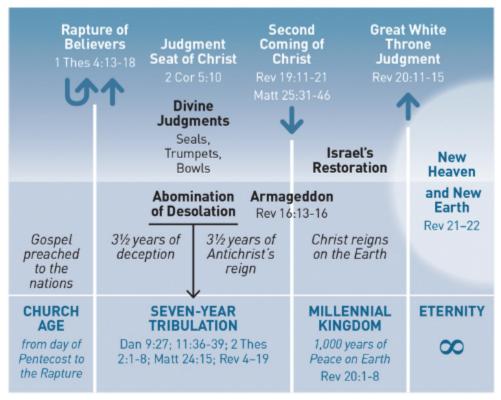
An Overview of Revelation

Part Two (Revelation chs. 6-19)

Jesus Christ will make this Earth like Heaven; only Jesus Christ is worthy and able to do so because He obediently overcame sin and death.

Timeline of Future Events



Jesus Christ is the main character of Revelation. However, during the seven-year Tribulation period Revelation reveals details about important leaders on the Earth who are both good and evil. Revelation also describes what large groups of people will believe and do during this cataclysmic time. Before we summarize chapters 6 through 19 describing the Tribulation, let's dig deeper into what Revelation reveals about people living in the Tribulation.

1. The Two Witnesses (Revelation 11)

Rev. 11:3 "And I will grant authority to my two witnesses, and they will **prophesy** for twelve hundred and sixty days, clothed in sackcloth." **Rev. 11:4** These are the two olive trees and the two lampstands that stand before **the Lord of the earth.** **Rev. 11:5** And if anyone wants to harm them, fire flows out of their mouth and devours their enemies; so **if anyone wants to harm them, he must be killed in this way. Rev. 11:6** These have the power to shut up the sky, so that rain will not fall during the days of their prophesying; and they have power over the waters to turn them into blood, and to strike the earth with every plague, as often as they desire.



Jesus Christ will raise up two great Jewish prophets for the first 3.5 years of the Tribulation. They will call people to repent and believe in Jesus Christ, and bring many of the judgments of Revelation chapters 6-9.

Rev. 11:7 ¶ When they have finished their testimony, **the beast that comes up out of the abyss [= dead/netherworld] will make war with them, and overcome them and kill them.**

The terrible world leader of the Tribulation, the Beast, is allowed to kill Christ's two great prophets.

Rev. 11:8 And their dead bodies will lie in the street of **the great city** which mystically is called Sodom and Egypt, **where also their Lord was crucified.**

Rev. 11:9 Those from the peoples and tribes and tongues and nations will look at their dead bodies for three and a half days, and will not permit their dead bodies to be laid in a tomb.

Rev. 11:10 And those who dwell on the earth will rejoice over them and celebrate; and they will send gifts to one another, because these two prophets tormented those who dwell on the earth.

Rev. 11:11 ¶ But after the three and a half days, the breath of life from God came into them, and they stood on their feet; and great fear fell upon those who were watching them.

Rev. 11:12 And they heard a loud voice from heaven saying to them, "Come up here." **Then they went up into heaven in the cloud,** and their enemies watched them.

Rev. 11:13 And in that hour there was a great earthquake, and a tenth of the city fell; seven thousand people were killed in the earthquake, and **the rest were terrified** and gave glory to the God of heaven.

The vindication of these two prophets is a foreshadowing that God will vindicate the believers in the Tribulation who will suffer tremendously.

2. The Beast (Revelation 13, 17)

Rev. 13:1 ¶ And the dragon stood on the sand of the seashore.

Rev. 13:1 ¶ Then I saw **a beast coming up out of the sea**, having ten horns and seven heads, and on his horns were ten diadems, and on his heads were blasphemous names.

Rev. 13:2 And the beast which I saw was like a leopard, and his feet were like those of a bear, and his mouth like the mouth of a lion. **And the dragon gave him his power and his throne and great authority.**

Rev. 13:3 I saw **one of his heads as if it had been slain, and his fatal wound was healed.** And the whole earth was amazed and followed after the beast;

Rev. 13:4 they worshiped the dragon because he gave his authority to the beast; and **they worshiped the beast,** saying, **"Who is like the beast, and who is able to wage war with him?"**

Satan's strategy is to offer the world a powerful human leader who believes he can win a war against Jesus Christ.

In Revelation 17, a drunk prostitute (Rome) is riding on the back of this same beast:

Rev. 17:8 ¶ **"The beast that you saw was, and is not, and is about to come up out of the abyss and go to destruction.** And those who dwell on the earth, whose name has not been written in the book of life from the foundation of the world, **will wonder [= be amazed] when they see the beast, that he was and is not and will come. Rev. 17:9** "Here is the mind which has wisdom. The seven heads are seven mountains on which the woman sits,

Rev. 17:10 and they are seven kings; five have fallen, one is, the other has not yet come; and when he comes, he must remain a little while.

The heads relate to Rome, but they also represent a series of Roman kings. At the time this is explained to the apostle John, five Roman Emperors have fallen, one is alive, and a seventh who will have a short reign is yet to come.

The first 7 Emperors of Rome:

- 1. Augustus, the adopted son of Julius Caesar 27BC-14AD
- 2. Tiberius 14AD 37AD
- 3. Caligula 37AD 41AD
- 4. Claudius 41AD 54AD
- 5. Nero who committed suicide 54-68
- 6. Galba June 8, 68 AD January 15, 69 AD
- 7. Otho January 15, 69 AD April 16, 69 AD



John received this prophetic vision during the sixth Emperor Galba's reign. And just as prophesied, the seventh Emperor Otho only lasted 3 months. He also committed suicide. The Jewish Temple was destroyed by the Romans the next year (70AD).

Rev. 17:11 "The beast which was and is not, **is himself also an eighth and is one of the seven**, and he goes to destruction.

As the terrible world leader comes to power in the first 3.5 years of the Tribulation, he miraculously survives a mortal wound. But when he comes back to life, his spirit becomes united to the spirit of a former Roman Emperor like Augustus, Tiberius or Nero. A new Roman Empire arises.

Rev. 17:12 "The ten horns which you saw are ten kings who have not yet received a kingdom, but they receive authority as kings with the beast for one hour. **Rev. 17:13** "These have one purpose, and **they give their power and authority to the beast.**

Rev. 17:14 "These will wage war against the Lamb...

Rev. 13:5 There was given to him a mouth speaking arrogant words and blasphemies, and authority to act for forty-two months was given to him.

Rev. 13:6 And he opened his mouth in blasphemies against God, **to blaspheme His** name and His tabernacle [= tent], that is, those who dwell [= camp out in a tent] in heaven [= the sky].

3. The False Prophet (Revelation 13)

Rev. 13:11 ¶ Then I saw another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb and **he spoke as a dragon**.

Rev. 13:12 He exercises all the authority of the first beast in his presence. And he makes the earth and those who dwell in it **to worship the first beast, whose fatal wound was healed.**

Rev. 13:13 He performs great **signs**, so that he even makes fire come down out of heaven to the earth in the presence of men.

Rev. 13:14 And he deceives those who dwell on the earth because of the signs which it was given him to perform in the presence of the beast, telling those who dwell on the earth to make an image to the beast who *had the wound of the sword and has come to life.

Rev. 13:15 And it was given to him to give breath [= a spirit] to the image of the beast, so that the image of the beast would even speak and cause as many as do not worship the image of the beast to be killed.

Rev. 13:16 And he causes all, the small and the great, and the rich and the poor, and the free men and the slaves, to be given a mark [= stamp/brand] on their right hand or on their forehead,

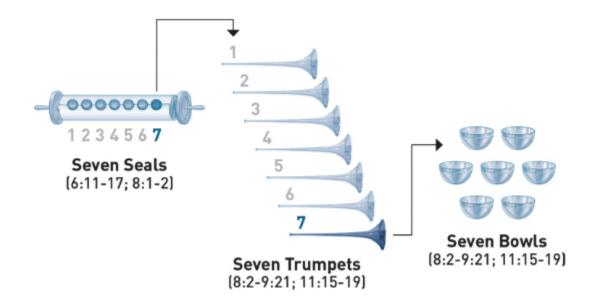
Rev. 13:17 and he provides that no one will be able to buy or to sell, except the one who has the mark, either the name of the beast or [= that is] the number of his name. **Rev. 13:18** Here is wisdom. Let him who has understanding calculate the number of the beast, **for the number is that of a man;** and his number is six hundred and sixty-six.

The future Satanic leader and his false prophet will persuade and coerce humanity to oppose God above and Christian influence below through complete political, economic and religious control. Satan's strategy is to use authoritarianism politically, economically and religiously to suppress Christian influence.

Rev. 17:14 "These will wage war against the Lamb, and **the Lamb will overcome them, because He is Lord of lords and King of kings,** <u>and those who are with Him</u> <u>are the called and chosen [= distinguished] and faithful."</u> A Summary of Revelation 6-19:



The Seals, Trumpets, and Bowls in the Book of Revelation



The Three Woes: The fifth trumpet is also the "first woe" (9:12). The sixth trumpet is also the "second woe" (11:14). The seventh trumpet that is the seven bowls is the "third woe" (11:15ff).

The seal and trumpet judgments fall in the first 3.5 years of the Tribulation. The bowl judgments fall in the second 3.5 years of the Tribulation.

TRIBULATION JUDGMENTS IN THE BOOK OF REVELATION		
"Seal" Series (6:1-8:5)	"Trumpet" Series (8:6–9:21)	"Bowl" Series (16:1-21)
 Conquest Warfare Famine and poverty Death (¼ of population) Mistreatment/ Martyrdom Earthquake Introduction of "trumpet" judgments 	 Hail and fire [1/3 of vegetation ruined] Meteor shower (1/3 of sea life killed) Water pollution (1/3 of water supply poisoned) Darkness Demonic locust attack Demonic hordes [1/3 of humanity killed) Introduction of "bowl" judgments 	 Malignant sores Poisoned seas (death of all sea life) Poisoned freshwater Humanity scorched Widespread darkness/misery Vast military invasion Most destructive earthquake/hail

Increasing Intensity. . . Culminating at Armageddon

Revelation 6 - The six seal judgments quickly take place at the beginning of the Tribulation.

The 7 Seal Judgments:

- 1. Peaceful world warfare
- 2. Bloody world warfare
- 3. Worldwide famine & inflation
- 4. War, famine & disease kill 1/4 of humanity
- 5. New Christians have been martyred
- 6. Land/air are shaken; meteors; skies are darkened
- 7. 7 Trumpet Judgments

Jesus Christ allows the world to start falling apart, taking away His restraint of evil among human beings and in creation. The fifth seal reveals Christian martyrs. Their spirits pray and cry out for vindication. The sixth seal marks a turning point of Jesus Christ's direct action. Rev. 6:12 ¶ I looked when He broke the sixth seal, and there was **a great earthquake**; and the sun became black as sackcloth made of hair, and the whole moon became like blood;

Rev. 6:13 and the stars of the sky fell to the earth, as a fig tree casts its unripe figs when shaken by a great wind.

Rev. 6:14 The sky was split apart like a scroll when it is rolled up, and every mountain and island were moved out of their places.

Rev. 6:15 Then the kings of the earth and the great men and the commanders and the rich and the strong and every slave and free man hid themselves in the caves and among the rocks of the mountains;

Rev. 6:16 and they *said to the mountains and to the rocks, "**Fall on us and hide us** from the presence of Him who sits on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb; *Rev.* 6:17 for the great day of their wrath has come, and who is able to stand?"

As judgments begin to fall, Christians are being martyred and human beings are desperate to find a way to overcome and survive it all.

Revelation 7 - There is a pause between the seal and trumpet judgments (7:1-3, 8:1); 144,000 young Jewish men go out into the world as effective evangelists.

Rev. 7:3 saying, "Do not harm the earth or the sea or the trees until we have sealed the bond-servants of our God on their foreheads."

Rev. 7:9 ¶ After these things I looked, and behold, **a great multitude which no one could count, from every nation and all tribes and peoples and tongues**, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, and palm branches were in their hands;

The Tribulation will also be a mass conversion of the Jewish people. Remember that the two great witnesses/prophets will be leading Israel to believe in Jesus Christ! The Jewish evangelists will be effective with Gentiles, but for taking sides with Jewish believers, they face persecution and death.

Revelation 8 & 9 - The trumpet judgments are unleashed at the end of the first 3.5 years of the Tribulation; most of humanity will not repent!

The 7 Trumpet Judgments:

- 1. Hail and fireballs in a shower of blood ruin $\frac{1}{3}$ land
- 2. Huge meteor ruins $\frac{1}{3}$ of oceans and kills $\frac{1}{3}$ sea life
- 3. Huge meteor ruins 1/3 freshwaters

- 4. Earth shrouded in darkness eliminating 1/3 of light
- 5. Stinging locusts released from abyss and sting non-believers for 5 months
- 6. 4 fallen angels and an indescribable army bring new diseases that kill ¹/₃ humanity

Rev. 9:20 ¶ **The rest of mankind**, who were not killed by these plagues, **did not** <u>repent</u> of the works of their hands, so as not to worship demons, and the idols of gold and of silver and of brass and of stone and of wood, which can neither see nor hear nor walk; Rev. 9:21 and **they did not** <u>repent</u> of their murders nor of their sorceries nor of their immorality nor of their thefts.

Revelation 10 & 11 - An interlude of various angels (the seventh trumpet is blasted) at the midpoint of the Tribulation with an explanation of the career of the two witnesses, including how the terrible world leader kills them in Jerusalem.

Revelation 12 - A symbolic retelling of Israel's history that is about to culminate in the final 3.5 years of the Tribulation.

John sees a series of "signs" in Revelation chapters 12-14. In chapter 12, Israel is a woman who gives birth to the Messiah. A terrible red dragon representing Satan is always out to destroy Israel and thwart God's plans. Likely before the creation of humans, $\frac{1}{3}$ of the holy angels rebelled with Satan.

At the midpoint of the Tribulation, a war takes place in Heaven. Michael and the holy angels defeat Satan and he is cast down to the Earth. Now Satan only has the Earth as a place to unleash his anger. He sets out to destroy the Jewish people, but they escape to the wilderness where they are supernaturally protected for the final 3.5 years of the Tribulation.

Revelation 13 - The terrible world leader, the false prophet and their world religious, political and economic systems are detailed.

Revelation 14 & 15 - More information about the 144,000 Jewish evangelists and an extended interlude of angels announcing judgment on the followers of the terrible world leader.

Rev. 14:9 ¶ Then another angel, a third one, followed them, saying with a loud voice, "If anyone worships the beast and his image, and receives a mark on his forehead or on his hand,

Rev. 14:10 he also will drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is mixed in full strength in the cup of His anger; and he will be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb.

There will be no middle ground in the Tribulation. There will be no secret Christians like in our time now. Humanity will be clearly divided into believers and non-believers. It will be literally written on your body!

Revelation 16 - The bowl judgments fall at the end of the Tribulation, and the terrible world leader gathers the world's armies to the Jezreel Valley north of Jerusalem as the final 3.5 years come to a close.

The 7 Bowl Judgments:

- 1. Sores that won't heal
- 2. Seas turn to blood and all sea-life dies
- 3. All freshwaters turn to blood
- 4. Sun scorches skin
- 5. The terrible world leader's kingdom is darkened
- 6. Euphrates River is dried up to prepare for war
- 7. Greatest earthquake and 100 pound hailstones

Shockingly, these judgments only harden the nonbelievers following the terrible world leader.

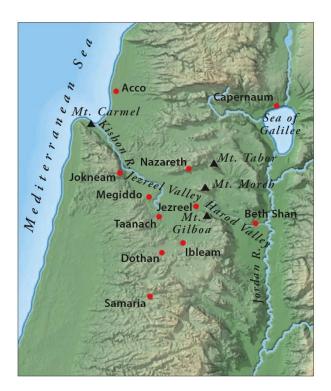
Rev. 16:9 Men were scorched with fierce heat; and they **blasphemed the name of God** who has the power over these plagues, and they <u>did not repent</u> so as to give <u>Him glory</u>.

As the Tribulation draws to a close, the world is collapsing and getting smaller. The armies of the earth move into the Promised Land to wage war against Jesus Christ.

Rev. 16:12 ¶ The sixth angel poured out his bowl on the great river, the Euphrates; and its water was dried up, **so that the way would be prepared for the kings from the east.**

Rev. 16:13 And I saw coming out of the mouth of the dragon and out of the mouth of the beast and out of the mouth of the false prophet, three unclean spirits like frogs; **Rev. 16:14** for they are spirits of demons, performing signs, which go out to **the kings of the whole world,** to gather them together for the war of the great day of God, the Almighty. **Rev. 16:16** And they [= demonic spirits] gathered them [= the kings of the whole world] together to the place which in Hebrew is called Har-Magedon.

"Har-Magedon" is a reference to "the hill of Megiddo" that overlooks the vast Jezreel valley in Israel.





The world's armies gather together under the leadership of this terrible world leader, and they plan to fight Jesus Christ as His return! They have it all planned out for their great glory and honor. But this is not their plan and not their war!

Revelation 17 & 18 - A detailed explanation of the terrible world leader and how his kingdom is a new form of the Roman Empire; surprisingly, this new Roman Empire confederacy of 10 kingdoms destroys "mystery Babylon," the city of Rome.

The terrible world leader seems uninterested in Rome and allows these kingdoms to destroy it. Daniel tells us that this world leader is a "king of the north" from the Middle East. So, in this new Roman Empire, Rome is not the capital. The world leader actually encamps in Israel.

Rev. 17:12 "The ten horns which you saw are ten kings who have not yet received a kingdom, but they receive authority as kings with the beast for one hour. **Rev. 17:13** "These have one purpose, and they give their power and authority to the beast.

Rev. 17:14 "These will wage war against the Lamb...

Revelation 19 - After another interlude, Jesus Christ wages war against the terrible world leader and the world's armies.

Rev. 19:19 ¶ And I saw the beast and the kings of the earth and their armies assembled to make war against Him [= Jesus] who sat on the horse and against His army.

Rev. 19:11 ¶ <u>And I saw</u> heaven opened, and behold, a white horse, and **He who sat on** *it* is called Faithful and True, and *in righteousness He judges and wages war.* **Rev. 19:12** His eyes are a flame of fire, and on His head are many diadems; and He has a name written on Him which no one knows except Himself.

Rev. 19:13 He is clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God.

Rev. 19:14 And the armies which are in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, were following Him on white horses.

Rev. 19:15 From His mouth comes a sharp sword, so that with it **He may strike down** *the nations,* and He will rule them with a rod of iron; and **He treads the wine press of** *the fierce wrath of God, the Almighty.*

Rev. 19:16 And on His robe and on His thigh He has a name written, "KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS."

Rev. 19:17 ¶ <u>Then I saw</u> an angel standing in the sun, and he cried out with a loud voice, saying to all the birds which fly in midheaven, "Come, assemble for the great supper of God,

Rev. 19:18 so that you may eat the flesh of kings and the flesh of commanders and the flesh of mighty men and the flesh of horses and of those who sit on them and the flesh of all men, both free men and slaves, and small and great."

Rev. 19:19 ¶ <u>And I saw</u> the beast and the kings of the earth and their armies assembled to make war against Him who sat on the horse and against His army. Rev. 19:20 And the beast was seized, and with him the false prophet who performed the signs in his presence, by which he deceived those who had received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image; these two were thrown alive into the lake of fire which burns with brimstone.

Rev. 19:21 And the rest were killed with the sword which came from the mouth of Him who sat on the horse, and all the birds were filled with their flesh.

This revelation only builds on what Jesus Christ had already prophesied to His disciples, including John, in 33AD:

Matt. 24:29 ¶ "But 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 the sky, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken.

Matt. 24:30 "And then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the SON OF MAN COMING ON THE CLOUDS OF THE SKY with power and great glory.

The King of Kings will come again in glory to wage war and to eradicate all who oppose His rule over the Earth! He will make the Earth like Heaven!