

SUMMARY

REVELATION

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REVELATION 17:1-22:21			
Short overview	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The final part consists of two parts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ The final destination of the two cities – Babylon (Rome) and the church of God <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Revelation 17:1-21:8 – Babylon and the Day of Judgement ▪ Revelation 21:9-22:20 – The New Jerusalem and the Promise of the return of Christ 		
Parallel Structure	Revelation 4:1-7:17	Revelation 8:1-11:14	Revelation 11:15-22:21
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scene in heaven - Revelation 4-5 • Six seals - Revelation 6 • Two answers to the question of Revelation 6:17 - Revelation 7 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scene in heaven - Revelation 8:1-5 • Six trumpets - Revelation 8-9 • Two visions about prophecy - Revelation 10-11 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scene in heaven - Revelation 11:15-19 and Revelation 15 • Seven Bowls - Revelation 16 • Two cities and their destination - Revelation 17-22

REVELATION 17:1-22:21		
Two remarkable verses	Revelation 19:10	Revelation 22:8
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • And he said to me, “These are the true words of God.” <p>Then I fell down at his feet to worship him, but he said to me, “You must not do that! I am a fellow servant with you and your brothers who hold to the testimony of Jesus. Worship God.”</p> <p>For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I, John, am the one who heard and saw these things. And when I heard and saw them, I fell down to worship at the feet of the angel who showed them to me, but he said to me, “You must not do that! I am a fellow servant with you and your brothers the prophets, and with those who keep the words of this book. Worship God.” <p>And he said to me, “Do not seal up the words of the prophecy of this book, for the time is near.</p>

REVELATION 17:1-22:21					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meaning: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ These two remarkable verses mark the two transitions between the main parts. 				
	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 50%; text-align: center;">Babylon</th> <th style="width: 50%; text-align: center;">New Jerusalem</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revelation 17:1-19:10 The Fall of Babylon • Revelation 19:11-21:8 The Judgement </td> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revelation 21:9-22:8 The descent of the new Jerusalem • Revelation 22:9-22:21 The call for the Return of Christ </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Babylon	New Jerusalem	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revelation 17:1-19:10 The Fall of Babylon • Revelation 19:11-21:8 The Judgement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revelation 21:9-22:8 The descent of the new Jerusalem • Revelation 22:9-22:21 The call for the Return of Christ
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REVELATION 17:1-19:10 – The Fall of Babylon	
Revelation 17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Description of the present situation of Rome
Extra information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The great prostitute = the city of Rome • seated on many waters = the Mediterranean Sea • scarlet beast = the Roman Empire
Interesting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • John describes the power of Rome and the beast: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Revelation 17:8 The beast that you saw was, and is not, and is about to rise from the bottomless pit and go to destruction. ◦ Revelation 17:11 As for the beast that was and is not, it is an eighth but it belongs to the seven, and it goes to destruction. • Compare with the NAME of God: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Revelation 1:4 Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, ◦ Revelation 11:17 “We give thanks to you, Lord God Almighty, who is and who was, for you have taken your great power and begun to reign. • Meaning: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ This comparison shows us that the power of the Roman Empire will come to an end, where the power of God will remain for ever and ever.
The numbers 7, 8, 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • John uses these numbers. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ 7 and 10 are numbers of completeness and totality, describing the total power of kings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Many scholars have tried to identify these numbers with successive Roman Emperors. But the identification is difficult. ▪ Therefore it is better to use them as symbolic numbers. ◦ The meaning of the number 8 is probable: a final attempt to restore power, which does not succeed.

REVELATION 17:1-19:10 – The Fall of Babylon	
Revelation 18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revelation 18:1-8 – the angel announces the judgement of God and the fall of Babylon <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Revelation 18:9-20 – because of the fall of Babylon the weeping of <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The kings ▪ The merchants ▪ The shipmasters • Revelation 18:21-24 – the angel announces the complete destruction of the city
Interesting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In Revelation 18:11-13 28(!) trade goods are mentioned: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ 4 = the number of the earth ◦ 7 = the number of totality ◦ 4 * 7 = 28 • Meaning: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ The total power and economic trade will collapse with the fall of Babylon (= Rome)
Revelation 9:1-9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revelation 9:1-5 – song of victory • Revelation 9:6-9 – the supper of the LAMB – as He promised to drink the wine anew in the Kingdom of his Father.

REVELATION 19:10-21:8 – The Judgement			
Overview	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This part has also a structure marker: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Revelation 19:20 – the lake of fire that burns with sulfur. ◦ Revelation 20:10 – the lake of fire and sulfur ◦ Revelation 20:15 – the lake of fire ◦ Revelation 21:8 – the lake that burns with fire and sulfur, which is the second death 		
		Who?	Explanation
	• Revelation 19:20	The beast and The false prophet (Revelation 13)	The Roman Empire Greek-Roman Religion
	• Revelation 20:10	Satan	Satan
	• Revelation 20:15	Whose name was not found written in the book of life	The non-Christians
	• Revelation 21:8	the cowardly, the faithless, the detestable, as for murderers, the sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars	Half-hearted Christians, members of the Churches, who did not conquer (Revelation 2:7; 2:11 and other places in Revelation 2,3)

	REVELATION 19:10-19:21 – The first act of Judgement
Revelation 19:10-21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jesus Christ wages war against the beast and the false prophet by his judgement - “From his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations, and he will rule them with a rod of iron. He will tread the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God the Almighty” (Revelation 19:15) • The images in Revelation 19:17-21 are taken from the battlefield. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ A Jewish writer, Josephus, in the first century gave us an historical account of the atrocities by the Romans (and Jews) in the first Jewish war in his book “the Jewish War”
Please Note	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is a symbolic war, because the beast and the false prophet are symbols of the anti-Christian political power and the anti-Christian religions, especially Emperor worship or in our days totalitarian regimes and ideologies

	REVELATION 20:1-10 – The second act of Judgement
Revelation 20:1-10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christ will pass judgement upon Satan.
Please Note	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are many diverging theologies concerning the thousand years <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Amillennialism = Reformed-Presbyterian, first advocated by Augustine (4th century) – the thousand years span the period of ascension day to the return of Christ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Problem: Satan is not bound during this period – 1 Peter 5:8 ◦ Premillennialism = Christ will return before (pre-) the thousand years. He will take the church up into heaven. Israel, the old people of God, will inherit the earth. This will be a period of peace and many will come to belief in Jesus Christ. After the thousand years, Christ will come again to judge. Then there will be the new heaven and new earth. ◦ Postmillennialism = Christ will return after (post-) the thousand years. • Main critique <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ All these theologies fail to take into account, that Revelation 19:10-21:8 is one unified part of Revelation concerning the judgement. ◦ They also fail to take into account, that the words used: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ holding in his hand the key ▪ bottomless pit ▪ great chain ▪ seized the dragon ▪ bound him for a thousand years ▪ and threw him into the pit, and shut it and sealed it over him ◦ And also: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Then I saw thrones, and seated on them were those to whom the authority to judge was committed. ◦ Are referring to prison and judgement

	REVELATION 20:1-10 – The second act of Judgement	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Therefore we might conclude that this part of Scripture is referring to the Judgement Day. 	
Additional Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1000 years <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2 Peter 3:8 <p>But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.</p> 	
Old Testament Background	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gog and Magog – Ezekiel 38-39 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ These are difficult to explain, because of historical uncertainty ○ Why are they mentioned? Revelation is following the pattern of Ezekiel 37-48 	
	Ezekiel	Revelation
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ezekiel 37 – the valley of dry bones, which come to life • Ezekiel 38-39 – Gog and Magog • Ezekiel 40-48 – the New Temple, the river flowing out of the temple 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revelation 20:5 – the first resurrection • Revelation 20:8 – Gog and Magog • Revelation 21:9-22:6 – the New Jerusalem, the new Paradise

	REVELATION 20:11-15 – The third act of Judgement	
Revelation 20:1-15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The books are opened • The book of life is opened – this is the meaning of the scroll in Revelation 5 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The living and the death will be judged 	

	REVELATION 21:1-8 – The fourth act of Judgement	
Revelation 21:1-8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revelation 21:1-6: the new heaven and the new earth <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Revelation 21:7: the one who conquers will inherit ○ Revelation 21:8: the one who did not conquer will not inherit these things <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ He will suffer the same judgement as the non-Christians 	
Please Note	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revelation 21:5-6: <p>“Behold, I am making all things new.”</p> <p>Also he said, “Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.”</p> <p>And he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give from the spring of the water of life without payment.</p> 	
Old Testament Reference	<p>To the thirsty I will give from the spring of the water of life without payment. - Isaiah 55:1</p>	

	REVELATION 21:9-22:21 – The New Jerusalem
Overview	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revelation 21:9-22:7 – the New Jerusalem and the new Paradise • Revelation 22:8-21 – the promise of and the call to Jesus to come again and restore all things
Revelation 21:9-22:7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The descend of the heavenly Jerusalem, the new heaven and the new earth, the Paradise
Special features	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The number 12 is important • The use of gems and pearls • The size of the city is of special importance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 12.000 stadia which means 12.000 * 200 meter = 2400 Km <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 12 * 1000 ○ the size: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ the length = 12.000 ▪ the width = 12.000 ▪ the height = 12.000 <p style="margin-left: 40px;">This means: the form of the city is a cube</p>
Old Testament Background	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 Kings 6 – the description of the temple of Solomon <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ `Where: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The most Holy Place is also a cube (20 * 20 * 20 cubits) ▪ The ornaments refer to the Paradise
Interesting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the Old Testament we have: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The land of Israel – the city of Jerusalem – the temple – the Most Holy place • In Revelation we have: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The temple = God and the Lamb – the Most Holy place is the city of God • Which means = God will surround us and we will dwell in God!
The New Paradise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please note: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The tree of knowledge of good and evil is not any longer there.
Old Testament Background	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Genesis 2
Revelation 22:8-22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In this final part we will find the final admonishments and the promise of Jesus that he will come <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Als the Church and the Spirit are praying: And are inviting everybody to join: The Spirit and the Bride say, “Come.” And let the one who hears say, “Come.” And let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who desires take the water of life without price.”
Finally	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revelation 22:18-19 – I warn everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: if anyone adds to them, God will add to him the plagues described in this book, 19 and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God will take away his share in the tree of life and in the holy city, which are described in this book.