

**The Usage of the
Hebrew Bible in the
book of Revelation**



Revelation
A Jewish Apocalypse

In this lecture

1. Intertextual references from the Hebrew Bible

2. The Sanctuary in Revelation

3. Literary Structure

Sanctuary
Exodus and Babylon

4. Dates in Daniel and Revelation

People and stories from the Hebrew Bible

Revelation 1

- v.7 – son of man, pierced (Zech 12:10 and Dan 7:14)
 - v.10 – Day of the Lord (Exod 20:8 and/or Joel 2:1)
 - v.11 – first and last (Isa 44:6)
 - v.13 – son of man (Ezek 1, Dan 7, 10)
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Revelation 2

- v.7 – tree of life, paradise of God (Gen 2)
 - v.14 – Balaam and Balak (Num 22-25)
 - v.17 – manna (Exod 16)
 - v.20 – Jezebel (I Kings 16, 18, 21)
 - v.27 – rule with iron scepter (Psa 2:9), morning star (Dan 12:3)
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Revelation 3

- v.5 – book of life (Dan 7:9-14)
 - v.7 – key of David (Isa 22:22), new Jerusalem (Isa 65-66)
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Revelation 4

- v.1 – trumpet (Num 10:1-10, Jos 6)
- v.2-11 – throne and adoration (Dan 7:9-11)

Revelation 5

v.1 – scroll (Deut 17:18-20, Jer 32:6-15, Ezek 2:9-3:3)

v.5 – Lion of the tribe of Judah (Gen 49:8-10), root of David (Isa 11:1,10)

v.6 – four living creatures (Ezek 1), v.13 – creation (Exod 20:11)

Revelation 6

Horses (Zech 1:8, 6:1-3)

v.12-16 Physical phenomena - judgment (Isa 13:10-13, Ezek 32:7-8, Amos 8:8-10)

Revelation 7

Angels marking (Ezek 9:1-10)

12 tribes of Israel (Num 1)

v.9 – palm branches (Lev 23:40)

Revelation 8

Trumpets (Num 10:1-10, Jos 6)

Plagues of Egypt (Exod 7-12)

Revelation 9

Plagues of Grasshoppers (Joel 2:1-11)

Fall of Babylon (Isa 47)

Revelation 10

v.2 – open book (Dan 12:4)

v.5-6 – angel standing swearing about the end of times (Dan 12:7)

v.9-11 – eating book (Ezek 2:8-3:3)

Revelation 11

v.1 – measuring rod (Zech 2)

v.3, 6 – two witnesses (Zech 4, Moses, Elijah), Sodoma (Gen 19), Egypt

Revelation 12

Woman in the desert (Exodus and Elijah after plagues)

v.5 – rule with scepter (Psa 2:9)

v.7 – Michael (Dan 12:1)

v.9 – old serpent (Gen 3:1-5)

Revelation 13

v.6 – attack on the sanctuary (Dan 8:10-11)

v.13 – fire down from heaven (Moses and Elijah)

v.15 – worshipping image and death penalty (Dan 3)

Revelation 14

v.1 – standing on mt. Zion (Psa 15)
v.7 – creation (Exod 20:11, Gen 7:11)
v.8 – fall of Babylon (Isa 47)
v.11 – torment (Isa 34:8-10)
v.14 – son of man on a cloud (Dan 7:13-14)
v.20 – harvest of grapes – judgment (Joel 3:11-13)

Revelation 15

v.3 – Moses (Exod 15)

Revelation 16

Seven plagues (Exod 7-12 e Isa 44:24-28),
v.12-16 – battle of Armageddon (Elijah on Carmel)

Revelation 17

v.4 – whore as priestess (Exod 28)
v.5 – Babylon (Rev 18, Ezek 27:12-22)
Contrast with pure woman of Rev 12 (see Ezek 16, Hosea)

Revelation 18 Ezek 27, Jer 51, Isa 13-14, 21, Ezek 16

Revelation 19 v.7-8 – wedding with God (Hosea)
v.13 – robes in blood (Isa 63:1-3)
v.17-18 – judgment banquet (Ezek 39:18-20, Jer 12:9)

Revelation 20 v.1-2 – imprisoned in the abyss (Isa 24:22)
v.4 – thrones of judgment (Dan 7:9,22)
v.8 – Gog and Magog in the battle against God (Ezek 38)

**Revelation
21-22** New Jerusalem (Isa 65-66, Ezek 40-44)

Sanctuary in Revelation

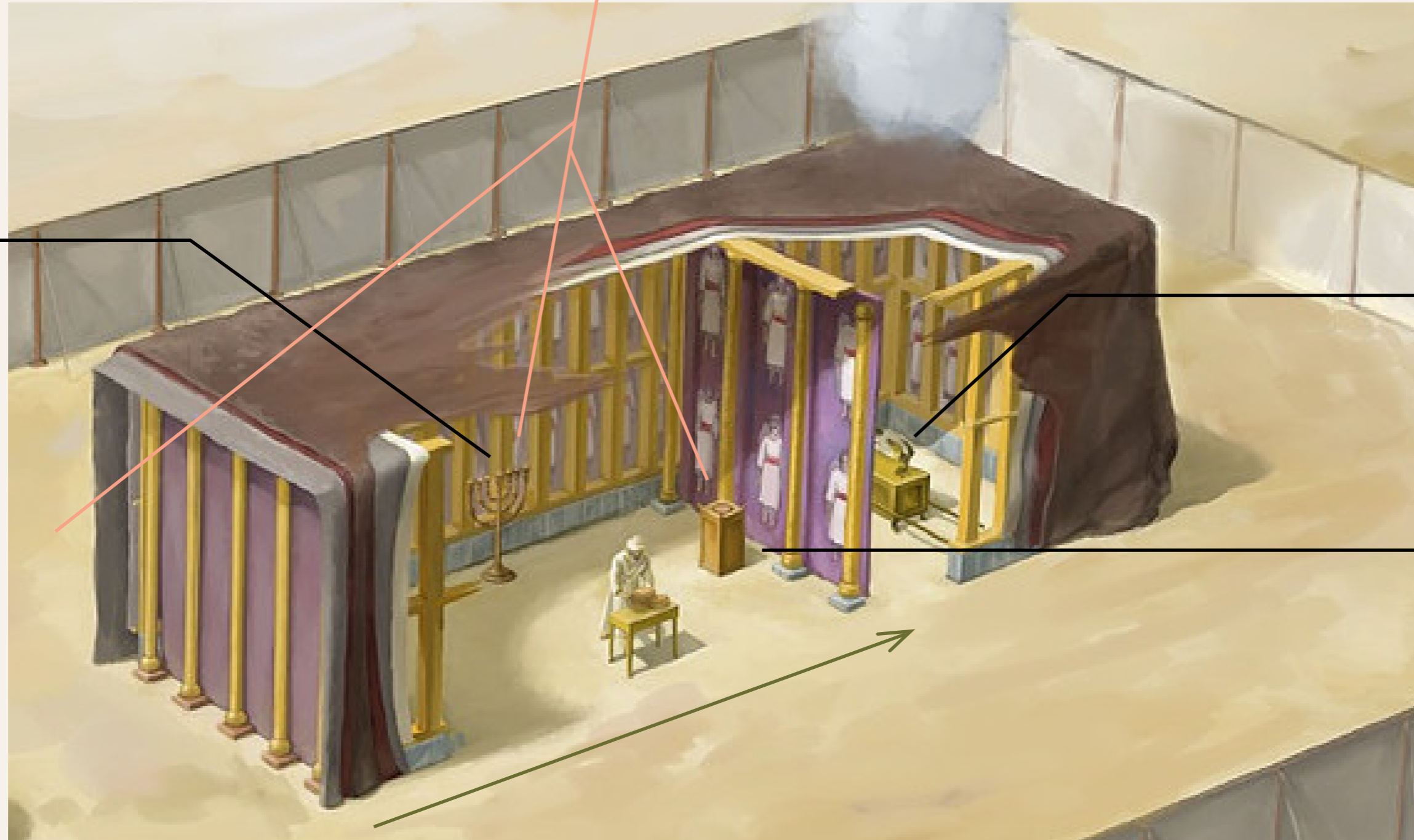
| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Rev 1 | sacrifice, blood and priest |
| v.12-13 | Menorah or Candlestick |
| Rev 2 – v.1, 5 | Menorah or Candlestick |
| Rev 3 – v.12 | Pilar in the Temple |
| Rev 5 – v.6, 8, 12 | Lamb, v.8 – golden bowls full of incense, v.10 – priests |
| Rev 6 – v.9 | altar of sacrifice (Gen 4) |
| Rev 7 – v.15 | adoration in the temple |
| Rev 8 – v.3 | golden bowls of incense and altar (Exod 30:1-8) |
| Rev 9 – v.13 | altar of incense (Exod 30:1-8) |
| Rev 11 – v.2 | outer court, v.4 – Menorah or Candlestick, v.19 – ark of covenant (Exod 25:10-22, Lev 16:14) |
| Rev 15 – v.5 | Open temple, v.7 – seven golden bowls (Menorah), v.8 – temple full of smoke (incense of Yom Kippur - Lev 16) |
| Rev 16 | 7 plagues (Egypt, Exodus 8-12) |
| Rev 21 – v.22 | no more temple |

Literary Structure and themes from the Hebrew Bible

Sanctuary and worship

Open Temple (Yom Kippur)
Rev 15

Golden bowls, full of
smoke and angels leaving



**Menorah or
Candlestick**
Rev 1-2

Ark of Covenant
Rev 11:19

Altar of incense
Rev 5, 8 and 9

Literary Structure and themes from the Hebrew Bible

1:1-10 – Prologue

(I) [1:10-3:22] 7 churches on earth – Militant (People of God on a journey)

(II) [4:1-8:1] 7 seals – God start his work of salvation

(III) [8:2-11:18] 7 trumpets – Warning of Judgment (*)

(IV) [11:19-14:20] Evil against the saints of God

(V) [15:1-16:17] 7 plagues – Execution of Judgment

(VI) [16:18-18:24] Evil punished by God

(VII) [19:1-21:4] Knight, millenium and New Jerusalem – God concludes his works of salvation

(VIII) [21:5-22:5] New Jerusalem – Church Triumphant (People of God victorious)

22:6-21 – Epilogue

*In the center of the chiasm there are also some other parallelism with the theme of the Exodus and the fall of Babylon

Literary Structure and themes from the Hebrew Bible

Exodus and Babylon

Rev 8-9, 16
Plagues (ch. 16)

1) Sores

6) Sores (Exod 9:8-12)

2-3) Water in blood

1) Water in blood (Exod 7:14-25)

5) Darkness and pain

9) Darkness (Exod 10:21-23)

Trumpets

2) Water in blood

1) Water in blood (Exod 7:14-25)

4) Darkness

9) Darkness (Exod 10:21-23)

5) Grasshoppers

8) Grasshoppers (Exod 10:1-20)

Drying up of the Euphrates – Babylon
6th trumpet and plague

Literary Structure and themes from the Hebrew Bible

| I | II | III | IV | V | VI | VII | VIII |
|---|--|---|---|---|--|---|---|
| Introductory Scene with image of temple (1:10-20) | Introductory Scene with image of temple (4 e 5) | Introductory Scene with image of temple (8:2-6) | Introductory Scene with image of temple (11:19) | Introductory Scene with image of temple (15:1-16:1) | Introductory Scene with image of temple (16:18-17:3) | Introductory Scene with image of temple (19:1-10) | Introductory Scene with image of temple (21:5-11) |
| Prophetic Description in History (2 e 3) | Prophetic Description in History (6) | Prophetic Description in History (8:7-9:21) | Prophetic Description in History (12 e 13) | Prophetic Description in History (16:2-14, 16) | Prophetic Description in History (17:3-18:3) | Prophetic Description in History (19:11-20:5) | Prophetic Description in History (21:11-22:5) |
| | Interlude : Spotlight on Last Events (7) | Interlude : Spotlight on Last Events (10:1-11:13) | Interlude : Spotlight on Last Events (14:1-13) | Interlude : Spotlight on Last Events (16:15) | Interlude : Spotlight on Last Events (18:4-8, 20) | Interlude : Spotlight on Last Events (20:6) | |
| | Eschatologic culmination climax to history (8:1) | Eschatologic culmination climax to history (11:14-18) | Eschatologic culmination climax to history (14:14-20) | Eschatology – Final Judgment (16:17) | Eschatology – Final Judgment (18:9-19, 21-24) | Eschatology – Final Judgment (20:7-21:4) | |

Times in Daniel and Revelation

3 ½ times = 42 months = 1260 days

Rev 11:2, 13:5 – 42 months

Rev 11:3, 12:6 – 1260 days

Rev 11:9,11, 12:14 – 3 ½ times (Dan 7:25, 12:7)

Day = Year

Lev 25:1-7, Num 14:34, Ezek 4:4-6

Book gives some interpretation to its symbols

stars
angels and menorah
churches

Revelation 1:20



7 heads
mountains and kings

Revelation 17:9, 10



testimony of Jesus
spirit of prophecy

Revelation 19:10

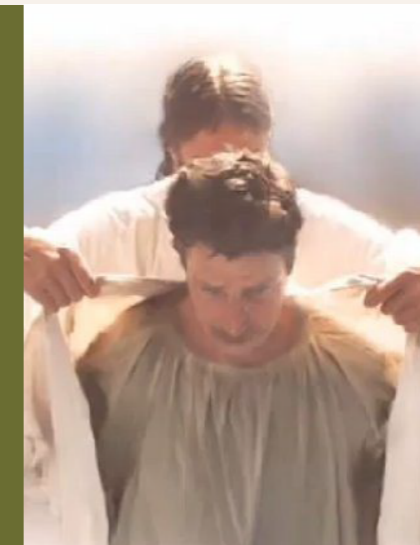
dragon
Satan

Revelation 12:9



garments, clothes
character

Revelation 19:8



We declare God's wisdom, a
mystery that has been hidden and
that God destined for our glory
before time began.

1 Cor 2:7

RJ: He knows our condition and we are in God's hand
BibleProject: <https://youtu.be/QpnIrbq2bKo>
(Revelation - part 2)

Homework:
Read Malachi 4 and see what themes are
related with the Day of the Lord