

Part One

Revelation in a Nutshell

Revelation



Signifies an
UNCOVERING or
implies **SOMETHING**
HIDDEN

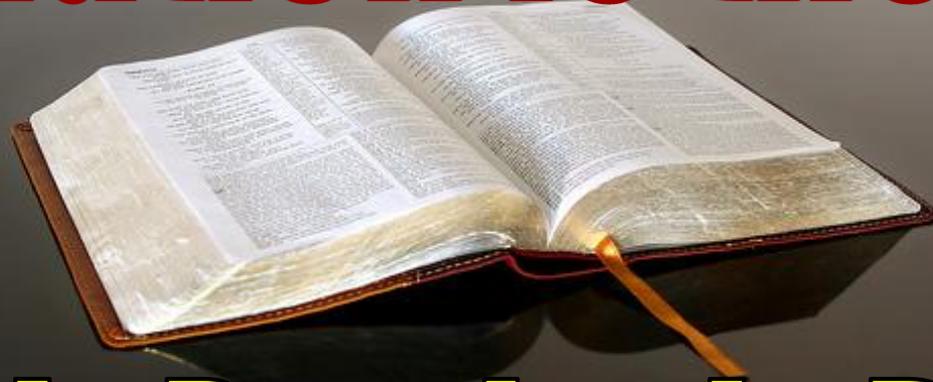
Apparently designed to keep certain features of God's plan hidden from the world and time-locked until due to be understood.

Who wrote Revelation?



The Apostle John transcribed the book for us while in a trance vision – as a prisoner on the isle of Patmos, an island penal colony. God gave the Revelation to Jesus Christ and sent it by his angel unto his servant John.

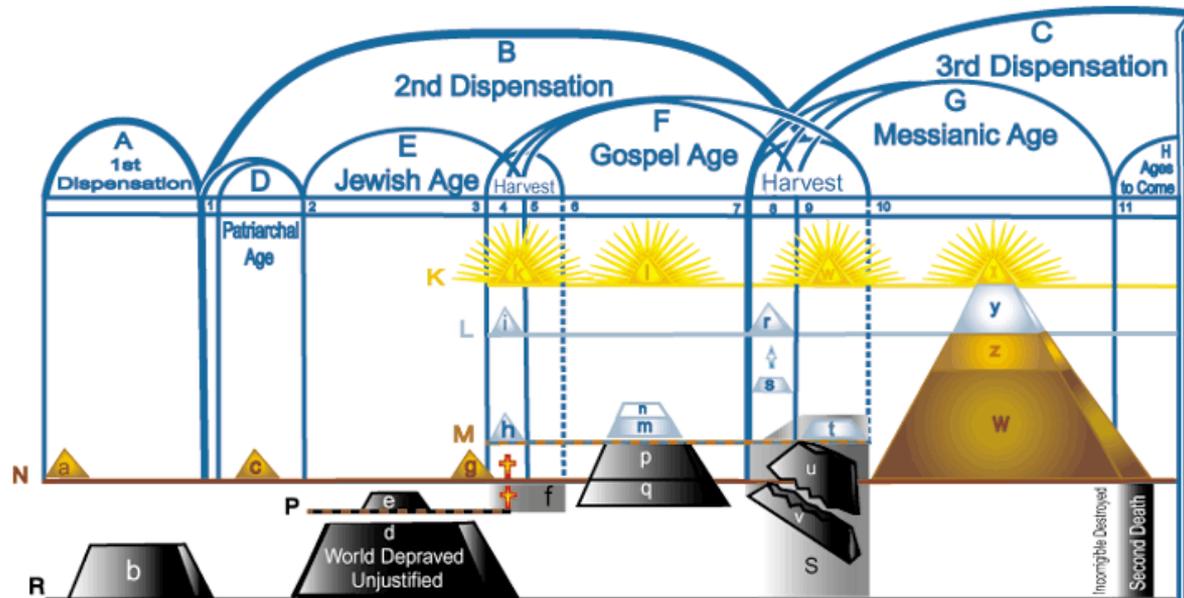
Revelation is the ONLY



Purely Prophetic Book in the New Testament

It is NOT for the NOVICE or beginning Bible Student.
There are a LOT of prophetic puzzle pieces scattered
throughout the Bible that you should be aware of.

CHART OF THE AGES



"WRITE DOWN THE VISION AND MAKE IT PLAIN UPON TABLES
 THAT EVERY ONE MAY READ IT FLUENTLY" HABAKKUK 2:2

Being well grounded in Present Truth and God's Divine Plan of the Ages - give the beginning spirit-begotten student an essential foundation for the spiritual perception needed to unlock Revelations mysteries.

Various Views on Revelation

1. Select a good road map from a trusted source or sources.
2. We recognize many scholarly works by Bible Students who spent thousands of hours clearing a path for us to walk. (Foremost-Br. Russell. Also Bro.'s Burns, Doran, Loomis, Shallieu, Frey, Sunboun)
3. We must respect the fact that others have a right to their own views – even though we may not see it the same way.

Rev 1:3 Blessed *is* he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for the time *is* at hand.

Why should we study it?

Rev. 1:3 says

1. We'll be **blessed** if we read it,
2. **Blessed** if we hear it and
3. **Blessed** if we keep those things that are written within it.

“for the TIME is at hand”



Rev 22:6 And he said unto me, These sayings *are* faithful and true: and the Lord God of the holy prophets sent his angel to show unto his servants the things which must shortly be done.

WHY should we study Revelation?

Rev. 22:6

suggests that the Lord God would send an angel to show His servants (us) the things which
“MUST SHORTLY BE DONE”.



By reading Revelation...

We learn WHY Br. Russell gave us certain
sequence of events!

For example:

(Regarding the Treading of the Winepress)

Volume 4 p. 18 “The treading of the winepress is the last feature of harvest work. The reaping and gathering is all done first.”

TWO Parts of the Harvest

The Gospel Age Harvest

First Part

Last Part

“thrust in the sickle...and the earth was reaped”
(Church Completed - True Vine all Gathered)

“cast in the vine of the earth...into the great winepress”
(False Vine Destroyed)

Rev.14:16-20

“And he ... thrust in his sickle on the earth; and the earth was reaped....And the angel thrust in his sickle into the earth, and gathered the vine of the earth, and cast *it* into the great winepress of the wrath of God.”

Is MOST of Revelation understood?

Ask yourselves this:

If we are living in the LAST DAYS before Armageddon...

For what purpose would the book of Revelation NOT become understood by the Lord's saints if a

REVELATION IS NOT REVEALED before the full glorification of God's saints?

Is it due time?

Rev. 22:10



Disclaimers

The presenter is just beginning the long journey through Revelation himself and does not claim to have all the answers. I'm still learning...

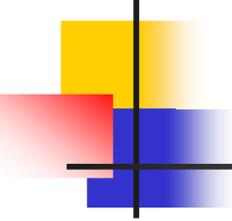
**It won't be easy
but let's compare
and analyse the scriptures together.**

**A good overview of
the Church in the Gospel Age**



**Chapter 12
A GREAT Place
To Start!**

So much has been written on it!



Basic Structural Overview of Revelation

**Chapters
1 – 13**

**History of Gospel
Age Church Class**

**Chapters
14 – 19**

**Harvest
Experiences
of the Church**

**Chapters
20 – 22**

**Messianic
Age Vision**

Revelation is a book of SYMBOLS

Sign Language



It tells us right in
the very first verse!

sign-i-fied It's put in **SIGNS!**

Rev 1:1 The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him, to show unto his servants things which must shortly come to pass; and he sent and signified it by his angel unto his servant John:

Revelation is about

Two Women



A Virgin



A Harlot

Two Cities



New Jerusalem



Babylon

Symbolically speaking of course!

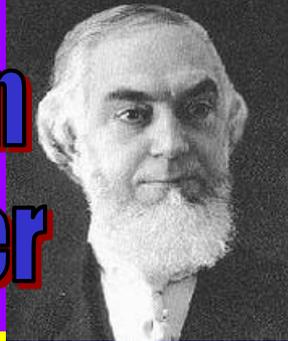


**Bizarre symbols that
all have meaningful
definitions. Choose
your Revelation author
carefully!**

Rev 5:6 And I beheld, and, lo, in the midst of the throne and of the four beasts, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent forth into all the earth.

Examples of how this book is written

Laodicean
Messenger



Rev 1:20 The mystery of the seven stars which thou sawest in my right hand, and the seven golden candlesticks. The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches: and the seven candlesticks which thou sawest are the seven churches.



**Are there two
Revelation students
who see everything
the SAME in Revelation?**

There's bound to be differences.

**1Co 13:12 For now we see through a
glass, darkly; but then face to face:
now I know in part; but then shall I
know even as also I am known.**

The study of Revelation reshapes our thinking!

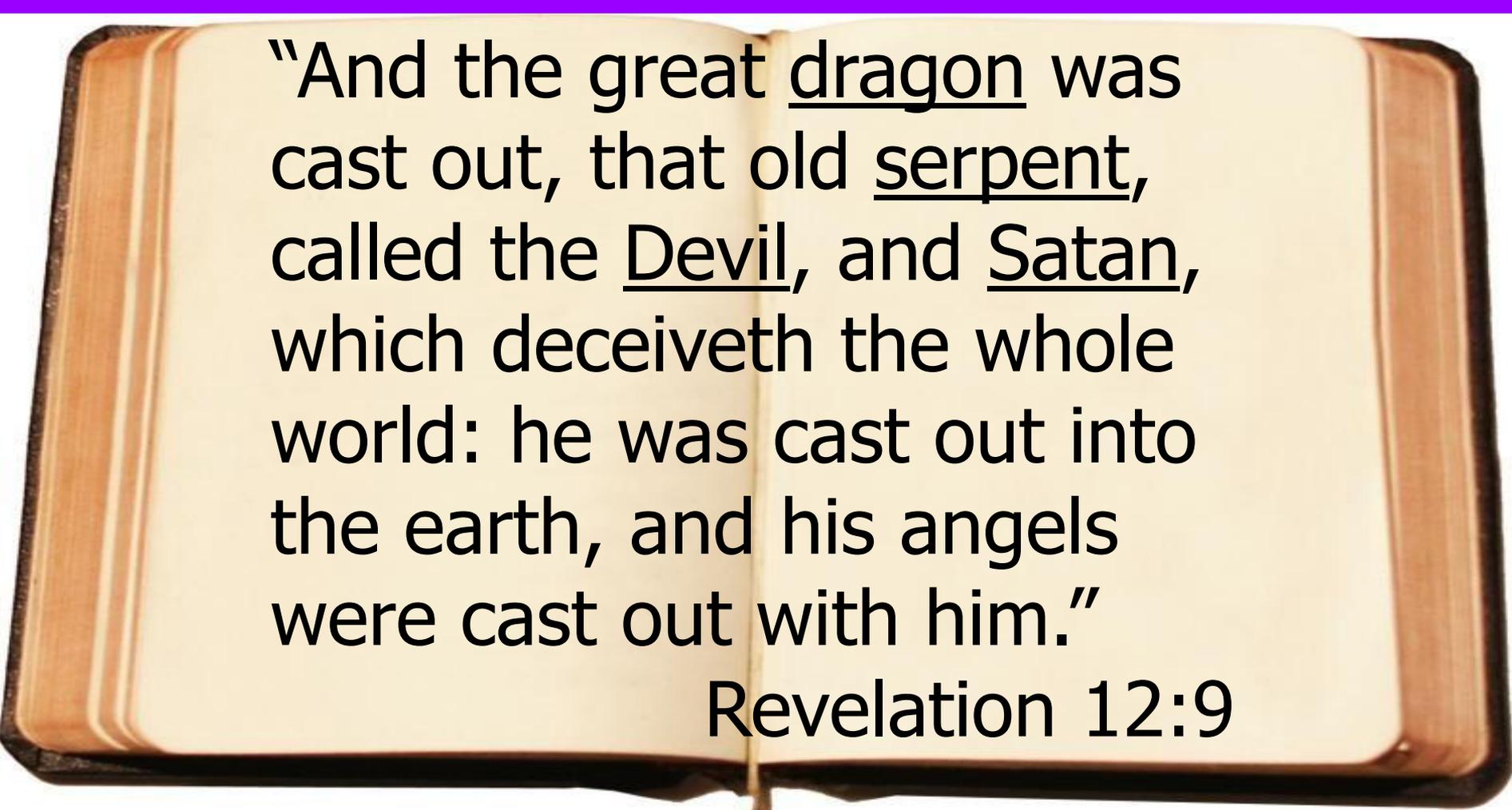
Rev 20:2

And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years,

Because it IS a symbolic book!

Compare Symbology Very Carefully!

For example, I used to understand Revelation 20:2 as ONLY referring to literal Satan. After further study and to be consistent in my symbolic applications, I realized that Rev. 20:2 was MORE than just the literal Satan. Take a look and see what I mean...

An open book with a dark cover is shown from a top-down perspective. The pages are cream-colored and feature black text. The text is a biblical passage from Revelation 12:9, with several words underlined. The book is set against a solid purple background.

“And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.”

Revelation 12:9

I understand that this dragon, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan was Pagan Rome – a civil government.

And he laid hold on the _____
dragon, that old serpent,
which is the Devil, and Satan,
and bound him a thousand
years

Compare!

Rev 20:2

Includes the civil governments!

**Refers to Satan and that system of
things of which he stands as
representative or head.**

2 Cor. 4:4 Matt. 4:8-9

WE believe that there is a personal Devil and that he will be literally restrained in some manner; but in the expression in the above text (Rev. 20:2) it seems that the names "Devil" and "Satan" refer not merely to the person of the Adversary, but to all that *system of things* of which he has stood as the representative or head or center; R 4609



Revelation 20:2 Compare!

And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years,

**Adversary's Character Working
Through His Systems R4609**

1. Dragon
2. Serpent
3. Devil
4. Satan

Rev. 12:9

1. Dragon
2. Serpent
3. Devil
4. Satan

Rev. 20:2

Dragon

The term dragon best illustrates the uninhibited, vicious, and violent disposition of the fallen Lucifer when free rein and license are given. Civil Rome reflected Satan's disposition – it was characterized as cold, ruthless, and merciless to its foes.

And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world... Revelation 12:9

Old Serpent

This alludes to the Genesis account of the Garden of Eden where Satan, through the medium of the serpent, beguiled unsuspecting Eve. The serpent therefore symbolizes Satan's craftiness, his subtlety.

Revelation 12:9 Portrait of the Adversary's Character

working through the **SYSTEMS**
that more or less reflect this character

Rev. 20:2

Devil

This comes from the Greek word *diabolos*, signifying one who misrepresents, hence a slanderer, an accuser.

(Descriptions of symbols taken from the book *The Keys of Revelation*, by Br. Frank Shallieu, p.310)

And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan....

Revelation 20:2

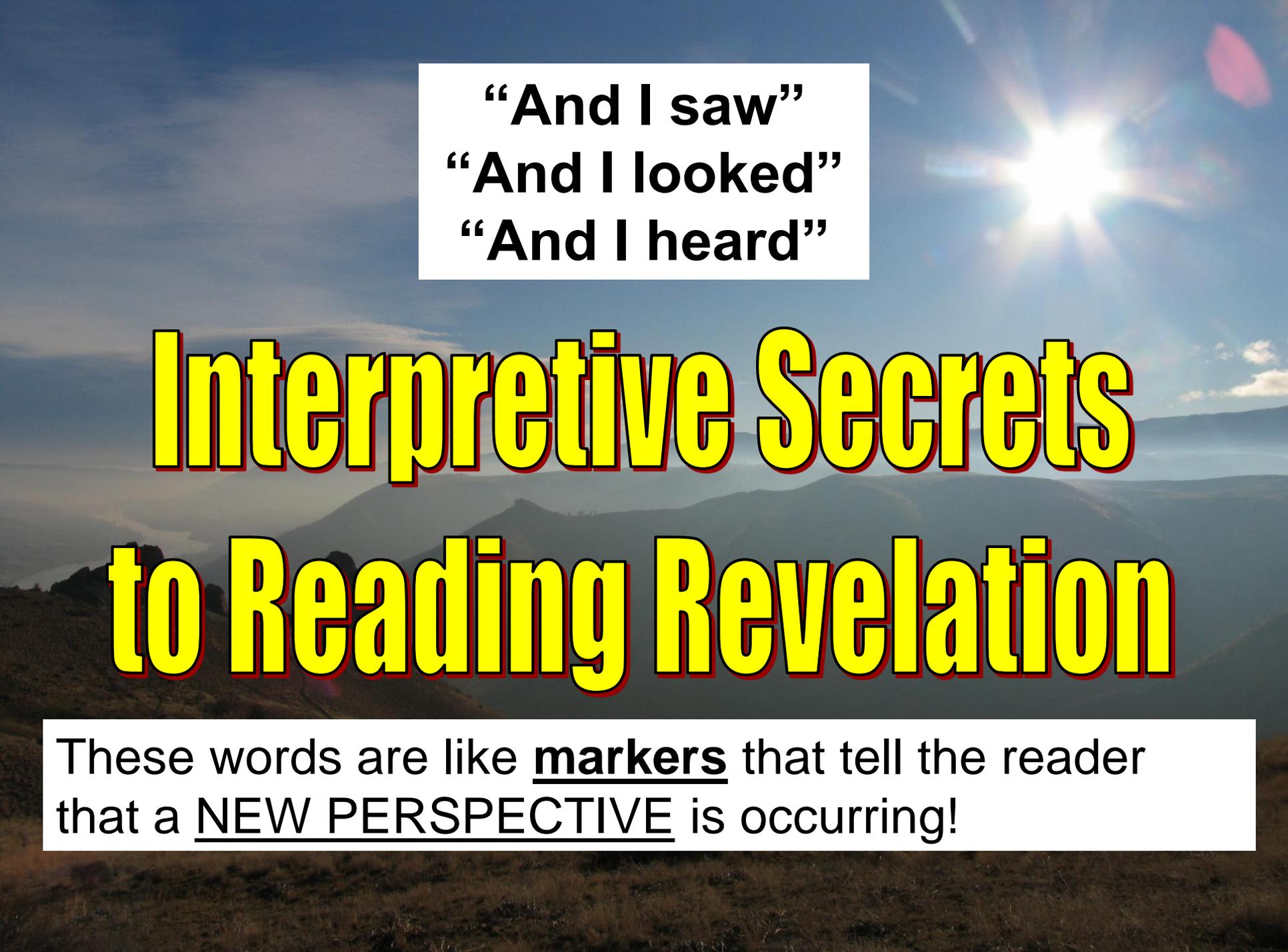
Satan

As a title, means one who is an open unabashed opposing spirit, that is, an adversary, an opponent, a resister.

A scenic landscape featuring rolling hills and mountains under a bright blue sky with a sunburst effect. The foreground shows dry, brownish grass. The text is overlaid on the upper portion of the image.

“And I saw”
“And I looked”
“And I heard”

Look for these words!



“And I saw”
“And I looked”
“And I heard”

Interpretive Secrets to Reading Revelation

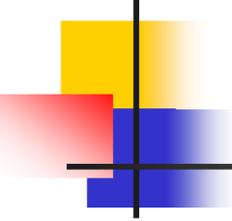
These words are like markers that tell the reader that a NEW PERSPECTIVE is occurring!

Rev 14:12 Here is the patience of the saints: here *are* they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.

Rev 14:13 And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed *are* the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors; and their works do follow them.

Rev 14:14 And I looked, and behold a white cloud, and upon the cloud *one* sat like unto the Son of man, having on his head a golden crown, and in his hand a sharp sickle.

A NEW PERSPECTIVE occurs in the narrative and the perspective in this case “jumps back” to the beginning of the time period under consideration – namely the Harvest of the Gospel Age.



Basic Structural Overview of Revelation

**Chapters
1 – 13**

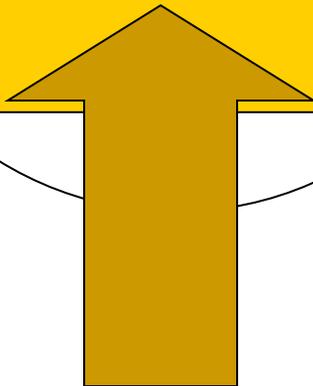
**History of Gospel
Age Church Class**

**Chapters
14 – 19**

**Harvest
Experiences
of the Church**

**Chapters
20 – 22**

**Messianic
Age Vision**



Gospel Age Church – Seven Stages

R2826

R3568

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Chapters 1-2-3
Introduction and
Seven Stages to
the Church in the
Gospel Age





Church

Ephesus

Smyrna

Pergamos

Thyatira

Sardis

Philadelphia

Laodicea

A GREAT article
describing the
characteristics of each
of these Church stages

R5991-5993

Church

Meaning of Name

Ephesus

The first – or desirable

Smyrna

Bitter affliction

Pergamos

Earthly elevation

Thyatira

The sweet perfume of sacrifice

Sardis

That which remains

Philadelphia

Brotherly love

Laodicea

A tried or judged people

Church

Messenger

Ephesus

Paul

Smyrna

John

Pergamos

Arius

Thyatira

Waldo

Sardis

Wycliffe

Philadelphia

Luther

Laodicea

Russell



R5991-5993

Chapters 4 - 5

Throne Scene

God is Worthy

The eternal
purpose of God
Chapter 4



Jesus is Worthy

The Lamb opens the seven
seals of the scroll Chapter 5



Chapter Six

The SEVEN SEALS



And Four
Horses
(Doctrinal
Conditions)



Chapter Seven

The 144,000 and
the Great Crowd



The Four Winds



What are the Seals?

One Revelation author suggests

Events which “reveal”
and effect the Church
once they occur

and guarantee “the stamp of
genuineness”

“Most of the 7 seals tell of the antichrist's activities and lend encouragement to the saints of each period.”



What are the Seals?



(Chapter 6)

“The first four seals describe how the four horses (doctrines) of the early church time periods changed from white to red, then to black and finally to pale.”



**The Seven Trumpets are
dispensational proclamations or
timely messages!**

Each Period of the Church

| Period | Church | Seal | Trumpet |
|--------|---------|----------|------------|
| #1 | 2:1-7 | 6:1-2 | 8:7 |
| #2 | 2:8-11 | 6:3-4 | 8:8-9 |
| #3 | 2:12-17 | 6:5-6 | 8:10-11 |
| #4 | 2:18-29 | 6:7-8 | 8:12-13 |
| #5 | 3:1-6 | 6:9-11 | 9:1-11 |
| #6 | 3:7-13 | 6:12-7:3 | 9:13-11:13 |
| #7 | 3:14-22 | 8:11 | 11:15-19 |

Has Corresponding Trumpet and Seal

Chapter Eight

The SEVEN
TRUMPETS



What are the Trumpets?

Dispensational proclamations



John Wycliffe

Chapter Nine

The SEVEN TRUMPETS
continued



Martin Luther

Chapter Ten

The LITTLE BOOK and a PROMISE

Chapter Eleven

The TWO WITNESSES



Old Testament



New Testament

Impact of the 7th Angel's Trumpet Sounding

Chapter 12

The Woman in the Wilderness

D Foreward v-x pp. 590-591

R 306-307 C 64-67

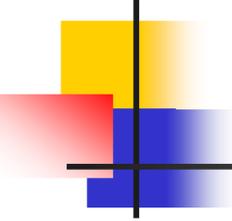
Chapter 13

The Three Beasts

R 5349 D viii-xi



Basic Structural Overview of Revelation



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1 – 13**

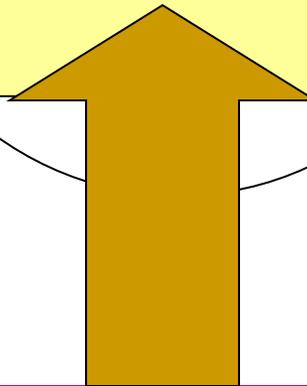
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Important to understand!



Some times the translators didn't quite get it right!

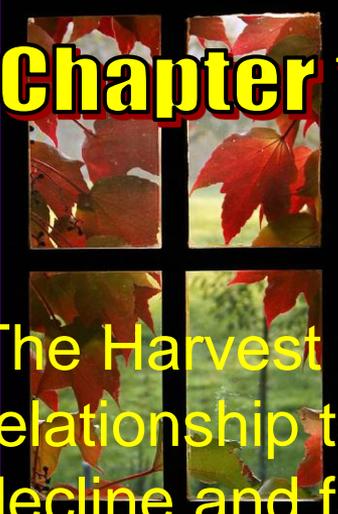
Their numbering or chapters were off.

For example, Chapters 14 through 19 are Harvest Chapters. WHY would you “start out” having the Church COMPLETE in Revelation 14:1-5? It would be much more appropriate in the context of Chapter 13. So...Chapter 14 would start much better with verse 6.



Chapters 14 - 19
Provides
5 Window Views
of the Harvest





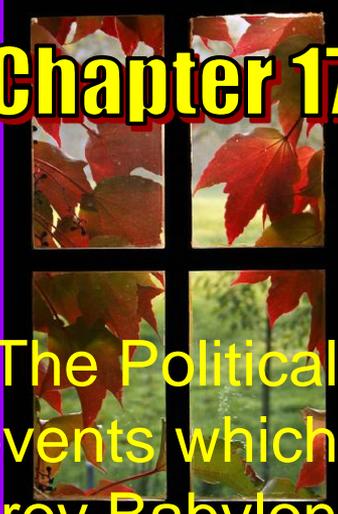
Chapter 14

The Harvest work's relationship to the decline and fall of Babylon



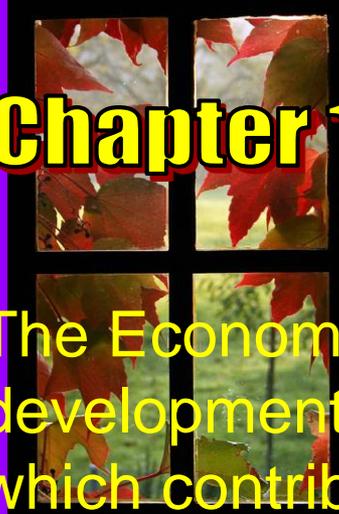
Chapter 15 Chapter 16

Historical events which weaken the Apostasy throughout the harvest.



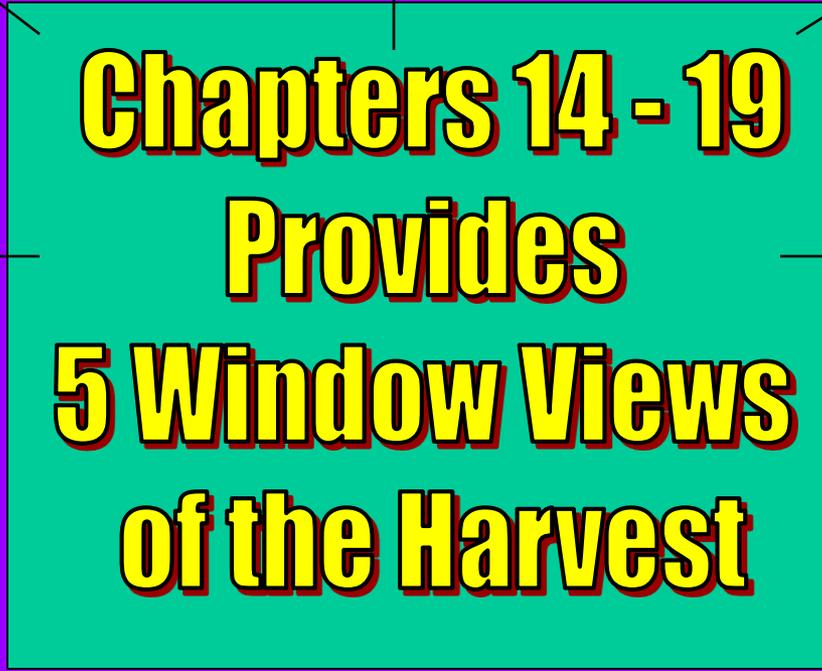
Chapter 17

The Political events which destroy Babylon

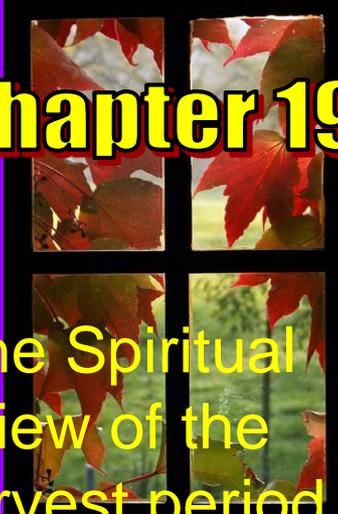


Chapter 18

The Economic developments which contribute to Babylon's decline and fall



**Chapters 14 - 19
Provides
5 Window Views
of the Harvest**



Chapter 19

The Spiritual view of the Harvest period



Chapter 14

The HARVEST of the
True and False Vines

Chapter 15

Introduction to the
Seven Last
Plagues and the
Smoke Filled
Temple



Chapter 16

The SEVEN
Plagues and
Armedgeddon



Chapter 17

The Scarlet Beast and
the Judgment of the
Great Harlot



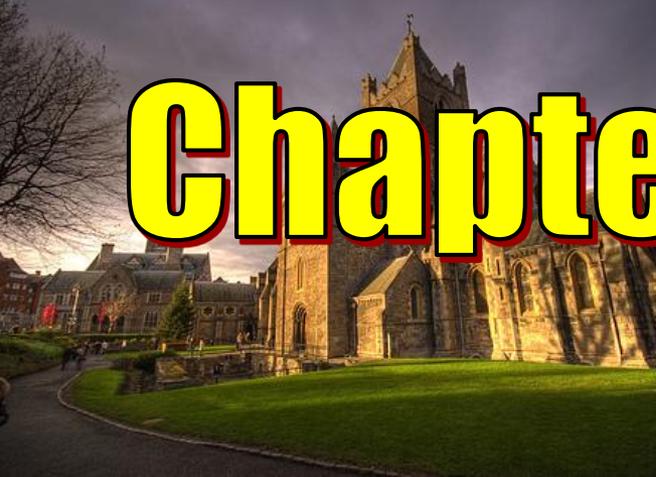
Chapter 18

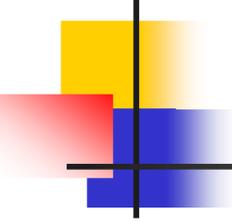
**Destruction of
Babylon
especially its
Economic Fall**



Chapter 19

**The Marriage of
the Lamb and the
Spiritual Perspective
on the Fall of Babylon**





Basic Structural Overview of Revelation

**Chapters
1 – 13**

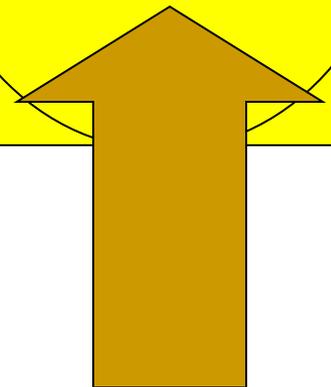
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Chapter 20

The 1000 Years and Binding of Satan

Chapter 21

The New Jerusalem

R 3570-3572

R 2832-2834



Revelation 20 - 22

R 330 ←



Seven Portraits of the Kingdom

Revelation 20

First View

Satan Bound
Evil Restrained

Second View

Governmental Powers
Overthrown, and
Saints Rest and Reign

Third View

The Blessed Reign
and End of Evil

Fourth View

The thrown of
righteousness and the
world's trial for life

Revelation 20 - 22

Seven Portraits of the Kingdom

Revelation 21

Fifth View

The Holy City
(Government) The
Bride – God's Dwelling
Among Men

Sorrow, pain and
death abolished.

Sixth View

The New Jerusalem
The Light of the
Nations

Revelation 22

Seventh View

The River of Water of
Life

**Revelation NOT so easy
but incredibly
ENGAGING!**

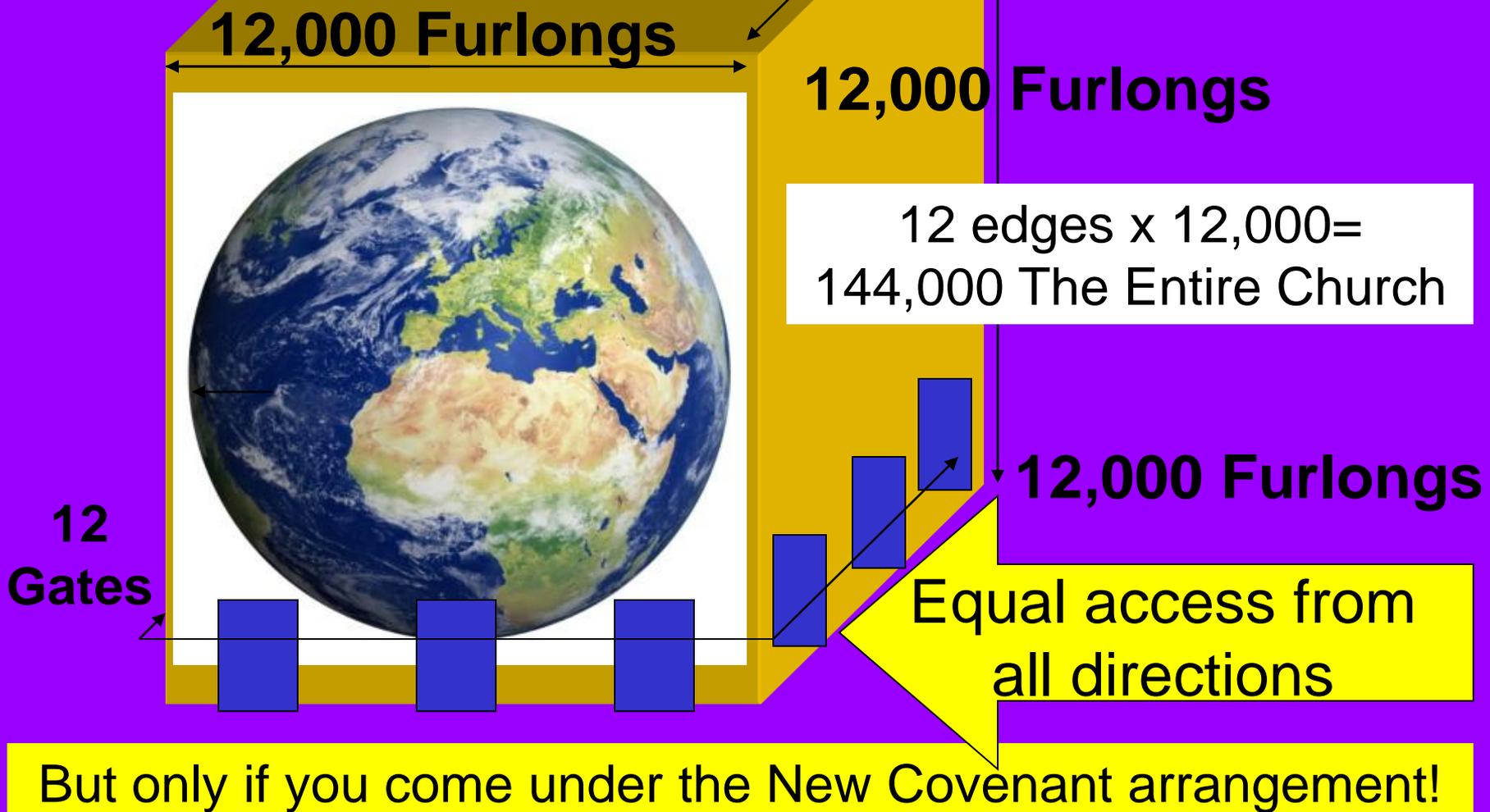
Let's take a look...

**Revelation 21: 10 – 17
Read!**

The New Jerusalem

A symbolical cube!

Rev. 21



The New Jerusalem

Example #1 Are the Apostles and the glorified Church a “protective wall” around the world during the 1000 years?



Example #2 12,000 furlongs which happens to be 7,920 miles – the diameter of the Earth!

CUBE
LxWxH
12,000₃ Furlongs

Rev. 21

A Greek symbol for perfection!

A symbolical cube!

Mathematical Calculations

Example #1

12,000 furlongs x 12,000 = 144,000,000

or the 144,000 (Church) could be looked at as a wall “protecting the earth” for the 1000 years!

Obadiah 21 Rev. 14:1

Example #2

One furlong is 1/8 of a mile or

5,280 ft./8 = 660 feet

12,000 furlongs x 660 feet = 7,920,000 miles

Which could be looked at symbolically as

7,920 miles or the Diameter of the Earth!

Chapter 22

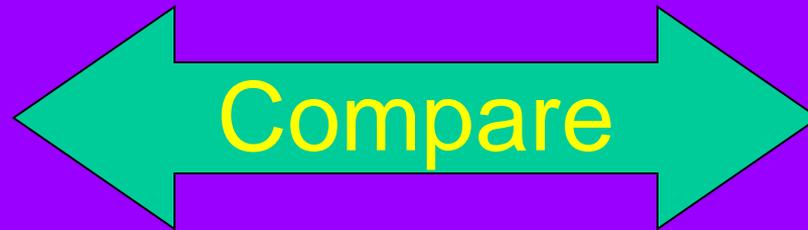
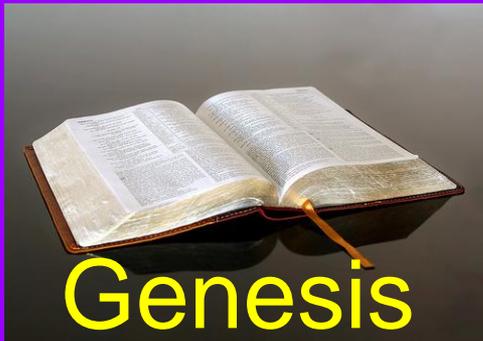
Rev 22:17 And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.



The Water of Life and Epilogue

Compare Ezekiel 47:12 and all proceeding!

**There are amazing
parallels between
the FIRST three chapters of Genesis
and the LAST three
chapters of Revelation!**



First Three Chapters of the Bible GENESIS

Describes the first creation – man made in God’s image more or less loses that image over time. Gen. 1:26

Earth starts out with Darkness.
Gen 1:26

Mankind LOSES complete dominion of the earth Gen. 1:26 Psalms 8:5-6

The curse enters and gradually progresses the death process
Gen 3:6

First temptation of man Gen 3:4

One river flows out of the Garden of Eden into four branches
Gen 2:10

And MORE!

Last Three Chapters of the Bible REVELATION

Man restored to God’s image
Rev. 20:12-13

Darkness is removed Rev. 21:22-25

Mankind REGAINS complete dominion of the earth Rev. 22:5

The curse diminishes and then leaves mankind forever. Rev. 22:3

Last temptation of man Rev. 20:8

One river flows out of the throne of God and of the Lamb eventuating four classes of man
Psalms 45:14-16

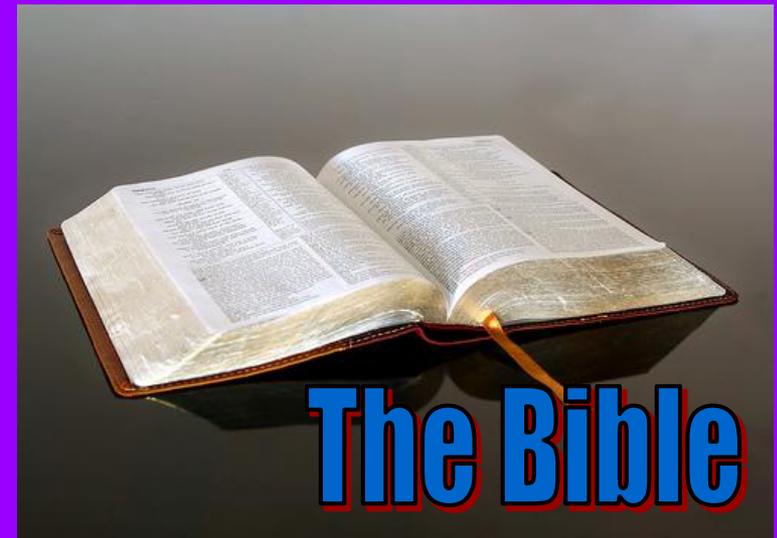
Ask!

Rev 1:3 Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand.



Matt. 24:28 “For wheresover the carcass is there will the eagles be gathered together.”

**I found particularly
helpful information
from the following
sources:**



Br. Russell's Writings

The Revelation Notebook

New Albany Ecclesia

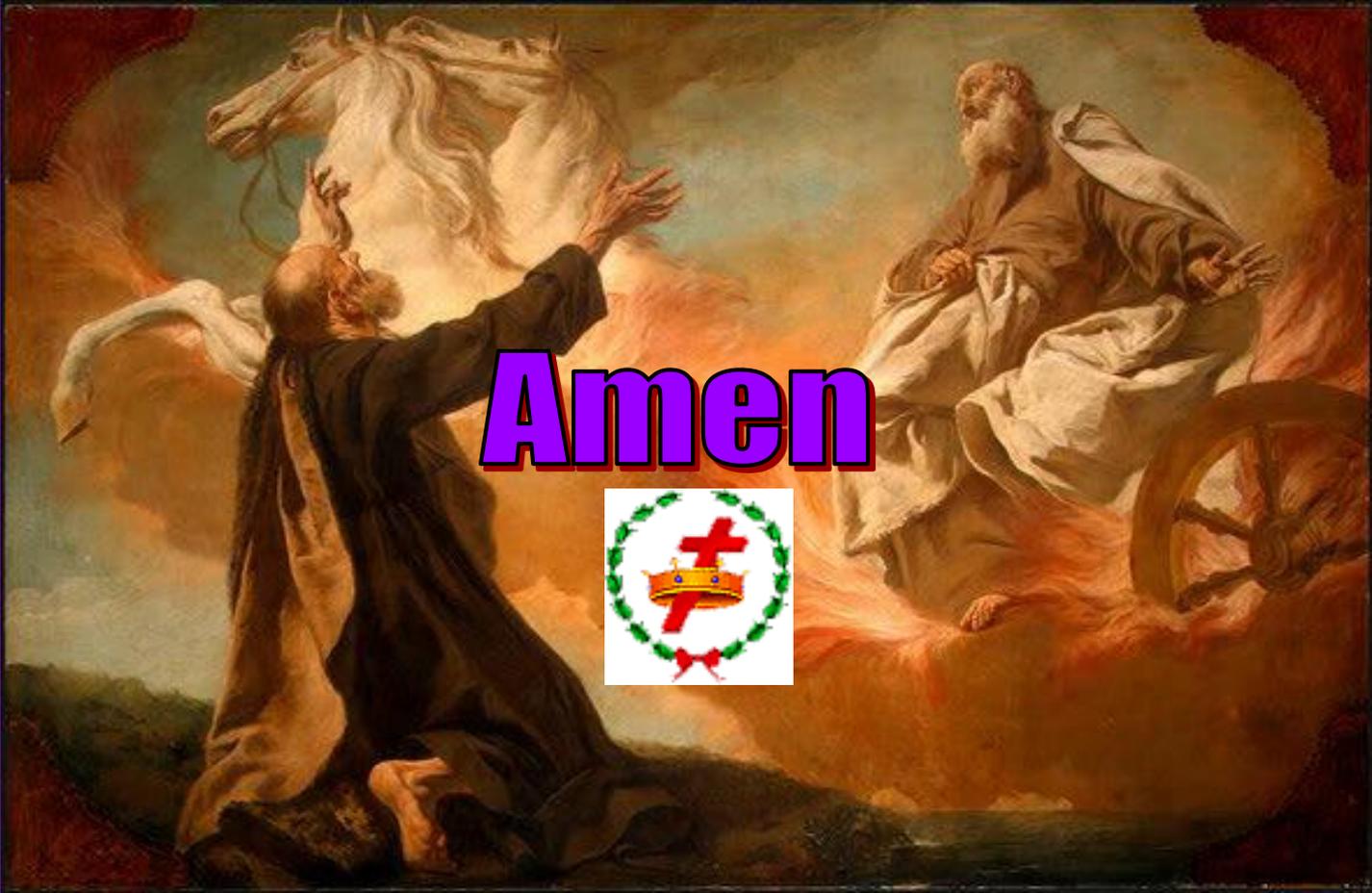
www.biblestudentliterature.org

www.revelation-today.com

Gene Burns



Graphic Art by Sr. Sharon Gowryluk



Amen



