

**I. INTRODUCTION**

- A. There are several keys to understanding this beautiful book. The Book of Revelation is...
1. It is the revealing of Jesus Christ.
  2. It is not difficult to understand.
  3. It is literal. It records actual facts and events that will take place.
  4. It is mostly future.

**II. THE HEAVENLY COURT AND THE SCROLL (REV. 4-5)**

- A. The central setting in the book of Revelation is the Heavenly Throne Room. The context of the opening of the scroll is in this heavenly court scene (Rev. 4-5; Dan. 7:9-14). The 7-sealed scroll is in the hands of the sovereign God (4:1-11). The leadership of history is in His hands.
- B. The scroll represents the ***title deed*** of the earth and the ***action plan*** required to judge, cleanse and rule the earth while bringing the Church to fullness (numbers, unity, purity, power, etc.) so that the Father's purpose for the earth may come to pass.
- C. Jesus takes the scroll from the Father and accepts leadership to judge, cleanse and rule the whole earth (5:1-14).
1. There is a quest to find someone worthy to break the seals and open the scroll. Jesus is the only one worthy (deserving and capable) to open it, to set into motion and oversee it being carried out (Rev. 5:5-7).
- D. The seven seals are released by Jesus, the Lamb of God (Rev. 5:5; 6:1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 12; 8:1). One by one, Jesus opens each seal which releases a terrifying judgment against the wicked.

## OVERVIEW OF THE STRUCTURE OF THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Structure of Revelation: 4 Parts

- Rev. 1 Pt. 1 John's **CALLING** to prophesy about the End-Times  
Rev. 2-3 Pt. 2 Jesus gave 7 **LETTERS** to Churches exhorting them to be overcomers.  
Rev. 4-5 Pt. 3 Jesus takes the **SCROLL**  
Rev. 6-22 Pt. 4 Jesus' **BATTLE PLAN**

Part 4 is divided into:

**5 Chronological Sections:** what happens to Antichrist's followers  
(seals; trumpets; bowls)

**5 Angelic Explanations:** what happens to God's people  
(Jesus helps; Antichrist persecutes)

Rev. 6 **Chronological section #1:** SEAL JUDGMENTS

Rev. 7 **Angelic Explanation #1:** PROTECTION from judgments and falling away

*1<sup>st</sup> Seal is the Antichrist's political aggression*

*2 Groups of people: Earth (144,000 sealed) and heaven (multitudes from every nation, the great worldwide harvest)*

Rev. 8-9 **Chronological section #2:** TRUMPET JUDGMENTS against Antichrist

Rev. 10-11 **Angelic Explanation #2:** DIRECTION by increase of prophetic ministry

*2 Witnesses prophesy*

Rev. 11:15-19 **Chronological section #3:** SECOND COMING PROCESSION

Rev. 12-14 **Angelic Explanation #3:** CONFRONTATION against saints by Antichrist

*2 Beasts: A political figure and a religious figure.*

Rev. 15-16 **Chronological section #4:** BOWL JUDGMENTS destroy infrastructures

Rev. 17-18 **Angelic Explanation #4:** SEDUCTION of Babylon's evil religion

*2 Women/Cities: Harlot Babylon and the pure Bride of Christ.*

Rev. 19-20 **Chronological section #5:** TRIUMPHAL ENTRY (Rev. 19:11-21:8)

Rev. 21-22 **Angelic Explanation #5:** RESTORATION of all things (Rev. 21:9-22:5)

*2 Realms united: New Heaven and New Earth*

3 numbered judgment series are Literal, future, and progressive (chronological sequence).

Seals: Preparatory, anticipatory.

Trumpets: Warn of impending disaster and rally the saints to prayer in the tent of meeting

Bowls: Poured out in fullness without delay or hindrance.

## **THE 7 MAIN SYMBOLS IN THE BOOK OF REVELATION:**

All events and numbers in Revelation are to be taken in their plain meaning (literal) unless specifically indicated not to (Rev. 1:20; 5:6; 11:8; 12:1, 3, 9; 17:7, 9, 15-18, etc.)\

- 1) Dragon:** is symbolic of Satan (Rev. 12:3, 4, 7, 9, 13, 16, 17; 13:2, 4; 16:13; 20:2)
- 2) First Beast:** is symbolic of the Antichrist (Rev. 13; 14:9-11; 17:3-17; 19:19-21; 20:4, 10)
- 3) Another Beast:** is symbolic of the False Prophet called “another Beast” just once (Rev. 13:11)
- 4) Seven Heads:** are 7 empires from history that persecuted Israel (Egypt, Assyria, Babylon, Persia, Greece, Rome, revived Roman Empire of Dan. 2:41-42; 7:7; Rev. 12:3; 13:1; 17:3-16)
- 5) Ten Horns:** represents a 10-nation confederation that serves the Antichrist (Rev. 17:12-13)
- 6) Harlot Babylon:** will be a worldwide demonically inspired religious and economic system based in the re-built city of Babylon, near Baghdad in Iraq (Rev. 17-18; Jer. 50-51)
- 7) Woman with a Male-child (Jesus):** is the faithful remnant of Israel through history (Rev. 12)