

# BOOK OF REVELATION — REVELATION 1: 9-20

## THE THINGS SEEN AND ARE AND WHAT SHALL TAKE PLACE

By Kevin E. Hughes

**John, in the Spirit, is to Write to the 7 Churches, What He Hears and Sees, 1:9-11**

**Working Outline > Read Revelation 1:9-11** (Portion of Paragraph) (Paragraphs ¶ from NAS Bible)

**Revelation 1:9-11**

- I. 9 I, John, your brother (fellow believer), 1:1
  - A. and fellow partaker (Rom 11:17, Phil 1:7) in the tribulation, 2:9, Acts 14:22, Rom 5:3, 2 Thes 1:4
  - B. and (fellow partaker in the) kingdom, Rev 1:6, 5:10, Acts 14:22, Jas 2:5, Matt 25:34
  - C. and (fellow partaker in) perseverance, 2:2-3, 3:10, 13:10, 14:12, Rom 2:7, 5:3-4, 8:25, 15:4, 2 Thes 1:4
    1. which (things) are in Jesus,
  - D. was on the island called Patmos
    1. because (Reason) of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. 1:2, 6:9
- E. 10 I (John) was in the Spirit (4:2, 17:3, 21:10, ) on the Lord's day,
  1. and I heard behind me a loud voice (1:12) like the sound of a trumpet, 1 Thes 4:16
  2. 11 saying, "Write in a book (scroll) what you see, 1:19
    - a. and send it (scroll) to the seven churches (assemblies): 1:4, 1:20
      - i. to Ephesus and to Smyrna and to Pergamum and to Thyatira
      - ii. and to Sardis and to Philadelphia and to Laodicea."

**Q:** In verse 1:9, WHAT 3 Things was John a "fellow partaker in" ?

**A:** (1) in the tribulation, Read Acts 14:22, Rom 5:3-4 (2) in the kingdom, Read Rev 1:6, 5:10, (3) in perseverance, Read Rev 2:2-3, 13:10, 14:12, 2 Thes 1:4

**John's Place** **Map**

**Patmos**, A small island in the Aegean Sea off the coast of Asia Minor or present-day Turkey where Rome exiled political criminals. According to a tradition preserved by Irenaeus, Eusebius, Jerome and others, John, was exiled to Patmos, in the 14<sup>th</sup> year of the reign of Roman Emperor Domitian (95 AD) who died (Sept 18, 96 AD) and subsequently was released under Roman Emperor Nerva in (96 AD) to Ephesus.

John, was exiled to Patmos, "because of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus", Rev 1:9

**John's State, 1:10**

John, "in the Spirit" refers to the exalted spiritual state brought on by the Holy Spirit, that he "was in", so he could hear ("heard", 1:10) and "see" (1:11-12) "things" (1:19) that were about to be revealed to him.

John, being "in the Spirit" is mention 3 other times in, Rev 4:2, 17:3, 21:10

**John's Time, 1:10**

"on the Lord's day", is most likely a reference Sunday, the first day of the week.

**John's Hearing and Seeing, 1:10**

I (John) heard behind me a loud voice like the sound of a trumpet,

"I (John) turned to see the voice that was speaking with me" (1:12a, "saw", 1:13, 1:17)

**John's Writing, 1:11**

"Write in a book (scroll) what you see", ("write the things which you have seen", 1:19)

**John's Sending, 1:11**

"send it (book/scroll/writing) to the seven churches (assemblies)", 1:4, 1:20

Send to: Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia, and Laodicea."

The order in which the churches are listed traces the route along which a courier from Patmos would have carried the (book/scroll/writing)? **Map**

## The 7 Golden Lampstands and the Son of Man

Working Outline > **Read Revelation 1:12–16** (Portion of Paragraph) (Paragraphs ¶ from NAS Bible)

### Revelation 1:12–16

- I. 12 Then I (John) turned to see the (loud) voice that was speaking with me. 1:10, 1:15
  - A. And having turned I (John) saw seven golden lampstands; 1:20, 2:1, 2:5
  - B. 13 and in the middle of the lampstands I (John) saw one like a son of man, 1:20, 2:1, 14:14, Dan 7:13
    1. (a son of man) clothed in a robe reaching to the feet Dan 10:5, Dan 7:9
    2. and girded across His (son of man's) chest with a golden sash. Dan 10:5
    3. 14 His (son of man's) head and His hair were white like white wool, like snow; Dan 7:9
    4. and His (son of man's) eyes were like a flame of fire. 2:18, 19:2, Dan 10:6
    5. 15 His (son of man's) feet were like burnished bronze,
      - a. when it has been made to glow in a furnace, Dan 10:6
    6. and His (son of man's) voice was like the sound of many waters. 14:2, 19:6, Ezek 43:2, Dan 10:6
    7. 16 In His (son of man's) right hand He held seven stars, 1:20, 2:1, 3:1
    8. and out of His (son of man's) mouth came a sharp two-edged sword; 2:12, 2:16, 19:15, 19:21, Heb 4:12
    9. and His (son of man's) face was like the sun shining in its strength. 10:1, Matt 17:2

“the voice” of the son of man **Image**

“a loud voice”, (son of man's) was “like the sound of a trumpet”, 1:10

“the voice”, (son of man's) “was speaking with me (John)”, 1:12

“the voice”, (son of man's) “was like the sound of many waters”, 1:15

“I (John) saw seven golden lampstands”, 1:12

Each Lampstand represented a separate Church (assembly), 1:20

Revelation 1:20 **Mystery Given and Mystery Revealed**

20 “As for the **mystery** of the seven stars which you saw in My right hand, and the **seven golden lampstands**: the seven stars are the angels of the seven churches, and the **seven lampstands** are the **seven churches**.”

**Lampstand** is used as a **Figure of Speech**, a **Metaphor**, called “**Personification**”.

**Lampstand** is given **its Literal Interpretation** in Rev 1:20

### Charts

**Interpretation of Prophecy Key: A Personification, a Type of Metaphor, a Figure of Speech**

“Personification is a figure of speech in which an idea or thing is given human attributes and/or feelings or is spoken of as if it were human. Personification is a common form of metaphor in that human characteristics are attributed to nonhuman things.” <https://literarydevices.net/personification/>

All Figures of Speech in Bible, are Non-Fictional, and Have a Literal Intent, K. E. Hughes

**Interpretation of Prophecy Key: “Figure of Speech, any intentional deviation from a literal statement or common usage that emphasizes, clarifies, or embellishes both written and spoken language.”**

<https://www.britannica.com/art/figure-of-speech>  
All Figures of Speech in Bible, are Non-Fictional, and Have a Literal Intent, K. E. Hughes

See “Revelation Introduction – Part 04” for more on Figures of Speech



## Image

### Description of Son of Man

clothed in a **robe** reaching to the feet, 1:13

girded across **His** chest with a **golden sash**. 1:13

**His** head and **His** hair were white

like white wool, like snow; 1:14

**His** eyes were like a **flame of fire**. 1:14

**His** feet were like **burnished bronze**, 1:15

when **it** has been made to glow in a furnace,

**His** voice was like the sound of many **waters**. 1:15

In **His** right hand **He** held **seven stars**, 1:16

out of **His** mouth came a sharp **two-edged sword**; 1:16

**His** face was like **the sun** shining in **its** strength. 1:16

“**I (John) saw** one like a **son of man**”, Rev 1:13-16

(a **son of man**) clothed in a **robe** reaching to the feet, 1:13, **Read** Dan 10:5-6 & Dan 7:9

(a **son of man**) girded across **His** chest with a **golden sash**. 1:13, Dan 10:5

**His (son of man’s)** head and **His** hair were white like white wool, like snow; 1:14, Dan 7:9

**His (son of man’s)** eyes were like a **flame of fire**. 1:14, **Read** 2:18 & 19:12, Dan 10:6

**His (son of man’s)** feet were like **burnished bronze**, 1:15,

when **it** has been made to glow in a furnace, Dan 10:6

**His (son of man’s)** voice was like the sound of many **waters**. 1:15, **Read** 14:2, 19:6, Ezek 43:2, Dan 10:6

In **His (son of man’s)** right hand **He** held **seven stars**, 1:16, **Read** 1:20, 2:1, 3:1

**Read** Rev 14:14, Notice “sitting” and “Golden Crown” and “sharp sickle”

### Revelation 1:20

20 “As for the mystery of **the seven stars** which you saw in My right hand, and the seven golden lampstands: **the seven stars** are **the angels** of the **seven churches**, and the seven lampstands are the seven churches.

**Stars** is used as a **Figure of Speech**, a **Metaphor**, called “**Personification**”.

**Stars** is given **its Literal Interpretation** in Rev 1:20

In Rev 1:16, out of **His (son of man’s)** mouth came a sharp **two-edged sword**; **Read** 2:12, 2:16

**His (son of man’s)** face was like **the sun** shining in **its** strength. 1:16, **Read**, Matt 17:2, Rev 10:1

### Chart

Interpretation of Prophecy Key: A Simile, a Type of Metaphor, a Figure of Speech

“A Simile is a figure of speech in which two essentially dissimilar objects or concepts are expressly compared with one another through the use of “like” or “as.” <https://literarydevices.net/simile/>

All Figures of Speech in Bible, are Non-Fictional, and Have a Literal Intent, K. E. Hughes

Notice “Like” is used 5 Times as a **Simile**, in 1:13-16

**Q:** Who is this **son of man** that **John Saw**? **Jesus** asks Who **the son of man** is, to **his disciples**. Matt 16:13

**A:** **Peter** said who **the son of man** is to **Jesus**, “**You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.**” in Matt 16:16

## Chart

### Interpretation of Prophecy Key: Prophecy Often Interprets itself

In Revelation, as in the OT and Gospels, a Vision, Mystery, or Figure of Speech is often presented, and then its Literal interpretation is given in the following Text or Near Context by the Author. All Visions, Mysteries, and Figures of Speech in Bible, are Non-Fictional, and Have a Literal Intent,  
K. E. Hughes

### Out of His (son of man's) Mouth came a Sharp Two-Edged Sword, Rev 1:16



**Q:** In verse 16, What does “out of His (son of man's) mouth came a sharp two-edged sword” mean?

Was it a Literal Metal Sword OR Not? **Read** 19:15, 19:21, Heb 4:12, Eph 6:17

**A:** The “Sword” represents “the Word of God” **Read** Isa 11:3-4, Isa 49:2, 2 Thes 2:8

**He** makes War with **it**, Rev 2:16, **He** strikes down the Nations with **it**, Rev 19:15,  
**He** kills Men with **it**, Rev 19:21, **He** will kill the Lawless One (the Antichrist) with **it**, 2 Thes 2:8.

The “Sword” is a Personification Metaphor, as in Jesus speaking from His mouth Physical Judgement.

Physical Judgement is the sanctioned killing of Men, by God, for their offenses against Him, and is like Capital Punishment in our Judicial System and in the Noahic Covenant.

Capital Punishment has been in effect from Time of Noah until 2<sup>nd</sup> Coming of Christ

Genesis 9:6

6 “Whoever sheds man's blood, By man his blood shall be shed, For in the image of God He made man.

Capital Punishment in Civil Government Now, is like Capital Punishment in the Future

Romans 13:1-5

1 Every person is to be in subjection to the governing authorities.

For there is no authority except from God, and those (authorities) which exist are established by God.

2 Therefore whoever resists authority has opposed the ordinance of God;

and they who have opposed will receive condemnation upon themselves.

3 For rulers are not a cause of fear for good behavior, but (a cause of fear) for evil.

Do you want to have no fear of authority? Do what is good and you will have praise from the same;

4 “for it (Government) is a minister of God to you for good. But if you do what is evil, be afraid;

for it (Government) does not bear the sword for nothing;

for it (Government) is a minister of God, an avenger who brings wrath on the one who practices evil.”

5 Therefore it is necessary to be in subjection, not only because of wrath, but also for conscience' sake.

Before the Fall, Man was given dominion by God to Subdue and Rule all the Earth, Gen 1:28

This created a Theocratic Kingdom, a divinely appointed Ruling of Earth by Man (governing authority)

Then after the Fall, by default, much of Man's dominion was given to Satan, Luke 4:5-6

Satan becomes the Ruler of this World, but will be judged. John 12:31, John 16:11

Man Now walks according to this World and according to Satan, Eph 2:2

Man still maintains “governing authority”, that is authority of Man over Man, Rom 13:1-5

“for it (Government) is a minister of God, (Theocratic Rule, a divinely appointed Ruling of Earth by Man) an avenger who brings wrath on the one who practices evil”, Rom 13:4

Man as Avenger: One who takes revenge for an offense, as defined by Law or governing authorities, 13:4

Man brings Wrath (punishment): “on the one who practices evil”, 13:4

## Capital Punishment in the Future

Jesus will be: **the** minister of **God**, an **avenger** who brings **wrath** “on **the one who** practices **evil**”.

The **Wrath** of **God**, **Read Rev 14:10, 19:15** “**avenging the blood**”, **Read Rev 6:10, 19:2**

Jesus as **Avenger: One** who takes **revenge** for an **offense**, as defined by **God’s Law** or **authority**.

Jesus brings **Wrath** (punishment): “on **the one** who practices **evil**”, **13:4**

**Wrath** of **God**: the strong **vengeful indignation** (righteous **anger**) of **God**

a retributory **punishment** for an **offense** or **sin** against **God’s Law** or **authority**

**Christ** at **His coming** will abolish **all rule** and all **authority** and **power**

**1 Corinthians 15:23–26**

**23** But **each** in **his** own order: **Christ** the first fruits, after that **those** who are **Christ’s** at **His coming**,

**24** then comes **the end**, when **He** (**Christ**) hands over **the kingdom** to the **God** and **Father**,

when **He** (**Christ**) has abolished **all rule** and all **authority** and **power**.

**25** For **He** (**Christ**) must **reign** until **He** has put all **His** enemies under **His** feet.

**26** The last enemy that will be abolished is **death**.

**The Son of Man** directs **John** to Write: What **He** Saw, What Is, and What Will Take Place

**Working Outline** > **Read Revelation 1:17–20** (Portion of Paragraph) (Paragraphs ¶ from NAS Bible)

**Revelation 1:17–20**

I. **17** When **I** (**John**) **saw** **Him** (**son of man**), **I** fell at **His** feet **like** a **dead** man.

A. And **He** placed **His** right hand on **me**, saying, **Dan 8:17-18, Dan 10:9-15,**

B. “**Do not be afraid**; **Matt 14:27, Matt 17:7**

C. **I am the first and the last**, **2:8, 21:6, 22:13, Isa 41:4, Isa 44:6, Isa 48:12,**

D. **18** and (**I am**) **the living One**; **4:9, Lk 24:5**

E. and **I** (**son of man**) was **dead**, and behold, **I am alive** forevermore, **2:8, 4:9-10, 10:6a, 15:7, Rom 6:9, Rom 14:9, Lk 24:5, Dan 12:7,**

F. and **I** (**son of man**) have **the keys** of **death** and (keys) of **Hades**. **9:1, 20:1, 20:12-14,**

II. **19** “**Therefore** (because of that) **write** **1:11, 2:1**

A. *the things*<sup>†</sup> **which you have seen** (saw), (Past)

B. and *the things* **which are**, (Present)

C. and *the things* **which will take place after these things**. (Future)

III. **20** “As for **the mystery** of

A. **the seven stars** which **you** saw in **My** right hand, **1:16, 1:20, 2:1, 3:1**

B. and (**mystery** of) **the seven golden lampstands**:

1. **the seven stars** are **the angels** (**messengers**) of **the seven churches** (**assemblies**),

2. and **the seven lampstands** are **the seven churches** (**assemblies**).

In **verse 17**, **Jesus** said “**Do not be afraid**”,

Like **He** said to **His disciples**, when **He** walked on **water**, **Matt 14:27,**

and at **His Transfiguration** to **Peter, James,** and **John**, **Matt 17:7.** So **John** was hearing it again.

**The Son of Man** (**Jesus**) further identifies **Himself**, in **1:17d-18**

(**Jesus**) says, “**I am the first and the last**”, **1:17**

**Isaiah 44:6** **6** “Thus says **the Lord**, the **King** of **Israel** and **his** (**Israel’s**) **Redeemer**, **the Lord of hosts**:

‘**I am the first and I am the last**, And there is no **God** besides **Me**.’

<sup>†</sup> “**the things**” is Not in the Original Greek, but was added in NAS Bible for emphasis AND is Not in ESV, NIV, or RSV Bibles.

(Jesus) the son of man says, “I am the first and the last”, Rev 1:17

The “I am the first and I am the last”, is “the Lord” (Yahweh), Isa 44:6, 41:4

The “I am the first and I am the last”, is “the King of Israel”, Isa 44:6

The “I am the first and I am the last”, is (Israel’s) Redeemer, Isa 44:6

The “I am the first and I am the last”, is the Lord of hosts, Isa 44:6

The “I am the first and I am the last”, is God (Elohim), Isa 44:6

The “I am the first and I am the last”, (who) calls out Generations from the beginning, Isa 41:4

The “I am the first and I am the last”, who called Jacob, even Israel, Isa 48:12

The “I am the first and I am the last”, “who was dead, and has come to life”, Rev 2:8

The “I am the first and I am the last”, “the beginning and the end”, Rev 22:13

(Jesus) the son of man says He is the “I am”, Rev 1:17d,

7 Times in the Gospel of John

“I am the bread of life”, John 6:35

Personification Metaphor

“I am the light of the world”, John 8:12

Personification Metaphor

“I am the door of the sheep”, John 10:7, 9

Personification Metaphor

“I am the resurrection and the life”, (2 things), John 11:25

Personification Metaphor

“I am the good shepherd”, John 10:11, 14

Personification Metaphor

“I am the way, the truth, and the life”, (3 things), John 14:6

Personification Metaphor

“I am the true vine”, John 15:1, 5

Personification Metaphor

Jesus says, (I am) the Living One; Rev 1:18a, 4:9

Read Luke 24:1-7 The Living One is the Son of Man

5 ... the men (in dazzling clothes) (Angels) said to them, “Why do you seek the living One among the dead ?

I (Jesus) was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore, Rev 1:18b

Read Rom 6:9, Rom 14:9, Dan 12:7

I (Jesus) have the keys of death and (keys) of Hades (the Grave), Rev 1:18c

Read Rev 9:1, 20:1, 20:12-14

Keys give access to a place or thing by their owner, here a Metaphor

Death is a Condition and Hades is a Place

(Jesus says), “Therefore (conj., for that Reason, Because of that) write Rev 1:19a, 1:11, 2:1,

John is told by Jesus, to write down “the things which you have seen” Rev 1:19a, also 1:11 and 2:1

John is given by Jesus, 4 Reasons for writing down what he has seen, in Rev 1:17-18

(Because) I (Jesus) am the first and the last, 1:17

(Because) (I (Jesus) am) the living One, 1:18

(Because) I (Jesus) was dead, behold, I am alive forevermore, 1:18

(Because) I (Jesus) have the keys of death and (keys) of Hades, Rev 1:18

“Therefore (for that Reason) write Rev 1:19a

John is to Write concerning 3 Things:

the things which you have seen, (Past)

and the things which are, (Present)

and the things which will take place after these things. (Future)

Chart

## 1<sup>st</sup> of 2 Charts

### John “bore witness to” “all that he saw” in Revelation

“John who bore witness to” “to all that he saw”, Rev 1:1-2

John Bears Witness “to all that he saw”, in entire Book of Revelation

### John “write in a book what you see” in Revelation

John “write in a book what you see”, in entire Book of Revelation, Rev 1:11

### Then John “turned to see” the son of man

John “turned to see the voice speaking with me”, Rev 1:12a

John “having turned I saw seven lampstands”, Rev 1:12b

John “having turned I (saw)”... the “one like the son of man”, Rev 1:12b

John “when I saw Him”, Rev 1:17

### Then John “write therefore the things which you have seen”

John “write therefore the things which you have seen” Rev 1:19a

John was to write what he “turned to see”

John “turned to see” “the son of man”, Rev 1:12-18

## See 2<sup>nd</sup> of 2 Charts

- John “bore witness to” “all that he saw”, refers to the entire Book of Revelation
- John “write in a book what you see”, refers to the entire Book of Revelation
- Then John “turned to see” “the son of man”
- Then John “write therefore the things which you have seen”
- John was to write what he “turned to see”
- John “turned to see” “the son of man”, Described in Rev 1:12-18

## “write” introduces each of the 7 Churches and other events in Revelation

2:1 “To the angel of the church in Ephesus write:

2:8 “And to the angel of the church in Smyrna write:

2:12 “And to the angel of the church in Pergamum write:

2:18 “And to the angel of the church in Thyatira write:

3:1 “And to the angel of the church in Sardis write:

3:7 “And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write:

3:14 “To the angel of the church in Laodicea write:

10:4 “I was about to write;

“Seal up the things... the seven peals of thunder spoke and do not write them.”

14:13 “Write, ‘Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on!’

19:9 “Write, ‘Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.’

21:5 “Behold, I am making all things new.”

And He said, “Write, for these words are faithful and true.”

## Rev 1:19, Gives an Outline or a Structure for the entire Book of Revelation

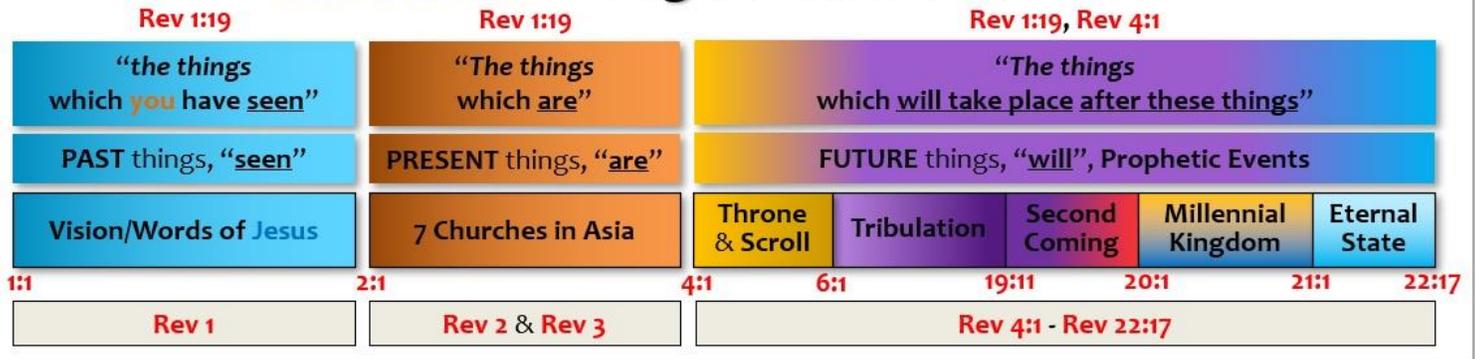
“the things which you have seen”, (PAST) John just saw “the son of man”, 1:12-18, in 95 AD refers to Rev 1:9-18, What John had experienced: the (Past) vision and words of Jesus.

“The things which are” (PRESENT) the “Seven churches”, 1:11, in 95 AD

refers to Rev 2 & Rev 3, What is now: to the (Present) state of 7 churches in Asia, 2:1-3:22

“The things which will take place after these things” (FUTURE) Prophetic Events, 4:1-22:17, in Future refers to Rev 4:1-22:17, What will take place in the (Future) after the vision and after the 7 churches.

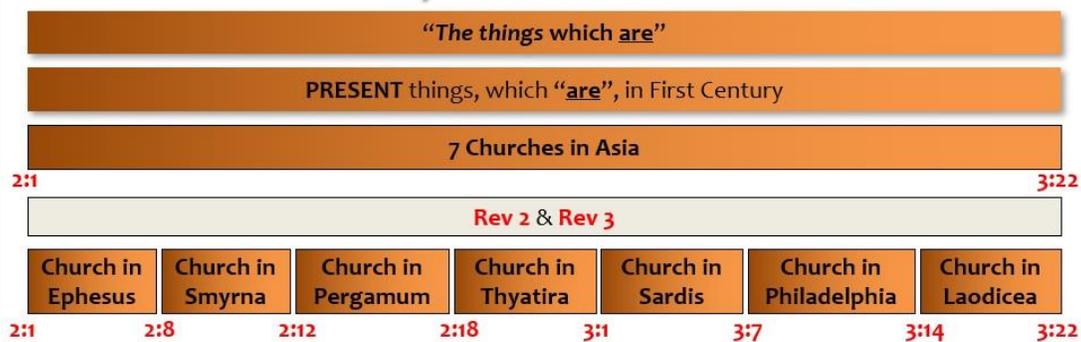
## Revelation - Big Picture of Events



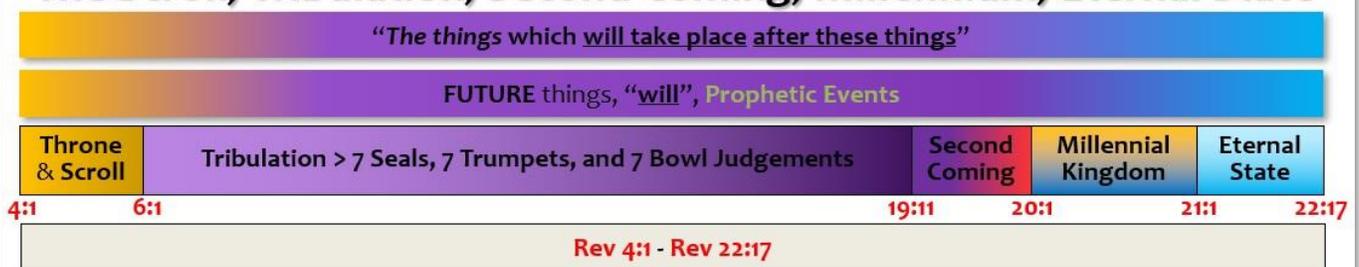
## The Revelation, the Greeting, and the Vision



## 7 Churches



## The Scroll, Tribulation, Second Coming, Millennium, Eternal State



Rev 4:1, Substantiates “**will take place after these things**” as the beginning of Rev 4:1-22:17  
Revelation 4:1

1 **After these things** (Refers back to 1:19) I (John) looked, and behold, a door standing open in heaven, and **the first voice** which I had heard, like the sound of a trumpet speaking with me, said,  
“Come up here, and I (Jesus) **will** (Future) show you **what must take place after these things.**”

“**After these things**”

after **the things** concerning the **Vision** of **Jesus**, that **John** just experienced in Rev 1:12-18.

after **the things** concerning the 7 **Churches**, that **John** wrote of in Rev 2:1-3:22.

## Abbreviated Outline of Book of Revelation

- I. The **Revelation** of **Jesus Christ**, **God** gave **Him**, for **His bond-servants**, 1:1
- II. Write “**The Things Which You Have Seen**”, the **Vision** of **the Son of Man**, 1:9–20
- III. Write “**The Things Which Are**”, to the 7 **Churches**, 2:1–3:22
- IV. Write what I show you, “**The Things Which Will Take Place, After These Things**”, 4:1–22:5
  - A. The **Throne** and **Scroll** and **Tribulation Period** or the **Judgments** as the **Wrath of the Lamb**, 4:1–19:21
    1. The **Scroll** and **the Lamb in Heaven**, 5:1–14
    2. The **Scroll**, **6 Seal Judgments**, as the **Wrath of the Lamb**, 6:1–17
    3. Interlude: the redeemed of the **Tribulation**, 7:1–17
    4. The **Scroll**, **7<sup>th</sup> Seal Judgment**, as the **Wrath of the Lamb**, 8:1–9:21
      - a. The **Scroll**, **6 Trumpet Judgments**, as the **Wrath of the Lamb**, 8:1–9:21
        - i. Prelude to **6 Trumpet Judgments**, Silence in **Heaven**, 8:1–6
    5. The little book, 10:1–11
    6. The **Two Witnesses**, given Authority, 11:1–19
      - a. **Great Earthquake**, 7000 **Killed**, the rest give **God Glory**, 11:13
      - b. The **Scroll**, **7<sup>th</sup> Trumpet Judgment**, The **3<sup>rd</sup> Woe**, as the **Wrath of the Lamb**, 11:15–19
    7. Wars on **Earth, Heaven, and Earth**, 12:1–17
    8. The **Dragon** and The **1<sup>st</sup> Beast** and The **2<sup>nd</sup> Beast**, 13:1–18
    9. Various Announcements, 14:1–20
    10. Prelude to the 7 **Bowl** or 7 **Plague Judgments**, 15:1–8
    11. The **Scroll**, the 7 **Bowl** or 7 **Plague Judgments**, as the **Wrath of the Lamb**, 16:1–21
    12. Religious **Babylon**, the **Judgement** of the **Great Harlot**, 17:1–18
    13. Commercial **Babylon**, the **Fallen Babylon** in **Judgement**, 18:1–24
    14. The **Second Coming** of **Jesus** in **Wrath**, 19:1–21
  - B. The **Millennium Kingdom**, the **Resurrections**, the **Judgements**, and the **Second Death**, 20:1–15
  - C. New **Heavens** and New **Earth**, the **Eternal State**, 21:1–22:5
- V. Epilogue or Ending Statement, 22:6–21

## Rev 1:20, The **Mystery** (divine secret) of: The 7 **Stars** and 7 **Golden Lampstands** Revealed

“As for the **mystery** (divine secret) of

the seven **stars** which **you** saw in **My** right hand, 1:16, 1:20, 2:1, 3:1

and (mystery of) the seven **golden lampstands**:

the seven **stars** are the **angels** (messengers) of the seven **churches** (assemblies),

and the seven **lampstands** are the seven **churches** (assemblies).

Personification Metaphors

**Visions** and **Mysteries** are often interpreted Literally in the Near Context and Have a Literal Intent.

## **Mysteries** > Hidden Things or Kept Secret Things of God

**Mysteries** in the Bible are those things revealed by **God**, that were previously hidden by **God**.

## **Mysteries** are Revealed > But Kept Secret, then Manifested, Made Known by the **Prophets**

Romans 16:25–26

25 Now to Him who is able to establish you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the **mystery** which has been **kept secret** for long ages past,

26 but now (**mystery**) is **manifested** (disclosed), and (disclosed) by the Scriptures of the **prophets**,

(disclosed) according to the commandment of the eternal God,

(**mystery**) has been **made known** to all the nations, leading to obedience of faith;

### Interpretation of Prophecy Key: Prophecy Often Interprets itself

Chart

In Revelation, as in the OT and Gospels, a Vision, **Mystery**, or Figure of Speech is often presented, and then its Literal interpretation is given in the following Text or Near Context by the Author. All Visions, **Mysteries**, and Figures of Speech in Bible, are Non-Fictional, and Have a Literal Intent,

## The **Angels** (messengers) of the seven **churches** (assemblies) Rev 1:20

**Q:** Who are the **angels** (messengers) of the seven **churches** (assemblies) ?

Are they **Angelic spirit beings** OR Are they **Men** ?

**angel** (angelos, Grk), a **person** who makes an announcement, a **messenger**

*Louw & Nida, Greek-English lexicon of the New Testament*

**angel** (angelos, Grk) most often refers to **angelic winged spirit beings** in **Revelation**.

But the word **angel** (angelos, Grk), is sometimes translated as **human messengers** (**angels**), Lk 9:52, Jas 2:25

In Rev 1:20 **angel** (angelos, Grk), refers to a **human messenger** of each of the 7 **churches**.

**Jesus** holds **them** (the **stars**, the **angels**, the **messengers**) in **His right hand**, 1:16

The **right hand** of **God** is the place of honor for all **believers** as well as **Jesus**. **Read** 2:1

**Jesus** tells **John** to **write** to each of the 7 **Churches**, 2:1, 2:8, 2:12, 2:18, 3:1, 3:7, 3:14

Scripture doesn't have **men write** things for **angelic spirit beings** to read, but only for other **Men** to read.

Therefore, **John** is **writing** to a **Man**, an **Overseer**, an **Elder**, or a **Shepherd**, Acts 20:28, Ezek 34:11-24,

Representing each of the 7 **churches** (assemblies).

The **Messenger** (“**Angel**”) a **Man**, the **Church** (Assembly) **Shepherd** or **Overseer**, 2:1, 8, 12, 18, 3:1, 7, 14

### There are 3 Kinds of Messengers (“**Angels**”) in **Revelation**

Chart

The **Messenger** (“**Angel**”) **Jesus**, Rev 1:1, 1:9-20, Rev 22:6

The **Messenger** (“**Angel**”) **Angelic Being**, 7:2-3, 14:6-11, 15, 18, 17:1-2, 7-18, 18:2-19, 21-24, 19:17-18, 21:9, 22:6-11, 16

The **Messenger** (“**Angel**”) a **Man**, the **Church** (Assembly) **Shepherd** or **Overseer**, 2:1, 8, 12, 18, 3:1, 7, 14