

Revelation Class Week 3 – Chapters 5-7

Revelation 4-5 and Daniel 7

Daniel 7 is a common passage cited in Revelation and in this book. Something very interesting that scholars have noted is how similar Revelation 4-5 and Daniel 7 are. They share not one, two, or three, but fourteen common points in the SAME ORDER. They are:

1. Introductory vision phraseology (Dan. 7:9 [cf. 7:2, 6–7]; Rev. 4:1)
2. The setting of a throne(s) in heaven (Dan. 7:9a; Rev. 4:2a [cf. 4:4a])
3. God sitting on a throne (Dan. 7:9b; Rev. 4:2b)
4. The description of God’s appearance on the throne (Dan. 7:9c; Rev. 4:3a)
5. Fire before the throne (Dan. 7:9d–10a; Rev. 4:5)
6. Heavenly servants surrounding the throne (Dan. 7:10b; Rev. 4:4b, 6b–10; 5:8, 11, 14)
7. Book(s) before the throne (Dan. 7:10c; Rev. 5:1–7)
8. The “opening” of the book(s) (Dan. 7:10d; Rev. 5:2–5, 9)
9. A divine (messianic) figure approaches God’s throne in order to receive authority to reign forever over a “kingdom” (Dan. 7:13–14a; Rev. 5:5b–7, 9a, 12–13)
10. This “kingdom” includes “all peoples, nations, and tongues” (Dan. 7:14a MT; Rev. 5:9b)
11. The seer’s emotional distress on account of the vision (Dan. 7:15; Rev. 5:4)
12. The seer’s reception of heavenly counsel concerning the vision from one among the heavenly throne servants (Dan. 7:16; Rev. 5:5a)
13. The saints are also given divine authority to reign over a kingdom (Dan. 7:18, 22, 27a; Rev. 5:10)
14. A concluding mention of God’s eternal reign (Dan. 7:27b; Rev. 5:13–14)
- G. K. Beale and Sean M McDonough, “Revelation,” in *Commentary on the New Testament Use of the Old Testament* (Grand Rapids, MI; Nottingham, UK: Baker Academic; Apollos, 2007), 1098.

Revelation 5 - The One Worthy To Open The Scroll

1. Revelation 5 is an _____ of the Lamb.
2. Revelation 4-5 not only depicts worship in heaven but shows a _____ taking place.
3. The lawsuit is about who is worthy to carry out the end time plans and hold both humanity and the spiritual powers of darkness accountable.

Revelation 6-16: Seals, Trumpets, and Bowls Introduction

1. There are two options for reading the rest of Revelation: _____ or _____.

2. The _____ reading has far greater Biblical continuity and overall is better reading.

“It is doubtful that we should read the four riders or other judgments as a chronological map of history before the end; rather, they are probably images of the kinds of judgments that characterized that time, arranged in the sequence in which John saw them. Some regard the seals as past, a prelude to present or future judgments elsewhere in the book. More likely, the seals cover the same span of time covered by the trumpets and bowls, because all three sets of judgments climax in the end of the age.” Craig S. Keener, Revelation, The NIV Application Commentary, 199–200.

“John is like an expert guide in an art gallery, lecturing to students about a vast mural. First he makes them stand back to absorb the general impression, then he takes them close to study the details. In John’s symbolic language seven is the number of completeness, and the sevenfold visions—seals, trumpets, and bowls—are his general views of the totality of divine judgment. The unnumbered visions are his close-ups, his studies of detail...The unity of John’s book, then, neither chronological nor arithmetical, but artistic, like that of a musical theme with variations, each variation adding something new to the significance of the whole composition.” - George Caird, The Revelation of St. John the Divine, 106

3. The seals, trumpets, and bowls all end _____ way: a _____.

Revelation 8:5; Revelation 11:19; Revelation 16:18 - flashes of lightning, rumbling and peals of thunder and an earthquake. It would be weird for John to use theophany language at the end of each of the 3 sets of 7 unless they are all about the same event: the return of Jesus.

4. The seals, trumpets, and bowls all follow the same style: _____ judgements, followed by

an _____, finally the _____ judgement containing the theophany language.

Revelation 6 - The Seven Seals (Zechariah 1 and 6)

1. The seven seals are possibly the legal seals of the scroll.

2. If this is the case the seven seals are the _____ for the judgement against the wicked.

3. The options for the identity of the four horsemen is as vast as can be.

4. The first rider has been said to be Jesus Himself all the way to the Anti-Christ.

5. The four horsemen could be the angels from Zechariah 1 and 6. This view is consistent with how John has used the Old Testament in the rest of the book. This would make sense for the “witness view” as the four horsemen/chariots of Zechariah go and patrol the earth, they would be good witnesses.

6. The fifth seal’s witness is the _____, those who have died for Jesus.

7. The sixth seal’s witness would be the _____.

8. The seventh seal (Revelation 8:1) is the _____ when Jesus comes to judge the earth.

Revelation 7 - The First Interlude

“One might think further judgments incongruent [incompatible; not relating too] with the end of the age already depicted in 6:12–17. But that John saw “after this” (7:1) a vision of the 144,000 (7:1–8) does not mean that the events of 7:1–8 occur after the sixth seal, any more than that “after this” in 7:9 means that the innumerable multitude there chronologically follows the 144,000. Rather, the verb that follows “after this” is “saw”: John receives his next vision, and this one appears to report the state of Christ’s “servants” during the entire period of Tribulation.” - Craig S. Keener, Revelation, The NIV Application Commentary, 229.

Revelation 7 and 14 - The Sealing of the Saints (Zechariah 6; Ezekiel 9; Exodus 20:7; Numbers 6:22-27)

1. Revelation 7:1-4 borrows language from _____ and _____.
2. “After this” doesn’t refer to a timeline that John is laying out, but simply the next vision John sees.
3. This interlude tells us what is happening with those who are the Lord’s in contrast with those who are being judged in the previous judgments and the judgement to come.
4. The righteous are marked or sealed with _____.
5. The mark shows who _____ to the Lord.
6. The word “take” in “take the Lord’s name in vein” means: _____.

The One Worthy: 1) investiture. 2) lawsuit.

Seals, Trumpets, and Bowls: 1) linear or cyclical. 2) cyclical. 3) the same way: a theophany. 4) six; interlude; seventh/final; theophany.

The Seven Seals: 2) witness. 6) martyrs. 7) the Lord Himself. 8) Day of the Lord

Sealing of the Saints: 1) Zechariah and Ezekiel. 4) the Name of the Lord. 5) belongs. 6) to carry or receive.