

# The Revelation to John: Two Outlines

## 1) A SHORT SYNOPSIS

<u>Letters to 7 churches</u>	1-3
7 lampstands, 7 stars, 7 angels	
<u>Visions &amp; prophecies</u>	4-22
<u>Preludes &amp; Proclamations of Great Day of Wrath</u>	4-11, 14-16
a) The scroll with 7 seals (5.1-8.1)	
Lamb with 7 horns & 7 eyes (5.6)	
4 riders (6.1-8 =seals 1-4: 6.8 the rider Death followed by Hades)	
144,000 righteous	
b) 7 Angels & 7 Trumpets (8.2-11.15)	
[Inset: <u>Vision of the Dragon &amp; the Two Beasts</u>	12-13]
<u>The great red dragon</u>	12
the dragon, the woman, the messiah	
Michael's war against the dragon	
<u>The Two Beasts</u>	13
false prophet; emperor cult	
<u>The Great Day of Wrath (continued)</u>	14-16
destruction of pagans	14 (winepress of blood)
c) 7 Angels & 7 bowls of God's wrath	15.5-16.21
Dragon, 2 Beasts -> 3 Unclean spirits	16.13-16
kings marshal for <u>Eschatological War</u>	
[Inset: <u>Babylon</u>	17.1-19.11]
the harlot Babylon	17
fall of Babylon	18
lament for Babylon	18
triumphing over Babylon	19.1-10
<u>Eschatological War</u>	19.11-21
[Inset: <u>1000 year Messianic Kingdom</u>	20.1-6 (dragon -> Abyss 1000 years)]
<u>Eschatological War (continued)</u>	20.7-10
<u>Judgment</u>	20.11-15
death & Hades cast into lake of fire ("2nd death")	
<u>New Jerusalem</u>	21-22
renewal of creation	21.5
river of life & trees of life	22.1-2

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## CHAPTER-BY-CHAPTER SUMMARY

### Chapter 1:

#### Introduction & Salutation

John's vision: 7 golden candlesticks;. "I am Alpha & Omega."

A vision of Christ: 7 **lampstands** & Son of Man. 7 stars.

7 stars = angels of 7 churches. 7 **lampstands** = 7 churches.

### Chapters 2 & 3:

John writes to 7 churches: Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia, Laodicea.

### Chapter 4:

**The Heavenly Worship. Throne of God & four Living Creatures** (cf. *cherubim* of Ezekiel 1.)

### Chapter 5:

Scroll with 7 **seals**. The **Lamb**

### Chapter 6:

The lamb opens **seals** 1-6:

**Seals** 1, 2, 3, & 4: Four **Riders**: Conquest, War, Famine, Death

5th **Seal**: **Martyrs** cry out for justice.

6th **Seal**: earthquake: Cosmos becomes Chaos

### Chapter 7:

Winds of earth's four quarters restrained by 4 **Angels**.

144,000 righteous are marked with a seal - 12,000 X 12 tribes of Israel

Multitude (martyrs) from every nation hail God & the **Lamb**

### Chapter 8:

7th **Seal**: Silence in Heaven for half an hour

Golden Censer filled with coals from the Altar of Incense

7 **angels** 7 **trumpets**

**Trumpets** 1-4 : hail of blood; burning mountain; the star Wormwood; 1/3 of light diminished

### Chapter 9:

5th **Trumpet**: A star falls from the sky to earth, opens the **abyss**, unleashing bizarre

Locusts to plague unrighteous.

the angel of the **Abyss**: **Abaddon** / **Apollyon**.

6th **Trumpet**: war by angels confined at river Euphrates: 1/3 of human race is killed.

### Chapter 10:

Angel w/ little scroll which John is told to take and eat: sweet in mouth

but sour in stomach (symbolic of Ezekiel's prophetic commissioning Ezk. 2.8-3.3)

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## Chapter 11:

Order to measure **Temple of Jerusalem**; but the Outer Court is subdued by Gentiles  
Two **witnesses** whose corpses will lie in the city; resurrected after 3.5 days.  
Earthquake destroys 1/10 of the city and 7,000 people.

**7th Trumpet**: kingdom of world now belongs to the Lord.

God opens the **Temple** in heaven, displaying Ark of the Covenant.

## Chapter 12:

Pregnant **Woman clothed with the sun**; the **Dragon**,  
her child is born, taken up to God and the throne, while **woman** flees to refuge in wilderness.  
War in heaven between **Michael & the Dragon**.  
Back on earth, **Dragon** pursues **Woman**, vomits water, takes stand at sea-shore.

## Chapter 13:

**Beast from sea**, given power by **Dragon**; their authority to last 42 months.  
**Beast from the Earth**. (Emperor-cult.) Makes the world worship the first **beast** whose wound had been healed. Performs miracles. Idol worship; everyone to accept image on hand or forehead. No one to buy or sell unless marked with name or number of **Beast**: 666 (or 616)

## Chapter 14:

The **Lamb** & 144 000 faithful.  
**Angels** warn against accepting mark of the beast.  
The Son of Man harvests the Earth; wine press of blood outside the city.

## Chapter 15:

**7 angels** holding **7 bowls** of God's wrath.

## Chapter 16:

**Angels** pour out **bowls** of God's wrath on the Earth.  
Chaos, pollution & disease. Those marked by **Beast** perish.  
3 unclean spirits from the mouths of **Dragon, Beast 1 & False Prophet (=Beast from the Earth)**.  
Performing miracles, they assemble kings of Earth for battle.  
'Be on your guard! I come like a thief' (=Apocalyptic discourse)  
Troops assemble in a place called **(H)Armageddon**.  
7th Bowl: "It is finished." Earthquake.  
Great City split 3 ways. Other Gentile cities fall, & God remembers **Babylon** the great

## Chapter 17:

Judgment of **Babylon the harlot** on a scarlet, 7-headed, ten-horned beast .  
7 heads = **7 mountains** = also 7 kings.  
10 horns = ten kings not yet crowned. They will turn against her & destroy her.

## Chapter 18:

Angel calls: "Fallen is **Babylon** the great." (Cf Ezk 27-28). Kings, merchants, sailors lament.

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## Chapter 19:

Rejoicing in Heaven.

**Rider on a white horse** emerges, with armies of Heaven following.

Battle with the **Beast** [c.f. Qumran War Scroll]

**The Beast & False Prophet** captured, then thrown into the **Lake of Fire**

## Chapter 20: The Millennium

Angel chains **Dragon** \*\* (= old serpent = Devil & Satan) for 1000 years in **Abyss**

**Resurrected Martyrs** reign on earth w/ Christ for 1000 years: "**1st Resurrection**"

**Satan** is released & musters troops of **Gog & Magog**.

They **surround** holy city ("camp of saints")

but fire from Heaven devours them.

**Devil** is thrown into **Lake of Fire**.

**ALL LIVING AND DEAD ARE JUDGED**

Death, **Hades** & those not named in book of life are cast into **Lake of Fire** (= "2nd death").

## Chapter 21:

New Heaven and Earth.

**New Jerusalem** the bride of the **Lamb**. No more tears, pain or mourning.

God & the **Lamb** supply the place of Temple, sun & moon

## Chapter 22:

**River & Tree of Life**. "I am Alpha & Omega." Warning not to tamper with the text.