

Gospel Doctrine Lesson 46: “He Will Dwell with Them, and They Shall Be His People”

(Revelation 5, 6, 19-22)

LESSON GOAL: To encourage us to face the future with hope because we know that the forces of evil will be overcome and the Savior will reign in triumph..

MEANINGFUL SOURCES TO INCREASE UNDERSTANDING OF THE BOOK OF REVELATION

- Brandt, G. Erik. *The Book of Revelation: Things Which Must Surely Come to Pass*. Orem, UT: Granite Publishing and Distribution, 2009.
- Draper, Richard D. *Opening the Seven Seals: The Visions of John the Revelator*. Salt Lake City: Deseret Book, 1991.
- Wilcox, S. Michael. *Who Shall Be Able to Stand: Finding Personal Meaning in the Book of Revelation*. Salt Lake City: Deseret Book, 2003.
- Google: byutv new testament – Watch half-hour discussions of BYU professors on the Book of Revelation

Bible Dictionary: Revelation

Divine revelation is one of the grandest concepts and principles of the gospel of Jesus Christ, for **without it, man could not know of the things of God and could not be saved with any degree of salvation in the eternities**. Continuous revelation from God to His Saints, through the Holy Ghost or by other means, such as visions, dreams, or visitations, makes possible daily guidance along true paths and leads the faithful soul to complete and eternal salvation in the celestial kingdom. **The principle of gaining knowledge by revelation is the principle of salvation.** . . . It also consists of individual guidance for every person who seeks for it and follows the prescribed course of faith, repentance, and obedience to the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Bible Dictionary: Revelation of John

Also known as the Apocalypse, a Greek word meaning *revealed* or *uncovered*. The message of Revelation is the same as that of all scripture: **there will be an eventual triumph on this earth of God over the devil**; a permanent victory of good over evil, of the Saints over their persecutors, of the kingdom of God over the kingdoms of men and of Satan. This is the subject on which all the prophets have written. They spoke of a day of victory that would come, and that the end would be better (more glorious) than the beginning. **Victory would be achieved through Jesus Christ.**

Such is the theme of the Revelation. The details about the beasts, the wars, the angels, the men, etc., contribute to the development of this theme. By a little study, the theme can be perceived even if the details are not completely identified. It may be in this sense that the **Prophet Joseph Smith said that Revelation was “one of the plainest books God ever caused to be written”** (HC 5:342). However, the more fully the details are understood, the greater will be the appreciation of the theme. **If we fail to catch a glimpse of the theme, we fail in our comprehension, no matter how many details we are able to understand.**

Bruce R. McConkie: “Many Saints in the Primitive Church understood the Lord intended that we understand the vision of the Revelation. Certainly why else did the Lord reveal it? The common notion that it deals with beasts and plagues and mysterious symbolisms that cannot be understood is just not true. It is so far overstated that it gives an entirely erroneous feeling about this portion of revealed truth. **Most of the book is clear and plain and should be understood by the Lord’s people.** Certain parts are not clear and are not understood by us—which, however, does not mean that we could not understand them if we would grow in faith as we should.

“The Lord expects us to seek wisdom to ponder his revealed truths, and to gain a knowledge of them by the power of his Spirit. Otherwise he would not have revealed them to us. He has withheld the sealed portion of the Book of Mormon from us because it is beyond our present ability to comprehend. . . **But he has not withheld the book of Revelation, because it is not beyond our capacity to comprehend; if we apply ourselves with full purpose of heart, we can catch the vision of what the ancient Revelator recorded**” (“Understanding the Book of Revelation,” *Ensign*, September 1975, 85).

1. Satan fights against the righteous.

John had just had a remarkable vision. He saw the throne of God,

Revelation 4:3: And he that sat was to look upon like a jasper and a sardine stone: and **there was a rainbow round about the throne, in sight like unto an emerald.**

Revelation 5:1: And I saw in the right hand of him that sat on the throne **a book written within and on the backside, sealed with seven seals.**

That book contained a record of the history of the world, each of the seals representing 1000 years of the earth’s temporal history.

D&C 77:6-7:

6 Q. **What are we to understand by the book, which John saw, which was sealed on the back with seven seals?**

A. We are to understand that it **contains the revealed will, mysteries, and the works of God**; the hidden things of his economy concerning this earth during the seven thousand years of its continuance, or its temporal existence

7 Q. **What are we to understand by the seven seals with which it was sealed?**

A. We are to understand that the **first seal contains the things of the first thousand years, and the second also of the second thousand years, and so on until the seventh.**

Seven Seals Chart

First Seal	Second Seal	Third Seal	Fourth Seal	Fifth Seal	Sixth Seal	Seventh Seal
<i>White Horse</i>	<i>Red Horse</i>	<i>Black Horse</i>	<i>Pale Horse</i>	<i>Cry of Martyrs</i>	<i>Signs in Earth and Sky</i>	<i>Silence in Heaven</i>
A war of righteousness against the world (Satan's kingdom) by the Church of Christ.	A war against the Roman Empire.	A war against Apostasy.	A war against the Papal Apostate Church.	Vindication of the Martyrs of the Church of Christ.	Time of Preparation of the Church of Christ.	The Deliverance of the Church of Christ.
Apostolic Church.	Church Under Persecution.	Church United With State.	Church Dominating State.	The Protestant Reformation.	The Time Of The End.	The Second Advent.
Pure, Zealous, Persecuted.	Sinful, Heretical, Political.	Corrupt, Idolatrous, Pagan.	Deadly and Repulsive.	Recovery of Gospel. Anti-Christ Identified.	Warnings of the Second Advent.	Enemies of Church Slain.
Faithful. Unitedly Proclaim Truth.	Faithful Resist Apostasy.	Faithful Separate From Apostasy.	Faithful in Flight From Apostasy.	Faithful Gain Recognition.	Faithful Proclaim Christ's Return.	Faithful Taken to Kingdom.
Bow = Word of God Crown = Crown of Victory Conquering = Triumph of the Gospel in Apostles Day.	No Peace = Literal and Spiritual peace vanishes from Church. Kill = Intolerance and hatred in Church. Persecution from the state. Sword = 1. State/civil power. 2. Division and separation.	Balances = 1. Judgment - Apostate Church rejected. 2. Commerce - Gospel commercialised. 3. Corrupt dealing - Trade in Relics, Indulgences etc. Spiritual famine. Scriptures kept from people. Oil and Wine = Holy Spirit and true doctrine.	Death and Grave Ride. Spiritual death to supporters. Literal death to dissenters. Millions martyred. Papacy supreme.	White Robes Given = Previously martyrs were clothed in black. The Reformation clothed martyrs in white. Martyrs to await future martyrdoms of final conflict.	Lisbon Quake. Nov 1, 1755. Sun Dark. May 19, 1780. Moon as Blood. May 19, 1780. Stars Fell. Nov 13, 1833. Last days commence 1798. Christ coming. Wicked flee.	Silence in Heaven = Christ and all angelic host absent. Father alone in heaven. Half an Hour = 7½ literal days. Period that Christ and angels absent from heaven. ½ Day = Christ's coming, resurrection, translation, wicked destroyed. 7 Days = Return journey to kingdom of heaven.
31 - 100 A.D.	100 - 313/323 A.D.	313/323 - 538 A.D.	538 - 1517 A.D.	1517 - 1798 A.D.	1755 -	Second Advent
Warnings of Apostasy	Apostate Church Emerges	Apostate Church Complete	Apostate Church Supreme	Apostate Church Exposed	Apostate Church Falls	Apostate Church Destroyed
True Church Victorious	True Church Under Attack	True Church Eclipsed	True Church in Wilderness	True Church Revived	True Church Vindicated	True Church Rewarded
First Seal	Second Seal	Third Seal	Fourth Seal	Fifth Seal	Sixth Seal	Seventh Seal

The first five seals are covered in 11 verses, the sixth seal is covered in 14 verses, and the seventh seal is covered in 226 verses. **Note the emphasis on the seventh seal.** John gave the most attention to the events of our time period and the one to come. **The book of Revelation was written for our day, and our lives will be blessed as we study it and prepare for the Second Coming of the Savior.**

Nephi had a vision of many of these same things, but he was not permitted to write them:

1 Nephi 14:24 – 27: And behold, the things which this apostle of the Lamb shall write are many things But the things which thou shalt see hereafter **thou shalt not write**; for the Lord God hath ordained the apostle of the Lamb of God that he should write them. And also others who have been, to them hath he shown all things, and they have written them; and they are sealed up to come forth in their purity, according to the truth which is in the Lamb, in the own due time of the Lord, unto the house of Israel. And I, Nephi, heard and bear record, that **the name of the apostle of the Lamb was John**, according to the word of the angel.

President Gordon B. Hinckley: "That war, so bitter, so intense, has gone on, and it has never ceased. **It is the war between truth and error**, between agency and compulsion, **between the followers of Christ and those who have denied Him**. His enemies have used every stratagem in that conflict. They've indulged in **lying and deceit**. They've employed **money and wealth**. They've **tricked the minds of men**. They've **murdered and destroyed** and engaged in every other unholy and impure practice to thwart the work of Christ. ... "[Opposition] has been felt in the undying efforts of many, both within and without the Church, to destroy faith, to belittle, to demean, to bear false witness, to tempt and allure and induce our people to practices inconsistent with the teachings and standards of this work of God. ... **"The war goes on.** It is waged across the world over the issues of agency and compulsion. It is waged by an army of missionaries over the issues of truth and error. **It is waged in our own lives, day in and day out**, in our homes, in our work, in our school associations; it is waged over questions of love and respect, of loyalty and fidelity, of obedience and integrity. **We are all involved in it; we are winning [the war against Satan], and the future never looked brighter"** (Conference Report, Oct. 1986, 55–58; or *Ensign*, Nov. 1986, 42, 44–45).

Wilford Woodruff: Can you tell me where the people are who will be shielded and protected from these great calamities and judgments which are even now at our doors? I'll tell you. **The priesthood of God who honor their priesthood**, and who are worthy of their blessings **are the only ones who shall have this safety and protection**. They are the only mortal beings. No other people have a right to be shielded from these judgments. They are at our very doors; not even this people will escape them entirely. They will come down like the judgments of Sodom and Gomorrah. **And none but the priesthood will be safe from their fury.** (Milton R. Hunter, *Pearl of Great Price Commentary: A Selection From the Revelations, Translations, and Narrations of Joseph Smith*, 313-314)

Bruce R. McConkie: **We are now living in the Saturday night of time; the millennial morning will soon dawn.** This is the end of the sixth seal, and the seventh seal will soon be opened. Our modern revelation tells us plainly that Christ will come sometime after the opening of seventh seal; **it will be during the seventh thousand years** and after the events listed in the eighth chapter of John's writings. (*The Millennial Messiah: The Second Coming of the Son of Man* [Salt Lake City: Deseret Book Co., 1982], 381).

Numbers as Symbols in Revelation

- 3 – is the number of God (the trinity), divinity
- 4 – Is the number of the created world, indicating the four points of the compass.
- 7 – Is the number of completion (totality, fullness), often referring specifically to the work of God.
- 10 – Is the round number, meaning the generalization "all of..." or a repeated number of times.
- 12 – Is the number of the people of God. Signifies priesthood, the apostles.
- 24 – Is double 12 and means the old and new covenant people of God
- 6 – Is just short of 7, is the number of man meaning "imperfect"

2. Satan will be bound, and Christ will reign in triumph during the Millennium.

John identified many plagues, wars, and judgments that would occur before the Second Coming of Jesus Christ in Revelation 8–16. Then, in Revelation 19, he described the coming of the Lord, symbolized by a marriage supper.

Donald W. and Jay A. Parry: "The marriage of the Lamb, who is Christ (D&C 33:17-18) to his bride, who is the Church (D&C 109:73-74) as well as the New Jerusalem (21:2, 9-10), **is a metaphor for the union between the Lord and his people**, made possible through the atonement of Christ... There is no sweeter or more meaningful relationship on earth than that between a holy husband and a holy wife; **that is the kind of relationship (in depth of feeling and completeness of union) that the Lord is inviting us to.** That marriage is between Christ and the church, but the Church is not just an organization on the earth; **it is also the individual souls who belong to that organization.**" (Donald W. Parry and Jay A. Parry, *Understanding the Book of Revelation*, 251 - 252).

The marriage of the Lamb: **The wife or bride of Christ is the church.** And the marriage is the eternal union of the church with Christ. The fine linen, clean and white, represents the righteousness of the church.

In ancient times, a marriage was the single greatest celebration and social event in the biblical world. Preparations and celebrations were much more elaborate than those of today. And they also lasted much longer. They were in **three distinct stages** which first involved the **betrothal or engagement**. This was an arrangement by both sets of parents, was legally binding and could only be broken by divorce. **Then there was a time of preparation as the groom prepared for his bride.**

Second was **the presentation**, which was **a time of festivities** just before the actual ceremony. Those festivities could last up to a week and sometimes even more depending on the economic or social status of the bride and groom. Lastly was **the wedding ceremony** during which time the vows were exchanged. **The same imagery of a wedding pictures the Lord's relationship with His Church.** (discoverrevelation.com)

Revelation 19:7–9: Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: **for the marriage of the Lamb is come**, and his wife hath made herself ready. And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints. **And he saith unto me, Write, Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb.** And he saith unto me, These are the true sayings of God.

Elder Bruce R. McConkie: "The elders of Israel are now issuing the invitations to the marriage supper of the Lord; those who believe and obey the gospel thereby accept the invitation and shall sit in due course ... at the marriage feast" (*Doctrinal New Testament Commentary*, 3 vols. [1966–73], 3:563–64).

President Ezra Taft Benson: "Each day the forces of evil and the forces of good enlist new recruits. Each day we personally make many decisions showing the cause we support. **The final outcome is certain—the forces of righteousness will win.** But what remains to be seen is **where each of us personally, now and in the future, will stand in this battle—and how tall we will stand. Will we be true to our last days and fulfill our foreordained missions?**" ("In His Steps," *Ensign*, Sept. 1988, 2).

3. After the last judgment, the righteous will dwell with God.

THE RIGHTEOUS WILL:

a. Dwell in God's presence

Revelation 21:3: And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God *is* with men, and **he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people**, and God himself shall be with them, *and be* their God.

b. No longer experience death, sorrow, crying, or pain

Revelation 21:4: And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.

c. Inherit all things as sons and daughters of God

Revelation 21:7: He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and **I will be his God, and he shall be my son.**

Eldred G. Smith: Many other scriptures refer to the thousand years of wonderful, glorious conditions on the earth, because Lucifer, Satan, the devil, will be bound. The scriptures say he will be "bound with a chain" and "put into a bottomless pit." To me, these are symbolical terms. I cannot quite conceive of steel chains or pits that could hold Satan. **The only power I know of that will bind Satan, or render him powerless, is righteous living.** The war that started in heaven has not ended yet and shall not end until everyone has proved the extent of his ability to resist Satan. Even Jesus Christ had to bind Satan when he was tempted in the wilderness. Satan had no power over him, because Jesus resisted his temptations. Then the record says, ". . . he departed from him for a season." (Luke 4:13) When you have resisted a temptation until it no longer becomes a temptation, then to that extent, **Satan has lost his power over you**, and as long as you do not yield to him, to that degree he is bound (*Improvement Era*, June 1970, 104).

George Q. Cannon: "We talk about Satan being bound. Satan will be bound by the power of God; but **he will be bound also by the determination of the people of God not to listen to him**, not to be governed by him. The Lord will not bind him and take his power from the earth while there are men and women willing to be governed by him. That is contrary to the plan of salvation. **To deprive men of their agency is contrary to the purposes of our God.** There was a time on this continent, of which we have an account, when the people were so righteous that Satan did not have power among them. Nearly four generations passed away in righteousness. They lived in purity and died without sin. That was through their refusal to yield to Satan. It is not recorded that Satan had no power in other parts of the earth during that period. According to all history that we have in our possession Satan had the same power over men who were willing to listen to him. **But in this land he did not have power, and he was literally bound.** I believe that this will be the case in the Millennium. (Cannon, in Conference Report, Oct. 1897, 65)

Seven Beatitudes [Supreme blessedness or happiness; a state of utmost bliss] of the Book of Revelation

1. Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear and keep those things... (Rev. 1:3).
2. Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord (Rev. 14:13).
3. Blessed is he that watcheth and keepeth his garments (Rev. 20:6)
4. Blessed are they who are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb (Rev. 19:9).
5. Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection (Rev. 20:6).
6. Blessed is he that keepeth the words of the prophecy of this book (Rev. 22:7)
7. Blessed are they that wash their robes (Rev. 22:14).

Dallin H. Oaks: "The Final Judgment is not just an evaluation of a sum total of good and evil acts—what we have done. **It is an acknowledgment of the final effect of our acts and thoughts—what we have become.** It is not enough for anyone just to go through the motions. The commandments, ordinances, and covenants of the gospel are not a list of deposits required to be made in some heavenly account. **The gospel of Jesus Christ is a plan that shows us how to become what our Heavenly Father desires us to become.** . . .

"We are challenged to move through a process of conversion toward that status and condition called eternal life. This is achieved not just by doing what is right, but **by doing it for the right reason—for the pure love of Christ.** . . .

"Instead of being judgmental about others, we should be concerned about ourselves. **We must not give up hope. We must not stop striving.** We are children of God, and it is possible for us to become what our Heavenly Father would have us become. ("The Challenge to Become," General Conference, Oct. 2000).

4. Conclusion

Ted Gibbons: "I am convinced that **you cannot learn the scriptures from anyone.** You can learn *about* them—a great deal about them, it is true—but **you can only learn from the Spirit as you pay a personal price of study and prayer.**

Elder Neal A. Maxwell: On **very thin pages thick with meaning**, are some almost hidden scriptures. Hence **we are urged to search, feast and ponder.** (*Ensign*, November 1999, 6).

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5: The Seven Seals (Rev. 6)

Review:

The book of Revelation forms a type for the creation and destiny of man:

Chapters 1—8	Premortal
Chapters 9—20	Mortal
Chapters 21—22	Postmortal

“According to received chronology—admittedly imperfect, yet approximately correct—four thousand years, or four of the seven great days given to this planet as the period of its ‘temporal existence,’ had passed before Christ was crucified; while nearly two thousand years have gone by since” (Orson F. Whitney, *Saturday Night Thoughts*, 12; see also Bruce R. McConkie, *Doctrinal New Testament Commentary*, 3:476).

“John saw beasts that had to do with things on the earth, but not in past ages. The beasts which John saw had to devour the inhabitants of the earth in days to come [quotes Revelation 6:1-4]” (*Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith*, 290).

WHERE THE EMPHASIS IS

THE BOOK OF REVELATION									
Events before the Fall	First Seal	Second Seal	Third Seal	Fourth Seal	Fifth Seal	Sixth Seal	Seventh Seal	Earth Becomes Celestial Kingdom	
5 verses: The War in Heaven (12:7-12)	11 verses: First through fifth seals (6:1-11)					14 verses: Sixth seal (6:12-7:8)		211 verses: From the opening of the seventh seal to the Second Coming of Jesus Christ (chapters 8-19)	
					6 verses: Millennium (20:1-6)		9 verses: Final scenes (20:7-15)		
							33 verses: Celestial earth (21:1-22:6)		

Adapted from Gerald N. Lund, “The Book of Revelation—Three Keys for Making It a Book of Revelation,” in *A Symposium on the New Testament* (1980), 120.

Seal 1:

White: Horse, bow, crown

Moses 7:13-16; DNTC, 3:478; Rev. 19:11-12; Isa. 49:2; 1 Ne. 21

Elder McConkie suggested that this describes Enoch's day, and that the rider is Enoch (see *The Life and Teachings of Jesus and His Apostles*, p. 458).

Seal 2:

Red: Horse, Great Sword

Gen. 6:5, 11-14; Moses 8; D&C 1:35

Elder McConkie suggested that this describes Noah's day, when wickedness covered the earth (see *The Life and Teachings of Jesus and His Apostles*, p. 458).

Seal 3:

Black: Horse, Balances

Lam. 4:8-9; Lev. 26:26; Abr. 1-2; Gen. 41-42; Lev. 26:26

Measure (quart) of wheat for a penny (day's wage [see Matt. 20:2])

Barley is food of the poor; wheat is food of the wealthy

Hurt not the oil and the wine

Elder McConkie suggested that this is the age of Abraham, when many died of starvation (see *The Life and Teachings of Jesus and His Apostles*, p. 458-59).

Seal 4:

Pale: Horse, Rider is "death" and "Hell" follows (Hell is *Hades* or the realm of spirits)

Pale horse = color of dead bodies

Death and hell = wicked killing the wicked

Elder McConkie said, "This is the millennium of those great kingdoms and nations whose wars and treacheries tormented and overran [Israel], again and again" (*The Life and Teachings of Jesus and His Apostles*, p. 459). These nations included Babylon, Persia, Greece, and Rome.

Seal 5:

Objects: Altar, souls under the altar

Consider the water flowing from under the altar of the temple in Ezekiel 47-48

Altar = symbol of sacrifice

Souls = martyrs (Church members killed for their belief)

Elder McConkie suggested that this refers to the persecutions in which so many early Christians in John's day lost their lives (see *The Life and Teachings of Jesus and His Apostles*, p. 459).

Seal 6:

Objects: Catastrophic events; seven in number; those affected is seven

Catastrophic events given as signs of the last days

Elder McConkie indicated that this describes our own time and events leading up to the Millennium, when Jesus will reign personally on the earth (see *The Life and Teachings of Jesus and His Apostles*, p. 460).

"Recently I read a newspaper article that cited statistics from the U.S. Geological Survey indicating that earthquakes around the world are increasing in frequency and intensity.

According to the article, only two major earthquakes (earthquakes measuring at least six on the Richter scale) occurred during the 1920s. In the 1930s the number increased to five, and then it decreased to four during the 1940s. But in the 1950s, nine major earthquakes occurred, followed by fifteen during the 1960s, forty-six during the 1970s, and fifty-two during the 1980s.

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6: *The Redeemed* (Rev. 7)

Revelation	D&C 77
The four angels (7:1)	Angels with the everlasting gospel (8)
The other angel (7:2) "From the east"	Elias gathering all things together (9)
The sealed 144,000 "In their foreheads"	Ordained high priests in all nations (11)
The sounding of trumpets (8:1)	The beginning of the end (12)

7:1 What do the "winds" refer to?

7:2 What is the "seal of the living God?"

"Four destroying angels holding power over the four quarters of the earth until the servants of God are sealed in their foreheads, which signifies sealing the blessing upon their heads, meaning the everlasting covenant, thereby making their calling and election sure. When a seal is put upon the father and mother, it secures their posterity, so that they cannot be lost, but will be saved by virtue of the covenant of their father and mother" (*Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith*, 321).

Elias:

"As previously stated, the restoration of the Gospel did not come through just one messenger, but there are several who came and bestowed their keys of authority and power. The name Elias is a title. This we have been taught by the Prophet Joseph Smith [*Teachings*, 335]. Is it not possible, therefore, since so many ancient prophets had a hand in the restoration, that in speaking of the Elias who was to come and restore all things, do we not have a composite picture of several Eliases, rather than one single individual? The angel with the seal directs the four angels holding the destiny of the world in their hands, not to hurt the earth until the servants of the Lord have been sealed. This could not be accomplished until the Gospel was restored and proclaimed to the nations of the earth" (Joseph Fielding Smith, *Church History and Modern Revelation*, 1:301–302).

"Calamities and troubles are increasing in the earth, and there is a meaning to these things. Remember this, and reflect upon these matters. If you do your duty, and I do my duty, we'll have the protection, and shall pass through the afflictions in peace and in safety. Read the scriptures and the revelations. They will tell you about these things." (Wilford Woodruff in *The Young Woman's Journal*, 5:512–13.)

7:5-8 Where is Dan? My own theory have any merit?

7:13 "What" and "Whence" came they? Meaning?

Whence: *pothen* (of place: from where, from what condition, see Rev. 2:5)

- 7:14 "Great tribulation" references from recent General Conference
 "Washed their robes" in what? See 1 Nephi 12:11
 "Made them white in the blood"
- 7:16 "Thirst" see John 4
- 7:17 Lead them to the fountains of waters. See 1 Nephi 8:20; 11:25

Protection from the Adversary in Revelation 7

- Sealed: Foreheads (see 14:1)
 - See also Matt. 2:2; 3 Ne. 1:21; JS-M 1:26
 - Marked: Ezek. 9:4; Ex. 12; Abr. 1:18; Mosiah 5:15
 - Contrast: Alma 3:4, 13, 18; Rev. 13
- 144,000
- House of Israel
- Innumerable host
 - Palms
 - Clothed
 - Washed in the blood of the lamb
 - Serve in temple
- Revelation 9:4; 13; 17:8

The Holy Spirit of Promise is the ratifying power of the Holy Ghost. When sealed by the Holy Spirit of Promise, an ordinance, vow, or covenant is binding on earth and in heaven. (See D&C 132:7.) Receiving this "stamp of approval" from the Holy Ghost is the result of faithfulness, integrity, and steadfastness in honoring gospel covenants "in [the] process of time" (Moses 7:21). However, this sealing can be forfeited through unrighteousness and transgression.

Purifying and sealing by the Holy Spirit of Promise constitute the culminating steps in the process of being born again (*Conference Report*, April 2007).

"The restoration of the Gospel did not come through just one messenger, but there are several who came and bestowed their keys of authority and power. The name Elias is a title. This we have been taught by the Prophet Joseph Smith [*Teachings*, 335]. Is it not possible, therefore, since so many ancient prophets had a hand in the restoration, that in speaking of the Elias who was to come and restore all things, do we not have a composite picture of several Eliases, rather than one single individual? The angel with the seal directs the four angels holding the destiny of the world in their hands, not to hurt the earth until the servants of the Lord have been sealed. This could not be accomplished until the Gospel was restored and proclaimed to the nations of the earth" (Joseph Fielding Smith, *Church History and Modern Revelation*, 1:301–302).

Names of the House of Israel in Revelation 7:

Judah	Praise the Lord
Reuben	He has looked on my affliction
Gad	Granted good fortune
Asher	Happy am I
Naphtali	My wrestling
Manasseh	Has made me forget my sorrow
Simeon	God hears me
Levi	Has joined me
Issachar	Purchased me
Zebulun	Exalted me
Joseph	Adding to me
Benjamin	The son of His right hand

7:12 Seven Amens:

1. Blessing
2. Glory
3. Wisdom
4. Thanksgiving
5. Honor
6. Power
7. Might

7:13 "What" and "whence"

What are we intended to be?

Whence: *pothen* (of place: from where, from what condition, see Rev. 2:5)

"I will make an explanation of the expression, "Sealed by the Holy Spirit of Promise." This does not have reference to marriage for time and all eternity only, but to every ordinance and blessing of the gospel. Baptism into the Church is sealed by this Spirit, likewise confirmation, ordination, and all ordinances as well as marriage for time and all eternity.

"The meaning of this expression is this: Every covenant, contract, bond, obligation, oath, vow, and performance, that man receives through the covenants and blessings of the gospel, is sealed by the Holy Spirit with [page 95] a promise. The promise is that the blessing will be obtained, if those who seek it are true and faithful to the end. If they are not faithful, then the Holy Spirit will withdraw the blessing, and the promise comes to an end" (Joseph Fielding Smith, *Doctrines of Salvation*, 2:94).

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4: The Throne Set in Heaven (Rev. 4-5)

Jasper and Sardine

1. First and last of high priests breastplate (Exodus 28:15-20)
 - a) Reuben (Sardine) and Benjamin (Jasper)
 - a) "Behold the Son" and "Son of My Right Hand"
2. Eden (Ezekiel 28:13)
3. Foundations of the heavenly city (Rev. 21:19-20)
4. Jasper: Many kinds but these are of note: Aëizusa (like to air); Crystallizusa (clear as crystal). Pliny speaks of a white stone called "Astrios"
 - a) Brother of Jared (Ether 2-3)
 - b) Daniel 2; D&C 65; Rev. 2

Emerald

1. Fourth stone in the high priest's breastplate (Exodus 28:17-21)
2. Foundation stone of the heavenly city (Rev. 21:19-20)
3. Brilliant green
4. Rainbow: See JST, Genesis 9:21-25

"I am like a huge, rough stone rolling down from a high mountain; and the only polishing I get is when some corner gets rubbed off by coming in contact with something else, striking with accelerated force against religious bigotry, priest-craft, lawyer-craft, doctor-craft, lying editors, suborned judges and jurors, and the authority of perjured executives, backed by mobs, blasphemers, licentious and corrupt men and women—all hell knocking off a corner here and a corner there. Thus I will become a smooth and polished shaft in the quiver of the Almighty, who will give me dominion over all and every one of them, when their refuge of lies shall fail, and their hiding place shall be destroyed, while these smooth-polished stones with which I come in contact become marred" (*Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith*, 304).

The Covenant of the Rainbow

"The Lord deals with this people as a tender parent with a child, communicating light and intelligence and the knowledge of his ways as they can bear it. The inhabitants of the earth are asleep; they know not the day of their visitation. The Lord hath set the bow in the cloud for a sign that while it shall be seen, seed time and harvest, summer and winter shall not fail; but when it shall disappear, woe to that generation, for behold the end cometh quickly." (*Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith*, 305).

"I have asked of the Lord concerning His coming, and while asking the Lord, He gave a sign and said, 'In the days of Noah I set a bow in the heavens as a sign and token that in any year that the bow should be seen the Lord would not come; but there should be seed time and harvest during that year: but whenever you see the bow withdrawn, it shall be a token that there shall

be famine, pestilence, and great distress among the nations, and that the coming of the Messiah is not far distant.' But I will take the responsibility upon myself to prophesy in the name of the Lord, that Christ will not come this year, . . . for we have seen the bow" (*Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith*, 340-41).

Four and Twenty Elders

1. See D&C 77:5
2. See 1 Chronicles 24:1-19
 - a) Tabernacle and temple worship: A model of heaven (Hebrews 8:5; 1 Chron. 28:12, 19).
3. "Clothed in white raiment" (4:4; see 3:5) possessing his own crown, throne, harp, and golden bowl of incense (5:8).
4. Sing the new song (5:9-10)
5. Four times they fall at the throne to worship (4:10; 5:14; 11:16; 19:4) and once before the Lamb (5:8)
6. Kings and a priests who will "reign on the earth" (5:10)

Scroll Sealed with Seven Seals

1. See D&C 77:6
2. Significance of the "seal":
 - a) Kings possessed them and unique.
 - b) Legal protection and guarantee relative to property.
 - c) Proved the identity of the owner.
 - d) Holder of the seal is the holder of power.
 - e) Protects the document against inappropriate or premature disclosure.
 - f) Makes a document legally valid.(See *Theological Dictionary of the New Testament*, 7:940-945)
3. Principles relative to the earth:
 - a) "The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof and all they that dwell therein" (Psalm 24:1)
 - b) Man given dominion over the earth (Genesis 1:26)
 - c) The "god of this world" (2 Corinthians 4:4)

"The book which John saw represented the real history of the world—what the eye of God has seen, what the recording angel has written; and the seven thousand years, corresponding to the seven seals of the Apocalyptic volume, are as seven great days during which Mother Earth will fulfill her mortal mission, laboring six days and resting upon the seventh, her period of sanctification. These seven days do not include the period of our planet's creation and preparation as a dwelling place for man. They are limited to Earth's 'temporal existence,' that is, to Time, considered as distinct from Eternity" (Orson F. Whitney, *Saturday Night Thoughts*, 11).

The Law of Redemption: Leviticus 25:47-50

- a) Lands subject to redemption by a kinsman *goel*. Certain conditions applied:
- i. He had to be a kinsman
 - ii. He had to be able to perform
 - iii. He had to be willing to perform
 - iv. He had to assume all obligations

The Book of Revelation

Patterns, Principles, and Prophecies for the Last Days

Patrick D. Degn

10: Revelation 17-19

17:1-2 The “whore” see 2 Nephi 10:16; D&C 86:2-3; 133:14

Compare the history of the New Testament Church through the restoration of the gospel and establishment of the Latter-day Church in the “Seven Kingdom Parables”

1. Sower and the Soils (3-9; 18-23)
2. Wheat and the Tares (24-30)
3. Mustard Seed (31-32)
4. Woman and Leaven (33)
5. Hidden Treasure (44)
6. Pearl of Great Price (45-46)
7. Gospel Net (47-50)

17:1-2 The “whore” see 2 Nephi 10:16; D&C 86:2-3; 133:14

1 Nephi 13:3-28

Mosiah 11 and the influence of King Noah upon the common people. See also King Mosiah’s warnings about the influence of a wicked ruler upon the people in Mosiah 29:17-24.

17:2 “Drunken with the wine of her fornication” see Jeremiah 51:7.

“Mad” *halal* = to “boast” or “vaunt”

17:3 See Helaman 6:39.

17:4 The description of the whore:

Purple, scarlet color decked with gold, precious stones and pearls. On her forehead is the name.

Sound familiar? See Exodus 28

17:5 Names of the whore are indicative of who she is.

Marking the forehead:

Seven times in the book of Revelation

Beast: Rev. 13:16; 14:9; 20:4

God: Rev. 7:3; 9:4; 14:1; 22:4

“Mystery”: 2 Ne. 10:15; 9:9; 26:22; 28:9; Morm. 1:19; Isa. 47:9-10.

“Babylon”: see D&C 133:13; Isa. 13:19

“Mother of Harlots and Abominations”

17:8 “They that dwell on the earth” contrasted with the Saints in heaven (17:14; 19:1).

Passages Concerning the Fall and Doom of Babylon: 1 Nephi 13; 19-22; Revelation 17-18; Isaiah 13-14; Jeremiah 50-51

“The church of the devil is every evil and worldly organization on earth. It is all of the systems, both Christian and non-Christian, that have perverted the pure and perfect gospel; it is all of the governments and powers that run counter to the divine will; it is the societies and political

Seven Seals Chart - <http://www.revelationbibleprophecy.org>

First Seal	Second Seal	Third Seal	Fourth Seal	Fifth Seal	Sixth Seal	Seventh Seal
<i>White Horse</i>	<i>Red Horse</i>	<i>Black Horse</i>	<i>Pale Horse</i>	<i>Cry of Martyrs</i>	<i>Signs in Earth and Sky</i>	<i>Silence in Heaven</i>
A war of righteousness against the world (Satan's kingdom) by the Church of Christ.	A war against the Roman Empire.	A war against Apostasy.	A war against the Papal Apostate Church.	Vindication of the Martyrs of the Church of Christ.	Time of Preparation of the Church of Christ.	The Deliverance of the Church of Christ.
Apostolic Church.	Church Under Persecution.	Church United With State.	Church Dominating State.	The Protestant Reformation.	The Time Of The End.	The Second Advent.
Pure, Zealous, Persecuted.	Sinful, Heretical, Political.	Corrupt, Idolatrous, Pagan.	Deadly and Repulsive.	Recovery of Gospel. Anti-Christ Identified.	Warnings of the Second Advent.	Enemies of Church Slain.
Faithful. Unitedly Proclaim Truth.	Faithful Resist Apostasy.	Faithful Separate From Apostasy.	Faithful in Flight From Apostasy.	Faithful Gain Recognition.	Faithful Proclaim Christ's Return.	Faithful Taken to Kingdom.
Bow = Word of God Crown = Crown of Victory Conquering = Triumph of the Gospel in Apostles Day.	No Peace = Literal and Spiritual peace vanishes from Church. Kill = Intolerance and hatred in Church. Persecution from the state. Sword = 1. State/civil power. 2. Division and separation.	Balances = 1. Judgment - Apostate Church rejected. 2. Commerce - Gospel commercialised. 3. Corrupt dealing - Trade in Relics, Indulgences etc. Spiritual famine. Scriptures kept from people. Oil and Wine = Holy Spirit and true doctrine.	Death and Grave Ride. Spiritual death to supporters. Literal death to dissenters. Millions martyred. Papacy supreme.	White Robes Given = Previously martyrs were clothed in black. The Reformation clothed martyrs in white. Martyrs to await future martyrdoms of final conflict.	Lisbon Quake. Nov 1, 1755. Sun Dark. May 19, 1780. Moon as Blood. May 19, 1780. Stars Fell. Nov 13, 1833. Last days commence 1798. Christ coming. Wicked flee.	Silence in Heaven = Christ and all angelic host absent. Father alone in heaven. Half an Hour = 7½ literal days. Period that Christ and angels absent from heaven. ½ Day = Christ's coming, resurrection, translation, wicked destroyed. 7 Days = Return journey to kingdom of heaven.
31 - 100 A.D.	100 - 313/323 A.D.	313/323 - 538 A.D.	538 - 1517 A.D.	1517 - 1798 A.D.	1755 -	Second Advent
Warnings of Apostasy	Apostate Church Emerges	Apostate Church Complete	Apostate Church Supreme	Apostate Church Exposed	Apostate Church Falls	Apostate Church Destroyed
True Church Victorious	True Church Under Attack	True Church Eclipsed	True Church in Wilderness	True Church Revived	True Church Vindicated	True Church Rewarded
First Seal	Second Seal	Third Seal	Fourth Seal	Fifth Seal	Sixth Seal	Seventh Seal

The Book of Revelation Outline 1

Chap	Verses	Outline
1	1 - 8	Greetings
	9 - 20	Vision of Yeshua
"Things which are" (1:19)		
2 - 3		Message to the 7 Churches
	"Things which will take place" (1:19)	
4	1 - 11	Throne Room
5	1 - 14	The Lamb and a Scroll
6	1 - 17	1st ~ 6th Seals Broken
7	1 - 8	144,000 sealed
	9 - 17	Great Tribulation Saints in Heaven
8	1 - 6	7th Seal Broken
	7 - 12	1st ~ 4th Trumpet
	13	Woe, Woe, Woe
9	1 - 12	5th Trumpet (1st Woe) -- Locusts out, Abaddon/Apollyon out of the Pit
	13 - 21	6th Trumpet (2nd Woe) -- 4 angels released, 1/3 killed, 200 mil army
10	1 - 11	Angel with a Little Book
11	1 - 13	Two Witnesses
	14	End of 2 nd Woe
	15 - 19	7th Trumpet (3rd Woe)
12	1 - 12	The Woman and the Child; Fall of the Dragon (1 st Advent)
	13 - 17	Dragon Persecutes the Woman (End Time)
13	1 - 10	Antichrist (1 st Beast)
	11 - 15	False Prophet (2 nd Beast)
	16 - 18	Mark of the Beast, 666
14	1 - 5	144,000 in Heaven
	6 - 12	3 Angel Announcements: 1) Gospel, 2) Babylon is Fallen, 3) Judgment on Receivers of the Mark
	13	Blessing on Great Tribulation Martyrs ("from now on . . .")
	14 - 16	Harvest by Sickle
	17 - 20	Harvest of Grapes; Winepress of the Wrath of God
15	1 - 8	Bowl Judgment Announcement
16	1 - 21	1st ~ 7th Bowl
17	1 - 18	Harlot Babylon the Great and the Scarlet Beast
18	1 - 24	Fall of Harlot Babylon the Great
19	1 - 10	Marriage Supper of the Lamb
	11 - 16	Coming of the Messiah
	17 - 21	Armageddon
Consummation		
20	1 - 10	Millennium
	11 - 15	Great White Throne Judgment
21	1 - 8	New Earth and New Heaven
	9 - 27	New Jerusalem
22	1 - 5	Tree of Life
	6 - 21	"I am coming quickly"

Some of the Sevenfold Patterns in the Book of Revelation

- Seven Churches (1:4, 11, 20; 2; 3)
- Seven Seals (5-6)
- Seven Trumpets (8-9)
- Seven Bowls (15-16; 17:1; 21:9)
- Seven Lampstands (1:12-13; 20; 2:1)
- Seven Spirits (1:4; 3:1; 4:5; 5:6)
- Seven Stars (1:16, 20; 2:1; 3:1)
- Seven Lamps (4-5)
- Seven “Title-pairs” (2-3)
- Seven Promises to the Overcomer (2-3)
- Seven Horns (5:6)
- Seven Eyes (5:6)
- Seven Angels (8:2, 6; 15:1, 6-8; 16:1; 17:1; 21:9)
- Seven Thunders (10:3-4)
- Seven Thousand (11:13)
- Seven Heads (12:3; 13:1; 17:3, 7, 9)
- Seven Crowns (12:3)
- Seven Plagues (15:1, 6, 8; 21:9)
- Seven Mountains (17:9)
- Seven Kings (17:10-11)
- Seven Personages (12-13)

Seven Beatitudes

1. Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear and keep those things... (Rev. 1:3).
2. Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord (Rev. 14:13).
3. Blessed is he that watcheth and keepeth his garments (Rev. 20:6)
4. Blessed are they who are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb (Rev. 19:9).
5. Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection (Rev. 20:6).
6. Blessed is he that keepeth the words of the prophecy of this book (Rev. 22:7)
7. Blessed are they that wash their robes (Rev. 22:14).

Numbers in the Scriptures

1. God
2. Opposition; Complementary
3. God; Perfection through covenants
4. Geographic fullness; totality
5. Divine grace and fallen man
6. Deficit; imperfection
7. Full; complete; whole
8. Rebirth; resurrection
- 12 Priesthood
- 40 Probationary testing

Past, Present, and Future

	Past	Present	Future
God (Rev. 1:4)	Which Was (Col. 1:15-17; John 8:58)	Which Is (Heb. 7:25)	Which is to Come (Rev. 1:7)
Christ (Rev. 1:5)	The Faithful Witness (John 14:1-3; John 8:14)	First Begotten of the Dead (Col. 1:18-20)	Prince of the Kings of the Earth (Matt. 25:31- 32; 1 Cor. 15:24-25)
Unto Him That (Rev. 1:5)	Loved Us (Gal. 2:20; John 3:16)	Washed Us from our Sins in His Own Blood (Heb. 7:25; 9:14)	Made Us Kings and Priests (1 Pet. 2:9; Luke 19:17; Rev. 2:26; 5:10; 20:4; 22:5)
Write	The Things Which Thou Hast Seen (Rev. 1:12-18)	The Things Which Are (Rev. 2-3)	The Things which Shall be Hereafter (Rev. 4-22)

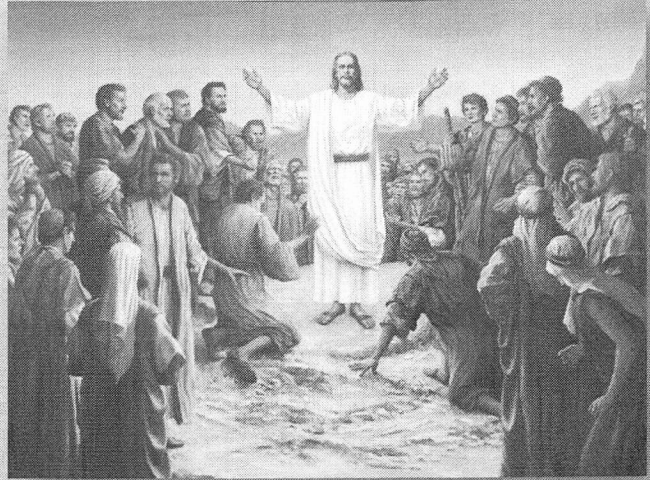
Description of the Lord

Revelation 1:13-16

1. **Hair of his head:** D&C 110:3; Daniel 7:9
2. **Eyes:** D&C 110:3; Rev. 2:18; Mal. 3:2
3. **Feet:** Actions, direction.
Brass: 1 Nephi 4; Rev. 2:18; Num. 21
4. **Voice:** D&C 110:3; Rev. 14:2; 19:6; Ps. 29:3; Dan. 10:6
5. **Right Hand:** Gen. 48:13 (covenant); 2 Chron. 3:17 (blessings); Ex. 15:6 (power); D&C 76:20 (honor); see Rev. 5:12-13.
Seven stars: See Rev. 1:20; “stars”
6. **Mouth:** Word of God (see John 1:1-4; D&C 12:1; 14:1; 16:1)
7. **Countenance:** 1 Nephi 1; JS—H 1:16-17; Matt. 17; Alma 5:14, 19

Revelation 1:19

- Have been saved: From the *penalty* of sin (Justified)
- Are being saved: From the *power* of sin (Sanctification)
- Shall be saved: From the *presence* of sin

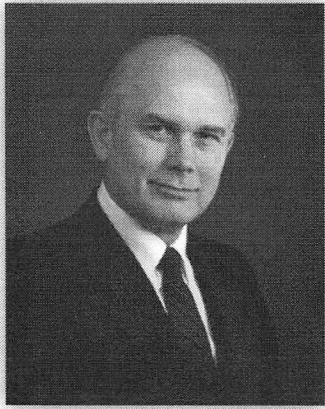


WHERE THE EMPHASIS IS

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Events before the Fall	First Seal	Second Seal	Third Seal	Fourth Seal	Fifth Seal	Sixth Seal	Seventh Seal	Earth Becomes Celestial Kingdom
5 verses: The War in Heaven (12:7-12)	11 verses: First through fifth seals (6:1-11)	14 verses: Sixth seal (6:12-7:8)	211 verses: From the opening of the seventh seal to the Second Coming of Jesus Christ (chapters 8-19)			6 verses: Millennium (20:1-6)	9 verses: Final scenes (20:7-15)	33 verses: Celestial earth (21:1-22:6)

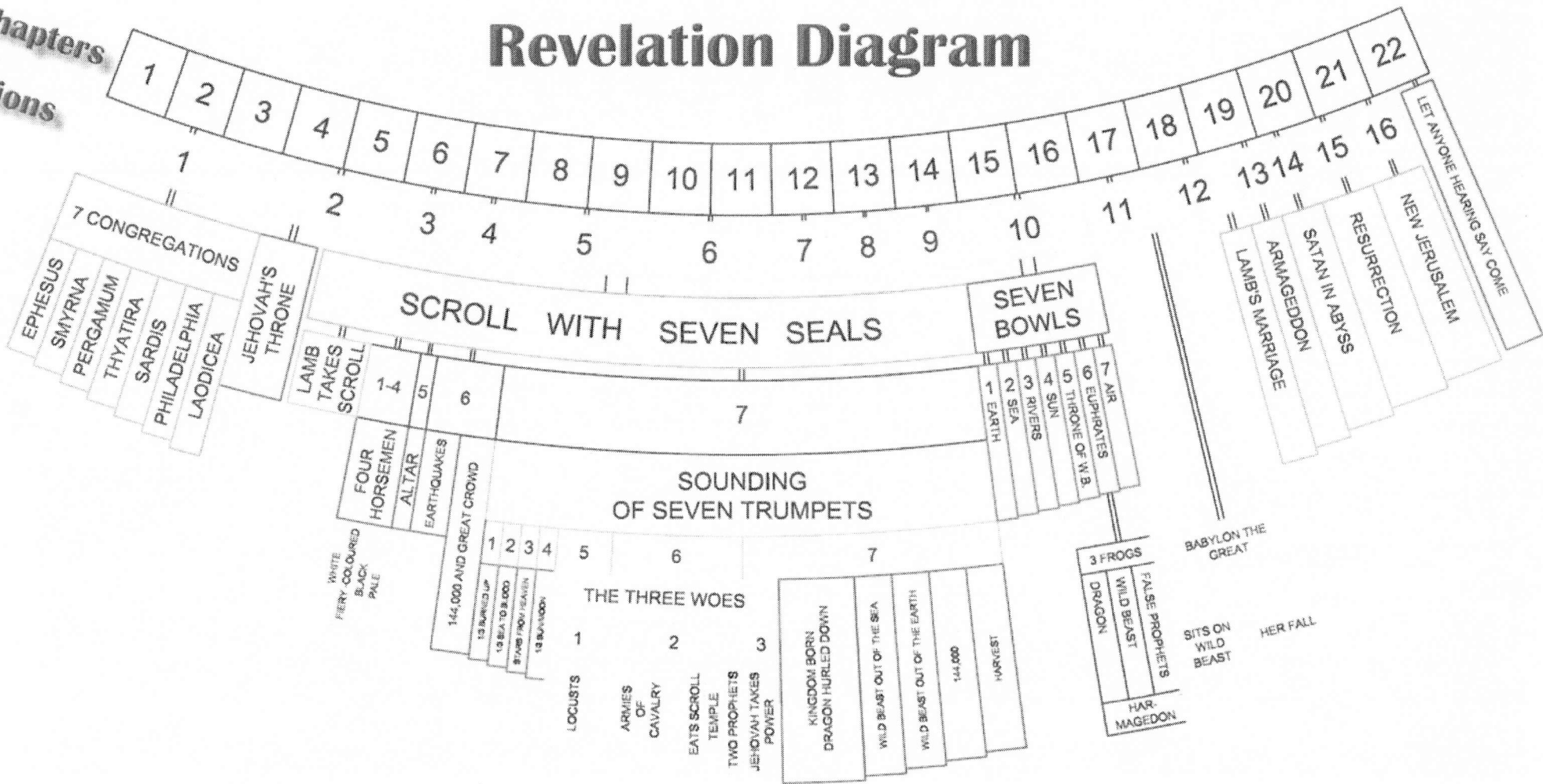
Adapted from Gerald N. Lund, "The Book of Revelation—Three Keys for Making It a Book of Revelation," in *A Symposium on the New Testament* (1980), 120.



“The Final Judgment is not just an evaluation of a sum total of good and evil acts—what we have done. It is an acknowledgment of the final effect of our acts and thoughts—what we have become. It is not enough for anyone just to go through the motions. The commandments, ordinances, and covenants of the gospel are not a list of deposits required to be made in some heavenly account. The gospel of Jesus Christ is a plan that shows us how to become what our Heavenly Father desires us to become” (Dallin H. Oaks, *Ensign*, Nov. 2000, 32).

Revelation Diagram

Chapters
Visions



Revelation (1) of 3: Signs and Judgments Summary Table // OlivetJournal.com

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<p align="center">Seal</p> <p>(6:1-17; 8:1-6)</p>	<p><i>White Horseman:</i></p> <p>Bow, crown, conquering and to conquer</p>	<p><i>Red (fiery) Horseman:</i></p> <p>Great sword, take peace from earth, killing one another</p>	<p><i>Black Horseman:</i></p> <p>Pair of scales, famine (do not touch oil and wine)</p>	<p><i>Pale Horseman:</i></p> <p>Death, 1/4 killed by sword, hunger, death, beasts of the earth</p>	<p><i>Cry of the Martyrs in heaven:</i> (under the altar)</p> <p>Told to wait for their brethren to be killed (during the Great Tribulation)</p>	<p>[EQ, black sun, bloody moon]</p> <p>falling stars, rolling up sky, moving mountains and isles, hiding men</p> <p><u>"the great day of His wrath has come"</u> (6:17)</p>	<p>Silence, incense & prayers, noises, thunderings, lightnings, EQ</p> <p><u>"seven trumpets prepared"</u></p>
<p align="center">Trumpet</p> <p>(8:7-13; 9:1-21) (11:15-19)</p>	Cosmic Events				<p><u>Woe 1:</u></p> <p>Bottomless pit unlocked, and locusts torment those who DO NOT have the seal of God for 5 months, death will flee from them</p> <p>"Abaddon/Apollyon" as king</p>	<p><u>Woe 2:</u></p> <p>Armageddon Four angels by the Euphrates released to kill 1/3 of men; 200 million army with horses that blow fire, smoke, and brimstone, and serpent tails</p> <p>The rest would not repent</p>	<p>The Kingdom proclaimed: "Your wrath has come" "they should be judged" "reward servants" Temple opened, Ark seen Lightnings, noises, thunderings, EQ, great hail</p> <p>"Woe 3 is coming" (11:14)</p>
<p><u>Woe 3</u></p> <p align="center">Bowl</p> <p>"Wrath of God" (16:1)</p> <p>(16:1-21)</p>	<p><u>On Earth:</u></p> <p>Foul and loathsome sore on Beast worshipers</p>	<p><u>On Sea:</u></p> <p>Sea becomes blood of dead man, every sea creature dies</p>	<p><u>On Rivers and Springs:</u></p> <p>Water become blood ("blood of drink")</p> <p>"true and righteous are Your judgment"</p>	<p><u>On Sun:</u></p> <p>Scorches men with fire and great heat,</p> <p>They blaspheme and would not repent</p>	<p><u>On Throne of the Beast:</u></p> <p>His kingdom becomes full of darkness, gnaw their tongues in pain, sores</p> <p>Still blaspheme and would not repent</p>	<p><u>On Euphrates:</u></p> <p>Armageddon The River dries up, three frog like demons come out of the mouths of dragon, beast, and false prophet, and gather the kings of the earth for the battle</p>	<p><u>Into the Air:</u></p> <p>"It is done!"</p> <p>Noises, thunderings, lightnings, great EQ, Jerusalem divided in 3, cities of the nations fall, the great Babylon remembered for the wrath, isles and mountains flee, great hailstones fall</p> <p>Still blaspheme</p>

Blue Wavy Line: Great Tribulation; Red Line: Second Coming and Wrath

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Seal	Major Events
First seal	The creation and fall of Adam and Eve; the ministry of Enoch and the translation of his city into heaven (Revelation 6:1–2).
Second seal	Noah and the Flood (Revelation 6:3–4).
Third seal	Ministries of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, and Moses; the Exodus; the period of reign by judges (Revelation 6:5–6).
Fourth seal	The period of reign by kings; the division of the kingdom; the conquering of the kingdoms (Revelation 6:7–8).
Fifth seal	The birth, ministry, crucifixion, and resurrection of Jesus Christ; the establishment of his Church and the ministry of the Apostles; martyrdom of the Apostles; the Apostasy (Revelation 6:9–11).
Sixth seal	Continuation of the Apostasy; restoration of the gospel through the Prophet Joseph Smith; signs of the times manifest (Revelation 6:12–17; 7:1–8).
Seventh seal	Wars, plagues, and desolation; Second Coming of the Lord (Revelation 8:1–19:21). Millennium of peace (Revelation 20:1–6). Satan loosed for a season, the last great battle, and the final judgment (Revelation 20:7–15).
After the seventh seal	The earth is celestialized (Revelation 21:1–22:6).

A VISION OF HEAVEN REVELATION 4-5

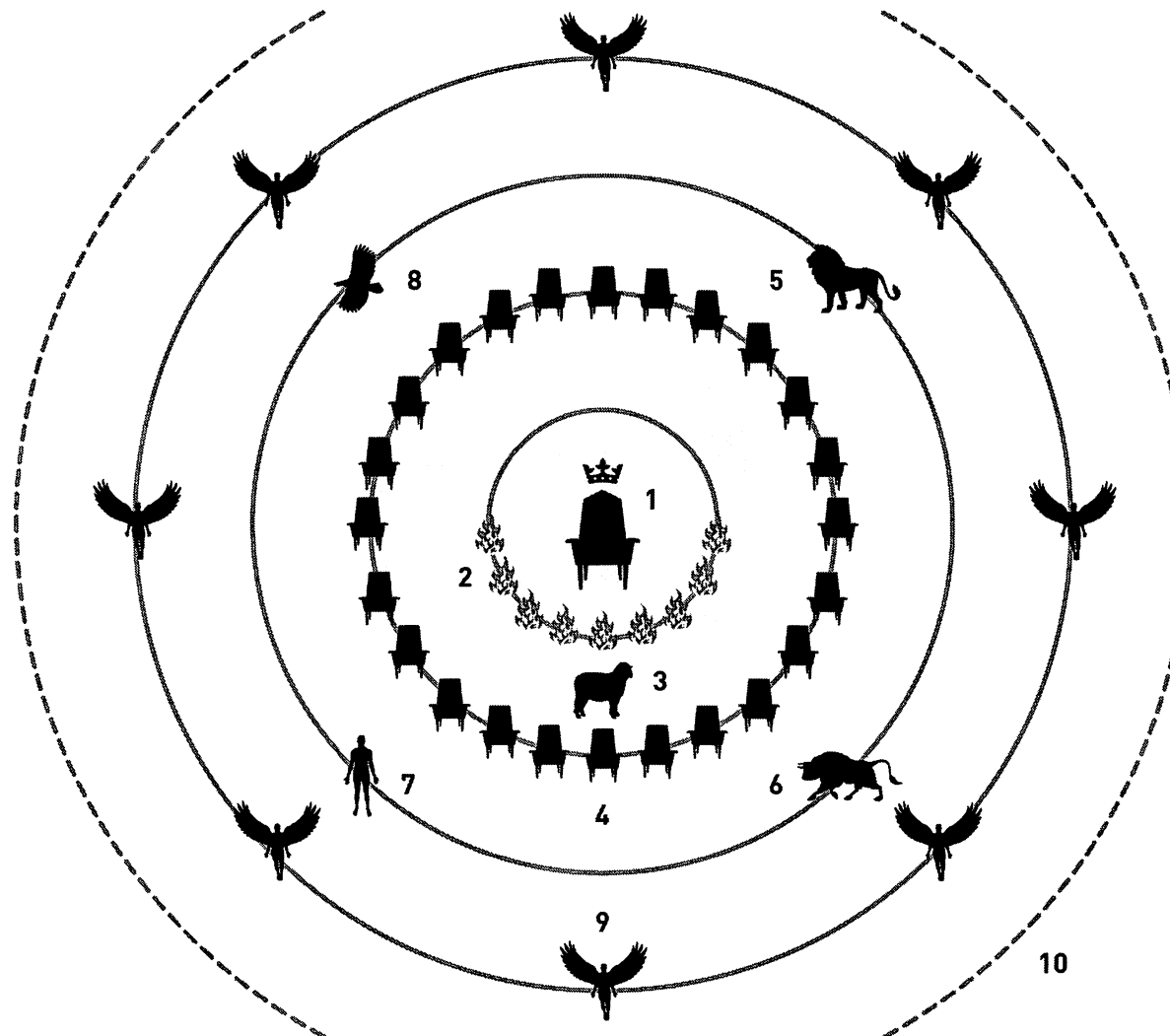
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[1] God the Father's throne at the centre of heaven, around which is a rainbow like an emerald and from it comes flashes of lightning, rumblings and peals of thunder (4:2-3, 5).

[2] 7 torches of fire, which are the 7 spirits of God (4:5).

[3] The conquering Jesus, announced as 'the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David' and appearing as a slain Lamb with 7 horns and 7 eyes, which are the 7 spirits of God. Jesus takes the 7-sealed scroll from God the Father on the throne (5:1-7).

[4] The 24 elders sitting on thrones, dressed in white, wearing golden crowns and holding harps and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. The elders worship God, cast their crowns before his throne and sing a 'new song' praising the worthiness of Jesus to open the scroll (4:4, 10-11; 5:8-10, 14).



[5-8] The 4 living creatures, each with 6 wings and full of eyes all around and within, holding harps and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. The living creatures perpetually praise the Creator God and sing a 'new song' praising the worthiness of Jesus to open the scroll (4:7-9; 5:8-10, 14).

[5] The 1st living creature looks like a lion (4:7).

[6] The 2nd living creature looks like an ox (4:7).

[7] The 3rd living creature has the face of a man (4:7).

[8] The 4th living creature looks like an eagle in flight (4:7).

[9] 1000s of 1000s of angels praising the worthiness of Jesus (5:11-12).

[10] Every creature in heaven and on earth, under the earth and in the sea, praising Jesus and God the Father (5:13).

THE SEVEN CHURCHES REVELATION 2-3

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1 EPHEBUS (2:1-7)

Positives = toil and patient endurance for Jesus' sake, abhorrence of evil and false teaching
Negatives = abandoned first love
Command = remember, repent and return to previous good works
Disobedience = will have their lampstand removed
Obedience = will eat from the tree of life

2 SMYRNA (2:8-11)

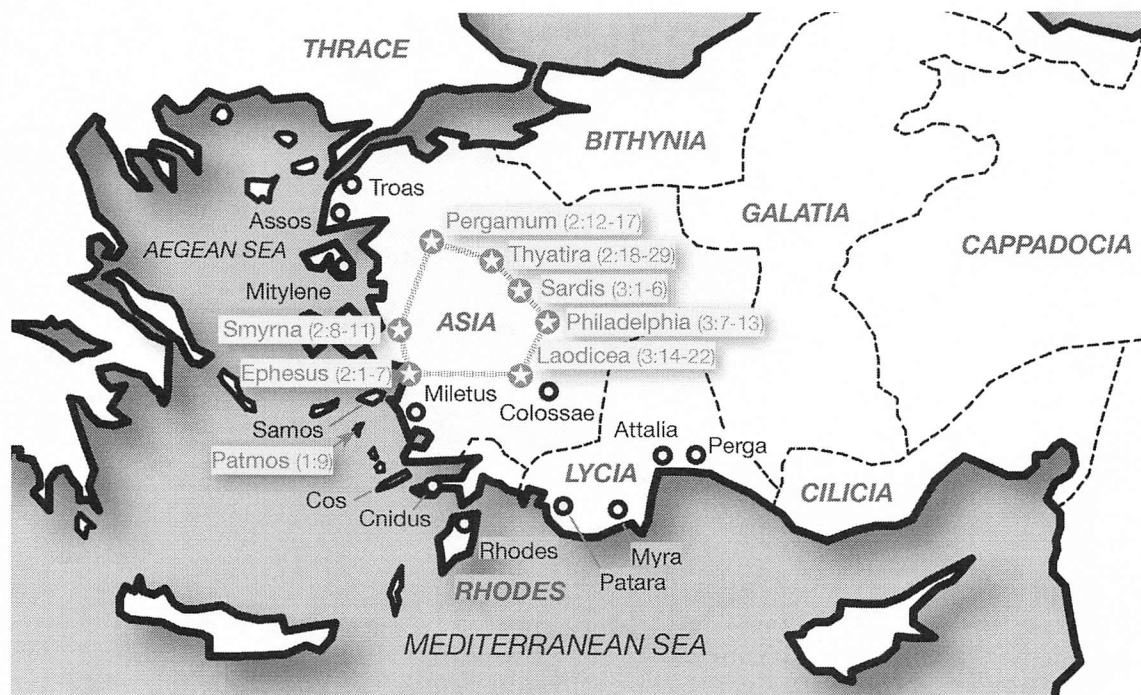
Positives = enduring opposition and slander and being spiritually rich
Negatives = none
Command = be faithful to the point of death
Disobedience = none
Obedience = will be given the crown of life and will not be hurt by the second death

3 PERGAMUM (2:12-17)

Positives = holding fast to Jesus' name and not denying his faith
Negatives = some have accepted false teaching
Command = repent
Disobedience = will face war from the sword of Jesus' mouth
Obedience = will be given hidden manna and a white enscribed stone

4 THYATIRA (2:18-29)

Positives = love, faith, service and faithful endurance
Negatives = toleration of false teaching, idolatry and sexual immorality
Command = reject false teaching and hold fast to Jesus
Disobedience = tribulation and death
Obedience = will be given authority over the nations and given the morning star



5 SARDIS (3:1-6)

Positives = none
Negatives = spiritually dead and incomplete in works
Command = wake up, strengthen faith and repent
Disobedience = will be opposed by Jesus who will come like a thief
Obedience = will walk with Jesus, be clothed in white, will have names in the book of life and confessed by him before the Father and angels

6 PHILADELPHIA (3:7-13)

Positives = kept Jesus' word, not denied his name and patiently endured
Negatives = none
Command = hold fast
Disobedience = none
Obedience = will be kept from the hour of trial, made a pillar in the temple of God and have the name of God, New Jerusalem and Jesus written on them

7 LAODICEA (3:14-22)

Positives = none
Negatives = spiritually lukewarm, wretched, pitiable, poor and blind; need to buy spiritual gold and salve to become spiritually rich, clothed and seeing
Disobedience = be zealous, repent and hear Jesus' voice
Obedience = will eat with Jesus and sit with him on his throne

PATMOS (1:9)

An Aegean island south of Samos, where prisoners were exiled by the Roman authorities. John was sent here 'on account of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus' (1:9) and received his prophetic revelation during this stay.

THE STRUCTURE OF REVELATION

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INTRODUCTION

