

The Revelation

Chapter 1:9-20

Part 2

Christ Church

Spring 2026





- v. 13 **‘one like the son of man’**

- Like Ezekiel (Ezekiel 1:3; 2:1,3,6,8; 3:1,3,4, etc.)

- NB – the connections between John and Ezekiel

- Priests

- Destruction of Jerusalem/end of the age

The Throne Vision	Revelation 4	Ezekiel 1
The Book	Revelation 5	Ezekiel 2-3
The Four Plagues	Revelation 6:1-8	Ezekiel 5
The Slain under the Altar	Revelation 6:9-11	Ezekiel 6
The Wrath of God	Revelation 6:12-7	Ezekiel 7
Seal on the Saint's Foreheads	Revelation 7	Ezekiel 9
The Coals from the Altar	Revelation 8	Ezekiel 10
No More Delay	Revelation 10:1-7	Ezekiel 12
Eating the Book	Revelation 10:8-11	Ezekiel 2
Measuring the Temple	Revelation 11:1,2	Ezekiel 40-43
Jerusalem and Sodom	Revelation 11:8	Ezekiel 16
Cup of Wrath	Revelation 14	Ezekiel 23
Vine of the Land	Revelation 14:18-20	Ezekiel 15
The Great Harlot	Revelation 17-18	Ezekiel 16, 23
Lament over the City	Revelation 18	Ezekiel 27
The Scavenger's Feast	Revelation 19	Ezekiel 39
The First Resurrection	Revelation 20:4-6	Ezekiel 37
Gog and Magog	Revelation 20:7-9	Ezekiel 38-39
The New Jerusalem	Revelation 21	Ezekiel 40-48
The River of Life	Revelation 22	Ezekiel 47

- v. 13 **‘one like the son of man’**
 - Like Ezekiel (Ezekiel 1:3; 2:1,3,6,8; 3:1,3,4, etc.)
 - NB – the connections between John and Ezekiel
 - Priests
 - Destruction of Jerusalem/end of the age
 - * Like Daniel 7:13-14

- Daniel 7:13-14

“In my vision at night I looked, and there before me was one like a **son of man, coming with the clouds** of heaven. He approached the Ancient of Days and was led into his presence. ¹⁴ He was given authority, glory and sovereign power; all nations and peoples of every language worshiped him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and his kingdom is one that will never be destroyed.”

- v. 13 “**a golden sash around His chest**”
 - According to Josephus the priest wore the gold sash “at the breast’ when he was not “about laborious service”
Josephus, Antiquities, 3:7:2
 - The Greek word in Revelation 1:13 is ‘*mastois*’
 - See Exodus 28:4; 29:5; 39:27-29

- In v. 14 His head and eyes are featured
 - “white” – Proverbs 20:29; 16:31; Leviticus 13:40,41;19:32;
 - “like wool” – this is the first hint at The Lamb
 - This is another connection to *Daniel 7:9-10

- **Daniel 7:9-10**

⁹ “As I looked,

“thrones were set in place,
and the Ancient of Days took his seat.

His clothing was as white as snow;

the **hair of his head** was **white** like **wool**.

His throne was flaming with **fire**,

and its wheels were all ablaze.

¹⁰ A river of **fire** was flowing,
coming out from before him.

Thousands upon thousands attended him;

ten thousand times ten thousand stood
before him.

The court was seated,

and the books were opened.

- Jesus is ancient and pure
- ‘white’
 - White stone – 2:17
 - White clothing – 3:4-5
 - White elders clothing – 4:4
 - White horse – 6:2
 - White martyrs' robes – 6:11
 - White cloud – 14:14
 - White horse – 19:11
 - White throne – 20:11

- ‘eyes...blazing fire’ – organs of perception and judgment
 - II Chronicles 16:9; Proverbs 15:3; Zechariah 4:10
 - See also Daniel 7, 10
- ‘feet ...like bronze glowing in a furnace’
 - This may be an alloy of gold and silver, if so then see Malachi 3:2-3

- Throughout the Bible the voice of God is compared to
 - Wind
 - Thunder
 - Trumpets
 - Armies
 - Chariots
 - Waterfalls
- These are the sounds that accompany the Glory Cloud

- In v. 16 we find “**In His right hand He held seven stars**”

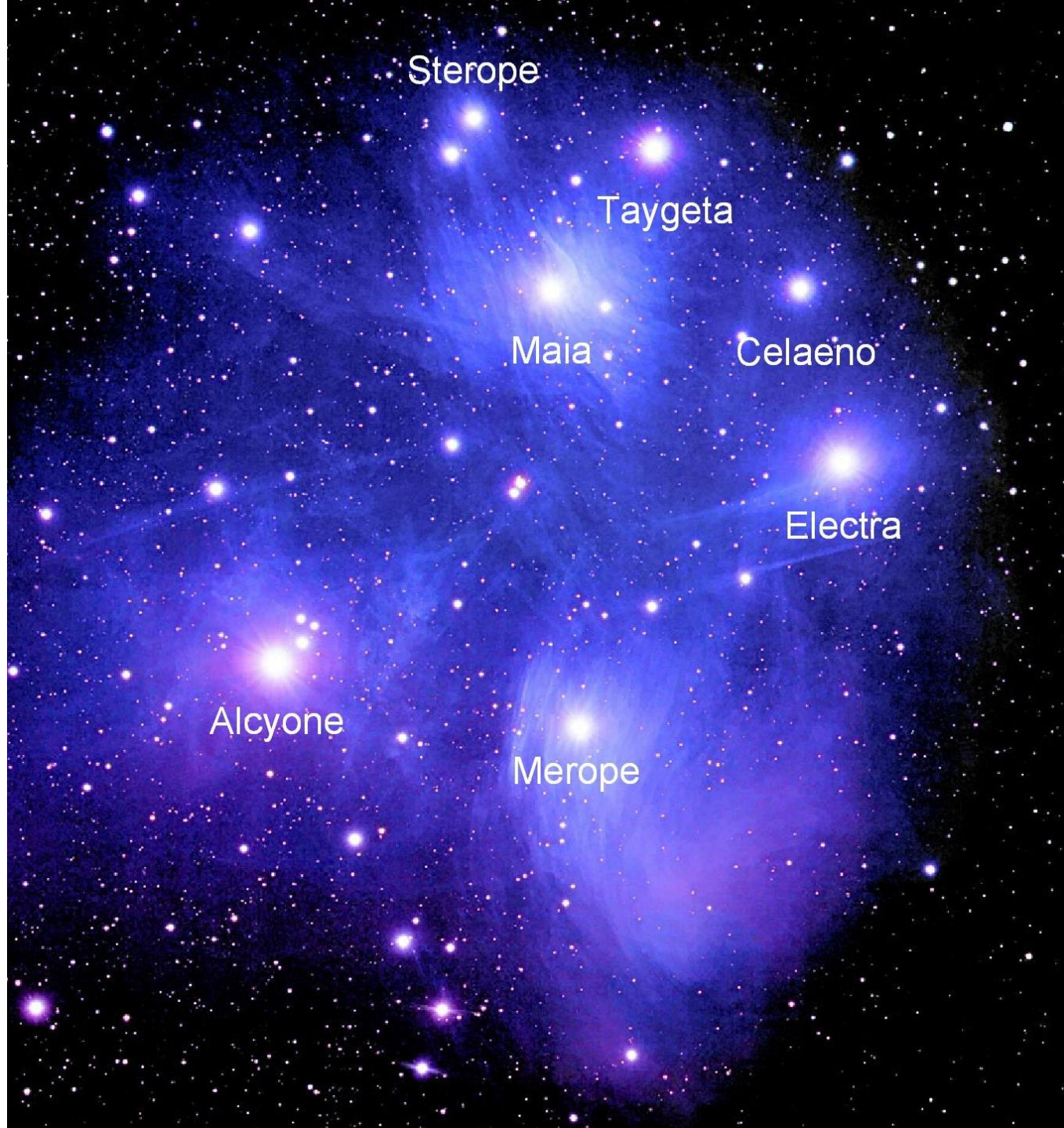
- In the ancient world the seven stars were known as **Pleiades** or **M45**
- **Pleaiades** is known as ‘The Seven Sisters’
- See Job 9:5-9; 38:31-33; Amos 5:8
- It is part of the constellation of Taurus



Orion

Taurus

Pleiades





- **Kenji Kita**, CEO of Fuji Heavy Industries at the time, wanted the new company to be involved in car manufacturing and soon began plans for building a car with the development code-name P-1. Kita canvassed the company for suggestions about naming the P1, but none of the proposals were appealing enough. In the end he gave the company **a Japanese name** that he "**had been cherishing in his heart**": **Subaru**, which is the Japanese name for **the Pleiades star cluster**. **The first Subaru car was named the Subaru 1500**.



- Others teach that the seven stars are perhaps the Sun, Moon and the five known planets (Jupiter, Mars, Mercury, Venus, and Saturn)
- Whichever you choose – Jesus rules the universe
- In v. 20 we're told that the stars are angels AND churches
 - Note how this fits John – see II John 1,13

- The Sun is with Taurus in Spring (Easter season)
 - Jesus holds the stars that announce the rebirth of the earth

- Review

- Jesus is Temple
- Jesus is Priest
- Jesus is Ruler of the Cosmos

- As Ron Popeil would say -

**But wait!
There's
more...**



- The image of **seven stars** appeared frequently on coins of Emperors of Rome







- “At least some early readers of the Revelation must have gasped in amazement at St. John’s audacity in stating that the seven stars were in Christ’s hand.” Chilton, Vengeance, p. 76

- Review

- Jesus is Temple
- Jesus is Priest
- Jesus is Ruler of the Cosmos
- Jesus is Empire

- For more support on this element – see Daniel 2
 - ‘**gold** sash’, ‘feet like burnished **bronze**’
 - The metals in Revelation do not match the metals in Daniel 2 ,**BUT...**
 - This suggests a link; a **conceptual parallel** to the metallic statue that represents four nations

● Daniel 2:31- 35; 39-43

“Your Majesty looked, and there before you stood a large statue—an enormous, dazzling statue, awesome in appearance. ³² The head of the statue was made of pure **gold**, its chest and arms of **silver**, its belly and thighs of **bronze**, ³³ its legs of **iron**, its feet partly of **iron** and partly of **baked clay**. ³⁴ While you were watching, a rock was cut out, but not by human hands. It struck the statue on its feet of **iron** and **clay** and smashed them. ³⁵ Then the **iron**, **the clay**, **the bronze**, **the silver** and **the gold** were all broken to pieces and became like chaff on a threshing floor in the summer. The wind swept them away without leaving a trace. But the rock that struck the statue became a huge mountain and filled the whole earth.”

- ³⁹ “After you, another kingdom will arise, inferior to yours. Next, a third kingdom, one of **bronze**, will rule over the whole earth. ⁴⁰ Finally, there will be a fourth kingdom, strong as **iron**—for **iron** breaks and smashes everything—and as **iron** breaks things to pieces, so it will crush and break all the others. ⁴¹ Just as you saw that the feet and toes were **partly of baked clay and partly of iron**, so this will be a divided kingdom; yet it will have some of the strength of **iron** in it, even as you saw **iron mixed with clay**. ⁴² As the toes were **partly iron and partly clay**, so this kingdom will be partly strong and partly brittle. ⁴³ And just as you saw the **iron** mixed with **baked clay**, so the people will be a mixture and will not remain united, any more than **iron** mixes with **clay**.



605 BC–539 BC

Kingdom of Babylon
King Nebuchadnezzar

539 BC–331 BC

Kingdom of Medo-Persia
King Cyrus

331 BC–146 BC

Kingdom of Greece
Alexander the Great

146 BC–AD 395

Kingdom of Rome
Divided between 2 capitolis

- Revelation has a lot of empire language
 - War
 - Conquest
 - King
 - Throne
 - Royal edicts
 - Spectacle

**But wait!
There's
more...**



- John's description of Jesus resembles Song of Songs (Solomon)
 - See Songs 4:1-6 and 7:1-9

- **Song of Songs 4:1-6**

4 How beautiful you are, my darling!

Oh, how beautiful!

Your **eyes** behind your veil are doves.

Your **hair** is like a flock of goats
descending from the hills of Gilead.

2 Your **teeth** are like a flock of sheep just shorn,
coming up from the washing.

Each has its twin;
not one of them is alone.

3 Your **lips** are like a scarlet ribbon;
your **mouth** is lovely.

Your **temples** behind your veil
are like the halves of a pomegranate.

4 Your **neck** is like the tower of David,
built with courses of stone;
on it hang a thousand shields,
all of them shields of warriors.

5 Your **breasts** are like two fawns,
like twin fawns of a gazelle
that browse among the lilies.

6 Until the day breaks
and the shadows flee,
I will go to the mountain of myrrh
and to the hill of incense.

The Song of Solomon Illustrated

(For our literalist friends.)

"How beautiful you are, my darling,
how beautiful you are!"

...Your eyes are like doves behind
your veil...

...Your hair is like a flock of goats...

...Your teeth are like a flock of
newly shorn ewes...

...Your lips are like a scarlet
thread...

...Your temples are like a slice
of pomegranate...

...Your neck is like the
tower of David... built
with rows of stones
on which are hung a
thousand shields...

...Your two breasts are
like two fawns,
twins of a gazelle
Which feed among the
silies...

...Your lips, my bride,
drip honey... honey and
milk are under your tongue,

And the fragrance of your
garments is like the
fragrance of Lebanon...

...Your navel is a round goblet...
Your belly is like
a heap of wheat...

...your nose is like the
tower of Lebanon,
which faces toward
Damascus..."

...from
Song of Solomon
Chapters
four and
seven.



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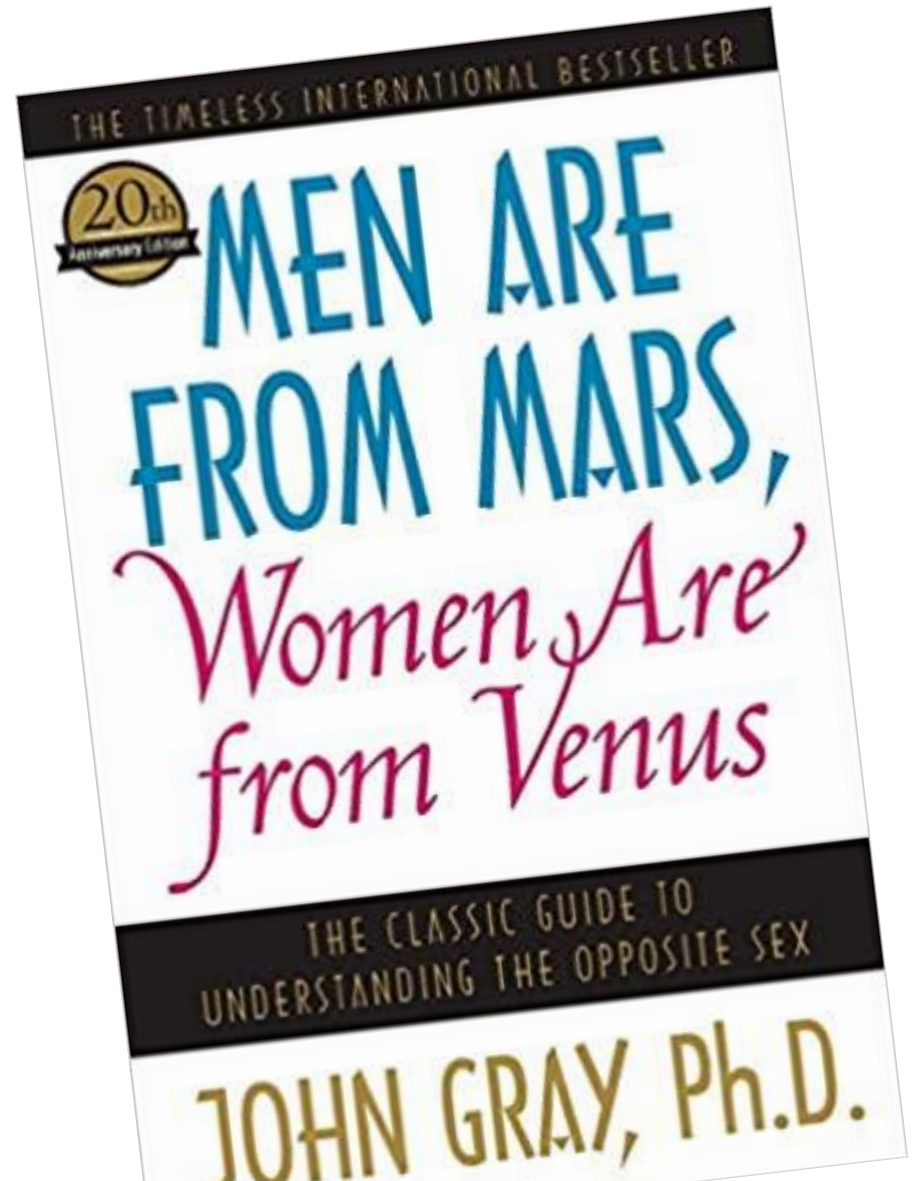


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- Scholars have come to call this a **‘*wasf*’** Arabic for ‘description’, it’s a love poem
- In Song 5:10-16 the **bel[♀]ved** describes her **lo[♂]ver** from top-to-bottom
 - Head
 - Face
 - Hands
 - Abs
 - Legs

- There is a dependence on similes of nature
 - Dates
 - Raven doves
 - Lilies
 - Cedar
- ...and architecture
 - Pillars
 - Pedestals

- It's not “Men Are From Mars, Women Are From Venus”



- Rather...



Men are buildings and women are gardens

- Review

- Jesus is Temple
- Jesus is Priest
- Jesus is Ruler of the Cosmos
- Jesus is Empire
- Jesus is Lover/Groom

- **“sharp double-edged sword”**
 - Compare with Revelation 2:16 and 19:11-16
 - Check out Isaiah 11:1-5; 49:2
 - Hebrews 4:12



- Review

- Jesus is Temple
- Jesus is Priest
- Jesus is Ruler of the Cosmos
- Jesus is Empire
- Jesus is Lover/Groom
- Jesus is Warrior

In other words...

He all!



- For a passage that brings sun, groom, voice, tent (tabernacle), heavens, word of God, gold, etc. see Psalm 19