

UNVEILED!

**The Ancient Secrets of Daniel &
The Revelation of Jesus Christ**

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Underscores in the Biblical texts are added for emphasis. Brackets are added outside the text for clarification or optional translations.

The Revelation of Jesus Christ

CHAPTER 20

20 Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, having the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. ²He laid hold of the dragon, that serpent of old, who is *the* Devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years; ³and 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.

⁴And 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. ⁵But the rest of the dead did not live again until the thousand years were finished. This *is* the first resurrection. ⁶Blessed 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.

⁷Now when the thousand years have expired, Satan will be released from his prison ⁸and 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. ⁹They 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. ¹⁰The 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.

¹¹Then 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. ¹²And 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.

¹³The sea gave up the dead who were in it, and Death

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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.

(Revelation 20:1-15 NKJV) [Gr.: *biblos* is scroll/the inner substance of papyrus.]

Insights

The dragon is in a bottomless pit till after the thousand years; he's chained, locked, and sealed; otherwise, he'd rise out of it as he'd done before, but he's let out in chapter 9 for the last time.

John saw twenty-four elders on judgment thrones in 4:4 who worship the Lamb in 5:8 and the Father in 4, 5, 7, 11, and 19. In ever-increasing wonder, they worship Him. Jesus appointed His apostles to sit with Him in His Kingdom and judge the twelve tribes of Israel; they'd be seated in 20:4a. (Lk. 22:30; Mat. 19:28)

⁹ And they sang a new song, saying,

“Worthy are you to take the scroll
and to open its seals,
for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed
people for God
from every tribe and language and people and
nation,

¹⁰ and you have made them a kingdom and priests to
our God,
and they shall reign on the earth.” (Rev. 5:9-10 ESV)

During the 19th century's Industrial Revolution, John Nelson Darby propagated an idea that attracted millions of Christians but weakened our resolve to face death for Christ.²²⁴ Will a false doctrine disappoint us? Was its belief why Jesus asked, *When the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?* (Lk. 18:8b)

Before Darwin's imagination created evolution, John Darby taught a “pretribulation rapture.” Has Darwin's hypothesis been proven by the math of science, or are the odds against it? Are its artists true to form? Do the Cambrian fossils prove it? Do we check so-called “facts” for evidence, or believe our preferences?

Repeatedly fooled, people resist the truth yet wonder how to understand the words of nature's God; since most can't, they presume no one can. All the world is in darkness, but the words of God are true, proven with time.

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The Bible says God made mankind in His image and out of man, male and female. Did the two sexes evolve, mutate, happen by chance, or was it by intelligent design? Evolution isn't found in nature's evidence. Do we also deny Jesus' words, *after that tribulation*, He comes to gather His elect? (Mk. 13:24-27) But if we don't believe the Bible, we don't believe Jesus either.

The first resurrection is of the beheaded who resist the beast (in 20:4-5). Lending clarity to its words, first the dead [lit.] get up. We who are alive till He comes are caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air—*immediately after the tribulation*—in the midnight hour; then His indignation begins. (Mat 24:29-31; Rev. 6:12-17; 1 Thes. 4:15-17) The church is confused, but God is not the author of confusion; the enemy is.

Using words we don't understand to substantiate a pretribulation rapture, we're ill-equipped for Jesus' advent *immediately after the tribulation*, maybe afraid to suffer or die for His name. That the church is taken up before the tribulation is gainsaying; naturally, nearly everyone loves that idea, but it isn't true!

Two harvests are celebrated in autumn: the first resurrection is after the tribulation and the last is at the last trumpet, near the dawn of eternity. In both cases, no one knows the day or hour:

³⁵ Be prepared, and keep your lamps lit. ³⁶ You are also *to be* like people who are waiting for their master when he returns from the wedding feast, so that they may immediately open *the door* for him when he comes and knocks. ³⁷ Blessed are those slaves whom the master will find on the alert when he comes; truly I say to you, that he will prepare himself *to serve*, and have them recline *at the table*, and he will come up and serve them. ³⁸ Whether he comes in the second watch, or even in the third, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

³⁹ "But be sure of this, that if the head of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have allowed his house to be broken into. ⁴⁰ You too, be ready; because the Son of Man is coming at an hour that you do not think *He will.*" (Lk. 12:35-40 NASB)

After Jesus rose, heroes who had trusted the mercies of God arose after Him and entered Jerusalem. He is the Resurrection and the Life; had He not risen, no one else could have risen.

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The First Resurrection

²² For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ all will be made alive. ²³ But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, after that those who are Christ's at His coming, ²⁴ then *comes* the end, when He hands over the kingdom to *our* God and Father, when He has abolished all rule and all authority and power. (1 Cor. 15:22-24 NASB)
[Gr.: *parousia*, nearness, et al]

Yeshua likened His life to a seed, planted in the earth to die, which rises to bear fruit: He's the fruitful Tree of Life. They who heard His voice rose to life after Him just as the martyrs who hear Him rise in the first resurrection before this age ends:

²⁵ Most assuredly, I say to you, the hour is coming, and now is, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God; and those who hear will live. (John 5:25 NKJV)

Two resurrections remain: *the hour is coming* is the first. After the tribulation, its beheaded martyrs rise to live forever. Its great trumpet is like the Feast of Trumpets at Rosh Hashanah.

Most of us have been deceived, believing the whole church is caught up before the great tribulation. But after its martyrs rise, only the elect who are living ascend together with them. (1 Thes. 4:15) The first resurrection is of the beheaded martyrs who reject the beast, the image, and the mark. *The rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished (in Rev. 20:5).* If we believe God, we let His words correct our own.

¹⁹ And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil. (Jn. 3:19 ESV)

If we believe the Bible, we search its words; if we trust men, we shun what we read, but searching its words exposes the lies:

⁴ I saw thrones on which were seated those who had been given authority to judge. And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of their testimony about Jesus and because of the word of God. They had not worshiped the beast or its image and had not received its mark on their foreheads or their hands. They came to life and reigned with Christ a thousand years. (Rev. 20:4 NIV)

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Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.

(20:6) We who are alive and are left till He comes [on a cloud] ascend together with them to Him long before the wrath falls:

¹³ Then I heard a voice from heaven saying to me, "Write: 'Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on.'"

"Yes," says the Spirit, "that they may rest from their labors, and their works follow them."

¹⁴ Then I looked, and behold, a white cloud, and on the cloud sat One like the Son of Man, having on His head a golden crown, and in His hand a sharp sickle. ¹⁵ And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to Him who sat on the cloud, "Thrust in Your sickle and reap, for the time has come for You to reap, for the harvest of the earth is ripe. ¹⁶ So He who sat on the cloud thrust in His sickle on the earth, and the earth was reaped. (Rev. 14:13-16 NKJV)

At the sixth seal, Jesus comes *on a cloud* with a shout and the voice of the archangel; then *the great trumpet of God* sounds (in Mat. 24:29; Mk. 13:26; 1 Thes. 4:17). After rising from death to life, He walked through walls, ate bread, cooked fish, and taught His disciples from the Tenakh; finally, He ascended to a cloud till He comes on a cloud to receive the elect to Himself in the air:

⁹ Now when He had spoken these things, while they watched, He was taken up, and a cloud received Him out of their sight. ¹⁰ And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel, ¹¹ who also said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This *same* Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven." (Acts 1:9-11 NKJV) [Gr.: *ērchōmai* is come and much more.]

As Jesus said, He comes in the clouds for the elect, the ones who aren't in danger of judgment, but go straight to heaven:

²⁹ Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken: ³⁰ And then shall all the

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tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. ³¹ And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other. (Mat. 24:29-31; cf. Rev. 6:12-17; 14:1; 1 Thes. 4:13-18)

Now compare the passage above with the ones below whose signs occur *immediately after the tribulation* when Jesus comes with angels to catch up its elect. The dead will see Him from the grave because, you see, we also have *spiritual* eyes. (Rev. 1:7)

¹² I saw when the Lamb opened the sixth seal, and there was a great earthquake. The sun became as black as sackcloth made of goat's hair, and the full moon became like blood. ¹³ The stars of heaven fell to the earth like a fig tree drops unripe figs when shaken by a great wind. ¹⁴ The heaven ripped apart like a scroll being rolled up, and every mountain and island was moved from their places.

¹⁵ Then the kings of the earth and the great men and the military commanders and the rich and the mighty and everyone—slave and free—hid themselves in the caves and among the rocks of the mountains. ¹⁶ And they tell the mountains and the rocks, "Fall on us, and hide us from the face of the One seated on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb." ¹⁷ For the great day of their wrath has come, and who is able to stand?" (Rev. 6:12-17 TLV)

Jacob envied Esau, and Esau envied Jacob; later his brothers envied Joseph; finally, all nations envy Israel. The world shakes as Babylon falls, setting off cataclysms. Then Yeshua returns to rescue His Bride as mountains fall, cities crumble, and the earth reels. The LORD stands on the Mount of Olives, splitting it in two for people to escape the city. The beast and his prophet go to the lake of fire. Jesus destroys the nations' armies (in 19:11-21). Birds of prey eat corpses. (Ezk. 39:4,17; Mat. 24:28) An angel locks the devil in the pit. Justice is here; the righteous rejoice! (cf. 9:1, 11)

²⁶ And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but is coming to an end. ²⁷ But no one can enter a strong man's house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man. Then indeed he may plunder his house. (Mk. 3:26-27 ESV)

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Hitler and Stalin were friends; their kings joined strategies, but the dragon betrayed his ally, Gog. Inciting Hitler to invade Russia, he was divided against himself, and Russia's king dealt his deadly blow, yet God would use them both again. He doesn't waste a bit.

Thy Kingdom Come

Immediately after the great global tribulation, those who are chosen ascend to Jesus in the air, and the wrath begins. In Ezk. 39:2-4, Gog falls on Israel's mountains and is given to the birds and beasts of the field to be devoured. Never again will Israel profane God's holy name. (39:7) By the **sixth bowl**, the armies of Gog and Magog gather in Armageddon (in 16:13-16). At the **last bowl**, an **earthquake** splits the city and great hail falls.

Babylon is destroyed before Christ returns to throw the beast and false prophet into the lake of fire. He kills their armies by the Sword of His Word (in 16:16-21; 19:1-11, 19-21). With the dragon isolated in the pit, Yeshua reigns for a thousand years.

At the rebellion, Babylon is a lost memory; Armageddon, an ancient grave. In chapter 8, the first four trumpets smite the sea, the rivers, springs, and the sun. The **fifth trumpet** has **the key** that opens the bottomless pit as its locusts lead out the destroyer.

⁹ And the LORD shall be king over all the earth: in that day shall there be one LORD, and his name one. ... ¹¹ And men shall dwell in it, and there shall be no more utter destruction; but Jerusalem shall be safely inhabited.
(Zech. 14:9, 11)

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. 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.
(Rev. 20:7-9 NKJV)

After the thousand years, Satan is released as Abaddon at the fifth trumpet in chapter 9. In 11:3-12, two witnesses rise as a standard against the rebellion. The destroyer is instantly thrown into the lake of fire as the rest of the dead rise **at the last trump.**

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In Ezk. 38:1-6, Gog of Magog is hooked and turned back to Israel for his second attack; in 38:10-23, she lives *in peace and safety in villages without walls*. (Rev. 20:8-10; Zec. 14:11; Ezk. 38:11, 14) The sixth trumpet sends four others to kill a third of mankind by an army of two hundred million—Gog and Magog again, yet men do not repent (in 9:13-21; 20:7-9).

Ezk. 38:19 reveals *a great earthquake in the land of Israel*. Then **the last judgment** begins at **the last trump** (in Ezk. 38:22; cf. Rev. 11:15-19). Gog and Magog are destroyed, and Satan is cast into the lake of fire; the material universe flees at the sight of Yeshua as saints and sinners rise to the Great White Throne as *the rest of the dead* (in Rev. 20:5,7-15; cf. 11:14-18).

¹³ And the sea gave up the dead who were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead who were in them; and they were judged, each one *of them* according to their deeds. ¹⁴ Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire. (Rev. 20:13-14 NASB)

After the elect are taken up to Yeshua, multitudes more rise from their graves at the last trump than ever before:

² And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. (Dan. 12:2 ESV)

²² For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. ... ²⁶ The last enemy to be destroyed is death. (1 Cor. 15:22, 26)

During the Kingdom, its saints obey His words by the Spirit, but even with the devil in the pit, liars and rebels cover the earth.

²⁸ Do not marvel at this, for an hour is coming when all who are in the tombs will hear his voice ²⁹ and come out, those who have done good to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil to the resurrection of judgment. (Jn. 5:28-29 ESV) [*krisis*, judgment. Tombs /graves]

³⁹ This is the will of the Father who sent Me, that of all He has given Me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up at the last day. ⁴⁰ And this is the will of Him who sent Me, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in Him may have everlasting life; and I will raise him up at the last day. ...

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⁴⁴ No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up at the last day. ...

⁵⁴ Whoever eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day.
(Jn. 6:39-40, 44, 54 NKJV) [His metaphors are spiritual.]

¹¹ For no one can lay any other foundation than what is already laid—which is *Yeshua* the Messiah. ¹² Now if anyone builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw,¹³ each one's work will become clear. For the Day will show it, because it is to be revealed by fire; and the fire itself will test each one's work—what sort it is. ¹⁴ If anyone's work built on the foundation survives, he will receive a reward. ¹⁵ If anyone's work is burned up, he will suffer loss—he himself will be saved, but as through fire. (1 Cor. 3:11-15 TLV)

All who see Jesus and believe in Him have everlasting life! (Jn. 6:40) After the thousand years when Christ divides the wheat from tares and the good catch from the bad, the last day comes. He reigns between the two days of wrath. (Mat. 13:24-30; 47-50)

¹⁵ Then the seventh angel sounded: And there were loud voices in heaven, saying, "The kingdoms of this world have become *the kingdoms* of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign for ever and ever!" ¹⁶ And the twenty-four elders who sat before God on their thrones fell on their faces and worshiped God,

¹⁷ saying:

"We give You thanks, O LORD God Almighty,
The One who is, and who was, and who is to come,
Because You have taken Your great power
and reigned.

¹⁸ The nations were angry, and Your wrath
has come,

And the time of the dead, that they
should be judged,

And that You should reward Your servants the
prophets and the saints,

And those who fear Your name, small and great,
And should destroy those who destroy the earth.

(Rev. 11:15-18 NKJV)

At first, space was void, vacuous, empty. Darkness covered the face of the deep till there was light. [Heb.: *bohuw*, a vacuity]

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There were no sun, moon, and stars in the beginning. Only God's light remains when the heavens *pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat.* (2 Pet. 3:10)

¹⁰ And,

“You, Lord, laid the foundation of the earth in the beginning,
and the heavens are the work of your hands;

¹¹ they will perish, but you remain;

they will all wear out like a garment,

¹² like a robe you will roll them up,

like a garment they will be changed.

But you are the same,

and your years will have no end.” (Heb. 1:10-12 ESV)

¹⁰ But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed.

(2 Pet. 3:10 ESV)

Jesus Christ is He *from whose face the earth and the heavens fled away; and there was found no place for them* (in Rev. 20:11). Peter refers to **the last day**: *the elements melt with fervent heat ... dissolved* (in 2 Pet. 3:10-11). The earth and the heavens are dissolved by fire; *there's found no place for them*: the vacuum of space is gone! (Rev. 20:11) Out of space, the universe ends with a big bang!

All that remains is spiritual when we stand face to face before the Judge on the Great White Throne. The living and the dead are raised together at its bema [His throne's platform]. Those whose names are in the Scroll of Life live forever, but all who practice sin go where their worm never dies. (Rev. 20:11-15)

²⁴ Some men's sins are open beforehand, going before to judgment; and some men they follow after. ²⁵ Likewise also the good works of some are manifest beforehand; and they that are otherwise cannot be hid.

(1 Tim. 5:24-25)

3 See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. (1 Jn. 3:1 ESV)

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We live in the Spirit, not by natural strength. If we recognize the difference, He is working through us and crediting it to us because, abiding in His Holy Spirit, we live by faith, not by what we see, nor by the so-called knowledge of this world, so much of which has been contrived by godless minds.

¹⁵ Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. ¹⁶ For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—is not from the Father but is from the world. ¹⁷ And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever. (1 Jn. 2:15-17 ESV)

The last trump calls for the third and **last woe** on the **last day**. When it's time for *the rest of the dead* to rise, the Judge is on the Great White Judgment Seat of Christ. *The rest of the dead* includes everyone who rises **on the last day**.

Our Mediator is the Judge on the throne. (20:11-15) *So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory. (1 Cor. 15:54)* Struck by the presence of a heavenly messenger, Daniel said,

⁸ and I have been left by myself, and I see this great appearance, and there hath been no power left in me, and my honour hath been turned in me to corruption, yea, I have not retained power. (Dan. 10:8 YLT)

^{12c} ... at the completion of the scattering of the power of the holy people, finished are all these. (Dan. 12:7c YLT) – And so it is **on the last day**.

Yeshua healed the lepers, raised the dead, and worked many miracles in His Father's name but was rejected by His own, fulfilling the words, *he was despised, and we esteemed him not (from Is. 53:3)*. While the proud are highly esteemed, He was dishonored for His humility when He came in His Father's name to honor the Father, not exalting Himself. As God told Moses,

¹⁸ I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their brothers. And I will put my words in his mouth, and he shall speak to them all that I command him. ¹⁹ And

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whoever will not listen to my words that he shall speak in my name, I myself will require it of him.

(Deut. 18:18-19 ESV)

⁴³ I have come in my Father's name, and you do not accept me; but if someone else comes in his own name, you will accept him. (Jn. 5:43 NIV) – Yeshua

Jesus said the least in the Kingdom is greater than John who had Elijah's mantle and baptized Him. (Lk. 1:17) As with John, God does not submit to men's expectations: *[This generation] is like unto children sitting in the markets and calling unto their [friends], And saying, We have piped unto you, and ye have not danced. We have mourned unto you, and ye have not lamented.* (Mat. 11:7-19; 17:11-13) What did they expect to find in a desert?

Another victory is His when Jerusalem returns to Him. He enters her gates, and she takes Him in with a kiss, rejoicing to rest in His arms at last! His city is safely inhabited when her true Messiah is in her heart, and Israel leads the world in peace for a thousand years to the chagrin of her fallen enemies.

Not long from now, lions will rest with lambs, and children will play by the dens of vipers unharmed. (Is. 11:8) The Word of the LORD will cover the earth as waters cover the sea. Yeshua will reign in Jerusalem, and springs of life will flow from under the altar of the temple to the Dead Sea. The healing waters of its river will fill the sea with fresh, living water, full of all kinds of fish and sea life, giving life to all that swarms wherever it flows, and its banks will be lined with trees. (Ezekiel 47)

Let's not let love grow cold in the difficult days ahead. By understanding the warfare, we can win its battles, armed with the Spirit and the Word. Christ is in us by His Spirit. We who trust Him obey Him. One day we'll be standing in His righteousness to judge angels by His wisdom:

² Or do you not know that the saints will judge the world? And if the world is to be judged by you, are you incompetent to try trivial cases? ³ Do you not know that we are to judge angels? How much more, then, matters pertaining to this life! (1 Cor. 6:2-3 ESV)

Forgive and be forgiven. Be merciful and receive His mercy. Speak evil of no one; our war is not with flesh and blood.