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A Scenic Overlook

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Revelation

- Revelation is a book of mystery, imagery and prophecy.
- Genesis is the “beginning of all things”; Revelation is the “consummation of all things.”
- Revelation is the final chapter on all human history. In the end, God is vindicated, sin is judged, Satan is defeated, believers are redeemed and Jesus Christ is seated on the throne.
- While other New Testament books have elements of prophetic hope, Revelation is about God’s prophetic program of things to come.
- Revelation was written by the John while he was exiled on the Isle of Patmos.
- The best title for this book comes from the first verse and should always be called *Revelation*, not *Revelations*.

The Big Picture, Coming Soon!

- Get Ready. The King is coming! (Rev. 1-3) The Letters to the Seven Churches
- Be Prepared. Calamity is coming! (Rev. 4-19)
Opening of Seven Seals (4-6)
Blowing of Seven Trumpets (7-9)
Meeting of Seven Characters (10-13)
Outpouring of Seven Bowls (14-16)
God’s Intervention and Destructions (17-19)
- Take Heart. The Kingdom is coming! (Rev. 20-22)

The Basic Viewpoints

1. Preterist (Past) View—fulfilled in historical context of time, but with the agreement that Christ will come.
2. Idealist View—metaphorical portrayal of good and evil; not intended to be literal, but rather a symbolic book of God’s ultimate rule and conquest.

3. Futurist View—catastrophic events unfold in a final sequence of time and will consummate in a moment in the return of Jesus Christ.

The Bare Necessities (Glossary)

- > Apocalypse —*Apo*=move or take way from; *Kalupto*=to hide or cover
- > Rapture —snatched or taken away (not in book)
- > Tribulation —a time of unraveling and evil
- > Beast —a figure central to the events in the tribulation
- > Armageddon —final battle
- > Second Coming —the return of Christ to rule and reign
- > Millennium —1,000 year reign on earth
- > Great White Throne —final judgment of the lost
- > Heaven —the dwelling place of God
- > Eternity —all that is yet to come beyond time, space and history

The Broad Overview

The Beneficial Passages

1:8; 3:7; 3:20; 4:11; 7:14; 12:11; 13:16-17; 14:13; 19:9; 20:10-12; 21:4, 8; 22:17-20

The Bottom Line

The issue is not do you know the book of Revelation, but do you know the Savior, Jesus Christ?

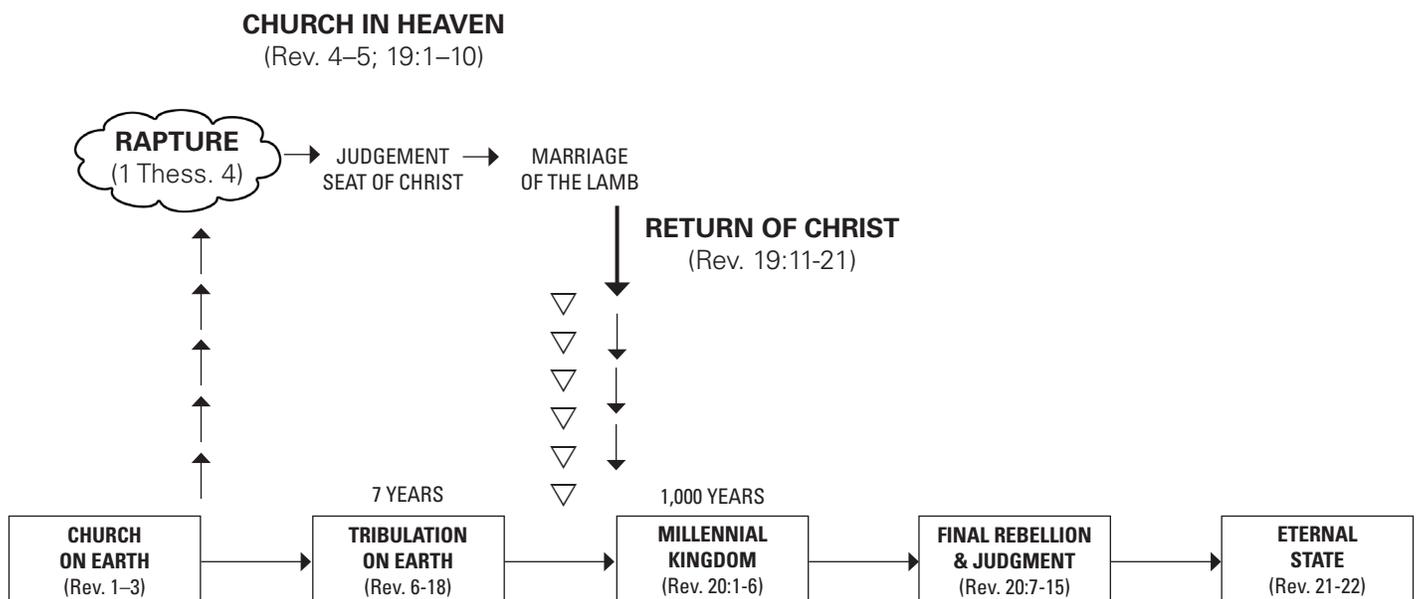
The Spirit and the Bride say, “Come.”
And let the one who hears say, “Come.”
And let the one who is thirsty come;
let the one who desires
take the water of life without price.
—Revelation 22:17 ESV

The Names of Jesus in Revelation

- *The faithful witness (1:5)*
- *The firstborn of the dead (1:5)*
- *The ruler of the kings of the earth (1:5)*
- *The Alpha and the Omega (1:8; 21:6)*
- *The first and the last (1:17)*
- *The living One (1:18)*
- *The One who holds the seven stars in His right hand, the One who walks among the seven golden lamp stands (2:1)*
- *The One who has the sharp two-edged sword (2:12)*
- *The Son of God (2:18)*
- *The One “who has eyes like a flame of fire, and ... feet... like burnished bronze” (2:18)*
- *The One “who has the seven Spirits of God and the seven stars” (3:1)*
- *The One “who is holy, who is true” (3:7)*
- *The holder of “the key of David, who opens and no one will shut, and who shuts and no one opens” (3:7)*
- *The Amen, the faithful and true Witness (3:14)*
- *The Beginning of the creation of God (3:14)*
- *The Lion that is from the tribe of Judah (5:5)*
- *The Root of David (5:5)*
- *The Lamb of God (5:6; 6:1; 7:9-10; 8:1 and others)*
- *The “Lord, holy and true” (6:10)*
- *The One who “is called Faithful and True” (19:11)*
- *The Word of God (19:13)*
- *King of kings, and Lord of lord (19:16)*
- *Christ (Messiah), ruling on earth with His glorified saints (20:6)*
- *The root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star (22:16)*

—Taken from *Because the Time is Near* by John MacArthur, p. 9

Revelation as a Timeline of Future Events



—Adapted from Paul Benware, *Understanding End Times Prophecy* (Chicago, Moody, 2006), 201