

SUMMARY

REVELATION

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REVELATION 4:1-16:22 (Central Part)	
Structure Markers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The central part of Revelation 4:1-16:22 consists of three sections. These are marked by the following words: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ From the throne came flashes of lightning, and rumblings and peals of thunder (Revelation 4:5) ◦ there were peals of thunder, rumblings, flashes of lightning, and an earthquake (Revelation 8:5) ◦ There were flashes of lightning, rumblings, peals of thunder, an earthquake, and heavy hail (Revelation 11:19) ◦ And there were flashes of lightning, rumblings, peals of thunder, and a great earthquake such as there had never been since man was on the earth, so great was that earthquake - And great hailstones, about one hundred pounds each, fell from heaven on people; and they cursed God for the plague of the hail, because the plague was so severe (Revelation 16:18-21)
Main Paragraphs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revelation 4:1-7:17 • Revelation 8:1-11:14 • Revelation 11:15-16:21

REVELATION 4:1-16:22 (Central Part) – Third Paragraph 11:15-16:22	
Overview	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revelation 11:15-19: The seventh trumpet: the final announce of the Kingdom Jesus; the day of judgement; the Lord's Day • Revelation 12:1-16:22: The “book of signs”) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ The “book of signs”) consists of two parts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Revelation 12:1-14:20 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A great sign: the woman (12:1) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An other sign: the dragon (12:3) ◦ Revelation 15:1-16:21 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ An other sign, great and amazing: seven angels with the seven bowls of Gods wrath (15:1)

REVELATION 11:15-19	
Interesting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The name of God is changing! <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ him who is and who was and who is to come; Revelation 1:4 ◦ who is and who was and who is to come; Revelation 1:8 ◦ who was and is and is to come; Revelation 4:8 ◦ who is and who was; Revelation 11:17 ◦ who is and who was; Revelation 16:5
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meaning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ The two instances “who is and who was” indicate that God has come. There will be no longer delay for the Day of Judgement, the Lord's Day.

REVELATION 12:1-14:20 ("First Part of the Book of Signs")	
Overview	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12:1-17: the signs in heaven • 13:1-18: the beast from the sea and from the earth • 14:1-20: the victory of Christ
Revelation 12:1-17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This vision gives us an overview of church history, the old and the new testament. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ The basis for this vision is Genesis 3:15: I will put enmity between you (serpent) and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel.” • Revelation 12:1-6: the Old Testament; the woman = Eve, the people of Israel, Mary of whom Christ is born • Revelation 12:7-12: war in heaven and the victory of Christ; Satan is cast out of heaven. He knows he has little time <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Luke 10:18: “I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven.” ◦ 1 Peter 5:8: “Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.” • Revelation 12:13-17: the New Testament; the offspring of woman is the church, being persecuted. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ He is commanding the two beasts (Revelation 13)
Old Testament Background	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Genesis 3:15
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meaning: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ John sees the spiritual war between the serpent and the offspring of the woman: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Eve, people of Israel, Mary ▪ Jesus ▪ church of God

	REVELATION 12:1-14:20 ("First Part of the Book of Signs")
Revelation 13:1-18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two beasts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ The beast coming out of the sea – Revelation 13:1-10 ◦ The beast coming out of the land – Revelation 13:11-18
Old Testament Background	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daniel 7:1-8: the vision of the beasts
Meaning of the Images	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beast – Roman Empire • Beast – Greek-Roman Religion especially: emperor-worship (Emperor Domitian) • sea – west (Rome) • land – east (Asia) • horn – king • another beast rising out of the earth. It had two horns like a lamb and it spoke like a dragon – false prophecy
Main Message	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revelation 13:10: If anyone is to be taken captive, to captivity he goes; if anyone is to be slain with the sword, with the sword must he be slain. Here is a call for the endurance and faith of the saints.
Special attention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number 666 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Does this number refer to an individual person? ◦ Has it symbolic meaning? <p>Proposal: John writes it is the number of man, so it is not a godly number. One solution might be: it is the number of the Antichrist. Another solution might be that it is referring to the 3 series of 7 (seals, trumpets, bowls). At final 7th bowl: the power of the beast will be destroyed.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meaning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ The Roman Emperor ordered emperor-worship especially in Asia, where Domitian had a huge image erected at Ephesus. ◦ The Greek-Roman religious body in Asia was supporting this, thereby Christians forcing to partake in idol-worship. ◦ The main weapon was: economic exclusion: Revelation 13:16-17: 16 Also it causes all, both small and great, both rich and poor, both free and slave, to be marked on the right hand or the forehead, 17 so that no one can buy or sell unless he has the mark, that is, the name of the beast or the number of its name. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Because if one wanted to be a handicraftsman or a trader, one had to be a member of a guild, or trade-society. These trade-societies were also responsible for some religious activities.

	REVELATION 12:1-14:20 ("First Part of the Book of Signs")
Revelation 14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The victory of the Lamb <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ The Lamb and the 144.000 (from Revelation 7:1-8) – Revelation 14:1-5 ◦ Three angels announce the coming day of Judgement and wrath of God – Revelation 14:6-11 ◦ Call to perseverance and endurance of the saints – Revelation 14:12-13 ◦ The harvest of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The saints – Revelation 14:14-16 ▪ The rest, prepared for the wine-press of Gods wrath – Revelation 14:17-20
Main Message	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revelation 14:12-13 12 Here is a call for the endurance of the saints, those who keep the commandments of God and their faith in Jesus. 13 And I heard a voice from heaven saying, “Write this: Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on.” “Blessed indeed,” says the Spirit, “that they may rest from their labors, for their deeds follow them!” <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Till the moment Jesus returns, the living Christians should persevere. When they are put to death: Revelation 14:13 contains a beautiful comforting promise
Additional Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 It is these who have not defiled themselves with women, for they are virgins. It is these who follow the Lamb wherever he goes. These have been redeemed from mankind as firstfruits for God and the Lamb, 5 and in their mouth no lie was found, for they are blameless – Revelation 14:4-5 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ not defiled themselves with woman, this is a reference to the office of priests – they belong to the priestly kingdom • “And the winepress was trodden outside the city, and blood flowed from the winepress, as high as a horse’s bridle, for 1,600 stadia.” - Revelation 14:20 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Outside the city as was Christ crucified outside the city ◦ Stadia = about 200 meter ◦ 1600 = a square number 40 * 40 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 40 is an important number in the Bible – a complete preparation • The wine-press is not the day of Judgement! <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ But a retaliation of all the bloodshed in this world, because of the faith of Christians

	REVELATION 12:1-14:20 ("First Part of the Book of Signs")
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meaning: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Chapter 13 described great oppression, economic exclusion and the hardships, which the Christians will endure. ◦ Chapter 14 describes the victory through the blood of Christ and the retaliation and judgement of God. It is meant to encourage Christians to endure hard times and stay faithful, because of the promises.

	REVELATION 15:1-16:21 ("Second part of the Book of Signs")	
Overview	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scene in heaven – Revelation 15:1-8 • Seven bowls of Gods wrath – Revelation 16:1-21 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Four bowls affecting earth – Revelation 16:1-9 ◦ Two bowls destroying the power of the two beasts – Revelation 16:10-16 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ With a assurance of his coming – Revelation 16:15 ◦ The final bowl: the destruction of the great city – God has come – Revelation 16:17-21 	
Revelation 15:1-8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revelation comes to its climax. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Look at the ark of the covenant = especially important for the relation between the old and the new testament, they belong to the one covenant in Christ. ◦ The saints are standing at the sea of glass, they are safe now, because the sea of glass separated heaven from earth ◦ The sing a song of glory to God ans His Christ 	
Old Testament Background	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Song of Moses – Exodus 15 • Smoke filling the temple (tabernacle) – especially 1 Kings 8:10-11 	
Revelation 16:1-9	Revelation 8:6-12	Revelation 16:1-9
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First trumpet – earth • Second trumpet – sea • Third trumpet – fresh waters • Fourth trumpet – sky 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First bowl – earth • Second bowl – sea • Third bowl – fresh waters • Fourth bowl – sky
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In Revelation 8:8-12 it is 1/3, now it is the whole <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Again there is no repentance. Instead they are cursing God 	
Revelation 16:10-16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The fifth and sixth bowl affect the: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ first beast ◦ the second beast, false prophecy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ They will break there power ▪ This will happen at a symbolic place called “Armageddon”, a famous site in the old land of Israel where many wars have been fought and armies were destroyed ◦ This will be a period of great distress and anxiety and Jesus says: “I 	

	REVELATION 15:1-16:21 (“Second part of the Book of Signs”)
	WILL COME”
Extra information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Frogs are a symbol of foretelling and magic. Satan wants to delude through false prophecy for the very last time, but it will lead to destruction.
Revelation 16:17-21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The seventh bowl. All “sevens” have come to an end. God has come to judge the city of Babylon, the city of Rome, all powers of this earth