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Revelation

Overcoming with the Lamb

A scroll with text on it, featuring a central rectangular area with a light beige background and a dark red border. The scroll is unrolled, showing the text in the center. The scroll is held by two red cylindrical supports on the left and right sides.

“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 8

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>

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)
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- The Church's **Message** about Christ (8-11)
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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)

Chapter 8 Overview

The New Testament church at the end of the first century was persecuted. Roman persecution would force Christians to keep quiet about Jesus, keep quiet about sin (idolatry, immorality), and keep quiet about God's judgment. These Christians needed a reminder of the responsibility to get the gospel message out - a message of warning, of repentance and victory...

Chapter 8 Overview

... (8:2; 10:7,11; 11:3,6,7,10,18,19). Trumpets in Bible times were used to call assemblies, to journey, to celebrate, and to wage war (Num.10:1-9). Trumpets were also used to warn (Ezek.33:3; Amos 3:6; Hos.5:8). Christ's message in Revelation is one of warning (8:2,6) and harsh punishment: three "woes" (8:13; 9:12; 11:14).

Chapter 8 Overview

The severity of this divine, but partial judgment, was designed to bring about repentance (9:20-21; 16:9, 11, 21) upon the ungodly (9:4).

The “7s” of Revelation

- The seven stars deliver
- The seven letters instruct
- The seven churches exemplify
- The seven Spirits illuminate
- The seven seals reveal
- The seven **angels** act
- The seven **trumpets** warn
- The seven thunders announce
- The seven heads rule
- The seven bowls complete

The Seven Trumpets

- **The first trumpet sounded** - a third of the land destroyed (8:7; see Ex. 7-12).
- **The second trumpet sounded** - a third of the sea waters destroyed (8:8-9).
- **The third trumpet sounded** - a third of the land waters destroyed (8:10-11).
- **The fourth trumpet sounded** - a third of the heavenly bodies destroyed (8:12).
- **The fifth trumpet sounded** – ungodly men tormented five months, but not killed (9:1-12).

The Seven Trumpets

- **The sixth trumpet sounded** - a third of the men were destroyed (9:13-21). (The six trumpets show that Rome would be judged by three things: natural calamity [1st - 4th], internal rottenness [5th], and external invasion [6th]. This judgment was divine judgment (see 8:2; 9:13-14; and 11:17-18.)
- **Chapter 10:1 - 11:14** is an interlude between the 6th and 7th trumpets, just like Chapter 7 is an interlude between the 6th and 7th seals.
- **The seventh trumpet sounded** – the final destruction of God’s enemies and complete victory over them (11:15-19). (Note that a picture of the Ark of the Covenant closes this section which puts the emphasis again on God’s Word, His covenant.)

Signs & Symbols

8:1 silence – solemn and serious moment

8:1 trumpets – used to send a message:
assemble, journey, war, warning

8:3 golden altar of incense – Ex. 30:6

8:4 incense, prayers – God hears the prayers
of persecuted saints (see 5:8)

8:5 thunders, voices, lightning, earthquake –
prayers answered; judgments are coming

Signs & Symbols

8:7 hail – judgments like the 10 plagues (Ex. 7-11; Psa. 105:32; Ezek. 38:22; Joel 2:20)

8:7 the third part – large area but not total (see 8:8-12)

8:8 great mountain burning – upheaval and removal of political and social rulers (Psa. 46:2,6; Jer. 51:25,42)

8:10 a star – overthrow of an earthly ruler (Isa. 14:4,12; 34:1,4; Dan. 8:10; Mk. 13:35)

Signs & Symbols

8:11 wormwood – bitter herb used for medicinal purposes; bitter calamity upon idolaters (Deut. 29:18; Jer. 9:15; 23:15)

8:12 sun, moon, stars – divine judgment upon nations (Jer. 4:23; 15:9; Ezek. 32:7; Joel 3:15; Amos 8:9; Obad. 8)

8:13 eagle – a bird of prey; associated with disaster / judgment (Mt. 24:28)



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Revelation 9

Revelation At-A-Glance

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Signs & Symbols

9:1 sounded – a continuation of the trumpets

9:1 a star fallen – some figure who has power to torment; possibly Satan (Lk. 10:18)

9:1 there was given to him – divine permission (see 6:2, 4)

9:1 the key – authority; permission (see 1:18; 3:7; 20:1)

9:1 the abyss – the realm of demonic and evil forces (Lk. 8:31; see 11:7; 17:8)

Signs & Symbols

9:2 opened the pit – the dark, evil forces and effects of the abyss

9:2 smoke – gloom, hopelessness, sorrow

9:3 locust – associated with God's judgment (Ex. 10; Joel 1-2)

9:3 scorpions – painful hurt

9:4 not the seal of God – not ordinary locusts; will hurt those who are not Christians (7:2-3)

Signs & Symbols

9:5 tormented five months – limited time; torment without death gives these people opportunity to repent (see 9:10)

9:7-10 – horses, crowns, men, hair of women, lions, iron, chariots – the torment would have the qualities of strength, victory, humanity, beauty, devastation, invincibility, and a large number

Signs & Symbols

9:11 Abaddon, Apollyon – destroyer; internal decay and rottenness led to destruction

9:12 first woe – warning (see 8:13; 11:14)

9:13 sounded – a continuation of the trumpets

9:13 horns of the altar – Ex. 30:10; more answers to the saints' prayers (see 5:8; 8:3-5)

9:13 four angels – sent to do God's judgment upon the earth (see 7:1-2)

Signs & Symbols

9:13 river Euphrates – judgment will come from the east (see 16:12); the eastern limit of the promised land (Gen. 15:18); the place where God’s punishment originates (Isa. 7:20; 8:7; Jer. 46:10)

9:15 prepared – not chance or fate; this divine judgment has a specific time and purpose

Signs & Symbols

9:15 third part – partial judgment (see 8:7-12)

9:16 armies of the horsemen – external invasion by a very large army; the Parthian army was one such enemy of Rome who came from the east

Signs & Symbols

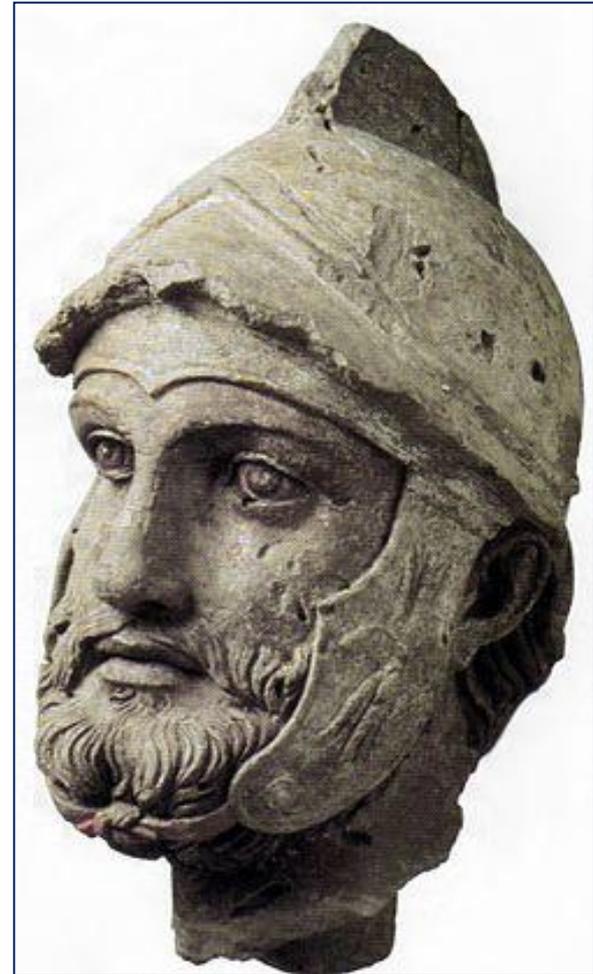
The wars between Rome and the Parthian Empire, which took place roughly from 53 BC to 217 AD, were a unique episode in classical history. Although Rome conquered nearly the entire civilized world around the Mediterranean, Rome could never conquer Parthia. When Roman expansion reached Mesopotamia, the Parthian Empire had already been prospering as a major power whose outskirts reached far into the east and trade routes ran deep into China. When Roman and Parthian borders finally met, the centuries that followed were a time of diplomacy and war between two empires of distinct cultures and methods of war. (allempires.com)

Signs & Symbols



Signs & Symbols

The Parthian Soldier



Signs & Symbols

9:20-21 repented not – the series of divine judgments (seals and trumpets) were meant to get the wicked people to repent; these judgments were ignored; the result, heavy judgment in the near future (see 16:9)



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Revelation 10

Revelation At-A-Glance

Revelation 1-5 Reminders	Revelation 6-20 Retributions	Revelation 21-22 Rewards
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Chapter 10 Overview

Chapter 10:1 - 11:14 is an interlude between the 6th and 7th trumpets, just like Chapter 7 is an interlude between the 6th and 7th seals.

Christ's message for all mankind must be revealed (10:1-6), heard (10:7), understood: both positive and negative (10:9-10; see Ezek.2:8-3:3), and preached to all (10:11).

Signs & Symbols

10:1 strong angel – see 5:2

10:1 cloud, rainbow, sun, fire – radiant splendor; majestic in appearance like Jesus

10:2 little book – God's will revealed

10:2 sea, earth – God's message is universal

10:3 lion, thunder – great in sound

(Amos 3:8)

Signs & Symbols

10:4 seal up – part of God's will is not revealed (Deut. 29:29; Dan. 8:26; 12:4,9)

10:5 lifted up his right hand – take an oath

10:7 seventh angel – see 11:15-19

10:7 the mystery of God – God's purpose and plan for the world and for persecuted Christians

10:9 eat it – digest it; make it part of you (Psa. 119:103)

Signs & Symbols

10:9 bitter, sweet – God’s word is both bitter with judgments and punishments (“woes” and persecutions for Christians), and sweet with promises and rewards

10:11 prophesy again – John’s message in the rest of the book of Revelation

10:11 many peoples – John’s message is for Christians and non-Christians (see Rev. 17-18); his book is still read today!



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Revelation 11

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>

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- Christ the **Prophetic Messenger** (8:6-11:19)

Chapter 11 Overview

Christ's message was preached in the NT church: a life of protection through persecution (11:1-2), a life of success (11:3-6), a life of temporary defeat (11:7-10), a life of revival (11:11), and a life of exaltation (11:12-14). Note that "two" in the Bible represents confirmation (Deut. 19:15), strength (Eccl. 4:9-12), and fellowship (Lk. 10:1).

Chapter 11 Overview

Note that 42 months (11:2; 13:5-7), 1260 days (11:3; 12:6), and 3 ½ years (12:14; see Dan. 7:25) all refer to a time of persecution and testing (see Jas. 5:17; 1 K. 17).

Chapter 11 is a miniature picture of the whole NT and the book of Revelation. The NT church will **preach** on earth (11:1-6), will be **persecuted** by Rome (11:7-10), and will be **prized** in heaven (11:11-19).

Signs & Symbols

11:1 reed, rod – measuring device

11:1 measure – identify, separate, and protect God's people (Zech. 2:1-5)

11:1 temple of God – place of worship for God's people; in Rev. it is in heaven

11:2 court which is without – sinners, non-saints, apostates

11:2 the holy city – the NT church persecuted

Signs & Symbols

11:2 forty and two months – see 13:5-7

11:3 two witnesses – the faithful NT church
proclaiming God's word

11:3 1,260 days – see 12:6

11:3 sackcloth – grief, anguish, suffering

11:4 two olive trees, two candlesticks – light
of truth proclaimed in God's word

11:5 fire – God's wrath upon the church's
enemies

Signs & Symbols

11:6 power – miraculous powers performed by the NT church

11:7 the beast – Roman empire and religion (see 13:1, 11)

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

11:8 Sodom, Egypt, Lord was crucified – immoral, oppressive, devoid of spiritual life / rejecting truth

Signs & Symbols

11:9 three days and a half – a short period

11:9 suffer not their dead bodies – reproach, ridicule, and malice

11:10 two prophets – see 11:3

11:11 the breath of life – the cause of Christ will be revived after Rome's persecution of the NT church (Isa. 26:13-19; Ezek. 37)

11:12 they went up – the NT church vindicated and triumphant (see 20:4)

Signs & Symbols

11:13 great earthquake – divine judgment
(see 6:12; 8:5; 16:18)

11:13 tenth part – partial judgment

11:14 second Woe – the sixth trumpet

11:14 third Woe – the seventh trumpet

11:16 four and twenty elders – see 4:4, 10

11:19 the temple of God – see 11:1

11:19 ark – fellowship with God (Ex. 25:22)



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Revelation 12

Revelation At-A-Glance

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- Christ the **Prophetic Messenger** (8:6-11:19)
- Christ the **Ruling Lamb** (12:1 – 14:20)

Chapter 12-14 Overview

Roman persecution would cause troubled saints to ask, “Why are these things happening to us?” “Why are we suffering?” “Who is responsible for this?” These Christians needed instruction concerning **what was going on behind the scenes**. From earth’s perspective, the **conflict** was between Rome and Christians (Rev. 1-11).

Chapter 12-14 Overview

But, from heaven's perspective, the **conflict** was between Christ and Satan (Rev. 12-20). Revelation 12-14 introduces the two armies at "war" (Rev. 12:17): the dragon (Satan) and his allies (the beast, Rome) verses the Lamb (Christ) and his allies (faithful saints).

Chapter 12-14 Overview

The Dragon - Satan (12)

1. His unsuccessful attack on Christ (12:1-6; see Gen. 3:15).
2. His unsuccessful attack on heaven (12:7-12).
3. His unsuccessful attack on the church (12:13-17; see 2:10).

The Allies - Rome (13)

1. The sea beast: blasphemous Roman authority helped the dragon (13:1-10; see Dan. 7:3-27).
2. The land beast: deceitful Roman religion helped the dragon (13:11-18; see 16:13; 19:20; 20:10).

The Lamb - Christ (14)

1. “And I saw...” - the 144,000 rewarded by God’s judgment (14:1-5).
2. “And I saw...” - the three angels announce God’s judgment (14:6-13; see 17:5,18; 18:10-21).
3. “And I saw...” - the two agents harvest God’s judgment (14:14-20).

Signs & Symbols

12:1, 3 sign – see “signified” in 1:1

12:1 a woman – the remnant of Israel (Mic. 4:10; 5:2), the lineage of Jesus

12:1 twelve stars – the number associated with Israel and the church

12:3 dragon – the Devil, Satan (12:9; 20:2)

12:3 seven heads, ten horns, ten diadems – complete intelligence, power, and rule (see 13:1)

Signs & Symbols

12:4 devour her child - efforts to destroy Jesus (Mt. 2:16)

12:5 a man child, rule, rod of iron – birth of Jesus and his rule (see 19:15; Psa. 2:9)

12:5 caught up, throne – Jesus' ascension and rule (Acts 2:29-36; Eph. 1:20-23)

12:6 wilderness – place of safety (Ex. 2; 1 K. 17); providential provision and protection of the church by God

Signs & Symbols

12:6 1,260 days – 42 months (11:2; 13:5-7), 1260 days (11:3; 12:6), and 3 ½ years (12:14; see Dan. 7:25) all refer to the time of the Roman persecution and testing of the church

12:7 war in heaven – the ultimate spiritual battle (Eph. 6:10-12)

12:7 Michael – archangel (Dan. 10:13, 21; 12:1; Jude 9)

Signs & Symbols

12:9 the old serpent – see Gen. 3:1ff

12:9 dragon – see 12:3

12:10-12 – the threefold result of the Devil's downfall: God's power reigns; the faithful overcome; and, the heavens rejoice/the earth is under woe

12:12 short time – the time the Devil persecutes 1st c. Christians (see 6:11)

Signs & Symbols

12:13 persecuted the woman – this verse shows who is behind the Roman persecution and why Christians are persecuted (see 12:17)

12:14 two wings – God's help (Ex. 19:4)

12:14 wilderness, time/times/half a time – same as 12:6

12:14 nourished – protected by God; not deliverance from persecution, but deliverance through persecution

Signs & Symbols

12:16 earth helped – a continuation of the thought of God's providential help

12:17 make war – a spiritual battle between Christ and Satan that leads to physical persecution between Roman and Christians

12:17 the rest of her seed – the NT church (Gal. 4:26) who keeps God's commandments and Jesus' testimony



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Revelation

Overcoming with the Lamb



Revelation 13

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>

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)

Chapter 12-14 Overview

Roman persecution would cause troubled saints to ask, “Why are these things happening to us?” “Why are we suffering?” “Who is responsible for this?” These Christians needed instruction concerning **what was going on behind the scenes**. From earth’s perspective, the **conflict** was between Rome and Christians (Rev. 1-11).

Chapter 12-14 Overview

But, from heaven's perspective, the **conflict** was between Christ and Satan (Rev. 12-20). Revelation 12-14 introduces the two armies at "war" (Rev. 12:17): the dragon (Satan) and his allies (the beast, Rome) verses the Lamb (Christ) and his allies (faithful saints).

Chapter 12-14 Overview

The Dragon - Satan (12)

1. His unsuccessful attack on Christ (12:1-6; see Gen. 3:15).
2. His unsuccessful attack on heaven (12:7-12).
3. His unsuccessful attack on the church (12:13-17; see 2:10).

The Allies - Rome (13)

1. The sea beast: blasphemous Roman authority helped the dragon (13:1-10; see Dan. 7:3-27).
2. The land beast: deceitful Roman religion helped the dragon (13:11-18; see 16:13; 19:20; 20:10).

The Lamb - Christ (14)

1. “And I saw...” - the 144,000 rewarded by God’s judgment (14:1-5).
2. “And I saw...” - the three angels announce God’s judgment (14:6-13; see 17:5,18; 18:10-21).
3. “And I saw...” - the two agents harvest God’s judgment (14:14-20).

Rome: The Beast

Revelation 13	Daniel 7
13:1 beast	7:7 beast (king, kingdom)
13:1 ten horns	7:7 ten horns (7:20)
13:1 blasphemy (13:5-6)	7:8 speaking great things; great words (7:11); speak words against the Most High (7:25)
13:2 leopard, bear, lion	7:4-6 lion, bear, leopard
13:3 one of his heads	7:8 a little one
13:5 forty-two months	7:25 a time, times, half/time
13:7 war with the saints	7:21 war with the saints



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Revelation

Overcoming with the Lamb



Revelation 14

Revelation At-A-Glance

Revelation 1-5 Reminders	Revelation 6-20 Retributions	Revelation 21-22 Rewards
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First- Century Christians Must Choose

The Beast (Rome) Rev. 13	God Rev. 14
Name: forehead (13:16-18; 14:9,11; see also 16:2)	Name: forehead (14:1; see also 7:3-4; 22:4)
Worship (13:5,8,15)	Worship (14:2-3,7)
Persecute (13:7,17; see also 11:7; 12:17; 17:14; 19:19)	Patient (14:4-5,12; see also 15:2; 17:14)
Destiny: hell (14:9-11; see also 19:20; 20:10)	Destiny: heaven (14:2-3, 13)