

Revelation Overview

Outline of the Book of Revelation, “Write therefore the things which you **have seen**, and the things **which are**, and the things **which shall take place** after these things.” Revelation 1:19

The things which you have seen	The things which are		The things which shall take place after these things																																
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22													
The vision of Christ	The 7 Churches		The scene in Heaven		The Seals	Interlude The 144,000	The first six Trumpets		Interlude The little scroll, the two witnesses		War	The beast and his prophet	Interlude The 144,000, the everlasting gospel		The Bowls	Religious Babylon	Political Babylon	The Second Coming	The 1,000 years,	The Eternal State															
Jesus, the first-born of the dead... the first and the last	Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia, Laodicea		The twenty-four elders, the four living creatures		Cold war, Open war, Famine, Death, Martyrdom, Physical disturbances...	144,000 sealed, 12,000 from each tribe of Israel, the multitude of the Gentiles	Silence in heaven! The earth smitten, the sea smitten, the waters smitten, the heavens smitten...		Men smitten, men killed...		The little scroll revealing God's judgment...		The two witnesses who prophesy for 3 ½ years, are killed, and rise from the dead. The seventh trumpet...		War on earth, war in heaven, war on earth phase 2.	The first beast – the antichrist. The second beast – the false prophet. The mark of the beast – 666.		The 144,000 sealed by Christ. The eternal gospel – fear God and give Him glory. The fate of Babylon and beast worshipers		Prelude to the bowl judgments. The sign in heaven. The song of Moses. The temple filled with smoke...		Malignant sores, Seas turned to blood, Rivers turned to blood, Scorching Heat, Darkness, The Euphrates dried up, Worldwide destruction.		The great harlot – Babylon the Great. Seven mountains = seven kingdoms. The eight kingdom of the beast.		Political or commercial Babylon is judged. The anguish and lament of judgment followed by rejoicing over Babylon's fall.		Three sets of Hallelujahs! The marriage of the Lamb. The second coming of Christ! The battle of Armageddon. The beast and false prophet cast into the lake of fire.		Satan bound for 1,000 years. The 1,000 year reign of Christ on the earth with His saints. The final rebellion and doom of Satan. The Great White Throne judgment.		The new heavens and new earth.. The New Jerusalem!		The river of life and tree of life. Epilogue to the churches.	

SYMBOLS USED IN THE BOOK OF REVELATION THAT THE BOOK ITSELF INTERPRETS	
1	The seven lampstands (1:12) are seven churches (1:20).
2	The seven stars (1:16) are seven angels or messengers (1:20).
3	The morning star (2:28; 22:16), the male child (12:5), and the root and offspring of David (22:16) are Jesus Christ (19:15; 22:16).
4	The Lamb (17:14) is Lord of lords and King of kings (17:14) and Jerusalem's lamp (21:23).
5	The white horse rider (19:11) is Faithful and True (19:11), the Word of God (19:13), and King of kings and Lord of lords (19:16).
6	The city of my God (3:12), the Lamb's bride (19:7; 21:9), and the holy city (21:10) are the New Jerusalem (3:12; 21:10; cf. 21:2).
7	The seven lamps of fire (4:5) and the seven eyes (5:6) are the seven spirits of God (4:5; 5:6).
8	The incense in the golden bowls (5:8) is the prayers of the saints (5:8).
9	The fallen star (9:1) is the angel or messenger of the abyss (9:11).
10	The great city (11:8), Sodom (11:8), and Egypt (11:8) are Jerusalem (11:8).
11	The stars of heaven (12:4) are the angels or messengers of Satan (12:9).
12	The great dragon (12:9), the old serpent (12:9), and the devil (12:9) are Satan (12:9).
13	Time, times, and half a time (12:14) are 1260 days (12:6).
14	The beast out of the earth (13:11) is the false prophet (19:20).
15	The waters (17:1) are peoples, multitudes, nations, and tongues (17:15).
16	The woman (17:3) is Babylon the great (17:5), the great city (18:10) that reigns over the kings of the earth (17:18).
17	The seven heads (17:9) are seven mountains (17:9) which are seven kings (17:10).
18	The beast (17:11) is the eighth king (17:11).
19	The ten horns (17:12) are ten kings (17:12).
20	The fine linen (19:8) is the righteous acts of the saints (19:8).
21	The faithful souls come to life (20:4) is the first resurrection (20:5).
22	The lake of fire (20:14) is the second death (20:14).
23	The Lord God, the Almighty, and the Lamb (21:22) are the temple in Jerusalem (21:22).

Charts from Thomas Constable,
<https://planobiblechapel.org/constable-notes/>

Schools of Interpretation of Revelation				
Name	Description	History	Representatives	Commentators
Idealist	Describes the perennial battle between good and evil, God and Satan, symbolically. Events are not real or predictive.	Most recent view.	Mostly liberal in theology though some conservatives hold it.	G. Beale, R. Calkins, P. Carrington, W. Hendriksen, M. Kiddle, W. Milligan, P. S. Minear, M. Rissi, et al.
Preterist	Describes what happened in John's day (i.e., the first century)	Alcasar, a Spanish Jesuit, introduced the view in 1614.	Most contemporary scholars hold it (i.e., liberals, amillennialists, and postmillennialists)	D. E. Aune, W. Barclay, G. B. Caird, R. H. Charles, J. M. Ford, T. F. Glasson, H. Hannegraaf, W. Harrington, W. G. Heidt, J. Moffatt, A. Pieters, R. C. Sproul, R. Summers, J. P. M. Sweet, H. B. Swete, et al.
Historicist	Describes the past history of the church from the first century to the present.	Joachim of Floris, a Franciscan monk, introduced this view about 1200.	Most who hold this view are amillennialists and postmillennialists	H. Alford, J. Calvin, E. B. Elliott, M. Luther, et al.
Futurist	Describes what will precede and follow Jesus Christ's Second Coming.	Held by many early church fathers including J. Martyr and Irenaeus (second century), and Hippolytus and Victorinus (third century).	Most who hold this view are premillennialists including dispensationalists.	G. R. Beasley-Murray, I. T. Beckwith, F. F. Bruce, J. N. Darby, V. Eller, A. F. Johnson, W. Kelly, G. E. Ladd, H. Lilje, L. Morris, R. H. Mounce, J. D. Pentecost, C. C. Ryrie, J. B. Smith, M. C. Tenney, R. L. Thomas, J. F. Walvoord, et al.