

Want to learn more? Here are few suggested resources:

***Blessed: Experiencing the Promise of the Book of Revelation*, by Nancy Guthrie (2022).**

This is a popular level book exploring the main themes of the book of Revelation and taking special care to explore how these themes encourage our life.

***Revelation: A Shorter Commentary*, by G.K. (Greg) Beale (2015).**

If you are looking for a verse-by-verse approach, this is what you want. It is a bit pricey but worth it! Beale is thorough and accessible.

***The Triumph of the Lamb*, by Dennis Johnson (2001).**

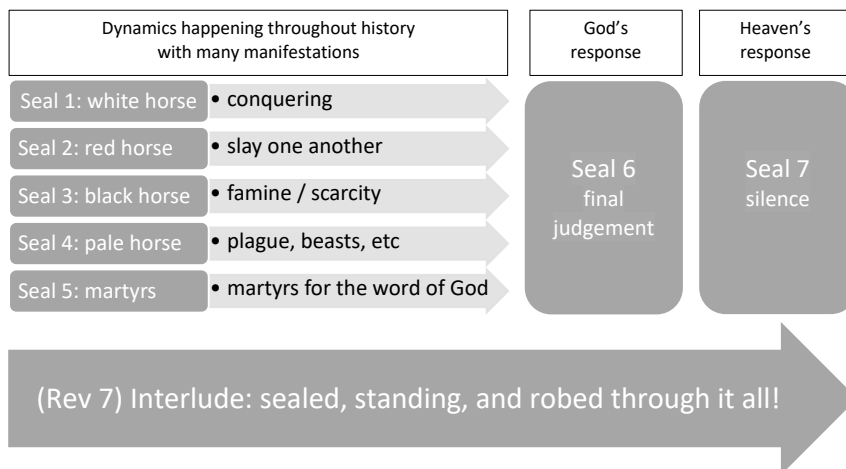
This is less verse-by-verse and more section-by-section. It is scholarly, but very readable. Johnson is a scholar/pastor and writes with the churchgoer in mind.

THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST



REVELATION 7 JANUARY 1, 2023

Structure of Seals and Interlude in Revelation 6:1-8:1



Winter 2023

Revelation is the last book of the Bible and is often treated as “mysterious” and “futuristic.” However, we contend that it only *seems* mysterious because it is full of images rooted in the Old Testament and first century Roman culture—from which we are far removed. A patient and careful reading yields an understanding that is neither bizarre nor exclusively future. Rather, we find the book of Revelation to be presently encouraging and empowering for the people of God. This is because it reveals heaven’s view of events that transpire on earth throughout history—including our history and the history of its original audience.

Who Can Stand?

January 1, 2023 | Revelation 7:1 – 8:1 | Pastor Roger Williams

(**Revelation 6** ...¹²When he opened the sixth seal... ¹⁵Then the kings of the earth and the great ones and the generals and the rich and the powerful, and everyone, slave and free, hid themselves in the caves and among the rocks of the mountains, ¹⁶calling to the mountains and rocks, “**Fall on us and hide us from the face of him who is seated on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb,** ¹⁷for the great day of their wrath has come, and who can stand?”)

The Lord seals his own so they can stand in this age and the age to come.

Revelation 7 ¹After this I saw four angels standing at the four corners of the earth, holding back the four winds of the earth, that no wind might blow on earth or sea or against any tree. ²Then I saw another angel ascending from the rising of the sun, with the seal of the living God, and he called with a loud voice to the four angels who had been given power to harm earth and sea, ³saying, “**Do not harm the earth or the sea or the trees, until we have sealed the servants of our God on their foreheads.**”

⁴And I heard the number of the sealed, 144,000, sealed from every tribe of the sons of Israel:

⁵12,000 from the tribe of Judah were sealed,
12,000 from the tribe of Reuben,
12,000 from the tribe of Gad,
⁶12,000 from the tribe of Asher,
12,000 from the tribe of Naphtali,
12,000 from the tribe of Manasseh,
⁷12,000 from the tribe of Simeon,
12,000 from the tribe of Levi,
12,000 from the tribe of Issachar,
⁸12,000 from the tribe of Zebulun,
12,000 from the tribe of Joseph,
12,000 from the tribe of Benjamin were sealed.

⁹After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, ¹⁰and crying out with a loud voice, “**Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!**” ¹¹And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹²saying, “**Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen.**”

¹³Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, “**Who are these, clothed in white robes, and from where have they come?**” ¹⁴I said to him, “Sir, you know.” And he said to me, “**These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.**”

¹⁵“**Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple; and he who sits on the throne will shelter them with his presence.**
¹⁶**They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat.**
¹⁷**For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of living water, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.**

Revelation 8 ¹When the Lamb opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven for about half an hour. ²Then I saw the seven angels who stand before God, and seven trumpets were given to them...

Ephesians 1 ¹³In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, ¹⁴who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.