

The Revelation to JR.

The Revelation is one of the most confusing books in the canon. Why? Mainly because John used a whole symbolic language that was very accessible to his ancient audience, but is gibberish to us. In this series, I want to update the symbols in Revelation, to make John's timeless picture of Christ more accessible to twenty-first century Americans. I will keep the chapter numbers so that readers can compare my reimagining to John's original visions.

1 The Prologue:

This is an uncovering and showcasing of Jesus Christ that God gave him to show us – his servants – what's going to happen soon. He made it known by sending his messenger to his servant JR., who preaches concerning the Word of God which is Jesus Christ.

God is with the person who reads this prophecy, and with the people who hear and live by it, because it's almost time.

JR., to the seven churches in America:

Grace to you and peace from him who is and was and will come, and from the seven doves in his Office, and from Jesus Christ the honest witness, the first to rise from the dead and the ruler of all presidents and prime ministers and dictators in the world.

To the one who loves us and freed us from our sins with his blood, and made us One Nation Under God, and ministers serving his God and Father, to Jesus be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen!

Look! He is coming back, and every person will see him – even the people who don't believe. And every denomination and ethnicity and nation will be in mourning because of him. It's going to happen. Amen.

The Lord God – the one who was and who is and who will come, the all-powerful – says,

“I am the A and the Z.”

The First Vision:

I, JR., your brother because through Jesus I share your pain and joy, your victories and defeats, I was in Dayton because of the Word of God which is Jesus Christ. I was worshiping one Sunday when I heard a loud voice coming from behind me. It was louder than a jet engine. The voice said,

“Write on your blog what you see and publish it so that the seven churches can see it. Make sure the Reformed, Hispanic, Wesleyan, Mainline Protestants, Baptists, Black and Evangelical churches.”

Then I turned to see who was talking to me, and I saw seven golden pulpits and in the middle of the pulpits I saw the Messiah. He was wearing a three-piece Armani with a Rolex and silk pocket-handkerchief. His head and hair were bright, pure white – practically glowing. His eyes burned with intelligence. He had on tough, sturdy steel-toed work boots. His voice was loud and powerful. He was holding seven stars in his right hand and he had a platinum gavel coming out of his mouth. His face was beautiful, but I couldn't even look at it – it was like trying to stare at the sun.

When I saw him, I was overwhelmed – I passed out. But he shook me back awake, telling me,

“Don't be afraid. I am the first and the last, and the ultimate source of life. I was dead, but look – now I'm alive forever and ever. I have the keys to Death and the Afterlife.

Now, write what you have seen, what you're seeing now and what you're about to see. And just to clarify the seven stars you saw in my right hand and the seven pulpits: the seven stars are the guardian angels of the seven churches – their representations in Heaven. And the seven pulpits are the seven churches themselves.

2 Write this to the angel of the Reformed churches: These are the words of the one who holds the seven stars in his right hand, who walks among the seven golden pulpits:

“I know what you're doing, how hard you work and your faithfulness. I know that you can't stand false teachers; you have tested those who claim to represent God but don't, and you've found them to be false. I also know that you're working hard in my name, that you're not giving up or getting tired. But I have this against you: you have abandoned the love you had at first. Look back and see where your system has tripped you up; repent and let what you do now look more like the Person you fell in love with. If you don't, I will come to you and remove your pulpit from its place (unless you repent!). I'll give you this: you hate the teachings of Universalists, which I also hate. Let anyone who has an ear hear what the Spirit is saying to the churches. To everyone who conquers, I will give permission to eat from the tree of life that is in the paradise of God.”

And write this to the angel of the Arab churches: These are the words of the first and last, who was dead and came to life, the ultimate immigrant:

I know your suffering, poverty and rejection (even though you're actually rich). I hear the slander coming from those who say they are God's chosen nation and are not – they're actually a Satan's nation. Don't be afraid of what you're about to suffer. Get ready: the devil is about to put you through the wringer – he's testing you, and it's not going to be pretty. Or short. Stay strong. Stay faithful even if it means death and I'll give you the gold medal in Life. Let anyone who has ears listen to what the Spirit is saying to the churches. Whoever conquers won't be caught in the second death.

To the angel of the Black churches write: These are the words of the one who has the platinum gavel:

I know your struggles, what you face every day, right in the heart of where Satan seems to be working the most, your struggles that don't have an end in sight. Even still, you're holding tightly to my name, and you didn't turn your back on your faith in me even in the days of Martin Luther King, Jr., my faithful witness who was killed among you – clearly Satan's work. But here's my problem: some of you are listening who [Achan](#), whose lust for wealth brought destruction on all of God's people. And others among you have embraced the Universalists' teachings. So repent! If you don't, I will come soon, and when I do, I'll crush you with the gavel of my mouth. Let anyone who has an ear listen to what the Spirit is saying to the churches. To everyone who conquers, I'll show the hidden doors to my treasury vault, and I'll give you a megaphone that has a battery that will never run out and that no one can find.

To the angel of the Mainline Protestant churches write: These are the words of the Son of God, who has eyes that burn with intelligence and tough, sturdy steel-toed work boots on his feet:

I know what you've done – your love, faith, service and patience. I know that you're doing things now that are greater than anything you've ever done. But I have this against you: you tolerate the likes of Ahab and Jezebel, who call themselves prophets and teachers and who are duping my servants to welcome and even celebrate fornication. I've given them time to repent, but they refuse to repent of their perversion. Watch out: I'm going to throw them onto a bed, and anyone who commits adultery with them I'm going to throw on the bed of suffering too (unless they repent!). I'm going to kill the children of her adultery. And all the churches will know that I am the one who explores your minds and hearts, and I'll give each person and church what your works deserve. But to the rest of you Mainline Protestants who don't hold to these teachings, who haven't learned what some call 'the open mind' of Satan, I'm not going to burden you with anything else. Just hold on to the faith and works you have until I come. To everyone who conquers and continues to do my works until the end, I will offer the invitation,

[“Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.”](#)

since it is my Father's party. To the one who conquers I will also give the whitest wedding dress ever. Let anyone who has an ear listen to what the Spirit is saying to the churches.

3 To the angel of the Baptist churches write: These are the words of the one who has the seven flaming doves and the seven stars:

I know what you're doing. You have a reputation for being alive, but you are dead. Wake up! Strengthen what's left and is at death's door, because I have not found your works complete in the sight of my God. Remember everything you've been given, and everything you've learned. Obey it and repent! If you don't wake up, I will come like a thief and you won't know when I'll strike. There are a few of you Baptists who haven't gotten caught up in all the mud-slinging and are still clean. They're going to walk with me, dressed in white graduation robes, because they're worthy. If the rest of you conquer, you will also be dressed in white graduation robes, and I won't erase your names from the book of life. In fact, quite the opposite, I'll read it loud and proud in front of my Father and all the angels. Let anyone who has an ear listen to what the Spirit is saying to the churches.

To the angel of the Hispanic churches write: "These are the words of the Holy One. The True Immigrant. He has the key of David and what he opens, no one can shut (and if he shuts it, no one can open it either!):

I know what you're doing. Look: I have opened the borders in front of you and no one can close them. I know you don't have much power, but even still you have kept my word and haven't denied my name. I will make those of the nation of Satan – who say they are God's people but are not (they're lying!) – I'm going to make them stand up and salute you and they will learn that I have loved you all along. Because you have been patiently listening to me, I'm going to protect you from the great tests that the whole world is going to take. I'm coming soon, so keep holding on tightly to what you have – you don't want anyone to take your gold medal from you! If you conquer, I will make you a load-bearing wall in the Church of my God – you'll never leave it! And I'll sign my name on your forehead – my name, God's name and the name of the New Utopia from God. Let anyone who has an ear listen to what the Spirit is saying to the churches.

To the angel of the Evangelical churches write: These are the words of the Truth, the faithful and true reporter, the source of everything in God's world:

I know what you're doing. I know that you're neither full of tradition nor cutting edge. I wish you were either steeped in heritage or innovative but since you're neither – since you just follow the culture around, mimicking whatever you see, I'm going to foreclose on your buildings and burn them to the ground. You say, "I am hip, I'm relevant and people love me." You don't realize that you are pathetic, derivative, poor, uncool and naked. You want my advice? (Too bad if you don't!) You need to start following me around. I've got a light show that will dazzle you, and white graduation robes that are way cooler than anything in your closet. Look to me for your inspiration, and I'll show you a world unlike any you can imagine. I chastise and discipline the people I love – do you understand that that's what's happening here?

Take a good, hard look at yourself and repent! I'm not just some cheap slogan on a t-shirt or bumper sticker! Your community deserves to know that I'm more than a slick production. I'm in the lobby. All you have to do is ask and I'll come into your meetings and we'll transform this whole place together. To the one who conquers, I'll give a place with me in my office – the same way I have already conquered and sat down with my Father in his office. Let anyone who has an ear listen to what the Spirit is saying to the churches

4 After this I looked, and there in Heaven I saw an open door. And the first voice – the one I'd heard that sounded like a jet engine – said, "Come up here, and I will show you what's going happen next." I was immediately pulled into a vision and there in Heaven I saw an Oval Office, with a large desk at the center of the office and someone seated at the desk. The person seated at the desk was more beautiful than the Hope Diamond or any other collection of jewels you could imagine. I saw a wedding ring surrounding the desk, running throughout the whole Office.

Surrounding the desk were 50 more desks, and at each desk I saw a Congressperson, all dressed in white suits and wearing gold medals around their necks.

All around the center desk, I saw lightning crashing and heard peals of thunder, and in front of the desk – really, flying all around the Office – I saw doves that flew even though they were on fire. The longer I watched, I saw that the doves didn't burn up at all. In fact, from time to time, the doves would land and sleep in the sand in front of the desk (did I mention that there was a small ocean of glass in front of the desk, complete with a small beach?).

I also saw four living creatures at each of the cardinal directions surrounding the desk. The first creature looked like a bacterium or amoeba, the second like a mushroom, the third like a tree and the fourth had a human face, scales and the body of a lion, but with wings.

All day and all night, the creatures led a ticker-tape parade around the throne. They marched with the Congresspersons and as they marched, they sang this:

Holy, holy, holy,
The Lord God the Almighty
Who was, and who is and who will come.

And every time the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to the one who sits at the desk, who lives forever, the 50 congresspersons stand and salute the one who sits at the desk and pledge allegiance to the one who lives forever. They take their gold medals off and lay them down on the desk and say,

You are worthy, our Lord and God,
To receive Glory and Honor and Power,
For you created all things
And by your will they existed and were created.

5 Then I noticed that the one seated at the desk had an Executive Order in his right hand, and it had seven lines that required a signature on it. And I saw an enormous angel yell loudly,

“Who is worthy to sign this Order and enact it?”

But no one in Heaven or on Earth could take the pen and sign the Order.

I was heartbroken – so upset that I began to weep openly because no one was worthy to sign the Order or to enact it. But then one of the Congresspersons said to me,

“Don’t be upset. Look – the Lion of the Tribe of Judah, the best soldier ever to come from King David’s line – he’s conquered. He’s victorious. He’s won the day, so he can sign all seven lines on the Order and enact it!”

Then I saw between the desk and the four living creatures, among the Congresspersons, a Lamb standing there. He looked dead, like he had been sacrificed. Dollar signs swirled around every part of the Lamb’s body, and he had seven brains, which are the seven flaming doves that have been sent out all over the world.

As I watched, the Lamb went and took the Order from the right hand of the one seated at the desk. And as he took the Order and lifted his pen to sign, the four living creatures and the 50 Congresspersons stood and saluted the Lamb – each of them was holding open hymnals, which are the prayers of the saints. They sing a new song:

You are worthy to take the Order and to sign it into effect
For you were slaughtered and by your blood you bought back for God
Saints from every ethnicity and language group and people group and nation
And you have made them to be One Nation Under God, and ministers serving our
God. And they will rule the whole world.

Then I looked, and I heard the voices of many angels surrounding the desk and the living creatures and congresspersons. There were millions and millions of them, and they were all singing as loudly as they could,

The Lamb who was slaughtered is worthy
To receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength
And honor and glory and blessing!

Then I heard every single creature in the entire world – whether it flies, crawls, walks, digs or swims – singing,

To the one seated at the desk in the Oval Office and to the Lamb
Be blessing and honor and glory and strength forever and ever!

And the four living creatures agreed, and the congresspersons saluted and pledged their allegiance.

6 I saw the Lamb sign one of the lines on the Order, and I heard one of the four creatures call out in a voice like a jet engine, “Come!” I looked and saw a gleaming white 747! Its pilot was wearing a turban and he was given a gold medal, and wherever he flew, he conquered and destroyed.

When the Lamb signed the second line on the Order, I heard the second creature call out, “Come!” Out came a fleet of news vans, all blood red. Their driver was allowed to take peace from the earth, to spread dissention and fear so that people would turn on each other. He was given a giant gavel.

When the Lamb signed the third line, the third creature called out, “Come!” I looked, and a bear and bull came rushing out. Their rider was a banker; he held the keys to Fort Knox in his hand. And as the bear and bull ran rampant, destroying thousands upon thousands of houses, I heard a voice that sounded like it was coming from among the four creatures. It was saying,

“A McDonald’s Value Meal costs two hundred dollars, and gas is two hundred dollars per gallon! But the prices of caviar and steaks will not be touched.”

When the Lamb signed the fourth line, the fourth creature called out, “Come!” I looked and saw a broken-down, rickety wheel-chair coming out of a nursing home. A wizened old man, hooked up to an IV and heart monitors, was sitting in the wheel chair. He wore a long, black robe and carried a scythe, and his nametag read ‘DEATH’, and the hordes of Hell were right behind him. They were given authority over a quarter of the world’s population, to kill them in war, by famine, disease and even wild animals.

When the Lamb signed the fifth line, I saw under the podium the souls of everyone who had been slaughtered for the Word of God, and for the testimony they’d given. They shouted, cried as loudly as they could:

“Sovereign Lord, holy and true God, how long will it be before you judge everyone on earth, before you avenge our deaths?”

They were each given a white graduation robe and told to relax just a little bit longer, until the number of their brothers and sisters who were about to be killed (just like they’d been killed) was complete.

When the Lamb signed the sixth line, I looked, and every fault line in the world exploded – earthquakes and volcanoes everywhere. The sun was completely blacked out and the moon turned to blood – somehow a solar and lunar eclipse at the same time! Giant meteors were slamming into the earth – it was like someone was shaking an apple tree and the stars were falling out of the sky like deadly fruit! The sky itself was falling – literally! – and mountains and islands were vanishing, swallowed into the ground and oceans.

As everything fell apart, I saw presidents and prime ministers, dictators and despots, the CEOs and oil tycoons, movie stars and pop princesses – and not only them, but even the farmers and welfare moms, the homeless and illegal immigrants – everyone! They all tried to find a hole to hide in, and they began begging the earth itself,

Fall on us! Crush us! Anything to hide us from the face of the One seated at the Desk and from the wrath of the Lamb. See? The great Day of their wrath has come. Do you see anyone who can survive it?

7 Then I looked and saw four angels standing at the four cardinal directions. They were holding back the four winds so that nothing was moving anywhere – on land or sea. I saw another angel who was coming up with the dawn, and he held God’s notary seal. He called out to the four angels who had been given power to damage the land and seas,

“Don’t damage the land or sea – or anything on them, even the trees! – until we’ve notarized the servants of our God with a seal on their hearts and their wallets.”

Then I heard how many were notarized – five hundred *billion*, notarized from every tribe of God’s chosen people.

Fifty billion were notarized from the Reformed churches.

Fifty billion were notarized from the Emergent churches.

Fifty billion were notarized from the Immigrant churches.

Fifty billion were notarized from the Baptist churches.

Fifty billion were notarized from the Black churches.

Fifty billion were notarized from the Catholic churches.

Fifty billion were notarized from the Mainline Protestant churches.

Fifty billion were notarized from the Pentecostal churches.

Fifty billion were notarized from the Orthodox churches.

Fifty billion were notarized from the Evangelical churches.

Then I looked and all around me was an enormous multitude that no one could even begin to count. It was full of people from every country, ethnicity, language, demographic and people group. They were all standing in front of the desk and the Lamb, dressed in white graduation robes and waving campaign signs. As one, they shouted,

“Salvation belongs to our God who is seated at the desk and to the Lamb!”

All the angels stood around the desk and around the congresspersons and the four creatures, and they saluted in front of the desk and worshiped God by pledging their allegiance, singing,

“Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom
And thanksgiving and honor and power and strength
Be to our God forever and ever! Amen!”

Then one of the congresspersons addressed asked me,

“Who are these, dressed in white graduation robes, and where did they come from?”

I responded, “Sir, you know better than I.” So he told me,

They’re the people who have finished the great trial. They’ve washed their graduation robes in the blood of the Lamb until they’re white. That’s why they’re before God’s desk, worshiping him 24/7 in his Oval Office.

The one seated at the Desk protects them. They’re never going to be hungry or thirsty again. They’re not going to swept away in a hurricane or buried in an earthquake because the Lamb at the center of the Desk will be their shepherd. He’s going to guide them safely to the springs of the water of life, and God is going to wipe away every tear they’ve cried.

8 When the Lamb signed the seventh line on the Order, there was utter silence in heaven for about half an hour. Then I saw the seven angels who comprise God’s cabinet, and they were given seven news cameras.

Another angel with a golden coffee cup came and stood at the podium. He was given gallons of coffee to place along with the prayers of all the saints on the golden podium that stands in front of the desk. The aroma of the coffee, along with the saints’ prayers, rose up to God from the angel’s hand. Then the angel took the coffee cup and filled it with boiling coffee from the podium and threw it down onto the earth, and when he did, I saw lightning flash, heard thunder crash and saw a massive earthquake.

Now the angels with the cameras are turning them on, getting ready to broadcast what’s going on...

The first angel turned on his camera and I saw hail and fire mixed with blood rain down onto the earth. A third of earth was burned up – a third of the forests and prairies and deserts and everything.

The second angel turned on his camera and a giant asteroid, burning with fire, was thrown into the ocean. A third of the ocean turned to blood and everything in it died – a third of the fish, the seaweed and plankton, whales and seals, all of them. Even a third of the ships were destroyed.

The third angel turned on his camera and another meteor fell from heaven, blazing like a bonfire. It fell on a third of all the rivers and lakes. The meteor is called Wormwood, and a third of all the fresh water turned to wormwood, and millions died because the water had been poisoned.

The fourth angel turned on his camera and a third of the sun was struck, along with a third of the moon and stars. Everything became a third darker – day and night.

Then I looked, and I saw an eagle flying in the sky, calling out,

“A curse, a curse, and another curse on the inhabitants of the earth, when the other three angels turn on their cameras!”

9 The fifth angel turned on his camera and I saw a star that had fallen from heaven to earth, and he was given the key the bowels of the earth. He opened it and smoke came billowing out of the hole like from a blown radiator. The smoke covered the sky and plunged the whole planet into darkness.

Then I saw locusts emerge from the smoke, and they were given authority like soldiers. They were specifically told *not* to harm the crops or food supply, but instead to hurt anyone who hadn't been notarized by God on their heads and wallets. They were allowed to torture them for five months, but not to kill them. And it was bad - worse than anything that went down in Guantanamo Bay. During those five months, people will *try* to kill themselves - they'll chase after death - but they won't be able to die.

The locusts look like something out of a nightmare; they're basically heavily armored, battle-ready tanks. They wore gold medals around their necks. Their faces are more-or-less human - they even have flowing blonde hair, but their teeth are razor-sharp like a lion. They're covered in tough scales like a snake, and their wings buzz like a fighter jet doing a flyby. They have tails like a scorpion, and that's what they use to torture people for the five months.

They're controlled by the angel that unlocked the abyss and let them out - his name in Hebrew is Abaddon. In Greek it's Apollyon. In English? Destruction.

The first curse has passed. There are still two curses coming.

The sixth angel turned on his camera and I heard a voice from the podium before God say to the sixth angel with the camera,

“Release the four angels who are imprisoned at the Pacific Ocean.”

So the four angels were released. They'd been held ready for the day, hour, minute and second, to kill a third of humanity. They had a huge armada with them - it numbered two hundred trillion (I heard them numbered off).

This is what the army looked like in my vision: the sailors and soldiers wore body armor that blazed like fire. The ships' guns were giant lasers, and they rained down death and destruction. They used the lasers to destroy a third of humanity. Every part of this armada was deadly - from ships themselves to their planes, which were faster than lightning, and just as deadly.

The rest of humanity - the ones who weren't killed by the armada - didn't repent of what they'd done or quit worshiping false gods and idols that they'd created for themselves (and that were powerless to protect them). They didn't quit killing or exploiting each other. Nothing changed.

10 I saw another enormous angel coming down from heaven. He was wrapped in a cloud and I saw a wedding ring appear over his head. I could barely look at him because his face was as bright as the sun and even his legs and feet burned like fire. He had an Executive Order in his right hand (it looked so small in his huge hand!). He planted one foot on the land and one in the ocean and then yelled at the top of his lungs.

When he yelled, I heard a giant roar, like seven jet engines. I was about to write down what I heard in the engines' roar, but someone up in heaven said

“Seal up what the seven jet engines have said – don't write it down!”

Then the angel (the one who was standing on the land and ocean) put his hand over his heart and swore an oath by the one who lives forever and ever, who created heaven and everything in it, the earth and everything on it, and the oceans and everything in them. This is the oath he swore:

“There will be no more delay. When the seventh angel turns on his camera, the mystery of God will be fulfilled just like he told his servants, the prophets.”

Then the voice that had spoken to me from heaven spoke to me again:

“Go take the Executive Order that's been signed, the one that the angel standing on the land and ocean is holding.”

So I went to the angel and told him to give me the Order, and he told me:

“Take it. Eat it. It will make you nauseated once you've eaten it, but it'll taste like the very best chocolate when you bite in.”

I took the Order from the angel and ate it. It tasted like the very best chocolate when I put it in my mouth, but when I was finished with it, I immediately feel nauseated. When I was finished, both the angel and the voice from heaven told me:

“You must prophesy again about the people and nations and languages and ethnic groups.”

11 Then I was given a tool belt and steel beams and I was told:

“Come and reinforce God's sanctuary – include the pulpit and everyone worshipping in there. But don't bother with the foyer or classroom space. All that's being handed over to the rest of the world. They're going to run rampant all over the holy city for 100 months.

I'm going to give my two eye-witnesses authority to prophesy for 100 days while they're dressed for a funeral.”

They're the two kosher trees and two pulpits that stand before the Lord of the earth. If anyone tries to hurt them, the eye-witnesses breathe fire and consume their attackers. Part of their authority will be to stop it from raining the whole time they're prophesying, and they can turn water into blood. In fact, they can strike the earth with any plague they want, whenever they want.

When they've finished giving their testimony, the beast from the bottomless pit will declare war on them, defeat them and kill them. Their bodies will lie in the streets of the great city that we prophetically call Sodom or Egypt – the same city where the Lord was crucified. For 3 1/2 days, people from every ethnic or language group, every country or tribe will demand that they not be buried, so they can see them and celebrate their deaths.

They'll be so glad, they'll declare an international holiday. It'll be bigger than Christmas. That ought to give you an idea how much everyone will hate these two prophets.

But after 3 1/2 days, the breath of life (God's breath of life) entered them and they got up. Everyone who saw it was terrified. Then they heard a voice shout at them from heaven,

"Come up here!"

So they went up to heaven in a cloud while all their enemies stood around watching. At that exact moment, a huge earthquake struck – it destroyed 10% of the city and 7,000 people died. Anyone who didn't die was terrified and attributed everything that'd happened to God in heaven.

The second curse has passed. The third curse is coming very soon.

Then the seventh angel turned on his camera, and loud voices in heaven said:

"The kingdoms of the world have become the kingdom of our Lord and his Christ, and he will reign for all eternity."

Then the twenty-four congresspersons who sit at their desks before God stood up and saluted and pledged their allegiance to God by saying:

"We give you thanks, Lord God Almighty
Who are and who were,
Because you have taken your great power and begun to rule.

The nations raged, but your wrath has come.
It's time to judge the dead
And reward your servants:
The prophets and saints and everyone who fears your name
From the least significant to most important.
It's time to destroy the people who destroy the earth."

Then God's sanctuary in heaven opened – you could see the lost Ark of the Covenant in there! And everywhere you looked, lightning was crashing, hail was raining down and there were earthquakes!

12 An incredible sign appeared in heaven: I saw a woman who wore the sun like a gown and used the moon as a footstool. She wore a gold medal made of fifty stars like a set of pearls. She was pregnant, and was clearly in labor.

Then another sign appeared: an enormous, blood-red dragon with thirteen heads and fifty dollar signs all around it. It wore thirteen presidential seals on its heads. His tail swept across the sky, knocking a third of the stars out of the sky, throwing them down on the earth. Then the dragon positioned itself in front of the woman so it could devour her child as soon as it was born.

The woman gave birth to a boy – the one for whom [the Father has prepared the wedding banquet](#). And he was snatched up into heaven, to God and his Desk. Meanwhile, the woman fled into the wilderness, to a place God had prepared for her so she can be safe and nourished for 1,260 days.

Then a war broke out in heaven. The archangel Michael and his angels fought against the dragon. The dragon and his angels fought back, but they were defeated and forced to leave heaven.

The great dragon was thrown down to the earth – that ancient monster who is called the Accuser and the Liar and the one who tricks the whole world. He was thrown down to the earth along with all his angels.

Then I heard a loud voice announce to heaven,

The Salvation and Power and Kingdom of our God, and his Christ's authority, have now come because the Accuser of our brothers and sisters has been thrown down – the one who never stops condemning them in God's presence.

But they have conquered him by the Lamb's blood and by their testimony, because they didn't value their lives most, even when they were facing the possibility of death.

If you're in heaven, it's time to party!

But if you're on the earth or in the oceans, you're cursed because the Liar has come down to you and he's got revenge on his mind because he knows he doesn't have much time!

So when the dragon saw that he'd been thrown down to the earth, he chased the woman who'd given birth to the boy. But the woman was given a private jet so she could fly from the Monster into the wilderness – to that place where she's safe and nourished for a day, two days and half a day. The dragon vomited a great flood of primeval waters out of his mouth, but the earth itself rose up to defend the woman, swallowing the waters.

The dragon was more furious than ever, so he declared war on the rest of the woman's children – those who have God's law written on their hearts and believe Jesus' witness.

13 The Dragon straddled the earth, from sea to shining sea. And I saw a Beast rising out of the shining sea. It had fifty dollar signs all around its thirteen heads, and each head was decorated with a presidential seal, covered in blasphemous names. As the Beast emerged, I got a better look at its uniform – it was wearing a redcoat covered in a swastika imposed over a rising sun, and the Beast was carrying a hammer and sickle. One of its heads looked dead, like it had been sacrificed, or like two fallen towers, but its mortal wound had been healed.

The whole earth saw this and was amazed, so they followed the Beast. They worshipped the Dragon, because he gave the Beast its authority, and they worshiped the Beast. They said,

“Who is like the Beast? Who can win a war against it?”

The Beast was given a mouth that spoke prideful and blasphemous slogans, and it was allowed to exercise its authority for 42 months. It opened its mouth to utter blasphemies against God, blaspheming God's name and God's Temple (which is those who live with God in Heaven). The Beast was also allowed to wage war on the saints, and to conquer them. It was given authority over every ethnicity and nation and language and people group. Everyone who lives on the earth

will worship it, everyone who's name has not been recorded in the Lamb's book of life since the creation of the world.

Anyone who has ears should listen to this:

“If you're taken captive, then you're going into captivity.
If you kill with a sword, then you're going to be killed with a sword.”

Saints, pay attention. That's a reminder for you to stick it out and stay faithful!

Then I saw another Beast that came down out of the purple mountains majesty and across the fruited plains. This second Beast had two horns – just like a lamb – but it spoke like a dragon. It speaks for the first Beast, and does everything on its behalf. It leads the whole world to worship the first Beast, the one whose mortal wound was healed. It performs signs and miracles – it even calls fire down from the sky in full view of everyone. It's all these signs that it performs on behalf of the first Beast that let the second Beast deceive the people of earth.

It tells them to buy televisions so they can view the image of the Beast it helped them to create, this beast that had fallen like twin towers and yet lived. The second Beast was allowed to breathe life into the image of the Beast on the televisions so that it could speak to the people of the earth, and it was allowed to cause anyone who did not follow the way of the Beast to be killed.

The second Beast causes everyone, important or unimportant, rich or poor, first world and third world, to receive a mark on their hearts and on their wallets and purses, so that no one can buy or sell who doesn't have the mark. The mark is the name of the first Beast, the number of its name. You need to be clever to figure this out, but with a little effort, you can calculate the number of the Beast, because it's the number of the title on its seal. The number itself is 392.

14 Then I looked and woah! The Lamb was standing on Capitol Hill!

And he had the 500 billion with him, those who have his name and his father's name written on their hearts and wallets. I heard a voice from heaven that sounded like a tidal wave or a loud jet engine, and it was as musical as a majestic symphony.

They sang a new song for the one seated at the desk and for the four creatures and the fifty congresspersons. No one could learn the song except for the 500 billion who had been bought from the earth. They haven't been sleeping around; they've stayed faithful. They follow the Lamb wherever he goes. They've been bought from among humanity; they're the tithe of humanity, offered to God and to the Lamb. They're completely blameless – not even a little white lie passes their lips!

Next I saw another angel flying through the stratosphere – it proclaimed Good News to every person on the planet (every nation, ethnicity, language and people group, now and throughout all of human history). He announced loudly,

Fear God and give God glory, because it's finally time for God's judgment.
Worship the One who created the entire universe – everything from stars and galaxies to atoms and quarks. The sky, earth, salt and fresh water.

A second angel followed the first. It said,

Defeated! The great Babylon is defeated! She has made all the peoples of the world drink her juice (which is really the consequences of her unfaithfulness).

A third angel followed the second. He announced loudly,

The people who worship the Beast or its image (on TV) – anyone who received its mark on their hearts or wallets – all of them will also drink the juice of God's wrath. The wine is poured undiluted (it's 160 proof!) straight into the cup of God's anger. They'll be punished with fire and burning sulfur in front of the Lamb and the holy angels. The smoke from their punishment rises into the sky forever and ever. It'll be 24/7 – the people who worship the Beast and its image and receive its mark won't get a break.

**Saints – if you keep God's commandments and hold to the faith of Jesus – pay attention!
This is a reminder for you to stick it out and stay faithful!**

Then I heard a voice from heaven say,

Write this down: "Anyone who dies from now on and believes in God is fortunate. The Spirit agrees, "They'll get to retire from their work because what they've done speaks for itself."

I looked and saw a white cloud, with someone sitting on it. But it wasn't an angel with a harp. It was someone like the Son of Man. He was wearing a gold medal and was driving a combine. Another angel came out of God's Temple, and yelled to the one on the cloud,

Put the combine in gear and start harvesting. It's harvest time and the earth's harvest is ripe.

So the one on the cloud dropped the combine into gear and drove it over the earth, and harvested the whole round ball. Then another angel came out of God's Temple (in heaven), and he also drove a combine. One more angel came out of the altar (it was the one that commands fire), and he yelled to the angel in the combine,

Put your combine in gear and harvest the earth's vineyards – the grapes are ripe and it's time!

So the angel drove his combine over the earth, gathered the grapes and tossed them into the great Welches factory of God's wrath. The Welches factory (it was outside the city) crushed the grapes to get their juice, and blood flowed from the Welches factory deep enough to cover a doorway, and covered the earth from East to West.