

APOCALYPSE



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Welcome!

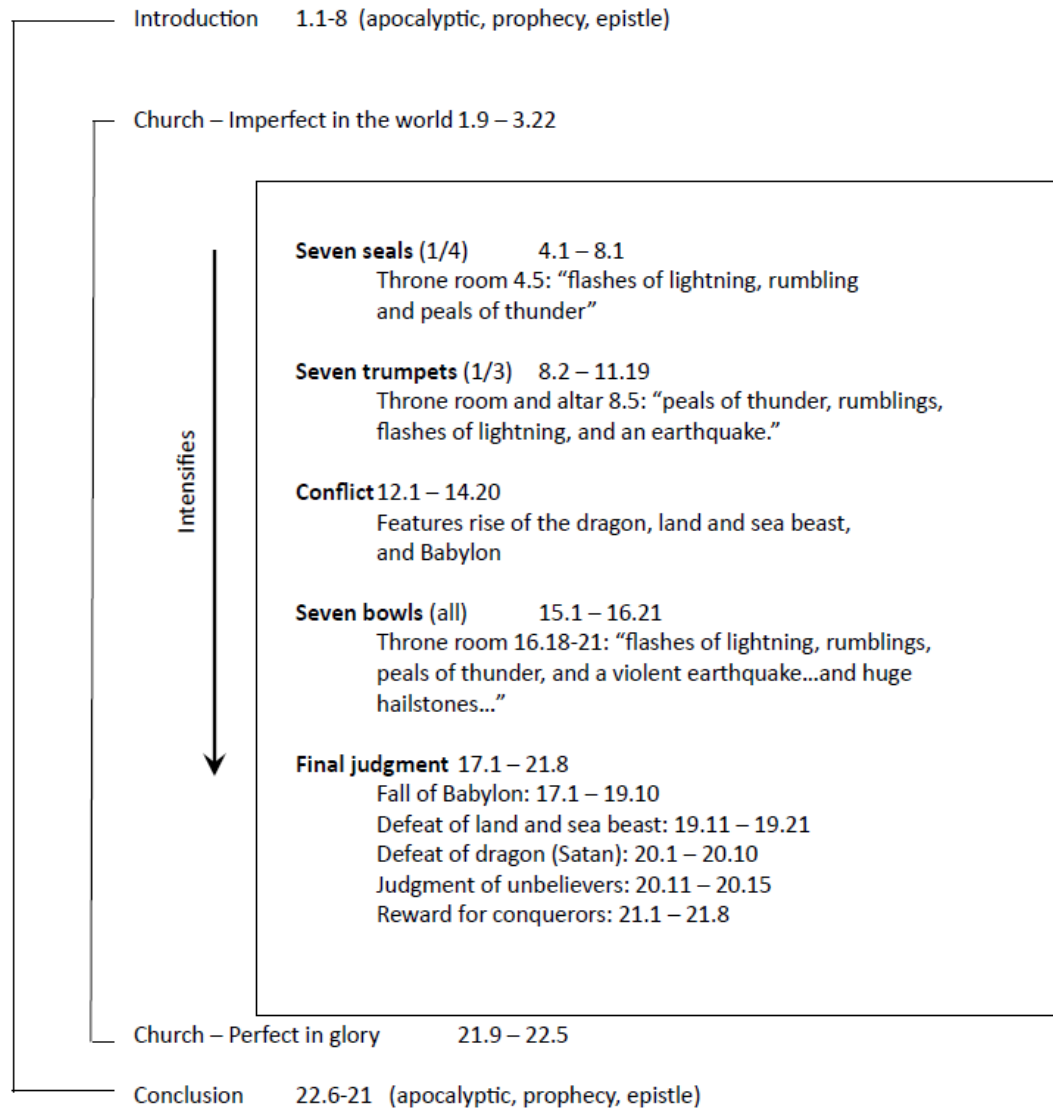
- **Please make sure you have the handouts.**

With a person next to you, discuss:

- 1.What is the craziest thing you read?**
- 2.How is this changing how you see things?**
- 3.Did you see an influence from Ezekiel 1?**
- 4.How about Isaiah 6?**
- 5.If you were under persecution, how would that affect your reading of these chapters?**

APOCALYPSE

Breakdown of Revelation



Isaiah 6 elements

Found in Revelation 4:1-8

- Is. 6:1 – Lord on a throne (Rev. 4:2b)
- Is. 6:2 – seraphs with 6 wings (Rev 4:8)
- Is. 6:2 – Seraphs sing, “Holy, holy, holy Lord of hosts” (Rev. 4:8b)

Ezekiel 1 elements

Found in Revelation 4:1-8

- Ez. 1:5 – Four living creatures (Rev 4:6)
- Ez. 1:6 – Four wings (not 6), four faces (not 1) see Rev. 4:7-8
- Ez. 1:10 – The faces were of human, lion, ox, eagle (Rev. 4:7)
- Ez. 1:13b – Lightning from the fire (Rev. 4:5)
- Ez. 1:18 – Rims are full of eyes (Rev. 4:8)
- Ez. 1:24 – Thunder of the Almighty (Rev. 4:5)
- Ez. 1:28 – Splendor like a rainbow (Rev. 4:3b)

Numbers in Revelation:

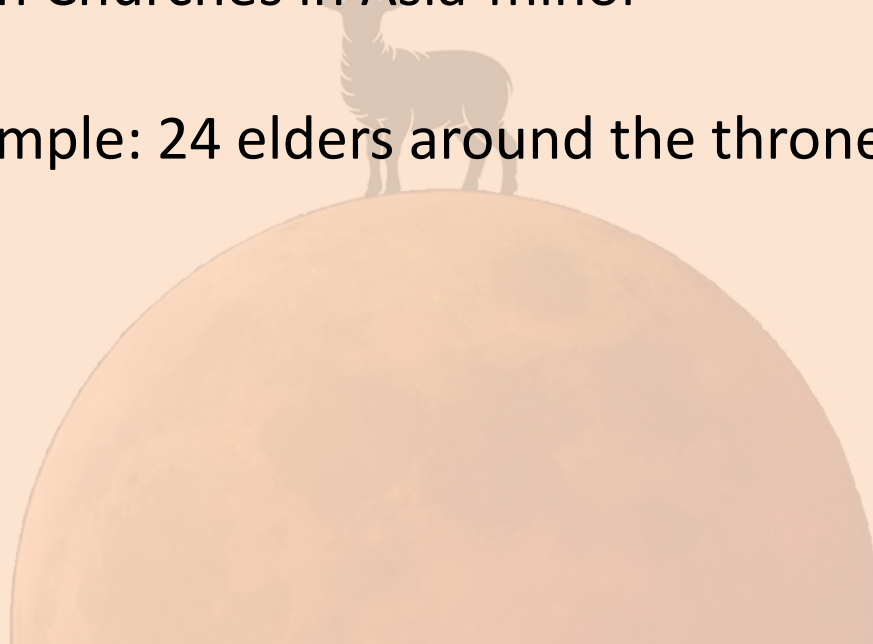
Look for these numbers and see what you notice.

3 –

4 – example: four living creatures (4:7)

7 – Seven Churches in Asia-minor

12 – example: 24 elders around the throne (4:4)



Thrones and Theophany

Theophany means a manifestation of God. See Ezekiel 1 and Exodus 19:16-25

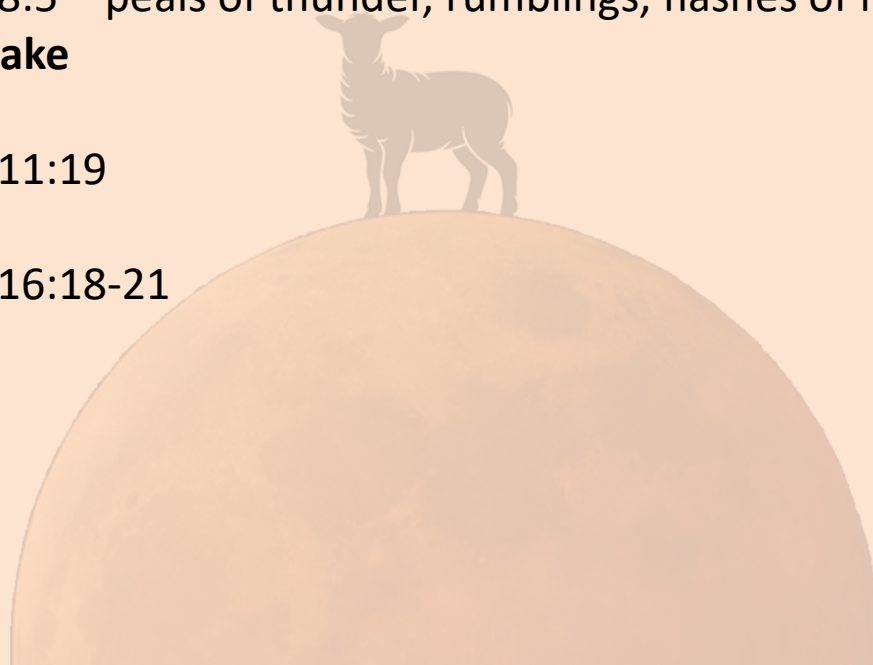
Exodus 19:16-25 – there is thunder and lightning, a thick cloud, blast of a trumpet, smoke and fire, God answered in thunder.

Revelation 4:5 – flashes of lightning, rumblings and peals of thunder, flaming torches

Revelation 8:5 – peals of thunder, rumblings, flashes of lightning, **and an earthquake**

Revelation 11:19

Revelation 16:18-21



Chapter 4 – Heavenly Worship

“On earth the powers of evil challenge God’s role and even masquerade as the ultimate power over all things, claiming divinity. But heaven is the sphere of ultimate reality; what is true in heaven must become true on earth.”

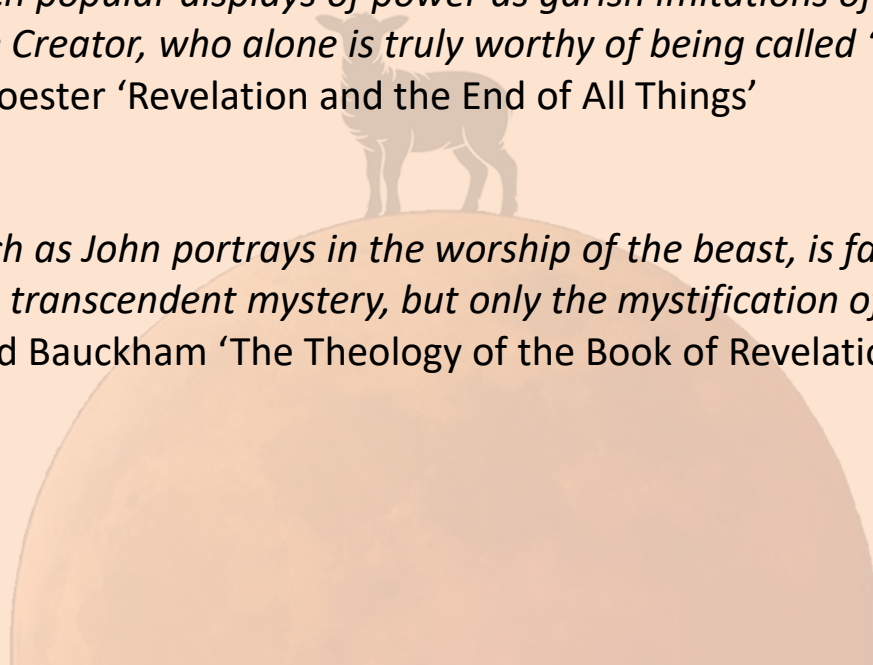
- Richard Bauckham ‘The Theology of the Book of Revelation’

“By giving readers a glimpse of God’s heavenly court, John presses Christians in the seven churches to see such popular displays of power as garish imitations of the true sovereignty that belongs to the Creator, who alone is truly worthy of being called “Lord and God.”

-Craig Koester ‘Revelation and the End of All Things’

“False worship, such as John portrays in the worship of the beast, is false precisely because its object is not the transcendent mystery, but only the mystification of something finite.”

- Richard Bauckham ‘The Theology of the Book of Revelation’



Chapter 5 – The Scroll and the Lamb

Problem: no one is worthy to open the scroll

Solution: The Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David has conquered

What is heard:

Lion of the Tribe of Judah
Root of David
Conquers

Revelation 5:5

144,000 sealed
12,000 from each tribe of Israel
Census = army

Revelation 7:1-8

What is seen:

Lamb who has been slaughtered
By his blood, saints had been
purchased from every tribe and tongue
He is worthy of praise

Revelation 5:6-12

Great multitude no one could count
From every nation, tribe, people, &
language
In white robes, waving Palm branches

Revelation 7:9-14

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	1	2	3	4		5	6	interlude	7	
Seals	6:1-2 White horse, bow, given crown - conquering	6:3-4 Red horse Takes peace from the earth, slaughter each other, given a sword – war	6:5-6 Black horse, pair of scales and a voice “quart of wheat for day’s wages, 3 quarts of barley... don’t damage olive oil and wine” Famine	6:7-8 Pale green horse, rider named death, Hades followed; ¼ of earth to kill via: famine, sword, pestilence, wild animals Death		6:9-11 Souls under the altar, those slaughtered for the word of God. “How long before you judge?” – given a white robe, told to rest until number complete	6:12-17 A great earthquake, sun black as sackcloth, moon like blood, stars fall, sky vanish, mountain and island removed. 7 fold class of humans, call for death – “who can stand?”	7:1-17 4 angels told to wait, servants of God marked w/seal on forehead – 144,000/ Great multitude from every nation – one out of great ordeal...	Silence 8:1 ★	8:5 – Fire from the altar thrown: peals of thunder, rumblings, lightning, & earthquake

First Four Seals: The Four Horsemen

Note: Zechariah 1 and Zechariah 6

White – Conquest

Red – War

Black – Famine

Pale Green – Death and Hades



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Seal Five and Six:

- Seal 5 – “How Long, O Lord?” (6:10) Those who had been slaughtered for the word of God
- Seal 6 – “Who is able to stand?” (6:17) The world is turned upside down in judgment

“Some modern readers are bothered by the martyrs’ cry for justice, arguing that it does not measure up to the standard of turning the other cheek and loving one’s enemies, as Jesus taught; but the plea for justice cannot be easily dismissed. The martyrs suffered not because they were sinners but because they were faithful. One rightly asks: Does God care? Does genuine love turn a blind eye while the wicked shed the blood of the innocent? Or is mercy another name for indifference?”

-Craig Koester ‘Revelation and the End of All Things’

Chapter 7 – Wrath Paused and God's People Sealed

What is heard:

Lion of the Tribe of Judah
Root of David
Conquers

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12,000 from each tribe of Israel
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Revelation 7:9-14

Chapter 7 – The Great Tribulation

“These are they who have come out of the great tribulation (ordeal)”

-Revelation 7:14

“Come out” indicated a continual process - they are ‘coming out’ over a period of time

“Tribulation” in Greek – ‘thlipseos’

Revelation 1:9 “I, John, your brother who share with you in Jesus the **persecution** and the kingdom and the patient endurance, was on the island called Patmos because of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus.”

Revelation 2:10 “Do not fear what you are about to suffer. Beware, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison so that you may be tested, and for ten days you will have **affliction**. Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.”

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Seal Seven: Silence

“When the Lamb opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven for about half an hour.”

-Revelation 8:1

- Zephaniah 1:7 “Be silent before the Lord God! For the day of the Lord is at hand.”
- Habakkuk 2:20, “But the Lord is in his holy temple; let all the earth keep silence before him!”
- Zechariah 2:13, “Be silent, all people, before the Lord; for he has roused himself from his holy dwelling.”