

## The Parallel Visions of Revelation: Part 2

Don Ruhl • Savage Street, Grants Pass, Oregon • May 8, In the year of our Lord Christ, 2022

Scripture Reader and Reading: Dominic Meyer – Revelation 1.17–19

Song Leader and Song Suggestions: Phil Joseph – Anything on the Second Coming of Christ

### I. First, let me show you

A. the trumpets of judgment and

B. the bows of wrath.

1. If you have ever read these before,

2. it may have caught your attention

a) that you had just read something similar.

b) This happens often in the different visions.

(1) In this case, you will read the trumpets of judgment first,

(2) then you will the bowls of wrath.

C. I will read the first of each one,

1. then the second of each one, and

2. watch the parallels right before your eyes.

D. (From [https://www.gospelpedlar.com/articles/Last%20Things/Intro\\_Rev/4\\_struct\\_para.htm](https://www.gospelpedlar.com/articles/Last%20Things/Intro_Rev/4_struct_para.htm))

1. The first of each affects the earth.

a) First trumpet:

**7 The first angel sounded: And hail and fire followed, mingled with blood, and they were thrown to the earth. And a third of the trees were burned up, and all green grass was burned up.**

**– Revelation 8.7**

b) First bowl:

**2 So the first went and poured out his bowl upon the earth, and a foul and loathsome sore came upon the men who had the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image.**

– **Revelation 16.2**

2. The second of each affects the sea.

a) Second trumpet:

**8 Then the second angel sounded: And something like a great mountain burning with fire was thrown into the sea, and a third of the sea became blood. 9 And a third of the living creatures in the sea died, and a third of the ships were destroyed.**

– **Revelation 8.8–9**

b) Second bowl:

**3 Then the second angel poured out his bowl on the sea, and it became blood as of a dead man; and every living creature in the sea died.**

– **Revelation 16.3**

3. The third of each affects the rivers.

a) Third trumpet:

**10 Then the third angel sounded: And a great star fell from heaven, burning like a torch, and it fell on a third of the rivers and on the springs of water. 11 The name of the star is Wormwood. A third of the waters became wormwood, and many men died from the water, because it was made bitter.**

– **Revelation 8.10–11**

b) Third bowl:

**4 Then the third angel poured out his bowl on the rivers and springs of water, and they became blood.**

– **Revelation 16.4**

4. The fourth of each affects heavenly bodies.

a) Fourth trumpet:

**12 Then the fourth angel sounded: And a third of the sun was struck, a third of the moon, and a third of the stars, so that a third of them were darkened. A third of the day did not shine, and likewise the night.**

**– Revelation 8.12**

b) Fourth bowl:

**8 Then the fourth angel poured out his bowl on the sun, and power was given to him to scorch men with fire.**

**– Revelation 16.8**

5. The fifth of each affects men (inflicts pain).

a) Fifth trumpet:

**1 Then the fifth angel sounded: And I saw a star fallen from heaven to the earth. To him was given the key to the bottomless pit... 4 They were commanded not to harm the grass of the earth, or any green thing, or any tree, but only those men who do not have the seal of God on their foreheads...**

**– Revelation 9.1–6**

b) Fifth bowl:

**10 Then the fifth angel poured out his bowl on the throne of the beast, and his kingdom became full of darkness; and they gnawed their tongues because of the pain. 11 They blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores, and did not repent of their deeds.**

**– Revelation 16.10–11**

6. The sixth of each affects the Euphrates.

a) Sixth trumpet:

**13 Then the sixth angel sounded: And I heard a voice from the four horns of the golden altar which is before God, 14 saying to the sixth angel who had the trumpet, "Release the four angels who are bound at the great river Euphrates."**

**– Revelation 9.13–14**

b) Sixth bowl:

**12 Then the sixth angel poured out his bowl on the great river Euphrates, and its water was dried up, so that the way of the kings from the east might be prepared.**

**– Revelation 16.12**

7. The seventh of each is the end.

a) Seventh trumpet:

**15 Then the seventh angel sounded: And there were loud voices in heaven, saying, "The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever!"**

**– Revelation 11.15**

b) Seventh bowl:

**17 Then the seventh angel poured out his bowl into the air, and a loud voice came out of the temple of heaven, from the throne, saying, "It is done!"**

**– Revelation 16.17**

## **II. As you read the Book of Revelation,**

A. you will discover

B. repeated themes or ideas:

1. A Battle:

**14 For they are spirits of demons, performing signs, which go out to the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty.**

– Revelation 16.14

**19 And I saw the beast, the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against Him who sat on the horse and against His army.**

– Revelation 19.19

**7 Now when the thousand years have expired, Satan will be released from his prison 8 and will go out to deceive the nations which are in the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle, whose number is as the sand of the sea. 9 They went up on the breadth of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city. And fire came down from God out of heaven and devoured them.**

– Revelation 20.7–9

2. A Time Period of 3.5 years or 42 months or 1,260 days (all the same):

**2 But leave out the court which is outside the temple, and do not measure it, for it has been given to the Gentiles. And they will tread the holy city underfoot for forty-two months. 3 And I will give power to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy one thousand two hundred and sixty days, clothed in sackcloth.”**

– Revelation 11.2–3

**6 Then the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God, that they should feed her there one thousand two hundred and sixty days.**

– Revelation 12.6

**14 But the woman was given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness to her place, where she is nourished for a time and times and half a time, from the presence of the serpent.**

– Revelation 12.14

**5 And he was given a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies, and he was given authority to continue for forty-two months.**

– Revelation 13.5

**III. Seeing these parallels versus seeing everything end-to-end or chronologically,**

A. makes a world of difference in how you understand the Book of Revelation.

B. For example, let's see how this works with the 1000 years of Revelation 20.

1. If the Book of Revelation is written end-to-end, chronologically

2. rather than together as parallels,

a) you have to reason this way:

b) Revelation 20 follows Revelation 19 chronologically.

(1) Taking a part of Revelation 19, it sounds like the Second Coming:

**11 Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war. 12 His eyes were like a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns. He had a name written that no one knew except Himself. 13 He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God. 14 And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses. 15 Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. 16 And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written:**

**KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.**

– Revelation 19.11–16

(2) Then you have Revelation 20 talking about a thousand years:

**2 He laid hold of the dragon, that serpent of old, who is the Devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years; 3 and he cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal on him, so that he should deceive the nations no more till the thousand years were finished. But after these things he must be released for a little while. 4 And I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was committed to them. Then I saw the souls of those who**

**had been beheaded for their witness to Jesus and for the word of God, who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received his mark on their foreheads or on their hands. And they lived and reigned with Christ for a thousand years. 5 But the rest of the dead did not live again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection. 6 Blessed and holy is he who has part in the first resurrection. Over such the second death has no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years.**

**– Revelation 20.2–6**

C. You can see then

1. where they get the idea
2. that there will be a one thousand year reign on the earth
  - a) *after* the Second Coming of Christ, and
  - b) after the thousand years the releasing of Satan, etc.
    - (1) This leads them to predict the date of the return of Christ, but
    - (2) as you know their predictions have failed 100% of the time.
      - (a) Therefore, there is something wrong
      - (b) with viewing Revelation in this manner.

D. However, if you see the visions in the Book of Revelation as parallels,

1. then you will understand
2. that chapter 19 ends one vision, or one parallel, and
  - a) chapter 20 begins a new vision of the same time period.
  - b) At least think of that possibility.