

Revelation

*The Consummation of God's Plan
through Jesus Christ*

Stonebriar Community Church

Marathon Fellowship

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The Old Rugged Cross

George Bennard

On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross,
the emblem of suffering and shame;
and I love that old cross where the dearest and
best for a world of lost sinners was slain.

*So I'll cherish the old rugged cross,
till my trophies at last I lay down;
I will cling to the old rugged cross,
and exchange it some day for a crown.

The Old Rugged Cross

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O that old rugged cross, so despised by the world,
has a wondrous attraction for me;
for the dear Lamb of God left His glory above
to bear it to dark Calvary.

*So I'll cherish the old rugged cross,
till my trophies at last I lay down;
I will cling to the old rugged cross,
and exchange it some day for a crown.

The Old Rugged Cross

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To that old rugged cross I will ever be true,
its shame and reproach gladly bear;
then He'll call me some day to my home far away,
where His glory forever I'll share.

*So I'll cherish the old rugged cross,
till my trophies at last I lay down;
I will cling to the old rugged cross,
and exchange it some day for a crown.

REVELATION

The Consummation of God's Plan through Jesus Christ

I. THE MESSAGE TO THE PROPHET:

- *“Write What You Have Seen” (Chap. 1)*

II. THE MESSAGE FOR THE PEOPLE:

- *“What Is Now”—Present (Chaps. 2–3)*

III. THE MESSAGE OF PROPHECY:

- *“What Will Take Place Later”—Future (Chaps. 4–22)*

Revelation 4–5: The Key to Understanding God’s Judgment in Revelation 6–18

- “After these things” (Gk. *meta tauta*)

 - Change in Setting (Time & Space)

- Present → Future

- Earth → Heaven

1. The Place of the Judgment (Chap. 4)

2. The Person of the Judge (Chap. 5)

Outline of Future Events in Revelation 4–22

- Prologue (chaps. 4–5)

- 1. The Tribulation Period (chaps. 6–18)**
- 2. The Second Advent of Jesus Christ (chap. 19)**
- 3. The Millennium (chap. 20)**
- 4. The Eternal State (21:1–22:6)**

- Epilogue (22:7-21)

The Person of the Judge in Revelation 5

- The Key Question:

“Who is worthy to break open the seals and open the scroll of God’s Judgment?”

(Seal, Trumpet, Bowl Judgments)

The Judgments in Rev. 6–18

- Some Interpretive Keys:
 1. The Judgments are sequential but concurrent.
 2. The 7 Trumpet Judgments come out of the seventh Seal Judgment, and the 7 Bowl Judgments come out of the seventh Trumpet Judgment.

The 7 Seal Judgments

1. First Seal (6:1-2)–The Appearance of the Antichrist
2. Second Seal (6:3-4)–World Wars
3. Third Seal (6:5-6)–Economic Disaster & Famine
4. Fourth Seal (6:7-8)–Death (1/4 world’s population)
5. Fifth Seal (6:9-11)–Martyrdom of Believers
6. Sixth Seal (6:12-14)–Catastrophic Disturbances
7. Seventh Seal (8:1-6)–The 7 Trumpet Judgments

The Parenthetical Interlude of Rev. 7

- **The Interlude of Grace (Rev. 7:1-17)**
 - The answer to the Question: “The great day of their wrath has come, and who can stand?” (6:17)
- **2 Groups in Focus:**
 1. The 144,000 Jews (vv. 1-8)
 - The Sealed Jewish evangelists
 2. The Multitude of Gentiles (vv. 9-17)
 - The Gentiles who come to faith in Christ during the Tribulation as a result of the Jewish evangelists

The 7 Trumpet Judgments

1. **1st Trump (8:6-7): 1/3 earth destroyed**
2. **2nd Trump (8:8-9): 1/3 sea destroyed**
3. **3rd Trump (8:10-11): 1/3 rivers, clear waters destroyed**
4. **4th Trump (8:12-13): 1/3 sun, moon, stars struck down**
5. **5th Trump (9:1-12): 1st Woe (1st wave demonic torture)**
6. **6th Trump (9:13-21): 2nd Woe (2nd wave of demonic torture, 1/3 more of the earth's population dead)**
7. **7th Trump (11:15-19): 3rd Woe (The 7 Bowl Judgments of Chapters 15–16)**

The Parenthetical Interlude of Revelation 10–11

- 2 Important Perspectives for the Period:
 1. The Mighty Angel & the Little Scroll (chap. 10)
 - Jesus Christ (Judge)–Fulfillment of OT Promises
 2. The Jerusalem Temple & the 2 Witnesses (chap. 11)
 - 2 Witnesses during the Tribulation
 - Moses & Elijah (Present Age & Age to Come)

The Parenthetical Interlude of Rev. 12–14

- **Forces & Persons behind the climax of anti-God hostility: Key to understanding the Bowl Judgments of Rev. 15–16**

1. The Woman & the Dragon (12:1-6)

2. The Two Wars (12:7-17)

- The war in heaven (vv. 7-12)
- The war on earth (vv. 13-17)

3. The Two Beasts (13:1-18)

- The Antichrist (vv. 1-10)
- The False Prophet (vv. 11-18)

The Parenthetical Interlude of Rev. 12–14 cont.

- **Forces & Persons behind the climax of anti-God hostility: Key to understanding the Bowl Judgments of Rev. 15–16**

4. The 144,000 (14:1-5)

- God's grace in the midst of His judgment

5. The 3 Angels' Announcements (14:6-13)

- The last chance to believe before the Bowl Judgments

6. The Harvest Judgment (14:14-20)

- God's judgment of the nations (Joel 3; Matt. 24:31)

The Identity of the Nations in Daniel 2

1. *Gold* Nebuchadnezzar (Babylon)
2. *Silver* Medo-Persia
3. *Bronze* Greece
- 4a. *Iron* Rome₁ (at Christ's 1st Advent)
- 4b. *Iron & Clay* Rome₂ (at Christ's 2nd Advent)

The Identity of the Nations in Daniel 7

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|-----|----------------|--|
| 1. | <i>Lion</i> | Nebuchadnezzar (Babylon) |
| 2. | <i>Bear</i> | Medo-Persia |
| 3. | <i>Leopard</i> | Greece |
| 4a. | <i>Beast</i> | Rome ₁ (at Christ's 1 st Advent) |
| 4b. | <i>Beast</i> | Rome ₂ (at Christ's 2 nd Advent) |

The 4 Successive Kingdoms of Daniel 2 & 7

- Babylon 605-539 BC
- Medo-Persia 539-331 BC
- Greece 331-146 BC
- Rome 146 BC-AD 395

*Three Preceding Events That Must
Occur Before the Day of the Lord
(2 Thess. 2)*

- 1. Apostasy (v. 3a)**
- 2. Revealing of the Man of Lawlessness
(vv. 3b-4, 8)**
- 3. Removal of restraint against
lawlessness (vv. 6-7)**