The Revelation of Jesus Christ
In
The Book of Revelation

INSTRUCTOR
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In the Beginning was “The Word”… John 1:1a

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Introductory Information:

Theme:

Title of Jesus in Revelation:
- Firstborn from the Dead – 1:5
- Alpha and Omega – 1:8
- The Lion of the Tribe of Judah – 5:5
- The King of Kings and Lord of Lords – 19:16
- The Bright and Morning Star – 22:16
- But the title found most often (28 times) is “The Lamb”

Important Key to Interpretation: 550 references to Old Testament passage

Meaning of the title:

Author: John

Written to: 7 Churches in Asia Minor (Turkey)

Date written: 94-96 A.D.
Three Major Differences in Viewing Revelation:
- It has all been fulfilled in the past
- It is a timeless depiction of the cosmic struggle between the forces of good and evil
- It will be fulfilled in the future (primarily chapters 6-22)

The futuristic approach is the logical approach because the prophecies found in this book have simply not taken place. There is nothing in history that comes close to the events of the majority of the book. For instance:
(a) No events in history have ever equaled those depicted in chapters 6, 8, 9, and 16, but in these chapters, these judgments are presented as things that will occur.
(b) The resurrection and judgment of chapter 20 have never occurred, but are clearly presented as future facts.
(c) Obviously, the great anticipation of the book, Christ’s visible return as portrayed in chapter 20, has also not taken place.

Three Major Differences in Viewing the Millennial Kingdom:
- Premillennialism - Jesus will return bodily in power and glory before the 1,000 year reign. The kingdom promised to Israel will be established. At the end of the 1,000 years Satan will be defeated, the wicked will be raised to be condemned to eternal punishment in Hell, and God will replace the heavens and the earth with a new heaven and earth
- Postmillennialism - Jesus will return after the kingdom on earth. The kingdom will come when the gospel has transformed the world. During the kingdom Jesus exercises His rule through the Holy Spirit Who will empower the church’s preaching of the gospel. The church’s mission will result in the conversion of all nations and peoples.
- Amillennialism - There will be no millennial kingdom. The promises to Israel will be fulfilled spiritually in the church

The Golden Rule of Interpretation

When the plain sense of Scripture makes common sense, seek no other sense, therefore, take every word at its primary, ordinary, usual, literal meaning unless the facts of the immediate context, studied in the light of related passages and axiomatic and fundamental truths, indicates otherwise.       Dr. D. L. Cooper

The text of the Bible is to be taken exactly as read unless there is something in the text or the context indicating that it should be taken some other way than literally, as a symbol or figure of speech.
Key to the Book: 1:19

Outline from *The Ryrie Study Bible*
I. The Prologue, 1:1-8
   A. The Superscription, 1:1-3
B. The Salutation, 1:4-8

1. The Writer of the Letter – 4a (Note: The parts of the outline in italics are not by Dr. Ryrie but are by Dennis Sherman)

2. The Recipients of the Letter – 4b

3. The Source of the Letter – 4c-6
   (1) The Father – 4c

   (2) The Seven Spirits – 4d
(3) *The Son – 1:5-6*
4. A Preview of the 2\textsuperscript{nd} Coming – 1-7a

5. The Response to the 2\textsuperscript{nd} Coming – 7b

6. The Certainty of the 2\textsuperscript{nd} Coming – 8
II. “The Things Which You Have Seen,” 1:9-20

A. Circumstances of the Vision, 1:9-11

From the *ESV Study Bible:*

The Setting of Revelation

c. A.D. 95

John addressed the book of Revelation “to the seven churches that are in Asia,” namely Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia, and Laodicea, although there were undoubtedly other churches elsewhere in the province of Asia (e.g., Miletus and Colossae, see Acts 20:17; Col. 1:2). John had apparently been exiled from Ephesus to the island of Patmos, southwest of Ephesus, and it was there that he recorded his visions.
“Starting from Ephesus and moving clockwise, the party of messengers would have proceeded northward about 40 miles to Smyrna (modern Izmir) and then 40 miles to Pergamum. From Pergamum they moved in a southeasterly direction about 45 miles to Thyatira, then about 30 miles south to Sardis, then about 30 miles east-southeast to Philadelphia, and finally about 40 miles southeast to Laodicea.

A messenger from each city would present the scroll to his own church who would read and probably make a copy of it before the remaining messenger(s) moved on with the original to the next city.” Robert L. Thomas, Revelation 1-7 an Exegetical Commentary, Moody Press, 1992
B. Content of the Vision, 1:12-16

1. Christ Walks in the Midst of His Church – 12-13a

2. Christ Intercedes for His Church – 13b

3. Christ Purifies His Church – 14-15a

4. Christ Speaks Authoritatively to His Church – 15b

5. Christ Protects His Church – 16a
(6) Christ Reflects His Glory through the Church – 16b

C. Consequences of the Vision, 1:17-20
   (1) Fear – 17a

   (2) Assurance – 17b-18

   (3) Ministry – 19

   (4) Explanation – 20

A. The Message to Ephesus, 2:1-7
   1. The Church – 1a

   2. The Correspondent – 1b

4. *The Condemnation* – 4-6
5. The Command – 7a

6. The Challenge – 7b

From *Love or Die* by Alexander Strauch:
Perhaps you are wondering how the church in Ephesus responded when Christ’s letter was read publicly in the assembly. Did they humble themselves before God? Did they obey the Lord’s directives? Or did they refuse to believe the Lord’s assessment of their spiritual condition?

We find the answer in a letter written at the beginning of the second century by Ignatius, the overseer of the church at Antioch in Syria. Ignatius had been arrested for his faith and was sent by Roman guard to Rome for execution some time between A.D. 105-117. While on his journey to Rome, Ignatius wrote seven letters that remain to this day. These letters are traditionally placed among other documents known as the writings of the Apostolic Fathers. One of those letters was written to the church at Ephesus.

On the way to Rome, Ignatius’s guards stopped in the city of Smyrna. While at Smyrna, the church in Ephesus, about forty miles south, sent a delegation of brothers to encourage and strengthen Ignatius as he faced martyrdom in Rome. So uplifting was their visit that Ignatius wrote a letter thanking them for their thoughtfulness and care. In this letter he praises their love, commending them as a church “characterized by faith in and love of Christ Jesus our Savior.” He rejoices that they “love nothing in human life, only God.” He also comments on their church overseer, Onesimus, calling him “a man of inexpressible love.” Ignatius goes on the write that in the Ephesian representatives who visited him in Smyrna he could see the love the whole church in Ephesus.

Thus, at the beginning of the second century, we know that the church in Ephesus was very much alive. It was sound in doctrine and abounding in love. The Ephesian believers had obeyed the Lord’s call to remember, repent, and do their first works. As a result, the church’s love was restored. “He who has an ear,” declares the Lord, “let him hear what the Spirit says to the church” (Rev. 2:7).
B. The Message to Smyrna, 2:8-11

1. *The Church* – 8a

2. *The Correspondent* – 8b

3. *The Commendation* – 9
Letter from church at Smyrna to the neighboring churches after Polycarp (a disciple of John who later pastored the church at Ephesus) was martyred:
“His whereabouts was betrayed by a slave who collapsed under torture. They came to arrest him… Not even the police captain wished to see Polycarp die. On the brief journey to the city, he pled with the old man: ‘What harm is it to say, “Caesar is Lord” and to offer sacrifice and be saved?’ But Polycarp was adamant that for him only Jesus Christ was Lord.
“When he entered the arena… [the] proconsul gave him the choice of cursing the name of Christ and making sacrifice to Caesar or death. ‘Eighty and six years have I served Him,’ said Polycarp, ‘and He has done me no wrong. How can I blaspheme my King who saved me?’ The proconsul threatened him with burning, and Polycarp replied: ‘You threaten me with the fire that burns for a time, and is quickly quenched, for you do not know the fire that awaits the wicked in the judgment to come and in everlasting punishment. Why are you waiting? Come, do what you will.’
“So the crowds came flocking with sticks from the workshops and from the baths, and the Jews, even although they were breaking the Sabbath law by carrying such burdens, were foremost in bringing wood for the fire. They were going to bind him to the stake. ‘Leave me as I am,’ He said, ‘for He who gives me the power to endure the fire, will grant me to remain in the flames unmoved even without the security you will give by the nails.’ So they left him loosely bound in the flames.”
C. The Message to Pergamum, 2:12-17

1. The Church – 12a

2. The Correspondent – 12b

3. The Commendation – 13
4. *The Condemnation – 14-15*

5. *The Command – 16-17a*
6. *The Counsel – 17b*
D. The Message to Thyatira, 2:18-29
   1. The Church – 18a

   2. The Correspondent – 18b

   3. The Commendation – 19

5. *The Command* – 24-25
6. The Counsel – 2:26-29

E. The Message to Sardis, 3:1-6
   1. The Church – 1a

2. The Correspondent – 1b
3. The Correction – 1c

4. The Command – 2-4
5. *The Counsel* – 5-6
F. The Message to Philadelphia, 3:7-13
   1. The Church – 7a

   2. The Correspondent – 7b

The Pre-tribulation rapture is taught in John 14:1-4; 1 Corinthians 15:51-54; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-17.
The following is adapted from *The MacArthur New Testament Commentary, Revelation 1-11*, by John MacArthur, pages 124-125

The phrase “I will keep you from” in verse 10 has been debated by those who say the church will go through the tribulation and those who say the church will be raptured before the tribulation.

Those who believe the church will go through the Tribulation believe this phrase means they will be preserved through the tribulation and will emerge from it at the end. But the preposition translated “from” means “out from” or “away from”. Had the Lord intended to convey that the church would be preserved in the midst of the Tribulation, a different Greek preposition would have been used.

The only other time the Greek phrase translated “keep you from” is used in the New Testament is in John 17:15, “I do not ask that you take them out of the world, but that you keep them from the evil one.” He didn’t pray that believers would be preserved within Satan’s power. Christians have been taken out of the kingdom of Satan and placed in God’s kingdom.

Another objection to interpreting the phrase “I will keep you from” as a promise of preservation in the midst of the Tribulation is that believers won’t all be preserved in that time, many will be martyred (6:9-11; 7:9-14), leading to the conclusion that promising preservation is meaningless if the believers face the same fate as sinners during the Tribulation.

Some hold that the promise of deliverance is only from God’s wrath during the Tribulation. But a promise that God will not kill believers but will allow Satan and Antichrist to do so would provide small comfort to the suffering church at Philadelphia.

4. *The Command – 11*

5. *The Counsel – 12-13*
G. The Message to Laodicea, 3:14-22

1. The Church – 14a

2. The Correspondent – 14b

Revelation 3:18

5. The Counsel – 21-22
   A. The Tribulation Period – 4:1-19:21
      1. The throne in Heaven – 4:1-11

   “I can safely say that any man or woman on this earth who is bored and turned off by worship is not ready for Heaven.” A. W. Tozer

   a. The throne – 4:1-3
b. The throng – 4:4-8
Revelation 4:6 (continued)
c. The theme – 4:9-11

2. The scroll in Heaven – 5:1-14
   a. The scroll – 5:1
b. The search – 5:2-5

c. The Savior-Sovereign – 5:6-7
d. The song – 5:8-14
3. The seal judgments – 6:1-17

Chapters 6-19 give details on the Tribulation. It is also called:
“**The Day of the Lord**”
“**The Time of Jacob’s Trouble – Jeremiah 30:7**
“**The Seventieth Week of Daniel**” – Daniel 9:27

The 7 seals encompass the entire period of the Tribulation, culminating w the return of JC
The 1st four seals take place during the 1st half of the Tribulation
The 5th seal stretches from the first into the 2nd half
The 6th & 7th seals take place during the 2nd half (called “The Great Tribulation”)
  - The 7th seal contains the 7 trumpet judgments – 8:1-11:19
  - The 7th trumpet contains the 7 bowl judgments – 16:1-21

a. First seal: cold war – 6:1-2

“Antichrist” is given many names and descriptions – put together & they portray him as epitome of evil
- **The seed of Satan** – Genesis 3:15
- **The Little Horn** – Daniel 7
- **The King Insolent and skilled in intrigue** – Daniel 8:23
- **The Prince That Shall Come** – Daniel 9:26
- **The Willful King** – Daniel 11:36
- **The Man of Sin** – 2 Thessalonians 2:3
- **The Lawless One** – 2 Thessalonians 2:8
- **The Antichrist** – 1 John 2:18, 22
- **The Beast** – Revelation 11:7
b. Second seal: open war – 6:3-4

c. Third seal: famine – 6:5-6
d. Fourth seal: death – 6:7-8

e. Fifth seal: martyrdom – 6:9-11
f. Sixth seal: physical disturbances – 6:12-17
4. Interlude: the redeemed of the tribulation – 7:1-17

Principle: When God brings judgment He also brings salvation for those who trust Him:
* God destroyed the world in a flood – preserved Noah and his family
* God destroyed Sodom & Gomorrah – preserved Lot and his daughters
* God destroyed Jericho – preserved Rahab and her family
* God devastated Egypt – preserved Israel

a. The 144,000 Jews – 7:1-8
b. The multitude of Gentiles – 7:9-17
5. The six trumpet judgments – 8:1-9:21
   a. The seventh seal opened – 8:1-6

Up to this point, John has heard a lot of noise in Heaven
* From God’s throne “sounds and peals of thunder” – 4:5
* 4 living creatures saying “Holy…” – 4:8
* 24 Elders added their son of praise – 4:11
* Angel proclaiming w loud voice “Who is worthy to open the book & seals” – 5:2
* In response to Lamb taking scroll, 4 living creatures, 24 elders + innumerable host of angels and all creation join in praising God
* With opening of 5th seal came cries of the martyrs – 6:9-10
* 6th seal brought loud roar & powerful earthquake – 6:12
* Between 6th & 7th angel cried out w loud voice to 4 angels – 7:2-3
* During the interlude the great multitude praised God w loud voice – 7:9-13
b. First trumpet: the earth smitten – 8:7

c. Second trumpet: the sea smitten – 8:8-9

d. Third trumpet: the waters smitten – 8:10-11
e. Fourth trumpet: the heavens smitten – 8:12-13

f. Fifth trumpet: people smitten – 9:1-12

Satan is spoken of as having fallen:
Isaiah 14:12-15
Luke 10:17-18 – Jesus alludes to the fall of Satan when he sinned. Now Jesus sees Satan’s kingdom being destroyed one rescued soul at a time through the ministry of the 72 (it has continued through church history)
Following Satan’s falling from Heaven he retained access to Heaven where he constantly accuses believers. But during the Tribulation he and his demon hosts will unsuccessfully battle Michael & the angels and will be permanently thrown out of Heaven – 12:7-9
9:3
g. Sixth Trumpet: people killed – 9:13-21
6. The little scroll – 10:1-11
God’s Word is often compared to food:
* Bread – Matthew 4:4
* Milk – 1 Corinthians 3:1-3; 1 Peter 2:2
* Meat/solid food – Hebrews 5:11-14
* Honey – Psalm 119:103

Jeremiah 15:16
Ezekiel 2:8-10
7. The two witnesses – 11:1-19
In the interval between the seals trumpets we met the 144,000 Jewish evangelists in chapter 7. Now in Chapter 11 we meet two more of God’s servants who will be active during the Tribulation. Throughout history God has faithfully sent His spokesmen to call sinners to repentance and He will do it during the Tribulation.

b. Time – 11:3

Views concerning the identity of the witnesses:

- They are symbolic

- Literal – 2 individuals (but can’t be dogmatic on which 2 individuals)

Reasons Moses & Elijah are the most commonly held view:

- The miracles they will perform (destroying their enemies with fire, withholding rain, turning water into blood, striking the earth w plagues)

- Both the Old Testament and Jewish tradition expected Moses & Elijah to return in the future – Malachi 4:5 predicted the return of Elijah and some Jews believed that God’s promise to raise up a prophet like Moses (Deuteronomy 18:15, 18), necessitated his return

- Both Moses and Elijah appeared with our Lord at the Transfiguration (a preview of the 2nd coming)

- Both left the earth in unusual ways
c. Traits – 11:4-6

d. Termination – 11:7-10
e. Translation – 11:11-14

f. Seventh trumpet – 11:15-19

1. The Eternal Extent of God’s Majesty – 15
2. *The Thankful Exaltation of God’s Majesty – 16-18*
3.  *The Visible Expression of God’s Majesty - 19*

8. War – 12:1-17

   a. War on earth: Phase I – 12:1-6

Revelation 12-13 introduces us to three key characters in the events of last ½ of Tribulation: Satan (the dragon) / Antichrist / The False Prophet — the unholy trinity
The cause of these sufferings has been Satan attempting to stop the coming Savior and destroy the Jewish people
* corrupting of the line of Seth
* attempted rapes of Sarah & Rebekah
* murder of the Jewish boy babies in Egypt
* attempted murders of David
* Queen Athaliah’s attempt to destroy the royal line
* Haman’s attempt to slaughter the Jewish people

The seven heads are later identified (17:10) as 7 kingdoms of the past
- Egypt
- Assyria
- Babylon
- Medo-Persia
- Greece
- Rome
- Antichrist’s future empire (revived Roman empire – Daniel 7-8)
12:6

We have clues as to where this is:

- Matthew 24:16 – mountains
- Revelation 12:6, 14 – wilderness
- Isaiah 33:13-16 – v. 16 the means by which protection of the remnant will be accomplished will be the mountains, the place will be easy to defend
- Micah 2:12 – “in a fold” – literally “of Bozrah” – since sheep of Bozrah aren’t any different than other sheep, means they will be gathered in Bozrah. Bozrah located in an area of Mount Seir (very rocky range of mountains). Fulfills Matthew (in mountains). Fulfills Revelation (Wilderness – it in wilderness area of Edom). Two sites are given for Bozrah today - a village called Buseira and the ancient city of Petra. Petra is totally surrounded by mountains & cliffs and is easily defended.
- Daniel 11:40-41 – God spares that area from the reach of Antichrist

b. War in Heaven – 12:7-12

1. The Conflict – 7-8

Henry Morris: “With what weapons and by what tactics this heavenly warfare will be waged is beyond our understanding. Angels cannot be injured or slain with earthly weapons, and such physical forces as we know about are not able to move spiritual beings. But these beings do operate in a physical universe, so there must exist powerful physico-spiritual energies of which we yet can have only vague intimations, energies which can propel angelic bodies at superluminary velocities through space and which can move mountains and change planetary orbits. It is with such energies and powers that this heavenly battle will be waged and the spectators in heaven (including John) will watch in awe. When Michael finally prevails, and Satan is forced forever out of the heavens, a tremendous cry of thanksgiving will resound through the heavens. - The Revelation Record (Tyndale, 1983), p. 224
“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God” by Martin Luther (Verse 3):
The Prince of Darkness Grim,
We tremble not for him;
His rage we can endure,
For lo, his doom is sure;
One little word shall fell him
c. War on earth: phase II – 12:13-17

*Attack One – 13-14*

*Attack Two - 15*

*Attack 3 – 17*
   a. The beast – 13:1-10

1. *The Antichrist's Authority* – 1-2
2. *The Antichrist’s Acclaim* - 3

3. *The Antichrist’s Adoration* - 4

4. *The Antichrist’s Arrogance* – 5-6
5. *The Antichrist's Activity* – 7

6. *The Antichrist's Admirers* – 8-10
b.  The false prophet – 13:11-18

1.  *The Description of the False Prophet – 11-12*

2.  *The Deception of the False Prophet – 13-15*

God has often demonstrated His supernatural power by sending fire from Heaven
- The witnesses protect themselves – 11:5
- Genesis 19:24 – Sodom & Gomorrah
- Leviticus 10:1-2 – death of Nadab & Abihu
- 1 Kings 18:38 – Mt Carmel
- 2 Kings 1:9-12 – emissaries of wicked King Ahaziah
- 1 Chronicles 21:26 – David’s altar
- 2 Chronicles 7:1 – dedication of Solomon’s temple
3. *The Demand of the False Prophet – 16-18*
10. Various announcements – 14:1-20

a. Concerning the 144,000 – 14:1-5

14:3
Scripture tells of nine “new songs” for God’s people – Psalm 33:3; 40:3; 96:1; 144:9; 149:1; Isaiah 42:10; Revelation 5:9; 14:3

The reason this song is restricted to the 144,000 is not stated, but Henry Morris has offered a possible explanation:
“Although the words of the song of the 144,000 are not recorded, it surely dwells in part at least on the great truth that they had been “redeemed from the earth.” Although in one sense all saved people have been redeemed from the earth, these could know the meaning of such a theme in a more profound way than others. They had been saved after the rapture, at that time in history when man’s greatest persecutions and God’s greatest judgments were on the earth. It was at such a time that they, like Noah (Genesis 6:8), had “found grace in the eyes of the Lord” and had been separated from “all that dwell upon the earth” (Revelation 13:8). Not only had they been redeemed spiritually but, precursively as it were, they had been redeemed from the very curse on the earth (Genesis 3:17), being protected from pain and death by the guarding seal.” Henry Morris, The Revelation Record p. 260.
14:4

Sexual purity is essential to triumphant Christian living – 1 Thessalonians 4:3; 2:22; 1 Corinthians 6:13, 18

b. Concerning the everlasting gospel – 14:6-8
c. Concerning beast worshipers – 14:9-13
d. Concerning the harvesting of the earth – 14:14-20

This passage pictures the final harvest of the divine wrath in two pictures:

- The Grain Harvest – 14-16
- The Grape Harvest – 17-20

1. The identity of the harvester – 14

2. The grain harvest – 15-16

The details of the judgment are unfolded in chapter 16 (the 7 Bowls of Wrath):

- Loathsome and malignant sore on the worshipers of Antichrist
- Death of all life in the world’s oceans
- Turning of the world’s rivers and springs of water to blood
- Intensifying of sun’s heat until it scorches people
- Painful darkness over all of Antichrist’s kingdom
- Drying up of the Euphrates River in preparation for a massive invasion
- Most powerful and destructive earthquake in history
3. The grape harvest – 17-20

11. Prelude to the bowl judgments – 15:1-8
   1. The Sign in Heaven – 1-2
2. *The Song of Moses and the Lamb* – 3-4

The Song Has Four Stanzas:
* They praise the works of God (emphasis on the power of God)
* They praise the ways of God (emphasis on the plan of God)
* They praise the worthiness of God (emphasis on the holiness of God)
* The praise the worship of God (emphasis on the purpose of God)

3. *The Scene in Heaven* – 5-8
12. The bowl judgments – 16:1-21

   b. Second bowl: seas smitten – 16:3

   c. Third bowl: rivers smitten – 16:4-7

   d. Fourth bowl: scorching – 16:8-9

   e. Fifth bowl: darkness – 16:10-11 (prophesied in Isaiah 60:2; Joel 2:1,2,31; Nahum 1:6, 8; Amos 5:18; Zephaniah 1:15)
f. Sixth bowl: Euphrates dried – 16:12-16
8 Stages in the Campaign of Armageddon: *Footsteps of Messiah*, p. 314-363

#1 Assembling of the Allies of the Antichrist

#2 The Destruction of Babylon

#3 The Fall of Jerusalem

#4 The Armies of Antichrist at Bozrah

#5 The National Regeneration of Israel

#6 The Second Coming of Messiah

#7 The Battle from Bozrah Ends at the Valley of Jehoshaphat [a section of the Kidron Valley] During Which the Antichrist Is Killed by Messiah

#8 The Victory Ascent Upon the Mount of Olives

  g. Seventh bowl: widespread destruction – 16:17-21

a. The description – 17:1-7
b. The interpretation – 17:8-18

The 7 heads/mountains are kings/kingdoms that come into being one after the other
At time John wrote, 5 had gone into history:

- Egypt
- Assyria
- Babylon
- Medo-Persia
- Greece

The 6th was present and in control – Rome
The 7th would come in the future – Antichrist’s
   a. Announcement – 18:1-3
18:3

b. Appeal – 18:4-8

c. Anguish – 18:9-19
d. Acclaim – 18:20-24
15. The second coming of Christ – 19:1-21
   a. Announcements – 19:1-10
      1. Heaven Is Rejoicing because of Who God Is – 1

      2. Heaven Is Rejoicing because of God’s Justice – 2

      3. Heaven Is Rejoicing because of the End of the Rebellion – 3

      4. Heaven Is Rejoicing because of the Reign of God – 4-6
Jewish Marriage custom of the day:
* Groom’s father made arrangements for marriage and paid the bride price
* Year or more after 1st step groom went to home of the bride to bring her to his home. The groom’s father determined the timing. Prior to getting bride he must have the home prepared
* Wedding ceremony
* Marriage feast (lasting as long as 7 days)
b. Advent of Christ – 19:11-16

1. *The Return of the King of Kings – 11-13*
2. *The Armies of the King of Kings* – 14

3. *The Rule of the King of Kings* – 15-16

c. Armageddon – 19:17-21

3 Views of the Millennium:
* Premillennial –

* Postmillennial –

* Amillennial

1. The Imprisonment of Satan for a Thousand Years – 1-3
2. THE REIGN OF CHRIST ON EARTH FOR A THOUSAND YEARS – 4

3. THE FATE OF NON BELIEVERS – 5

4. THE BLESSING OF THOSE WHO PARTICIPATE IN THE 1ST RESURRECTION – 6

* Righteousness – Psalm 15:1-5; 24:1-6
* Universal peace – Isaiah 2:2-4; Micah 4:1-5
* Renovation of Heaven and Earth (curse of sin removed) – Isaiah 65:17-25
* No infant mortality (everyone born in kingdom will live at least 100 years and when a believer dies they will be given their new body immediately) – Isaiah 65:20
* Prosperity – Isaiah 26:21-24
* No more calamities and turmoil – Isaiah 26:23
* The animal kingdom will be at peace with each other and with man – Isaiah 26:25
* Jesus the Messiah will reign – Psalm 2:6-9; Isaiah 9:6-7
* Israel will be regathered to the Promised Land in belief – Isaiah 11:11-12:6; Jeremiah 31:34, etc.

5. THE RELEASE OF SATAN FROM PRISON – 7

7. *The Casting of the Devil into the Lake of Fire* – 10


   a. *The Description of the Judge* - 11
b. How the Non-Believers Are to Be Judged – 12-15

* Sheol – in Hebrew Old Testament it was the name of the place that both the righteous and the unrighteous went at death
  * Hades – in Greek New Testament name of the place that both righteous and unrighteous went at death
  (Although in the New Testament it is sometimes used to refer to a place where the unrighteous dead are kept, pending their sentencing to Hell – Luke 16:23)
  * Sheol and Hades contained two compartments – Luke 16:19-31
  * The place of the righteous was emptied at Jesus’ ascension
  * The place of the unrighteous was emptied in Revelation 20
  * Today when a believer dies, his soul goes to Heaven – 2 Corinthians 5:8; Philippians 1:23
  * Gehenna – clearest and most vivid of the New Testament terms to describe the final Hell, the lake of fire – the garbage dump in Jerusalem in New Testament times
c. The Sentence of Those Who Are Judged – 14-15

   1. Descent of the New Jerusalem – 21:1-8
2. *Its Leadership* – 3-6
3. Its Citizens – 7-8

2. Description of the New Jerusalem – 21:9-27

   (1) Its Natural Beauty – 9-21
(2) Its Light – 22-23

(3) Its Social Life – 24-27
Solomon in Proverbs uses tree of life as symbol of all that is good & wholesome

- Proverbs 3:18
- Proverbs 11:30
- Proverbs 13:12
- Proverbs 15:4
The early church believed in the imminent return of JC
* 1 Corinthians 1:7 – Paul commended Corinthians because they were “awaiting for the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ”
* Philippians 3:20 – “But our citizenship is in Heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ”
* 1 Thessalonians 1:9-10 – Paul commended the Thessalonians because they “turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, and to wait for His Son from Heaven”
* Titus 2:13 – Paul reminded Titus that Christians are to be “waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus”
* James 5:7 – James encouraged his readers to “be patient, therefore brothers, until the coming of the Lord”

2. The Importance of Revelation – 10-15
   (1) It Reveals the Climax of All the Ages – 10
(2) *It Reveals the Contrast between the Believer and Non-Believer – 11*

(3) *It Reveals the Coming Reward for the Believer – 12*

(4) *It Reveals the Character of Jesus – 13*

(5) *It Reveals the Consequences of the Gospel 14-15*

3. *The Invitation of Revelation – 16-17*
B. Words of Warning – 22:18-19

C. Closing Benediction – 22:20-21