# A STUDY OF REVELATION

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Rev. 7:1-17

- Rev. 7:1 And after these things I saw four angels standing on the four corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth, that the wind should not blow on the earth, nor on the sea, nor on any tree.
- 2 And I saw another angel ascending from the east, having the seal of the living God: and he cried with a loud voice to the four angels, to whom it was given to hurt the earth and the sea, 3 Saying, Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads.
- <u>4</u> And I heard the number of them which were sealed: *and there were* sealed an hundred *and* forty *and* four thousand of all the tribes of the children of Israel.
- <u>5</u> Of the tribe of Juda *were* sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Reuben *were* sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Gad *were* sealed twelve thousand.

- <u>6</u> Of the tribe of Aser *were* sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Nepthalim *were* sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Manasses *were* sealed twelve thousand.
- <u>7</u> Of the tribe of Simeon were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Levi were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Issachar were sealed twelve thousand.
- 8 Of the tribe of Zabulon were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Joseph were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Benjamin were sealed twelve thousand.
- 9 After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands;
- 10 And cried with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb.

- 11 And all the angels stood round about the throne, and about the elders and the four beasts, and fell before the throne on their faces, and worshipped God,
- 12 Saying, Amen: Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and thanksgiving, and honour, and power, and might, be unto our God for ever and ever. Amen.
- 13 And one of the elders answered, saying unto me, What are these which are arrayed in white robes? and whence came they?
- 14 And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.
- 15 Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple: and he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them.
- 16 They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat.
- 17 For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes.

## **Scriptural Introduction**

Rev. 1:19 Write the things which thou hast seen, and the things which shall be hereafter;

<u>Part One – THE PAST: REVEALING GOD – "...the things which thou hast seen..."</u> Ch. 1

Introduction: 1:1-3

- I. THE COURSE OF THE AGE, 1:4-6
- II. THE CONSUMMATION OF THE AGE, 1:7-8
- III. THE CHARACTER OF THE AGE, 1:9-20

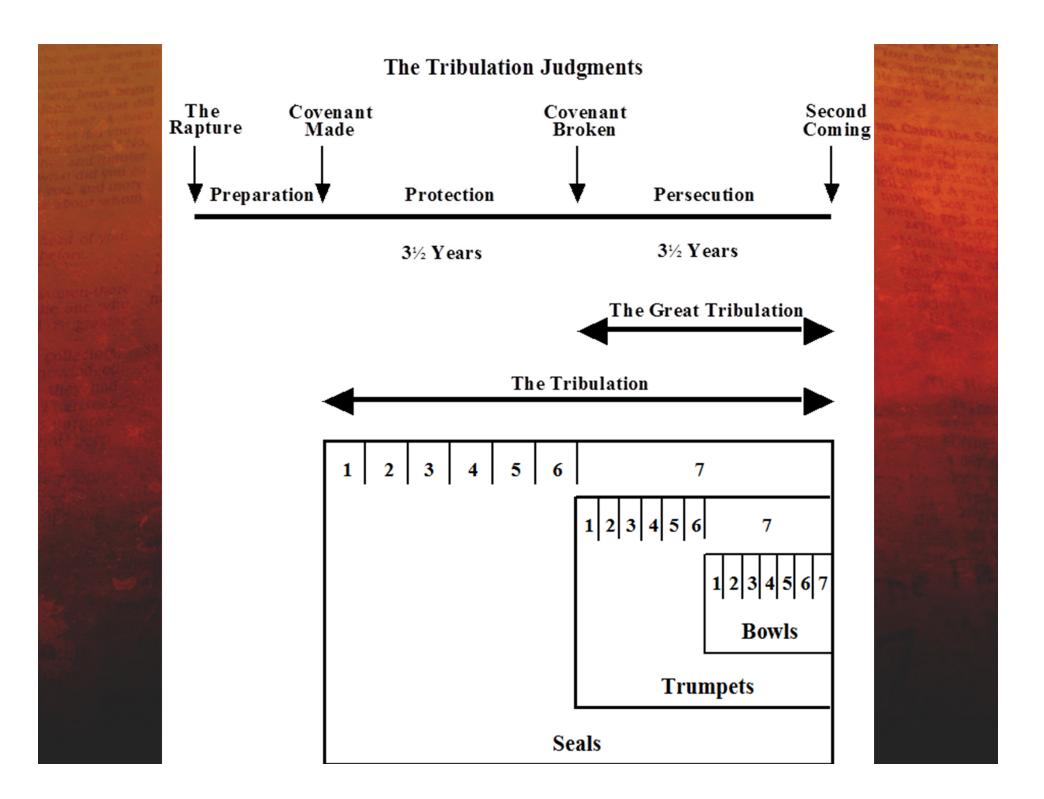
# <u>Part Two – THE PRESENT: REVEALING GRACE – "...the things</u> <u>which are..." Ch. 2-3</u>

Introduction: The Full Churches, Ch. 2-3

- I. EPHESUS: THE FALLEN CHURCH, 2:1-7 (A.D. 0-200)
- II. <u>SMYRNA: THE FEARFUL CHURCH</u>, 2:8-11 (A.D. 200-325)
- III. PERGAMOS: THE FALTERING CHURCH, 2:12-17 (A.D. 325-500)
- IV. THYATIRA: THE FALSE CHURCH, 2:18-29 (A.D. 500-1000)
- V. SARDIS: THE FRUITLESS CHURCH, 3:1-6 (A.D. 1000-1500)
- VI. PHILADELPHIA: THE FEEBLE CHURCH, 3:7-13 (A.D. 1500-1900)
- VII. LAODICEA: THE FASHIONABLE CHURCH, 3:14-22 (A.D. 1900 + )

# <u>Part Three – THE PROPHECY: REVEALING GOVERNMENTS – "...the things which shall be hereafter;" Ch. 4-20</u>

- I. THE SUPREME SOURCE OF DIVINE GOVERNMENT, 4:1-5:14
  - A. The Unforgettable Throne, 4:1-6
  - B. The Unforgettable Throng, 4:7-11
  - C. The Unforgettable Thrill, 5:1-14



#### II. THE SUBLIME COURSE OF DIVINE GOVERNMENT, 6:1-20:15

- A. The World Ruined by Man, 6:1-7:17
  - 1. What Is Recorded in Particular About the Seals, 6:1-7
    - a. Seal One The White Horse The Blasphemous Philosophies of the Last Days,
    - b. Seal Two The Red Horse The Belligerent Policies of the Last Days, 6:3-4
    - c. Seal Three The Black Horse The Blighted Prosperity of the Last Days, 6:5-6
    - d. Seal Four The Pale Horse The Baneful Pestilences of the Last Days, 6:7-8
    - e. Seal Five The Brutal Persecutions of the Last Days, 6:9-11
    - f. Seal Six The Blind Panic of the Last Days, 6:12-17

In chapters 4—20, John described what he saw in heaven and on earth. In chapter seven, there is no mention of the seals, being like a parenthetical portion describing events which happen during the first six seals. We will begin looking at the seventh seal in chapter 8.

- 2. What is Recorded in Parentheses About the Seals, 7:1-17
  - a. God's Providential Care for His Own, 7:1-3

Rev. 7:1 And after these things I saw four angels standing on the four corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth, that the wind should not blow on the earth, nor on the sea, nor on any tree.

- 2 And I saw another angel ascending from the east, having the seal of the living God: and he cried with a loud voice to the four angels, to whom it was given to hurt the earth and the sea,
- 3 Saying, Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads.

Rev. 20:8 And shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle: the number of whom *is* as the sand of the sea.

<u>Isa. 11:12</u> And he shall set up an ensign for the nations, and shall assemble the outcasts of Israel, and gather together the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth.

Jer. 49:36 And upon Elam will I bring the four winds from the four quarters of heaven, and will scatter them toward all those winds; and there shall be no nation whither the outcasts of Elam shall not come.

Mt. 24:31 And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

#### b. God's Personal Claim to His Own, 7:4-12

Rev. 7:4 And I heard the number of them which were sealed: and there were sealed an hundred and forty and four thousand of all the tribes of the children of Israel.

5 Of the tribe of Juda were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Reuben were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Gad were sealed twelve thousand.

6 Of the tribe of Aser were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Nepthalim were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Manasses were sealed twelve thousand.

7 Of the tribe of Simeon were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Levi were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Issachar were sealed twelve thousand.

8 Of the tribe of Zabulon were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Joseph were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Benjamin were sealed twelve thousand.

9 After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands;

10 And cried with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb.

11 And all the angels stood round about the throne, and about the elders and the four beasts, and fell before the throne on their faces, and worshipped God,

12 Saying, Amen: Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and thanksgiving, and honour, and power, and might, be unto our God for ever and ever. Amen.

Seventh-day Adventists identify themselves as those special people of Revelation called the 144,000.

#### The following points are from their Revelation Seminars:

- 1. The 144,000 are Spiritual Israel.
- 2. The 144,000 are Seventh-day Adventists.
  - 1. They avoid dancing
  - 2. They do not wear jewelry
  - 3. They will not use tobacco
  - 4. They will not use alcohol
  - 5. They do not eat "unclean" meat; rather, Daniel's diet ("fruits, nuts, grains and vegetables") is "the best diet to have under test"
  - 6. They will not use "caffeinated beverages"
  - 7. Must keep "24-hour period known as the Sabbath"
- 3. The 144,000 is an end-time group arising after 1844.

https://www.amazingfiction.org/144000.shtml

Gen. 49:16 Dan shall judge his people, as one of the tribes of Israel. 17 Dan shall be a serpent by the way, an adder in the path, that biteth the horse heels, so that his rider shall fall backward.

<u>Deut. 33:22</u> And of Dan he said, <u>Dan is a lion's whelp</u>: he shall leap from Bashan.

Lev 24:10 And the son of an Israelitish woman, whose father was an Egyptian, went out among the children of Israel: and this son of the Israelitish woman and a man of Israel strove together in the camp; 11 And the Israelitish woman's son blasphemed the name of the LORD, and cursed. And they brought him unto Moses: (and his mother's name was Shelomith, the daughter of Dibri, of the tribe of Dan:)

Judges 17:1 And there was a man of mount Ephraim, whose name was Micah.

- <u>2</u> And he said unto his mother, The eleven hundred *shekels* of silver that were taken from thee, about which **thou cursedst**, and spakest of also in mine ears, behold, the silver *is* with me; I took it. And his mother said, Blessed *be thou* of the LORD, my son.
- 4 Yet he restored the money unto his mother; and his mother took two hundred *shekels* of silver, and gave them to the founder, who made thereof a graven image and a molten image: and they were in the house of Micah.
- 5 And the man Micah had an house of gods, and made an ephod, and teraphim, and consecrated one of his sons, who became his priest.
  6 In those days there was no king in Israel, but every man did that which was right in his own eyes.
- 7 And there was a young man out of Bethlehemjudah of the family of Judah, who was a Levite, and he sojourned there.
- 10 And Micah said unto him, Dwell with me, and be unto me a father and a priest, and I will give thee ten *shekels* of silver by the year, and a suit of apparel, and thy victuals. So the Levite went in.

<u>Judges 18:1</u> In those days *there was* no king in Israel: and in those days the tribe of the Danites sought them an inheritance to dwell in; for unto that day *all their* inheritance had not fallen unto them among the tribes of Israel. ...

19 And they said unto him, Hold thy peace, lay thine hand upon thy mouth, and go with us, and be to us a father and a priest: is it better for thee to be a priest unto the house of one man, or that thou be a priest unto a tribe and a family in Israel? ...

24 And he said, Ye have taken away my gods which I made, and the priest, and ye are gone away: and what have I more? and what is that ye say unto me, What aileth thee?

2 Kings 10:22 And he said unto him that was over the vestry, Bring forth vestments for all the worshippers of Baal. And he brought them forth vestments.

Job 5:1 Call now, if there be any that will answer thee; and to which of the saints wilt thou turn?

Job 15:15 Behold, he putteth no trust in his saints; yea, the heavens are not clean in his sight.

#### c. God's Principal Concern for His Own, 7:13-17

Rev. 7:13 And one of the elders answered, saying unto me, What are these which are arrayed in white robes? and whence came they?

14 And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

- 15 Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple: and he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them.
- 16 They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat.
- 17 For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes.

THE LITERARY STRUCTURE OF CHAPTERS 6—18			
The Seals			
FIRST SIX (ch. 6)	Supplementary Revelation (ch. 7)	SEVENTH (chs. 8—16)	
The Trumpets			
FIRST SIX (chs. 8—9)	Supplementary Revelation (10:1—11:14)	SEVENTH (11:15—16:21)	Supplementary Revelation (chs. 12—15)
The Bowls			
FIRST SIX (16:1-16)		SEVENTH (16:17-21)	Supplementary Revelation (chs. 17—18)

### **Conclusion**

<u>Luke 10:20</u> Notwithstanding in this rejoice not, that the spirits are subject unto you; but rather rejoice, because your names are written in heaven.

Jn. 10:28 And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand.

29 My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand.
30 I and my Father are one.