

1 - OVERVIEW OF THE BOOK OF REVELATION

1. Introduction

- a. The book of Revelation reveals the glory of Jesus. But that's only a small part of why the book was written. Its main theme is about the glory of Jesus. If we don't understand that, then the events can easily become an end in themselves, and they're not. It's the Revelation of Jesus Christ. He called it that because it reveals His heart. It reveals His power. It reveals His leadership.
- b. Who wrote the book of Revelation? The simple answer is that it was written by John, who was a disciple of Jesus, the one who was called by Jesus when he was just a teenager.
 - i This is God's book and therefore it is not some human opinion about what is going to happen in the future, it is what God says.
 - ii It is also important for us to notice that John is recording and reporting what he is being shown – he does not attempt to interpret it. The angel who is guiding John puts the storyline on hold from time to time, giving some wisdom and understanding to explain some of the background to what John is seeing.
- c. When was the book written? John tells us in chapter 1:9 that he is writing this book from the Island of Patmos, a Roman prison colony where people were sent to work in the mines. John was sent there because of tribulation on account of the Word of God.
 - i There were two Emperors who intensely persecuted Christians: Nero in the mid-60s AD and Domitian in the early 90s AD. Nero preferred to send Christians to face lions or gladiators in the circus. Domitian however was known to send troublemakers into exile, so the most likely date for when Revelation was written is in the mid-90s AD.

2. The book was intended to be understood by anyone

- a. It is written in a prophetic style, but also in a simple style so that anyone reading it should understand it. The majority of people for whom it was written were poor, uneducated peasant farmers.
- b. It is a common misconception that Revelation is a difficult book to understand, unless you have a degree in theology. The main storyline of this book is quite simple to grasp and can be learned in less than 1 hour. A basic knowledge of the main storyline of the rest of the Bible will also help.
- c. Also, we have the Holy Spirit to guide us; He will
 - i Teach us all things
 - ii Remind us of everything Jesus said
 - iii Testify about Jesus (what he thinks, feels, does)
 - iv Guide us into all truth
 - v Glorify Jesus
 - vi Reveal the deep things of God to us

- d. So we can have confidence in studying this book, not because we are great learners, but because He is a great teacher

John 14:26 *But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will **teach you ALL things, and bring to your remembrance ALL things** that I said to you.*

John 16:12 *I still have many things to say to you, but **you cannot bear them now.** ¹³ However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will **guide you into ALL truth**; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will **tell you things to come.** ¹⁴ He will **glorify Me**, for He will take of what is Mine and **declare it to you.***

- e. We must not try and approach this book using human wisdom and reasoning because Revelation is full of spiritual truth that must be spiritually discerned. There are many examples of this need for spiritual discernment in the scriptures:
 - i Jesus opened up the eyes of two of his disciples on the road to Emmaus, so that they could understand all the scriptures (*Luke 24:27, 32, 44-45*)
 - ii David asked God to open his eyes to the scriptures (*Ps 119:18*). Paul prayed for a spirit of revelation (*Ephesians 1:17*), and Jesus encouraged the Laodiceans to anoint their eyes with salve in order to see (*Rev 3:18*).

Ps. 119:18 ***Open my eyes**, that I may see wondrous things from Your law.*

Rev. 3:18 *I counsel you to... **anoint your eyes** with eye salve, that you may see.*

- f. Do not accept anyone's explanation of the book without thinking it through for yourself. Search the scriptures and ask questions – listen to what the Holy Spirit tells you. *Acts 17: 10-11* – The Bereans searched the scriptures to check whether what Paul was saying was true. So, be ready to learn new things, but also refuse any ideas that you can't see in scripture for yourself.
- g. Reminder of our premise for interpretation – the text is taken at its face value, unless otherwise directed by John in the text. John is always very clear when directing the reader to understand that he is using symbolism.
 - i All events and numbers in Revelation are to be understood literally, in their plain or “common sense” meaning, unless the Scripture specifically indicates that they are symbolic.
 - ii Reducing everything in Revelation to allegory or symbolism gives us little solid ground for interpretation. We must stick to the realities that the writer intended to convey.

3. Overview of Revelation – Style

- a. It is an **apocalyptic** book – Apocalyptic means an unveiling. It means “a peep behind the curtains”. So it means, to go backstage, to see who is pulling the strings, to see who is waiting in the wings to make an entrance and so on.
 - i Behind the scenes, it reveals God on the throne. It also reveals Jesus as we have never seen him before. In this book we see Jesus in charge. All authority in heaven and on earth are in his hands, now he goes out as a man of war to conquer and to execute the judgments that were secured at the cross.

- ii We see four unique revelations of Jesus that cause us to marvel at his brilliant leadership:
 - (1) He will come to bring **retribution** – we have never seen Jesus like this. The man of war, whose garments are stained red with blood, who alone has trampled the winepress of God’s wrath.
 - (2) He will come to bring **reward** – time and again there are promises in this book that Jesus will give a crown of life to those who overcome.
 - (3) We see Jesus **re-creating** – the entire universe is to be renovated, making a new heaven and a new earth, putting every wrong thing right.
 - (4) We catch a glimpse of Jesus **reigning** forever – King of kings, Lord of lords, crowned with many crowns.

- b. It is an **historic** book – this book was written during the time when Domitian was emperor. It was a period of unparalleled power. Roman emperors had risen in power, so much so that now the emperor called himself God and ruled the world. Titus had subdued the Jews and Domitian had conquered the British and the Germans, and now the whole world was ruled by one man who claimed to be divine.
 - i Against this background there was peace – the Pax Romana – he ensured there was peace on his terms. And there was greater prosperity. But it came at a price, and that was true liberty and a clear conscience.
 - ii This is another foreshadowing of the way in which Satan will use the antichrist to promote a worldwide false peace and prosperity which will draw many into worshiping him as god.
 - iii Also contained within this book are letters to seven of the churches in Asia Minor which contain Jesus’ appraisal of each church related to the context of the pressures they were facing as God’s people. These letters are very important for us and are an integral part of the main purpose of the book, which is the revelation of Jesus, not just in the future, but in the here and now.

- c. It is a **prophetic book** – it is a book about the future. It tells us what is going to happen. But as we have seen in the book of Daniel, can refer to more than one time-frame, so we have to look at the context to see which time-frame it is related to.
 - i The first three chapters refer to the time in which John lived, about 2,000 years ago at the end of the 1st century. Then the last two chapters refer to the end of history even beyond the Messianic Kingdom. What part of history do chapters 4–20 refer to? There are 4 schools of thought:
 - (1) **Preterist** view – says these chapters refer to the history at the end of the 1st century AD and to nothing more, and therefore they really do not concern us at all, it all happened in AD70.
 - (2) **Historicist** view – says these chapters cover the whole of history from Jesus’ first coming to his second coming in chronological order – in other words each chapter represents a different era in church history.

- (3) The **futurist** view – says these chapters refer to the end of human history. They are all still future. We can learn from them what to expect and how to recognise people and events when they occur.
- (4) The **idealist** view – says that these chapters are not about any of these three time-frames, past, present or future, but are about principles, ideas and ideals on which God operates in every age, therefore they do not need a timescale
- ii So the approach to these chapters that we believe is what the writer intended, is that we should view them as yet future, that we should familiarise ourselves with what they contain, and let them be our guide to the unveiling of the battle plan of Jesus at the end of the age to confront Satan and eradicate sin from the face of the earth.

4. Overview of the Book of Revelation – Purpose

- a. Revelation gives the clearest insight and most detailed information concerning the end times – more so than any other book of the bible.
 - i There are 404 verses in the whole of the book, and 400 of them have some connection with Old Testament scriptures. John refers to 24 out of the 39 books of the Old Testament so much of the substance of Revelation is not entirely new, he is developing themes already established elsewhere in the bible.
- b. It is first and foremost a book that reveals the glory of Jesus as one who is fully God and fully man. Therefore its message is not primarily about future events, that is a secondary theme. It is first about the man behind the plan – about Jesus and his return to take leadership of the nations and restore the earth.
- c. The title of the book is “The revelation of Jesus Christ”, and is literally “the unveiling of the glory of Jesus Christ”. It reveals the perfection of his heart, power and leadership in preparing the nations for the glory of God (Habakkuk 2:14; Numbers 14:21; Psalm 72:19; Isaiah 11:9).
 - i God’s primary purpose in giving us this book is the revelation of the infinite and eternal beauty of His son (Isaiah 4:2; Haggai 2:7), and the brilliance of his unfolding battle-plan. This battle plan will create a context to shift natural human history and transition the earth into the age to come.

John 16:12 *I still have **many things** to say to you, but you cannot bear them now.*

- d. Many of the things Jesus wanted to say to his disciples are contained in this book.
- e. The book of Revelation is, above all, a book about the character and nature of Jesus. Whilst the gospels (89 chapters) record Jesus’ beauty, power and leadership at his first coming, the scriptures on the end-times (150+ chapters) describe his beauty, power and leadership at his second coming, bringing completion to what he began.
 - i We see the same story unfolding: both the gospels and the end-times scriptures reveal the same Jesus operating in the same power of the same Holy Spirit, using the same wisdom, under the same authority of the same father, recorded in the same bible!

Hebrews 13:8 *Jesus Christ is **the same** yesterday, today, and forever.*

- f. Its purpose is to give us essential information to help strengthen, encourage, equip and prepare us as God's people to become a mature bride. It will help us to prevail and be victorious through the unique dynamics and unusual events of the end times. As a Bride we will be prepared in our understanding, character and power before Jesus returns.
- g. We need to be prepared beforehand so that we do not fall when we are tested. There are three main areas that will cause us to fall – offence, fear and deception.
- h. It will help us to prevail and be victorious through the unique dynamics and unusual events of the end times. And the dynamics of this time frame will truly be unique. It will be the generation of the greatest sin. Sin will reach levels of perversion and levels of oppression never seen before in history.
 - i It will be the generation of the greatest levels of judgment that God sends in order to remove everything that hinders love. But it will also be the generation where we, as the Bride of Christ, will move in the greatest power, purity and unity, more than in any other generation in history.
- i. As a Bride we will need to be prepared in our understanding, character and power before Jesus returns. Although relevant to the saints throughout history, this book takes on particular significance for the generation that is living on the earth at Jesus' second coming. Only a fully mature church will prevail and overcome as the earth transitions from this age to the next.
- j. **Alert!** blessing and cursing. Revelation is unique as the only book in the bible containing a blessing for reading it, and curses for adding to or subtracting from it.
 - i **Revelation 1:3** Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear, and who keep what is written in it, for the time is near.
 - ii **Revelation 22:18-19** I warn everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: if anyone adds to them, God will add to him the plagues described in this book, and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God will take away his share in the tree of life and in the holy city, which are described in this book.

5. Overview of Revelation – Main Theme

Revelation 17:14 *They will make war on the Lamb, and the Lamb will conquer them, for he is Lord of lords and King of kings, and those with him are called and chosen and faithful.*

- a. The main theme of the book is the return of Jesus Christ – the “Day of the Lord” when he comes on the clouds (*Revelation 1:7*), defeats the antichrist, has Satan locked up in the bottomless pit, establishes his throne in Jerusalem to rule all the nations. He will take legal, comprehensive and everlasting leadership of the earth in partnership with His Bride. He will do this by physically confronting, and ultimately destroying everything that rages against His leadership (*Psalms 2:1. Revelation 11:18*).
 - i This is the principle theme of Revelation – Jesus is coming back to complete the work he began 2000 years ago and to carry out the sentence passed on Satan at the cross.
- b. A secondary theme of the book is the persecution of Israel and the saints by the Antichrist and his armies. However, to put this in perspective consider this: there are 404 verses in

Revelation, only 12 of which (ie 3%) speak of persecution (Revelation 6:9-11; 11:7; 12:17; 13:7, 15; 16:6; 17:6; 18:24; 19:2; 20:4). The remaining 392 verses (97%) are focused on our victory over Satan.

- c. If we read the book of Revelation correctly it will cause us to love Jesus all the more. It will give us confidence to trust his leadership – even if we don't fully understand some of the detail.

6. Overview of Revelation – Basic Structure

- a. The reason many people do not study Revelation is because they are confused by the basic structure of the book and they do not know how to understand the symbols found in the book. However, the basic structure of the book is relatively simple to grasp, and coupled with the knowledge of the main symbols, we can form a clear picture of the book.
 - i One of the keys to understanding Revelation is knowing where the action is taking place. Sometimes it's in heaven and sometimes it's on the earth. And then there are times when John is taken aside to have what he's just encountered explained in more detail.
- b. There are four parts to the book, and the fourth part contains five chronological sections (ie the events occur in sequential order), each of which is followed by an angelic explanation. That is a total of nine pieces of information, so it is easy to follow where we are on the roadmap.
- c. If we have this understanding of structure to the book then the components within it make sense. It's like a jigsaw puzzle – there is a picture, there is a storyline and the pieces fit in a way that they relate to one another. If you don't have a structure, or you take everything symbolically, then the whole thing seems arbitrary and it is difficult to make sense of.
- d. There are only seven main symbols found throughout the book.
- e. The four parts are:
 - i **Who Jesus is:** John's calling to prophecy about the end times (Revelation 1)
 - ii **What Jesus desires:** Jesus wrote 7 letters to 7 churches (Revelation 2-3)
 - iii **The glory of Jesus:** Jesus takes the scroll (Revelation 4-5)
 - iv **What Jesus will do:** Jesus' battle plan (Revelation 6-22)

7. Part 1 – John's calling to prophecy about the end times (*Revelation 1*)

- a. **Who Jesus is** – This chapter gives us the clearest picture of Jesus in his resurrected glory as the Bridegroom, King and Judge. The Father gives Jesus a commission to reveal some specific aspects of his infinite beauty and eternal majesty, as well as the brilliance of his leadership through his battle plan.
- b. In this chapter John highlights 30 specific descriptions of Jesus. Some of these insights are unique to this book.
- c. It is the most complete picture in the bible of Jesus as he is right now in his risen glory. This is not the image we have of Jesus from the gospels, but he gives us this revelation of himself

because this is the reality of Jesus that will strengthen and prepare our hearts for the days ahead.

- i He gives us these insights in order to help form the way we pray, prophesy and serve him. It will change the way we carry our hearts in this age.
- d. Jesus reveals himself to John as the glorified “Son of Man”, through many aspects of his majesty, his titles, his attributes and descriptions of himself. He did this so that it would impact the message and the manner by which John would prophesy – Jesus was transforming John to interpret correctly what he was about to experience.
- e. John had to grasp the full impact of Jesus in his resurrected power in order to properly comprehend what he was about to experience. Only by seeing the fullness of Jesus’ glory and majesty could John be prepared for being the trusted messenger he was called to be.

Revelation 1:1 *The revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show to his servants the things that must soon take place. He made it known by sending his angel to his servant John...*

8. Part 2 – Jesus gave 7 letters to 7 churches (*Revelation 2-3*)

- a. **What Jesus desires** – These two chapters give us a very clear picture of what Jesus desires his church to look like. As a wise master builder, he reveals his blueprints for the “church after God’s own heart”, with three objectives:
- b. The practical direction that Jesus gave to 7 historical churches prophetically call and equip the church. With errors to avoid and practical truths to embrace, Jesus paints a picture of what the end-time church will look like. This is a call to the church to overcome the challenges and obtain the promises by sustaining their dedication and pursuit of Him to the end.
- c. These 7 letters are really important for the end-time church. He addresses 7 first-century churches and speaks prophetically to them concerning the key issues that each of them needed to overcome. Then he looks ahead and says, “End-times church pay attention: it will be the same issues for you.”
 - i The end-time church will be facing exactly the same issues and pressures in the face of persecution and the temptations of a heightened sensualised culture.
- d. Jesus highlight three areas of compromise that we must take note of. Jesus is here highlighting how they can cause great compromise and hindrance if they are common traits found in the church.
 - i Passivity
 - ii Immorality
 - iii Idolatry – including witchcraft and covetousness
- e. Jesus also speaks about eternal rewards – not for works but for love, righteousness and endurance. They are his expression of how he feels about us. What we do with time, money, deeds and words really matter to Jesus.

9. Part 3 – Jesus takes the scroll (*Revelation 4-5*)

- a. **The glory of Jesus** – These two chapters give us a clear picture of who Jesus really is, his infinite worth and endless resources. We need the Holy Spirit’s help because we now begin to encounter things that stretch our imagination beyond things that we know. It tells us of things that we have never seen.
 - i We move from earth to heaven
 - ii We move from present to future
 - iii We move from sinful to holy
 - iv We move from human perspective to God’s perspective
- b. This was not a vision, but John was actually in heaven when he saw these things. Revelation 1:10 “I was in the Spirit on the Lord’s day...” The best way to understand it is that the Holy Spirit took him to the Day of the Lord, which is even now yet in the future. So when John saw the door open in heaven, he was able to physically respond to the invitation to “come up here” and enter the heavenly sanctuary.
- c. Chapter 4 finds John in heaven; he sees the sovereignty and power of the glory of God, displayed in the Father’s throne. The Father is surrounded by worship, with the 4 living creatures (the Seraphim) and the 24 elders crying out their adoration, “Holy, holy, holy”. It is filled with incandescence, activity and noise. When we pray “Our Father in heaven” this is where we come to.
- d. In chapter 5 the Holy Spirit reveals how the Father feels about Jesus. We see his full endorsement and commissioning, and the infinite resources made available to Jesus for the execution of the “master plan” to exalt him as human king over the nations forever.
- e. The scroll is the title deed for the earth. Originally given to Adam, he lost it when he sinned. But this title deed must be held by a man, because God has given man the responsibility for governing the earth (Psalm 115:16).
 - i All the Father’s glory, the resources, the power and the majesty of Revelation 4 are backing up the Father’s promise to the Son in chapter 5. The message of chapter 5 is secure because all the resources of chapter 4 are behind it, guaranteeing it.
- f. Only Jesus is worthy and has the right to open the scroll; he is the only one qualified to do so. The Lion of Judah who is the slain Lamb of God. Opening the seals launches the battle-plan and the start of the judgment against the Antichrist and his worldwide empire.

10. Part 4 – Jesus’ battle plan (*Revelation 6-22*)

- a. **What Jesus will do** – How far love will go to restore all things, and bring heaven and earth together in unity. As Jesus breaks the first seal he sets in motion the events of the main story-line, seen in 7 seals, 7 trumpets and 7 bowls, covering the largest section of the book described as the Great Tribulation.

Ephesians 1:9-10 *making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ ¹⁰as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth*

- b. In Part Four of the book of Revelation “Jesus’ Battle Plan” there are five chronological sections that describe events unfolding on earth in sequential order, beginning with the Tribulation period, continuing on into the Millennium and culminating with the Eternal Age. Each chronological section is followed by an angelic explanation to help us understand the “whys” behind the “whats” of the storyline.
- c. The five chronological sections outline what happens to the Antichrist’s empire and his followers in twenty-one judgment events (7 seals, 7 trumpets, 7 bowls) that intensify in severity, as they unfold on earth in a sequential order. They are the main storyline of judgment released against the kingdom of darkness upon the earth.
- d. The five angelic explanations following each of the chronological sections, function as a kind of parenthesis, putting the storyline on pause. They don’t necessarily refer specifically to the part of the storyline that immediately precedes them. Each time the angel pauses the storyline and gives John an explanation, helping him to understand what is happening behind the scenes,
- e. These angelic explanations help us to understand:
 - i What Satan will do to oppose us, using the Antichrist’s persecution and Babylon’s seduction
 - ii What Jesus will do to help us through angelic intervention and the prophetic ministry of the Two Witnesses, while releasing power, protection, provision, direction and reward.

11. The Battle Plan in outline

- a. The seals, the trumpets and the bowls are the progressive judgments poured out on the Harlot Babylon system and on the Antichrist and his infrastructure. They are not poured out on the saints, they are not poured out indiscriminately, they are specifically targeted.
 - i All of these judgments are literal events so must not be interpreted symbolically. They are redemptive: resulting in unbelievers crying out to Jesus for mercy and salvation. They will hinder the Antichrist’s empire in their zeal to persecute the saints and to promote their sinful lifestyle.
 - ii The seals alert people that the fullness of God’s judgment is coming encouraging them to repent and turn to God – they occur over a period of up to two years. The trumpets are more severe and are a warning of worse to come, and they occur over 12 – 18 months. The bowls are the most severe of the judgments spanning just 30 days after Jesus returns.

b. Section 1

Revelation 6 **Chronological section 1 – The SEAL JUDGMENTS**

Revelation 7 **Angelic explanation 1** – God gives divine **PROTECTION** from judgments and falling away. This answers the question that is asked in 6:17 – “Who is able to stand in victory?” John sees 144,000 Jewish believers who are sealed by God (7:1-8). He is then shown Gentile believers from every culture on earth standing strong even in the face of persecution and temptation (7:9-17).

c. Section 2

Revelation 8 – 9 **Chronological section 2 – The TRUMPET JUDGMENTS**

Revelation 10 – 11 **Angelic explanation 2** – God gives **DIRECTION** by increased prophetic ministry. Immediately after 1/3 of the earth dying in the 6th Trumpet, there will be great confusion. This will be heightened by the deception that has come from the many false prophets Jesus warned us will arise. The angel explains how God will help his people by releasing prophetic insight and direction. It will be the greatest outpouring of the Spirit in history. God has sealed seven prophetic messages – 7 thunders – to be released in the end times, that will provide understanding to help God’s people to walk in faith.

d. Section 3

Revelation 11:15–19 **Chronological section 3 – Jesus’ SECOND COMING and rapture of saints**

Revelation 12–14 **Angelic explanation 3** – God reveals Satan’s **CONFRONTATION** against the saints. Why God’s wrath is so severe as to necessitate Jesus destroying and replacing all the evil governments on the earth. The Antichrist has been exalting wickedness among the nations, therefore every governmental system where he has had influence must be destroyed and replaced. Chapter 12 highlights Satan’s rage against the saints. Chapter 13 describes the Antichrist and False Prophet violently attacking the saints. Chapter 14 promises that Jesus will dynamically help his people and lead them to victory, whilst consigning followers of the Antichrist to eternal punishment.

e. Section 4

Revelation 15–16 **Chronological section 4 – The BOWL JUDGMENTS**

Revelation 17–18 **Angelic explanation 4** – God reveals the **SEDUCTION** of the **HARLOT BABYLON**. God reveals how deeply Babylon’s seduction will infiltrate all levels of society and explains why the bowls of wrath are necessary. As Jesus releases the Bowl judgments he will utterly destroy all the infrastructures of society that have been influenced by Babylon’s seduction. He gives insight into Satan’s strategy to deceive the nations. Babylon will be both a religious and economic network. It is described as a harlot with seductive power engaged in cruel persecution. She is the counterfeit to the Bride of Christ.

f. Section 5

Revelation 19–20 **Chronological section 5 – Jesus’ TRIUMPHAL ENTRY into Jerusalem**

Revelation 21–22 **Angelic explanation 5** – God reveals the **RESTORATION** of all things. These chapters describe the Bride’s victory and the full restoration of God’s purposes in the New Jerusalem in relationship to the millennial earth. We see the eternal state of the resurrected saints dwelling face to face with God, with the natural state of the kings from the millennial earth who bring their glory into the city that has healing leaves for nations that still need healing. The New Jerusalem now descends fully to the earth, and then heaven and earth are once again joined together. And finally, the one who promises to deliver all these things brings a word of assurance – “Behold I am coming soon.”

SEVEN SEALS (Revelation 6:1–17, 8:1)

1 st Seal	White horse	Antichrist's political aggression	6:1–2
2 nd Seal	Red horse	Bloodshed and final world war	6:3–4
3 rd Seal	Black horse	Famine and economic crisis	6:5–6
4 th Seal	Pale horse	One-fourth of humanity is killed	6:7–8
5 th Seal	Prayer movement	Prayer is strengthened by martyrs	6:9–11
6 th Seal	Cosmic disturbances	Cosmic disturbances and God's glory	6:12–17
7 th Seal	Anointed prayer	Prayer is strengthened by the angels	8:1–6

SEVEN TRUMPETS (Revelation 8:2–9:21, 11:14–19)

1 st Trumpet	Food supply	1/3 of the earth's vegetation is burned	8:7
2 nd Trumpet	Food supply	1/3 of the sea turns to blood	8:8–9
3 rd Trumpet	Water supply	1/3 of fresh water becomes bitter	8:10–11
4 th Trumpet	Light, energy	1/3 of sun, moon, stars darkened	8:12
5 th Trumpet	Torment	Demonic locusts torment for 5 months	9:1–12
6 th Trumpet	Death	Demonic horsemen kill 1/3 of earth	9:13–21
7 th Trumpet	Defeat	7 th Trumpet – rapture and return of Jesus	11:15–19

SEVEN BOWLS (Revelation 15–16)

1 st Bowl	Sores	Loathsome sore on Antichrist worshipers	16:2
2 nd Bowl	Food supply	Sea turns to blood killing all sea life	16:3
3 rd Bowl	Water supply	Earth's fresh water turned to blood	16:4–7
4 th Bowl	Torment	Men are scorched by great heat by the sun	16:8–9
5 th Bowl	Destruction	Painful darkness on the Antichrist's empire	16:10–11
6 th Bowl	Global guilt	Deceiving the nations to come to Armageddon	16:12–16
7 th Bowl	Annihilation	Earthquake, hail, final fall of Babylon and Antichrist	16:17–21