



The  
Purpose of  
Revelation  
(Part One)

# Revelation Was Written To Announce:

- ◆ The Execution of Wrath against *apostate* Israel
- ◆ The final destruction of the vestiges of the Old Covenant
- ◆ Christ's Affirmation of the Covenant with the Church (The Marriage Supper of the Lamb)
- ◆ The End of the Persecutions Orchestrated by Satan, and Apostate Judaism
- ◆ Charging Christians to Conquer the World Through the Blood of the Lamb and the Word of His Testimony

# The LORD's History with Israel

# Israel Made a Covenant with Jehovah

- ◆ He rescued the children of Israel from Egyptian bondage (Exodus 3:1-8)
- ◆ God displayed his power over the “gods” of Egypt (Exodus 7-15)
- ◆ He made a covenant to be their God (Exodus 24:3-8)
- ◆ They bound themselves and their descendants to the Mosaic covenant



# The Suzerain- Vassal Treaties



ASSYRIA  
BABYLON  
MEDES  
GREEKS



SUZERAIN



TREATY



SYRIA  
PALESTINE  
ISRAEL  
JUDAH



VASSAL

# Structure of a Suzerain Treaty

SUZERAIN TREATY STRUCTURE	PURPOSE	PARALLELS IN DEUTERONOMY
Preamble	Identifying the Suzerain	1:1-5
Historical Prologue	Review of Vassal's Relationship	1:6 - 4:49
Ethical Stipulations	Requirements Under the Treaty	5:1 - 26:19
Sanctions	Consequences of Violation	27:1 - 30:20
Covenantal Succession	Termination of the Covenant	31:1 - 34:12

# The Suzerain- Vassal Treaties



YAHWEH  
(JEHOVAH)



SUZERAIN



TREATY



THE  
CHILDREN  
OF ISRAEL



VASSAL

# The Covenantal Lawsuit

- ◆ The Suzerain sends emissaries to address the violations
  - ◆ The warnings follows the same structure as the treaty
  - ◆ Some of the minor prophets (c.f. Obadiah) follow this same structure
- ◆ The Suzerain terminates the covenant via a “Covenant Lawsuit”
- ◆ The Book of Ezekiel is a notable example of a Covenantal Lawsuit
- ◆ The Book of Revelation is directly parallel of the book of Ezekiel



# Israel Had Persistently Violated the Mosaic Covenant

- ◆ They violated it in the wilderness (Exodus)
- ◆ They violated it under the Judges (Judges)
- ◆ They violated it under the Kings (1-2 Kings; 1-2 Chronicles)
- ◆ The exile was a severe sanction for her **spiritual harlotry** (idolatry) (Ezekiel, Jeremiah, Lamentations)
- ◆ They *continued to violate the covenant after the exile* (trusting in foreign powers and their own righteousness)

# Comparisons to Ezekiel

	VISIONS	EZEKIEL	REVELATION
1	Throne Vision	1	4
2	The Book (Scroll)	2-3	5
3	Four Plagues	5	6:1-8
4	Slain Under the Altar	6	6:9-11
5	Wrath of God	7	6:12-17
6	Sealing of Saints	9	7
7	Coals from the Altar	10	8
8	No More Delay	12	10:1-7
9	Eating of the Book	2	10:8-11
10	Measuring Temple	40-43	11:1-2

# Comparisons to Ezekiel (continued)

	VISIONS	EZEKIEL	REVELATION
11	Jerusalem and Sodom	16	11:8
12	The Cup of Wrath	23	14
13	The Vine of the Land	15	14:18-20
14	The Great Harlot	16, 23	17-18
15	Lament of the City	27	18
16	Scavenger's Feast	39	19
17	First Resurrection	37	20:4-6
18	Gog and Magog	38-39	20:7-9
19	New Jerusalem	40-48	21
20	River of Life	47	22