Revelation 1:1
The revealing of Jesus Christ
Basic Structural Overview of Revelation

Prologue

**Vision One**
John beholds image of Christ examining his churches

**Vision Two**
John sees the heavenly role of Christ as He judges the nations

**Vision Three**
John sees the earthly role of Christ as He judges the nations

**Vision Four**
John sees Christ in the new heaven and new earth

Epilogue
Vision Two – Heaven’s Throne
4:1-16:21

• **Scene 1** - The throne in heaven 4:1-11

• **Scene 2** - The Lamb and the Seven seals 5:1-6:17 (*Interlude of the sealing of 144,000 and salvation of the great multitude 7:1-17*) scene of seven seals resumes and concludes at 8:1.

• **Scene 3** - Seven trumpet judgments 8:2-9:21 (*Interlude of the mighty angel 10:1-11 followed by a second interlude of the measuring rod and the two witnesses 11:1-14*) scene of the seven trumpets resumes and concludes at 11:15-18.

• **Scene 4** - Satan and the Woman 11:19-13:18

• **Scene 5** - Mount Zion/Winepress/Six Angels 14:1-20

• **Scene 6** - Seven bowl judgments 15:1-16:21
Revelation 4:1

1 After these things I looked, and behold - a door open in heaven - and the first voice which I had heard, like a trumpet speaking with me, said, Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after these things.

Revelation 1:10 I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet, 11 saying, Write in a book what you see, and send it to the seven churches: to Ephesus and to Smyrna and to Pergamum and to Thyatira and to Sardis and to Philadelphia and to Laodicea.
Revelation 4:2-4

2 Immediately I was in the Spirit; and behold, a throne was standing in heaven, and One sitting on the throne. 3 And He who was sitting was like a jasper stone (diamond) and a sardius (red) in appearance; and there was a rainbow around the throne, like an emerald in appearance. 4 Around the throne - twenty-four thrones. And upon the thrones - twenty-four elders sitting, clothed in white garments, and golden crowns on their heads.
24 Elders

- Human or Angelic leaders who represent the 12 patriarchs of Israel and the 12 apostles of the church.

- Human or Angelic leaders who represent the 24 Priestly Orders in Israel. 1 Chron. 23:6; 24:7-18.
Revelation 4:5-6

5 Out from the throne come flashes of lightning and sounds and peals of thunder. And there were seven lamps of fire burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God; 6 and before the throne - like a sea of glass - like crystal - and in the center and around the throne, four living creatures full of eyes in front and behind.
Revelation 4:7-8

7 The first creature was like a lion, and the second creature like a calf, and the third creature had a face like that of a man, and the fourth creature was like a flying eagle. 8 And the four living creatures, each one of them having six wings, are full of eyes around and within; and day and night they do not cease to say, "Holy, Holy, Holy is the LORD GOD, the ALMIGHTY, who was and who is and who is to come."
9 And when the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to Him who sits on the throne, to Him who lives forever and ever, 10 the twenty-four elders will fall down before Him who sits on the throne, and will worship Him who lives forever and ever, and will cast their crowns before the throne, saying, 11 "Worthy are You, our Lord and our God, to receive glory and honor and power; for You created all things, and because of Your will they existed, and were created."
1 I saw in the right hand of Him who sat on the throne a scroll written inside and on the back, sealed up with seven seals. 2 And I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, **Who is worthy to open the scroll** and to break its seals? 3 And **no one in heaven or on the earth or under the earth** was able to open the book or to look into it.
Revelation 5:4-7

4 Then I began to weep greatly because no one was found worthy to open the scroll or to look into it; 5 and one of the elders said to me, Stop weeping; behold, the Lion that is from the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has overcome so as to open the scroll and its seven seals. 6 And I saw between the throne (with the four living creatures) and the elders a little lamb standing, as if slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God, sent out into all the earth. 7 And He came and took the scroll out of the right hand of Him who sat on the throne.
Revelation 5:8-12

8 When He had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each one holding a harp and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. 9 And they sang a new song, saying, Worthy are You to take the scroll and to break its seals; for You were slain, and purchased for God with Your blood men from every tribe and tongue and people and nation. 10 You have made them a kingdom and priests to our God; and they will reign upon the earth. 11 Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels around the throne and the living creatures and the elders; and the number of them was myriads of myriads, and thousands of thousands, 12 saying with a loud voice, Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power and riches and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing.
13 And every created thing which is in heaven and on the earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all things in them, I heard saying, To Him who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb, blessing and honor and glory and dominion forever and ever. 14 And the four living creatures kept saying, "Amen." And the elders fell down and worshiped.

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Revelation 5:13-14

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Philippians 2:10-11
No Scar?
Hast thou no scar?
No hidden scar on foot, or side, or hand

I hear thee sung as mighty in the land,  
I hear them hail thy bright ascendant star,

Hast thou no scar?  
Hast thou no wound?

Yet, as the Master shall the servant be,  
And, pierced are the feet that follow Me;  
But thine are whole:

Can he have followed far who has no wounds nor scar?

- Amy Carmichael
Although there are many different views concerning the structure of the book of Revelation, two primary views have been recognized: the sequential view and the recapitulation (simultaneous) view. Most interpreters use some combination of these two views.
Why?

• The book reads like it is sequential. For example, Revelation 8:1 When the Lamb broke the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven for about half an hour. Rev 8:2 And I then saw the seven angels who stand before God, and seven trumpets were given to them.

• But both the seals and trumpets end with final victory in heaven. For example the seals ends with a great multitude of every nation and all tribes standing before Jesus. The trumpet section ends with the statement that the kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ; and He will reign forever and ever.
The most common sequential view is called "dove-tailing" or "telescoping", it understands the series of seal, trumpet, and bowl judgments as following a general chronological sequence. In the most widely-held sequential view, the events attending the seven bowls are subsumed within the seventh trumpet and the events of the seven trumpets are subsumed within the seventh seal. This is the common called the "traditional view."
For this study:

• The writer of Revelation shows God's judgments in the Last Days unfolding in three series of sevens. Whether these are sequential and chronological, we can't know for sure.

• But, the seal, trumpet, and bowl judgments of Revelation teach an important truth. God's end times wrath is inevitable and through them He will bring history to a victorious end with Jesus on the throne.
Revelation 6:1-2

1 Then I saw when the Lamb broke one of the seven seals, and I heard one of the four living creatures saying as with a voice of thunder, "Come." 2 I looked, and behold, a white horse, and he who sat on it had a bow; and a crown was given to him, and he went out conquering and to conquer.
3 When He broke the second seal, I heard the second living creature saying, "Come." 4 And another, a red horse, went out; and to him who sat on it, it was granted to take peace from the earth, and that men would slay one another; and a great sword was given to him.
Revelation 6:5-6

5 When He broke the third seal, I heard the third living creature saying, "Come." I looked, and behold, a black horse; and he who sat on it had a pair of scales in his hand. 6 And I heard a voice in the center of the four living creatures saying, "A quart of wheat for a denarius, and three quarts of barley for a denarius; and do not damage the oil and the wine."
Revelation 6:7-8

7 When the Lamb broke the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth living creature saying, "Come." 8 I looked, and behold, an ashen (pale green) horse; and he who sat on it had the name Death; and Hades was following with him. Authority was given to them over a fourth of the earth, to kill with sword and with famine and with pestilence and by the wild beasts of the earth.
Revelation 6:9-11

9 When the Lamb broke the fifth seal, I saw underneath the altar the souls of those who had been slain because of the word of God, and because of the testimony which they had maintained; 10 and they cried out with a loud voice, saying, "How long, O Lord, holy and true, will You refrain from judging and avenging our blood on those who dwell on the earth?" 11 And there was given to each of them a white robe; and they were told that they should rest for a little while longer, until their fellow servants and their brethren who were to be killed even as they had been, would be completed also.
Revelation 6:12-17

12 I looked when He broke the sixth seal, and there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the whole moon became like blood; 13 and the stars of the sky fell to the earth, as a fig tree casts its unripe figs when shaken by a great wind. 14 The sky was split apart like a scroll when it is rolled up, and every mountain and island were moved out of their places. 15 Then the kings of the earth and the great men and the commanders and the rich and the strong and every slave and free man hid themselves in the caves and among the rocks of the mountains; 16 and they *said to the mountains and to the rocks, Fall on us and hide us from the presence of Him who sits on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb; 17 for the great day of their wrath has come, and who is able to stand?
Seals

Rest a little while longer

There was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the whole moon became like blood
God is not finished working! He is faithful to His remnant!
1 After this I saw four angels standing at the four corners of the earth, holding back the four winds of the earth, so that no wind would blow on the earth or on the sea or on any tree. 2 And I saw another angel ascending from the rising of the sun, having the seal of the living God; and he cried out with a loud voice to the four angels to whom it was granted to harm the earth and the sea, 3 saying, Do not harm the earth or the sea or the trees until we have sealed the bond-servants of our God on their foreheads.
Revelation 14:1 Then I looked, and behold, the Lamb - standing on Mount Zion, and with Him one hundred and forty-four thousand, **having His name and the name of His Father written on their foreheads**.

2 Corinthians 1:21 Now He who establishes us with you in Christ and anointed us is **God**, 22 who also **sealed us and gave us the Spirit in our hearts as a pledge**.

Ephesians 1:13 In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation--having also believed, **you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise**, 14 who is given as a **pledge of our inheritance**, with a view to the redemption of God's own possession, to the praise of His glory.

Ephesians 4:30 Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were **sealed for the day of redemption**.
Great Tribulation

Matthew 24:21  (Jesus said) For then there will be a great tribulation, such as has not occurred since the beginning of the world until now, nor ever will. 22 Unless those days had been cut short, no life would have been saved; but for the sake of the elect those days will be cut short.
Revelation 7:4-8

4 And I heard the number of those who were sealed, one hundred and forty-four thousand sealed from every tribe of the sons of Israel: 5 from the tribe of Judah, twelve thousand sealed, from the tribe of Reuben twelve thousand, from the tribe of Gad twelve thousand, 6 from the tribe of Asher twelve thousand, from the tribe of Naphtali twelve thousand, from the tribe of Manasseh twelve thousand, 7 from the tribe of Simeon twelve thousand, from the tribe of Levi twelve thousand, from the tribe of Issachar twelve thousand, 8 from the tribe of Zebulun twelve thousand, from the tribe of Joseph twelve thousand, from the tribe of Benjamin, twelve thousand sealed.

Dan is missing!
Perfect Sight Reveals God’s Salvation and Comfort!
Revelation 7:9-10

9 After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could count, from every nation and tribes and peoples and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, and palm branches in their hands; 10 and they cry out with a loud voice, saying, “Salvation” to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb.
Revelation 7:11-12

11 And all the angels were standing around the throne and the elders and the four living creatures; and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, 12 saying, "Amen, blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might, to our God forever and ever. Amen."
Revelation 7:13-14a

13 Then one of the elders answered, saying to me, These who are clothed in the white robes, who are they, and where have they come from? 14 I said to him, My lord, you know.
Revelation 7:13-17

14b And he said to me, These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation, and they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. 15 For this reason, they are before the throne of God; and they serve Him day and night in His temple; and He who sits on the throne will spread His tabernacle over them. 16 They will hunger no longer, nor thirst anymore; nor will the sun beat down on them, nor any heat; 17 for the Lamb in the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and will guide them to springs of the water of life; and God will wipe every tear from their eyes.
Revelation 8:1

1 When the Lamb broke the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven for about half an hour.