

REVELATION

Plain Sense Paraphrase

May 25-27, 2017

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1-2 This is the revelation — the unveiling — of Jesus, the Messiah. God gave this revelation to him to pass on to his followers to show them what is about to happen. Jesus communicated this revelation by his Angel to his servant John, and John accurately related everything he personally saw and heard from God and from Jesus Christ.

3 How blessed the reader! How blessed the hearers and keepers of all the words written in this prophetic book! Time is just about up!

4-7 I, John, am writing this to the seven churches in eastern Turkey: All the best to you from The God Who Is, The God Who Was, and The God Who Always Will Be, and from the Seven Spirits assembled before his throne, and from Jesus Christ—Loyal Witness, Firstborn from the dead, Ruler of all earthly kings.

Glory and strength to Christ, who loves us,
Who washed us from our sins with His blood,
And who made us Kings and Priests for his Father —
to Him be glory and authority for all eternity! Amen!

Behold! He's on his way! Coming in the clouds,
and He'll be visible to everybody -
including those who mocked and crucified him.

People from every nation of the earth
will tear their clothes in lament.
Oh, Yes! Amen.

8 “I am the Alpha and the Omega, [A-Z, The Beginning and The End]” declares the Lord God, “who is and who was and who will always be; the Almighty.”

9-17 I, John — one with you in the trials, and Authentic Christianity, and the perseverance which go hand in hand with being a follower of Jesus — was on the island called Patmos, where I had been exiled for preaching God’s Word and telling others about Jesus. It was a Sunday, and I was in the Spirit, praying.

I heard a loud voice behind me, trumpet-clear and piercing: “Write down what you see in a book. Send it to the seven churches: to Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia, and Laodicea.”

I turned to see who was speaking to me.

I saw a gold menorah with seven branches,
and centered in the menorah was the Son of Man,
clothed in a robe reaching to his feet,
and wearing a gold breastplate;

His head was thickly covered with white hair,
and His eyes blazed like fire.

His feet were glowing like burnished bronze,
and His voice thundered like a waterfall.

In His right hand, he held seven stars.
He spoke like a sharp-edged sword,

and his face shone like the noonday sun.

When I saw Him, I fainted at his feet like a dead man. But with His right hand he helped me stand, and his voice reassured me:

17-20 “Do not be afraid: I am The First and The Last, The Eternally Living One. It is true that I died. But I came back to life and will be alive, now, for all eternity. And I am now in complete charge of who lives and who dies, and of where they will spend eternity — whether in Heaven or Hell.

Write down everything you have already seen, everything you are seeing now, and everything you will be shown.

To clarify: the Seven Stars you saw in my right hand represent the Messengers to the seven churches, and the menorah’s seven branches represent the seven churches.”

REVELATION 2

To the Church in Ephesus

Write this for the Messenger to the church in Ephesus.

The One holding the seven messengers to the seven churches in his right hand, and walking in the midst of the seven churches, says:

2-3 “I see all you’ve done - your hard work, your refusal to quit. I know you can’t stomach evil, that you weed out apostolic pretenders. I know your persistence, your courage in my cause, that you never give up.

4-5 “Yet, I am not entirely happy with you, because you are no longer in love with Me as you used to be. Think back to how fervent your love used to be compared to how it is now.

“Turn back! Recover your dear early love. There is no time to waste, for I’m very close to snuffing out your light.

6 “To your credit, you hate the Nicolaitan heresy, as I do.

7 “You churches had better take heed to what the Holy Spirit is saying!”: **‘I will only allow those who heed what I am saying to eat from the Tree of Life in the midst of Heaven.’**”

To the Church in Smyrna

8 Write this for the Messenger to the church in Smyrna.

The First and The Last, Who once died for your sins, and now lives forevermore, says:

9 “I know all about your works, the trials you’ve been through, and your dire poverty—but I also see your wealth. And I hear the lie in the claims of those who pretend to be good Jews, but who in fact belong to satan’s synagogue.

10 “Fear nothing in the things you’re about to suffer—but stay on guard! Fear nothing! The Devil is about to throw you in jail for a brief time of testing.

“Don’t quit, even if it costs you your life. Hold onto your faith in Me and I will give you a crown of eternal life.

11 “You churches had better take heed to what the Holy Spirit is saying!: **Only those who heed what I am saying will avoid Hell.**”

To the Church in Pergamum

12 Write this for the Messenger to the church in Pergamum. The One whose words are like a sharp-edged sword says:

13 “I see where you live - in satan’s capital, and that, despite that, you continue boldly in my Name; you have never once denied The Gospel of salvation by grace through faith, even when the pressure was worst — when they martyred Antipas, my witness who stayed faithful to me in satan’s headquarters.

14 “But I am not entirely pleased with you, because you permit followers of Balaam among you. You know that Balaam was an enemy agent, seducing Balak and sabotaging Israel’s holy pilgrimage by encouraging them to worship idols and commit fornication. 15 But you put up with the Nicolaitans, who do the same thing!

16 “You had better repent and take proper responsibility over this situation, or I will deal sharply with them in the near future, myself.

17 “You churches had better take heed to what the Holy Spirit is saying!” **Only to those of you who heed what I am saying will I give the sacred manna, and a white stone inscribed with your secret new name.**”

To the Church in Thyatira

18 Write this for the Messenger to the church in Thyatira.

God's Son, whose eyes blaze, and whose feet glow like burnished bronze, says:

19 "I see everything you're doing for me: your love, your ministries, your faith, your perseverance, your efforts, and that you are expanding your ministry.

20-23 "But I am not entirely pleased with you, because you allow that Jezebel woman, who calls herself a prophetess to seduce my followers into committing spiritual fornication by giving honor to false gods. I gave her a chance to change her ways, but she has no intention of repenting. I'm about to lay her low, along with her partners, as they play their sex-and-religion games. And I will send all who follow her teaching to Hell. Then every church will know that I am not fooled by outward appearances. I clearly see every motive and make sure everyone gets what they deserve.

24 "The rest of you Thyatirans, who have nothing to do with this outrage, who scorn this playing around with the so-called "deep things of the devil", be assured I'll not make life any harder for you than it already is. 25 Hold onto the truth you have until I get there,

26 because here's the reward I have for those who heed what I am saying — everyone who stays faithful, refusing to give up: You'll rule the nations 27 as with a rod of iron, you'll smash their resistance as easily as though they were clay pots - with the same kind of authority my Father has given me, 28 the Morning Star!

29 “You churches had better take heed to what the Holy Spirit is saying!”

REVELATION 3

To the Church in Sardis

Write this for the Messenger to the church in Sardis.

The One holding the Seven Messengers of God in one hand — the Seven Stars, says:

“I see right through your works. You have a reputation for being alive, but you are basically dead.

2 “You had better wake up and pay attention to the little life you have left, and strengthen it, because it, too, is almost dead! You are busy doing “church”, but that is not what God would have you do. 3 Remember what the Bible teaches about the way the early church used to operate, — understand it, and turn from playing “churchianity” to being “the church”.

“Unless you wake up and change your ways, you will not realize when I am among you, **and you will be totally unprepared for my return in the Rapture.**

[Note: This is so true, today - September 21, 2017! - of many “fundamental, evangelical” churches.]

4 “You still have a few followers of Jesus in Sardis whose lives aren’t dirtied by the world’s ways. **They shall walk with me in white garments, for they are truly saved!**

5 “**Only those who heed what I am saying will wear the white garments, and will keep their names in the Book of Life.** I, myself, will present them by name to my Father and his Angels.

6 “You churches had better take heed to what the Holy Spirit is saying!”

To the Church in Philadelphia

7 Write this for the Messenger to the church in Philadelphia.

The One Who is Holy, the One Who is True, the One Who holds the key of King David — opening doors no one can lock, locking doors no one can open — says:

8 “I am aware of how you’ve been doing. You don’t have much strength, but you’ve used what little you had to keep my Word. And you didn’t deny me when pressure came.

So, now, see what I’ve done. I’ve unlocked and opened a door before you that no one can close. *[Note: The Rapture?!]*

9 “Watch as I take those who call themselves Christians but are nothing of the kind — pretenders whose true membership is in the club of satan — watch as I force them to honor you and acknowledge that it’s you who are truly my children.

[Note: This is what will happen, when these apostate churches find that genuine believers have disappeared in The Rapture.]

10 “Because you kept my Word in passionate patience, I’ll keep you safe from the Great Tribulation that will be here soon, when all over the earth, every man, woman, and child will be put to the test.

11 “Take notice! I’m on my way! I’ll be there soon! Keep a tight grip on what you have! Don’t let anyone cheat you of your rewards.

[Note: This passage is so very pertinent to me, today, — September 21, 2017 — as I wait expectantly, this morning, for The Rapture to occur today!]

12 “Only those who heed what I am saying will I make to be as pillars in Heaven — permanently at home. Only you will truly bear the name of God, the name of God’s City — the new Jerusalem coming down out of Heaven — and my new Name.

13 “You churches had better take heed to what the Holy Spirit is saying!”

To the Church in Laodicea - The Lukewarm Church

14 Write this for the Messenger to the church in Laodicea.

God’s ‘Yes’, the Faithful and Accurate Witness, the Beginning of God’s New Creation, says:

15 “I know you inside and out, and find little to my liking. You’re not stone cold toward me, and you’re certainly not passionate. It would be easier to relate to you if you were one or the other, 16 because there’s nothing that turns me off more than a fake, lukewarm relationship.

17 You think you know it all [*ie: that your doctrine is perfect, and that you know everything about the Bible and Christianity; nobody can tell you anything*], are doing great [*ie: that you have every reason to be proud of yourself for your small membership and fruitless programs*], and have everything you need [*ie: that you are solidly set in your ways*], when, in reality, you are in terrible shape — spiritually impoverished [*ie: you really don’t understand very much of the Bible or Authentic Christianity*], blind [*ie: cannot see that you are so sick and fruitless*], and clothed in rags [*ie: need a complete change, from head to foot*].

18 “I counsel you to seek heavenly wealth - lives that stay genuinely pure and godly even under pressure. Then you’ll be truly rich. And put on the clothes I offer - the brilliantly white garments of my righteousness, so the nakedness of your own efforts [self-righteousness] will no longer bring you shame. And anoint your eyes with the eye-salve of my Word so you can truly see to align your mind and your life with me.

19 “Whoever I love, I rebuke and discipline. So, change your ways and start practicing authentic Christianity!

20 “Look at me. I am standing at the door of your heart [church], knocking to come in. If you will hear me and open the door and sincerely invite me to come in, I’ll come right in

and we will enjoy an intimate and fruitful relationship [koinonia]. 21 Only those who heed what I say will sit alongside me in Heaven, just as I, having overcome, have taken the place of honor at the side of my Father.

22 “You churches had better take heed to what the Holy Spirit is saying!”

REVELATION 4

Then I looked, and, oh!—a door open into Heaven. The trumpet-voice, the first voice in my vision, called out, “Come up here and enter. I’ll show you what happens next.”

2 I was caught up at once in deep worship and, oh!—a throne set in Heaven with One seated on the throne, 3 suffused in gem hues of amber and flame with a nimbus of emerald. 4 Twenty-four thrones circled the throne, with twenty-four Elders seated on them, robed in white, and crowned with gold. 5 Lightning flash and thunder crash pulsed from the Throne. Seven torches blazed before the Throne — the Seven Spirits of God. [See 8:2] 6 Before the Throne it was like a clear crystal sea.

Prowling around the Throne were four Creatures, with many eyes. Eyes to look ahead, eyes to look behind. 7 The first Creature like a lion, the second like an ox, the third with a human face, the fourth like an eagle in flight. 8 The four Creatures were winged, each with six wings. They were all eyes, seeing around and within. And they chanted night and day, never taking a break:

Holy, holy, holy
Is Almighty God our Master,
Who always was, Is now, and Will always be.

9 Every time the Creatures gave glory and honor and thanks to the One Seated on the Throne—the Eternally Living One¹⁰—the Twenty-four Elders would fall prostrate before the One Seated on the Throne and worship the Eternally Living One. They cast their crowns at the foot of the Throne, chanting,

11 You are worthy, O God,
to be given all glory! all honor! all power!
For You created everything;
And everything that exists was created for your pleasure.

REVELATION 5

I saw a scroll in the right hand of the One Seated on the Throne. It was written on both sides, fastened with seven seals. 2 I also saw a powerful Angel, calling out in a voice like thunder, “IS THERE ANYONE WHO CAN OPEN THE SCROLL, WHO CAN BREAK ITS SEALS?”

3 There was no one—no one in Heaven, no one on earth, no one from the underworld—able to break open the seals of the scroll and read it.

4 I cried uncontrollably because no one was found able to open the scroll and read it. 5 One of the Elders said, “Don’t weep. Look—the Lion from the tribe of Judah, the Root of David’s Tree, has conquered. HE can open the scroll and can break each of the seven seals.”

6 So I looked, and there, surrounded by the Throne, the four Creatures, and the Elders, stood a Lamb that had been slaughtered. He had seven horns on his head, and seven eyes — the seven spirits of God sent into all the earth. 7 He came to the One seated on the throne and took the scroll from his right hand. 8 The moment he took the scroll, the four Creatures and twenty-four Elders fell down and worshiped the Lamb. Each had a harp and each had a bowl, a gold bowl filled with incense, the prayers of God’s holy people. 9 And they sang a new song:

*“YOU ARE WORTHY TO TAKE THE SCROLL AND TO OPEN ITS SEALS,
FOR YOU WERE SLAIN,
PAYING WITH YOUR BLOOD TO BUY MEN AND WOMEN FROM ALL OVER THE EARTH BACK TO GOD.
10 THEN, YOU MADE US KINGS AND PRIESTS FOR OUR GOD;
PRIEST-KINGS WHO WILL RULE OVER THE EARTH.”*

11 I looked again. I heard a mighty host of Angels around the Throne - along with the Creatures, and the Elders. Ten thousand times ten thousand was their number, thousands upon thousands; an unbelievable number of them — 12 all in full song, proclaiming:

“THE SLAIN LAMB IS WORTHY TO RECEIVE ALL POWER, WEALTH, WISDOM, STRENGTH, HONOR, GLORY, AND BLESSING!”

13 Then I heard every creature in Heaven, on the earth, beneath the surface of the earth, and in the sea, join in — all voices, in all places, singing:

“BLESSING, AND HONOR, AND GLORY, AND POWER BE TO THE ONE ON THE THRONE AND TO THE LAMB, FOR EVER AND EVER!”

The four Creatures called out, “AMEN!” The twenty-four Elders fell down and worshipped Him who lives for ever and ever.

REVELATION 6

I watched while the Lamb broke open the first of the seven seals. I heard one of the four Creatures roar, “COME AND SEE!” 2 I looked and saw a white horse. Its rider carried a bow and was given a victory garland. He rode off victorious, conquering right and left.

3 When the Lamb broke open the second seal, I heard the second Creature bellowed, “COME AND SEE!” 4 Another horse appeared; this one was red. Its rider rode off to take peace from the earth, causing nations to rise up against each other and kill one another. He was given a mighty sword.

5 When the Lamb broke open the third seal, I heard the third Creature call, “COME AND SEE!” I looked. It was a black horse, this time. Its rider carried a set of scales in his hand. 6 I heard a voice which seemed to issue from the four Creatures say, “Because of a great drought on the earth, a

loaf of bread will cost a day's wages, but the olive trees and vineyards will not be affected."

7 When he broke open the fourth seal, I heard the fourth Creature screech, "COME AND SEE!" 8 I looked and saw a pale greenish horse - the color of a corpse. Its rider was Death, and Hell was close on his heels. They were given authority to destroy a quarter of the world's population by war, famine, disease, and wild creatures.

9 When the Lamb broke open the fifth seal, I saw the souls of those killed because they had held firm in their witness to the Word of God. They were gathered at the foot of the Altar, 10 and cried out, "How long, oh Lord, Holy and True? How long before you punish those on earth who are responsible for killing us Christians?" 11 Then each martyr was given a white robe and told to rest until the full number of martyrs was filled from among fellow-missionaries and other believers.

12 I watched while he broke open the sixth seal, and saw an exceptionally great earthquake, a total solar eclipse, a total lunar eclipse, 13 meteorites falling to the earth like ripe apples shaken from a tree in a high wind, 14 tremendous explosions resulting in huge curling mushroom clouds of fire and smoke, every island and mountain tottering this way and that. 15 And, then, panic — as everyone, from the richest to the poorest, ran for cover. They hid in expensive bomb shelters they had prepared ahead of time, and any rocky dens they could find, 16 praying for the land to slide down over the entrances to their hideouts. They cried out, "Hide us from the One seated on the Throne and the wrath of the Lamb! The

dam of God's anger has finally broken! The Great Tribulation is here! Who can possibly survive it!?"

REVELATION 7

Then I saw four Angels standing at the four corners of the earth, holding back the winds so the wind would cease to blow on earth or sea — not even a leaf would rustle.

2 Then I saw another Angel rising from the same place where the sun rises, carrying the seal of the Living God. He thundered to the four Angels assigned the task of hurting earth and sea, 3 "Don't hurt the earth or the sea, yet! Don't so much as hurt a tree, until I've put God's protective seal on the foreheads of God's missionaries!"

4 I heard the number of those who were sealed: 144,000! 12,000 were sealed out of each of the Tribes of Israel: 5 Judah, Reuben, Gad, 6 Asher, Naphtali, Manasseh, 7 Simeon, Levi, Issachar, 8 Zebulun, Joseph, and Benjamin.

9 I looked again and saw a huge crowd - too enormous to count. It was made up of people from all over the earth—from every nation and tribe, every race and language. And they were all dressed in white robes and were waving palm branches, as they stood before the Throne and the Lamb, 10 and heartily sang:

*"Victory to our God on his Throne!
Victory to the Lamb!"*

11 All who were standing around the Throne—Angels, Elders, and Creatures—fell on their faces before the Throne and worshiped God, 12 exulting:

“Amen!

Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and strength be given to our God, for ever and ever!

Amen!

13 Just then one of the Elders addressed me: “Do you know who these people dressed in white robes are, and where they came from?” 14 Taken aback, I said, “O Sir, I have no idea! — but certainly *you* must know!”

Then he told me, “These are those who have been through terrible persecution, whose robes have been soaked and made white in the blood of the Lamb. 15 That’s why they are standing before God’s Throne, where they wait upon him day and night in his Temple. The One on the Throne will surround Himself with them. 16 Never again will they hunger, or thirst, or be scorched by the sun or fire, because the Lamb on the Throne will shepherd them. He will lead them to fountains of life. And God will wipe every last tear from their eyes.”

REVELATION 8

When the Lamb broke open the seventh seal, what it revealed caused all of Heaven to go completely quiet for about half an hour.

2 I saw the Seven Angels who are always in readiness before God handed seven trumpets. 3 Then another Angel, carrying

a gold censer, came and stood before the Altar. He was given a great quantity of incense so that he could mix it with the prayers of all the holy people of God on the Golden Altar before the Throne. 4 Smoke billowing up from the incense-laced prayers of the holy ones, rose before God as the Angel wafted it upward with his hands.

5 Then the Angel put coals from the Altar into the censor and flung it to the earth. It brought about demonic noises, thunder, lightning, and an earthquake.

6 The Seven Angels with the trumpets got ready to blow them in order. 7 As the first angel's trumpet sounded, hail, fire and molten lava were pitched onto the earth. The intense heat killed one third of the earth's forests and jungles, along with all grasslands.

8 The second Angel trumpeted. A huge meteorite like a mountain blazing with fire hurtled into the ocean turning a third of the earth's seawater blood red, 9 killing a third of all marine life, and sinking one third of the ships.

10 The third Angel blew his trumpet, and a large planet, blazing like a torch, smashed into the earth from space, destroying a third of the freshwater rivers and springs. 11 The planet was known as Wormwood - which means bitter [also known as Nibiru, or Planet X.]. It contaminated a third of the earth's fresh water with nuclear radiation, and many people died from drinking the radioactive water.

12 The fourth Angel trumpeted and the earth's rotation increased by one third [caused by Nibiru's impact], shortening the day to 16 hours.

13 My senses were on high alert, and I heard a single angel, flying overhead, calling out loudly, "Woe! Woe! Woe to everyone left on earth! There are three more Angels about to blow their trumpets. Even worse disaster is on its way!"

REVELATION 9

Then the fifth Angel blew his trumpet. I saw a shining angel plummet from Heaven to earth. The angel was handed a key to the Bottomless Pit. 2 He unlocked the Bottomless Pit, and so much thick smoke poured out of it, like the smoke of a great fire, that it obscured the sun and filled the atmosphere.

3 Then out of the smoke appeared helicopters, like locusts, armed with a terrible weapon. 4 Unlike locusts, they were not to hurt any vegetation, but, instead, people — but only those without the seal of God on their foreheads. 5 Their "weapon" caused intense pain, but did not kill. The "sting" they administered to people lasted for five months, and was as painful as a scorpion sting. 6 During this time, people are going to wish to die and will look for ways to commit suicide. But they won't find a way—the affect of the injection is that people will be unable to die.

7 The helicopters are armor plated. Their whirling blades sparkle in the sun. People can be seen inside them, piloting them. 8 They are painted in a variety of patterns. 9 They are as noisy as typical helicopters, 10 and are equipped with the

special weapon in their tails, with which they inflict torture on the human race for five months. 11 The name of their commander, an angel from the Bottomless Pit, is Abaddon, in Hebrew, and Apollyon, in Greek — both names meaning “The Destroyer.”

12 That is the first of the three terrible dooms, but there are two more to come!

13 When the sixth Angel sounded his trumpet, I heard a voice emanating from the horns of the Golden Altar before God 14 instructing him: “Let loose the four fallen angels that have been bound in chains since Noah’s time beneath the great River Euphrates.”

15 The Four Angels were unchained and freed from their confinement beneath the Euphrates River. They were ordained, and had been waiting, for this exact year, month, day, and even hour when they were to kill a third of the human race. 16 The number of the demonic army accompanying them was 200 million! I distinctly heard that number. 17 I saw both the men and their war machines in my vision. The men wore fiery-colored uniforms. Many of the war machines were tanks, firing explosive rounds from their barrels. 18 With these explosive rounds, they killed a third of the human race. 19 The war machines could shoot from the front or the back; they had machine guns in their rear that wreaked havoc.

20 Any men and women who weren’t killed by these weapons went on their merry way—with no change in their way of life. They continued to worship false gods, and centering their lives around inanimate money and possessions, rather than

the living God. 21 There wasn't a sign of a change of heart. They plunged right on in their murderous, intoxicated, addicted, occultic, immoral, perverted, thieving lifestyles.

REVELATION 10

I saw another powerful Angel coming down out of Heaven wrapped in a cloud. There was a rainbow over his head, his face was sun-radiant, his legs pillars of fire. 2 He had a small book open in his hand. He placed his right foot on the sea and his left foot on land, 3 then called out thunderously, a lion roar. When he called out, the Seven Thunders called back. 4 When the Seven Thunders spoke, I started to write it all down, but a voice out of Heaven stopped me, saying, "Seal with silence the Seven Thunders; don't write a word."

5 Then the Angel I saw astride sea and land lifted his right hand to Heaven 6 and swore by the One Living Forever and Ever, who created Heaven and everything in it, earth and everything in it, sea and everything in it, that time was up—7 that when the seventh Angel blew his trumpet, which he was about to do, the Mystery of God, all the plans he had revealed to his servants, the prophets, would be completed.

8 The voice out of Heaven spoke to me again: "Go, take the book held open in the hand of the Angel astride sea and earth." 9 I went up to the Angel and said, "Give me the little book." He said, "Take it, then eat it. It will taste sweet like honey, but turn sour in your stomach." 10 I took the little book from the Angel's hand and it was sweet honey in my mouth, but when I swallowed, my stomach curdled. 11 Then I was

told, “You must go back and prophesy again over many peoples and nations and languages and kings.”

REVELATION 11

1 I was given a stick for a measuring rod and told, “Get up and measure God’s Temple and Altar and everyone worshiping in it. 2 Exclude the outside court; don’t measure it. It’s been handed over to non-Jewish outsiders. They’ll desecrate the Holy City for forty-two months.

3 “Meanwhile, I’ll provide my two Witnesses. Dressed in sackcloth, they’ll prophesy for 1,260 days. 4 These are the two Olive Trees [of Zechariah 4], the two Lampstands, standing at attention before God on earth. 5 If anyone tries to hurt them, a blast of fire from their mouths will incinerate them —this is how they will deal with anyone who tries to hurt them. 6 They’ll have power to seal the sky so that it doesn’t rain for the time of their prophesying, power to turn rivers and springs to blood, power to hit earth with any and every disaster as often as they want.

7 “When they’ve completed their witness, the Beast from the Bottomless Pit will emerge and fight them, conquer and kill them, 8 leaving their corpses exposed on the street of the Great City, Jerusalem, spiritually called Sodom and Egypt, the same City where their Master was crucified. 9 For three and a half days they’ll be there—exposed, prevented from getting a decent burial, stared at by the curious from all over the world. 10 Those people will cheer at the spectacle, shouting ‘Good riddance!’ and calling for a celebration, for these two prophets had made their sinful lives miserable.

11 “Then, after three and a half days, the Living Spirit of God will enter them, they will come back to life and stand up, and all those gloating spectators will be scared to death.”

12 And they will hear a strong voice out of Heaven calling, “Come up here!” and they will ascend up to Heaven, wrapped in a cloud, while their enemies watch. 13 At that moment there will be a gigantic earthquake—a tenth of the city will fall to rubble. Seven thousand people will perish in the earthquake, and the remaining population of the city will be terrified, and will acknowledge the awesome power of the God of Heaven [and trust in Christ for salvation Isa 53:9 66:8 Zech 3:9; rom 11:6. The Nation of Israel turning to Christ will trigger the Second Coming.]

14 So ends the second doom, but the third doom is right behind it.

15 The seventh Angel’s trumpet sounded. A crescendo of voices in Heaven sang out,

*The kingdoms of the world now
belong to our God and his Messiah,
and He will rule them for ever and ever!*

16 The Twenty-four Elders seated before God on their thrones fell to their knees, worshiped, 17 and sang,

*We thank you, O Lord God Almighty,
Who Is and Who Was and Who Will Always Be,
because You have taken control of the earth, and now reign.*

18 The nations that have for so long been angry toward You are now getting a taste of your anger toward them. The time has come for You to judge the dead: to reward your servants - all the prophets and saints - to reward both small and great who fear your Name, and to destroy those who destroyed the beauty and righteousness You intended for the earth.

19 The doors of God's Temple in Heaven flew open, and the Ark of his Covenant was clearly seen surrounded by flashes of lightning, loud shouts, peals of thunder, an earthquake, and a fierce hailstorm.

REVELATION 12

1 And a momentous [once-in-7000-years] Sign appeared in the heavens — in the constellation of Virgo, in the autumn, when the sun is in this constellation. The moon was beneath her feet, and twelve stars formed a crown above her head. 2 She was in the very posture and the very act of giving birth to a Child - the planet, Jupiter.

3 And another Sign appeared along with the first: a huge red Dragon! *[quite possibly, the planet Nibiru. Another double prophecy: a picture of satan, and of the Anti-christ.]* It had seven heads and ten horns, and a crown on each of the seven heads. *[Note: a prophecy - also found in Daniel 7:24 - of the world's government, at the time of the Anti-christ's reign.]* 4 With one flick of its tail it knocked a third of the Stars from the sky and dumped them on earth. *[possibly a great meteorite shower caused by the proximity of Nibiru to the earth]* The Dragon crouched before the Woman in childbirth

[Nibiru will appear in the heavens, between the “legs” of Virgo], poised to devour the Child [*Jupiter*] as soon as it was born.

5 The Woman gave birth [*Jupiter entered Virgo on -some say- November 23, 2016, and exits Virgo’s “womb” on September 23, 2017 - a human gestation period - 274 days; 9 months*] to a Son who will someday rule all the nations of the earth very strictly. [*“a Son” is a double prophetic picture: of the millennial reign of Christ on earth, and of the reign of The Church under Christ during the millennium as in Rev. 2:26-28*] As soon as he was born, her Son was snatched up [*caught up*] to God [*same Greek word, referring to the Rapture, is found in I Thess. 4:17*], and placed safely on his Throne. [*Note: There is some speculation that there will be a glancing collision on 23 September 2017, between Jupiter and Nibiru, fulfilling Genesis 3:15, and resulting in Jupiter leaving its orbit, and meteorites from the collision hitting the earth 3 1/2 years later, fulfilling prophecies about the second half of the Tribulation.*]

6 The Woman [*the nation of Israel*] escaped to the desert to a place of safety [*Petra?*] prepared by God, where she would be protected from the AntiChrist, and her needs would be met, for 3 1/2 years. [*the first half of the Great Tribulation*]

7 And war broke out in Heaven. Michael and his Angels fought the Dragon. The Dragon and his Angels fought back, 8 but were no match for Michael, and they were expelled from Heaven. 9 The great Dragon— the ancient Serpent, the one called the Devil and Satan, the one who led the whole earth astray— was kicked out of Heaven, and all his Angels were kicked out with him — they were denied access to the heavenly realm and were confined to the earth.

10 Then I heard a strong voice out of Heaven saying,

God's salvation and authority are established!

God's Kingdom and Christ's authority has finally come! For the Accuser of our fellow-believers has been kicked out of Heaven - the one who did his best before God to hurt them day and night.

11 But they have ended up victorious over him because of their faith in Christ's sacrifice for them on the cross, and because of **the testimony of their lives that proved their love for Jesus**. Some of them even gave their lives for Him, as He had given His life for them.

12 So rejoice, O Heavens, and all who live there!

But woe to all the creatures that live on the earth and in the sea, for now the Devil is on the earth, in person, and he is furious, because he knows he has only a little time left to defeat Christ!

13 As soon as satan finds himself exiled to the earth, and sees that he missed his chance to devour her child - The Church - he goes after the Woman [Israel] who had given birth to the Man-Child [Jesus, and The Church]. But the Woman is given wings of a great eagle [airplanes?] to fly to a special place in the desert to be kept safe from the Serpent for the first three and a half years of the Great Tribulation. 15 The Serpent spews a river of water out of his mouth [causes a tsunami to flood Jerusalem?] to swamp and drown her, 16 but the earth comes to her help [the earth splits from north to south - from the Temple Mount [destroying the temple] to the Mount of Olives - in front of the tsunami] , swallowing the water the Dragon spewed from its mouth. 17 Helpless with

rage, the Dragon turns his attention from her to go off and make war with the rest of her children [any surviving Christians], **those who keep God's commands and whose lives show they are true followers of Jesus.**

REVELATION 13

1 Standing upon the shore of the Mediterranean Sea, I saw a Beast - the Antichrist - rising out of the sea - taking control over the nations of the world. He was the leader of the ten most powerful nations of the world, seven in actual leadership positions - these nations made up the membership of an ungodly alliance. 2 The Antichrist acted with speed, like a leopard, was heavy-handed, like a bear, and quickly subdued his enemies, like a lion. The Antichrist derived his might, his respect, and his authority from satan who indwelled him.

3 I watched in awe as the Antichrist was fatally wounded in the head! But then he came back to life! which increased the world's awe of him. 4. And they worshiped satan who gave the Antichrist authority, and they worshiped the Antichrist, exclaiming, "There's never been anybody like the Antichrist! No nation would dare go to war with the Antichrist!"

5 The Antichrist had a big mouth - boastful and blasphemous. He could do anything he wanted for the first three and a half years of the Great Tribulation. 6 He frequently said blasphemous things against God - against Christianity, against the temple in Jerusalem, and against Christians - especially those who had gone up to Heaven in the Rapture. 7 God allowed him to persecute Christians and to put them to death. He held absolute sway over all nations and peoples,

tongues and races. 8 Everyone on earth whose name was not written in the Lamb's Book of Life - who was slain from the world's foundation - will worship the Beast.

9 You had better pay attention to what I am saying. 10 During this time, those who take others to prison will end up in prison; those who kill others will be killed by others. But true believers in Jesus will be known by their steady obedience to God and their faithfulness to the Lord.

11 I saw another Beast, the Pope, rising out of the ground. He had two horns [two divisions in the Catholic Church: the black and the white popes]; he appeared harmless and lovable, like a lamb, but was actually a deadly dragon - doing terrible things behind the scenes. 12 He is the Antichrist's puppet, causing the people of the world to unite in worshipping the religious system of the Antichrist, who had been healed of his deathblow. [Note: Some think "the Beast" refers to Islam, which was given a deathblow during WWI, but revived in the 21st century to conquer the world.]

13 The Pope performs magical signs, dazzling people by making fire come down from Heaven. 14 He uses the magic he gets from the Antichrist [satan incarnate] to dupe earth dwellers, getting them to make a statue of the Antichrist who revived from his fatal wound. 15 He is able to animate the image of the Antichrist so that it talks, and then he arranges that anyone not worshipping the Antichrist will be killed. He forces all people, small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, to have a microchip implanted in their right hand or forehead. Without this implant - which contains the name of

the Antichrist or the number of his name - it is impossible to buy or sell anything.

18 Here is an insight: the number of the Antichrist is the number for man - rather than God - tripled. It is 666.

REVELATION 14

I saw—it took my breath away!—the Lamb standing on Mount Zion, 144,000 standing there with him, his Name and the Name of his Father inscribed on their foreheads. And I heard a voice out of Heaven, thundering like a great waterfall.

2 And I heard music, harp music and the harpists 3 singing a new song before the Throne and the four Creatures and the Elders. The song was only for the 144,000 to sing who were redeemed from among the earth's population. 4 Every one of them choosing celibacy in order to serve God devotedly, following Jesus with their whole hearts. They were redeemed from humankind, the firstfruits of the Great Tribulation harvest for God and the Lamb. 5 There was not a false word in their mouths, for they are without fault in their service to God.

6 I saw another Angel flying overhead with the Eternal Good News to proclaim to all who were still on earth - every nation and tribe, every tongue and people. 7 He pronounced in a loud voice, "Fear God and give him glory! His hour of judgment has come! Worship the Maker of Heaven and earth, the oceans and all fresh water!"

8 A second Angel followed, calling out, "Babylon - the Catholic Church; the Papacy - has fallen! Has come to an utter end!"

Because it brought God's anger upon all nations through its abominable practices!"

9 A third Angel followed the other two, shouting, warning, "Anyone who worships the Antichrist and his statue, and takes his mark on forehead or hand, 10 will be forced to drink the wine of God's wrath, prepared unmixed in his chalice of anger, and will suffer torment from fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb. 11 Smoke from their torment will rise age after age. There will be no respite, day or night, for those who worship the Antichrist and his image, and who become identified with him by taking the mark of his name.

12 But true believers in Jesus will be known by their steady obedience to God and their faithfulness to the Lord."

13 I heard a voice out of Heaven, "Write this: How blessed from now until the end of the Great Tribulation will those be who are put to death for their faith in Christ!"

"Yes," says the Spirit, "now they can rest from their spiritual labors; and they will be rewarded for their faithfulness to the Lord."

14 I looked up and gasped! There was Jesus on a white cloud! He was wearing a gold crown and holding a sharp sickle in his hand. 15 Another Angel came out of the Temple, calling loudly to Jesus, "Swing your sickle and reap. It's harvest time. Earth's Christian harvest is ripe for reaping." 16 Then Jesus gave a mighty sweep of his sickle, and the Christians of the earth were harvested in a single stroke.

17 Then another Angel came out of the Heavenly Temple. He also had a sharp sickle. 18 Yet another Angel, the one in charge of tending the fire, came from the Altar. He thundered to the Angel who held the sharp sickle, “Swing your sharp sickle. Harvest earth’s vineyard. The grapes are ripe - bursting with sinfulness.”

19 The Angel swung his sickle, harvested earth’s vintage, and heaved it into the giant winepress of God’s wrath. 20 The winepress was outside the City. As the vintage was trodden, blood poured from the winepress as high as a horse’s bridle, a river of blood for two hundred miles.

REVELATION 15

I saw another sign in Heaven, important and breathtaking: seven Angels with seven disasters. These are the final disasters God, in His anger, plans to bring upon the earth during this time.

2 I saw a vast sea-like area of transparent glass with bright lights flashing through it. Holding harps that God had given them, Christians who had not surrendered to the Antichrist — had not worshipped his image, had not taken his implant and had not become identified with him through the number of his name, were gathered together on this transparent sea. They sang the Song of Moses, the servant of God, 3 — the Song of the Lamb:

Great and marvelous are your works,
Lord God, Almighty!

Everything you do is just and true,
King of all Christians!
4 Who can fail to reverence you, O God,
or give glory to your Name,
because you and you only are holy.
All nations will come and worship you,
because they see your judgments are right.

5 Then I saw the doors of the Temple in Heaven, the
Tabernacle of Testimony, open wide. 6 The Seven Angels of
the seven disasters came out of the Temple. They were
dressed in clean, bright linen and wore gold vests. 7 One of
the Four Creatures handed the Seven Angels seven gold
bowls, brimming with the wrath of God, who lives forever and
ever. 8 Smoke from God's glory and majesty filled the Temple.
No one was permitted to enter the Temple until the seven
disasters of the Seven Angels were concluded.

REVELATION 16

I heard a shout of command from the Temple to the Seven
Angels: "Begin! Pour out the seven bowls of God's wrath on
earth!"

2 The first Angel stepped up and poured his bowl out on the
continents: Loathsome, stinking sores erupted on all who had
taken the implant of the Antichrist and worshiped his statue.

3 The second Angel poured his bowl on the oceans: The
oceans coagulated into blood, and everything in them died.

4 The third Angel poured his bowl on fresh water rivers and springs: All the fresh waters turned to blood. 5 I heard the Angel of The Waters say,

You are Righteous, O Lord, who is, and was, and always will be, to have done this to the earth's waters.

6 The people of the earth shed the blood of Old Testament saints and prophets

so you've given them blood to drink—
they've gotten what they deserve!

7 Just then I heard the martyrs from the foot of the Altar say,

Yes, Lord God, Almighty!

Your judgments are true and just!

8 The fourth Angel poured his bowl on the sun: Radiation from the sun scorched men and women. 9 Burned and blistered, they cursed God's Name, the God behind these disasters. Yet, they refused to repent, and they refused to honor God.

10 The fifth Angel poured his bowl on the capital of the Antichrist, and a total eclipse covered the entire nation. Mad with pain, men and women bit and chewed their tongues, 11 cursed the God-of-Heaven for their torment and sores, but refused to repent and change their ways.

12 The sixth Angel poured his bowl on the great Euphrates River and it totally dried up. The dry riverbed became a fine roadbed for the armies of the eastern nations to use to attack Israel.

13 I saw three foul spirits that looked like frogs crawl out of the mouths of satan, the Antichrist, and the Pope. 14 These are demons with the ability to perform supernatural wonders with the objective of causing all the nations leaders to unite together against Israel in the Battle of Armageddon at the end of the Great Tribulation.

15 “Stay on guard! I will come unannounced, like a thief. Good for you if you are alert and walking close to God, when I come. **But it will be a terrible and shameful thing for those who are unsaved or unready when I come.**”

16 The frog-demons gathered the armies of the nations together at the valley of Armageddon, in Israel.

17 The seventh Angel poured his bowl into the atmosphere, and from God’s Throne in the Temple came the shout, “Finished! This is the last of the bowls of judgement!” 18 There followed lightning flashes and demonic voices, thunder crashes and a colossal earthquake—the greatest and most devastating earthquake of all time. 19 It split Jerusalem into three sections, and toppled to ruin the great cities of the world. [The entire ungodly world was finally getting a taste of God’s pent up anger against sin. Contrary to what mankind had believed for generations, God hadn’t overlooked or forgotten the world’s wickedness!] 20 The islands of the world sunk beneath the oceans. The mountains and mountain ranges came tumbling down. 21 Seventy-five pound hailstones battered the earth, crushing and killing. Yet, rather than repent and turn to God, the populace cursed Him for sending the hail, for the hail destroyed their homes and possessions.

REVELATION 17

One of the Seven Angels who carried the seven bowls came and invited me, “Come, I will show how the great Whore, the Roman Catholic Church, who sits enthroned over many waters, is to be punished 2 — to whom the nations of the earth have illicitly yoked in their own interest, and in the interest of their people.”

3 In the spirit, he carried me out into the desert. I saw a woman mounted on a Scarlet Beast — the papacy riding on the backs of the world’s governments. Stuffed with blasphemies [worshipping all kinds of gods, other than Jehovah], the Beast had seven heads and ten horns [the primary nations under the Antichrist]. 4 The woman was dressed in purple and scarlet [The Catholic church sets itself up as king, and its priests and officials wear fancy robes], festooned with gold and gems and pearls [The Catholic Church is, quite possibly, the wealthiest organization on earth, as is evident in a number of ways]. She held a gold chalice in her hand, brimming with defiling obscenities, her foul fornications.[Very few people have any idea of the depth of wickedness both within the Catholic Church and instigated by the Catholic Church.] 5 A riddle-name was branded on her forehead: great babylon, mother of whores and abominations of the earth. I could see that the woman was drunk, drunk on the blood of God’s holy people, drunk on the blood of the martyrs of Jesus. [The history of the Catholic Church is replete with examples of persecuting Christians.]

6 I saw how drunk she was on the blood of the saints and the blood of Christians she had put to death. Perplexed, I could only look on in wonder. 7 The Angel said, “Does this mystify you? Let me explain to you the riddle of the woman and the Beast she rides, the Beast with seven heads and ten horns. 8 The Beast you saw once was [the Roman Empire], is no longer, [dissolved after Constantine, around 1500 years ago] and is about to ascend from the Abyss [is to be revived for a brief time, by the power of satan] and head straight for Hell [be annihilated by Jesus at the close of the Great Tribulation]. The unsaved people on earth dwellers will be amazed when they see the revival of the ancient Roman Empire.

9 “Here is the unraveling of the mystery. The seven heads are seven hills [Rome]; they are where the woman sits [the headquarters of the Roman Catholic Church]. 10 They are also seven kings: five dead, one living, the other [the Antichrist] not yet here—and when he does come his time will be brief [seven years]. 11 The Beast [world system of government] that once was and is no longer is both an eighth and one of the seven—and headed for Hell.

12 “The ten horns you saw are ten nations, but they’re not yet in power. They will come to power with the Scarlet Beast [under the rule of the Antichrist], but won’t last long—a very brief reign [no more than seven years]. 13 These nations will unite together and agree to turn over their power and authority to the Antichrist. 14 They will go to war against the Lord [at the Battle of Armageddon in Israel] but Jesus will defeat them, proving that he is Lord over all lords, King over all kings, and that those who follow him are called, chosen, and faithful.”

15 The Angel continued, “The waters you saw on which the Whore was enthroned are peoples and crowds, nations and languages. 16 And the ten nations you saw, together with the Antichrist, will turn on the Whore—they’ll hate her, violate her, strip her naked, rip her apart with their teeth, then set fire to her. It was God who put the idea in their heads to turn over their rule to the Antichrist until the prophecies of God concerning the end times are completed. The woman you saw is the great city [the Roman Catholic Church], tyrannizing the kings of the earth.”

[Note: Prophecy is multi-layered, so the Whore may also have reference to Islam, and the United States.]

REVELATION 18

Following this I saw another Angel descend from Heaven. His authority was immense, his glory flooded earth with brightness, 2 his voice thundered:

“The greatest Babylon of all times, the United States of America, is finished! - totally collapsed!

Since its godly inception, it has become the favorite abode for demons

and the stronghold of every loathsome spirit;
a place of stinking, rotten carrion.

3 All nations have been corrupted by her;

world leaders joined in her debaucheries;

businesses in every country flourished selling her products.

4 Just then I heard God’s voice say:

“Do not follow her ways, Christians!
Separate yourself from her sins,
lest you share in her punishments.”

5 The stench of her sins has reached to Heaven,
and God is mindful of all the evil she has done.

6 Give her what she has dished out to others.
Do unto her twice as much as she has done to others.
Reward her double for all the trouble she caused other
nations.

7 Give her torment and tears proportionate to her pride and
self-indulgence.
Because she has the attitude, “I am the greatest of all nations,
I cannot be defeated, and I can do whatever I please, with
impunity,”

8 therefore, in one hour, she shall experience disaster:
death, despair and destruction;
and she shall be bombarded to complete destruction,
because the mighty God who brings this upon her
has had enough.

9 The nations of the world whose economies depended on
their commerce with her will be very sorry when they see the
smoke of her burning. 10 Their ships and planes will keep
their distance for fear of what is happening to her, and they’ll
say:

“No way! I can’t believe it! Who would ever have thought that
America, the most powerful Country on earth could have been
destroyed so quickly!”

11 International traders will despair because they've lost their greatest market. 12 To whom will they be able to sell all their goods, now? - precious metals and jewelry; fabrics of all kinds; exotic woods; building materials of all kinds; 13 spices; drugs; perfumes; wines; produce; meat and livestock; automobiles; human trafficking — sex slaves and workers.

Everything you've lived for is gone!

The stores are empty!

All delicate and delectable luxury is lost!

Not a single thing is being imported!

15 Despite how much they want the sales, no ships dare dock at her ports to unload their cargo; no airplanes dare land, for fear of what is happening to her. They all keep their distance and lament,

16 "Oh, dear! Oh ,dear! The wealthiest nation on earth
17 has become the poorest nation, overnight!"

Standing far out to sea, or circling far overhead, 18 they see the smoke rising from burning cities and say: "Oh, what a Country! There never was such a powerful, affluent Country!"
19 They throw dust on their heads and cry as if the world has come to an end:

"What a shame! What a shame!

We all got rich selling our goods to this wealthy Country.

And now it's all over—our businesses and livelihoods have been wiped out overnight!"

20 O Heaven, celebrate! And join in - saints, apostles, and prophets! God has finally judged her; every wrong you suffered from her has been avenged.

21 A mighty Angel picked up a huge boulder and heaved it with a great splash into the ocean, saying,

“Just so shall that wicked Country be violently destroyed and disappear.”

22 You will export no more ungodly music!
You will produce no more merchandise for export around the world!

Your farms and factories are finished!

23 Your wild night life is over!

No more partying and perversion!

Your firms became the most profitable on earth,

by deceiving the nations with clever advertisements and sales' pitches.

24 This is what she gets for the way she trampled on God, His Word, and Christianity, and for being saturated with the blood of people she murdered all over the earth.

REVELATION 19

I heard a sound like massed choirs in Heaven singing,

“Hallelujah!

The salvation and glory and honor and power are God's—

2 for his judgments are true, and just.

He has judged the great Whore

who corrupted the earth with her lust.
He has avenged on her the blood of his servants.

3 Halleluhah!

The justice of her destruction brings eternal glory to
God.” [Literally: Her smoke rose up for ever and ever.]

4 The Twenty-four Elders and the Four Creatures fell to their
knees and worshiped God on his Throne, praising,

“Amen! Hallelujah!”

5 From the Throne came a voice saying,

“Praise our God, all you his servants -
all you who fear him, small and great!”

6 Then I heard what sounded like a multitude of people, like a
great waterfall, like prolonged thunder, saying,

“Hallelujah!

The Lord God Omnipotent reigns!

7 Let us celebrate! Let us rejoice!

Let us give him the glory!

The Marriage of the Lamb has come;
his Bride has made herself ready.”

8 She was arrayed in a bridal gown

of the cleanest and most brightly shining linen - the
righteousness of the saints.

9 The Angel said to me, “Write this: ‘Blessed are those invited
to the Wedding Supper of the Lamb.’” He added, “These are
the true words of God!”

10 I fell at his feet to worship him, but he wouldn't let me. "Don't worship me," he said. "I'm a servant of God, just like you, and like your brothers and sisters who live to exalt Jesus. Worship only Jesus - God the Son, for the primary purpose of everything we say and do is to exalt Him."

11 Then from out of the sky I saw a white horse galloping! Its Rider, named Faithful and True, comes to judge the world and make war on behalf of pure righteousness. 12 No one can withstand His holy gaze! No one could ever have more authority. No one could ever have his title. 13 He is dressed in a blood-red robe, and he is known as "The Word of God." 14 The mighty armies of Heaven, mounted on white horses and dressed in dazzling white linen, follow him. 15 Whatever he says is so unarguably true that it completely silences and subdues the nations. His reign of them is strict. He comes as the executor of the judgements of the raging wrath of Almighty God. 16 On his robe and thigh is written, "King of all kings! Lord of all lords!"

17 I saw an Angel standing with the sun behind him, shouting to the myriad of vultures and buzzards circling high in the sky, "Come to the God's Great Smorgasbord! 18 Feast on kings, captains, and champions, horses and their riders. Their all yours to feast on — masters and servants, the insignificant as well as the influential."

19 I saw the Antichrist and, with him, the national heads of state and all their armies, united and gathered together to fight against Jesus and his army. 20 It was no contest! The Antichrist was easily captured, along with his puppet, the

Pope, who used supernatural signs to dazzle and deceive those who had taken the implant of the Beast and worshiped his statue. They were thrown, alive, into the burning lake of fire and brimstone. 21 All the rest of their armies were killed instantly by a mere word from “The Word of God”.

The vultures and buzzards had a feast!

REVELATION 20

I saw an Angel descending out of Heaven. He carried the key to the Bottomless Pit and a great chain. 2 He took hold of the Dragon, that old Snake—the very Devil, satan himself!—and put him in chains for a thousand years - during the Millennium, 3 tossed him into the Bottomless Pit, shut it up and sealed it tight, where he could no longer deceive the world — though, at the end of the thousand year confinement, he has to be let loose for a brief time.

4 I saw thrones. Those put in charge of judgment sat on the thrones. I also saw the souls of those beheaded during the Great Tribulation because of their belief in Jesus and the Word of God, who had refused to worship either the Antichrist or his statue, and had refused to take his implant on forehead or hand — they lived and reigned with Christ for the entire Millennium! 5 But the rest of the dead did not live until the Millennium was over. 6 This is The First Resurrection—and those involved are most blessed, most holy. They need not fear The Second Death. They will be priests of God and Christ, and will reign with him throughout the Millennium.

7 At the end of the Millennium, satan will be released from his prison, 8 and will recommence his old objective of deceiving the nations, searching out victims to the far corners of the earth, even to Siberia! He'll convince them to go to war against Jesus in Jerusalem, and will gather a huge army, millions strong. 9 They will stream across the earth, surround and lay siege to the Christian's capitol, the Beloved City, Jerusalem. They'll no sooner get there than fire will fall from Heaven and burn them up. 10 The Devil who had deceived them yet again will be hurled into Hell, joining the Antichrist and the Pope, and the three of them shall be tormented day and night, for ever and ever.

11 I saw a Great White Throne and God seated on it. No one in Heaven or on the earth could withstand His holiness or escape His adjudication. 12 And then I saw all the dead, no matter what their status in life had been, standing there before God, to receive their sentences! And records of their lives recorded in a number of books were referred to. Then another book was opened: the Book of Life. The dead were sentenced according to what had been recorded about them in the books — by the way they had lived. 13 The ocean released its dead, the earth and Hell surrendered their dead. Each man and woman was judged by the way he or she had lived. 14 The final abode of all the dead became The Lake of Fire. This is The Second Death — The Lake of Fire. Everyone — unless their name was found in the Book of Life — was hurled into The Lake of Fire.

REVELATION 21

I saw a brand new sky and earth — replacing the original sky and earth, and the new earth was all land; no oceans.

2 I saw saw the Holy City, New Jerusalem, descending from God out of Heaven, as resplendent as a bride adorned for her husband.

3 I heard a voice thunder from Heaven, saying, “Look! God is making his home with men and women! He’s going to live with them! Together, they will finally enjoy the koinonia-relationship He intended from the beginning. 4 He’ll wipe every tear from their eyes — He will ensure that they never again have any reason whatsoever to be sad — no more aging or death, no more disappointments, no more grief and heartaches, no more pain of any kind; the former life is over forever.” 5 From His throne, God said, “See? I’m making everything brand new. Write it all down—every word is true dependable.”

6 Then he said, “It is all done. I’m A to Z. I’m the Beginning, I’m the Conclusion. I offer eternal life to anyone who will receive it. 7 Those who remain faithful to me through thick and thin will inherit eternal life and all that comes with it. I will be their God, and they will be my sons and daughters. 8 But for the rest—the feckless and faithless, degenerates and murderers, sex peddlers and sorcerers, idolaters and all liars —they shall get their just deserts in The Lake of Fire and Brimstone — The Second Death!”

9 One of the Seven Angels who had carried the bowls filled with the seven final disasters spoke to me: “Come here. I’ll show you the Bride, the Wife of the Lamb.” He took me away

in the Spirit to an enormous, high mountain and showed me Holy Jerusalem descending out of Heaven from God, resplendent in the bright glory of God.

12-14 The City shimmered like a precious gem, light-filled, pulsing light. She had a wall majestic and high with twelve gates. At each gate stood an Angel, and on the gates were inscribed the names of the Twelve Tribes of the sons of Israel: three gates on the east, three gates on the north, three gates on the south, three gates on the west. The wall was set on twelve foundations, the names of the Twelve Apostles of the Lamb inscribed on them.

15-21 The Angel speaking with me had a gold measuring stick to measure the City, its gates, and its wall. The City was laid out in a perfect square. He measured the City with the measuring stick: twelve thousand stadia, its length, width, and height all equal. Using the standard measure, the Angel measured the thickness of its wall: 144 cubits. The wall was jasper, the color of Glory, and the City was pure gold, translucent as glass. The foundations of the City walls were garnished with every precious gem imaginable: the first foundation jasper, the second sapphire, the third agate, the fourth emerald, the fifth onyx, the sixth carnelian, the seventh chrysolite, the eighth beryl, the ninth topaz, the tenth chrysoprase, the eleventh jacinth, the twelfth amethyst. The twelve gates were twelve pearls, each gate a single pearl.

21-27 The main street of the City was pure gold, translucent as glass. But there was no sign of a Temple, for the Lord God—the Sovereign-Strong—and the Lamb are the Temple. The City doesn't need sun or moon for light. God's Glory is its

light, the Lamb its lamp! The nations will walk in its light and earth's kings bring in their splendor. Its gates will never be shut by day, and there won't be any night. They'll bring the glory and honor of the nations into the City. Nothing dirty or defiled will get into the City, and no one who defiles or deceives. Only those whose names are written in the Lamb's Book of Life will get in.

REVELATION 22

Then the Angel showed me the crystal clear Water-of-Life River. It flowed from the Throne of God and the Lamb, 2 right down the center of the main avenue of Heaven. The Tree of Life, which bordered both sides of the river, produced twelve kinds of fruit, a different variety each month. The fruits are to eat for food, and the leaves are for medicine. [Ezek. 47:12]

3 The curses God pronounced on the earth and its inhabitants [Genesis 3] are a thing of the past. The delightful authority of God and of the Lamb fills all of Heaven. It is a place of perfect peace and order. 4 We will want nothing more to do than to offer God our service and worship, as we gaze upon his face, and bask in his glory. 5 Night will never fall, there. But, even so, there will be no need for electricity or sunlight, because God's glory will fill all of Heaven with light. And we will live as royalty with him forever and ever.

6 The Angel said to me, "Everything you've heard is reliable and true. The Lord God Who spoke through the prophets has sent his Angel to show His followers how the world is going to end - not too long from now. 7 "You can count on it", God

says, “I’m on my way! May these prophecies encourage you, as the time approaches.”

8 I, John, saw all these things with my own eyes, and heard them with my own ears. Immediately when I heard and saw, I fell on my face to worship at the feet of the Angel who had laid it all out before me. 9 He immediately objected, “Don’t worship me! I’m a servant just like you and your companions, the prophets, and all who believe and honor God’s Word. Worship nobody but God!”

10 The Angel continued, “Don’t just close this book you’ve written and put it away on the shelf. Time is just about up. 11 **The world will continue to be filled with the unsaved and the ungodly, but let Christians be sure to maintain a close walk of holiness with Christ.**”

12 “Yes, you can be sure I’ll be there soon, and when I come, I will give every single person exactly what they deserve for the lives they lived. 13 I’m A to Z, the Beginning and The Ending, The First and the Last.

14 “How blessed are those who honor Jesus Christ with their lives! They can look forward to entering Heaven and eating of the Tree of Life. 15 For no ungodly unbelievers, sorcerers, fornicators, murderers, idolaters—all who love and live lies, will ever be found in Heaven.

16 “I, Jesus, sent my Angel to show you these things so you can share them with all the house churches. I am the Root and Branch of David; I am the Bright Morning Star.”

17 “Come to Christ for salvation!” say the Holy Spirit and the Bride of Christ.

Whoever hears, echo, “Come!”

Is anyone spiritually thirsty? Come!

All who will, come and drink!

Drink freely of the Water of Life!

18 I give fair warning to all who hear the prophecies of this book: If you change this book by adding your own prophecies to it , God will add to your life the disasters written in this book; 19 if you change this book by deleting some of its prophecies, God will delete your name from The Book of Life, and you’ll lose your Heavenly citizenship.

20 He who promises all these things says it again: “You can count on it: I’ll be there soon!”

So be it! Even so, come, Lord Jesus!

21 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with each one of you.

So be it!