



An
Introduction
to Revelation
(Part One)



Introduction

1. A Layered Approach to a Deep Study

1. “How do you eat an Elephant?”

2. The Type of Literature

3. The Divisions of the Literature – the outline (the easy part)

4. The Meaning of the Literature – Interpretation (the hard part)



Signify

1. Apocalyptic Literature (Ezekiel, Daniel, Jeremiah, Zechariah, Joel, Matthew 24)
2. Symbolism - “Signify” – Sign-i-fy
3. Both Literal and Figurative
 1. “I take the book of Revelation *literally*.”
 2. No, you don’t. No one does. (give examples)
 3. “The Bible says it, I believe it, that settles it.”

Outline of the Book

1. This is the *easiest* part of the study
2. A series of sevens
 - a. Several “sevens” are prominent and easily discerned
 - i. Seven churches
 - ii. Seven Seals
 - iii. Seven Trumpets
 - iv. Seven Chalices (Bowls Of Wrath)
 - b. Some are more subtle

A Simplified Outline of Revelation



Introduction.....	Ch. 1
1. Letters to the SEVEN Churches	Ch. 2-3
2. Visions of Heaven	Ch. 4-5
3. The SEVEN Seals	Ch. 6-7
4. The SEVEN Trumpets	Ch. 8-11
5. Signs of the End	Ch. 12-14
6. SEVEN Bowls of Wrath	Ch. 15-16
7. The Fate of Babylon	Ch. 17-18
8. The Victorious Christ.....	Ch. 19-20
9. The New Jerusalem	Ch. 21:1-22:6
Conclusion.....	Ch. 22:8-21

Simplest Outline

- PART ONE: THE THINGS YOU HAVE SEEN (1:1-20)
- PART TWO: THE THINGS WHICH ARE (2:1-3:22)
- PART THREE: THE THINGS WHICH SHALL TAKE PLACE AFTER THIS (4:1-22:21)



Larger Outline

I. PART ONE: THE THINGS WHICH YOU HAVE SEEN (1:1-20)

A. The Vision of Jesus Christ

II. PART TWO: THE THINGS WHICH ARE (2:1-3:22)

A. The Seven Churches

III. PART TWO: THE THINGS WHICH WILL TAKE PLACE AFTER THIS (4:1-22:21)

A. The Person of the Judge - 4-5

B. Prophecies of Tribulation – 6:1-19:6

C. Prophecies of Christ's Coming - 19:7-21

D. The Millennium – 20:1-15

E. The New Heaven and Earth – 21:1-22:5

IV. Conclusion and Warnings – 22:6-22:21

**PART ONE: "THE THINGS WHICH YOU HAVE SEEN"
(1:1-20)**

INTRODUCTION 1:1-8

I. THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST 1:9-20

PART TWO: "THE THINGS WHICH ARE" (2:1-3:22)

I. Message to Ephesus 2:1-7

II. Message to Smyrna 2:8-11

III. Message to Pergamos 2:12-17

IV. Message to Thyatira 2:18-29

V. Message to Sardis 3:1-6

VI. Message to Philadelphia 4:7-13

VII. Message to Laodicea 3:14-22

**PART THREE: "THE THINGS WHICH WILL TAKE PLACE
AFTER THIS" (4:1-22:21)**

I. PERSON OF THE JUDGE 4:1-5:14

A. The Throne of God 4:1-11

B. The Sealed Book 5:1-14

II. Prophecies of Tribulation 6:1-19:6

A. Seven Seals of Judgment 6:1-8:5

1. The First Seal 6:1-2

2. Second Seal 6:3-4

3. The Third Seal 6:5-6

4. The Fourth Seal 6:7-8

5. The Fifth Seal 6:9-11

6. The Sixth Seal 6:12-17

B. First Interlude 7:1-17

1. The 144,000 Sealed 7:1-8

2. A Great Multitude 7:9-17

3. The Seventh Seal 8:1-5

C. Seven Angels and Trumpets 8:6-11:19

1. The First Trumpet 8:6-7

2. The Second Trumpet 8:8-9

3. The Third Trumpet 8:10-11

4. The Fourth Trumpet 8:12-13

5. The Sixth Trumpet 9:13-21

D. The Second Interlude 10:1-11:19

1. The Little Book 10:1-11

2. The Two Witnesses 11:1-14

3. The Seventh Trumpet 11:15-19

E. Explanatory Prophecies 12:1-14:20

1. The Woman Clothed with the Sun 12:1-6

2. The War in Heaven 12:7-12

3. The Woman and the Beast 12:13-17

4. A Beast from the Sea 13:1-10

5. A Beast from the Earth 13:11-18

6. The 144,000 on Mt. Zion 14:1-5

7. Three Angelic Messages 14:6-13

8. Harvesting the Earth 14:14-20

F. Seven Bowls of Wrath 15:1-19:6

1. Preparation for the Bowls of Wrath 15:1-8

2. The First Bowl 16:1-2

3. The Second Bowl 16:3

4. The Third Bowl 16:4-7

5. The Fourth Bowl 16:8-9

6. The Fifth Bowl 16:10-11

7. The Sixth Bowl 16:12-16

8. The Seventh Bowl 16:17-21

G. Victories of the Lamb 17:1-19:6

1. Overthrow of the Great Harlot 17:1-1-18

2. Overthrow of Babylon the Great 18:1-19:6

III. Prophecies of Christ's Coming 19:7-21

A. Marriage Supper of the Lamb 19:7-10

B. The Coming of Christ 19:11-21

IV. The Millennium 20:1-15

A. Satan is Bound 1,000 Years 20:1-3

B. The Saints Reign with Christ 20:4-6

C. Satan is Released from Prison 20:7-9

D. Satan's Final Defeat 20:10

E. The Great Judgment 20:11-15

V. New Heavens and a New Earth 21:1-22:5

A. New Heaven and New Earth Revealed 21:1

B. New Jerusalem Descends 21:2-8

C. New Jerusalem Described 21:9-22:5

CONCLUSION AND WARNINGS 22:6-21

David Chilton's Outline (Simple)

PART ONE: THE BRIDEGROOM (1:1-11:19)

PART TWO: THE BRIDE (12:1-22:21)



The Covenant Lawsuit

I. Preamble

II. Historical Prologue

III. Ethical Stipulations

IV. Covenant Sanctions

V. Covenantal Succession



David Chilton's Outline (Expanded)

- PART ONE: THE BRIDEGROOM (1-11)

- A. PREAMBLE: JOHN'S VISION OF THE SON OF MAN (1:1-20)

- B. HISTORICAL PROLOGUE: LETTERS TO THE SEVEN CHURCHES (2:1-3:22)

- C. STIPULATIONS: THE SEVEN SEALS (4:1-7:17)

- D. SANCTIONS: THE SEVEN TRUMPETS (8:1-11:19)

- PART TWO: THE BRIDE (12-22)

- D. SANCTIONS: THE SEVEN TRUMPETS, CONTINUED (12:1-14:20)

- E. SUCCESSION ARRANGEMENTS: THE SEVEN CHALICES (15:1-22:21)

I.	PREAMBLE: JOHN'S VISION OF THE SON OF MAN	1:1-20	J.	Michael and the Dragon	12:7-12
II.	HISTORICAL PROLOGUE: LETTERS TO THE SEVEN CHURCHES	2:1-3:22	K.	The Flight of the Woman	12:13-17
	A. Ephesus	2:1-7	L.	The Beast from the Sea	13:1-10
	B. Smyrna	2:8-11	M.	The Beast from the Land	13:11-18
	C. Pergamum	2:12-17	N.	The Lamb and the 144,000 of Mount Zion	14:1-5
	D. Thyatira	2:18-29	O.	The Gospel and the Poisoned Cups	14:6-13
	E. Sardis	3:1-6	P.	The Harvest and the Vintage of the Land	14:14-20
	F. Philadelphia	3:7-13	V.	Succession Arrangements: The Seven Chalice	15:1-22:21
	G. Laodicea	3:14-22	A.	The Song of Victory	15:1-4
III.	STIPULATIONS: THE SEVEN SEALS	4:1-7:17	B.	The Sanctuary is Opened	15:5-8
	A. The Throne	4:1-11	C.	The First Four Chalice: God's Creation Takes Vengeance	16:1-9
	B. The Sealed Scroll	5:1-5	D.	The Last Three Chalice: It is Finished!	16:10-21
	C. The Lamb Standing as Slain	5:6-14	E.	Babylon: The Great Harlot	17:1-5
	D. The First Four Seals: Horseman	6:1-8	F.	Babylon: The Mystery Explained	17:6-18
	E. The Fifth Seal: Martyrs	6:9-11	G.	Babylon is Fallen!	18:1-8
	F. The Sixth Seal: De-Creation	6:12-17	H.	Reactions to Babylon's Fl	18:9-20
	G. The 144,000 Sealed	7:1-8	I.	Babylon is Thrown Down	18:20-24
	H. The Innumerable Multitude	7:9-17	J.	The Marriage Supper of the Lamb	19:1-10
IV.	SANCTIONS: THE SEVEN TRUMPETS	8:1-14:20	K.	The Rider on the White Horse	19:11-16
	A. The Seventh Seal: The Incense Altar	8:1-5	L.	The Feast of the Scavengers	19:17-18
	B. The First Four Trumpets	8:8:6-13	M.	The Destruction of the Beasts	19:19-21
	C. The Fifth Trumpet: Locusts from the Abyss	9:1-12	N.	The Binding of Satan	20:1-3
	D. The Sixth Trumpet: The Army of Myriads	9:13-21	O.	The First Resurrection and the Last Battle	20:4-10
	E. The Angel of the Oath	10:1-7	P.	The Final Judgment	20:11-15
	F. The Little Book	10:8-11	Q.	The New Creation	21:1-8
	G. The Two Witnesses	11:1-14	R.	The New Jerusalem	21:9-27
	H. The Seventh Trumpet: The Kingdom Comes	11:15-19	S.	The River of Life	22:1-5
	I. The Woman, the Seed and the Dragon	12:1-6	T.	Come, Lord Jesus!	22:6-21

The *Structure* of the Book

1. This is the hard part of the study!
2. PART ONE: The Bridegroom; (1-11) PART TWO: The Bride (12-22)
3. Covenantal Succession – The book is a “Covenant Lawsuit”

OBSERVATIONS:

1. The Priestly View – The Book is written by someone *intimate* with Temple Service
2. A Worship Service – It coincides with a Christian worship service
3. A Liturgical Outline – The book may be structured as a liturgical calendar (?)

