

THE BOOK OF REVELATION
JROC – Summary
July 1, 2018

www.jewishrootsofchristianity.org Click on LESSONS link. Scroll down to Class Lessons (PDF's & MP3's) - the beginning chapters of our class's study you'll find under Book of Revelation – weeks 1 through 6 beginning with “Face-to-Face with Jesus,” “The Alpha and the Omega,” “Basic Flow of the Chronology of End Times,” through week 6. And then return to Class Lessons (PDF's & MP3's) and click on The Continuity of Scripture/Scottsdale Bible Church Enrichment Class (in Progress). Go to week 3 for the lesson on the Seven Churches and continue on with the remainder of the weeks in this section.

The book of Revelation is the culmination of the entire plan of God from eternity past! We can now more fully comprehend the “plot” of the Bible: CREATION FALL REDEMPTION RESTORATION

We need to know that to bring the Kingdom of God to the earth, the kingdom of Satan must first be completely overthrown. Much of what follows in this book of Revelation must be understood in the context of the overthrow of Satan's kingdom prior to the setting up of God's kingdom on earth. Jesus will receive the Kingdom of God that has been promised to Israel throughout the OT. This is the Kingdom that the Church, Jewish and Gentile believers in Jesus, will be living in along with redeemed Israel.

Dan. 7:13-28 – Jesus will receive the kingdom from God the Father and give it to the redeemed (v. 27) along with giving the redeemed dominion over the earth. That dominion that was promised to man by God was usurped by Satan. BUT God's will can NEVER be thwarted. In Revelation we see God's plan for mankind – for the world – FULFILLED!

The one story of the Bible, culminating in Revelation, is the story of RESTORATION! The scroll that Jesus is opening in the throne room of God by breaking the 7 seals and unleashing the seal judgments, the trumpet judgments, and the bowl judgments is THE TITLE DEED OF THE EARTH. God is RECLAIMING the world – the creation that is groaning, waiting for its REDEMPTION (Rom. 8:20-22). The book of Revelation fulfills prophecy laid out for us in the OT and in the NT.

In Revelation we read of God's reclaiming what man lost in the fall – EVERYTHING (our relationship with God and dominion over the earth which is now cursed!). Rev. 21:5 - *Then He who sat on the throne said, “Behold, I make all things new.* When God makes a new heaven and a new earth, there will be no more curse. Only the redeemed will inhabit the New Jerusalem which God has been preparing for us...*In My Father's house are many mansions....* (John 14:2).

In the book of Revelation we see God's perspective!

In the book of Revelation we see Jesus vindicated...we see Jesus glorified!

STUDY HELPS FOR REVELATION

Revelation reveals four different ages:

<u>CHAPTERS</u>	<u>AGE</u>	<u>YEARS</u>
Revelation 2-3	Church Age	? years
Revelation 4-19	Tribulation	7 years
Revelation 20	Millennial Kingdom	1,000 years
Revelation 21-22	Eternal State	Forever

We are privy to understanding God's perspective for the events that will transpire on earth. We cannot comprehend this book with all of its horrific judgments pouring forth on the earth without viewing it from God's perspective! Following the outpouring of God's wrath, His judgments, at His Second Coming, Jesus will rightfully inherit the earth and implement the title deed of redemption to planet earth (Rom. 8:21). It will be in the throne room of God where GOD initiates the judgments because of His holiness and justice. And, the curse on man and on the earth will be reversed, and man and the earth will be restored. Eventually, the curse will be removed in the Eternal State – in the new heavens and the new earth (Rev. 21:1-5). All of history is moving toward this grand climax – the Kingdom of God on earth!

Chuck Swindoll: "Only one Person in heaven and earth was found worthy to take the scroll, to open its seals, and to begin the step-by-step process of snatching control of the world from evil and forever vanquishing sin and death: Jesus Christ. The steps necessary for preparing the world for His kingdom on earth, however, involve a period of unparalleled judgment." AND, during the Tribulation there will be unparalleled evangelism!

SEQUENCE OF EVENTS IN REVELATION 6-20

Main Action: Revelation 6 (six seals)

Intermission: Between the sixth and seventh seals – Revelation 7 – 144,000 sealed...multitudes saved from every tongue, tribe, nation

Main Action Returns: Revelation 8-9 (seventh seal, which contains the seven trumpets)

Intermission: Between the sixth and seventh trumpets – Revelation 10-15

Main Action Resumes: Revelation 16 (seven bowls)

Intermission: Describing the destruction of Babylon the Great – Revelation 17-18

Main Action: Revelation 19-20 – Second Coming and Millennial Kingdom

Why do the scenes alternate between heaven and earth in Revelation 4-20? While we are reading of chaos on earth, we are continually assured that all is controlled by God Who is on His throne in heaven.

IN HEAVEN

The heavenly throne (Rev. 4)
The Lamb on the throne (Rev. 5)

The fifth seal judgment (6:9-11)

The great multitude (7:9-17)
Preparations for the trumpet
judgments (8:1-5)

The announcement of the seventh
Trumpet (11:15-19)
The expulsion of Satan (12:1-12)

The announcement of the seven
Last judgments (Rev. 15)

Praise for judging (19:1-10)

ON EARTH

The first 4 seal judgments
(6:1-8)

The sixth seal judgment (6:12-17)
The sealing of the 144,000 (7:1-8)

The first six trumpet judgments (8:6-9:21)
The little book (Rev. 10)
The ministry of the two witnesses (11:1-4)

The activity of Satan
(12:13-17)
The activity of the two beasts (Rev. 13)

Judgment at the end of the
Tribulation (Rev. 14)

The seven bowl judgments
(Rev. 16)
Babylon's destruction (Rev. 17-18)

The Second Coming of Christ (19:11-21)
The Millennial reign of Jesus (Rev. 20)

EVENTS IN HEAVEN

- The Rapture of the Church (John 14:1-3; I Cor. 15:51-58; I Thess. 4:13-18; Rev. 3:10).
- The Judgment Seat of Christ (Rom. 14:10; I Cor. 3:9-15; I Cor. 4:1-5; I Cor. 9:24-27; II Cor. 5:10).
- The Marriage of the Lamb (II Cor. 11:2; Rev. 19:6-8).

EVENTS ON EARTH

Following the Rapture

- Psa. 83 – Arab-Israeli
- Eze. 38-39 – Gog and Magog War

SEVEN-YEAR TRIBULATION

The Beginning of the Tribulation

- The seven-year Tribulation begins when the antichrist signs a covenant with Israel, bringing peace to Israel and Jerusalem (Dan. 9:27; Eze. 38:8, 11).
- The Jewish Temple in Jerusalem might be rebuilt at this time esp. since the covenant has been made with Israel, and sacrifices will be offered (Dan. 9:27; II Thess. 2:3-4; Rev. 11:1).
- The reunited Roman Empire emerges in a ten-nation confederation – the “group of ten” (Dan. 2:40-44; Dan. 7:7; Rev. 17:12). As the antichrist appears on the scene with the first rider on the white horse (Rev. 6:2), we note his origin in Dan. 7:23-25 (note: another horn/other horn/little horn – vv. 8 & 20).

First Half (3.5 Years) of the Tribulation

- The seven seal judgments are opened (Rev. 6 – 8:1).
- The 144,000 – 12,000 from twelve tribes of Israel - Jewish male virgins (Rev. 14:1-4) – are sealed as servants of God (note Isa. 43:10 – ...*you are My witnesses...and My servant....*). These are Jewish believers who did not go into the Tribulation as believers!
- The two witnesses begin their 3.5 year ministry (much speculation regarding the timing. Some scholars put the two witnesses in the first half of the Tribulation; others put the two witnesses in the second half of the Tribulation)

Midpoint of the Tribulation

- The antichrist breaks his covenant with Israel and invades Israel (Dan. 9:27; Dan. 11:40-41, 44).
- Satan is cast down from heaven and begins to make war with the woman, Israel (Rev. 12:7-13).
- The antichrist appears to die and to rise from the dead (Rev. 13:3); the earth is amazed.
- The antichrist takes his seat in the Temple of God, displaying himself as God. This is the abomination of desolation (Dan. 9:27; Dan. 11:45a; Matt. 24:15; II Thess. 2:3-4; Rev. 13:5, 15-18).
- The two witnesses are killed by the antichrist and are resurrected by God 3.5 days later (Rev. 11:7-12).
- Satan empowers the beast from the sea – the antichrist (Rev. 13).
- The beast from the earth – the false prophet (Rev. 13) demands worship of the antichrist (Rev. 13:14-15) and causes mankind to receive the mark of the beast (the name of the beast or the number of his name) (Rev. 13:16-17).
- The mark of the Beast (666) is introduced and enforced by the false prophet (Rev. 13:16-18).

Last Half (3.5 Years) of the Tribulation

- The false prophet performs great signs and lying wonders and promotes false worship of the antichrist (Rev. 13:5, 11-15).
- Totally energized by Satan, the antichrist dominates the world politically, religiously, and economically (Rev. 13:4-5, 15-18)
- The trumpet judgments are unleashed (Rev. 8-9; Rev. 11:15-19).
- Knowing he has only a short time left, Satan intensifies his relentless, merciless persecution of the Jewish people and Gentile believers on earth (Dan. 7:25; Rev. 12:12; 13:15; 20:4).

The End of the Tribulation

- The bowl judgments are poured out in rapid succession (Rev. 16). The bowl judgments will destroy the antichrist's kingdom and prepare the way for the Second Coming of Jesus.
- Destruction of the false church and the destruction of commercial Babylon (Rev. 18).
- The campaign of Armageddon begins (Rev. 16:16). The campaign of Armageddon is carried out in stages (Rev. 14:14; Isa. 63:1-6; Rev. 19:11ff; Zech. 14:4).

THE PHYSICAL SECOND COMING OF CHRIST (Rev. 19:11ff; Isa. 63:1-6; Dan. 2:44; Zech. 12:10; Zech. 14:4; Matt. 24:27-31)

- Christ returns to the Mount of Olives and slays the armies gathered against Him throughout the land, from Megiddo to Petra (Rev. 19:11-16; Isa. 34:1-6; 63:1-5).
- The birds gather to feed on the carnage (Rev. 19:17-18).
- The restoration of Israel (Zech. 12:10).
- Antichrist and false prophet cast into the lake of fire (Rev. 19:20)
- The Judgment of the nations (Matt. 25:31-46)

THE MILLENNIAL KINGDOM (Psa. 2; Isa. 2:4; Isa. 9:6-7; Isa. 11; Isa. 32:1; Isa. 45:13; Eze. 40 through 48; Mic. 3:3; Mic. 4:3 Luke 1:31-33; Rev. 20:4-6....)

Satan released and his rebellion crushed (Rev. 20:7-10)

Satan cast into the lake of fire (Rev. 20:10)

Great White Throne of Judgment (Rev. 20:11-15) – non-believers will be judged according to their works and will be cast into the lake of fire

THE NEW HEAVEN AND THE NEW EARTH/NEW JERUSALEM – (Rev. 21 through Rev. 22:1-5)

Rev. 1:19 gives us a simple outline for the book. Jesus told John to write. . .
...the things which you have seen, and the things which are, and the things
 which will take place after this (Rev. 1:19)

Revelation 1 - the things John had already seen – the glory of the Son of Man.

Revelation 2 & 3 - the things which are – events occurring in John's day. The letters to the seven churches.

Revelation 4-22 - the things that will take place after the Church Age - the FUTURE:

Revelation 4-5 – the throne room of God from where the future events are initiated.

Revelation 6-18 – the Tribulation on earth. God's judgments on the people of the earth. Jer. 30:7 describes this time as the "time of Jacob's trouble". (The name of the patriarch Jacob was changed to Israel [Gen. 32:22-32]). The time outlined in Revelation 6-18 is a time of purging for Israel. Dan. 12:1-2 speaks of this time of trouble for Israel. God will also judge non-believers at this time for their rebellion against Him.

Revelation 19 – Christ's return with the Church.

Revelation 20 – Satan is bound and cast into the bottomless pit, the abyss. Jesus then sets up His kingdom on earth that will last for 1,000 years. At the end of the 1,000 years, Satan is released and he leads a rebellion against God. Satan is quickly defeated and cast into the lake of fire. The final judgment, the Great White Throne judgment, occurs for all non-believers when they too are cast into the lake of fire.

Revelation 21-22:5 – Here we have what is referred to as the Eternal State. In these chapters God describes eternity with Him.

Revelation 22:6-11 – an angel instructs John not to seal the words of the prophecy of this book. They are for us to read and understand!

Revelation 22:12-17 – Jesus testifies to the churches.

Revelation 22:18-19 – Jesus testifies to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book.

Revelation 22:20-21 – "Surely I am coming quickly."

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Basic Flow of *The Chronology of End Times*

THE RAPTURE

The rapture of the church is the event in which God “snatches away” all those “in Christ” who have been placed into the body of Christ by the permanent indwelling of the Holy Spirit (Jewish and Gentile believers in Jesus). God will resurrect all believers “in Christ” who have died, give them glorified bodies, and take them from the earth, along with all living believers, who will also be given glorified bodies at that time.

The rapture is described primarily in 1 Thessalonians 4:13–18 and 1 Corinthians 15:50–54 and in John 14:1–3.

The rapture appears to be the next event in the eschatological timeline. The rapture is imminent; no other biblical prophecy needs to be fulfilled before the rapture happens.

The second coming of Jesus is in two “phases.” The rapture is to be distinguished from the physical second coming of Jesus. At the rapture, the Lord comes “in the clouds” to meet us “in the air” (1 Thessalonians 4:17). At the physical second coming, the Lord descends all the way to the earth to stand on the Mount of Olives, resulting in a great earthquake followed by a defeat of God’s enemies (Zechariah 14:3–4).

The word *rapture* does not occur in the Bible. The term comes from a Latin word, “rapturo,” which is simply a translation of the Greek word *harpazo*. The Greek word *harpazo* (found in I Thess. 4:17) means seize by force; *snatch* up, suddenly and decisively – like someone seizing bounty (spoils, a prize); to take by an *open display* of force. The concept of the “carrying off” or the rapture of the Church is clearly taught in the NT and we see foreshadowings of the rapture in the OT (Enoch; Lot and his family; Ruth)

FOLLOWING THE RAPTURE/IN HEAVEN:

THE JUDGMENT SEAT OF CHRIST/THE BEMA SEAT

Rom. 14:10–12 - *For we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ....* ¹² *So then each of us shall give account of himself to God.*

II Cor. 5:10 - ¹⁰ *For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.*

In context, it is clear that both passages refer to Christians, not unbelievers. The judgment seat of Christ, therefore, involves believers giving an account of their lives to Christ.

Believers, when standing before the Judgment Seat of Christ (II Cor. 5:10), will be judged according to their works. This judgment does NOT determine whether they are saved or lost. That has already been determined by Christ's sacrifice on our behalf (1 John 2:2) and our faith in Him (John 3:16). Our sins – the sins of those who have placed their trust in Jesus – were judged at the cross. All of our sins are forgiven, and we will never be condemned for them (Romans 8:1).

This judgment will determine the reward or loss of reward for service on the part of each individual believer. Worthwhile eternally valuable activities will be rewarded (and that includes motivation!!); useless activities will suffer loss (I Cor. 3:15 - *If anyone's work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire.*)

THE MARRIAGE OF THE LAMB

According to Revelation 19:7, the bride, (the Church/the body of Christ) makes herself ready by having gone through the Judgment Seat of Christ. In Revelation 19:8 she is given fine linen which is said to be "the righteous acts of the saints." She has made herself ready for the marriage of the Lamb. The marriage (marriage ceremony) takes place in heaven after the Judgment Seat of Christ, directly before the second coming.

FOLLOWING THE RAPTURE OF THE CHURCH/ON EARTH:

THE RISE OF THE ANTICHRIST

After the church is taken out of the way (2 Thessalonians 2:7–8), a satanically empowered man will gain worldwide control with promises of peace (Rev. 6:1-2 – first seal...one who sat on a white horse with a bow and no arrows and a crown [laurel wreath not a diadem or a royal crown] on his head; Rev. 13:1ff – the beast (the antichrist) arises from the sea; Daniel 9:27 – makes a covenant with the many). The antichrist will be aided by another man, called the false prophet, who heads up a religious system that requires worship of the antichrist (Revelation 19:20).

THE TRIBULATION

A period of seven years (Dan. 9:27) in which God's judgment/wrath is poured out on the entire world (Rev. 6 through 18) - on sinful humanity – for rebellion against God (Zeph. 1:15, 17, 18; Joel 3:12-14; Rev. 6:16-17). It is a time of intense trouble (Dan. 12:1) "such as never was"! The Tribulation will be unprecedented in its affliction, and will be culminated by the personal return of Jesus Christ to earth (Rev. 19).

The antichrist's rise to power is associated with this time period.

During the Tribulation on earth, the Church will be in heaven. It appears that at this time the Judgment Seat of Christ will occur in heaven followed by the Marriage Ceremony of the Lamb.

It is a time of God's wrath or indignation and the vindication of God's holiness (Zeph. 1:15, 18; Rev. 6:17; 1 Thess. 1:10; Rev. 14:7, 10; 19:2). God's wrath against man's sin and rebellion will be withheld no longer. The Tribulation will begin with the signing of a peace treaty with Israel by the antichrist, the man of sin, the beast of Revelation 13 (Dan. 9:26-27).

THE ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION

At the midway point of the seven-year Tribulation, the antichrist will break his covenant with Israel. The antichrist will set himself up in the Temple in Jerusalem exalting himself and demanding worship (Matt. 24:15; II Thess. 2:4)

The remnant of Jewish people will flee into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God (Petra? Isa. 63:1 – Bozrah/Edom in the Jordan). “They” shall feed the Jewish people there one thousand two hundred and sixty days – 3.5 years (Rev. 12:6). A great persecution breaks out against all those who believe in Christ (Daniel 12:11; Mark 13:14; Revelation 12:17).

THE BATTLE OF ARMAGEDDON

At the end of the Tribulation, all the nations of the world will gather for war against Israel (Zech. 12:1-9; Zech. 14:1-3; Rev. 16:12-16) with the intent of destroying Israel. Armageddon means “Mount of Megiddo,” referring to a location approx. 60 miles north of Jerusalem. This is the site for the final battle of mankind prior to Jesus’ second coming. The battle of Armageddon involves multiple phases

(Armageddon is not the last war on earth. The final war in history will be the final revolt of Satan (Rev. 20:7-11) which will occur at the end of the Millennial Kingdom)

JESUS’ PHYSICAL SECOND COMING

The second coming is a major theme of both the OT and the NT. Jesus will return to earth as King of Kings and Lord of Lords at His second coming. He will fulfill prophecy. He will proclaim the day of vengeance of our God (Isa. 61:2). He will engage in battle against those coming against Israel. He will judge the Gentile nations. He will restore the nation of Israel (the 1/3 left). He will bind Satan. He will set up His kingdom on earth.

THE JUDGMENT OF THE NATIONS

Christ will judge the survivors of the Tribulation, separating the righteous from the wicked as “sheep” and “goats” (Matthew 25:31–46). The righteous will enter the Millennial Kingdom in mortal bodies; the wicked will be cast into “everlasting punishment.”

THE BINDING OF SATAN

Satan will be bound and held in a bottomless pit for the next 1,000 years (Revelation 20:1–3).

THE MILLENNIAL KINGDOM

At Jesus’ second coming, following Armageddon and the judgment of the nations, Jesus will establish His kingdom in Jerusalem. Jesus will reign from King David’s throne in Jerusalem for 1,000 years. The Millennial Kingdom will be a time of relative peace and prosperity on earth (Psa. 2; Isa. 11; Isa. 60-62; Revelation 20). Memorial sacrifices will be offered in a rebuilt temple in Jerusalem (Ezekiel 40–48).

THE LAST BATTLE

At the end of the 1,000 years, Satan will be released from his prison (bottomless pit) for a short time. He will deceive the nations once again. A rebellion against the Lord will ensue; however, the rebellion will be quickly defeated (Revelation 20:7–10). Satan will be cast into the lake of fire, never to reappear.

THE GREAT WHITE THRONE JUDGMENT

All non-believers in the grave will be brought forth. All the wicked from all eras of history will be resurrected to stand before God in a final judgment (Revelation 20:11–15). The verdicts are read, and all of sinful humanity is cast into the lake of fire (Rev. 20:14).

THE ETERNAL STATE

God completely remakes the heavens and the earth. It is at this time that God wipes away all tears and there will be no more pain, death, or sorrow. The New Jerusalem descends from heaven, and the children of God will enjoy eternity with Him (Revelation 21–22).