

# REVELATION

How To Read Revelation Responsibly?

# THE BLESSING

## Revelation 1:3

**Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear the words of this prophecy and keep what is written in it, because the time is near.**

# THE 4 VIEWS

- **PRETERIST - MOST PROPHECIES IN THE BOOK OF REVELATION WERE FULFILLED DURING THE TIME OF THE ROMAN EMPIRE.**
- **HISTORICIST. THE PROPHECIES HAVE BEEN FULFILLED THROUGHOUT HISTORY AND ARE STILL BEING FULFILLED TODAY.**
- **FUTURIST. MOST PROPHECIES BEYOND REVELATION 3 ARE YET TO BE FULFILLED.**
- **SPIRITUAL (OR SYMBOLIC OR IDEALIST). MOST PROPHECIES PORTRAY THE ONGOING COSMIC CONFLICT OF SPIRITUAL REALITIES AND MAY HAVE MANY FULFILLMENTS THROUGHOUT HISTORY.**

# ACTS OF REVELATION

**Act One: Satan is on the Move**

**Act Two: The Prophet Speaks**

**Act Three: God Judges**

**Act Four: God Renews**



# CHRISTOLOGY TITLES

**Jesus is described as the...**

**... faithful and true witness.**

**... firstborn of the dead.**

**... King of kings.**

**... Son of Man.**

**... the first and last.**

**... alpha and omega.**

**... Son of God.**

**... holy one.**

**... true one.**

**... Amen.**

**... lion of the tribe of Judah.**

**... root of David.**

**... lamb.**

**... Lord.**

**... Word of God.**

**... bright morning star.**

# UNHOLY TRINITY

**Satan and two beasts are a parody of God's triune being. These characters are developed in Ch. 12-13.**

**Ch. 13 reveals Rome's military and economic system and it antithetical to God's Kingdom of sacrifice, serving, and love.**

**Additionally, Ch. 17 depicts Satan's system as a harlot, or whore, doomed for destruction.**

**These character depictions of anti-God systems/people are not unique to past figures or future figures. The beasts and Babylon can, and have been, present in multiple time, places, and modes.**

# MORE PATTERNS OF SEVEN

**7 Seals (Judgment)**

**7 Trumpets (Judgment)**

**7 Signs (Symbols)**

**7 Bowls (Judgment)**



# 6-16 3 SETS OF 7 DIVINE JUDGMENTS

**(A)** LITERAL SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

(PAST, PRESENT, OR FUTURE)

**BUT NOTICE:**

• BOWLS CONTAINED WITHIN 7th TRUMPET, TRUMPETS WITHIN 7th SEAL

• EACH SET CONCLUDES WITH FINAL JUDGMENT

**(B)** THE TIME PERIOD BETWEEN JESUS' RESURRECTION & RETURN FROM THREE PERSPECTIVES

## 6-8a SEVEN SEALS

**1** WAR

**2** CONQUEST

**3** FAMINE

**4** DEATH

(SEE ZECHARIAH ch.1)

**5** HOW LONG, O LORD?

**6** THE DAY OF THE LORD! (ISAIAH 2 JOEL 2)

REST A LITTLE LONGER...

WHO CAN STAND?!

THEY CAN!

**ch.7 THE LAMB'S ARMY**

MARK GOD'S SERVANTS: the **144,000** MILITARY CENSUS of 12 TRIBES (SEE NUMBERS 1)

THE MESSIANIC ARMY OF GOD'S KINGDOM FROM ALL NATIONS

**8:5**

## 8b-11 SEVEN TRUMPETS

**THE EXODUS PLAGUES** (SEE EXODUS ch. 7-11)

**1** HAIL

**2** BLOOD

**3** POISON WATER

**4** DARKNESS

**5** DEMON LOCUSTS

**6** THE FOUR HORSEMEN

**THE NATIONS DON'T REPENT** (9:20-21)

**10:1-11:13**

**THE LAMB'S SCROLL**

MEASURE THE TEMPLE...

"PROTECTION" SEE (ZECHARIAH 2)

...BUT EXCLUDE THE COURTS.

**A.) LITERAL DESTRUCTION OF JERUSALEM**

**B.) NEW TEMPLE = SYMBOL OF GOD'S PEOPLE** (1 CORINTHIANS 3:16 HEBREWS 3:6 1 PETER 2:4-5)

**TWO WITNESSES PROPHECY...**

...& ARE KILLED...

...BUT THEN VINDICATED...

**THE SCROLL REVEALS THE CHURCH'S MISSION:**

- IMITATE THE LOVING SACRIFICE OF THE LAMB
- GOD'S MERCY BRINGS REPENTANCE

**11:19**



# 8b-11 SEVEN TRUMPETS

THE EXODUS  
PLAGUES  
(SEE EXODUS ch. 7-11)



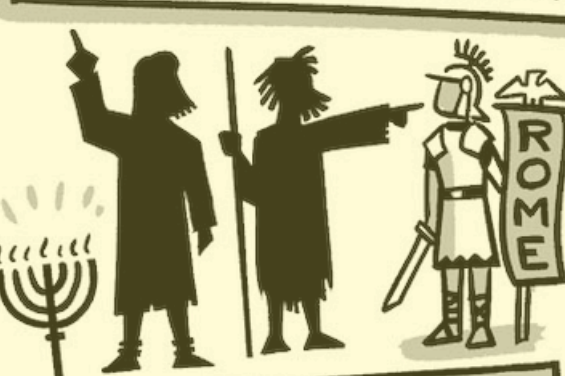
10:1-11:13

THE LAMB'S SCROLL



A.) LITERAL DESTRUCTION OF JERUSALEM  
B.) NEW TEMPLE = SYMBOL OF GOD'S PEOPLE  
(1 CORINTHIANS 3:16  
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TWO WITNESSES PROPHECY...

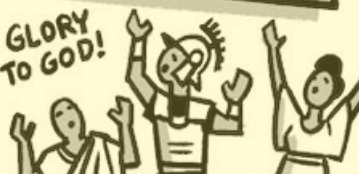


A. 2 LITERAL PROPHETS  
B. SYMBOLS OF THE CHURCH'S PROPHETIC ROLE

...& ARE KILLED...



...BUT THEN VINDICATED...



...& THE NATIONS DO REPENT (11:13)

THE SCROLL REVEALS THE CHURCH'S MISSION:

- IMITATE THE LOVING SACRIFICE OF THE LAMB
- GOD'S MERCY BRINGS REPENTANCE

11:19

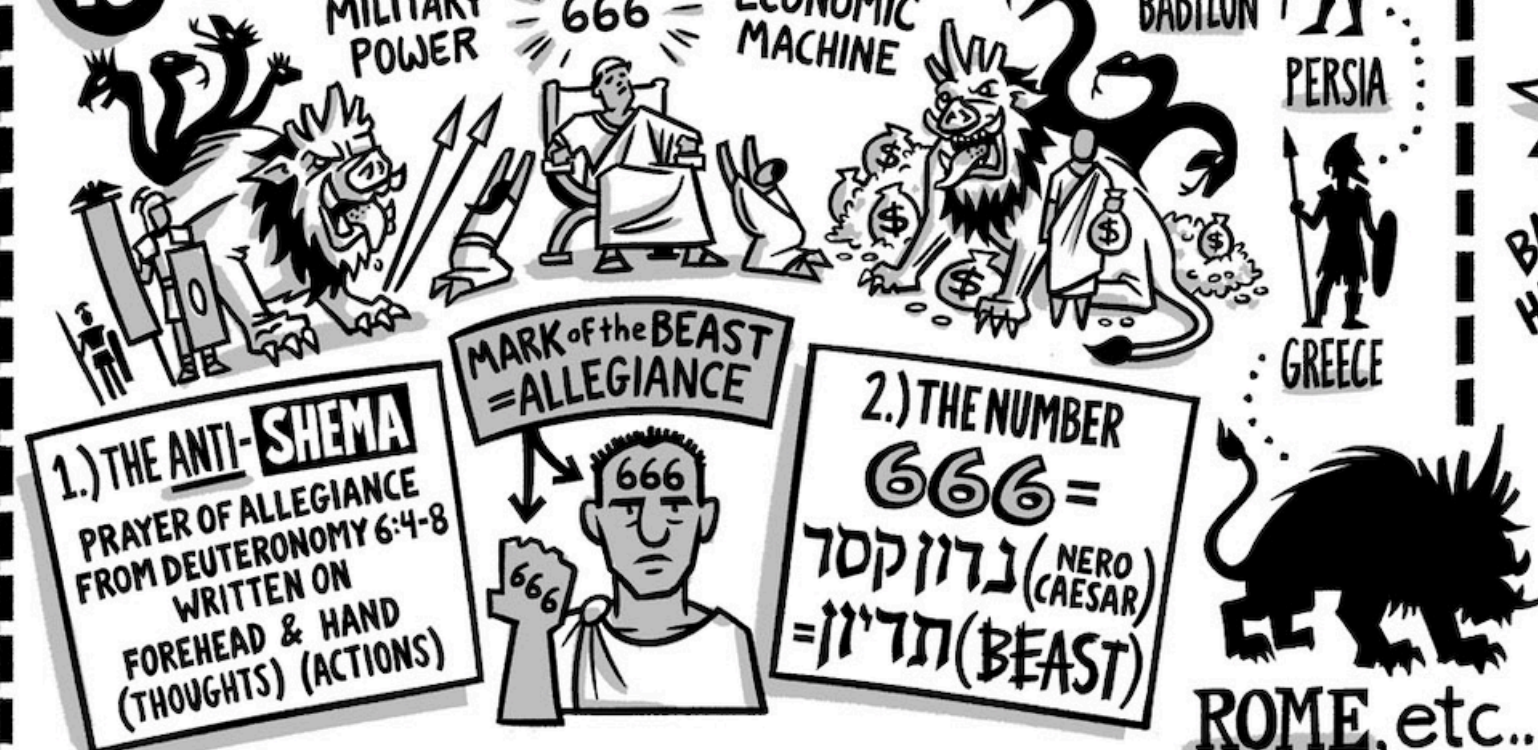


# 12-14 SEVEN SIGNS(=SYMBOLS)

THE COSMIC BATTLE (BASED ON GENESIS 3:15) 12



13 THE EARTHLY BATTLE (BASED ON DANIEL 7-12)



14a THE LAMB'S ARMY



14b FINAL JUSTICE

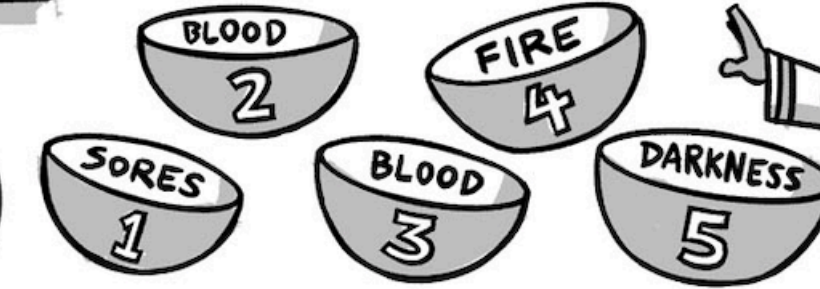


THE CHOICE

RESIST BABYLON TO FOLLOW THE LAMB  
OR  
FOLLOW THE BEAST & SUFFER ITS DEFEAT

# 15-16 SEVEN BOWLS

THE EXODUS  
PLAGUES (AGAIN!)



ARMAGEDDON:  
LOCATION OF MANY ISRAELITE BATTLES  
(JUDGES 5:19, 2 KINGS 23:29)  
SYMBOL OF REBELLIOUS NATIONS (EZEKIEL 38-39)







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# BABYLON FALLS

**Rev 14:8**

**And another, a second angel, followed, saying, “It has fallen, Babylon the Great has fallen.”**

**Rev 18:2**

**After this I saw another angel with great authority coming down from heaven, and the earth was illuminated by his splendor. 2 He called out in a mighty voice:**

***It has fallen, Babylon the Great has fallen!***

# LEAVING BEHIND LEFT BEHIND

**Reason 1: Not found in the Bible. There's only 4 verses that explicitly mention the rapture.**

**Matt 24:29-31**

**“Immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken. 30 Then will appear in heaven the sign of the Son of Man, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. 31 And he will send out his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.**



# LEAVING BEHIND LEFT BEHIND

**Reason 1: Not found in the Bible.**

**2 These 2:1-4**

**Now concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered together to him, we ask you, brothers, 2 not to be quickly shaken in mind or alarmed, either by a spirit or a spoken word, or a letter seeming to be from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord has come. 3 Let no one deceive you in any way. For that day will not come, unless the rebellion comes first, and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction, 4 who opposes and exalts himself against every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, proclaiming himself to be God.**

# LEAVING BEHIND LEFT BEHIND

**Reason 1: Not found in the Bible.**

**1 Cor 15:51-52**

**Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, 52 in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed.**

# LEAVING BEHIND LEFT BEHIND

**Reason 1: Not found in the Bible.**

**1 Thess 4:13-17**

**But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. 14 For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. 15 For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. 16 For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord.**

# LEAVING BEHIND LEFT BEHIND

## **Reason 2: Not in Church History**

**In 2000 years of Church history the first time we see this doctrine is in the early 1800's from a man named John Darby. Scofield Study Bible. Left Behind books.**

**Throughout Church history the predominant view is that Jesus would return and gather us on the same day. The Day of The Lord.**

**Key: Are we called to escape hard times or endure hard times?**

# LEAVING BEHIND LEFT BEHIND

**Reason 3: Not taught outside the western church.**

**Much of the Church today is living in tribulation. We are about to experience tribulation, but we're not today. The church outside the west is prepared for future tribulation because they're living in present tribulation.**

# CORRIE TEN BOOM

**There are some among us teaching there will be no tribulation, that the Christians will be able to escape all this. These are the false teachers that Jesus was warning us to expect in the latter days. Most of them have little knowledge of what is already going on across the world. I have been in countries where the saints are already suffering terrible persecution.**

**In China, the Christians were told, “Don’t worry, before the tribulation comes you will be translated – raptured.” Then came a terrible persecution. Millions of Christians were tortured to death. Later I heard a Bishop from China say, sadly,**

**“We have failed. We should have made the people strong for persecution, rather than telling them Jesus would come first. Tell the people how to be strong in times of persecution, how to stand when the tribulation comes, to stand and not faint.”**

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