

I. AN OVERVIEW OF THE BOOK OF REVELATION

A. The 4 Parts

1. John's Commission (chapter 1)
2. The Seven Letters to the Seven Churches (chapter 2-3)
3. The Throne Room Vision (chapters 4-5)
4. The Transition Period Between This Age and the Next (chapters 6-22)

B. The 5 Sections of Part 4

1. Chronological: **7 SEALS** (6)
Explanation: PROTECTION OF THE ELECT (7)
2. Chronological: **7 TRUMPETS** (8-9)
Explanation: PROPHETIC DIRECTION (10-11)
3. Chronological: **7TH TRUMPET AND SECOND COMING PROCESSION** (11:15-19)
Explanation: OUR CONFRONTATION WITH SATAN, THE BEAST & FALSE PROPHET (12-14)
4. Chronological: **7 BOWLS OF WRATH** (15-16)
Explanation: SEDUCTION OF HARLOT BABYLON (17-18)
5. Chronological: **JESUS' ENTRANCE INTO JERUSALEM** (19-20)
Explanation: RESTORATION OF ALL THINGS (21-22)

II. WHY STUDY THE SEALS, TRUMPETS AND BOWLS?

- A. Clarity
- B. Agreement
- C. Participation

III. THE COMING STORM THE SEALS, TRUMPETS AND BOWLS (REV. 6, 8-9, 16)

The Great Tribulation is not released upon us but by us. We are not victims of God's wrath. We are the agents of loosing God's judgment on the Antichrist's wicked regime. We release the seals, trumpets and bowls in the same manner that Moses and Aaron released the plagues upon Pharaoh's empire – through prayer and proclamation. Thus it is essential that we understand the nature of these events and the heart of the One who is releasing them.

- A. They are future events. We know that because nothing in history compares
- B. They are literal events. We know that because there is no substantial reason to strip them of their face value meaning to make them symbolic.

- C. They are **chronological events**. We know that because they are *numbered*.
- D. They are **progressive events**. We know that because the trumpets are more severe than the seals and the bowls are more severe than the trumpets.
- E. They are **redemptive events**. We know that because they are not immediately released but progressively released in order to crowd the nations to faith and repentance.
- F. They are **God ordained events**. We know that because Jesus releases them and John heard the explicit details 2,000 years ago. We cannot pray these events away nor is God threatened in the hour of their fulfilment.

IV. THE SEVEN SEALS

First seal (white horse): Antichrist's political aggression (Rev. 6:1-2)

Second seal (red horse): bloodshed and world war (Rev. 6:3-4)

Third seal (black horse): famine and economic crisis (Rev. 6:5-6)

Fourth seal (pale horse): disease leading to the death of one-fourth of the earth (Rev. 6:7-8)

Fifth seal (prayer movement): prayer movement strengthened by the martyrs (Rev. 6:9-11)

Sixth seal (cosmic disturbances): cosmic crisis (Rev. 6:12-17)

Seventh seal (anointed prayer): prayer movement strengthened to release judgments of Rev. 8-9

V. THE SEVEN TRUMPETS

First trumpet (food supply): burning 1/3 of the earth's vegetation (Rev. 8:7)

Second trumpet (food supply): destroying 1/3 of the sea (Rev. 8:8-9)

Third trumpet (water supply): poisoning 1/3 of the earth's fresh water (Rev. 8:10-11)

Fourth trumpet (light, energy): darkening 1/3 of the earth's light (Rev. 8:12)

Fifth trumpet (torment): releasing demonic locusts that torment for 5 months (Rev. 9:1-12)

Sixth trumpet (death): releasing demonic horsemen that kill 1/3 of the earth (Rev. 9:13-21)

Seventh trumpet (defeat): beginning of Jesus' Second Coming procession (Rev. 11:15-19)

VI. THE SEVEN BOWLS OF WRATH

First bowl (sores): painful sores on those who worship the Antichrist (Rev. 16:1-2)

Second bowl (food supply): destroying the sea with blood and killing all in it (Rev. 16:3)

Third bowl (water supply): poisoning the earth's fresh water with blood (Rev. 16:4-7)

Fourth bowl (torment): scorching heat and fire from the sun (Rev. 16:8-9)

Fifth bowl (destruction): darkness on the Antichrist's global empire (Rev. 16:10-11)

Sixth bowl (global guilt): deceiving the nations to come to kill Jesus (Rev. 16:12-16)

Seventh bowl (annihilation): shaking by earthquakes and hail stones (Rev. 16:17-21)