

THE R.U.S.H. BIBLE STUDY REVELATION



KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT FAST



WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY FIRST EDITION 2020 VER.26

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Revelation

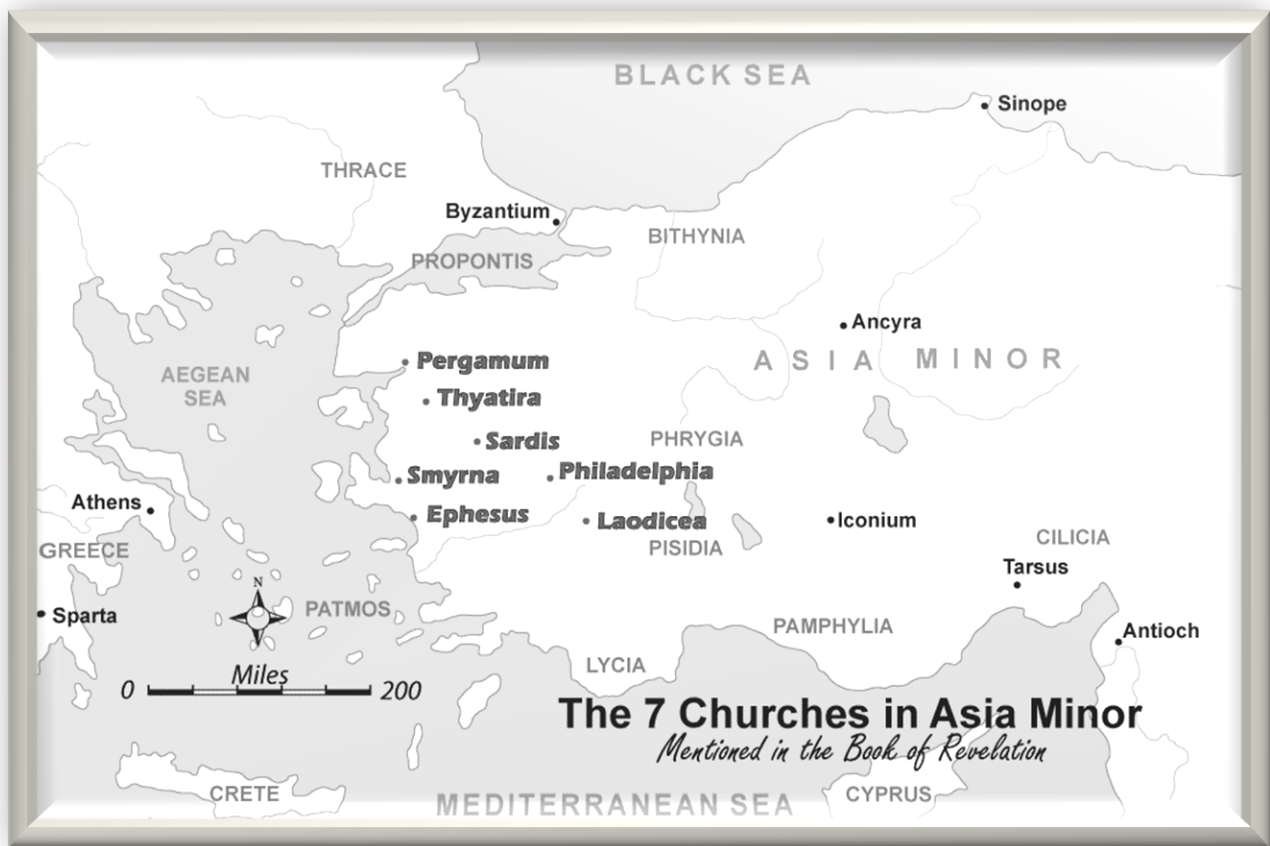
John sees visions of things that have been, things that are, and things that are yet to unfold.

Author: John

In Revelation – Jesus is the King of Kings and Lord of Lords, The Alpha and the Omega, The Beginning and the End, The First and The Last, The soon coming King, and the One who makes all things new.

Revelation 21:6 "It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To him who is thirsty I will give to drink without cost from the spring of the water of life."

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TEACHER: 22 CHAPTERS

John the Apostle, and disciple of Jesus. 1 of the 12. Living at this time in exile on the Island of Patmos. (see map)

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CH. 1

STUDENT:

This book is the record of the events that Jesus Christ revealed. God gave him this revelation in order to show to his servants what must happen very soon. Christ made these things known to his servant John by sending his angel to him, ² and John has told all that he has seen. This is his report concerning the message from God and the truth revealed by Jesus Christ. ³ Happy is the one who reads this book, and happy are those who listen to the words of this prophetic message and obey what is written in this book! For the time is near when all these things will happen. (GNT)



TEACHER:

This text we see, is a revelation from Jesus, to John, sent by an Angel, to inform the church what must happen soon. The reward is happiness, for those who read, listen, and obey this message. The vision starts with a message to the 7 churches in Asia Minor. All 7 church locations mentioned here, are today located in Turkey. But John first tells us what it was like to have the experience, and to see Jesus again.

STUDENT:

⁴ From John to the seven churches in the province of Asia:

Grace and peace be yours from God, who is, who was, and who is to come, and from the seven spirits in front of his throne, ⁵ and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the first to be raised from death and who is also the ruler of the kings of the world.

He loves us, and by his sacrificial death he has freed us from our sins ⁶ and made us a kingdom of priests to serve his God and Father. To Jesus Christ be the glory and power forever and ever! Amen.

⁷ Look, he is coming on the clouds! Everyone will see him, including those who pierced him. All peoples on earth will mourn over him. So shall it be!

⁸ "I am the first and the last," says the Lord God Almighty, who is, who was, and who is to come. (GNT)

TEACHER:

The Vision of Christ. Try to imagine yourself in the same position.

As for the 7 Spirits. This is tricky. The best I can come up with so far, is the picture John paints seems it may be the visual description of the Trinity. He says "from God, and the 7 Spirits, and from Jesus Christ." Nowhere in the Bible is the Holy Spirit described like this, but nowhere in the Bible did anyone see the Holy Spirit either, although when Jesus was baptized the Spirit appeared as a dove. It could be these are 7 different Spirits and The Holy Spirit is on Earth while Jesus is in Heaven, however, in Isaiah 11:2-3, there is a list of only 6 Spirits in Isaiah's version of this vision. But they are here listed as 7. Spirits 2-7 are the 6 mentioned in Isaiah. Here the 1st is added, "The Spirit of the Lord", this 1st must be The Holy Spirit.

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|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. The Spirit of the Lord | 5. The Spirit of Might |
| 2. The Spirit of Wisdom | 6. The Spirit of Knowledge |
| 3. The Spirit of Understanding | 7. The Spirit of the Fear of the Lord |
| 4. The Spirit of Counsel | |

This is a layman's attempt at a few possible options, I feel comfortable thinking to myself that this could be the way a mortal may see the Holy Spirit. As several Spirits before the throne of God with the Holy Spirit over them. Another possibility is they are 7 spirits of untold number, or 1 here for each of the 7 churches described, and John

saw them standing before God because they were giving their reports on the 7 churches. In chapter 8 we also will hear of 7 angels who stand before God, could these be a very special rank of angel?

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STUDENT:

⁹ I am John, your brother, and as a follower of Jesus I am your partner in patiently enduring the suffering that comes to those who belong to his Kingdom. I was put on the island of Patmos because I had proclaimed God's word and the truth that Jesus revealed. ¹⁰ On the Lord's Day the Spirit took control of me, and I heard a loud voice, that sounded like a trumpet, speaking behind me. ¹¹ It said, "Write down what you see, and send the book to the churches in these seven cities: Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia, and Laodicea." (GNT)

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STUDENT:

¹² I turned around to see who was talking to me, and I saw seven gold lampstands, ¹³ and among them there was what looked like a human being, wearing a robe that reached to his feet, and a gold band around his chest. ¹⁴ His hair was white as wool, or as snow, and his eyes blazed like fire; ¹⁵ his feet shone like brass that has been refined and polished, and his voice sounded like a roaring waterfall. ¹⁶ He held seven stars in his right hand, and a sharp two-edged sword came out of his mouth. His face was as bright as the midday sun.

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STUDENT:

¹⁷ When I saw him, I fell down at his feet like a dead man. He placed his right hand on me and said, "Don't be afraid! I am the first and the last. ¹⁸ I am the living one! I was dead, but now I am alive forever and ever. I have authority over death and the world of the dead. ¹⁹ Write, then, the things you see, both the things that are now and the things that will happen afterward. ²⁰ Here is the secret meaning of the seven stars that you see in my right hand, and of the seven gold lampstands: the seven stars are the angels of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands are the seven churches. (GNT)

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THE SEVEN CHURCHES

TEACHER:

The 1st church is Ephesus. We will discuss each church as we go. Feel free to speak up. Many who study the bible believe this is a prophesy and a revelation. A prophesy of the next 2 thousand years of the church as it progresses through 7 stages ending in luke-warmness, and a revelation of the condition of the 7 existing churches as they were at that moment. I personally feel both viewpoints are correct and often overlap as well. You might also add 7 examples of individual Christians and what we should do specifically.

As we read each church note what is common among all 7 and is a command for us as well.

1. They all have to "hear"
2. They all have to "overcome"
3. They all have to share in "hope"

Historically I would like to add:

Ephesus is told to change or its lampstand will be moved in verse 5. The city was actually physically moved 3 miles from its location later in its history to its current location.

The 2 cities that today are still totally abandoned are the 2 churches dealt with the harshest. Sardis & Laodicea. The 2 best churches lasted the longest in the Turkish war. Smyrna & Philadelphia.

TEACHER:

1st Church, Ephesus. Major Sea port on the Aegean Sea. Home of the Temple to Artemis (one of the seven wonders of the ancient world). Planted by Paul it was the most authoritative church in Asia Minor.

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CH. 2

STUDENT:

"To the angel of the church in Ephesus write:

"This is the message from the one who holds the seven stars in his right hand and who walks among the seven gold lampstands. ²I know what you have done; I know how hard you have worked and how patient you have been. I know that you cannot tolerate evil people and that you have tested those who say they are apostles but are not, and have found out that they are liars. ³You are patient, you have suffered for my sake, and you have not given up. ⁴But this is what I have against you: you do not love me now as you did at first. (GNT)

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STUDENT:

⁵Think how far you have fallen! Turn from your sins and do what you did at first. If you don't turn from your sins, I will come to you and take your lampstand from its place. ⁶But this is what you have in your favor: you hate what the Nicolaitans do, as much as I do. ⁷"If you have ears, then, listen to what the Spirit says to the churches! "To those who win the victory I will give the right to eat the fruit of the tree of life that grows in the Garden of God. (GNT)

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TEACHER:

The Nicolaitans came from a certain deacon who lived in Jerusalem, named Nicolas. Isadore of Seville, who wrote "Etymologies and Origins," claimed they had open and plural marriages. Next church, Smyrna.

Smyrna was the home of Homer, (a Greek poet who wrote the Iliad and the Odyssey), the Temple of Athena. It was a costal Sea port like Ephesus eventually being ministry headquarters to Polycarp, John's disciple.

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STUDENT:

⁸"To the angel of the church in Smyrna write:

"This is the message from the one who is the first and the last, who died and lived again. ⁹I know your troubles; I know that you are poor—but really you are rich! I know the evil things said against you by those who claim to be Jews but are not; they are a group that belongs to Satan! ¹⁰Don't be afraid of anything you are about to suffer. Listen! The Devil will put you to the test by having some of you thrown into prison, and your troubles will last ten days. Be faithful to me, even if it means death, and I will give you life as your prize of victory.

¹¹"If you have ears, then, listen to what the Spirit says to the churches! "Those who win the victory will not be hurt by the second death. (GNT)

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TEACHER:

Notice this church had no faults, yet they were being attacked by Satan, had troubles and were poor. They also were slandered and about to enter an even deeper suffering. Next church, Pergamum, also called Pergamos.

Rome's provincial capital and seat of culture housing the world's finest library.

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STUDENT:

¹² “To the angel of the church in Pergamum write:

“This is the message from the one who has the sharp two-edged sword. ¹³ I know where you live, there where Satan has his throne. You are true to me, and you did not abandon your faith in me even during the time when Antipas, my faithful witness, was killed there where Satan lives. ¹⁴ But there are a few things I have against you: there are some among you who follow the teaching of Balaam, who taught Balak how to lead the people of Israel into sin by persuading them to eat food that had been offered to idols and to practice sexual immorality.

STUDENT:

¹⁵ In the same way you have people among you who follow the teaching of the Nicolaitans. ¹⁶ Now turn from your sins! If you don't, I will come to you soon and fight against those people with the sword that comes out of my mouth.

¹⁷ “If you have ears, then, listen to what the Spirit says to the churches!

“To those who win the victory I will give some of the hidden manna. I will also give each of them a white stone on which is written a new name that no one knows except the one who receives it. (GNT)

TEACHER:

2 complaints. Doctrine of the Nicolaitans, and teaching of Balaam who taught Balak to miss-lead Israel. You can study Balak in Numbers and Joshua, and read about him and his talking donkey. He was mixing the worship of God, with devil worship. We see this today in the Baha'i faith among others. Mixing Christianity with other religions. The Devils mantra, “all roads lead to God.” Or “you decide how to find the divine.”



Next church, Thyatira. A city founded by Alexander the Great for trade, most notably purple dye used for fabrics. Purple being the official color of royalty. Lydia from Paul's ministry was originally from Thyatira.

STUDENT:

¹⁸ “To the angel of the church in Thyatira write:

“This is the message from the Son of God, whose eyes blaze like fire, whose feet shine like polished brass. ¹⁹ I know what you do. I know your love, your faithfulness, your service, and your patience. I know that you are doing more now than you did at first. ²⁰ But this is what I have against you: you tolerate that woman Jezebel, who calls herself a messenger of God. By her teaching she misleads my servants into practicing sexual immorality and eating food that has been offered to idols.

STUDENT:

²¹ I have given her time to repent of her sins, but she does not want to turn from her immorality. ²² And so I will throw her on a bed where she and those who committed adultery with her will suffer terribly. I will do this now unless they repent of the wicked things they did with her. ²³ I will also kill her followers, and then all the churches will know that I am the one who knows everyone's thoughts and wishes. I will repay each of you according to what you have done. (GNT)

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STUDENT:

²⁴ “But the rest of you in Thyatira have not followed this evil teaching; you have not learned what the others call ‘the deep secrets of Satan.’ I say to you that I will not put any other burden on you. ²⁵ But until I come, you must hold firmly to what you have. ²⁶⁻²⁸ To those who win the victory, who continue to the end to do what I want, I will give the same authority that I received from my Father: I will give them authority over the nations, to rule them with an iron rod and to break them to pieces like clay pots. I will also give them the morning star. ²⁹ “If you have ears, then, listen to what the Spirit says to the churches! (GNT)

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TEACHER:

Once again, some in the church were teaching free sexuality. Next church, Sardis. This city was built on top of a mesa or plateau. This made them very difficult to siege, and they survived many attempts at overthrow.

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STUDENT:

“To the angel of the church in Sardis write:

“This is the message from the one who has the seven spirits of God and the seven stars. I know what you are doing; I know that you have the reputation of being alive, even though you are dead! ² So wake up, and strengthen what you still have before it dies completely. For I find that what you have done is not yet perfect in the sight of my God. ³ Remember, then, what you were taught and what you heard; obey it and turn from your sins. If you do not wake up, I will come upon you like a thief, and you will not even know the time when I will come.

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STUDENT:

⁴ But a few of you there in Sardis have kept your clothes clean. You will walk with me, clothed in white, because you are worthy to do so. ⁵ Those who win the victory will be clothed like this in white, and I will not remove their names from the book of the living. In the presence of my Father and of his angels I will declare openly that they belong to me.

⁶ “If you have ears, then, listen to what the Spirit says to the churches! (GNT)

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TEACHER:

The problem here was a church, now in its 2nd generation. They are living off of their parent’s testimony. Next church, Philadelphia. This city was (and is) the “Gateway to the East.” Rich in commerce.

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STUDENT:

⁷ “To the angel of the church in Philadelphia write:

“This is the message from the one who is holy and true. He has the key that belonged to David, and when he opens a door, no one can close it, and when he closes it, no one can open it. ⁸ I know what you do; I know that you have a little power; you have followed my teaching and have been faithful to me. I have opened a door in front of you, which no one can close. ⁹ Listen! As for that group that belongs to Satan, those liars who claim that they are Jews but are not, I will make them come and bow down at your feet. They will all know that I love you.

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STUDENT:

¹⁰ Because you have kept my command to endure, I will also keep you safe from the time of trouble which is coming upon the world to test all the people on earth. ¹¹ I am coming soon. Keep safe what you have, so that no one will rob you of your victory prize. ¹² I will make those who are victorious pillars in the temple of my God, and they will never leave it. I will write on them the name of my God and the name of the city of my God, the New Jerusalem, which will come down out of heaven from my God. I will also write on them my new name.

¹³ "If you have ears, then, listen to what the Spirit says to the churches! (GNT)

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TEACHER:

Philadelphia is the best church of the 7. Many (including myself) feel the exhortation to Philadelphia in verse 10 reveals support for a "pre-trib." rapture. Final message to the 7 churches, Laodicea.

Laodicea was wealthy. Very wealthy. Known for trade and banking. They had a world famous medical school and were very famous for their fashions and high standard of design and quality of clothes. Laodicea was Paris.

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STUDENT:

¹⁴ "To the angel of the church in Laodicea write:

"This is the message from the Amen, the faithful and true witness, who is the origin of all that God has created. ¹⁵ I know what you have done; I know that you are neither cold nor hot. How I wish you were either one or the other! ¹⁶ But because you are lukewarm, neither hot nor cold, I am going to spit you out of my mouth! ¹⁷ You say, 'I am rich and well off; I have all I need.' But you do not know how miserable and pitiful you are! You are poor, naked, and blind. ¹⁸ I advise you, then, to buy gold from me, pure gold, in order to be rich. Buy also white clothing to dress yourself and cover up your shameful nakedness. Buy also some ointment to put on your eyes, so that you may see.

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STUDENT:

¹⁹ I rebuke and punish all whom I love. Be in earnest, then, and turn from your sins. ²⁰ Listen! I stand at the door and knock; if any hear my voice and open the door, I will come into their house and eat with them, and they will eat with me. ²¹ To those who win the victory I will give the right to sit beside me on my throne, just as I have been victorious and now sit by my Father on his throne.

²² "If you have ears, then, listen to what the Spirit says to the churches!" (GNT)

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TEACHER:

"I am going to spit you out of my mouth." A Lukewarm church. The positive note? Jesus says "I stand at the door and knock." If you are lukewarm, Jesus is knocking. Chapter 4 shows us what worship in Heaven is like.

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STUDENT:

CH. 4

At this point I had another vision and saw an open door in heaven.

And the voice that sounded like a trumpet, which I had heard speaking to me before, said, "Come up here, and I will show you what must happen after this." ² At once the Spirit took control of me. There in heaven was a throne with someone sitting on it. ³ His face gleamed like such precious stones as jasper and carnelian, and all around the throne there was a rainbow the color of an emerald. ⁴ In a circle around the throne were twenty-four other thrones, on which were seated twenty-four elders dressed in white and wearing crowns of gold. ⁵ From the throne came flashes of lightning, rumblings, and peals of thunder. In front of the throne seven lighted torches were burning, which are the seven spirits of God. ⁶ Also in front of the throne there was what looked like a sea of glass, clear as crystal. (GNT)

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TEACHER:

This is my take, but only mine. Pray, teach and learn for yourselves, and between us maybe something good can come from the effort. 1st the voice says I must show you what happens “after this.” I ask myself after what? The obvious answer is what was just witnessed by John. And what was that? The messages to the 7 churches. So if what is to be shown happens after the 7 messages to the churches, then I conclude (with my human mind) that this will happen after the church age.

Then instantly John is taken to the throne of God. So if my logic is Godly, and I don’t know that it is, it would mean that after the church age is complete we will be face to face with God at His throne. Around this throne are 24 other thrones, I would assume smaller, and the only thing I can think of is that 12 would be the 12 disciples of Christ, ruling over the saved Jews, and 12 Apostles to the Gentiles, ruling over the saved non-Jews or Gentiles. I also must assume that this is after the rapture, and not the second coming, because the voice in verse 1 calls to him saying “come up here.” He doesn’t come down to John, he calls him and John is instantly there. Does that make sense to you?

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STUDENT:

Surrounding the throne on each of its sides, were four living creatures covered with eyes in front and behind. ⁷ The first one looked like a lion; the second looked like a bull; the third had a face like a human face; and the fourth looked like an eagle in flight. ⁸ Each one of the four living creatures had six wings, and they were covered with eyes, inside and out. Day and night they never stop singing:

“Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty, who was, who is, and who is to come.” (GNT)

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TEACHER:

4 creatures covered with eyes, front and back. I will assume these are actual and not symbolic only. Being covered with eyes would indicate that they take in visual information, and discern. Jesus said the eye is the light of the body in the Sermon on the Mount. If there are 4, once again I would assume since God is a God of order, they would be arrayed in the 4 corners, perhaps stationed near the 4 legs of God’s throne. Each 1 also had 6 wings. This would match the seraphim from Isaiah 6:2-6 which also had 6 wings. It could be that John saw the same creatures Isaiah saw. Having 6 wings would make them very maneuverable in flight. Nothing living on earth has 6 wings so we can’t know for sure, but I would think it would make them more maneuverable in flight than anything on Earth. Next unique thing is the heads of the 4 creatures each had a different structure, a lion, a bull, a human face, and an eagle in flight. The Lion’s skill set is to protect its pride (family), the Bulls skill set is brute strength, the Human’s is rational thought and communication, and the Eagle in flight is the fastest of the 4 in its skill set, with the best pair of eyes by far.

In very early Christianity, 1 take of this scene is, they are symbolic of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.

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STUDENT:

⁹ The four living creatures sing songs of glory and honor and thanks to the one who sits on the throne, who lives forever and ever. When they do so, ¹⁰ the twenty-four elders fall down before the one who sits on the throne, and worship him who lives forever and ever. They throw their crowns down in front of the throne and say,

¹¹ “Our Lord and God! You are worthy to receive glory, honor, and power.
For you created all things, and by your will they were given existence and life.” (GNT)

TEACHER:

So with all that set of skills, they are a choir. Think for a moment, why a choir with those skills?
Because evil attacks worship. Let's move to Chapter 5 and the scroll that God is holding in His right hand.

STUDENT:

I saw a scroll in the right hand of the one who sits on the throne; it was covered with writing on both sides and was sealed with seven seals. ² And I saw a mighty angel, who announced in a loud voice, "Who is worthy to break the seals and open the scroll?" ³ But there was no one in heaven or on earth or in the world below who could open the scroll and look inside it. ⁴ I cried bitterly because no one could be found who was worthy to open the scroll or look inside it. ⁵ Then one of the elders said to me, "Don't cry. Look! The Lion from Judah's tribe, the great descendant of David, has won the victory, and he can break the seven seals and open the scroll." (GNT)

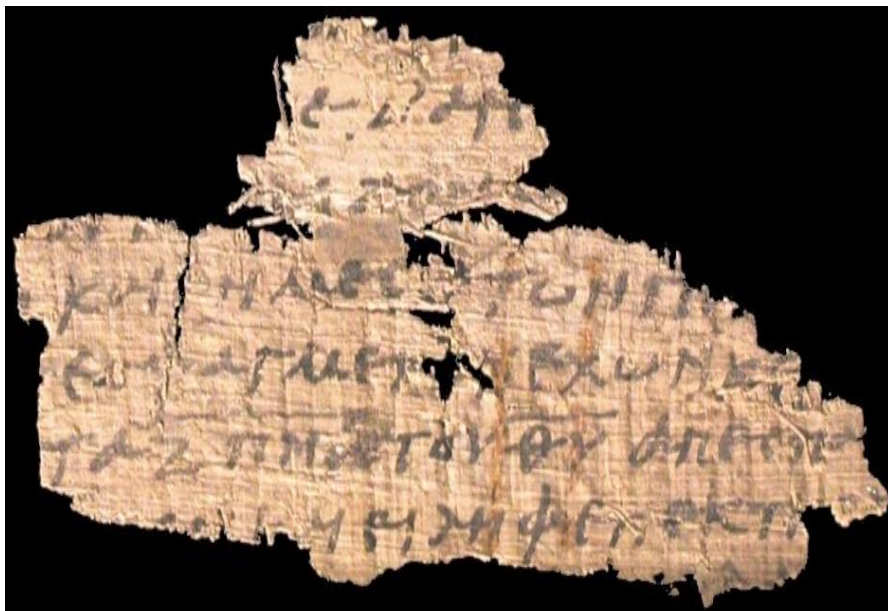
STUDENT:

⁶ Then I saw a Lamb standing in the center of the throne, surrounded by the four living creatures and the elders. The Lamb appeared to have been killed. It had seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God that have been sent through the whole earth. ⁷ The Lamb went and took the scroll from the right hand of the one who sits on the throne. ⁸ As he did so, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb. Each had a harp and gold bowls filled with incense, which are the prayers of God's people. ⁹ They sang a new song: (GNT)

TEACHER:

The picture John Paints is this. God is on the throne, holding a scroll sealed with 7 seals.
No one can open the scroll. One of the elders says The Lion of the Tribe of Judah can open it.
Next John sees the Lamb standing in the center of the throne, surrounded by the 4 creatures with the eyes and wings. It looked like the Lamb had been killed. The Lamb had 7 horns, and 7 eyes, symbolizing the 7 Spirits.
The lamb takes the scroll and the choir breaks out in song.
Here is the song.

A very old papyrus of Revelation 5:5-8



STUDENT:

"You are worthy to take the scroll and to break open its seals.
For you were killed, and by your sacrificial death you bought for God
people from every tribe, language, nation, and race.

¹⁰ You have made them a kingdom of priests to serve our God, and they shall rule on earth."

¹¹ Again I looked, and I heard angels, thousands and millions of them! They stood around the throne, the four
living creatures, and the elders, ¹² and sang in a loud voice: "The Lamb who was killed is worthy
to receive power, wealth, wisdom, and strength, honor, glory, and praise!"

¹³ And I heard every creature in heaven, on earth, in the world below, and in the sea—all living beings in the
universe—and they were singing:

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

¹⁴ The four living creatures answered, "Amen!" And the elders fell down and worshiped. (GNT)

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CH. 6

TEACHER:
The 7 Seals.



1 st seal	The White Horse.	The conqueror is the rider.
2 nd seal	The Red Horse.	The power to wage war was the rider.
3 rd seal	The Black Horse.	The rider with a set of scales, to control the markets.
4 th seal	The Pale Horse.	The rider was death, and hell followed close behind him.

These 4 riders were given authority to over ¼ of the Earth, to kill by war, famine, disease, and wild animals.

Let's read the 5th seal.

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STUDENT:

⁹ Then the Lamb broke open the fifth seal. I saw underneath the altar the souls of those who had been killed
because they had proclaimed God's word and had been faithful in their witnessing. ¹⁰ They shouted in a loud voice,
"Almighty Lord, holy and true! How long will it be until you judge the people on earth and punish them for killing
us?" ¹¹ Each of them was given a white robe, and they were told to rest a little while longer, until the complete
number of other servants and believers were killed, as they had been. (GNT)

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TEACHER:

It appears to me since this is another seal, that the souls of all those martyred will be moved to the altar in the
throne room, and dressed in attire fit for the throne room. Then seal 6.

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STUDENT:

¹² And I saw the Lamb break open the sixth seal. There was a violent earthquake, and the sun became black like coarse black cloth, and the moon turned completely red like blood. ¹³ The stars fell down to the earth, like unripe figs falling from the tree when a strong wind shakes it. ¹⁴ The sky disappeared like a scroll being rolled up, and every mountain and island was moved from its place. ¹⁵ Then the kings of the earth, the rulers and the military chiefs, the rich and the powerful, and all other people, slave and free, hid themselves in caves and under rocks on the mountains. ¹⁶ They called out to the mountains and to the rocks, "Fall on us and hide us from the eyes of the one who sits on the throne and from the anger of the Lamb! ¹⁷ The terrible day of their anger is here, and who can stand up against it?" (GNT)

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TEACHER:

Seal 6 begins with an Earth Quake. A big one. Here you see the anger of God is so kindled by the presence of the Martyrs and their prayers that He begins a universe wide, top to bottom accounting of the shed blood His children, who were martyred in His service. He is going to make the entire universe pay for it. The laws of physics will now obey the will of the God who established them. He allows the Earth to survive this so that all creation can feel the fullness of His wrath. In 1 motion He wipes out the night sky, and causes the stars to pummel the Earth. Our Sun alone can house 1,300,000 Earth-size planets and there are trillions of them, many times larger than that. It's as if he literally will walk back the Big Bang to collapse the mass of stars all over the universe onto itself turning this continuum into trillions of singularities, gather up the pebbles that they have become, and throw them at Earth in disgust. That is the wrath of God, and He isn't done yet. So now, with a universe missing many of its stars, the night sky much darker, the Earth suspended in space waits God's next move.

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STUDENT:

CH. 7

After this I saw four angels standing at the four corners of the earth, holding back the four winds so that no wind should blow on the earth or the sea or against any tree. ² And I saw another angel coming up from the east with the seal of the living God. He called out in a loud voice to the four angels to whom God had given the power to damage the earth and the sea. ³ The angel said, "Do not harm the earth, the sea, or the trees, until we mark the servants of our God with a seal on their foreheads." (GNT)

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STUDENT:

⁴ And I was told that the number of those who were marked with God's seal on their foreheads was 144,000. They were from the twelve tribes of Israel, ⁵⁻⁸ twelve thousand from each tribe: Judah, Reuben, Gad, Asher, Naphtali, Manasseh, Simeon, Levi, Issachar, Zebulun, Joseph, and Benjamin. (GNT)

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TEACHER:

So 6 of the 7 seals have been opened, but not seal 7. This chapter seems to slow the succession of calamity. A pause in the action. Preparations must be made before seal 7. The chapter starts, "after this" ("this" being the 4 Horsemen) John sees 4 angels at the 4 corners of the Earth have appeared whose duty is to stop the destruction that was happening on Earth, I would guess caused by the cosmic shift of the laws of physics in chapter 6. They even halted the wind. A 5th angel appears from the east, and stops the 4 horsemen who John now calls angels. This 5th angel from the east, tells the 4 horsemen to stop the terror until all the servants of God are marked on their foreheads with a seal. This seems like a type of a Passover ritual, marking God's children. The number marked were 144,000 people. 12,000 each from the 12 tribes of Israel. In the meantime back to Heaven.

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STUDENT:

⁹ After this I looked, and there was an enormous crowd—no one could count all the people! They were from every race, tribe, nation, and language, and they stood in front of the throne and of the Lamb, dressed in white robes and holding palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰ They called out in a loud voice: “Salvation comes from our God, who sits on the throne, and from the Lamb!” ¹¹ All the angels stood around the throne, the elders, and the four living creatures. Then they threw themselves face downward in front of the throne and worshiped God, ¹² saying, “Amen! Praise, glory, wisdom, thanksgiving, honor, power, and might belong to our God forever and ever! Amen!” ¹³ One of the elders asked me, “Who are these people dressed in white robes, and where do they come from?” ¹⁴ “I don’t know, sir. You do,” I answered. (GNT)

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TEACHER:

While the trouble on Earth is occurring John’s focus switches back to the Throne Room. All of a sudden there appears a multitude. They are dressed in white robes holding palm branches, and worshipping God. 1 of the elders sitting on 1 of the 24 thrones around God’s throne asks John who they were, and he says he “doesn’t know, you do.”

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STUDENT:

He said to me, “These are the people who have come safely through the terrible persecution. They have washed their robes and made them white with the blood of the Lamb. ¹⁵ That is why they stand before God’s throne and serve him day and night in his temple. He who sits on the throne will protect them with his presence. ¹⁶ Never again will they hunger or thirst; neither sun nor any scorching heat will burn them, ¹⁷ because the Lamb, who is in the center of the throne, will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of life-giving water. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.” (GNT)

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TEACHER:

These people it would seem, are the people who have come from “the” great persecution. Sticking with context I conclude that they have survived the persecution occurring during the 4 horsemen’s reign of terror. They have a very special relationship with the lord. The questions we might have, looking at all of scripture, is this then a mid-trib rapture? People who were backslidden at the point of a pre-trib rapture, that now appear? It’s possible. Another possibility is they were raptured with everybody else, but then afterword, brought up to snuff and just now are appearing in the throne room. But that raises other doctrinal concerns such as we have once to die, and then the judgement. Another thought is could this be all the righteous people from Adam to the end that were raptured, and now is the 1st time John sees them in this room where the throne of God is? 1 last possibility, could this be the people “under the altar” brought out now to watch God’s 7th seal? Food for thought. I’m just glad they are there, and also why I believe there could be several raptures, pre, mid and post.

On to chapter 8 and the 7th seal.

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CH. 8

STUDENT:

When the Lamb broke open the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven for about half an hour. ² Then I saw the seven angels who stand before God, and they were given seven trumpets. ³ Another angel, who had a gold incense container, came and stood at the altar. He was given a lot of incense to add to the prayers of all God’s people and to offer it on the gold altar that stands before the throne. ⁴ The smoke of the burning incense went up with the prayers of God’s people from the hands of the angel standing before God. ⁵ Then the angel took the incense container, filled it with fire from the altar, and threw it on the earth. There were rumblings and peals of thunder, flashes of lightning, and an earthquake. (GNT)

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TEACHER:

Everyone is gathered around the throne of God, God is on the throne, and the 7th seal is opened. ½ hour of silence. A clearing of the minds and hearts. There are as many guesses on this ½ hour as people who have read this passage. My take is everyone must be awestruck. The sight so overwhelming as to take your breath away. It takes us, on occasion, a few moments when we 1st get to church, to clear our minds. To prepare for worship, and the word. This ½ hour, may be for the newly arrived to catch up to those who are already there. Simple statement, take it or leave it, no harm no foul. Then 7 angels receive 7 trumpets, and an 8th angel approaches the altar with incense, symbolizing the prayers of God's people. He sets the incense on fire using the fire on the altar, and throws it onto the Earth. This sets off an earthquake and thundering etc. Next the trumpets play.

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STUDENT: 1st Angel

⁶ Then the seven angels with the seven trumpets prepared to blow them.

⁷ The first angel blew his trumpet. Hail and fire, mixed with blood, came pouring down on the earth. A third of the earth was burned up, a third of the trees, and every blade of green grass. (GNT)

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STUDENT: 2ⁿ Angel

⁸ Then the second angel blew his trumpet. Something that looked like a huge mountain on fire was thrown into the sea. A third of the sea was turned into blood, ⁹ a third of the living creatures in the sea died, and a third of the ships were destroyed. (GNT)

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STUDENT: 3rd Angel

¹⁰ Then the third angel blew his trumpet. A large star, burning like a torch, dropped from the sky and fell on a third of the rivers and on the springs of water. ¹¹ (The name of the star is "Bitterness.") A third of the water turned bitter, and many people died from drinking the water, because it had turned bitter. (GNT)

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STUDENT: 4th Angel

¹² Then the fourth angel blew his trumpet. A third of the sun was struck, and a third of the moon, and a third of the stars, so that their light lost a third of its brightness; there was no light during a third of the day and a third of the night also.

¹³ Then I looked, and I heard an eagle that was flying high in the air say in a loud voice, "O horror! horror! How horrible it will be for all who live on earth when the sound comes from the trumpets that the other three angels must blow!" (GNT)

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TEACHER:

So here we are in Heaven, God on the throne, 24 elders around the throne, 4 creatures with eyes fore and back, and 6 wings each at 4 corners near the throne, a great multitude of believers, having just finished a worship service, and 7 angels step up, are handed 7 trumpets and one by one they start to sound a trumpet blast that has huge ramifications on Earth.

- 1st trumpet Hail and fire mixed with blood. 1/3 of the Earth burned, 1/3 of the trees, and all the grass.
- 2nd trumpet Something like a huge mountain on fire was thrown into the sea. (a meteor?) 1/3 of the seas turned to blood, 1/3 of everything in the seas killed, 1/3 of all naval vessels destroyed.
- 3rd trumpet A large star, burning, falls and turns 1/3 of all fresh water bitter, and as a result, killing many.
- 4th trumpet 1/3 of the Sun, moon and stars are struck diminishing 1/3 of sunlight and starlight.

As if that wasn't enough, a flying, talking eagle, say's something like "you haven't seen anything yet."

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CH. 9

STUDENT: 5th Angel

Then the fifth angel blew his trumpet. I saw a star which had fallen down to the earth, and it was given the key to the abyss. ²The star opened the abyss, and smoke poured out of it, like the smoke from a large furnace; the sunlight and the air were darkened by the smoke from the abyss. ³Locusts came down out of the smoke upon the earth, and they were given the same kind of power that scorpions have. ⁴They were told not to harm the grass or the trees or any other plant; they could harm only the people who did not have the mark of God's seal on their foreheads. ⁵The locusts were not allowed to kill these people, but only to torture them for five months. The pain caused by the torture is like the pain caused by a scorpion's sting. ⁶During those five months they will seek death, but will not find it; they will want to die, but death will flee from them.

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STUDENT: *continued*

⁷The locusts looked like horses ready for battle; on their heads they had what seemed to be crowns of gold, and their faces were like human faces. ⁸Their hair was like women's hair, their teeth were like lions' teeth. ⁹Their chests were covered with what looked like iron breastplates, and the sound made by their wings was like the noise of many horse-drawn chariots rushing into battle. ¹⁰They have tails and stings like those of a scorpion, and it is with their tails that they have the power to hurt people for five months. ¹¹They have a king ruling over them, who is the angel in charge of the abyss. His name in Hebrew is Abaddon; in Greek the name is Apollyon (meaning "The Destroyer").

¹²The first horror is over; after this there are still two more horrors to come. (GNT)

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STUDENT: 6th Angel

¹³Then the sixth angel blew his trumpet. I heard a voice coming from the four corners of the gold altar standing before God. ¹⁴The voice said to the sixth angel, "Release the four angels who are bound at the great Euphrates River!" ¹⁵The four angels were released; for this very hour of this very day of this very month and year they had been kept ready to kill a third of all the human race. ¹⁶I was told the number of the mounted troops: it was two hundred million. (GNT)

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STUDENT:

¹⁷And in my vision I saw the horses and their riders: they had breastplates red as fire, blue as sapphire, and yellow as sulfur. The horses' heads were like lions' heads, and from their mouths came out fire, smoke, and sulfur. ¹⁸A third of the human race was killed by those three plagues: the fire, the smoke, and the sulfur coming out of the horses' mouths. ¹⁹For the power of the horses is in their mouths and also in their tails. Their tails are like snakes with heads, and they use them to hurt people. (GNT)

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STUDENT: *continued*

²⁰ The rest of the human race, all those who had not been killed by these plagues, did not turn away from what they themselves had made. They did not stop worshiping demons, nor the idols of gold, silver, bronze, stone, and wood, which cannot see, hear, or walk. ²¹ Nor did they repent of their murders, their magic, their sexual immorality, or their stealing. (GNT)

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TEACHER:

5th trumpet A star had fallen to Earth, and opened the abyss. Smoke came out of the abyss and the smoke rains down locusts the size of horses that could sting similar to a scorpion. They couldn't harm plant life, only the people God's angel didn't seal in their foreheads after the 4 horsemen were finished in chapter 7. So those people couldn't be touched. They couldn't kill any one, they only torture the unsealed for 5 months. They are ruled by the king of the abyss, whose name is Abaddon.

6th trumpet It seems there are 4 angels bound at the Euphrates River, that here are released. Their purpose is to kill 1/3 of humanity. These last 2 trumpets are oddly reminiscent of where Korah was sent when he opposed Moses. These 4 angels amassed an army of 200 million troops mounted on horse like animals who could kill by breathing sulfur. After all these things, the human race still refuses to repent and serve the living God.

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CH. 10

STUDENT:

Then I saw another mighty angel coming down out of heaven. He was wrapped in a cloud and had a rainbow around his head; his face was like the sun, and his legs were like columns of fire. ² He had a small scroll open in his hand. He put his right foot on the sea and his left foot on the land, ³ and called out in a loud voice that sounded like the roar of lions. After he had called out, the seven thunders answered with a roar. ⁴ As soon as they spoke, I was about to write. But I heard a voice speak from heaven, "Keep secret what the seven thunders have said; do not write it down!" (GNT)

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STUDENT:

⁵ Then the angel that I saw standing on the sea and on the land raised his right hand to heaven ⁶ and took a vow in the name of God, who lives forever and ever, who created heaven, earth, and the sea, and everything in them. The angel said, "There will be no more delay! ⁷ But when the seventh angel blows his trumpet, then God will accomplish his secret plan, as he announced to his servants, the prophets."

⁸ Then the voice that I had heard speaking from heaven spoke to me again, saying, "Go and take the open scroll which is in the hand of the angel standing on the sea and on the land." (GNT)

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STUDENT:

⁹ I went to the angel and asked him to give me the little scroll. He said to me, "Take it and eat it; it will turn sour in your stomach, but in your mouth it will be sweet as honey."

¹⁰ I took the little scroll from his hand and ate it, and it tasted sweet as honey in my mouth. But after I swallowed it, it turned sour in my stomach. ¹¹ Then I was told, "Once again you must proclaim God's message about many nations, races, languages, and kings." (GNT)

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TEACHER:

This entire chapter we just read is preparatory for the 7th trumpet from the last of the 7 angels. John hears a secret, is told not to share it, and is told to take the scroll (opened by the 7 seals) and when he goes and gets it from the angel, the angel tells him to eat it, and it will taste sweet, but give his stomach bitterness. He then learns he will return to Earth and share Christ to the world some more. John is given a stick like a measuring rod for him to measure the temple on Earth, and count the people worshipping there. Not the outer courts, those belong to the heathens, because God is sending his 2 witnesses.

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STUDENT:

CH. 11

⁴ The two witnesses are the two olive trees and the two lamps that stand before the Lord of the earth. ⁵ If anyone tries to harm them, fire comes out of their mouths and destroys their enemies; and in this way whoever tries to harm them will be killed. ⁶ They have authority to shut up the sky so that there will be no rain during the time they proclaim God's message. They have authority also over the springs of water, to turn them into blood; they have authority also to strike the earth with every kind of plague as often as they wish. (GNT)

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STUDENT:

⁷ When they finish proclaiming their message, the beast that comes up out of the abyss will fight against them. He will defeat them and kill them, ⁸ and their bodies will lie in the street of the great city, where their Lord was crucified. The symbolic name of that city is Sodom, or Egypt. ⁹ People from all nations, tribes, languages, and races will look at their bodies for three and a half days and will not allow them to be buried. ¹⁰ The people of the earth will be happy because of the death of these two. They will celebrate and send presents to each other, because those two prophets brought much suffering upon the whole human race.

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STUDENT:

¹¹ After three and a half days a life-giving breath came from God and entered them, and they stood up; and all who saw them were terrified. ¹² Then the two prophets heard a loud voice say to them from heaven, "Come up here!" As their enemies watched, they went up into heaven in a cloud. ¹³ At that very moment there was a violent earthquake; a tenth of the city was destroyed, and seven thousand people were killed. The rest of the people were terrified and praised the greatness of the God of heaven.

¹⁴ The second horror is over, but the third horror will come soon! (GNT)

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TEACHER:

Who are these 2 witnesses? Most scholars believe, as I do also, that they are Enoch and Elijah, both of whom have never died, because it is appointed unto man once to die in Hebrews 9:27, and fulfilling God's judgement on Adam in the garden that man would surely die. Genesis 2:17. Next the 7th angel blows his trumpet.

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STUDENT: 7th Angel

¹⁵ Then the seventh angel blew his trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, "The power to rule over the world belongs now to our Lord and his Messiah, and he will rule forever and ever!" ¹⁶ Then the twenty-four elders who sit on their thrones in front of God threw themselves face downward and worshiped God, ¹⁷ saying: (GNT)

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STUDENT:

“Lord God Almighty, the one who is and who was!
We thank you that you have taken your great power and have begun to rule!
¹⁸ The heathen were filled with rage, because the time for your anger has come,
the time for the dead to be judged.

The time has come to reward your servants, the prophets,
and all your people, all who have reverence for you, great and small alike.

The time has come to destroy those who destroy the earth!”

¹⁹ God's temple in heaven was opened, and the Covenant Box was seen there. Then there were flashes of lightning, rumblings and peals of thunder, an earthquake, and heavy hail. (GNT)

TEACHER:

The 7th angel blows the 7th trumpet with lightning, thunder, and earthquake and hail. Just past the ½ way mark in the book of Revelation, entering chapter 12 we meet the main players in the 7th trumpet, the woman and the dragon.

CH. 12

STUDENT:

Then a great and mysterious sight appeared in the sky. There was a woman, whose dress was the sun and who had the moon under her feet and a crown of twelve stars on her head. ² She was soon to give birth, and the pains and suffering of childbirth made her cry out.

³ Another mysterious sight appeared in the sky. There was a huge red dragon with seven heads and ten horns and a crown on each of his heads. ⁴ With his tail he dragged a third of the stars out of the sky and threw them down to the earth. He stood in front of the woman, in order to eat her child as soon as it was born. ⁵ Then she gave birth to a son, who will rule over all nations with an iron rod. But the child was snatched away and taken to God and his throne. ⁶ The woman fled to the desert, to a place God had prepared for her, where she will be taken care of for 1,260 days. (GNT)

TEACHER:

The woman? I believe is Israel, The child? Jesus, the dragon we know is the Devil from the next passage.

STUDENT:

⁷ Then war broke out in heaven. Michael and his angels fought against the dragon, who fought back with his angels; ⁸ but the dragon was defeated, and he and his angels were not allowed to stay in heaven any longer. ⁹ The huge dragon was thrown out—that ancient serpent, named the Devil, or Satan, that deceived the whole world. He was thrown down to earth, and all his angels with him.

¹⁰ Then I heard a loud voice in heaven saying, “Now God's salvation has come! Now God has shown his power as King! Now his Messiah has shown his authority!

STUDENT:

For the one who stood before our God and accused believers day and night has been thrown out of heaven. ¹¹ They won the victory over him by the blood of the Lamb and by the truth which they proclaimed; and they were willing to give up their lives and die. ¹² And so be glad, you heavens, and all you that live there! But how terrible for the earth and the sea! For the Devil has come down to you, and he is filled with rage, because he knows that he has only a little time left.” (GNT)

TEACHER:

The obvious picture here, is from Israel's history. From Ezra's time to John the Baptist's time the woman (Israel) is in labor waiting for the Messiah. She gives birth to Jesus, he lives his life, dies for our sins, and ascends to Heaven. Once in Heaven, he wars with Satan and casts him out of Heaven. You will recall that Satan had audience with God in the book of Job.

STUDENT:

¹³ When the dragon realized that he had been thrown down to the earth, he began to pursue the woman who had given birth to the boy. ¹⁴ She was given the two wings of a large eagle in order to fly to her place in the desert, where she will be taken care of for three and a half years, safe from the dragon's attack. ¹⁵ And then from his mouth the dragon poured out a flood of water after the woman, so that it would carry her away. ¹⁶ But the earth helped the woman; it opened its mouth and swallowed the water that had come from the dragon's mouth. ¹⁷ The dragon was furious with the woman and went off to fight against the rest of her descendants, all those who obey God's commandments and are faithful to the truth revealed by Jesus. ¹⁸ And the dragon stood on the seashore. (GNT)

TEACHER:

After Jesus goes to Heaven and Satan is cast out, Satan turns his attention on to the Christians, 1st the Jewish, then the Gentile converts to Jesus. This is the retelling of the history of the church, we now move to the end of the church age. The anti-Christ. The mark of the beast. 666.

CH. 13

STUDENT:

Then I saw a beast coming up out of the sea. It had ten horns and seven heads; on each of its horns there was a crown, and on each of its heads there was a name that was insulting to God. ² The beast looked like a leopard, with feet like a bear's feet and a mouth like a lion's mouth. The dragon gave the beast his own power, his throne, and his vast authority. ³ One of the heads of the beast seemed to have been fatally wounded, but the wound had healed. The whole earth was amazed and followed the beast. ⁴ Everyone worshiped the dragon because he had given his authority to the beast. They worshiped the beast also, saying, "Who is like the beast? Who can fight against it?" (GNT)

TEACHER:

This is clearly a one world government, led by the devils puppet.

STUDENT:

⁵ The beast was allowed to make proud claims which were insulting to God, and it was permitted to have authority for forty-two months. ⁶ It began to curse God, his name, the place where he lives, and all those who live in heaven. ⁷ It was allowed to fight against God's people and to defeat them, and it was given authority over every tribe, nation, language, and race. ⁸ All people living on earth will worship it, except those whose names were written before the creation of the world in the book of the living which belongs to the Lamb that was killed. ⁹ "Listen, then, if you have ears! ¹⁰ Whoever is meant to be captured will surely be captured; whoever is meant to be killed by the sword will surely be killed by the sword. This calls for endurance and faith on the part of God's people." (GNT)

TEACHER:

This next passage clearly is a one world religion. Led by the same person who is the head of the one world government.

STUDENT:

¹¹ Then I saw another beast, which came up out of the earth. It had two horns like a lamb's horns, and it spoke like a dragon. ¹² It used the vast authority of the first beast in its presence. It forced the earth and all who live on it to worship the first beast, whose wound had healed. ¹³ This second beast performed great miracles; it made fire come down out of heaven to earth in the sight of everyone. ¹⁴ And it deceived all the people living on earth by means of the miracles which it was allowed to perform in the presence of the first beast. The beast told them to build an image in honor of the beast that had been wounded by the sword and yet lived. (GNT)

STUDENT:

¹⁵ The second beast was allowed to breathe life into the image of the first beast, so that the image could talk and put to death all those who would not worship it. ¹⁶ The beast forced all the people, small and great, rich and poor, slave and free, to have a mark placed on their right hands or on their foreheads. ¹⁷ No one could buy or sell without this mark, that is, the beast's name or the number that stands for the name.

¹⁸ This calls for wisdom. Whoever is intelligent can figure out the meaning of the number of the beast, because the number stands for the name of someone. Its number is 666. (GNT)

TEACHER:

Here we have a 2nd beast who leads the worship of the 1st beast, and controls a one world economy. Don't miss this. You now have an anti-trinity. The dragon, the 1st beast, and now the 2nd beast.

CH. 14

STUDENT:

Then I looked and saw the Lamb standing on Mount Zion. There were 144,000 people with Him. These people had His name and His Father's name written on their foreheads. ² I heard a voice coming from heaven. It was like the sound of rushing water and of loud thunder. The voice I heard was like people playing music on their harps. ³ This large group sang a new song. They sang before the throne and in front of the four living beings and the twenty-four leaders. Only the 144,000 could learn this song. They had been bought by the blood of Christ and made free from the earth. ⁴ These are men who have kept themselves pure by not being married. They follow the Lamb wherever He goes. They have been bought by the blood of Christ and have been made free from among men. They are the first ones to be given to God and to the Lamb. ⁵ No lie has come from their mouths. They are without blame. (New Life Version)

TEACHER:

On the surface, it would seem by the qualifications listed to be in this group, these 144,000 men are the closest representatives to people who lived the closest to the way Christ lived. Never married, and dedicating themselves wholly to God's service. Next up, 3 Angels.

STUDENT: 1st Angel.

⁶Then I saw another angel flying in the heavens. He was carrying the Good News that lasts forever. He was preaching to every nation and to every family group and to the people of every language and to all the people of the earth. ⁷He said with a loud voice, "Honor God with love and fear. The time has come for Him to judge all men. Worship Him Who made heaven and earth and the sea and the places where water comes out of the earth." (NLV)

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TEACHER:

Even at this late stage of the game, God is seeking to save the lost. Still giving chances.

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STUDENT: 2nd Angel.

⁸A second angel followed, saying, "Babylon has fallen! The great city Babylon has fallen! She made all the nations drink of the wine of her sinful sex life."

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STUDENT: 3rd Angel.

⁹A third angel followed, saying with a loud voice, "If anyone worships the wild animal and his false god and receives a mark on his forehead or hand, ¹⁰he will drink of the wine of the anger of God. It is mixed in full strength in the cup of God's anger. They will be punished with fire and burning Sulphur in front of the holy angels and before the Lamb. ¹¹The smoke of those who are being punished will go up forever. They have no rest day or night. It is because they have worshiped the wild animal and his false god and have received the mark of his name. ¹²This is why God's people need to keep true to God's Word and stay faithful to Jesus. (NLV)

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TEACHER:

So this must be why we had that last attempt at evangelism. The world is at the crossroad. "*choose this day....*"
3 angels.

1st angel proclaims the good news.

2nd angel proclaims the destruction of Babylon.

3rd angel warns all not to receive the mark of the beast.

This segment ends with a line drawn by the hand of God. Times up for making choices.

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STUDENT:

¹³Then I heard a voice from heaven, saying, "Write these words: 'From now on those who are dead who died belonging to the Lord will be happy.'" "Yes," says the Spirit, "they will have rest from all their work. All the good things they have done will follow them." (NLV)

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TEACHER:

Next up the infamous War of Armageddon.

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STUDENT:

¹⁴I looked and saw a white cloud. Sitting on the cloud was One like the Son of Man. He had a crown of gold on His head. In His hand He had a sharp knife for cutting grain. ¹⁵Then another angel came out from the house of God and called to Him with a loud voice. He said, "Use Your knife and gather in the grain. The time has come to gather the grain because the earth is ready." ¹⁶He Who sat on the cloud raised His knife over the earth. And the grain was gathered in. (NLV)

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STUDENT:

¹⁷Then another angel came out from the house of God in heaven. He had a sharp knife for cutting grain also. ¹⁸Another angel who has power over fire came out from the altar. He said with a loud voice to the angel who had the sharp knife, "Use your knife and gather in the grapes from the vine of the earth, for they are ready to gather." ¹⁹The angel used his sickle on the earth. He gathered from the vine of the earth and put the fruit into the large place for making wine. It was full of God's anger. ²⁰They walked on it outside the city and blood came out of the place where wine is made. The blood ran as far as a man could walk in seven days. It came up as high as a horse's head. (NLV)

TEACHER:

That is something to consider. A pool of blood, 7 feet deep, and takes 7 days to walk the length of. Next we find the Godly survivors of Armageddon standing before the throne in chapter 15.

CH. 15

STUDENT:

Then I saw something else special in heaven that was great and made me wonder. There were seven angels with the seven last kinds of trouble. With these, God's anger is finished. (NLV)

STUDENT:

²Then I saw something that looked like a sea of glass mixed with fire. I saw many standing on the sea of glass. They were those who had won their fight with the wild animal and his false god and with his mark. All of them were holding harps that God had given to them. ³They were singing the song of Moses, who was a servant owned by God, and the song of the Lamb, saying, "The things You do are great and powerful. You are the All-powerful Lord God. You are always right and true in everything You do. You are King of all nations. ⁴Who will not honor You, Lord, with love and fear? Who will not tell of the greatness of Your name? For You are the only One Who is holy. All nations will come and worship before You. Everyone sees that You do the right things." (NLV)

STUDENT:

⁵After this I looked and saw that the Holiest Place of All in the house of God was opened. ⁶The seven angels who had the seven last kinds of trouble came out of the house of God. They were wearing clothes made of clean white linen. They were wearing belts made of gold around their chests. ⁷Then one of the four living beings gave to each of the seven angels a jar made of gold. These jars were filled with the anger of God Who lives forever. ⁸The house of God was filled with smoke from the shining-greatness and power of God. No one was able to go into the house of God until the seven angels had completed the seven kinds of trouble. (NLV)

TEACHER:

This is something that caught my attention. 7 angels holding 7 jars with the anger of God. I would think they would be bigger. In Psalms 103:11-13 the bible says "God's love is greater than the distance from Heaven to Earth," yet His anger fits in only 7 jars, in some translations vials or bowls. Mind you, it is God's anger, so it is powerful, but compared to His love? Nominal. Chapter 16 talks of the 7 jars.

1 st jar	painful sores
2 nd jar	everything in the oceans die, poisoned by blood
3 rd jar	the rivers are poisoned by blood
4 th jar	the sun burns those on the Earth

5th jar the nation of the beast was filled with darkness
6th jar the Euphrates dries up and all the kingdoms come to Armageddon to fight, and finally,
7th jar Armageddon.

CH. 16

STUDENT:

¹⁷ Then the seventh angel poured out his bowl into the air, and a loud voice came out of the temple of heaven, from the throne, saying, "It is done!" ¹⁸ And there were noises and thunderings and lightnings; and there was a great earthquake, such a mighty and great earthquake as had not occurred since men were on the earth. ¹⁹ Now the great city was divided into three parts, and the cities of the nation's fell. And great Babylon was remembered before God, to give her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of His wrath. ²⁰ Then every island fled away, and the mountains were not found. ²¹ And great hail from heaven fell upon men, *each hailstone* about the weight of a talent. Men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail, since that plague was exceedingly great. (NKJV)

TEACHER:

In chapter 17 I feel, with many others, that this a clearer picture of why Armageddon was fought in the previous chapter. The writer fills in some details. This is a picture of 1 world government, 1 world religion, and a 1 world financial system.

CH. 17

STUDENT:

Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls came and talked with me, saying to me, "Come, I will show you the judgment of the great harlot who sits on many waters, ² with whom the kings of the earth committed fornication, and the inhabitants of the earth were made drunk with the wine of her fornication."

³ So he carried me away in the Spirit into the wilderness. And I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast *which was* full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns. ⁴ The woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet, and adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls, having in her hand a golden cup full of abominations and the filthiness of her fornication. ⁵ And on her forehead a name *was* written:

MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS
AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.

⁶ I saw the woman, drunk with the blood of the saints and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus. And when I saw her, I marveled with great amazement. (NKJV)

TEACHER:

The angel explains the vision.

STUDENT:

⁷ But the angel said to me, "Why did you marvel? I will tell you the mystery of the woman and of the beast that carries her, which has the seven heads and the ten horns. ⁸ The beast that you saw was, and is not, and will ascend out of the bottomless pit and go to perdition. And those who dwell on the earth will marvel, whose names are not written in the Book of Life from the foundation of the world, when they see the beast that was, and is not, and yet is. (NKJV)

STUDENT:

⁹ “Here *is* the mind which has wisdom: The seven heads are seven mountains on which the woman sits. ¹⁰ There are also seven kings. Five have fallen, one is, *and* the other has not yet come. And when he comes, he must continue a short time. ¹¹ The beast that was, and is not, is himself also the eighth, and is of the seven, and is going to perdition. (NKJV)

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STUDENT:

¹² “The ten horns which you saw are ten kings who have received no kingdom as yet, but they receive authority for one hour as kings with the beast. ¹³ These are of one mind, and they will give their power and authority to the beast. ¹⁴ These will make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb will overcome them, for He is Lord of lords and King of kings; and those *who are* with Him *are* called, chosen, and faithful.” (NKJV)

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STUDENT:

¹⁵ Then he said to me, “The waters which you saw, where the harlot sits, are peoples, multitudes, nations, and tongues. ¹⁶ And the ten horns which you saw on the beast, these will hate the harlot, make her desolate and naked, eat her flesh and burn her with fire. ¹⁷ For God has put it into their hearts to fulfill His purpose, to be of one mind, and to give their kingdom to the beast, until the words of God are fulfilled. ¹⁸ And the woman whom you saw is that great city which reigns over the kings of the earth.” (NKJV)

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TEACHER:

The consensus among the evangelicals (of which I am one) holds that the 7 mountains signify Israel, the 10 kings are an end times European union type organization, if not the EU specifically.

I agree with Israel as the 7 mountains, as for the 10 kings, my jury is still out, I feel the world is sifting itself out and the new world order is not quite there yet. Just my take. In chapter 18 Babylon falls.

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CH. 18

STUDENT:

After these things I saw another angel coming down from heaven, having great authority, and the earth was illuminated with his glory. ² And he cried mightily with a loud voice, saying, “Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and has become a dwelling place of demons, a prison for every foul spirit, and a cage for every unclean and hated bird! ³ For all the nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth have become rich through the abundance of her luxury.” (NKJV)

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STUDENT:

⁴ And I heard another voice from heaven saying, “Come out of her, my people, lest you share in her sins, and lest you receive of her plagues. ⁵ For her sins have reached to heaven, and God has remembered her iniquities. ⁶ Render to her just as she rendered to you, and repay her double according to her works; in the cup which she has mixed, mix double for her. ⁷ In the measure that she glorified herself and lived luxuriously, in the same measure give her torment and sorrow; for she says in her heart, ‘I sit *as* queen, and am no widow, and will not see sorrow.’ ⁸ Therefore her plagues will come in one day—death and mourning and famine. And she will be utterly burned with fire, for strong *is* the Lord God who judges her. (NKJV)

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TEACHER:

The world then mourns.

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STUDENT:

⁹ “The kings of the earth who committed fornication and lived luxuriously with her will weep and lament for her, when they see the smoke of her burning, ¹⁰ standing at a distance for fear of her torment, saying, ‘Alas, alas, that great city Babylon, that mighty city! For in one hour your judgment has come.’...”

¹⁹ “They threw dust on their heads and cried out, weeping and wailing, and saying, ‘Alas, alas, that great city, in which all who had ships on the sea became rich by her wealth! For in one hour she is made desolate.’

²⁰ “Rejoice over her, O heaven, and *you* holy apostles and prophets, for God has avenged you on her!” (NKJV)

TEACHER:

And Babylon is buried.

STUDENT:

²¹ Then a mighty angel took up a stone like a great millstone and threw *it* into the sea, saying, “Thus with violence the great city Babylon shall be thrown down, and shall not be found anymore. ²² The sound of harpists, musicians, flutists, and trumpeters shall not be heard in you anymore. No craftsman of any craft shall be found in you anymore, and the sound of a millstone shall not be heard in you anymore. ²³ The light of a lamp shall not shine in you anymore, and the voice of bridegroom and bride shall not be heard in you anymore. For your merchants were the great men of the earth, for by your sorcery all the nations were deceived. ²⁴ And in her was found the blood of prophets and saints, and of all who were slain on the earth.” (NKJV)

TEACHER:

With Babylon gone, Heaven rejoices in the 1st 8 verses. We pick up in verse 9 of chapter 19 and we also find out the person talking to John in Heaven is actually a Christian, not an Angel.

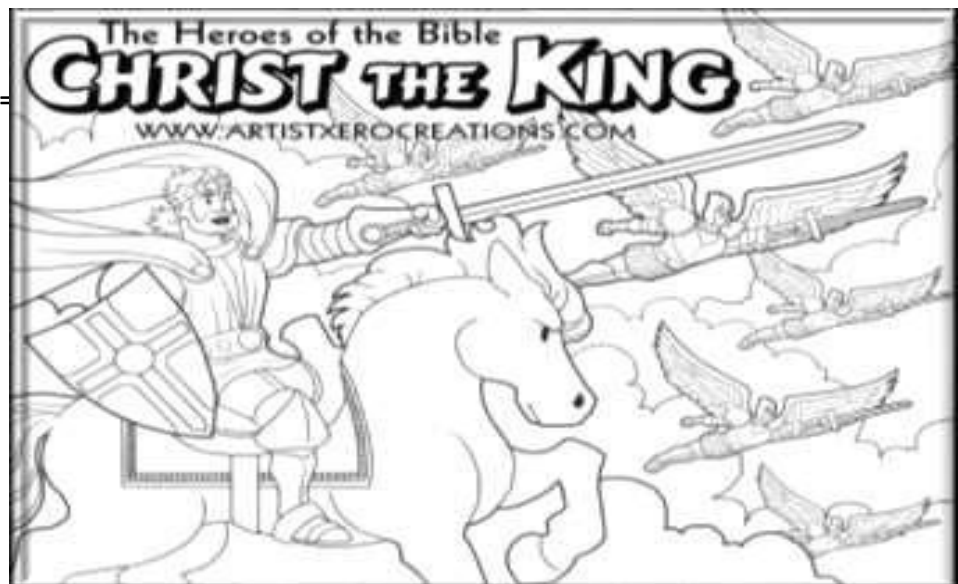
CH. 19

STUDENT:

⁹ Then he said to me, “Write: ‘Blessed *are* those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb!’ ” And he said to me, “These are the true sayings of God.” ¹⁰ And I fell at his feet to worship him. But he said to me, “See *that you do not do that!* I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren who have the testimony of Jesus. Worship God! For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.” (NKJV)

TEACHER:

Next, Jesus suits up!



STUDENT:

¹¹ Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him *was* called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war. ¹² His eyes *were* like a flame of fire, and on His head *were* many crowns. He had a name written that no one knew except Himself. ¹³ He *was* clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God. ¹⁴ And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses. ¹⁵ Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. ¹⁶ And He has on *His* robe and on His thigh a name written:

KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS. (NKJV)

TEACHER:

Down to verse 17, war is waged by Christ Himself.

STUDENT:

¹⁷ Then I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the birds that fly in the midst of heaven, "Come and gather together for the supper of the great God, ¹⁸ that you may eat the flesh of kings, the flesh of captains, the flesh of mighty men, the flesh of horses and of those who sit on them, and the flesh of all *people*, free and slave, both small and great."

STUDENT:

¹⁹ And I saw the beast, the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against Him who sat on the horse and against His army. ²⁰ Then the beast was captured, and with him the false prophet who worked signs in his presence, by which he deceived those who received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image. These two were cast alive into the lake of fire burning with brimstone. ²¹ And the rest were killed with the sword which proceeded from the mouth of Him who sat on the horse. And all the birds were filled with their flesh. (NKJV)

TEACHER:

Almost done. 2 chapters to go. The 1,000 year millennium, but 1st Satan is bound.

CH. 20

STUDENT:

Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, having the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. ² He laid hold of the dragon, that serpent of old, who is *the* Devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years; ³ and he cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal on him, so that he should deceive the nations no more till the thousand years were finished. But after these things he must be released for a little while. (NKJV)

TEACHER:

Satan is bound for 1,000 years and now Jesus rules the Earth.

STUDENT:

⁴ And I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was committed to them. Then *I saw* the souls of those who had been beheaded for their witness to Jesus and for the word of God, who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received *his* mark on their foreheads or on their hands. And they lived and reigned with Christ for a thousand years. ⁵ But the rest of the dead did not live again until the thousand years were finished. This *is* the first resurrection. ⁶ Blessed and holy *is* he who has part in the first resurrection. Over such the second death has no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years. (NKJV)

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TEACHER:

At the end of the 1,000 year rule of Christ, the Devil is loosed, and wreaks havoc on the Earth, and tries again to overthrow the Lord. You would think by now the world would get it.

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STUDENT:

⁷ Now when the thousand years have expired, Satan will be released from his prison ⁸ and will go out to deceive the nations which are in the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle, whose number *is* as the sand of the sea.

=====

STUDENT:

⁹ They went up on the breadth of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city. And fire came down from God out of heaven and devoured them. ¹⁰ The devil, who deceived them, was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone where the beast and the false prophet *are*. And they will be tormented day and night forever and ever. (NKJV)

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TEACHER:

Even after 1,000 years of rule under Christ, the majority of the Earth, rejects God and follows the Devil. Next, the Great White Throne Judgement.

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STUDENT:

¹¹ Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away. And there was found no place for them. ¹² And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is *the Book of Life*. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books. ¹³ The sea gave up the dead who were in it, and Death and Hades delivered up the dead who were in them. And they were judged, each one according to his works. ¹⁴ Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. ¹⁵ And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire. (NKJV)

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TEACHER:

The New Heaven, the New Earth, and the New Jerusalem.

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STUDENT:

Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also there was no more sea. ²Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them *and be* their God. ⁴And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away." (NKJV)

STUDENT:

⁵Then He who sat on the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new." And He said to me, "Write, for these words are true and faithful." ⁶And He said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. I will give of the fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirsts. ⁷He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son. ⁸But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death." (NKJV)

TEACHER:

Another list! Who goes to the lake of fire?

- | | |
|----------------|--------------|
| 1. Cowardly | 5. Sorcerers |
| 2. Unbelieving | 6. Idolaters |
| 3. Abominable | 7. Liars |
| 4. Murderers | |

We will skip through and read a few verses about the New Jerusalem. (Note the 1st sin mentioned in the Bible is a lie when Satan lied to Eve, and the last sin mentioned is a lie in this passage. Not a coincidence).

STUDENT:

⁹Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls filled with the seven last plagues came to me and talked with me, saying, "Come, I will show you the bride, the Lamb's wife." ¹⁰And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me the great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God, ¹¹having the glory of God. Her light *was* like a most precious stone, like a jasper stone, clear as crystal. ¹²Also she had a great and high wall with twelve gates, and twelve angels at the gates, and names written on them, which are *the names* of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel: ¹³three gates on the east, three gates on the north, three gates on the south, and three gates on the west. (NKJV)

STUDENT:

²¹The twelve gates *were* twelve pearls: each individual gate was of one pearl. And the street of the city *was* pure gold, like transparent glass. ²²But I saw no temple in it, for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. ²³The city had no need of the sun or of the moon to shine in it, for the glory of God illuminated it. The Lamb *is* its light. ²⁴And the nations of those who are saved shall walk in its light, and the kings of the earth bring their glory and honor into it. ²⁵Its gates shall not be shut at all by day (there shall be no night there). ²⁶And they shall bring the glory and the honor of the nations into it. ²⁷But there shall by no means enter it anything that defiles, or causes an abomination or a lie, but only those who are written in the Lamb's Book of Life. (NKJV)

TEACHER:

The description continues.

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STUDENT:

And he showed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding from the throne of God and of the Lamb. ² In the middle of its street, and on either side of the river, *was* the tree of life, which bore twelve fruits, each *tree* yielding its fruit every month. The leaves of the tree *were* for the healing of the nations. ³ And there shall be no more curse, but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it, and His servants shall serve Him. ⁴ They shall see His face, and His name *shall be* on their foreheads. ⁵ There shall be no night there: They need no lamp nor light of the sun, for the Lord God gives them light. And they shall reign forever and ever. (NKJV)

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STUDENT:

⁶ Then he said to me, "These words *are* faithful and true." And the Lord God of the holy prophets sent His angel to show His servants the things which must shortly take place. ⁷ "Behold, I am coming quickly! Blessed *is* he who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book." ⁸ Now I, John, saw and heard these things. And when I heard and saw, I fell down to worship before the feet of the angel who showed me these things. (NKJV)

=====

STUDENT:

⁹ Then he said to me, "See *that you do not do that*. For I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren the prophets, and of those who keep the words of this book. Worship God." ¹⁰ And he said to me, "Do not seal the words of the prophecy of this book, for the time is at hand. ¹¹ He who is unjust, let him be unjust still; he who is filthy, let him be filthy still; he who is righteous, let him be righteous still; he who is holy, let him be holy still." (NKJV)

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TEACHER:

Jesus testifies to His promise from John 14 that He will come back for us.

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STUDENT:

¹² "And behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward *is* with Me, to give to every one according to his work.

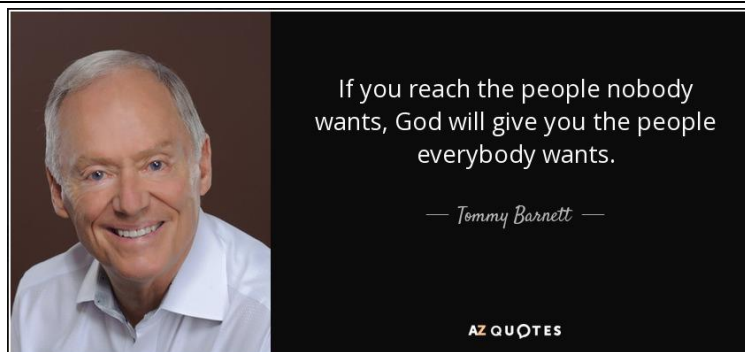
¹³ I am the Alpha and the Omega, *the* Beginning and *the* End, the First and the Last." ¹⁴ Blessed *are* those who do His commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city. (NKJV)

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STUDENT:

¹⁵ But outside *are* dogs and sorcerers and sexually immoral and murderers and idolaters, and whoever loves and practices a lie. ¹⁶ "I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things in the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, the Bright and Morning Star." ¹⁷ And the Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" And let him who hears say, "Come!" And let him who thirsts come. Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely. (NKJV)

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TEACHER:

Jesus last warning, and a promise.

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STUDENT:

¹⁸ For I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: If anyone adds to these things, God will add to him the plagues that are written in this book; ¹⁹ and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part from the Book of Life, from the holy city, and *from* the things which are written in this book. ²⁰ He who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming quickly." Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus! ²¹ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ *be* with you all. Amen. (NKJV)

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NEXT LESSON FINAL EXAM AND SUPPLEMENTAL STUDIES.

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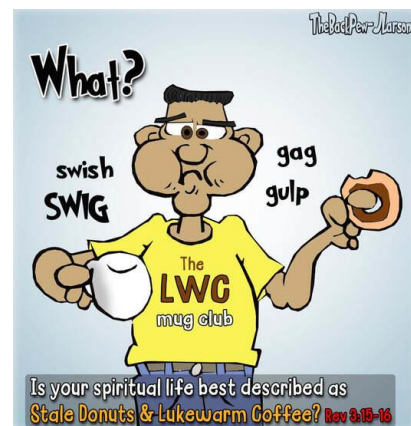
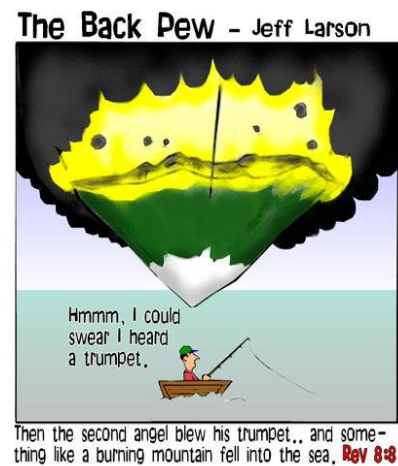
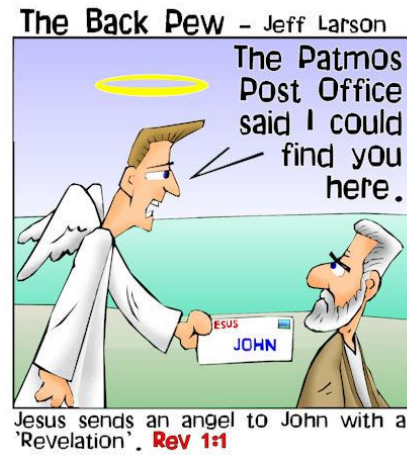
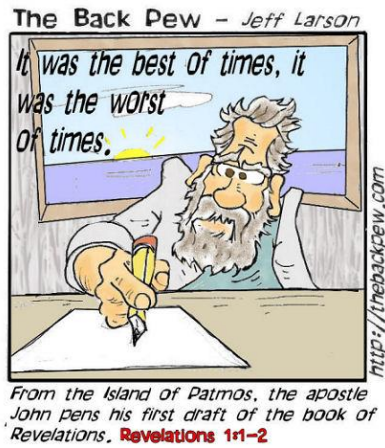
"Surely I am coming quickly."

Revelation 22:20b
The Four Horseman



The Isle of Patmos today





THE REVELATION OF JESUS TO JOHN THE APOSTLE

I N P O S A X D T I B K X B C O G U N S
A N E W H E A V E N S P V A W R C J G O
B X R X A O H R U S O D F Z E N I V Y H
I C G N S P S C W N O I T A L E V E R V
E L A R A P T U R E F L T O B U I V R C
A B M D K F E G L U N W A A V Q J I B F
B F U K B W P A N X H W I T N E S S E S
I F M U O W M T A I I C I E I I J A Z E
Q O Y M S S U N T A M E I A S O M A D T
C L M L F I R E L T S O P A E T N O I H
K A W Z O Y T M G H L M C H V G B W B Y
U O J C M H I E P H I L A D E L P H I A
B D Z S R G E G H D U I J L N S O Q P T
O I J O H N M D V F X A S M S O U U K I
F C N T J E S U S E R U T A E R C S L R
R E Y V H A V J N T E H T R A E W E N A
S A R D I S A G W F N F M T L D C E S C
D Z H N N A B L O O D I Y Y S Y C J W C
F Q Q P Q A L O R D S P A R D H X H L I
I X I U S T C S C Z Y U A S Z S L N U S

ABOMINATION
ALMIGHTY
ANGELS
APOSTLE
BLOOD
BOWLS
CHURCHES
CREATURES
CROWNS
DESOLATION
EARTH
EPHESUS
FIRE
GOD
GREAT

GREATWHITETHRONE
HEAVEN
HOLY
JESUS
JOHN
JUDGEMENT
LAODICEA
LORD
MARTYRS
NEWEARTH
NEWHEAVENS
PERGAMUM
PHILADELPHIA
RAPTURE
REVELATION

SAINTS
SARDIS
SEALS
SECONDCOMING
SEVEN
SEVENSEALS
SMYRNA
THRONES
THYATIRA
TRUMPETS
VIALS
WITNESSES

THE ENTIRE BIBLE

N J O I U M L P C Q L H X V P O E T R Y R S K N L A U E M J
A S O M J E D U T H U N O R A A M R W Y U L E J E N P L T X
M K N S A T H E S S A N A M T V U B T S I Q E D Z H T Z S A
U B S H H H O D K F S I S J U N U E C W Y C S B R T J H P T
R E U T V U R Y R R S E K S D H C J B U O S R A A C P T M E
J N S E T S A I S E L C C E L I E V J N K D I B C E T K W D
M J O H J E H U Y C H E R L Z H V N I Y S M B I H C U U T W
S A N P H L P E I Y U S V C O E E A D D O G O G E A E Q P T
E M S A E A T N T T T H A I Z A H A D R C X N A L E J B J L
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A T O R R H B T O J E A E A E D E N L N H X C M P O F I V V
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P C A N A T D M I O B S S K D S E S F O P Z E T E C O O X P
E U G A O T E A N M Z H V U N V A A K P S L A H G E E H E Z
M P C Z O C W D L Y M H C Y U P U H T W T P P H T V M F P X
S O U Q X F E M U S Z T P Q G Y H B T L A N O P B L J Y A T
Y R S G Z H X S Q B P N H Y X Z Y B M W Y H D V L B L Q A J

AARON
ABEL
ABIGAIL
ABRAHAM
ADAM
AHAZ
AHAZIAH
AHIJAH
AMAZIAH
AMON
ARARAT
ASA
ASAPH
ASHER
ATHALIAH
BENJAMIN
CAIN
CANTICLES
CELEBRATE
CHRONICLES
DAN
DEBORAH
DEUTERONOMY
ECCLESIASTES
EDEN

ELI
ELKANAH
ENOCH
EPHRAIM
EVE
EXODUS
EZRA
FAITH
FIRST
GAD
GENESIS
GOD
HAM
HARPS
HEZEKIAH
INSTRUMENTS
ISAAC
ISRAEL
JACOB
JAPHETH
JECONIAH
JEDUTHUN
JEHOAHAZ
JEHOASH
JEHOIAKIM

JEHORAM
JEHOSHAPHAT
JEHU
JOB
JOBSTRIAL
JOSEPH
JOSHUA
JUDGES
KINGDAVID
KINGS
LEAH
LEARNING
LEMUEL
LEVI
LEVITICUS
MANASSEH
MENASHEH
METHUSELAH
MIRIAM
MORDECAI
NAPHTALI
NEHEMIAH
NIMROD
NOAH
NUMBERS

PHAROH
POETRY
PRAISEYTHELORD
PROVERBS
PSALMS
RACHEL
REBECCA
REHOBOAM
REUBEN
RUTH
SAMUEL
SARAH
SAUL
SECOND
SHEM
SHEMAIAH
SIMEON
SONGOF SOLOMON
SONGS
SONSOFKORAH
TIMBRELS
UNDERSTANDING
WISDOM
WORSHIP
ZEBULUN

