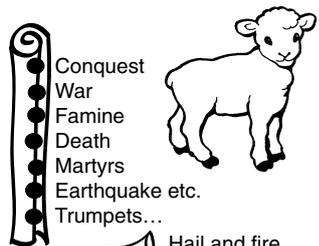
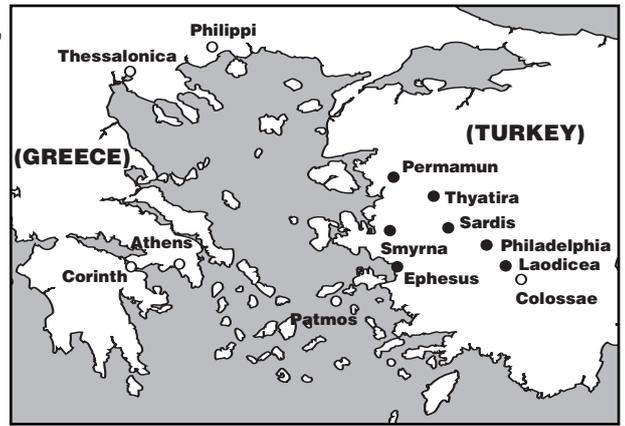


# Revelation "Behold, I am coming soon"

1	Prologue - introducing Jesus the Winner		
2	Letters to Seven Churches	Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadephia, Laodicea	
3			
4	God's Throne		
5	The Scroll		
6	The Lamb		
7	6 Seals opened	Conquest War Famine Death Martyrs Earthquake etc. Trumpets...	Events leading up to the end
8	144,000 & multitude		
9	7th Seal	Hail and fire	
10	6 Trumpets	Sea to blood Darkness Horses and Riders - Woe(2)	Persecution Great Distress
11	Little Scroll	Bitter water Locusts - Woe(1)	
12	Two Witnesses	Kingdom & Judgement - Woe(3)	
13	7th Trumpet		The Antichrist and his kingdom
14	Woman and Dragon		
15	Two Beasts		
16	New song and judgement	Sores	
17	7 Bowls of God's Wrath	Sea to blood Burning heat Preparation for battle(Armageddon)	Final Great Distress
18	The fall of Babylon the great prostitute	Rivers to blood Darkness Earthquake and destruction	The fall of the Antichrist system The human City
19	Victory and the arrival of the King		The return of Jesus
20	1000 yr reign and judgement	Beasts destroyed Satan bound Satan destroyed	
21	The New Jerusalem	Great white throne	The eternal City of God
22	"He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away."		



## Letters to Seven Churches

### Problems in churches

- False Apostles
- Persecution
- Forsaken first love
- Baalam and Nicolations - Idols and immorality
- Jezebel
- Spiritually dead
- Lukewarm

### Commendations

- Hard work, perseverance
- Tested false apostles
- Endured hardships, not grown weary
- Remain true to my name
- Did not renounce your faith in me
- Deeds, love, faith, service, perseverance
- Kept my word and not denied my name
- Kept command and endured patiently

### Exhortations

- Be earnest and repent
- Do not be afraid of persecution
- Be faithful even to the point of death
- Wake up, strengthen what remains
- Remember what you have received and heard: obey it
- Hold on to what you have

## Old Testament Related References

NT Text	OT Text	Subject
Rev 1:7	Zec 12:10	Looking on one pierced
Rev 1:13	Da 7:13	Coming Son of Man
Rev 1:13-15	Da 10:5-6	Vision of a man
Rev 1:15	Eze 43:2	Voice of rushing waters
Rev 2:27	Ps 2:9	Ruling the nations
Rev 4:6-8	Eze 1:4-10	Four living creatures
Rev 4:8	Isa 6:3	Holy, holy, holy
Rev 5:6	Zec 4:10	Seven eyes of God
Rev 6:2-8	Zec 6:1-6	Four different-colored horses
Rev 6:8	Eze 14:21	Four dreadful judgments
Rev 7:3	Eze 9:4	A mark on the forehead
Rev 7:16	Isa 49:10	Eternal blessings
Rev 7:17	Isa 25:8	God wipes away tears
Rev 10:4	Da 12:4	Sealed words
Rev 10:9-10	Eze 3:1-3	Eating a scroll
Rev 11:1	Eze 40:3	Measuring the temple
Rev 11:4	Zec 4:1-2	Lampstand and olive trees
Rev 11:15	Da 7:27	An everlasting kingdom
Rev 12:14	Da 7:25;12:7	Three times and a half
Rev 13:1-2	Da 7:3-7	Beasts from the sea
Rev 13:6	Da 11:36	Blaspheming God
Rev 13:7	Da 7:21	War against the saints
Rev 14:14	Da 7:13	Coming Son of Man
Rev 17:12	Da 7:24	Ten horns as ten kings
Rev 18:13-19	Eze 27:27-32	Destruction of a sinful city
Rev 19:15	Ps 2:9	Ruling the nations
Rev 19:17-21	Eze 39:17-20	Food for the birds
Rev 20:8-9	Eze 38:1-39; 16	Gog and Magog
Rev 20:12	Da 7:10	Court books being opened
Rev 21:4	Isa 25:8	God wipes away tears
Rev 21:7	1Ch 17:13	Father and son
Rev 21:10	Eze 40; 1-2	Vision of new Jerusalem
Rev 21:12-13	Eze 48:30-35	Twelve gates of the city
Rev 22:1-2	Eze 47:1, 12	Flowing waters and fruit trees

## End time prophecy

### • Matthew 24:3-14 • Revelation 6:1-15

After the first coming of Jesus there are signs of the end, persecution of Christians and the preaching of the gospel message.

### • Matthew 24:15-22 • Revelation 8:1-21

Nearer the end will come a time of great distress associated with the rule of the antichrist.

### • Rev 13:11-18:24 • 1 John 2:18-23

### • 1 John 4:3 • 2 John 7 • Dan 8:9-12

### • Dan 8:23-25 • Dan 9:26-27 • Dan 11:21-39

The antichrist will be opposed to God and will try to break the will of believers.

### • Rev 19:1-21 • 2 Thess 2:1-12 • Dan 7:8-14

### • Dan 7:23-27 • Matt 24:29-44 • 1 Thess 4:13-17

### • Acts 1:9-11

Jesus will return as King of Kings and Lord of Lords, the end-time Babylon will be destroyed and the saved will be raised from the dead.

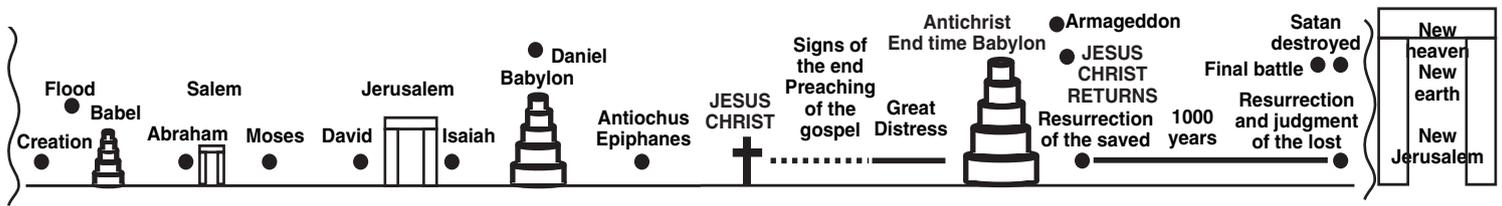
### • Rev 20:1-15 • John 5:28-29 • 1 Cor 15:50-57

### • Dan 12:2-3 • 1 Cor 15:20-28 • 2 Peter 3:1-14

Jesus will reign for 1000 years on earth before the final battle, the destruction of Satan and the resurrection and judgment of the lost..

### • Rev 21:1-22:21 • Is 65:16-19

The everlasting kingdom is described as the new Jerusalem. "The dwelling of God is with men and he will live with them."



## A tale of two cities

Much of Bible history can be seen as the conflict between the city of the world, typified by Babylon, and the city of God, typified by Jerusalem.

## Babylon

**Early Babylon** — The first wicked city in the Bible is that of Cain (Gen 4:17) and the wickedness of the society surrounding this city was eventually judged in the flood. Babel (=Babylon), characterised by pride and false religion (Gen 10:8-10, 11:1-9) was judged by confusion of languages. Sodom and Gommorah are cities in the same mould (Gen 18:16-19:38). Babylon itself, on the River Euphrates, continued to develop into a large and civilised city.

**Babylonian empire** — In 612 BC Babylon became the capital of an empire which lasted for around 70 years. In October 539 BC Babylon fell to the Medes and Persians (Dan 5:1-31). Babylon was the archetype of worldly kingdoms and empires. Chapters 2 and 7-11 of Daniel have descriptions of more empires which can be identified as Medo-Persian, Greek, Roman, an end time anti-Christ kingdom and the final triumphant kingdom of God.

**End-time Babylon** — The book of Revelation describes a Babylon in the end-time which contains the evil elements of earlier Babylon types and an anti-Christ world leader. There are many prophecies in the Bible which describe the sins and destruction of Babylon (Is 13:1-14:32, 21:1-10, 43:14, 46:1-47:15, Jer 25:12, 50:1-51:64, Rev 14:8, 16:19, 17:1-18:24). It is characterised by:

- Pride, rebellion, self-sufficiency and godlessness.
- Political and military power oppressing the weak and the people of God.
- Desire for world domination.
- Economic power, wealth and trade.
- False religion, sorcery and astrology.
- Sin and immorality.

The city and empire of Babylon is a graphic description of the world system in which we live.

## Jerusalem

**Jerusalem** — The first mention is when the king of Salem (=Jerusalem) blesses Abraham and receives tithes from him (Gen 14:18-20). About 1000 BC Jerusalem (also called Zion) was established as the political and worship centre of the Israelites by King David (2 Sam 5:6-6:19), and a magnificent temple was built there by his son Solomon. The city remained in the hands of the Israelite tribe of Judah (from which we get the word *Jew*) for about 400 years until 587 BC when it was razed to the ground by the Babylonians. The Jews (including Ezekiel and Daniel) were taken into captivity in Babylon where they lived as exiles. After the fall of Babylon the Jews were allowed to return to their city (Ezra and Nehemiah), but they never became politically powerful again. A large temple was completed shortly before Jesus was born. Jerusalem was destroyed in 70 AD by the Romans. This physical Jerusalem has been a visual aid for the New Jerusalem.

**New Jerusalem** — The heavenly Jerusalem is the company of all God's people through the ages (Gal 4:25-26, Heb 12:22-24). They are the people of the kingdom of God. The Bible finishes with the destruction of Babylon and the triumphant appearance of the eternal, perfect new Jerusalem (Rev 21:1-22:5).

## Anti-Christ

The New Testament writers expect the emergence of an antichrist character in the last days. A particular prophecy can have many levels of fulfilment - events in the relatively near future and also a more distant end-time fulfilment. The spirit of antichrist has revealed itself in many people through the centuries as they have fulfilled in themselves these prophecies. There is, however, still the expectation of a final world ruler.

1) Old Testament Prophecy  
The book of Daniel makes the most obvious references to this character.

(a) References to Antiochus Epiphanes  
Antiochus (IV) Epiphanes (175-163 BC) was a Syrian ruler who persecuted the Jews in an attempt to destroy their faith. He is a precursor to the antichrist. He is alluded to in Dan 8:9-12, 11:21-35, 12:11. From later history we know that:

- He prohibited circumcision, temple services, sabbaths and feasts.
- He destroyed and burnt sacred writings
- He robbed the temple of its equipment
- He compelled the Jews to eat pork
- He set up an altar to Zeus in the Jewish temple and sacrificed pigs.

This is the abomination that causes desolation in Dan 11:31 and which Jesus used in Matt 24:15 when speaking of the end-time.

(b) References to the end-time antichrist  
Daniel 7 gives a description of this character in v 7-14, 23-27 :

- This person will arise from the fourth empire - in a sense we are still in the period of the old Roman empire.
- He will be boastful and will speak against God and will oppress God's people.
- He will be destroyed by God in the establishment of the eternal kingdom of God.

2) New Testament Prophecy

(a) 1 John

References in this book (2:18-27, 4:1-3), speak of the spirit of antichrist in the world, the fact that there have been antichrists and that there will be an antichrist..

(b) 2 Thess 2:1-12

This passage describes a "man of lawlessness" who will appear before the coming of the Lord.

- He will exalt himself and claim to be God
- He will be inspired by Satan and will deceive the world with all sorts of miracles etc
- He will be destroyed at the coming of Jesus

(c) Rev 13-19

This graphic account of the rule of the Beast

includes:

- Reference to the the 10 horns in Daniel 7
- Power and authority given by Satan
- A satanic trinity - The dragon, the beast and the second beast (the false prophet)
- Proud words and blasphemies
- Miraculous signs
- War against the saints and persecution
- World political system
- World religious system
- World economic system
- Association with Babylon - world culture
- Final destruction by the Lamb, the Word of God

## Revelation Chapter 12

This difficult but important chapter describes the battle in heaven and on earth. This type of writing is pictorial with many vivid details. The events are not necessarily strictly chronological and there may be repetition as with Old Testament prophecy. We need to look for the main teaching of this passage which is central in the book of Revelation.

- The woman is the symbol of the people of God, the heavenly Jerusalem (Gal 4:6), the true children of Abraham, who bring forth the Messiah (v 4-5)
- The first coming of Christ is alluded to briefly in v 5 - Satan confronted him but could not devour him. The nations have been the stronghold of Satan but in the end time Jesus will rule in God's Kingdom over all the earth (v 10, Ps 2:7-9) - Satan will be stripped of his empire.
- The defeat of Satan is described in a number of ways:
  - (i) Christ's authority has been established (v 10)
  - (ii) The power of Satan to accuse has been removed (v 10)
  - (iii) The victory is assured by the blood of the Lamb (in the past) and the brave testimony of believers (in the present) (v 11)
  - (iv) God has conquered Satan. Michael and his angels are servants of God who execute the victory of God achieved in Christ. (v 7-9)

• Since the time of Jesus, Satan has been particularly active on earth (v 13), he is furious, enraged, and is concerned to make war against the church who are the rest of the woman's offspring - "those who obey God's commandments and hold to the testimony of Jesus". (v 17)

• God will protect his people and deliver them (vs 6, 14, 16) and particularly during the reign of terror of the antichrist symbolised by three and a half years (vs 6, 14 see also Dan 7:25, Rev 11:2-3, Rev 13:5).