Revelation Summary of Chapters

By: Tony Fritz

Chapter 1: Introduction of Jesus in all his Glory and Judgement

Chapter's 2 & 3: Jesus' review of Churches

Chapter 4: Heaven opened & John's witness of God's Throne in Heaven. (24 elders)

Chapter 5: Jesus is worthy to open the seals. (heaven & earth)

Chapter 6: Seals 1-6 opened & viewed. (come and see) (ascension to 2nd coming)

- 1. Satan who deceives the nations
- 2. Wars & rumors of wars
- 3. Famine & financial strife (love in the world grows cold)
- 4. Death by disease & pestilence
- 5. Saints slain & their souls awaiting God's vengeance on the beast.
- 6. Then, God's vengeance on the beast & the harlot. (Double her cup)
- 7. Seventh Seal (see chapter 7 notes below)

Chapter 7: Description of God protecting His firstfruits (Christians) 144k sealed to be protected during the great tribulation. Followed by a comforting description of John's vision of the Rapture of those who endure & come out of the great tribulation victorious.

Chapter 8: Opening of 7th seal means that NOW the scroll can be opened, and the judgements of Jesus will begin to unfold upon the physical world. Beginning with the Trumpets 1-4 which are opened and released upon the world the elements of the world bring scorched earth, 1/3 sea turns to blood, bitter water, dark moon and sun, giant waves and many men will die from drinking the water. (be sure you understand that these trumpets are directed at non-Christians, because it says at the end, "they did not repent". All Christians have already repented. After this the 3 woes.

Chapter 9: 5th trumpet Satan on earth to torment beast (apostolic Christians) Sixth seal God's army who kills 1/3 of mankind with 3 plagues. Could be that the 1/3 just killed was the swarm of locusts that was just released. After, they tormented the harlot 5 months. End of first woe. Make a note: the first woe did not work because the (apostolic Christians) "rest of mankind" did not repent. Rev 9:20-21

Chapter 10: Prophesy of when the mystery of God, the Rapture of the Saints including the Gentiles occurs. (just before sounding of 7^{th} trumpet)

Chapter 11: Two witnesses prophesy 1,260 days and bring drought, blood water & plagues. They are killed and then risen. Then, everyone who saw repented! End of second woe. Make a note: **the second woe DID work** because it caused those who witnessed (apostolic Christians) to repent and give glory to God. Rev 11:13 Then, 7th trumpet sounded & kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of God and His Christ.

Chapter 12: parenthetical chapter to review all of history from beginning to end of good/evil & heaven/earth.

Chapter 13: 1st Beast (one world order) 2nd Beast- all must worship image or die.

Chapter 14: Last call for (apostolic Christians) to Repent. Then, Rapture of saints with description of firstfruits, then the rest. (still only one event)

Chapter 15: Seven angels with seven plagues prepared to pour. Then, another description of the wrath of God poured out.

Chapter 16: Six bowls of wrath are poured out, then indication that Christ is coming, then armies of the world prepare to battle against God. Armageddon. Then, 7th bowl is poured out and "It is done!"

Chapter 17: Description of the (apostolic Christians) the harlot & the beast rising from the sea of peoples of the world.

Chapter 18: The fall of Babylon which is the (apostolic Christians) and other non-believers who have been persecuting and killing Christians during the great tribulation.

Chapter 19: Rapture & Judgement of the Harlot (apostolic Christians), then marriage supper of the Lamb & saints are granted white linens clean & bright. (not naked) Then, Christ on the white horse who kills flesh of all people remaining on earth .

Chapter 20: This time is after all flesh is either raptured or killed from earth:

- 1. Thousand years of Christ's reign on earth
 - a. Saints are priest.
 - b. Satan is bound in bottomless pit for 1,000 years.
 - c. This is the first resurrection. What!!! The first resurrection. I was taught I was raptured long ago.
 - d. All are in celestial bodies (spirit) and those who lived or died in Jesus' name are guaranteed life eternal to dwell with God and Christ.
 - e. All others who are also in celestial bodies (spirit) who were deceived or confused and not saved cannot be saved during the 1,000 years. 1Cor 15:35-58.
 - f. Then, after the thousand years are over Satan is released to deceive the nations and once again, brings war to the Saints. God devoured them with fire and cast the Devil into the lake of fire forever & ever. This is the second death.
 - g. Then, the great white throne judgement: All stand in judgement.

- i. Spiritually dead stood before God. Those who have been taught for 1,000 years by saints but not allowed to repent or "live" again.
- ii. Books were opened and the "dead" were judged on their works during their flesh lives & their 1,000 years of spiritual lives.
- iii. Another book was opened, the book of life. (Opened now, for accepting new members who are now allowed to accept Jesus as their Lord and savior. Rev 20:5 and a now, upon repentance, these, who were previously spiritually dead, are allowed to be written in the Book of life. Hallelujah)
- iv. Death & Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.
- v. Anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire.

Chapter 21: New Heaven & New Earth

- 1. New Jerusalem coming down from Heaven
- 2. God will dwell with man.
- 3. God will wipe away every tear. No death, no sorrow, no crying
- 4. No pain, for all those things are gone. Behold, all things are new.
- 5. It is done!
- 6. New Jerusalem described: Only those written in the Lamb's book of life are allowed in it.

Chapter 22:

- 1. River of Life; heals the nations, no more curse, see His face, Lord God gives them light
- 2. Jesus is coming: Blessed is he who keeps these commandments.
- 3. "Surely I am coming quickly"
- 4. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.

End of Revelation Summary of Chapters

3-21-22

The origins of:

What you Believe and what you've been taught

Interpreting Revelation has caused much debate, and at least four standard methods for interpreting the book have developed. *Preterists* view the book as referring almost exclusively to first-century events. *Historicists* view the book as referring to the unfolding of church history until Christ's second coming. *Idealists* see the book as symbolizing the eternal conflict between good and evil. *Futurists* see the book as mainly about the end times. Sometimes interpreters blend two or more of these approaches. *Nelson's Illustrated Bible dictionary*.

Remember the counter-reformation 1534 at the Council of Trent, the Jesuits were formed to abolish the commentaries and writings of the reformers who claim that the Papal or Roman Catholic Church was the Antichrist spoken of by Daniel the prophet in Dan 9:27and the first Beast in Rev 13:1-8. This was achieved by developing or "contriving" two new theologies.

<u>Preterists</u> – Luis de Alcazar (states that everything has already happened in prophesy so Papacy cannot be Antichrist) This was presented in great detail including every major recorded event and tying it back to the written prophesy. (this didn't really stick and was never widely accepted but now is making a comeback in the 21st century.)

<u>Futurists</u> – Francisco Ribera- Contrived a "counter -reformation" or distraction theology that says everything will happen in the future (Gap theory relating to Daniel 9:27, the 70 weeks or 69 +1 weeks) This places the last week of Daniel's prophesy at the end of days and confirms a 7-year tribulation period. Again, this doctrine successfully deflected any possibility of Papacy being the Antichrist.

- 1. This theology never posed a threat to Protestants for three hundred years and was confined to the Roman Church until it was anchored into western society when Samuel Maitland a British lawyer, bible scholar and librarian to the Archbishop of Canterbury at Lambeth published a widely read book attacking the reformation movement and supporting the idea that the Jesuit writings of "futurists" is a reliable theology.
- 2. Then, James Todd professor of Hebrew at the University of Dublin published his own futurists pamphlets and books supporting Maitland's book. Along with Mr. Baugh, these two "so-called" Protestants commented on Maitland's views. Their views excused the Papacy of any concern with the predicted antichristian apostasy. According to another writer of those times E.B. Elliott.
- 3. Then, John Henry Newman, a member of the church of England and a leader of the famous Oxford movement 1830's wrote a "Letter on Anglican difficulties" which revealed their movement was directed toward "anti-protestant opinions" and wanted to move the church back to Rome.
- 4. Scottish Presbyterian minister Edward Irving of Chalcedonian Chapel (over 1,000 members) Cofounder of the society for the investigation of Prophecy. He eventually accepted the idea of a "on-man" antichrist teachings of Newman, burgh, Todd, Maitland, Bellarmine and Ribera. In addition, Irving began to teach a "two phase Christ return".
 - a. The first phase being a secret Rapture before the rise of antichrist.
 - b. The second being a <u>public Rapture</u> at Christ's revelation.
 - c. Many believe he was inspired by Margret McDonald's vision.
- 5. John Nelson Darby; a brilliant lawyer, pastor and theologian, Darby wrote more than 53 books on Bible subjects. A leader of the Plymouth Brethren and he was known as the father of "Modern Dispensationalism".
 - a. Darby, like Irving became a champion for the "Pre-tribulation Rapture theory".
 - b. Also, of a future antichrist who appears after the rapture of the saints.
 - c. Before 1830 Christians had always believed in a single future coming and that the catching up of 1 Thes 4:16 will take place after the Great Tribulation of Matt 24 at the glorious coming of the Son of man when He shall send His angels to gather together all of His elect.
- 6. Cyrus Ingerson Scofield 1843-1921 published the Scofield Reference Bible which was

popular in the American Protestant Bible Schools and millions of copies were printed. The scripture was precise, but the footnotes leaned heavily to teachings of the "futurist" set out centuries before by the Jesuit Ribera. This was the beginning of the transformation of America to accepting the anti-protestant view of the Roman Catholic Church and the Council of Trent in 1534. It is truly amazing how ideas survive.

- 7. Moody Bible Institute and Dallas Theology Seminary strongly support the teachings of John Nelson Darby.
- 8. Pastor Hal Lindsey 1970 of the Dallas Theological Seminary wrote "The Late Great Planet Earth" which is total "futurism" and sold thirty million copies.
- 9. Tim LaHaye and Jerry Jenkins wrote the book series "Left Behind" which was noted as the most successful Christian-fiction book ever published. This was the last nail in the coffin for the Reformation movement and the Beast that had the fatal wound has been brought back to life.
- 10. Futurism has crept into the Protestant Church.

To be clear: The futurist school of Bible prophecy was created for one reason and one reason only; to counter the Protestant Reformation. Footnotes from: Steve Wohlberg and Dave MacPherson

Furthermore, the "thousand years" of Rev 20:2-6 has been the basis of three different views of the *millennium* (the Latin word for "thousand years").

- 1. The *amillennial* (no millennium) interpretation sees Christ as ruling spiritually in the church now; Satan has been bound or at least hindered during this present church era. According to this view, there will be no literal thousand-year reign; instead, Christ reigns through the church for an unknown number of years before He returns.
- 2. The *postmillennial* (after the millennium) interpretation understands that by the spread of the gospel the world will become progressively more Christian. When the world becomes completely Christian there will be a millennium, then Jesus will return in glory.
- 3. The *premillennial* (before the millennium) view holds that Jesus Christ will return to earth to set up His visible kingdom. At that time Satan will be bound for a thousand years. Those who accept the premillennial position take specific views on when Christ will remove believers from the earth before He returns (Rev 19:11-21).

A comparison of the common symbolism of Daniel and Revelation, as well as time references in $\underline{\text{Dan 7:25}}$; $\underline{\text{Dan 9:27}}$; $\underline{\text{Dan 12:7}}$ along with those in $\underline{\text{Rev 11:2-3}}$; $\underline{\text{Rev 12:6}}$, $\underline{\text{Rev 12:14}}$; $\underline{\text{Rev 13:5}}$, seem to indicate that a seven-year period ($\underline{\text{Dan 9:24-27}}$), often called the Tribulation, will precede Christ's return. Five different views have tried to explain the timing between the rapture of the church and the Tribulation. (The word *rapture* comes from the Latin translation of "caught up" in $\underline{\text{1Th 4:17}}$.)

1. *Pretribulationists* expect the Rapture to take place before seven years of tribulation.

- 2. *Midtribulationists* say the Rapture will occur midway through the seven-year period.
- 3. The *post-tribulation view* states that the church will go through the Tribulation, but will be removed at the time of Christ's second coming.
- 4. The *prewrath view* places the Rapture between the mid-and post-tribulational points, before the climactic wrath of God.
- 5. Each of these positions depends on a different view of how the text of Revelation should be interpreted. It is a good idea to keep this in mind whenever you try to understand a position or talk about it with others.

The central idea on which <u>all these views agree is that Christ will return some time in the future</u>, and that His return will be a welcome sight to His people. Our hope and prayer is the same as the apostle John's: "Come, Lord Jesus!" (Rev 22:20). *Nelson's Illustrated Bible Dictionary*

The End