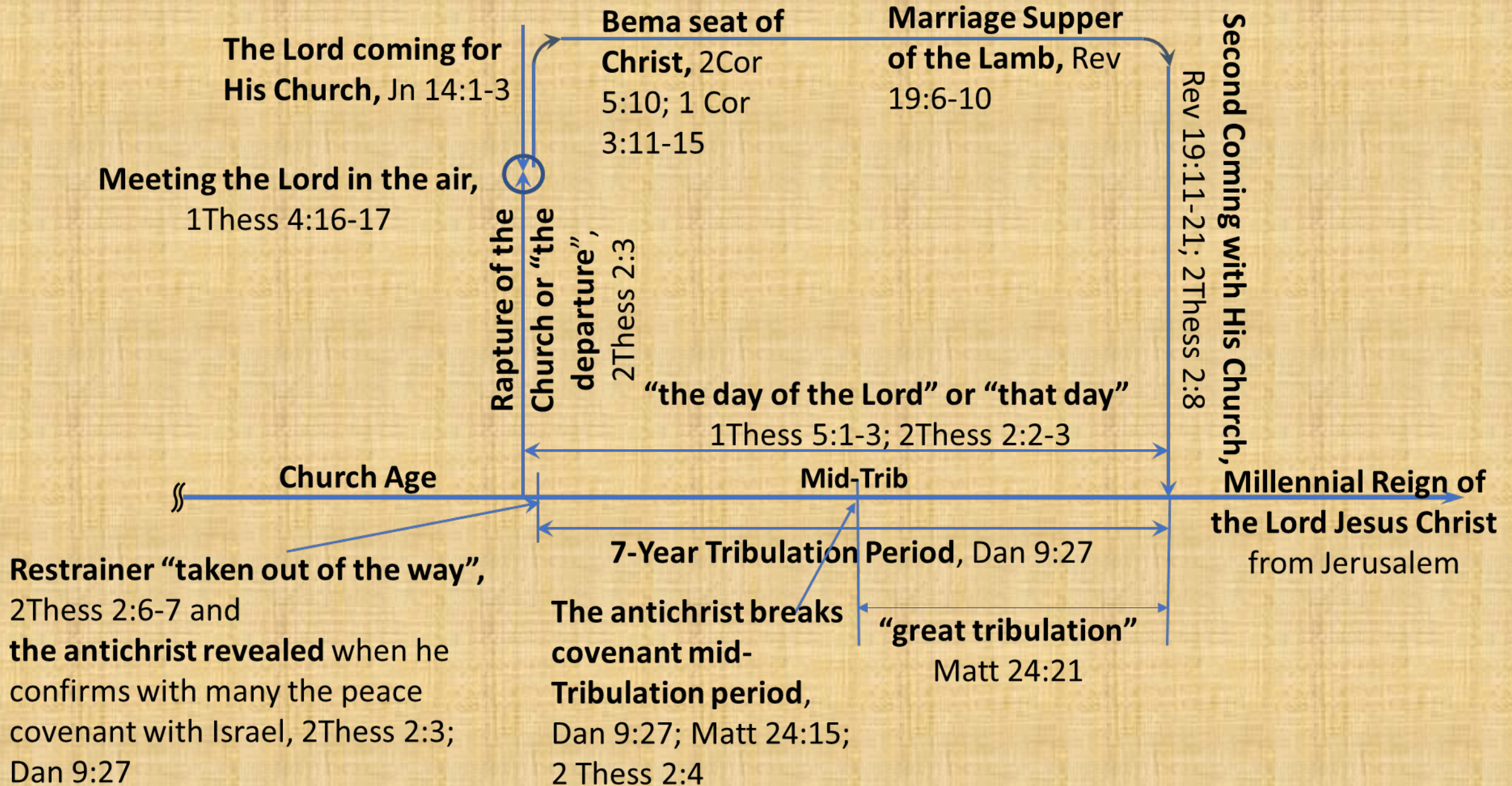


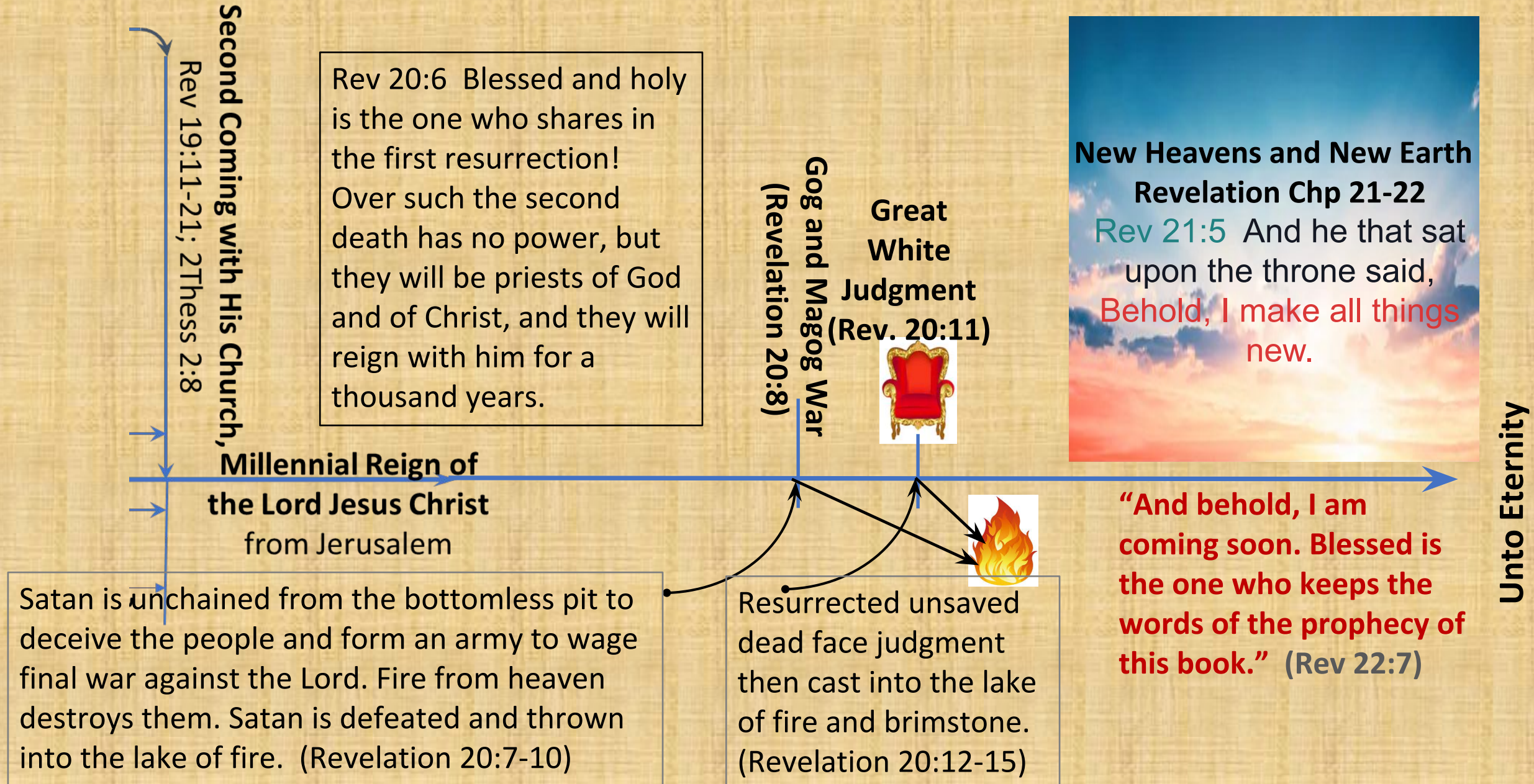
Introduction to the Book of Revelation

Mga Usapin sa Pagbubukas Aral
ng Aklat ng Pahayag ng
Panginoong Jesucristo

“THINGS WHICH MUST SHORTLY COME TO PASS”



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The Author of the Book of Revelation

- Revelation 1:1 The revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show to his servants the things that must soon take place. He made it known by sending his angel to his servant John,
- AUTHOR of the Book of Revelation – the book is the revelation of the Lord Jesus Christ to the apostle John. The author is the Lord Jesus Christ and the writer is the apostle John who was enabled by the Holy Ghost. Source of the revelation is God the Father. (Jn 14:10 Believest thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? the words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works.)
- Revelation (Gr. *apokalypsis*; Tag, *pahayag*) a disclosure of truth concerning things before unknown, appearing, manifestation, revelation; alisan ng takip o talukbong, hawiin ang tabing, ilantad o ihayag o ipakita ang nakatago.

The Theme of the Book of Revelation

- Jesus Christ is the theme of the Bible. The book of Revelation, more than any other book of the Bible, is a book about Him! It is a “revelation” or an “unveiling” of the Person, the Purposes, the Plans, and the Power of the Lord Jesus Christ.
 - the faithful witness (1:5)
 - the first begotten of the dead (1:5)
 - and the prince of the kings of the earth (1:5)
 - the Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord (1:8)
 - the One which is, and which was, and which is to come (1:8)
 - the Almighty (1:8)
 - the first and the last (1:17)
 - He said, “I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore.” (1:18)

Purpose of the Book of Revelation

- To encourage Christians to endure persecution through suffering knowing that Christ is victorious over the world and that He is coming soon;
- To show all of prophecy focuses on Jesus as the fulfillment of all prophecies;
- To show convergence of OT and NT prophecies upon the second coming of the Lord Jesus Christ and His kingship during His Messianic Kingdom;
- To correct some moral and doctrinal errors existing at the end of the century and instruct churches on the Person of Jesus, on things about salvation, prophecy and Christian living;
- To teach against paganism and emperor worship in the Roman Empire, against emperor Domitian and his persecution of Christians.

The Writer of the Book of Revelation

- Revelation 1:9 I John, who also am your brother, and companion in tribulation, and in the kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ, was in the isle that is called Patmos (AD 95 or 96) , for the word of God, and for the testimony of Jesus Christ.
- WRITER of the Book – the Apostle John, son of Zebedee, bore witness to the word of God and (Gr, *kai*, na siya rin) to the testimony of Jesus Christ (ang salita ng Dios na siya rin patutuo ni Jesus).
- The Lord Jesus Christ showed the apostle John things which must shortly come to pass (Rev 1:1). John wrote what he saw (Rev 1:11, 19) as he was moved (nangaudyokan) by the Holy Spirit (Rev 1:10). 2Peter 1:21 - For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.
- PLACE OF WRITING: Island of Patmos, west coast of Turkey, 100 kilometer from Ephesus

Recipients of the Revelation

- To His servants (doulos, slave). These are they who hear the voice of Jesus (John 10:3, 16, 27) and follow Him. Unless you are a “doulos”, you will not like the Book, much less understand the Book.
- This is why unbelievers find the book of Revelation incomprehensible; it was not intended for them. It was given by the Father to the Son to show to those who are willingly hear His voice and serve Him. Those who refuse to acknowledge Jesus Christ as Lord cannot expect to comprehend this book. “A natural man,” explains Paul, “does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually appraised” (1Cor. 2:14).¹⁴

Literal Interpretation of the Bible

- The Book of Revelation is understandable. The Lord would not have given it to us if its meaning were entirely a mystery. The key to understanding the book of Revelation is to interpret it as literally as possible—it says what it means and means what it says.
- A normal interpretation of Scripture means that unless the verse or passage clearly indicates the author was using figurative language, it should be understood in its normal sense. We are not to look for other meanings if the natural meaning of the sentence makes sense.
- One example is Revelation 20. Many will assign various meanings to the one thousand-year period as an indefinite period. Yet, the Book talks about time as a literal period of one thousand years. This is so when the Book talks about the 7 years of Tribulation, it is really a 7-year period. When it talks about 3 ½ years, it is really three and a half years. When it talks about 1,260 days, it is really that number of days.

Outline of the Book of Revelation

- **Revelation 1:19** Write the (1) things which thou hast seen, and the (2) things which are, and the (3) things which shall be hereafter;
- 3 major divisions of the Book:
 - Part 1 – the things which thou hast seen (Chapter 1) That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, of the Word of life. (1John 1:1)
 - Part 2 – the things which are (Chapters 2 and 3) Saying, I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last: and, What thou seest, write in a book, and send it unto the seven churches which are in Asia; unto Ephesus, and unto Smyrna, and unto Pergamos, and unto Thyatira, and unto Sardis, and unto Philadelphia, and unto Laodicea. (Rev 1:11)

The Book of Revelation

- 3 major divisions of the Book:
 - Part 3 – the things which shall be hereafter (Chapters 4-22)
 - chapters 4–18 of Revelation deal with God's judgments on the people of the earth. At this time the church has been raptured to heaven.
 - Chapter 19 describes Christ's return with the church, the bride of Christ. He defeats the beast and the false prophet and casts them into the lake of fire.
 - Chapter 20, Christ has Satan bound and cast in the Abyss. Then Christ sets up His kingdom on earth that will last 1,000 years. At the end of the 1,000 years, Satan is released and he leads a rebellion against God. He is quickly defeated and also cast into the lake of fire. Then the final judgment occurs, the judgment for all unbelievers, when they too are cast into the lake of fire.
 - Chapters 21 and 22 describe what is referred to as the eternal state.

“...for the time is at hand.”

- **URGENT:** Rev 1:3 Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: **for the time** (Gr, *kairos* not *chronos*) **is at hand**.
- Dan 12:4 But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time (Heb, ayth, season) of the end. Rev 22:10 And he saith unto me, Seal not the sayings of the prophecy of this book: for the time (*kiaios*) is at hand.
- Kairos vs Chronos. “Kairos” (used 86 times in the New Testament) refers to an opportune time or the appointed time in the purpose of God when God acts (Mark 1:15 – The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel.), whereas “chronos” (used 54 times) refers to chronological or sequential time or a specific amount of time, such as a day or an hour (Acts 13:18 - And about the time of forty years suffered he their manners in the wilderness. cf. Acts 27:9).

The 7 Beatitudes of the Book of Revelation

1. **Blessed is he** that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand. (Rev 1:3)
2. **Blessed are the dead** which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them. (Rev 14:13)
3. Behold, I come as a thief. **Blessed is he that watcheth**, and keepeth his garments, lest he walk naked, and they see his shame. (Rev 16:15)
4. **Blessed are they** which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb...These are the true sayings of God. (Rev 19:9)

The 7 Beatitudes of the Book of Revelation

5. **Blessed and holy is he** that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years. (Rev 20:6)
6. Behold, I come quickly: **blessed is he** that keepeth the sayings of the prophecy of this book. (Rev 22:7)
7. **Blessed are they** that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city. (Rev 22:14)

Greetings to the 7 Churches in Asia



The number 7 has in it the concept of completion (as when the creative days were ended with a sabbath on the 7th day). The book of Revelation includes 7 churches which are 7 lampstands (1:20), 7 stars which are the 7 angels (or messengers), 7 Spirits of God with qualities of the Spirit (Isa. 11:2) which shall rest upon the Messiah who shall come.

Greetings From The Trinity

- Revelation 1:4 Grace be unto you, and peace, from him which is, and which was, and which is to come (The Father); The the phrase denotes the Father's eternality expressed here in forms of time: "He who is, and who was, and who is to come."
- And from the seven Spirits (The Holy Spirit) which are before his throne;
 - Isaiah provides a list of qualities of the Spirit which shall rest upon the Messiah who shall come from the stem of Jesse (David's father): "The Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon Him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD" (Isaiah 11:2)
 - In Revelation 4:5 are "Seven lamps of fire were burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God".
 - These Spirits are also said to be "seven eyes, which are the Seven Spirits of God sent out unto all the earth" (Revelation 5:6).

Greetings From The Trinity

- Revelation 1:5 And from Jesus Christ (The Son, His divinity is evidenced by being placed on the level of the Father and the Spirit):
 - who is the faithful witness (He is “called Faithful and True” [Revelation 19:11]; He is the way, the truth and the life, Jn 14:6), and the first begotten (*prototokos*, means one who is first in order of time [as first born child], or one who is preeminent in rank) of the dead (1Corinthians 15:20 But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept), and the prince of the kings of the earth (Revelation 11:15 “...The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever.)
 - Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood (Hebrews 9:22 ...without shedding of blood is no remission), (Rev 1:6) And hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father (co-ruler with Christ during His earthly reign, not by our position on earth but our position in Christ, many who are last shall be the first at His coming and vv); to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

Rev 1:7 “Behold He cometh...”

- Revelation 1:7 Behold, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him, and all tribes of the earth will wail on account of him. The coming Messiah was a mystery because at times, He was said to be victorious king (Messiah ben-David, Isaiah 9:6-7; Numbers 24:17) but others apply the Scriptures to Him as the suffering Messiah (Messiah ben-Joseph) (Psalm 22; Isaiah 53). John the Baptist knew of these predictions but when he doubted, he sent his disciples to Jesus inquiring, “Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?” (Matthew 11:3)
- The mystery is solved by the resurrection of the suffering Messiah (Psalm 16:10; Isaiah 53:10). He would come once, die for the sins of the world, be resurrected back to life, and come a second time in judgment. His First Coming of suffering and death, and resurrection and ascension (*Acts 1:9 ...he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight*) and exaltation are now past. He is coming again with clouds (*Acts 1:11 ... this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven*). All that remains is His reappearance at His Second Coming to judge the wicked and reign forever more.

When Jesus comes...

- Jesus came the first time in humiliation but He will return in exaltation.
- He came the first time to serve. He will return to be served.
- He came the first time as the suffering servant but He will return as the conquering King.
- He came the first time as a Lamb silent before his shearers but He is coming again as the Lion of the tribe of Judah.
- When He came the first time, only Peter, James and John saw His glory on the Mount of Transfiguration. When He returns...

When Jesus comes...

- *“...every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him.” (1:7)*
- There will 2 groups that will see His second coming;
 - “...they also which pierced Him” referring to the unbelieving Jews. The Lord said, And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications: and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for his only son, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for his firstborn.” (Zechariah 12:10)
 - “...all the tribes of the earth” refers to the unbelieving Gentiles.

... every eye will see Him even they who pierced Him...

- How can the Jews who pierced Him will see Him when those who pierced Him will be in hell being unsaved? In Matthew 27:25, the Jews and all the people at that time said to Pilate, "His blood be on us, and on our children." They meant that the guilt lie not only upon the persons immediately concerned, but upon their children to the end of the world. Therefore, the **Jews living in Jerusalem** at the time of the Lord's coming will be representative of those who participated in crucifying Jesus and they will accept the responsibility.
- Rev 1:7 ...and **all tribes of the earth will wail** on account of him. Even so. Amen. Mat 24:30 Then will appear in heaven the sign of the Son of Man, and then **all the tribes of the earth will mourn**, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.
- Mourning is prompted either by terror or repentance. **Saan ka diyan?**

I Am (*ego eimi*)

- Revelation 1:8 “I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, “who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.” The book of John records the self-identification of Jesus using this phrase which means the self-existent One, ever-living, never changing, faithful One. Jesus said unless you believe “I am” (John 8:24), you will die in your sins. He also said that before Abraham was “I am” (John 8:58) referring Himself as the self-existent One of Exodus (Exodus 3:6, 14). For this, the Jews attempted to stone Him.
- Alpha and Omega (first and last letters of the Greek alphabet in keeping with the thought that Christ’s being is from eternity past to eternity future.
- “The Lord who is, who was and who is to come the Almighty” introduces the Lord Jesus Christ as the eternal Lord of glory. This is in contrast to His first coming as a humble servant obedient unto death even death upon the cross. After having fulfilled all righteousness in behalf of man, the Father has given Him a name that is above every other name that at the name of Jesus every knee shall bow and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of the Father. (Philippians 2:6-11)

John in the Isle of Patmos

- Revelation 1:9. John was in Patmos for the recording of the word of God and (*kai*, which is also) the testimony of Jesus (Revelation 19:10; Jn 12:49 For I have not spoken of myself; but the Father which sent me, he gave me a commandment, what I should say, and what I should speak; Matt. 17:5) John was exiled to Patmos because of emperor Domitian's opposition to the testimony of Jesus which John testified.
- Joh 15:19 "If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you." Opposition is to be expected by those who truly carry the uncompromising message of Jesus.
- If you are not in collision with the world, you might be in collusion. When we are accepted by the world, it is time for serious self-examination.

John “In The Spirit”

- Revelation 1:10 I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet. There is a day called the Lord's day or Day of the Lord or judgment day (2 Tim. 1:12) not Sunday or Saturday for believers are not to honor one day above another, or sabbath, or new moon, which are shadows of things to come. (Col. 2:16-17) John, being “in the Spirit” is said to be on the Lord’s day in which John was inspired to receive divine revelation. Thus, he hears a great voice as a trumpet and the voice identifies Himself as the Lord Jesus Christ.
- John could only record the word of God and the testimony of Jesus by being “in the Spirit”. Being “moved by the Holy Spirit” is not initiated by man. It is a sovereign action initiated by the Lord to impart divine instruction. 2 Peter 1:21 For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as **they were moved by the Holy Ghost.**
- Revelation 1:11 What thou seest, write in a book, and send *it* unto the seven churches. The book of Revelation is written not only for the seven churches in Asia but to everyone who has spiritual ears. (“He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.”)

What John Saw (1:12-17)

- I saw seven golden candlesticks. The symbolism of these lampstands is explained: “the seven lampstands which you saw are the seven churches” (Rev. 1:20). The churches bear light, but are not the source of light (Mtt. 5:14-16; John 1:4-5, 7-9).
- in the midst of the seven candlesticks “*one* like unto the Son of man”. Jesus applied this term to Himself in the gospels (Matthew 24:30; 26:64; Mark 13:26; 14:62; Luke 21:27). Jesus is both the “Son of God” and “Son of Man.” These two titles hint at the mystery of the incarnation, where all the fullness of God dwelt in human form (Col. 2:9).
- Jesus, as the “Son of God,” is divine and without sin. As the “Son of Man,” he was born of the virgin Mary in the line from David, Abraham, and Adam (Matthew 1:1, 6; Luke 3:31, 34, 38; Revelation 12:1-5). His divinity and virgin birth provide the necessary perfection by which His death could atone for the sins of the world (Isaiah 53:9; John 8:46; 14:30; 2Corinthians 5:21; Hebrew 4:15; 7:26; 9:14; 1Peter 1:19; 2:22; 1John 3:5). Although He is truly a man (Philippians 2:7; Hebrews. 2:17), He is unique from all other men in His sinless perfection (Rom. 8:3).

The Son of Man (Revelation 1:13-15)

John saw the same vision of the Lord as that of Daniel in Daniel 10:5-6

Characteristics	Daniel 10:5-6	Revelation 1:13-15
Appearance	a certain man	like the Son of Man
Clothing	clothed in linen	clothed with a garment
Clothing (Jewish Priesthood)	whose waist was girded with gold of Uphaz	girded about the chest with a golden band
Face	face like the appearance of lightning	His head and hair were white like wool, as white as snow
Eyes	his eyes like torches of fire	His eyes like a flame of fire;
Arms and feet	his arms and feet like burnished bronze in color	His feet were like fine brass, as if refined in a furnace
voice	the sound of his words like the voice of a multitude	His voice as the sound of many waters

What John Saw

- v.16a. "...and out of His mouth went a sharp two-edged sword." (Hebrews 4:12 For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword). This indicates that Jesus speaks the word of God. The word of God cuts two ways. One way for people, convicted of their sins, they accept Christ. The sword cuts another way for those who reject Christ, damnation.
- cf. Rev 19:15 And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. Rev 19:21 And the remnant were slain with the sword of him that sat upon the horse, which sword proceeded out of his mouth.
- V.16b. "and his countenance was as the sun shineth in his strength." (Act 9:3-5 And as he journeyed, he came near Damascus: and suddenly there shined round about him a light from heaven. And he fell to the earth, and heard a voice saying unto him, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me? And he said, Who art thou, Lord? And the Lord said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest: it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks.)

Jesus' Identity

- Revelation 1:17 - Here the Lord's identity as God is unmistakable. He identifies Himself as the "first and the last" who is the glorified Jesus Christ the son of God, the Almighty God. Isaiah 44:6 Thus saith the LORD the King of Israel, and his redeemer the LORD of hosts; I am the First and I am the Last; besides Me there is no God.
- This is why Jesus alone can predict the future. Isaiah 46:9 Remember the former things of old: for I *am* God, and *there is* none else; *I am* God, and *there is* none like me, Isa 46:10 Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times *the things* that are not *yet* done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure.

What John Saw

- “When I saw him, I fell at his feet as dead. And he laid his right hand upon me, saying unto me, Fear not; I am the first and the last.” (1:17) (Christians do not have to be afraid of eternity. Jesus Christ controls the universe. He has the keys to eternity. We can rest in Him and on His promises.) “I am he that liveth, and was dead (to pay for the wages of our sin); and, behold, I am alive for evermore (Heb. 7:25; 1John 5:20), Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.” (v. 18) The keys here signify the power and authority over life & death, and the grave, so that Jesus can destroy the living or raise the dead because, Jesus, the God of Abraham quickeneth the dead... (Rom. 4:17)
- He then tells John that He is “the first and the last.” This name only applies to God Almighty. He identifies Himself that He lived, died and is alive forever. Only Jesus, God the Son Incarnate, was wounded, bled and died - God the Father nor God the Holy Spirit certainly did not die.

The Son of Man

- Why is it necessary for Jesus to retain His wounds (pierced wounds, as the Lamb as it had been slain)? Despite Rev 21:4-5 And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away. And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. Rev. 22:2 There was the tree of life, which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.
- Establish His identity. Proof that He is the same Jesus who was nailed on the cross.
- Those wounds on His hands and that pierced side shall be witnesses against those who refuse His words and have trodden under foot the Son of God and counted the blood of the covenant as unholy thing. (Heb. 10:29)

The Son of Man

- His wounds are a **TESTIMONY** to the Father of the sacrifice for sin Jesus has offered as atonement for sins as He continues to do His priestly function seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them, wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him. (Heb. 7:25)
- Heb 4:15 For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. Those wounds are a testimony that He will never forget us. Yet we sometimes say, the Lord has forgotten me. But the Lord saith, “Can a woman forget her sucking child, that she should not have compassion on the son of her womb? yea, they may forget, yet will I not forget thee. Behold, I have graven thee upon the palms of my hands.” (Isa 49:14-16) Our names are indelibly engraved in the wounded hands of Jesus as if saying, “See the wounds in my side? I am not a high priest that cannot be touched with the feeling of your infirmities. I have suffered, too. Look here are the marks, the wounds – PROOFS/TESTIMONIALS of my love for you for ever. I will not forget you. I will never leave you nor forsake you.”