he deceived those who had received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image; these two were thrown alive into the lake of fire which burns with brimstone. And the rest were killed with the sword which came from the mouth of Him who sat upon the horse, and all the birds were filled with their flesh. (NAS)

Rev 20:1-3
CHAPTER 20

And I saw an angel coming down from heaven, having the key of the abyss and a great chain in his hand. And he laid hold of the dragon, the serpent of old, who is the devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years, and threw him into the abyss, and shut it and sealed it over him, so that he should not deceive the nations any longer, until the thousand years were completed; after these things he must be released for a short time. (NAS)



THE FIRST RESURRECTION

SATAN LOOSED

DOOM OF: GOG & MAGOG

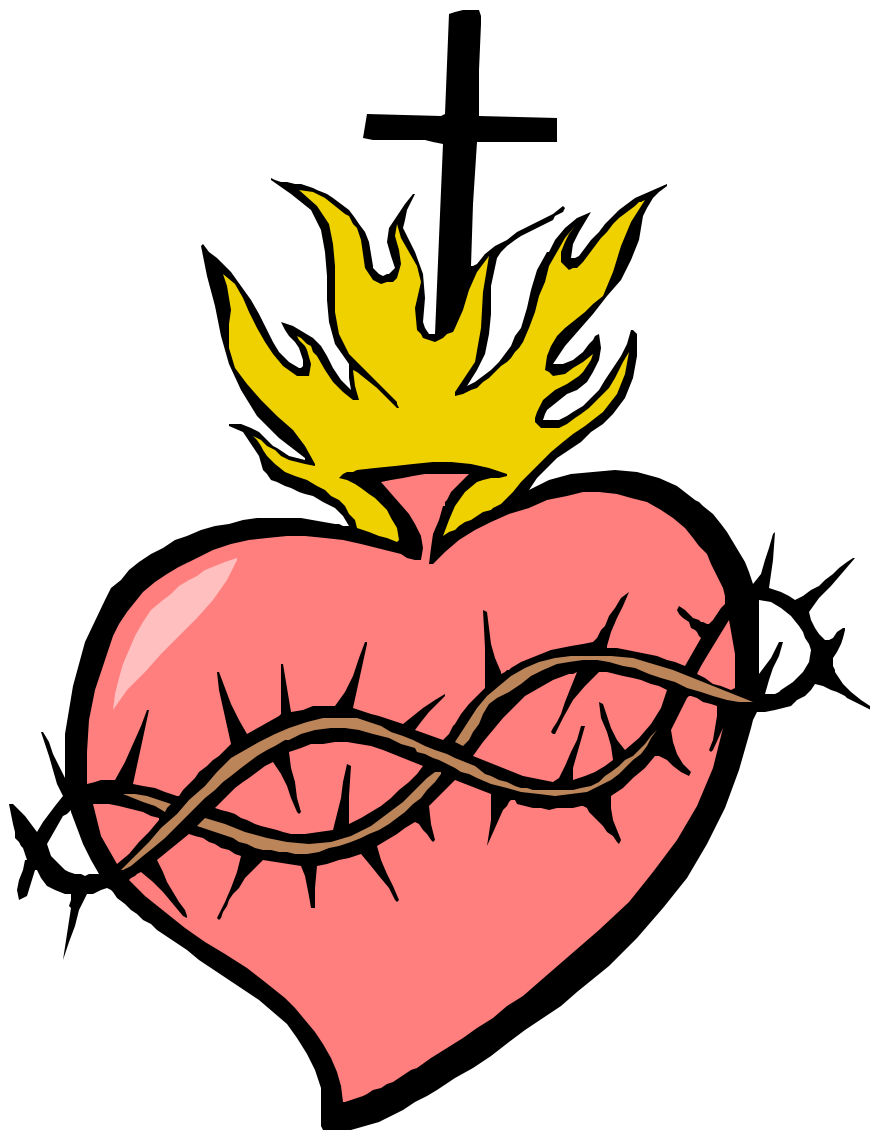
SATAN & THE UNBELEAVING DEAD

Rev 20:4-15

And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given to them. And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of the testimony of Jesus and because of the word of God, and those who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received the mark upon their forehead and upon their hand; and they came to life and reigned with Christ for a thousand years. The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were completed. This is the Blessed and holy is the the first resurrection; death has no power, but God and of Christ and a thousand years.

And when the completed, Satan will be prison, and will come tions which are in the earth, Gog and Magog, for the war; the number of the seashore. And broad plain of the earth camp of the saints and fire came down from them. And the devil who thrown into the lake of where the beast and the and they will be tor-forever and ever. And I throne and Him who sat presence earth and no place was found for dead, the great and the the throne, and books other book was opened, life; and the dead were which were written in to their deeds. And the which were in it, and up the dead which were

judged, every one of them according to their deeds. And death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire. And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire. (NAS)



first resurrection. one who has a part in over these the second they will be priests of will reign with Him for

thousand years are released from his out to deceive the na-four corners of the to gather them together of them is like the sand they came up on the and surrounded the the beloved city, and heaven and devoured deceived them was fire and brimstone, false prophet are also; mented day and night saw a great white upon it, from whose heaven fled away, and them. And I saw the small, standing before were opened; and an-which is the book of judged from the things the books, according sea gave up the dead death and Hades gave in them; and they were

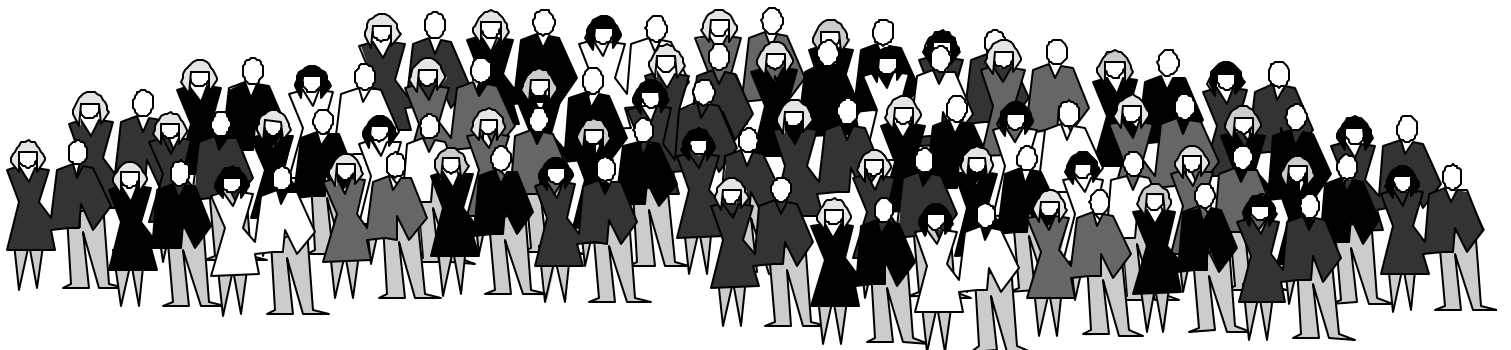
SEVEN NEW THINGS

CHAPTER 21

And I saw a **new heaven** and a **new earth**; for the first heaven and the first earth passed away, and there is no longer any sea. And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, made ready as a bride adorned for her husband.

And I heard a loud voice from the throne, saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is among men, and He shall dwell among them, and **they shall be His (NEW) people**, and God Himself shall be among them, and He shall wipe away every tear from their eyes; and there shall no longer be any death; there shall no longer be any mourning, or crying, or pain; the first things have passed away." And He who sits on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new." And He said, "Write, for these words are faithful and true." And He said to me, "It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give to the one who thirsts from the spring of the water of life without cost. "He who overcomes shall inherit these things, and I will be his God and he will be My son. "But for the cowardly and unbelieving and abominable and murderers and immoral persons and sorcerers and idolaters and all liars, their part will be in the lake that burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death."

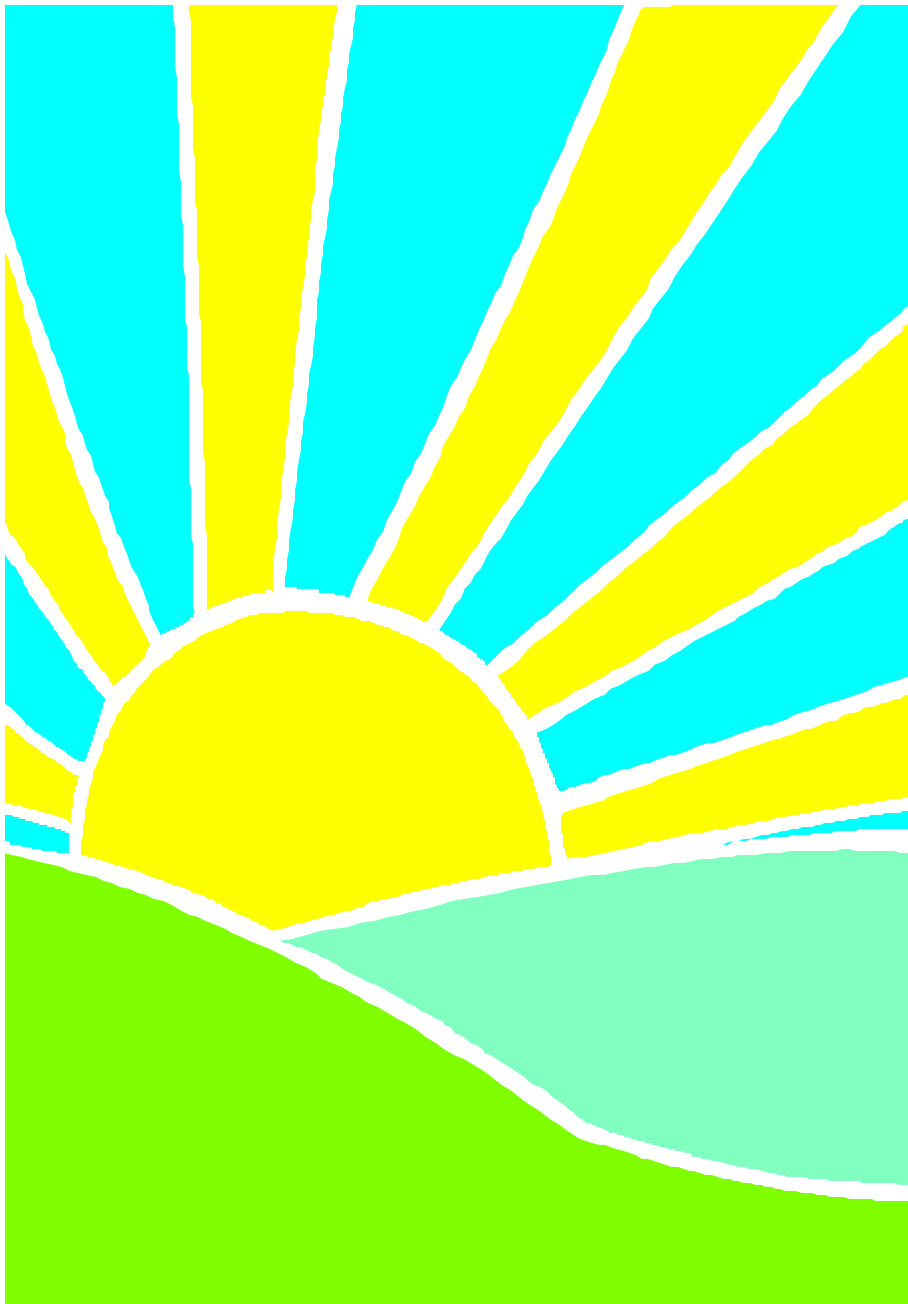
And one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues, came and spoke with me, saying, "Come here, I shall show you **the (NEW) bride**, the wife of the Lamb." And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me the holy city, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, having the glory of God. Her brilliance was like a very costly stone, as a stone of crystal-clear jasper. It had a great and high wall, with twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels; and names were written on them, which are those of the twelve tribes of the sons of Israel. There were three gates on the east and three gates on the north and three gates on the south and three gates on the west. And the wall of the city had twelve foundation stones, and on them were the twelve names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb. And the one who spoke with me had a gold measuring rod to measure the city, and its gates and its wall. And the city is laid out as a square, and its length is as great as the width; and he measured the city with the rod, fifteen hundred miles; its length and width and height are equal. And he measured its wall, seventy-two yards, according to human measurements, which are also angelic measurements. And the material of the wall was jasper; and the city was pure gold, like clear glass. The foundation stones of the city wall were adorned with every kind of precious stone. The first foundation stone was jasper; the second, sapphire; the third, chalcedony; the fourth, emerald; the fifth, sardonyx; the sixth, sardius; the seventh, chrysolite; the eighth, beryl; the ninth, topaz; the tenth, chrysoprase; the eleventh, jacinth; the twelfth, amethyst. And the twelve gates were twelve pearls; each one of the gates was a single pearl. And the street of the city was pure gold, like transparent glass. (NAS)



SEVEN NEW THINGS

Rev 21:22-22:7

And I saw no temple in it, for the Lord God, the Almighty, and the Lamb, are its temple. And the city has no need of the sun or of the moon to shine upon it, for the glory of God has illumined it, and its lamp is the Lamb. And the nations shall walk by its light, and the kings of the earth shall bring their glory into it. And in the daytime (for there shall be no night there) its gates shall never be closed; and they shall bring the glory and the honor of the nations into it; and nothing unclean and no one who practices abomination and lying, shall ever come into it, but only those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life.



CHAPTER 22

And he showed me a river of the water of life, clear as crystal, coming from the throne of God and of the Lamb, in the middle of its street. And on either side of the river was the tree of life, bearing twelve kinds of fruit, yielding its fruit every month; and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. And there shall no longer be any curse; and the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it, and His bond-servants shall serve Him; and they shall see His face, and His name shall be on their foreheads. And there shall no longer be any night; and they shall not have need of the light of a lamp nor the light of the sun, because the Lord God shall illumine them; and they shall reign forever and ever. And he said to me, "These words are faithful and true"; and the Lord, the God of the spirits of the prophets, sent His angel to show to His bond-servants the things which must shortly take place. "And behold, I am coming quickly. Blessed is he who heeds the words of the prophecy of this book." (NAS)

THE LAST MESSAGE

Rev 22:8-19



And I, John, am the one who heard and saw these things. And when I heard and saw, I fell down to worship at the feet of the angel who showed me these things. And he said to me, "Do not do that; I am a fellow servant of yours and of your brethren the prophets and of those who heed the words of this book; worship God." And he said to me, "Do not seal up the words of the prophecy of this book, for the time is near. "Let the one who does wrong, still do wrong; and let the one who is filthy, still be filthy; and let the one who is righteous, still practice righteousness; and let the one who is holy, still keep himself holy." "Behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to render to every man according to what he has done. "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end." Blessed are those who wash their robes, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter by the gates into the city. Outside are the dogs and the sorcerers and the immoral persons and the murderers and the idolaters, and everyone who loves and practices lying.

"I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things for the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, the bright morning star." And the Spirit and the bride say, "Come." And let the one who hears say, "Come." And let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who wishes take the water of life without cost. I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: if anyone adds to them, God shall add to him the plagues which are written in this book; and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part from the tree of life and from the holy city, which are written in this book. (NAS)

THE LAST PROMISE THE LAST PRAYER

Rev 22:20-21

He who testifies to these things says, "Yes, I am coming quickly."
Amen. Come, Lord Jesus. The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all. Amen.

