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GRACE**

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Overview
of each chapter in
the book of
Revelation

(2019)

Bible House of Grace contains an easy to read New and Old Testament commentary full of spiritual treasures and pearls, complete with an insightful resource guide illuminating God's love and grace.



Although I believe my aim is pure and God's will perfect this document is still the product of a human man, as to such I neither claim perfect knowledge or perfect understanding.

Overview of Each Chapter in the Book of Revelation.

Topics.

- Principals for understanding prophecies and visions.
- The book divided into three sections of visions.
- The first and second set of visions.
- A brief overview of chapter one to chapter twenty-two.

The seals, trumpets, and vials.

The first and last angel

PRINCIPALS FOR UNDERSTANDING PROPHECIES AND VISIONS

It should always be kept in mind when reading the book of Revelation that though it may appear there is a general order of events, these are visions of the future that John is seeing in the present time, which means:

- The symbolical representations may not always follow the exact chronological order, it is very likely that in some cases one event may overlap another so that some are mixed-together until the final-end.
- Some visions are interludes that give greater detail of events already seen and spoken of, or give encouragement and comfort, especially for those living during the reign of the ungodly ten horned beast nations and the antichristian global world.

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THE BOOK DIVIDED INTO THREE SECTIONS OF VISIONS

The book of revelation could be divided up into three sections of visions in the following manner.

1. The first series of visions introduce the book, and present a Revelation of the resurrected glorified Lord Jesus Christ and his messages to the seven churches ending with John being called up to heaven.
2. The second series of visions begin at Revelation chapter five through and flow through to Revelation chapter eleven verse eighteen. This group of visions primarily relate to the outward or secular changes that will occur on earth and affect the welfare of the church until the kingdom of the world becomes the Kingdom of the Lord Jesus Christ. (Rev. 11:15).
3. The third series of visions begin at verse nineteen of Revelation chapter eleven. This group of visions shine a brighter light upon many of the previous events already spoken of and give us greater detail. They primarily relate to the church internally, with the focus upon the great prostitute woman full of abominations (signifying global false religion), the false prophet and the great city of Babylon (Rev.18) (signifying worldliness) and their corrupting influence upon the church and climaxing with the kingdom of the world becoming the Kingdom of the Lord Jesus Christ. (Rev. 11:15).

THE FIRST AND SECOND SET OF VISIONS

The first set of visions show Christians the way through trouble, is to enduring with patience through persecution and suffering. The second set of visions show Christians who hold fast to their faith through the troubles of the world, that they will triumph over the world when the events of these visions reach their end. At the end of this second set of visions John is given a new set of visions that reveal that the faithful church advances through the antichristian empire to emerge as the victorious Kingdom and rule with Christ as King of kings and Lord of lords over the nations of the world.

A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF CHAPTER ONE TO CHAPTER TWENTY-TWO

The following gives a brief view of the central focus of each chapter.

A REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST

CHAPTER 1

God gives Jesus a revelation of things that must soon take place, and Jesus makes it known to his angel who makes it known to John on the isle of Patmos who is told to write down the things that he has seen, and those that are, and those that are to take place after this, so it could be made known to us. After this he is given a revelation of Jesus Christ the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood. John is told to write what he sees in a book and send it to the seven churches:

1. Ephesus.
2. Smyrna.
3. Pergamum.
4. Thyatira.
5. Sardis.
6. Philadelphia.
7. Laodicea.

LETTERS WRITTEN TO FOUR CHURCHES

CHAPTER 2

A letter is written to the church in:

1. Ephesus.
2. Smyrna.
3. Pergamum.
4. Thyatira.

LETTERS WRITTEN TO THREE CHURCHES

CHAPTER 3

A letter is written to the church in:

5. Sardis.
6. Philadelphia.
7. Laodicea.

JOHN IS CALLED UP TO HEAVEN

CHAPTER 4

John is called up in the Spirit to heaven to be shown what must take place. He beholds one seated on the throne and around the throne twenty-four elders, clothed in white garments, with golden crowns on their heads and four living creatures all crying, "Holy is the Lord God Almighty, worthy to receive glory honour and power, for by His will, all things exist and were created."

THE FIRST SERIES OF VISIONS

CHAPTER 5

Chapter five begins the first series of visions leading up to the seventh trumpet and the kingdom of the world becoming the Kingdom of the Lord Jesus Christ. (Rev. 11:15-18). This first set of visions primarily relate to the outward and secular changes which will occur on earth and affect the welfare of the church until the kingdom of the world become the Kingdom of the Lord Jesus Christ, and he reigns forever and ever. (Rev. 11:15-18).

The Lamb, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, who by his blood ransomed a people for God, takes the seven-sealed scroll from the right hand of Him who is seated on the throne. The four living creatures, the twenty-four elders, and angels, numbering myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, people from every tribe language and nation, worship the Lamb saying, "Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth, wisdom and might, and honour, glory and blessing!"

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THE FIRST FOUR SEALS ARE OPENED

CHAPTER 6

The Lamb opens the first four seals and the following four horses appear:

1. A white horse.
2. A red horse.
3. A black horse.
4. A pale horse.

He opens the fifth seal and the souls of those who had been slain for the word of God are seen under the altar. He opens the sixth seal and those dwelling on earth cry, "Who can hide from the wrath of the Lamb," for the great day of wrath has come.

A 144,000 AND A MULTITUDE NO ONE COULD NUMBER

CHAPTER 7

144,00 of every tribe of Israel and a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, and from all tribes and peoples and languages, that had come out of the great tribulation and washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb stand before the throne and before the Lamb of God praising God for their salvation.

THE SEVENTH SEAL AND FOUR TRUMPETS

CHAPTER 8

The seventh seal opened and the prayers of the faithful, rise before the altar of God and an angel throws fire on the earth, and there is thunder, lightning, and an earthquake. Then four trumpets sound:

1. **The first trumpet sounds:** and a third of the trees and grass is burned up.
2. **The second trumpet sounds:** and a third of the sea became blood.
3. **The third trumpet sounds:** and a great star named wormwood falls from heaven and a third of the waters became bitter.
4. **The fourth trumpet sounds:** and a third of the sun, the moon and the stars are darkened and an angel cries, "Woe, woe, woe to those who dwell on the earth, at the blasts of the other three trumpets about to blow."

THE FIFTH AND SIXTH TRUMPET AND FIRST AND SECOND WOE

CHAPTER 9

The fifth trumpet sounds: and the first woe is opened. A star with the key falls from heaven and opens the bottomless pit; those who did not have the seal of God on their foreheads are tormented for five months.

The sixth trumpet sounds: and the second woe is opened. A third of mankind is killed, and those who survived, rather than repent, continue in their worship of idols, their murders, sorceries, sexual immorality, and thefts.

A LITTLE SCROLL, A MIGHTY ANGEL AND THE SEVENTH TRUMPET

CHAPTER 10

Another little scroll is opened. A mighty angel standing on the sea and on the land calls with a loud voice, like a lion roaring, and tells John to eat the little scroll that is open. When he ate it, the taste was sweet as honey in his mouth, but made his stomach bitter. The angel then tells him in the days the seventh trumpet sounds, the mystery of God would be fulfilled, and that he must prophesy again to many people, nations, languages, and kings.

TWO WITNESSES AND SEVENTH TRUMPET

CHAPTER 11

John measures the temple, the altar and those who worship there, but not the court outside the temple, because nations, will trample the holy city underfoot forty-two months. Two witnesses prophesy for 1,260 days (42 months) and are then killed, their dead bodies lie in the streets and after three and a half days a loud voice from heaven says, "Come up here," and they ascend to heaven in a cloud, while their enemies watched them, immediately after this there follows a great earthquake.

The second woe ends: (Rev. 11:14).

The third woe is soon to come: it begins at (Rev. 15:5 onward).

The seventh trumpet: sounds and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, "The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of the Lord Jesus Christ, and he shall reign forever and ever. The twenty-four elders in heaven thank God for taking His great power and beginning to reign and it is time for rewarding of the faithful. The second series of destructive visions begin at (Rev. 11:19), God's temple in heaven is opened, and the nations on earth rage, because God's wrath has come and there is lightning, thunder, an earthquake and heavy hail.

A MALE CHILD, AND A BEAST WITH SEVEN HEADS AND TEN HORNS

CHAPTER 12

A woman gives birth to a male child who will to rule all nations with a rod of iron; the great dragon with seven heads and seven crowns and ten horns, that ancient serpent, who is called the devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world is thrown down to earth. Salvation and the power of the Kingdom of God and the authority of Christ have come, but woe and wrath has come to the world, and the dragon pursued the church.

A TEN HORNED, AND TWO HORNED BEAST

CHAPTER 13

A blasphemous beast rises out of the sea, with ten horns, ten crowns and seven blasphemous heads, that attempts to makes war on the church and to conquer them. A second two-horned beast that speaks like a lamb rises out of the earth and deceives the inhabitants of the world into making an image of the first beast and being marked on their right hand or forehead so that no one could buy or sell unless they have the mark. (666).

144,000 NOW TRIUMPHANT, AND BABYLON IS FALLEN

CHAPTER 14

Announcement of judgments about to descend on the two beasts.

Begins with the 144,000 of Israel now triumphant and no longer exposed to trials as they were in chapter seven (Rev. 7:4-8). John in vision form and in anticipation is shown:

- The Gospel going out to all people of the earth.
- The hour of judgment coming.

- Babylon the Great, the beast and whoever receives its mark and name and all the wicked of the earth (symbolized by a grape harvest) being thrown into the great winepress of the wrath of God.

An angel cries, "Fallen, fallen is Babylon the great." The wine of God's wrath, is poured out upon those who worshipped the image of the beast and received his mark

- **Revelation 14:19–20:** So, the angel swung his sickle across the earth and gathered the grape harvest of the earth and threw it into the great winepress of the wrath of God. ²⁰ And the winepress was trodden outside the city, and blood flowed from the winepress, as high as a horse's bridle, for 1,600 stadia.

These verses correspond to the following verses of chapter nineteen.

- **Revelation 19:15:** From his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations, and he will rule them with a rod of iron. He will tread the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God the Almighty.

This is a vision of the expectation and brief overview of all these things coming to pass, the detail of these events is given in the following chapters

A SEA OF GLASS AND A MULTITUDE SINGING THE SONG OF MOSES

CHAPTER 15

In anticipation of the resurrected faithful who will reign with Christ, those who had conquered the ten-horned beast are seen standing beside a sea of glass singing the song of Moses and of the Lamb showing that the Jews and the Gentiles together form the elect of God and the whole company of the redeemed resurrected and transfigured faithful who will reign with Christ.

Following this John sees the last seven angels with the last seven golden vial/bowls of God's wrath, which after being poured out, God's wrath is finished.

SIX VIALS OF GOD'S WRATH AND THE BATTLE OF ARMAGEDDON

CHAPTER 16

Six vial/bowls of God's wrath: are poured out on the earth; the dragon, the beast, and the false prophet, assemble the kings of the world to Armageddon.

Seventh vial/bowl of God's wrath: the chapter ends with the seventh angel saying, "It is done," meaning all the vials are now poured out, and lightning, thunder, and a great earthquake followed. Babylon the great is destroyed and great hailstones, fall from heaven on all who cursed God.

The angels cry, "Just are you, O Holy One, who is and who was, for you brought these true and just judgments!"

THE DESTRUCTION OF THE PROSTITUTE WOMAN

CHAPTER 17

Firstly: John is shown God's judgment on the great prostitute woman drunk with the blood of faithful followers of Jesus and written on her forehead the name mystery: "Babylon the great, mother of prostitutes and of earth's abominations."

Secondly: John sees the blasphemous beast with seven heads and ten horns that had for generations carried on its back the great prostitute woman. The ten horned beast and the two horned beast together make war on the King of kings. After he conquers them the ten horned beast turn against the great prostitute women and bring her to ruin.

FALLEN, FALLEN IS THE GREAT CITY OF BABYLON

CHAPTER 18

God judges the great city of Babylon who killed the prophets and the faithful of God and deceived all nations by her sorcery. All shipmasters; seafaring men; sailors and merchants and all whose trade were on the sea; and those who gained wealth, live in luxury, and grew rich, stand in fear weeping and mourning saying, "Fallen, fallen is the great city of Babylon."

KINGS MAKE WAR WITH THE KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS

CHAPTER 19

A great multitude in heaven praise God for their salvation and for His judgments on the great prostitute; the twenty-four elders and the four living creatures worship God, for the marriage of the Lamb has come and his Bride has made herself ready. The King of kings and Lord of lords comes on a white horse to tread the wrath of God; birds gather for the great supper of God; the beast and kings with their armies gather to make war against the King of kings and the beast and false prophet are thrown into the lake of fire.

THE FIRST RESURRECTION AND SECOND DEATH

CHAPTER 20

The dragon, that ancient serpent, who is the devil and Satan, is bound for a thousand years. The first resurrection takes place, those raised will reign with Christ for a thousand years, the second death will have no power over them. The rest of the dead do not come to life until the end of the thousand years.

At the end of the 1000 years Gog and Magog, surround Jerusalem, fire from heaven destroys them, and the devil is thrown into the lake of fire where the beast and the false prophet are.

A great white throne descends, the sea death and the grave give up the dead, they stand before the throne, the book of life and other books are opened, and the dead are judged by what is written in the books, according to what they had done. Death and Hades and those whose names are not found in the book of life, are thrown into the lake of fire, this is the second death.

CHAPTER 21

Heaven and earth have passed away, and a new heaven and new earth appear and the holy city, new Jerusalem, comes down out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband; the One seated on the throne says, "It is done." An angel shows, John the Bride, the wife of the Lamb, the Holy City Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God. Only those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life will enter it. God will dwell with them and be with them as their God, and the nations will bring their glory into it. Those whose names are not written in the book of life are cast into the lake of fire, which is the second death (i.e., total extinction).

THE HOLY CITY, THE THRONE OF GOD AND THE TREE OF LIFE

CHAPTER 22

John is given a most glorious vision in which he sees:

- The Holy City, with the throne of God and of the Lamb in the middle of it, with all its light coming from the Lord God.
- A river of life flows flowing through the middle of the city, and a tree of life is on either side that has twelve fruits, and leaves for healing the nations.
- All the citizens of the Holy City seeing the face of God, and that they have His name on their foreheads.
- That nothing unclean, accursed, detestable, or violent can enter the city.

SNAPSHOT: SEALS, TRUMPETS, AND THE VIAL/PLAGUES

The seals and trumpets: the seals may give a general picture of the history of the church up to the return of Christ, while the trumpets give a more detailed picture of the general state of the world during the latter days, up to the return of Christ. The following verses show that the seals and trumpets end at the sounding of the seventh trumpet.

- In the days of the trumpet call to be sounded by the seventh angel, the mystery (referring to the rapture) of God would be fulfilled, just as he announced to his servants the prophets. (Rev. 10:7).
- Then the seventh angel blew his trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, "The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he shall reign forever and ever." (Rev. 11:15).

This means that God's grace with mankind has ended, and that man's kingdoms are about to be destroyed.

The vial/plagues: both the seals and trumpets run to the end of this age and to the rapture of the redeemed faithful. After this glorious event the seven vial/plagues of God's wrath are poured out on the world. One of the reasons the faithful in Christ are taken out, is because they are not appointed to wrath.

- For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ,¹⁰ who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him. (1 Thess. 5:9–10).

From this time forward the focus is the destruction of the ungodly world (not the earth) and its ungodly governments to prepare the way for Christ's return and the establishment of his government and God's Kingdom to be established on earth.

The first and last angel: the first angel began pouring out God's wrath in chapter sixteen (Rev 16:1-2), later in the same chapter the seventh (the last angel), pours out the final vial/plagues of God's wrath, and a voice from the throne, says, "It is done!" (Rev 16:17-2), meaning, all of God's wrath has now been poured out, and massive destruction follows. At the end of this period the resurrected chosen faithful will return with the Lord to establish God's kingdom on earth.

The sanctuary: we are told, no one could enter the sanctuary until the last seven vial/plagues of Gods wrath that the seven angels poured out was finished. (Rev. 15:8). Perhaps one of the reasons, for this is because far too much destruction will be taking place on earth during this period.

FOOTNOTE

What I have presented here in this document should not be taken to be dogmatic, inflexible or the final word on the matter since I am fully aware greater understanding of God's revelation is continually becoming clearer before our eyes as we move closer to the time of Christ's glorious return in glory.

As the founder of Bible House of Grace, I would like to thank the many Christian scholars, commentators and theologians who have gone before me, and the many today, who have freely made available their works to enhance the knowledge of the Bible to all people worldwide. It is only with the help of these faithful writers that much of Bible House of Grace exists as it does today.