

24 thrones with 24 elders, each dressed in white and wearing a crown.

²At once I was in the Spirit, and there before me was a throne in heaven with someone sitting on it. ³And the one who sat there had the appearance of jasper and ruby. A rainbow that shone like an emerald encircled the throne. ⁴Surrounding the throne were twenty-four other thrones, and seated on them were twenty-four elders. They were dressed in white and had crowns of gold on their heads. ⁵From the throne came flashes of lightning, rumblings and peals of thunder. In front of the throne, seven lamps were blazing. These are the seven spirits of God. ⁶Also in front of the throne there was what looked like a sea of glass, clear as crystal. (Rev 4:2-6)

Twelve x 2 in Revelation

¹⁰And he carried me away in the Spirit to a mountain great and high, and showed me the Holy City, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God. ¹¹It shone with the glory of God, and its brilliance was like that of a very precious jewel, like a **jasper, clear as crystal.** ¹²It had a great, high wall with **twelve gates**, and with twelve angels at the gates. **On the gates were written the names of the twelve tribes of Israel.** ¹³There were three gates on the east, three on the north, three on the south and three on the west. ¹⁴The wall of the city had **twelve foundations**, and **on them were the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.** (Rev 21:10-14)

24 Elders: Crown (see 1 Th 2:19; 1 Cor 9:25; 2 Tim 4:8)

Do not be afraid of what you are about to suffer. I tell you, the devil will put some of you in prison to test you, and you will suffer persecution for ten days. Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you life as your victor's crown. (Rev 2:10)

I am coming soon. Hold on to what you have, so that no one will take your crown. (Rev 3:11)

24 Elders: White robes

Yet you have a few people in Sardis who have not soiled their clothes. They will walk with me, dressed in white, for they are worthy. The one who is victorious will, like them, be dressed in white. I will never blot out the name of that person from the book of life, but will acknowledge that name before my Father and his angels. (Rev 3:4-5)

7 lamps and the seven spirits of God.

Then the angel who talked with me returned and woke me up, like someone awakened from sleep. He asked me, "What do you see?" I answered, "I see a solid gold lampstand with a bowl at the top **and seven lamps on it, with seven channels**

to the lamps. ...So he said to me, “This is the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel: ‘Not by might nor by power, **but by my Spirit**,’ says the LORD Almighty. ... “Who dares despise the day of small things, since **the seven eyes of the LORD** that range throughout the earth will rejoice when they see the chosen capstone in the hand of Zerubbabel?” (Zech 4:1-2, 6, 10)

Four Living Creatures – Cherubim, appearing as four created beings

...and in the fire was what looked like four living creatures. In appearance their form was human, but each of them had four faces and four wings. Their legs were straight; their feet were like those of a calf and gleamed like burnished bronze. Under their wings on their four sides they had human hands. All four of them had faces and wings, and the wings of one touched the wings of another. Each one went straight ahead; they did not turn as they moved. Their faces looked like this: Each of the four had the face of a human being, and on the right side each had the face of a lion, and on the left the face of an ox; each also had the face of an eagle. (Ezek 1:5-10; see Ezek 10)

Four Living Creatures – Early church fathers' view:

- Lion = Royalty = Matthew's gospel
- Ox = Servanthood = Mark's gospel
- Man = Humanity = Luke's gospel
- Eagle = Deity = John's gospel

Seraphim – Appearing as angels in God's presence

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord, high and exalted, seated on a throne; and the train of his robe filled the temple. Above him were seraphim, each with six wings: With two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they were flying. And they were calling to one another:

“Holy, holy, holy is the Lord Almighty;
the whole earth is full of his glory.” (Isa 6:1-3)

Activity in heaven as the end is approaching: Worship

⁹Whenever the living creatures give glory, honor and thanks to him who sits on the throne and who lives for ever and ever, ¹⁰the twenty-four elders fall down before him who sits on the throne and worship him who lives for ever and ever. They lay their crowns before the throne and say:

¹¹“You are worthy, our Lord and God,
to receive glory and honor and power,
for you created all things,
and by your will they were created
and have their being.” (Rev 4:9-11)

Scroll (Ezek 2:9-10; cf. Dan 12:4; Isa 29:11-12; Jer 36:1-25)

Then I saw in the right hand of him who sat on the throne a scroll with writing on both sides and sealed with seven seals. ²And I saw a mighty angel proclaiming in a loud voice, “Who is worthy to break the seals and open the scroll?” ³But no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth could open the scroll or even look inside it. ⁴I wept and wept because no one was found who was worthy to open the scroll or look inside. ⁵Then one of the elders said to me, “Do not weep! See, **the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has triumphed.** He is able to open the scroll and its seven seals.” (Rev 5:1-5)

Then I looked, and I saw a hand stretched out to me. In it was a scroll, which he unrolled before me. On both sides of it were written words of lament and mourning and woe. (Ezek 2:9-10)

Passover lamb, associated with Jesus (see John 1:29, 36; 1 Cor 5:7; 1 Pet 1:19)

⁶Then I saw a Lamb, looking as if it had been slain, standing at the center of the throne, encircled by the four living creatures and the elders. The Lamb had seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth. ⁷He went and took the scroll from the right hand of him who sat on the throne. ⁸And when he had taken it, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb. Each one had a harp and they were holding golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of God’s people. (Rev 5:6-8)

Jesus receiving power in Daniel’s vision

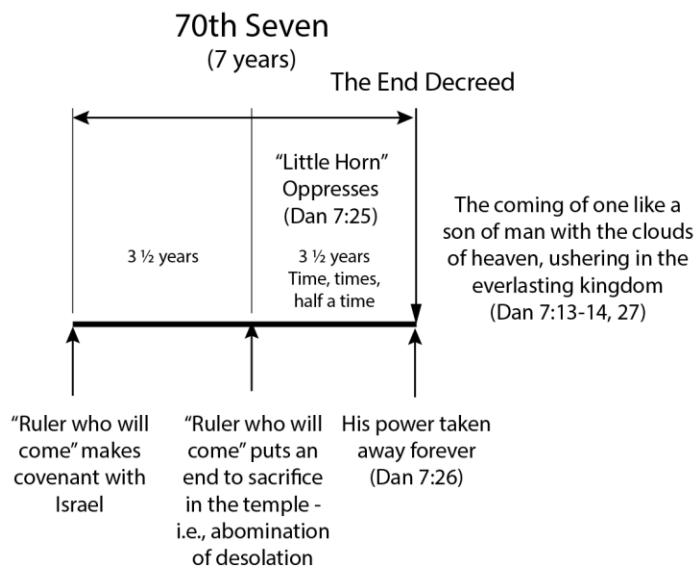
“In my vision at night I looked, and there before me was one like a son of man, coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient of Days and was led into his presence. He was given authority, glory and sovereign power; all nations and peoples of every language worshiped him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and his kingdom is one that will never be destroyed.” (Dan 7:13-14)

Revelation: Tribulation as the 70th Seven of Daniel 9

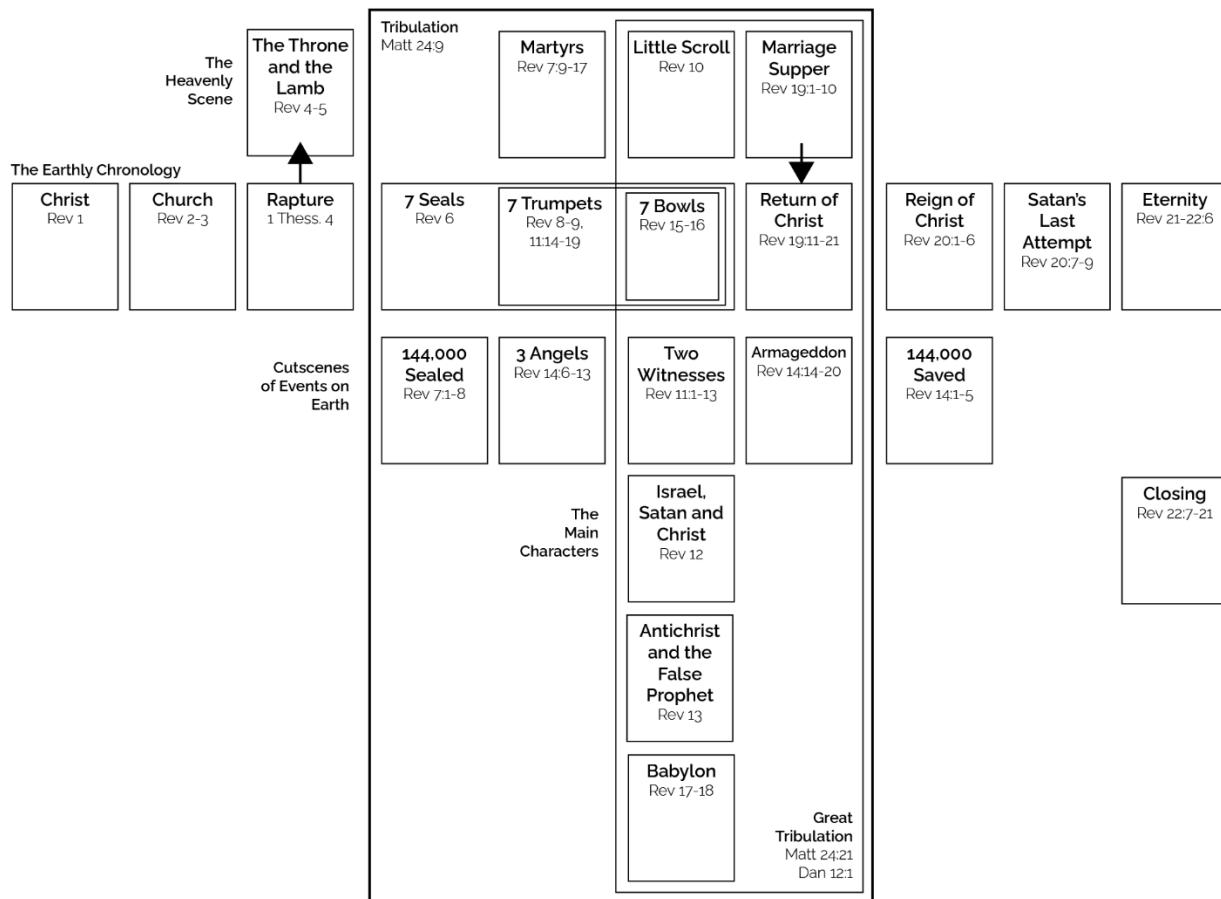
"After the sixty-two 'sevens,' the Anointed One will be put to death and will have nothing. The people of the ruler who will come will destroy the city and the sanctuary. The end will come like a flood: War will continue until the end, and desolations have been decreed. He will confirm a covenant with many for one 'seven.' In the middle of the 'seven' he will put an end to sacrifice and offering. And at the temple he will set up an abomination that causes desolation, until the end that is decreed is poured out on him" (Dan 9:26-27).

Daniel's 70th "Seven"

Daniel 9:27



Outline of Revelation



Seven Seals

1st Seal: Antichrist (Rev. 6:1-2; Matt. 24:5; 2 Thess. 2:3-4)

I watched as the Lamb opened the first of the seven seals. Then I heard one of the four living creatures say in a voice like thunder, “Come!” ²I looked, and there before me was a white horse! Its rider held a bow, and he was given a crown, and he rode out as a conqueror bent on conquest. (Rev 6:1-2)

⁵For many will come in my name, claiming, ‘I am the Messiah,’ and will deceive many. (Matt. 24:5)

2nd Seal: War (Rev. 6:3-4; Matt. 24:6-7a)

³When the Lamb opened the second seal, I heard the second living creature say, “Come!” ⁴Then another horse came out, a fiery red one. Its rider was given power to

take peace from the earth and to make people kill each other. To him was given a large sword. (Rev 6:3-4)

⁶You will hear of wars and rumors of wars, but see to it that you are not alarmed. Such things must happen, but the end is still to come. ⁷Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. (Matt. 24:6-7a)

3rd Seal: Famine (Rev. 6:5-6; Matt. 24:7b)

⁵When the Lamb opened the third seal, I heard the third living creature say, “Come!” I looked, and there before me was a black horse! Its rider was holding a pair of scales in his hand. ⁶Then I heard what sounded like a voice among the four living creatures, saying, “Two pounds of wheat for a day’s wages, and six pounds of barley for a day’s wages, and do not damage the oil and the wine!” (Rev 6:5-6)

There will be famines and earthquakes in various places. ⁸All these are the beginning of birth pains. (Matt. 24:7b-8)

4th Seal: Mass Death (Rev. 6:7-8; Matt. 24:7b)

⁷When the Lamb opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth living creature say, “Come!” ⁸I looked, and there before me was a pale horse! Its rider was named Death, and Hades was following close behind him. They were given power over a fourth of the earth to kill by sword, famine and plague, and by the wild beasts of the earth. (Rev 6:7-8)