

Breaking Down Revelation

Jeff's Layers of Focus

[Reverse Chronological order]

Ch	Age Time period	Theme	Thread Context
21-22	Heavenly Age <i>Forever</i>	The end.... Which is really the beginning	A new city from heaven comes to earth. It's called the "New Jerusalem" (GREEN); the spectacular walls of the city have 12 gates – each memorializing the names of the 12 tribes of Israel (BLUE). The Nations (YELLOW) travel in and out of the gates to worship the Lamb (RED), the "root", the "descendant of David", the "bright morning star."
20	Millennial Kingdom Age <i>1,000 years</i>	What's your Hermie! (Hermeneutic)? How you interpret this chapter sets your entire eschatology.	Saints reign with Christ (RED) in Jerusalem for 1,000 years while Satan is bound and unable to deceive the nations (YELLOW). Then Satan is released and mobilizes a battle surrounding the "beloved city" (GREEN) – from OT prophets we understand this to be the eventual restoration and kingdom of national Israel (BLUE)
4-19	Great Tribulation Age <i>7 years</i>	A.K.A "Daniel's 70 th week" or "Jacob's trouble." Concerning this time, Jesus says, "let the reader understand." Frequent mention - 3 ½ years, 1260 days, 42 months, etc.	Epic Seed Battle: focus begins on God in heaven's throne room (Ch 4), then the Lamb (5); this male child (Seed) of the woman (12) battles the seed of Satan (13), an antichrist leader who facilitates peace with Jews and resumes worship in a Jerusalem temple; at midpoint, peace is broken and Jews are persecuted; Jerusalem is center of world's attention and antichrist's reign; plagues of God's wrath (6, 8, 9, 15, 16), devastate the earth and all of mankind leading up to the great "Day of the Lord" when Christ returns (19) - again, to Jerusalem - on a white horse in a red robe to strike and judge the nations.... setting up reign on earth for 1,000 years (20).
2-3	Church Age	"Church history"? or "1 st century church"? Or both?	Jesus addresses the 7 churches. No clear mention of the "church" into and throughout Tribulation age.
1	Introduction	this is the Revelation from Jesus himself	Broad book outline: (1) the things that you have seen, (2) those that are, (3) those that are to take place after this (1:19)

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Key Chapters of Great Tribulation
[Key chapters]

Ch	Age Time period	Theme	Thread Context
12	The Bible's big picture	"The most symbolic chapter in Bible's most symbolic book" (Walvoord). Tells the Bible's Big Picture, the epic battle between God and Satan	The Seed (Red), the Nation Israel (Blue) and the Land Jerusalem (Green) – under attack. Dragon is enraged and ups the attack and God rescues Israel for 3 ½ years
13	Satan's tools ("unholy trinity")	Satan's eventual strategy is his two beasts – Antichrist and False Prophet	Most of all, Satan wants to be (like) God. He creates own version of Jesus – the antichrist. Like Jesus, this antichrist survives a mortal wound. Antichrist is given authority for 42 months. Satan also creates own version of Holy Spirit – the False Prophet – who compels the earth to worship the antichrist.
6, 8, 9, 15, 16	Seal, Trumpet, Bowl Judgments	These chapters viewed chronologically by literalists. Ch 6 - Seal Judgments Ch 8 & 9 – Trumpet Judgments Ch 15 & 16 – Bowl Judgments	Satan's hatred and attack centers on God's saints on earth. chosen people (the Jews) and city (Jerusalem). So while Satan is going to war against God's name, people and place – God's wrath is unleashed against the earth and against mankind through series of plague judgments.
4, 5, 7, 10-14, 17-19	Explanatory sections (bouncing back between heaven and earth)	Scenes between heaven & earth. Ch. 4 & 5 - throne room in heaven; Ch. 7, 14 - 144k Jews sealed by God; Ch. 10 - "the scroll" Ch. 11 - "the two witnesses" Ch. 12 & 13 – see above	During tribulation, Jews on earth are getting hammered in two directions – by antichrist persecution and from the plagues. But God preserves a remnant of Jews (Ch 7/14) who will be protected; the famous "two witnesses" (11) will play a center stage role also.

End Times Ages

End Times Season	ET1	ET2	ET3
Description	Great Tribulation, Jacob's Trouble	Kingdom, Millennial Kingdom	New Heavens and Earth
Duration	7 years (two 3 ½ yr seasons)	1,000 years	Eternal
Revelation	Chapters 4-19	20	21-22
Red Thread (Christ)	Appears on white horse on Day of the Lord (Rev. 19)	Reigning from temple	Forever reign
Antichrist/False Prophet	Active throughout – cast into lake of fire at the end	Gone	Gone
Satan	Active via antichrist (A/C) and false prophet	Bound in pit – cast into fire at the end	Gone
Mark of Beast	Antichrist system to buy/sell	No	No
Blue Thread (Nation of Israel)	People gathered... and tested... believing Jews redeemed at end	Enjoys rest	Tribes memorialized
Green Thread (land of Israel)	Occupied – starts peaceful, turns hostile	Refreshed and re-allotted (Ezek 40-48)	New Jerusalem (Heavenly city)
Temple	Temple #3 – profaned by antichrist	Temple #4 – newly built	No temple
The Sea	Turns to blood	Refreshed and watered from temple	No Sea
Yellow Thread (The Nations)	Turns against Jews with antichrist	Visit Jerusalem, friend to the Jews	Walk by light from God's glory
Plagues	Heavy	None	None
Battles	Many	None until final rebellion in the end – God squashes	No
Sin/Spiritual condition	Restraint (holy spirit) removed, wickedness prevails; sin at peak levels	Redeemed and natural people; Christ reigns but sin exists in natural bodies	No sin; God's glory prevails, redeemed creatures

ET 1

ET2

ET3

Tribulation

Millennial Kingdom

New Heavens & Earth

➤ Eternity