

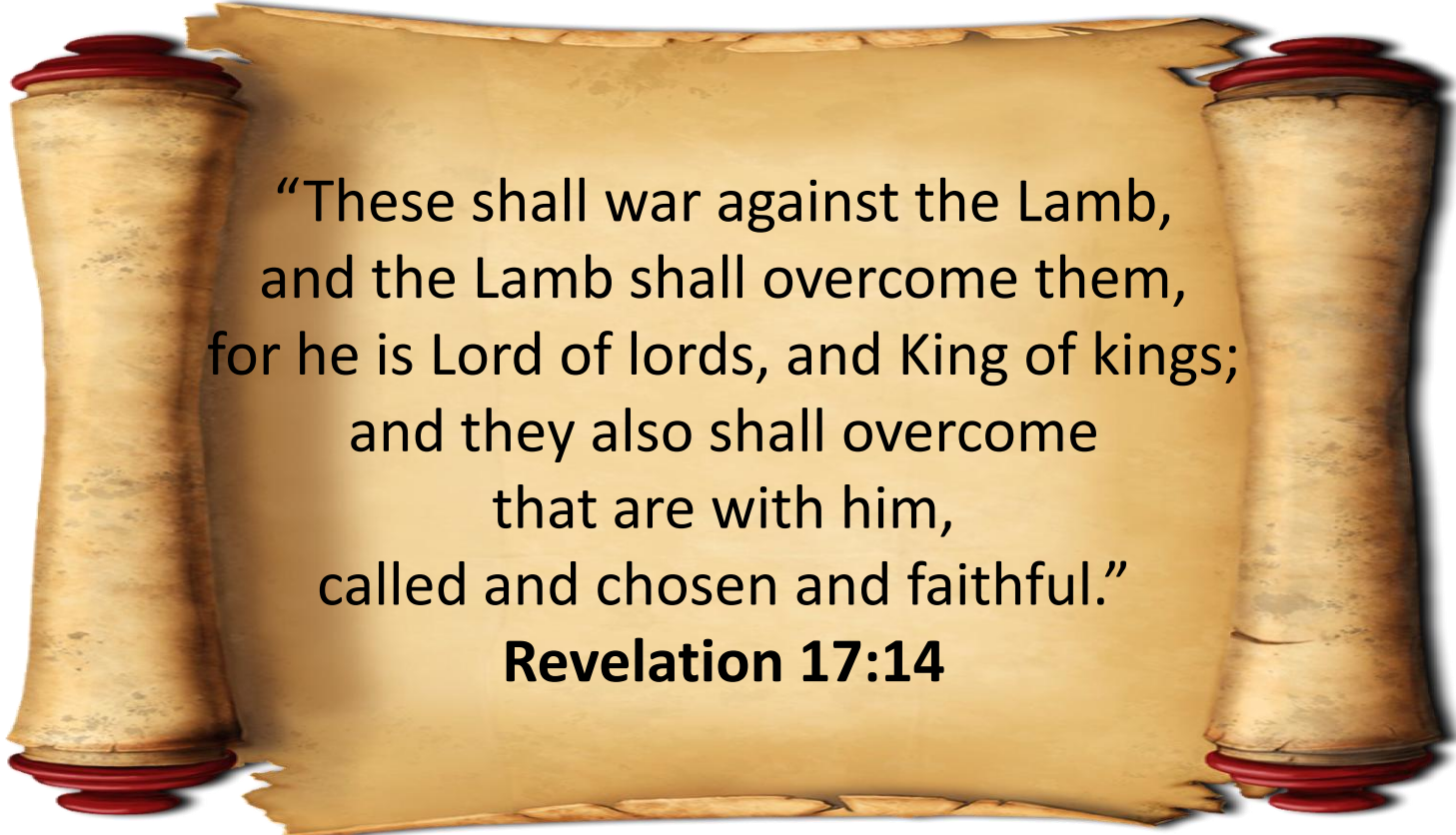


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Revelation

Overcoming with the Lamb



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called and chosen and faithful.”

Revelation 17:14

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Revelation 15

Revelation Outlined

Introduction: Opening greeting and vision (Rev. 1)

SEVEN Churches (Rev. 2-3)

Intermediate Visions: Throne in Heaven (Rev. 4-5)

SEVEN Seals (Rev. 6-8)

SEVEN Trumpets (Rev. 8-11)

Intermediate Visions: Christ vs. Satan (Rev. 12-14)

SEVEN Bowls of Wrath (Rev. 15-20)

Final Outcome: Saints in Heaven (Rev. 21-22)

Closing: Closing admonitions (Rev. 22)

The “7s” of Revelation

- The seven stars deliver
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- The seven angels act
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- The seven thunders announce
- The seven heads rule
- The seven **plagues/bowls** complete

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Christ and His Church Victorious

- The Church's Life in Christ (1-3)
- The Church's Security through Christ (4-8)
- The Church's Message about Christ (8-11)
- The Church's Conflict for Christ (12-14)
- The Church's **Vindication** by Christ (15-20)
- The Church's Union with Christ (21-22)

Christ in the Book of Revelation

- Christ the **Triumphant Ruler** (1)
- Christ the **All-Knowing Judge** (2-3)
- Christ the **Worthy Lamb** (4-5)
- Christ the **Wrathful Lamb** (6-7; 8:1-5)
- Christ the **Prophetic Messenger** (8:6-11:19)
- Christ the **Ruling Lamb** (12:1 – 14:20)
- Christ the **King of Kings** (15:1 – 20:15)

Revelation At-A-Glance

| Revelation 1-5 Reminders | Revelation 6-20 Retributions | Revelation 21-22 Rewards |
|---|---|---------------------------------------|
| Who God is (Rev. 1, 4) Who Jesus is (Rev. 1-3, 5) Who the church is (Rev. 2-3) | <u>Avenging</u> the blood of the saints (Rev. 6:10; 11:18; 19:2) <u>Judging</u> Rome for her persecutions (Rev. 14:7; 16:7; 17:1; 18:8, 10, 20; 19:2, 11; 20:4) <u>Wrath</u> of God (Rev. 6:16-17; 11:18; 14:10; etc.) | Heaven described (Rev. 21:1; 22:1) |

Chapter 15-20 Overview

The NT church at the end of the first century was severely persecuted. The mighty Roman persecution would appear invincible and would pressure Christians to think that God will not come to the rescue. These persecuted Christians needed encouragement to hold on and look to the ultimate outcome.

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The Fall of Babylon (17-18) – the “zoom in” view of Rome’s destruction

Signs & Symbols

15:1 sign – The message of this book was revealed in signs (symbols) of truth - see 1:1; 12:1,3

15:1 seven angels, seven plagues – Seven is symbolic of completion and plagues are symbolic of God's judgment (Ex. 7-12)

15:2 sea of glass – see 4:6

15:2 victorious – the theme of Revelation!

15:2 beast, image, number – see 13:17; 14:9

Nike, the Roman goddess of victory



Signs & Symbols

15:2 harps of God – used for praise in heaven, not on earth (see 5:8; 14:2)

15:3 song of Moses – a song representing victory over Pharaoh's army (Ex. 15)

15:3 song of the Lamb – possibly the same as the “new song” (see 5:9; 14:3)

15:5 the temple – not on earth; always pictured in heaven in Revelation (3:12; 7:15; 11:1,2,19; 14:15,17; 15:56,8; 16:1,17; 21:22)

Signs & Symbols

15:5 tabernacle of the testimony – a phrase used for all the tabernacle items (Ex. 38:21; Num. 1:53; 10:11; Acts 7:44)

15:6 seven angles, plagues – see 15:1,8

15:6 stone, pure, bright, golden girdles – holy and radiant angelic beings

15:7 four living creatures – angelic beings (see 4:6,8; 5:6,8,14; 6:1,6; 7:11; 14:3; 19:4; comp. Ezek. 1)

Signs & Symbols

15:7 seven golden bowls – same as the seven plagues; God's final (15:1; 16:17) judgment coming from his wrath (see 16:1-21)

15:8 smoke from the glory of God – representative of God's presence, blessing, approval (Isa. 6:4; compare with Ex. 40:34; 1 K. 8:10-11)

15:8 seven plagues, seven angels – see 15:1,6

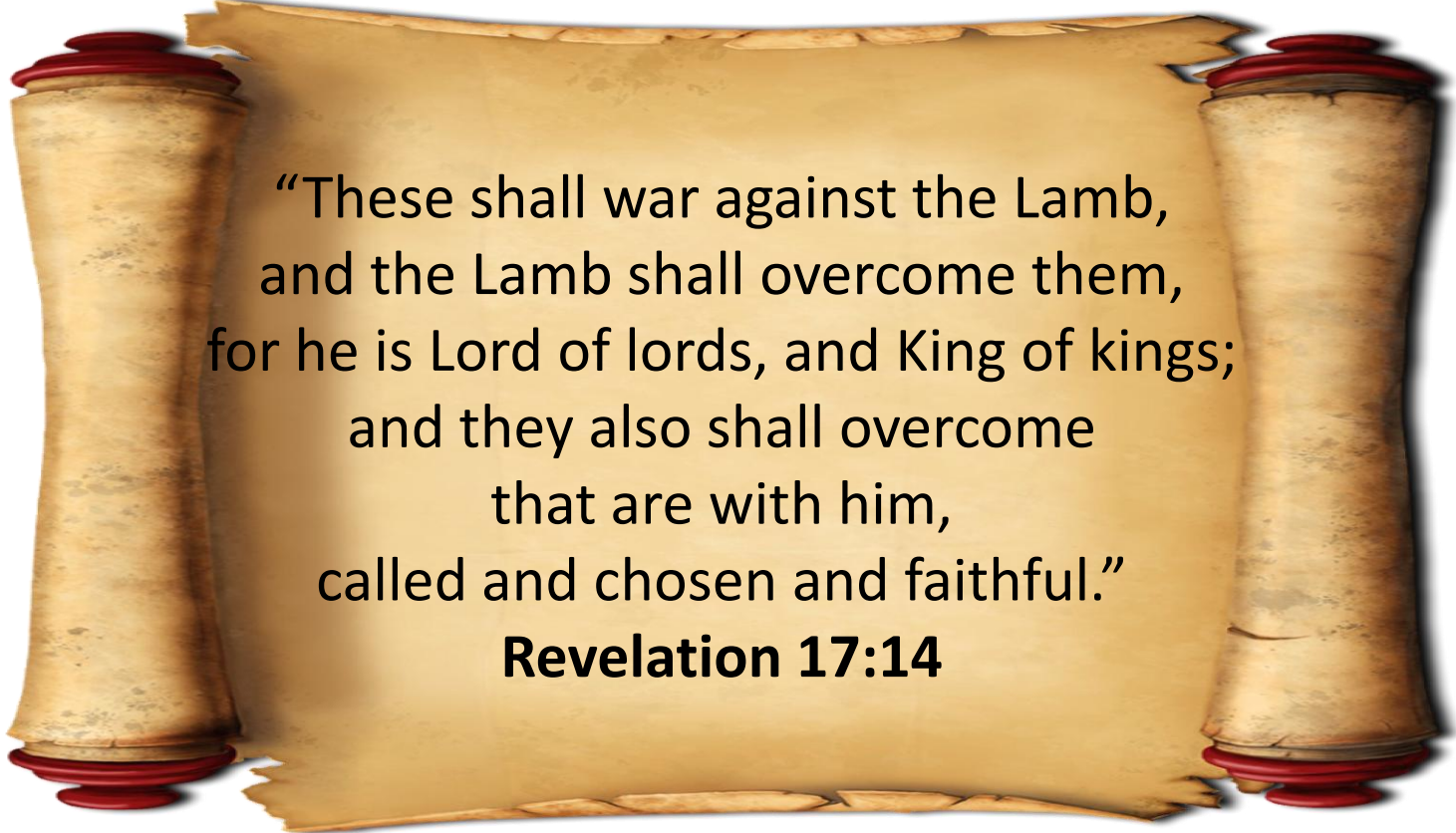


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The Seven Bowls of Wrath

- **The first bowl** poured into the earth was a grievous sore (16:2)
- **The second bowl** poured into the sea was blood (16:3)
- **The third bowl** poured into the rivers was blood (16:4-7)
- **The fourth bowl** poured upon the sun was scorching fire (16:8-9)
- **The fifth bowl** poured upon the beast's throne was sore pain (16:10-11)
- **The sixth bowl** poured upon the Euphrates River dried it up (16:12-16; see 9:14; 19:17-21)
- **The seventh bowl** poured upon the air was great hail (16:17-21; see 14:8; 17:5; 18:2)

God's Judgment in Seven Acts

| 7 Seals Revelation 6 | 7 Trumpets Revelation 8-9 | 7 Bowls Revelation 16 |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Revealed judgment | Partial judgment | Final judgment |
| 1. White horse | 1. Earth | 1. Earth |
| 2. Red horse | 2. Sea | 2. Sea |
| 3. Black horse | 3. Waters | 3. Waters |
| 4. Pale horse | 4. Sun | 4. Sun |
| 5. Souls cry out | 5. Torment | 5. Pains/sores |
| 6. Earthquake | 6. Euphrates | 6. Euphrates |
| Interlude | Interlude | Interlude |
| 7. Seven trumpets | 7. Thunder/hail | 7. Thunder/hail |

God's Judgment: The Plague

| Plagues on Egypt (Ex. 7-12) | Plagues on Rome (Rev. 16) |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Plagues | 16:9, 21 [9:18, 20] |
| 1. Water - blood | 16:4 |
| 2. Frogs | 16:13 |
| 6. Boils | 16:2, 11 |
| 7. Hail | 16:21 [8:7] |
| 8. Locust | 9:3, 7 |
| 9. Darkness | 16:10 [8:12; 9:2] |
| 10. Death | 16:3 [6:8] |

Signs & Symbols

16:1 temple, earth – divine judgment from heaven (15:5-8) coming to earth

16:2 grievous sore – like a boil (Ex. 9:10)

16:2 mark of the beast – see 13:16-17; 14:9, 11; 19:20; 20:4

16:3 blood as a dead man – death and decay

16:4-6 blood ... to drink – God's righteous judgment would repay blood (wars, riots) to those who shed blood (Ex. 7:20)

Signs & Symbols

16:7 altar – where the dead saints are (6:9-11), the prayers of living saints (8:3-4), and angels (9:13; 14:18)

16:8 scorch men with fire – great anguish

16:9 repented not – see 9:20

16:10 throne of the beast – Roman rulers and authorities judged

16:10 kingdom darkened – judged by God like the plague of darkness (Ex. 10:12ff)

Signs & Symbols

16:12 Euphrates river, sunrising – invading armies, like the Parthians, would come from the east to destroy Rome (see 9:14)

16:13 out of the mouth – devilish and deceitful teaching, propaganda

16:13 dragon, beast, false prophet – Satan, Roman authority and religion (see 12:9; 13:4)

16:13 unclean spirits, as frogs – devilish and loathsome lies, ideas, plans, projects, etc.

Signs & Symbols

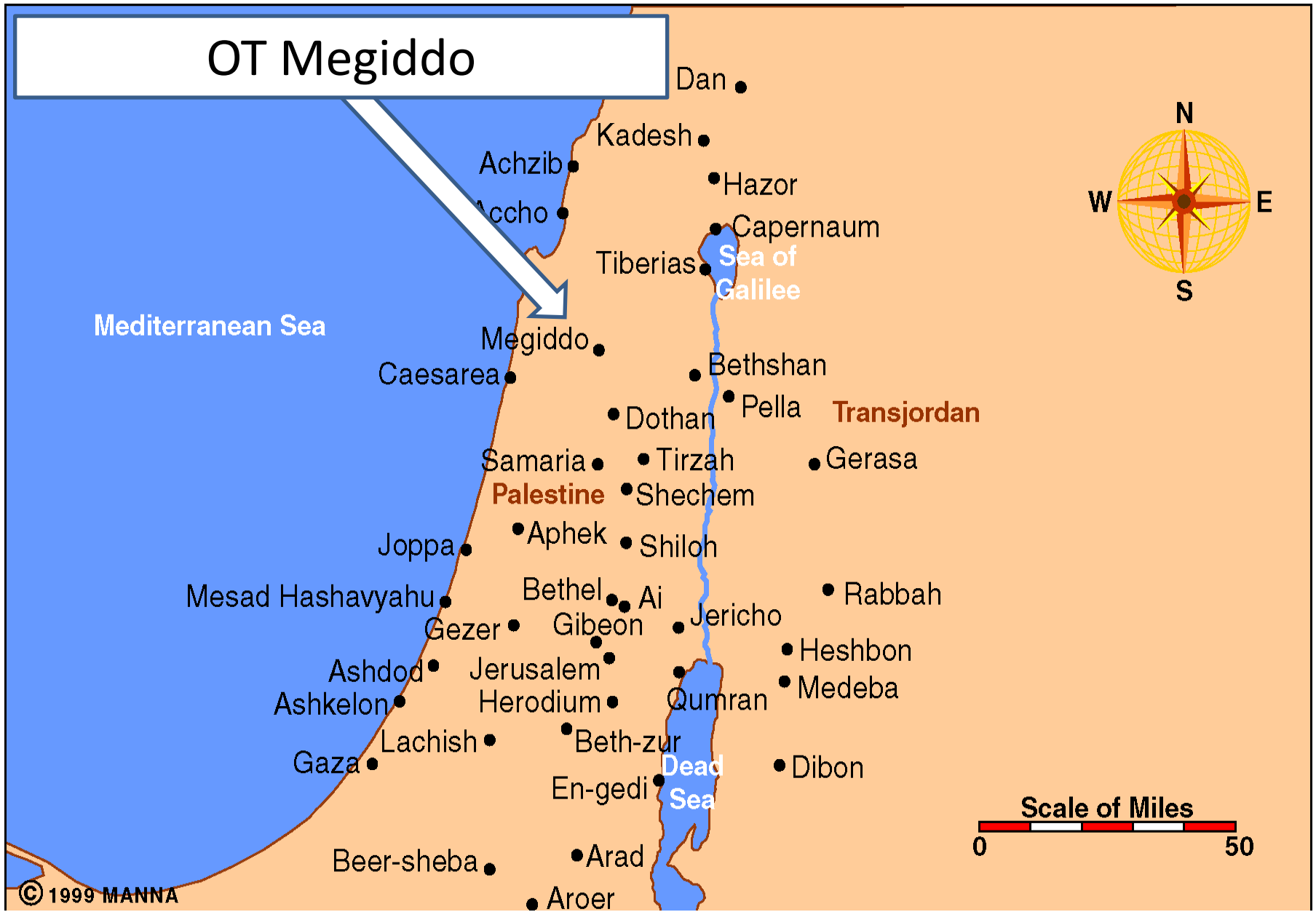
16:14 the war – between the kings and God; God's judgment upon nations (see 19:11-21)

16:15 as a thief – God's judgment is unexpected for those who are unaware and unprepared (1 Thess. 5:2-4; 2 Pet. 3:10)

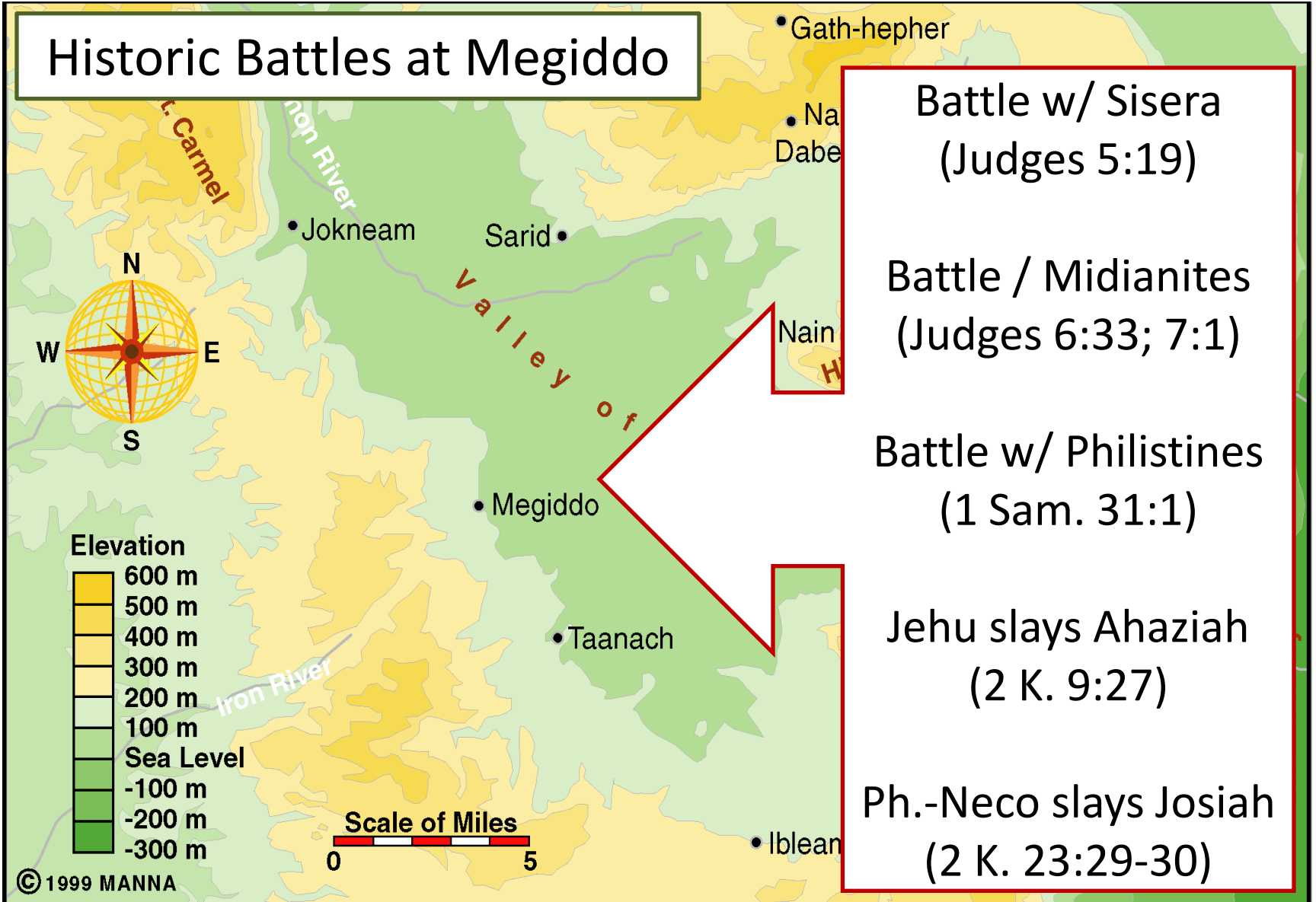
16:15 watch, keep his garments, naked, shame – spiritually alert and pure (3:17-18)

16:16 Har-Magedon – mountain of Megiddo; symbolic of a place of great battle

OT Megiddo



Historic Battles at Megiddo



Battle w/ Sisera
(Judges 5:19)

Battle / Midianites
(Judges 6:33; 7:1)

Battle w/ Philistines
(1 Sam. 31:1)

Jehu slays Ahaziah
(2 K. 9:27)

Ph.-Neco slays Josiah
(2 K. 23:29-30)

The Valley of Jezreel from Mt. Megiddo



Signs & Symbols

16:17 It is done – God’s final judgment on Rome (15:1)

16:18 lightnings, voices, thunders, great earthquake – effects of God’s wrath and judgment (Isa. 13:13; 24:20; Jer. 51:19; see Rev. 6:12ff; 8:5; 11:13,19)

16:19 the great city, Babylon – Rome (more details are given in chapter 17 and 18)

16:19 wine – God’s wrath

Signs & Symbols

16:20 island, mountains – when Rome fell, her allies fell (see 6:14)

16:21 great hail – judgment from God (Ex. 9:22)

16:21 weight of a talent – 75 to 100 pounds'

16:21 blasphemed God – after all of God's judgments, some, like Pharoah, are still hardened; speak against God rather than repent (see 16:9, 11)

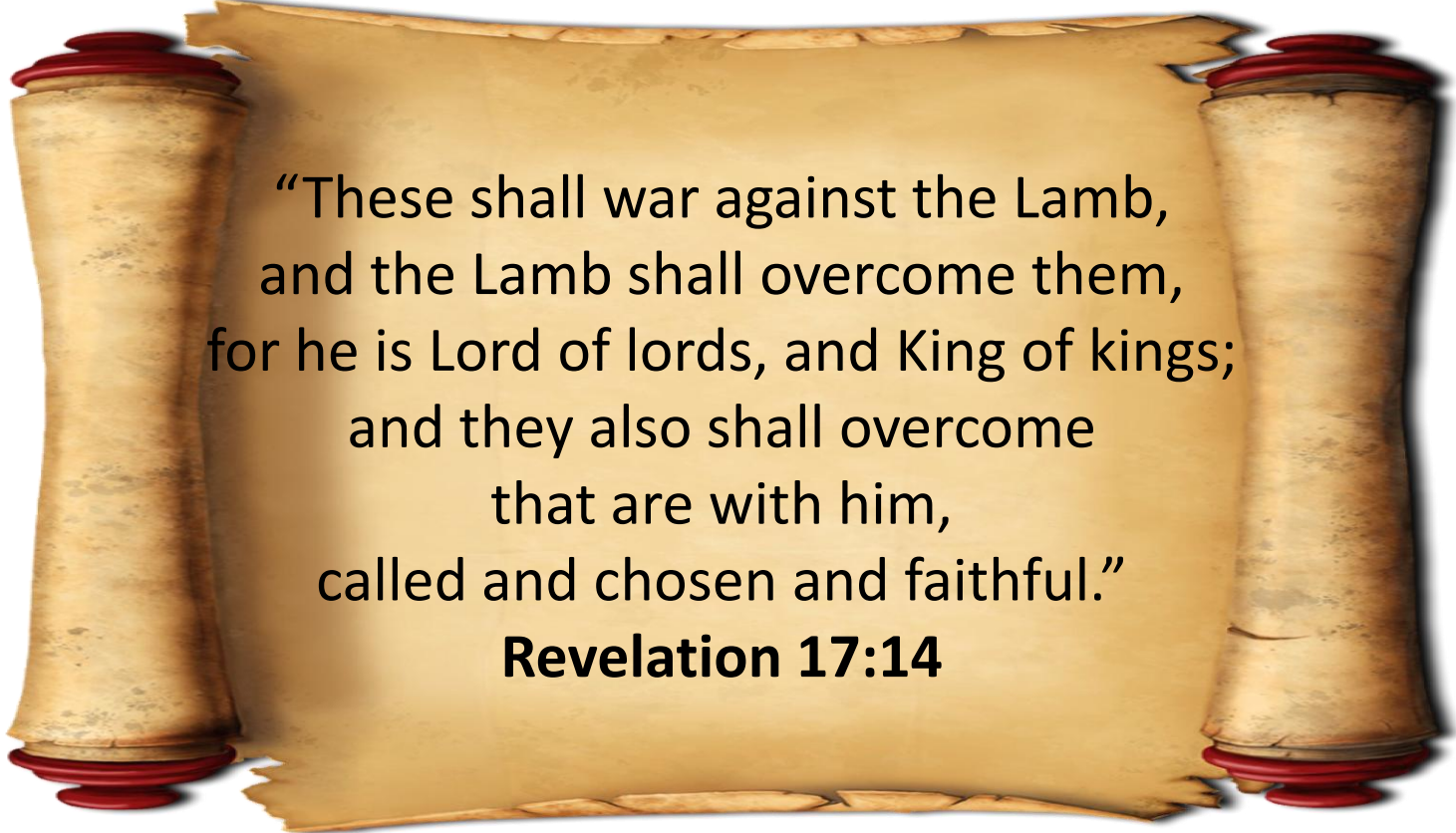


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Chapter 17-18 Overview

The Fall of Babylon (17-18) – the “zoom in” view of Rome’s destruction:

1. Rome - the great harlot described (17:1-13) and destroyed (17:14-18)
2. Rome - the great Babylon described (18:1-20) and destroyed (18:21-24; see 14:8; 16:19)

Signs & Symbols

17:1 the great harlot – Rome likened to a prostitute because of her immorality; other OT cities likened to a harlot: Tyre (Isa. 23:17), Jerusalem (Isa. 1:21; Ezek. 16:15; Jer. 2:20), Ninevah (Nah. 3:4), Babylon (Isa. 47:5-15)

Signs & Symbols

Why is Rome the harlot?

1. Grossly immoral (17:1-5; 18:2-7)
2. Severely persecuted saints (17:6; 18:24)
3. Sat on 7 hills (7:9)
4. Ruled by different kings/alliances (7:10-14)
5. Ruled over many nations (7:15)
6. Destroyed internally by her allies (17:16)
7. Was a great city (17:18)
8. Leading commercial power (18:11-19)

Signs & Symbols

17:1 sits – note that Rome sits on three things: waters (people, 17:15), a beast (empire, 17:3, 7), and 7 mountains (hills of Rome, 7:9)

17:2 drunken – full of immorality (see Babylon in Jer. 51;7, 13)

17:3 in the Spirit – see 1:10; 4:2

17:3 a woman – same as the harlot

17:3 beast – see 13:1-8

Signs & Symbols

| The Beast (Rev. 13) | The Harlot (Rev. 17) |
|----------------------------|---|
| Beast (13:1) | Sits on a beast (17:3) |
| 10 horns / 7 heads (13:1) | 7 heads / 10 horns (17:3) |
| Death stroke healed (13:3) | Is not and shall come (17:8) |
| Earth wondered (13:3) | Earth wondered (17:8) |
| Blasphemies (13:1, 5-6) | Names of blasphemy (17:3) |
| War with saints (13:7, 17) | Blood of the saints (17:6) war with the lamb (17:14) |
| Rule over nations (13:7) | Sits over nations (17:15) |
| Names not written (13:8) | Names not written (17:8) |

Signs & Symbols

17:3-4 purple and scarlet – imperial majesty; political power; seduction; attractive luxury

17:3 seven heads, ten horns – Roman power and authority (17:10-12)

17:5 forehead – place of identification (see 7:3; 9:4; 13:16; 14:1, 9; 20:4; 22:4)

17:5 Babylon – Rome is like Babylon (see 14:8; 16:9) in her power, pride, idolatry, and immorality (Jer. 51:7,13)

Signs & Symbols

17:6 blood of the saints, martyrs – Christians killed in the Rome (see also 2:13; 11:7; 13:7)

17:8 was and is not and is about to come – Roman emperor power comes, goes, and comes again as emperors rise, fall, and rise again (see 13:3); persecution for Christians will come, go, and come again

17:8 perdition – the main thought of this chapter (see 17:11, 16)

Literal View

The 7 kings are 7 specific kings that John has in mind

Pro: Verse 10 appears to be talking about one king who now is and another who is to come

Con: Which king do you start with? Do you skip any kings? Which king do you end with?

Symbolic View

The 7 kings should be taken as representative of all of Rome's rulers

Pro: Seven is used symbolically over 50 times throughout the book

Con: It makes verse 10 generic when that verse appears to be specific

| Caesar | Date |
|--------------|-------------------|
| 1. Augustus | 27 B.C. – 14 A.D. |
| 2. Tiberius | 14 – 37 A.D. |
| 3. Caligula | 37 – 41 A.D. |
| 4. Claudius | 41 – 54 A.D. |
| 5. Nero | 54 – 68 A.D. |
| 6. Galba | 68 – 69 A.D. |
| 7. Otho | 69 A.D. |
| 8. Vitellus | 69 A.D. |
| 9. Vespasian | 69 – 79 A.D. |
| 10. Titus | 79 – 81 A.D. |
| 11. Domitian | 81 – 96 A.D. |
| 12. Nerva | 96 – 98 A.D. |

Signs & Symbols

17:9 seven mountains – the physical location of Rome

17:10 seven kings – the emperors of Rome

17:11 the beast, an eighth – Roman authority

17:12 ten horns, ten kings – vassal rulers throughout the provinces of the empire that gave their allegiance to Rome (like the Herods in Palestine) – see 16:14; 19:18

Signs & Symbols

17:14 war against the Lamb – persecution of Christians throughout the empire

17:15 waters, peoples – the people over which Rome ruled

17:16 hate the harlot – Rome fell, in part, due to internal insurrection and division throughout Rome and the empire

17:17 make her desolate – like Babylon of old (Isa. 13:19-22)

Signs & Symbols

17:17 God did put in their hearts – God's providence in human affairs (Prov. 21:1)

17:17 the words of God should be accomplished – see 6:10; 10:7

17:18 the great city – Rome (see 11:8; 16:19; 18:10, 16, 18 , 19, 21)

The Fall of Rome: 150 – 475 A.D.

- **165-180s:** Plague in Roman Lands
- **175:** Avidius Cassius insurrection
- **180-192:** Commodus rules and his reign is characterized by numerous insurrections; he is finally murdered in 192 by the Praetorian Guard

The Fall of Rome: 150 – 475 A.D.

- **193:** Year of internal revolts; many rival claimants vie for control of the Empire; Septimius Severus finally wins out
- **225-230s:** Sassanids rise in Persia; pose a new, expansive Persian threat to Rome in the East
- **235-285:** Era of Soldier-Emperors; wars against Persians, Barbarian raids, continuous civil war

The Fall of Rome: 150 – 475 A.D.

- **285-306:** Rule of Diocletian; empire split into West and East; Diocletian's trusted ally Maximian installed as Eastern Emperor; empire restructured into a military, bureaucratic state; economic reforms, rule by Tetrarchate; secluded emperor
- **303-311:** Diocletian persecutes of Christians

The Fall of Rome: 150 – 475 A.D.

- **312:** Battle of Milvian Bridge; Constantine of Britain defeats Maxentius in N. Italy, becoming sole ruler in West; Constantine favors Christianity
- **313:** Edict of Milan; Constantine and Licinius, the Eastern ruler, agree to end Diocletian persecutions of Christianity; Christianity is legalized

The Fall of Rome: 150 – 475 A.D.

- **325:** Council of Nicaea; a meeting of a church council, presided over by Emperor, to determine orthodox “Christian” faith
- **330:** Constantinople dedicated
- **361-363:** Rule of Julian the Apostate as Emperor; tries to disestablish Christianity; pro-pagan; dies in the East while fighting the Parthians

The Fall of Rome: 150 – 475 A.D.

- **375-378:** Rule of Valens in the East and Gratian in the West (to 383); Ostrogothic Black Sea kingdom destroyed by Huns; Huns push all tribes before them to the Danube and Rhine borders of the Roman Empire
- **401-403:** Visigoth incursions into Italy; attack on northern Italy; beaten back by Stilicho at Pollenza (402)

The Fall of Rome: 150 – 475 A.D.

- **410:** First Sack of Rome; given desperate material circumstances and no concessions from Imperial authorities, Alaric permits small sack of Rome
- **429-35:** Vandal passage to N. Africa; under Gaiseric, Vandals move through Spain, cross to N. Africa, occupy Carthage, cut off grain supplies to Rome, and begin pirate raiding

The Fall of Rome: 150 – 475 A.D.

- **440-450:** Hun threat to Eastern Empire under Kings Rugilla and Attila; the Huns raid north of Constantinople and demand increasing tributes; Eastern Emperor Marcian refuses higher tribute payments in 450
- **455:** Second sack of Rome; Vandals from N. Africa sail up Tiber and sack Rome

The Fall of Rome: 150 – 475 A.D.

- **455-476:** Generals of Barbarian birth, such as Ricimer and Orestes, set up puppets like Marjorian, as Emperor and concentrate only on Italy and South Gaul; expansion of Barbarian kingdoms.
- **476:** Deposition of last Western Emperor; barbarian general Odovacar deposes Orestes' son Romulus Augustulus; the end of the Roman Empire

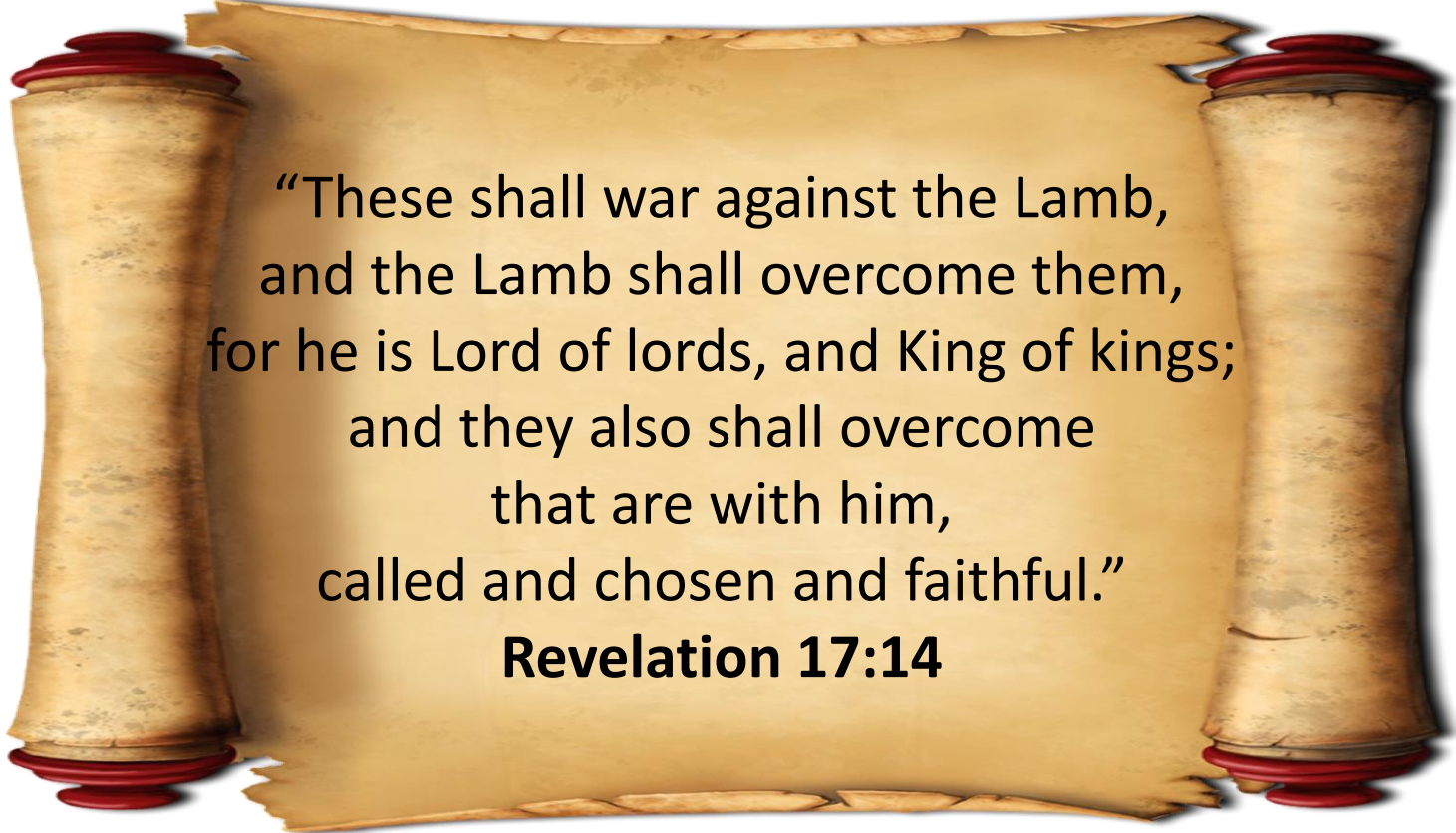


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Revelation

Overcoming with the Lamb

A scroll with a light brown, aged paper texture, unrolled to reveal text. The scroll is held by two red, cylindrical rollers on the left and right sides. The text is centered on the scroll.

“These shall war against the Lamb,
and the Lamb shall overcome them,
for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings;
and they also shall overcome
that are with him,
called and chosen and faithful.”

Revelation 17:14

Revelation

Overcoming with the Lamb



Revelation 18

Revelation Outlined

Introduction: Opening greeting and vision (Rev. 1)

SEVEN Churches (Rev. 2-3)

Intermediate Visions: Throne in Heaven (Rev. 4-5)

SEVEN Seals (Rev. 6-8)

SEVEN Trumpets (Rev. 8-11)

Intermediate Visions: Christ vs. Satan (Rev. 12-14)

SEVEN Bowls of Wrath (Rev. 15-20)

Final Outcome: Saints in Heaven (Rev. 21-22)

Closing: Closing admonitions (Rev. 22)

Revelation Theme

Christ and His Church Victorious

- The Church's Life in Christ (1-3)
- The Church's Security through Christ (4-8)
- The Church's Message about Christ (8-11)
- The Church's Conflict for Christ (12-14)
- The Church's **Vindication** by Christ (15-20)
- The Church's Union with Christ (21-22)

Christ in the Book of Revelation

- Christ the **Triumphant Ruler** (1)
- Christ the **All-Knowing Judge** (2-3)
- Christ the **Worthy Lamb** (4-5)
- Christ the **Wrathful Lamb** (6-7; 8:1-5)
- Christ the **Prophetic Messenger** (8:6-11:19)
- Christ the **Ruling Lamb** (12:1 – 14:20)
- Christ the **King of Kings** (15:1 – 20:15)

Revelation At-A-Glance

| Revelation 1-5 Reminders | Revelation 6-20 Retributions | Revelation 21-22 Rewards |
|---|---|---|
| <p>Who God is (Rev. 1, 4)</p> <p>Who Jesus is (Rev. 1-3, 5)</p> <p>Who the church is (Rev. 2-3)</p> | <p><u>Avenging</u> the blood of the saints (Rev. 6:10; 11:18; 19:2)</p> <p><u>Judging</u> Rome for her persecutions (Rev. 14:7; 16:7; 17:1; 18:8, 10, 20; 19:2, 11; 20:4)</p> <p><u>Wrath</u> of God (Rev. 6:16-17; 11:18; 14:10; etc.)</p> | <p>Heaven described (Rev. 21:1; 22:1)</p> |

Chapter 15-20 Overview

The NT church at the end of the first century was severely persecuted. The mighty Roman persecution would appear invincible and would pressure Christians to think that God will not come to the rescue. These persecuted Christians needed encouragement to hold on and look to the ultimate outcome.

Chapter 15-20 Overview

God would certainly vindicate his righteous saints by exercising his righteous wrath upon their enemies and persecutors (15:1,7; 16:1,19; 19:15; see 14:10 earlier). Revelation 15-20 introduces **the theme of vindication**: God's people vindicated from their persecutors (15:2-4; 16:5-7, 19; 17:14,17; 18:6,20; 19:2; 20:4; see also 6:9; 8:3-5; 11:18

Chapter 15-20 Overview

...for references to vindication earlier in the book). In the **seven seals**, we are shown the **permissive will** of God and in the **seven trumpets** we are shown the **reformatory purpose** of God, but in the **seven bowls of wrath** we are shown the “last” and “finished” **retributive justice** of God (15:1,5-8; 16:1,17). However, the wicked still did not repent after being judged (16:9).

Chapter 15-20 Overview

God's enemies are the dragon (Rev. 12), the sea & earth beast (Rev. 13), and Babylon (Rev. 14:8). The final fall of God's enemies are presented in **reverse order**: Babylon (Rev. 16-18), the beast (Rev. 19:19-21), and the dragon (Rev. 20:1-10).

Chapter 17-18 Overview

The Fall of Babylon (17-18) – the “zoom in” view of Rome’s destruction:

1. Rome - the great harlot described (17:1-13) and destroyed (17:14-18)
2. Rome - the great Babylon described (18:1-20) and destroyed (18:21-24; see 14:8; 16:19)

The Fall of Rome: 150 – 475 A.D.

- **161-180:** Rule of Marcus Aurelius
- **162-165:** War Against Parthia. Roman victories at Dura Europa, Ctesiphon
- **165-180s:** Plague in Roman Lands
- **167-175:** Marcus Aurelius defeats Marcomanni and Quadi by 174
- **175:** Avidius Cassius insurrection

The Fall of Rome: 150 – 475 A.D.

- **178-180:** Marcus Aurelius advances to Bohemia and Carpathian mountains
- **180-192:** Commodus rules and his reign is characterized by numerous insurrections; he is finally murdered in 192 by the Praetorian Guard
- **193:** Year of internal revolts; many rival claimants vie for control of the Empire; Septimius Severus finally wins out

The Fall of Rome: 150 – 475 A.D.

- **193-235:** Era of Severi Emperors
- **193-211:** Rule of Septimius; Severus campaigns against Parthians and Barbarian raids; shows profound disregard for the Senate.
- **222-235:** Rule of Severus Alexander; wars against Parthia and Marcomanni; Emperor is slain, end of the Severi Dynasty

The Fall of Rome: 150 – 475 A.D.

- **235-285:** Era of Soldier-Emperors; wars against Persians, Barbarian raids, continuous civil war
- **225-230s:** Sassanids rise in Persia; pose a new, expansive Persian threat to Rome in the East

The Fall of Rome: 150 – 475 A.D.

- **285-306:** Rule of Diocletian; empire split into West and East; Diocletian's trusted ally Maximian installed as Eastern Emperor; empire restructured into a military, bureaucratic state; economic reforms, rule by Tetrarchate; secluded emperor

The Fall of Rome: 150 – 475 A.D.

- **303-311:** Diocletian persecutes of Christians
- **306:** Diocletian and Maximian's abdication; civil war
- **312:** Battle of Milvian Bridge; Constantine of Britain defeats Maxentius in N. Italy, becoming sole ruler in West; Constantine favors Christianity

The Fall of Rome: 150 – 475 A.D.

- **313:** Edict of Milan; Constantine and Licinius, the Eastern ruler, agree to end Diocletian persecutions of Christianity; Christianity is legalized
- **324-337:** Constantine defeats Licinius and becomes sole ruler; continues Diocletian's reforms; patronizes Christianity

The Fall of Rome: 150 – 475 A.D.

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- **330:** Constantinople dedicated
- **361-363:** Rule of Julian the Apostate as Emperor; tries to disestablish Christianity; pro-pagan; dies in the East while fighting the Parthians

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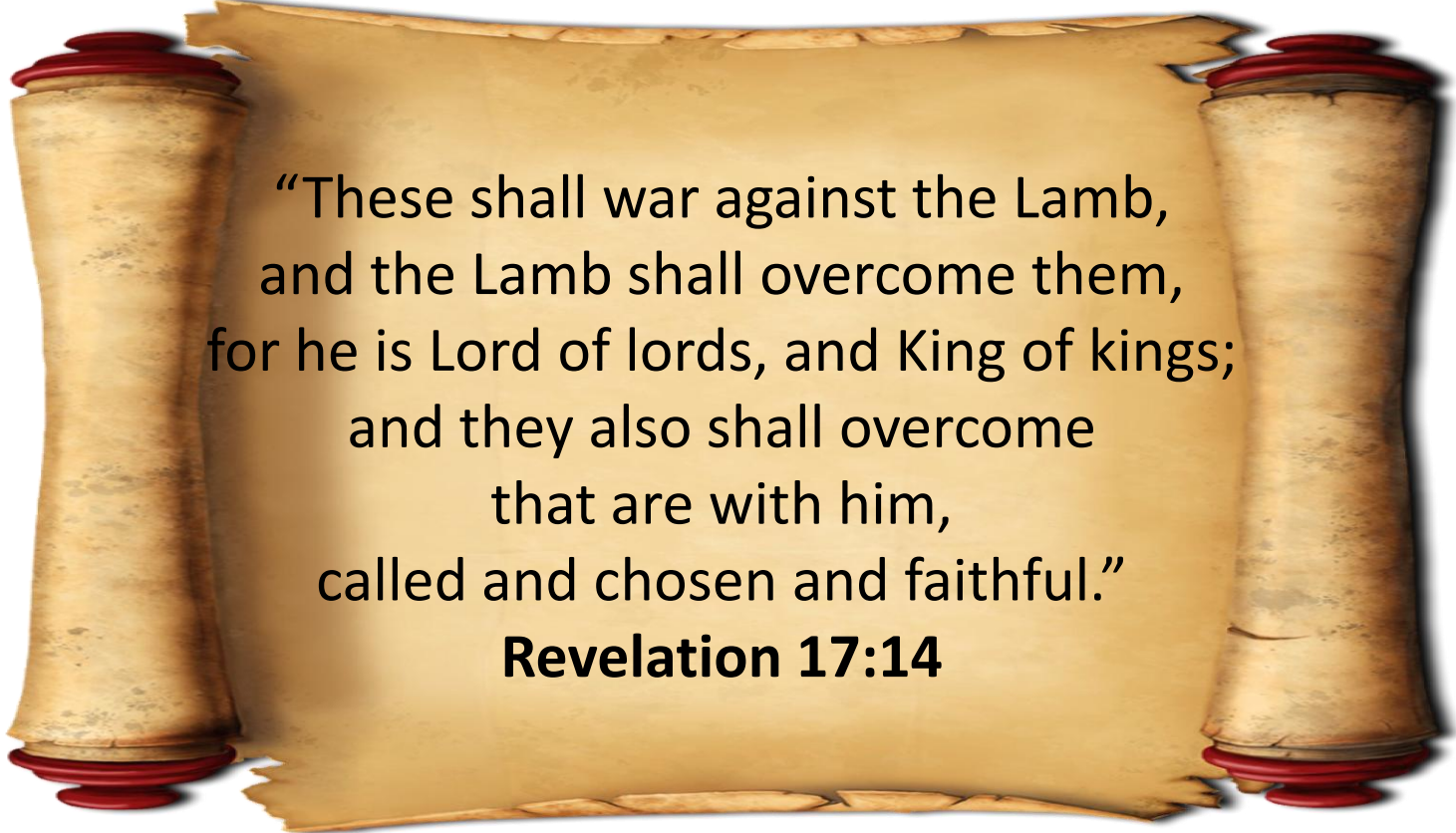


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Revelation

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Revelation 17:14

Revelation

Overcoming with the Lamb



Revelation 21

Revelation Outlined

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SEVEN Churches (Rev. 2-3)

Intermediate Visions: Throne in Heaven (Rev. 4-5)

SEVEN Seals (Rev. 6-8)

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| <p>Who God is (Rev. 1, 4)</p> <p>Who Jesus is (Rev. 1-3, 5)</p> <p>Who the church is (Rev. 2-3)</p> | <p><u>Avenging</u> the blood of the saints (Rev. 6:10; 11:18; 19:2)</p> <p><u>Judging</u> Rome for her persecutions (Rev. 14:7; 16:7; 17:1; 18:8, 10, 20; 19:2, 11; 20:4)</p> <p><u>Wrath</u> of God (Rev. 6:16-17; 11:18; 14:10; etc.)</p> | <p>Heaven described (Rev. 21:1; 22:1)</p> |

Chapter 21-22 Overview

Roman persecution would cause Christians to focus on the here and now of things. They would not be able to see the outcome of their struggle. Also, if John gave a detailed outcome of the judgment on Rome and Satan, and then stopped, what would that do to the saints? They would ask, “What can we expect?”, “What is our reward?” These Christians needed a divine outlook on the future of the saints and their final end.

Chapter 21-22 Overview

Revelation 20:11 – 22:6 moves ahead to the end of time. The following **6** points show that this is a reference to saints united with Christ in heaven, not saints on earth in the church:

1) Rev. 21-22 follows the final judgment of Rev. 20:11-15; **2)** Rev. 21-22 is the period of "a new heaven and new earth" (Rev. 21:1,5; see 20:11), which according to Peter, is after the earth and works are burned up...

Chapter 21-22 Overview

... (2 Peter 3:8-13); **3)** Rev. 21-22 is a time when "death shall be no more" (21:4); **4)** the rewards mentioned in Rev. 21-22, when compared with the rest of the book, are rewards that are given after death, not before it (7:15 and 21:3; 7:14-17 and 22:3; 2:7 and 22:2); **5)** saints are serving God around his throne forever (3:21; 7:9-17; 14:3; 21:3,5; 22:1,3) - a throne in heaven...

Chapter 21-22 Overview

... not on earth (4:2-3; 5:1; 20:11-12; etc.); and **6)** the reward of heaven is at the same time as the punishment of hell (21:7-8; see 2:11)

Chapter 21-22 Overview

Union with Christ (21:1 - 22:5)

- **United in God's tabernacle** (21:1-8) - perfect partnership with God (Rev. 7:15; 19:7-9)
- **United in God's city** (21:9-27) - perfect protection by God (Heb. 12:22-23; Rev. 3:12)
- **United in God's garden** (22:1-5) - perfect provision from God (Gen. 2:8; Rev. 2:7)

Chapter 21-22 Overview

Closing Reminders (22:6-21)

- Do not disobey the book (22:6-7)
- Do not seal the book (22:10-17; Dan. 12:4)
- Do not tamper with the book (22:18-29; see Deut. 4:2; Prov. 30:6)
- Closing benediction (22:20-21)

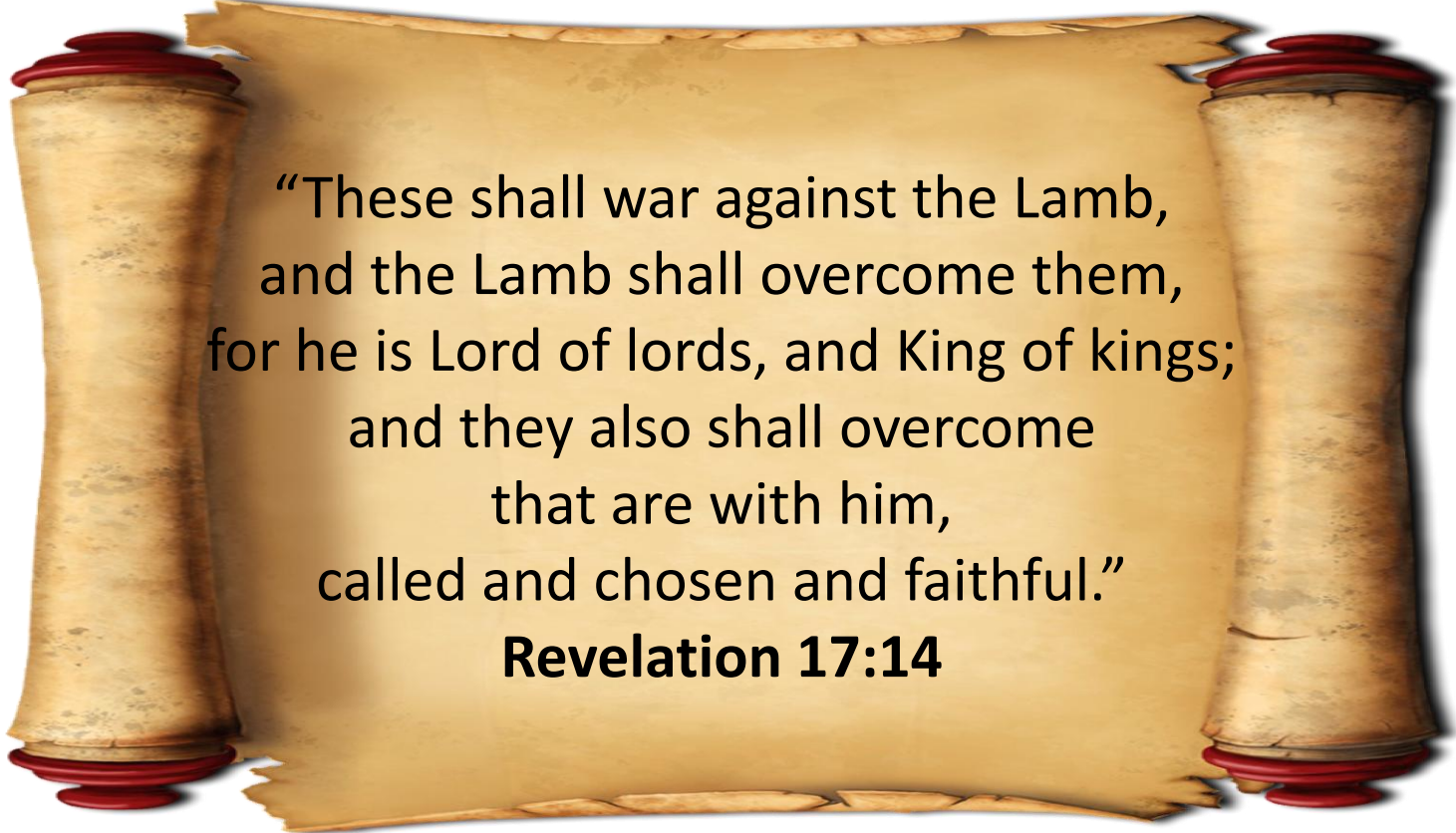


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- Closing benediction (22:20-21)

7 Overall Themes in Revelation

1. Revelation is a “prophecy” that is to come to pass shortly (1:1-3; 10:1-11; 22:6-22)

- 2a. Christians are experiencing “tribulation” and “trial” (persecution) which includes death (1:9-11; 2:9-10,13; 3:10; 6:9-11; 7:14; 11:1-10; 12:13-17; 13:7, 15; 15:2; 16:6; 17:6, 14; 18:24; 20:4)

7 Overall Themes in Revelation

- 2b. Christians are to be “faithful” and “overcome” during their time of persecution (2:1 – 3:22; 17:14); they are to “come forth out” from the world (18:4)
- 3. God is on his “throne” (1:8; 4:1-11) and he brings divine “judgment” upon his enemies

7 Overall Themes in Revelation

4. Jesus will “rule” over the nations and his church (1:4-7; 1:12-20; 2:1 – 3:22; 5:1-14; 12:5)

7 Overall Themes in Revelation

5. God's "enemies" are given time to repent, then "judged" with "wrath":

the beast/world/Rome (6:1-8, 12-17; 8:1 – 9:21; 11:13-19; 14:6-20; 15:1 – 16:21; 17:1 – 19:3, 11-21)

Satan (20:1-3, 7-10)

God's "servants" are given time to suffer, then given "reward" (6:9-11; 11:11-12; 14:13; 19:6-10; 20:4-6)

7 Overall Themes in Revelation

6. A “war” is going (12:1 – 13:18): Christ and his people with their “forehead” marked (7:1-8; 14:1-5) vs. Satan and his people with their “forehead” marked (13:16-18)

7 Overall Themes in Revelation

7. One day all will be judged “according to their works” (20:11-15) with two eternal destinies: the “city” (heaven) for the righteous (7:1-17; 14:1-5; 21:1-7, 9-27; 22:1-5, 14, 17) and the “lake of fire” (hell) for the unrighteous (20:14-15; 21:8, 27; 22:15)