

OUTLINE OF THE BOOK OF REVELATION

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Introduction: title, author, benediction, declaration (1:1-8)

I. THINGS PREVIOUSLY SEEN (1:9-20)

- A. Setting (1:9-11)
- B. Vision of Christ amid seven candlestands (1:12-16)
- C. John devastated, encouraged, commissioned (1:17-19)
- D. Interpretation of the vision (1:20)

II. THINGS PRESENT (2:1-3:22)

- A. Letter to Ephesus (2:1-7)
- B. Letter to Smyrna (2:8-11)
- C. Letter to Pergamos (2:12-17)
- D. Letter to Thyatira (2:18-29)
- E. Letter to Sardis (3:1-6)
- F. Letter to Philadelphia (3:7-13)
- G. Letter to Laodicea (3:14-22)

III. THINGS TO OCCUR HEREAFTER (4:1-22:5)

- A. Prophecy of the Seven-Seals Scroll (4:1-12:17)
 - 1. Background to Judgment upon the first enemy (4:1-8:5)
 - a) setting and main characters
 - (1) the heavenly court of the Creator (4:1-11)
 - (2) God's Redeemer-Lamb and scroll (5:14)
 - b) preview and preparation for the judgment
 - (1) six of the seven seals opened:
 - (a) the four horsemen (6:1-8)
 - (b) two cries (6:9-17)
 - (2) divine sealing of the 144,000 (7:1-17)
 - c) 7th: prelude at the heavenly temple (8:1-5)
 - 2. The Judgment: Seven Trumpets (8:6-11:19)
 - a) first four (natural calamities) (8:6-12)
 - b) last three (human woes) (8:13-11:19), including:
 - (1) interpretation by a mighty angel (10:1-7)
 - (2) foreshadow next section at 6th trumpet (10:8-11)
 - (3) elaboration on God's justice (11:1-13): two witnesses
 - (4) note of finality at 7th trumpet (11:14-19)
 - 3. The Victory of Christ's Kingdom (11:15-12:17)
 - a) declaration of Christ's triumph (11:15-19): hallelujah chorus
 - b) explanation: Satan eluded, defeated, cast down (12:1-12)
 - c) rescue of Jewish church (12:13-16)
 - d) transition: Satan turns to persecute Gentile church (12:17)

- B. PROPHECY OF THE LITTLE BOCK (13:1-20:6)
 - 1. Background to Judgment upon the second enemy (13:1-15:8)
 - a) setting and main characters
 - (1) Satan on sea-shore, two beasts (13:1-18)
 - (2) Christ on Zion with 144,000 followers (14:1-5)
 - b) preview and preparation for the judgment
 - (1) six of seven communications from heaven:
 - (a) four angelic messages (14:6-13)
 - (b) two harvests of earth (14:14-20)
 - c) 7th: prelude at the heavenly temple (15:1-8)
 - 2. The Judgment: Seven Bowls (16:1-18:24)
 - a) first four (natural calamities) (16:1-9)
 - b) last three (human woes) (16:10-18:24), including:
 - (1) foreshadow next section at 6th bowl (16:13-16)
 - (2) note of finality at 7th bowl (16:17-21)
 - (3) interpretation by angel (17:1-18): the harlot
 - (4) elaboration on God's justice (18:1-24): Babylon falls
 - 3. The Victory of Christ's Kingdom (19:1-20:7)
 - a) declaration of Christ's triumph (19:1-10): marriage supper of the Lamb
 - b) church's triumphant battle over world (19:11-21): Rider on white horse and followers
 - c) explanation: Satan bound, millennial rule (20:1-6)
 - d) transition: Satan loosed (20:7)
- C. FINAL REVOLT, FINAL JUDGMENT, AND CONSUMMATION (20:8-22:5)
 - 1. Satan again deceives the nations (20:8-9a)
 - 2. Christ returns in judgment (20:9b-10)
 - 3. Last Judgment before the great white throne (20:11-15)
 - 4. The New Creation and New Jerusalem (21:1-22:5)
 - 5. Closing: attestation, sanctions, benediction (22:6-21)