Revelation

Chapter 19 Verses 11-21

Introduction

- The Revelation to John
 - A prophetic writing with features of a letter and of the form of literature called Apocalyptic
 - Written by John to Christians during the second half of the First Century
 - Placed at the end of the New Testament because of its concern with the "end times."
 - So far we have finished the first 18 chapters and the first 10 verses of Chapter 19
 - Tonight we will finish Chapter 19

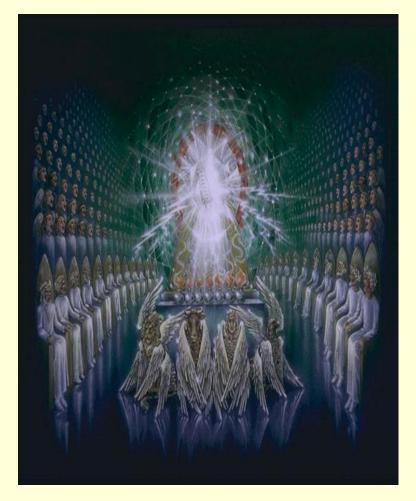
January 31, 2012



- Introduction (1:1-8)
- First Vision (1:9-20)
- 7 Letters (Chapters 2 & 3)



 Heavenly Throne Room (Chapters 4 & 5)









January 31, 2012

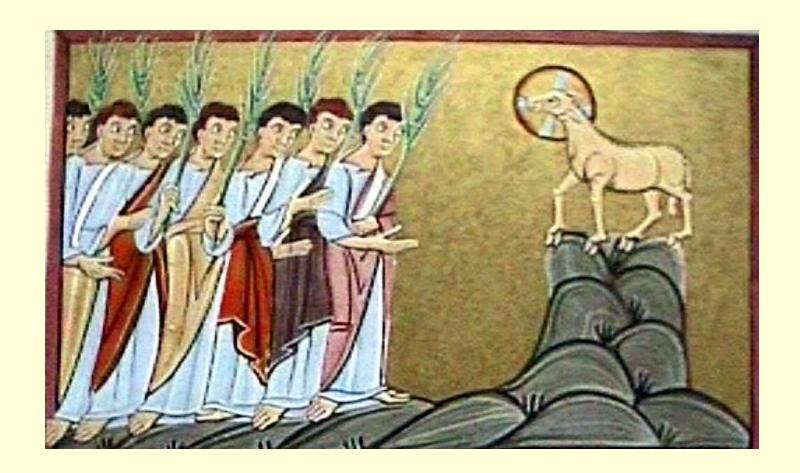


- The First Six Seals (Chapter 6)
 - The 4 Horsemen
 - Souls of Martyrs
 - Vision of the End

Then the kings of the earth and the great ones and the generals and the rich and the powerful, and everyone, slave and free, hid themselves in the caves and among the rocks of the mountains, 16 calling to the mountains and rocks, "Fall on us and hide us from the face of him who is seated on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb, for the great day of their wrath has come, and who can stand?"

--- Revelation 6:15-17

 The Servants of God (Chapter 7)





Chapter 8

- The 7th Seal
- Silence in Heaven
- Prayers of the Saints
- The First 4 Trumpets
- Announcement of the 3 Woes

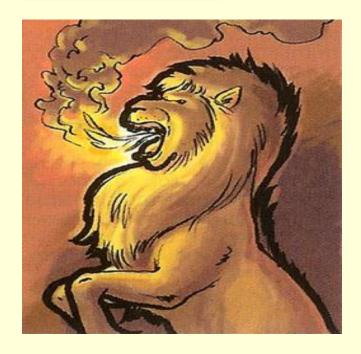
Then I looked, and I heard an eagle crying with a loud voice as it flew directly overhead, "Woe, woe, woe to those who dwell on the earth, at the blasts of the other trumpets that the three angels are about to blow!" (Revelation 8:113)





 The First Two Woes (Chapter 9)







Interlude

- Mighty Angel With A Little Book (Chapter 10)
- Measuring the Temple (Chapter 11, Verses 1-2)
- The Two Witnesses(Chapter 11, Verses 3-13)

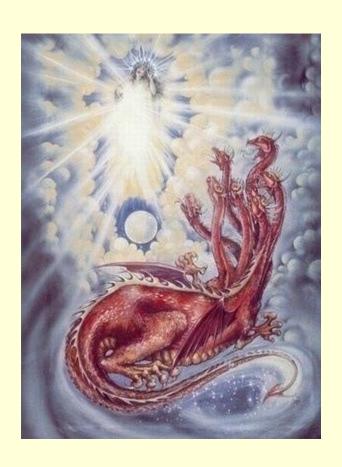




 The Seventh Trumpet (Chapter 11, Verses 14-19)



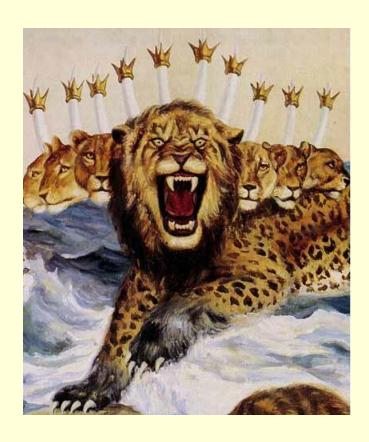
Then the seventh angel blew his trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, "The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he shall reign forever and ever." (11:15)



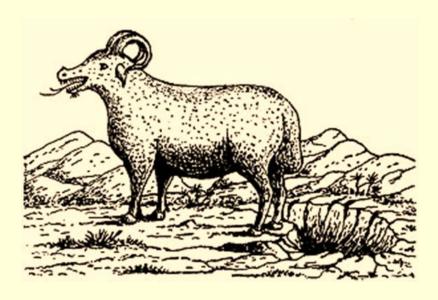
The Woman, Her Son and The Dragon (Chapter 12)

Then the dragon became furious with the woman and went off to make war on the rest of her offspring, on those who keep the commandments of God and hold to the testimony of Jesus.

--- Revelation 12:17a

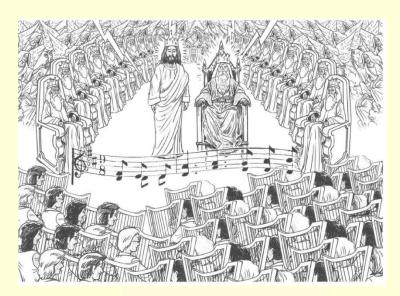


 The Two Beasts (Chapter 13)











The New Song (Chapter 14, Verses 1-5)

Then I looked, and behold, on Mount Zion stood the Lamb, and with him 144,000 who had his name and his Father's name written on their foreheads. And I heard a voice from heaven like the roar of many waters and like the sound of loud thunder. The voice I heard was like the sound of harpists playing on their harps, and they were singing a new song before the throne and before the four living creatures and before the elders. No one could learn that song except the 144,000 who had been redeemed from the earth.

--- Revelation 14:1-3



Another Three Angels (Chapter 14, Verses 6-13)

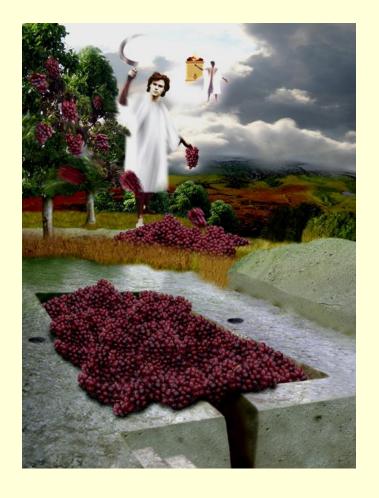
And another angel, a third, followed them, saying with a loud voice, "If anyone worships the beast ... he also will drink the wine of God's wrath... (9-10)

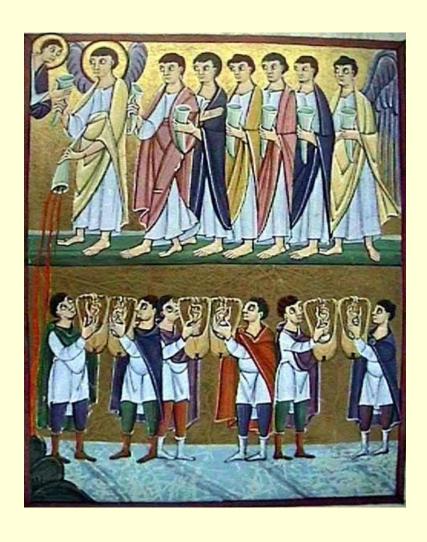
Here is a call for the endurance of the saints, those who keep the commandments of God and their faith in Jesus. (12)

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!" (13)

 The Harvest (Chapter 14, Verses 14-20)

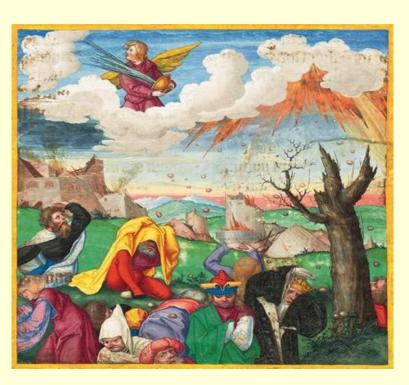






- Chapter 15
 - 7 Angels With 7 Plagues
 - Saints on Sea of Glass





 7 Bowls of Wrath are Poured Out (Chapter 16)

The seventh angel poured out his bowl into the air, and a loud voice came out of the temple, from the throne, saying, "It is done!" 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. The great city was split into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell, and God remembered Babylon the great, to make her drain the cup of the wine of the fury of his wrath.

Revelation 16:17-19

 The Great Prostitute and the Beast (Chapter 17)



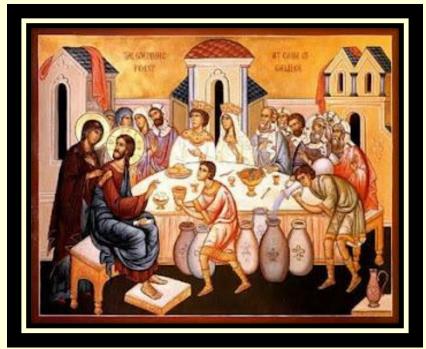
The Fall of Babylon
The Great (Chapter 18)





 The Marriage Supper of the Lamb (Chapter 19)





ヨハネの黙示録 19:11-16

- 11.またわたしが見ていると、天が開かれ、見よ、 そこに白い馬がいた。それに乗っているかた は、「忠実で真実な者」と呼ばれ、義によって さばき、また、戦うかたである。
- 12. その目は燃える炎であり、その頭には多くの 冠があった。また、彼以外にはだれも知らな い名がその身にしるされていた。
- 13. 彼は血染めの衣をまとい、その名は「神の言」と呼ばれた。

January 31, 2012

ヨハネの黙示録 19:11-16

- 14. そして、天の軍勢が、純白で、汚れのない麻 布の衣を着て、白い馬に乗り、彼に従った。
- 15.その口からは、諸国民を打つために、鋭いつるぎが出ていた。彼は、鉄のつえをもって諸国民を治め、また、全能者なる神の激しい怒りの酒ぶねを踏む。
- 16. その着物にも、そのももにも、「王の王、主の 主」という名がしるされていた。

Revelation 19:11-16

- 11. Then I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse! The one sitting on it is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he judges and makes war.
- 12. His eyes are like a flame of fire, and on his head are many diadems, and he has a name written that no one knows but himself.

Revelation 19:11-16

- 13.He is clothed in a robe dipped in blood, and the name by which he is called is The Word of God.
- 14. And the armies of heaven, arrayed in fine linen, white and pure, were following him on white horses.

Revelation 19:11-16

- 15. 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.
- 16.On his robe and on his thigh he has a name written, King of kings and Lord of lords.

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- Then....when?
 - After <u>hearing</u> the chorus of voices in heaven and the words of the angel giving praise to God for the destruction of Rome and for the coming marriage of the Lamb.

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- After <u>hearing</u> the chorus of voices in heaven and the words of the angel giving praise to God for the destruction of Rome and for the coming marriage of the Lamb.
- The last part of Chapter 17, most of Chapter 18, and Chapter 19 to this point have been more about <u>hearing</u> than about seeing the destruction of Rome and the coming marriage of the lamb..

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- What John sees here at first is <u>heaven</u> opened, which contrasts with the wilderness in which he was taken to see the beast and the prostitute.

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- Here, as there, the white horse has a strong rider who comes to conquer.

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- In Chapter 6 the white horse and its writer were (I think) an ambiguous symbol.
- They were seen in heaven and summoned before the throne of God and sent out from there.
- The majority of you were convinced, at first, that the horse and rider of Chapter 6 were a symbol of Christ.

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- Nevertheless I can understand how some may still see Christ in the first horse and rider in Chapter 6.

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- Here the rider is called Faithful and True and Righteous
- In <u>righteousness</u> he judges and makes war.
- So here the white horse represents not only victory and power and leadership but virtue and purity and innocence.

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- We can probably guess who he is....
- Who do you guess?
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- But the vision unveils him gradually

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 That his eyes are like a flame of fire may add something to the image of his power, but mostly these are understood as a symbol of Christ's omniscience --- he can <u>see</u> everything.

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- His name that no one knows, speaks of his ultimate and unsearchable power --- he is God.

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He is clothed in a robe dipped in blood, and the name by which he is called is The Word of God.

January 24, 2042

January 31, 2012

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- This may call to mind his crucifixion, his blood shed for us.

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- In this vision the glorified, victorious, war-like messiah is clothed in a robe dipped in blood.
- This may call to mind his crucifixion, his blood shed for us.
- Here however it almost certainly echoes the language of Isaiah 63 and other similar passages in which the blood on the garment of the Lord, is the blood of his enemies!

彼は血染めの衣をまとい、その名は「神の言」と呼ばれた。

He is clothed in a robe dipped in blood, and the name by which he is called is The Word of God.

 In the opening verses of John's gospel, the Word represents the pre-existing, eternal, Son of God who in the fullness of time becomes flesh and dwells among us, but who is rejected by us and sent to the cross where he dies as an atonement for our sin.

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- But here (I think) the emphasis is more on the glorified Christ as the manifestation of God's word of vengeance spoken against all who oppose the cross and salvation.

そして、天の軍勢が、純白で、汚れのない麻布の衣を 着て、白い馬に乗り、彼に従った。

And the armies of heaven, arrayed in fine linen, white and pure, were following him on white horses.

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In this vision, the Lord does not stand alone.

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- In view of what has gone before, it is probably best to understand these armies as including both men and angels, and whatever other godly creatures there are.
- But in any case these armies never actually fight.

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And the armies of heaven, arrayed in fine linen, white and pure, were following him on white horses.

- Christ alone defeats the enemies of heaven.
- Only his robes are bloody.
- All who follow him are arrayed in fine linen, white and pure.

その口からは、諸国民を打つために、鋭いつるぎが出 ていた。彼は、鉄のつえをもって諸国民を治め、また、 全能者なる神の激しい怒りの酒ぶねを踏む。

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.

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- The image of Christ before us now is a manifestation and instrument of the wrath of God the Almighty.
- This wrath is directed against "the nations" meaning the whole world apart from God's own people.
- Notice that these are not the first pictures we have seen in the Revelation to John of the outpouring of the fullness of God's wrath.

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 Here the outpouring of God's wrath is described as coming through Christ, and it is describe using three figures.

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- First it is said that Christ will strike down the nations with the sword that comes from his mouth.
- This is not, of course, literally a sword.
- Neither is it merely the gospel of peace.

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- The third image, of treading the wine press has been seen before. This is the final destruction of God's enemies.

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 All of these images display Christ in his role as the final victor over all evil.

その着物にも、そのももにも、「王の王、主の主」という名がしるされていた。

On his robe and on his thigh he has a name written, King of kings and Lord of lords.

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- All of his enemies are completely vanquished and done away with.
- The following passage makes this graphically clear.

ヨハネの黙示録 19:17-21

- 17. また見ていると、ひとりの御使が太陽の中に立っていた。彼は、中空を飛んでいるすべての鳥にむかって、大声で叫んだ、「さあ、神の大宴会に集まってこい。
- 18. そして、王たちの肉、将軍の肉、勇者の肉、 馬の肉、馬に乗っている者の肉、また、すべ ての自由人と奴隷との肉、小さき者と大いな る者との肉をくらえ」。

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- 19. なお見ていると、獣と地の王たちと彼らの軍勢とが集まり、馬に乗っているかたとその軍勢とに対して、戦いをいどんだ。
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ヨハネの黙示録 19:17-21

21. それ以外の者たちは、馬に乗っておられるかたの口から出るつるぎで切り殺され、その肉を、すべての鳥が飽きるまで食べた。

- 17. Then I saw an angel standing in the sun, and with a loud voice he called to all the birds that fly directly overhead, "Come, gather for the great supper of God,
- 18.to eat the flesh of kings, the flesh of captains, the flesh of mighty men, the flesh of horses and their riders, and the flesh of all men, both free and slave, both small and great."

19. And I saw the beast and the kings of the earth with their armies gathered to make war against him who was sitting on the horse and against his army.

20. And the beast was captured, and with it the false prophet who in its presence had done the signs by which he deceived those who had received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped its image. These two were thrown alive into the lake of fire that burns with sulfur.

21. And the rest were slain by the sword that came from the mouth of him who was sitting on the horse, and all the birds were gorged with their flesh.

また見ていると、ひとりの御使が太陽の中に立っていた。 彼は、中空を飛んでいるすべての鳥にむかって、大 声で叫んだ、「さあ、神の大宴会に集まってこい。

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- Previously John saw a glorious vision of the wedding feast of the Lamb.
- Now he sees a frankly grotesque vision of the great supper of God --- where the birds feed on the remains of God's enemies.
- We are (I am almost certain) meant to contrast and compare the two.

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- But all those who are not invited to the wedding supper are destined for destruction...

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- But all those who are not invited to the wedding supper are destined for destruction...the birds will be invited to eat their flesh.

Nothing could be more dishonorable.

そして、王たちの肉、将軍の肉、勇者の肉、馬の肉、馬 に乗っている者の肉、また、すべての自由人と奴隷との肉、小さき者と大いなる者との肉をくらえ」。

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104 January 31, 2012

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 The dishonor which falls on those who are not invited to the wedding supper, falls on all kinds of men, without exception.

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- The dishonor which falls on those who are not invited to the wedding supper, falls on all kinds of men, without exception.
- The Lord is no "respecter of persons" as is consistently taught by the Bible.

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 We have already seen (Chapter 16) how the dragon, the beast, and the false prophet produce unclean spirits which cause the King's of the earth to gather for war at the place called Armageddon on the Great Day of God Almighty.

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- We have already seen (Chapter 16) how the dragon, the beast, and the false prophet produce unclean spirits which cause the King's of the earth to gather for war at the place called Armageddon on the Great Day of God Almighty.
- Now we seen more clearly that they would gather to oppose the Son of God and his heavenly armies when they shall appear.

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Christ alone defeats the nations with his word.

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And the beast was captured, and with it the false prophet who in its presence had done the signs by which he deceived those who had received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped its image. These two were thrown alive into the lake of fire that burns with sulfur.

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 We remember that the beast and the false prophet (the other beast) are Satan's instruments on earth, through which he has tried to wage "war" against the church.

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 Now, within the vision, these two are simply captured and thrown into hell, never to be heard from again.

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And the rest were slain by the sword that came from the mouth of him who was sitting on the horse, and all the birds were gorged with their flesh.

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- This is a picture of an ignominious physical death in stark contrast with the picture of the wedding feast of the Lamb.
- It does not (I think) seek to clarify the ultimate fate of the souls of those whose bodies are eaten or the location of the dead who have been invited to the wedding supper.

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- Here we are primarily meant to understand that the beast and the false prophet and the men who followed them all come to a bad end.
- At this point in the vision, Satan is still alive someplace, but his agents on earth have been permanently removed and all of the men who where led astray have been killed.

- The fate of Satan and the final judgment of the dead is taken up in Chapter 20.
- Not surprisingly all of God's enemies come to a bad end, and all who worship God come to a good end, eternally.
- These truths are clear enough from what we have already read in Revelation and from what we read in the whole Bible.
- Ironically Chapter 20 has been the most controversial section of Revelation and, perhaps, of the whole Bible.

- Much of the controversy arising from the 20th Chapter of Revelation arises from the period of a thousand years there referred to (six times) in Verses 2 through 7.
- One issue is whether this should be understood as a time interval in human history and, if so, how literally it should be understood to consist of 1000 years.
- In a book as filled with symbolism and with symbolic numbers as is Revelation, it may not be possible to reach a definite conclusion on this point.

 As we get into this next week, we will not be dogmatic about how one should read these controversial passages regarding the "millennium."

- Concerning the Future of This Class
 - We are within about 3 weeks of finishing our current study of Revelation
 - Three options to consider:
 - 1. Discontinue the Tuesday Evening Bible Study
 - 2. Follow Pastor Dennis' study of Romans
 - » Dennis Begins on Feb 18
 - » We Could follow on Tuesday, Feb 21
 - 3. Take up Another Book of the Bible

- Four possible studies other than Romans:
 - John + 1, 2, 3 John
 - Luke + Acts
 - Mark
 - Matthew