

# REVELATION

*“The Kingdom of God is Near” (Luke 21:31)*

## **I. General Overview: Basic persons and events described (1-11)**

### **A. Presentation: Christ Reveals His Person (Ch.1)**

- 1. Christ is the King of Kings (1:1-8)**
  - a. God’s Authority: “the revelation of Jesus Christ” (1:1-2)
  - b. Christ’s Blessing: “blessed is he who reads...those who hear...heed” (1:3)
  - c. John’s Greeting: “to the seven churches” (1:4-6)
  - d. God’s Promise: “He is coming” (1:7-8)
- 2. Christ is the God of Glory (1:9-20)**
  - a. Spirit: John’s surroundings (1:9-10)
  - b. Sights: John’s vision (1:12-18,20)
  - c. Sounds: God’s command (1:11,19)

### **B. Preparation: Christ Readies His Creation (Chs. 2-7)**

- 1. Seven Churches Warned (on earth): Preparing for the King (2-3)**
  - a. Ephesus: First things first (2:1-7) Repent!
  - b. Smyrna: Faithful until death (2:8-11) *Do Not Fear!*
  - c. Pergamum: Flirting with idolatry (2:12-17) *Repent!*
  - d. Thyatira: False teaching tolerated (2:18-29) *Jezebel Repent!*
  - e. Sardis: Funeral on horizon (3:1-6) *Repent!*
  - f. Philadelphia: Freedom thru Christ (3:7-13) *Hold Fast!*
  - g. Laodicea: Foolishly compromised truth (3:14-22) Repent!
- 2. All Creation Worships (in heaven): Praising the King (4-5)**
  - a. A throne: God the creator is worthy of worship (4)
  - b. A scroll: God the redeemer is worthy to rule (5)
- 3. Satan’s Wrath: Permitting the False King to Rule (6)**
  - a. Great Tribulation: Satan’s wrath thru antichrist (6:1-8)
    - 1) 1st seal - Ruler: antichrist controls politically (vv.1-2)
    - 2) 2nd seal - Warrior: antichrist controls militarily (vv.3-4)
    - 3) 3rd seal - Dictator: antichrist controls commercially (vv.5-6)
    - 4) 4th seal - Butcher: antichrist controls brutally (vv.7-8)
  - b. Great Signs: God’s warning before judgment (6:9-17)
    - 1) 5th seal - Martyrs: believers cry out to God (vv.9-11)
    - 2) 6th seal - Earthdwellers: unbelievers call out to the earth (vv.12-17)
- 4. God’s Grace: Protecting the True King’s Elect (7)**
  - a. 144,000 Jews: Israel sealed before God’s wrath (7:1-8)
  - b. Entire Church: Believers snatched before God’s wrath (7:9-17)

### **C. Retribution: Christ Releases His Wrath (Chs. 8-11)**

- 1. Seventh Seal**: Judgment Pending (8:1-5)
- 2. Seven Trumpets**: God’s Judgment (8:6-11:19)
  - a. First Six Trumpets: God’s wrath begins (8:6-9:21)
  - b. Seven Peals of Thunder: Delay no longer / A little scroll (10)
  - c. Heavenly Temple Measured: Two witnesses prophesy in Jerusalem (11:1-13)
  - d. Seventh Trumpet: “Thy wrath came” (11:14-19)

# Revelation (cont)

## II. **Specific Details:** *Previous persons and events explained (12-22)*

### A. **Explanation: Christ Reveals His Methods (Chs.12-19)**

1. **Unholy Trinity:** Living the lie (12-13)
  - a. Satan: His history of aggression towards Israel (12:1-17)
  - b. Antichrist: His reign of terror (13:1-10)
  - c. False Prophet: His reign of deception (13:11-18)
2. **Holy Lord:** Living the truth (14)
  - a. The Lamb: His 144,000 purchased followers (14:1-5)
  - b. The Angels: His six angelic messengers (14:6-20)
3. **Heavenly Sign:** Seven Plagues - the Wrath of God is Finished (15-16)
  - a. Heaven: Preparation for the seven bowls (15)
  - b. Earth: Pouring out of the seven bowls (16)
4. **Earthly Babylon:** Destruction of Man's Kingdom (17-18)
  - a. The Great Harlot: History of a spiritual woman (17)
  - b. The Great City: Mystery of a physical place (18)
5. **Heavenly Reign:** Domination of Christ's Kingdom (19)
  - a. Christ Judges: Celebration over Babylon (19:1-10)
  - b. Christ Returns: Coming of Christ (19:11-16)
  - c. Christ Conquers: Battle of Armageddon (19:17-21)

### B. **Redemption: Christ Restores His Kingdom (Chs. 20-22)**

1. **Spiritual Judgment:** Christ Ruling over His Creatures (20)
  - a. Satan Judged: Bound, released and cast into the lake of fire (20:1-3,7-10)
  - b. Men Judged: First resurrection / Great white throne judgment (20:4-6,11-15)
2. **Physical Kingdom:** Christ Reigning from His City (21-22)
  - a. Blessings: The New Jerusalem (21:1-22:5)
  - b. Warnings: The Final Message (22:6-21)