**Revelations chapters 4-11**

**Window two Pre-study October 25th**

Revelations 4: The Throne in Heaven

1. After this I looked, and there before me was a door standing open in heaven. And the voice I had first heard speaking to me like a trumpet said, “Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after this.” 2 At once I was in the Spirit, and there before me was a throne in heaven with someone sitting on it. 3 And the one who sat there had the appearance of jasper and ruby. A rainbow that shone like an emerald encircled the throne. 4 Surrounding the throne were twenty-four other thrones, and seated on them were twenty-four elders. They were dressed in white and had crowns of gold on their heads. 5 From the throne came flashes of lightning, rumblings and peals of thunder. In front of the throne, seven lamps were blazing. These are the seven spirits[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Revelation+4-5&version=NIV#fen-NIV-30774a)] of God. 6 Also in front of the throne there was what looked like a sea of glass, clear as crystal.

In the center, around the throne, were four living creatures, and they were covered with eyes, in front and in back.7 The first living creature was like a lion, the second was like an ox, the third had a face like a man, the fourth was like a flying eagle. 8 Each of the four living creatures had six wings and was covered with eyes all around, even under its wings. Day and night they never stop saying:

“‘Holy, holy, holy

is the Lord God Almighty,’[[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Revelation+4-5&version=NIV#fen-NIV-30777b)]

who was, and is, and is to come.”

9 Whenever the living creatures give glory, honor and thanks to him who sits on the throne and who lives for ever and ever, 10 the twenty-four elders fall down before him who sits on the throne and worship him who lives for ever and ever. They lay their crowns before the throne and say:

11 “You are worthy, our Lord and God,

to receive glory and honor and power,

for you created all things,

and by your will they were created

and have their being.”

Revelations 5: The Scroll and the Lamb

1.Then I saw in the right hand of him who sat on the throne a scroll with writing on both sides and sealed with seven seals. 2 And I saw a mighty angel proclaiming in a loud voice, “Who is worthy to break the seals and open the scroll?”3 But no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth could open the scroll or even look inside it. 4 I wept and wept because no one was found who was worthy to open the scroll or look inside. 5 Then one of the elders said to me, “Do not weep! See, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has triumphed. He is able to open the scroll and its seven seals.”

6 Then I saw a Lamb, looking as if it had been slain, standing at the center of the throne, encircled by the four living creatures and the elders. The Lamb had seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven spirits[[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Revelation+4-5&version=NIV#fen-NIV-30786c)] of God sent out into all the earth. 7 He went and took the scroll from the right hand of him who sat on the throne. 8 And when he had taken it, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb. Each one had a harp and they were holding golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of God’s people. 9 And they sang a new song, saying:

“You are worthy to take the scroll

and to open its seals,

because you were slain,

and with your blood you purchased for God

persons from every tribe and language and people and nation.

10 You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to serve our God,

and they will reign[[d](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Revelation+4-5&version=NIV#fen-NIV-30790d)] on the earth.”

11 Then I looked and heard the voice of many angels, numbering thousands upon thousands, and ten thousand times ten thousand. They encircled the throne and the living creatures and the elders. 12 In a loud voice they were saying:

“Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain,

to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength

and honor and glory and praise!”

13 Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all that is in them, saying:

“To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb

be praise and honor and glory and power,

for ever and ever!”

14 The four living creatures said, “Amen,” and the elders fell down and worshiped.

True and full living :

1. intrapersonal dynamics
2. interpersonal relationships
3. frame of reference; redefines how we view and live life; if we are to grow, we need to have a change in this perception of reality

CH 4

1. On the throne
   1. chaos and evil in the world but God is in control- gives a tangible picture that God is at the center of the universe and is in charge of the things, good or bad, that goes on.
   2. the One sitting on the throne was “like a jasper stone and sardius in appearance”
   3. “Holy Holy Holy” - pristine, absolutely pure (repetition represents its important characteristic of God - words in scripture repeated often carries added significance)
   4. God *sits* on the throne-power and sovereignty of his commands
   5. \*God is close at hand but we may not be able to see this with our limited viewpoint\*
2. From the throne
   1. reference to Exodus 19:16-19 Moses on Mount Sinai
   2. the power *from* the throne comes from the One sitting *on* the throne
   3. reference to Rev 8:5, 11:19, 16:18-21 - seventh item in each of three sets of seven judgements (seals, trumpets, bowls)
3. Behind (around) the throne
   1. kuklon- “around” “behind”
   2. rainbow *kuklon* the throne- reference to Genesis 8: God’s promise to Noah
4. Before the throne
   1. 7 lamps of fire- purifying, healing, illuminating, revealing > seven spirits of God => *the* Spirit of God
   2. 7 lamps of fire - spirits of God 7 lampstands - the 7 churches…?
   3. the sea- everything that opposes the will of God, threat of another flood which is removed in Rev 21, reference to the chaos in Genesis 1,
   4. turmoil - due to the in-breaking of the Kingdom
5. Around the throne
   1. twenty four
      1. the twelve tribes of Israel and twelve apostles of Jesus
      2. the twelve churches before the coming of Jesus and the twelve after
   2. living creatures
      1. represent whole animate creation
      2. “worship” is continuous and we are only entering and exiting at various points (awesome!)
      3. “we know our vision is clear when we are a worshipping people- we worship with our lips and hearts, minds and bodies, words and deeds.”

How will you respond?

1. reassured: that God is in control despite the things (ie oppression, hostility, violence in the world)
2. uneasy: acceptance of pagan culture, complacency is not tolerated
   1. disturbed: those who feel “no need” because of wealth and pride will realize this is self-deception- bring this back to 7 churches (ie Laodicia)

CH 5

1. the scroll
   1. filled to overflowing, sealed with 7 seals-- the significance? what’s inside the scroll?
      1. plans for creation up to the arrival of heaven to earth
   2. no one can open this scroll! Even John weeps! how will you respond to this news?
2. Lion vs Lamb?
   1. John believes himself to have heard a Lion - who will come to open the scroll but who he is met with is a Lamb, a slain Lamb- but symbolism makes this image stronger than that of a lion
      1. the 7 eyes- complete wisdom, 7 horns - complete strength
      2. stands in the middle- on the throne, in the throne, with God Himself
3. Three circles of worship
   1. Inner circle animals- purchase of multi-ethnic group of people to reign with Jesus!
   2. Outer circle- angelic beings- power wealth wisdom strength honor glory praise
   3. Whole cosmos- worship from all of creation
4. Vision of heaven clearing our vision of earth
   1. Center of reality is Jesus who suffers with us and understands us, journeys with us through our trials
   2. Center of reality is costly grace as Jesus sacrificed at the cross instead of us
   3. Jesus has already won the battle
   4. Sacrificial love requires us to live the life of a lamb, to be bathed in humility and to be weak so that Jesus can be stronger in our lives - John 3:30

Shortcut::

1. Look!
2. An open door to heaven
3. A throne
4. Someone sitting on the throne
5. In the right hand of the One sitting on the throne is a scroll sealed with seven seals
6. No one is able to open the scroll and John weeps
7. The elder tells him to turn and look at the Lion
8. John sees not a Lion but the Lamb- Jesus! who is able to open the scroll
9. A new song- a new reality is sung
10. \*\*\*we are purchased, we are made a kingdom of priests, we reign with Christ\*\*\*

What does it mean to reign?

1. We are called to live the truth
2. We are called to intercede - with the lives of those around use to bring them to Christ
3. We are called to martyrdom - do not underestimate the power of an individual’s sacrifice and their story to touch the lives of many others

### **Revelations 6: The Seals**

**6** I watched as the Lamb opened the first of the seven seals. Then I heard one of the four living creatures say in a voice like thunder, “Come!” **2** I looked, and there before me was a white horse! Its rider held a bow, and he was given a crown, and he rode out as a conqueror bent on conquest.

**3** When the Lamb opened the second seal, I heard the second living creature say, “Come!” **4** Then another horse came out, a fiery red one. Its rider was given power to take peace from the earth and to make people kill each other. To him was given a large sword.

**5** When the Lamb opened the third seal, I heard the third living creature say, “Come!” I looked, and there before me was a black horse! Its rider was holding a pair of scales in his hand. **6** Then I heard what sounded like a voice among the four living creatures, saying, “Two pounds[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=revelations+6&version=NIV#fen-NIV-30800a)] of wheat for a day’s wages,[[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=revelations+6&version=NIV#fen-NIV-30800b)] and six pounds[[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=revelations+6&version=NIV#fen-NIV-30800c)] of barley for a day’s wages,[[d](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=revelations+6&version=NIV#fen-NIV-30800d)] and do not damage the oil and the wine!”

**7** When the Lamb opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth living creature say, “Come!” **8** I looked, and there before me was a pale horse! Its rider was named Death, and Hades was following close behind him. They were given power over a fourth of the earth to kill by sword, famine and plague, and by the wild beasts of the earth.

**9** When he opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of those who had been slain because of the word of God and the testimony they had maintained. **10** They called out in a loud voice, “How long, Sovereign Lord, holy and true, until you judge the inhabitants of the earth and avenge our blood?” **11** Then each of them was given a white robe,and they were told to wait a little longer, until the full number of their fellow servants, their brothers and sisters,[[e](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=revelations+6&version=NIV#fen-NIV-30805e)] were killed just as they had been.

**12** I watched as he opened the sixth seal. There was a great earthquake. The sun turned black like sackcloth made of goat hair, the whole moon turned blood red, **13** and the stars in the sky fell to earth, as figs drop from a fig tree when shaken by a strong wind. **14** The heavens receded like a scroll being rolled up, and every mountain and island was removed from its place.

**15** Then the kings of the earth, the princes, the generals, the rich, the mighty, and everyone else, both slave and free,hid in caves and among the rocks of the mountains. **16** They called to the mountains and the rocks, “Fall on us and hide us[[f](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=revelations+6&version=NIV#fen-NIV-30810f)] from the face of him who sits on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb! **17** For the great day of their[[g](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=revelations+6&version=NIV#fen-NIV-30811g)]wrath has come, and who can withstand it?”

CH 6 -8

1. Tribulations and oppression is in response to the bringing in of the Kingdom
2. the prayer to “come” - the four animals pray for Jesus to come and establish his kingdom
3. Seals 1-4
   1. Four horsemen: consequence of Jesus trying to push his kingdom into the world - resistance and opposition
      1. white: a deception of Jesus - white horse with many crowns represents the power of evil to imitate Jesus; prelude to false prophets and false messiahs in the end times
      2. red: war- a physical battle that is the consequence of Spiritual evil
      3. black: greed and injustice→ hunger and famine
      4. ashen: horse ridden by “Death” to be followed by Hades- death personified
4. Seal 5: death of believers- suffering that is bringing the end
5. Seal 6: church’s role to declare the good news of Jesus’ reign that the Lamb is on the throne
6. One half hour silence so that prayers can be heard
7. Seal 7: golden censer and 7 trumpets

Revelation 7: 144,000 Sealed

**7** After this I saw four angels standing at the four corners of the earth, holding back the four winds of the earth to prevent any wind from blowing on the land or on the sea or on any tree. **2** Then I saw another angel coming up from the east, having the seal of the living God. He called out in a loud voice to the four angels who had been given power to harm the land and the sea: **3** “Do not harm the land or the sea or the trees until we put a seal on the foreheads of the servants of our God.” **4** Then I heard the number of those who were sealed: 144,000 from all the tribes of Israel.

**5** From the tribe of Judah 12,000 were sealed,

from the tribe of Reuben 12,000,

from the tribe of Gad 12,000,

**6** from the tribe of Asher 12,000,

from the tribe of Naphtali 12,000,

from the tribe of Manasseh 12,000,

**7** from the tribe of Simeon 12,000,

from the tribe of Levi 12,000,

from the tribe of Issachar 12,000,

**8** from the tribe of Zebulun 12,000,

from the tribe of Joseph 12,000,

from the tribe of Benjamin 12,000.

The Great Multitude in White Robes

**9** After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. **10** And they cried out in a loud voice:

“Salvation belongs to our God,

who sits on the throne,

and to the Lamb.”

**11** All the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures. They fell down on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, **12** saying:

“Amen!

Praise and glory

and wisdom and thanks and honor

and power and strength

be to our God for ever and ever.

Amen!”

**13** Then one of the elders asked me, “These in white robes—who are they, and where did they come from?”

**14** I answered, “Sir, you know.”

And he said, “These are they who have come 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** ‘Never again will they hunger;

never again will they thirst.

The sun will not beat down on them,’[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Revelation%207&version=NIV#fen-NIV-30827a)]

nor any scorching heat.

**17** For the Lamb at the center of the throne

will be their shepherd;

‘he will lead them to springs of living water.’[[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Revelation%207&version=NIV#fen-NIV-30828b)]

‘And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.’[[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Revelation%207&version=NIV#fen-NIV-30828c)]”

CH 7

1. Redefining comfort
   1. to give strength so that we can do what we normally could not do
   2. two scene vision of rev 7 is the most comforting of all visions…?
2. 144,000
   1. completeness but makes reference to the sets of “12” that we see throughout revelations
   2. reference to the twelve gates in revelations 21; the gates for the twelve tribes of israel but also the gates of the new heaven and new earth and the new Jerusalem which includes people from every tribe-multi ethnic
3. “Sealed”
   1. mark of ownership - to Jesus, that we are bought with a price
   2. protection from the six executioners Ezekiel 9, Exodus 12
   3. protection from the breaking of the seven seals, trumpets and bowls-ensure that they will be able to endure the hardships
   4. enabling of faith- that these tribulations will allow believers to respond with faith, to grow their faith and not destroy it
   5. to display the characteristics of the living God on our minds and hearts so that others will see a difference our inward faith makes in our outward behaviours
   6. Holy Spirit
4. The first scene: of being sealed and secured, The second scene: there is a new world where we will be able to see and interact with God directly. A reminder for Christians to persevere through the intersection of kingdoms and to grow stronger in the face of oppression

# **Revelation 8: The Seventh Seal and the Golden Censer**

**8** When he opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven for about half an hour.

**2** And I saw the seven angels who stand before God, and seven trumpets were given to them.

**3** Another angel, who had a golden censer, came and stood at the altar. He was given much incense to offer, with the prayers of all God’s people, on the golden altar in front of the throne. **4** The smoke of the incense, together with the prayers of God’s people, went up before God from the angel’s hand. **5** Then the angel took the censer, filled it with fire from the altar, and hurled it on the earth; and there came peals of thunder, rumblings, flashes of lightning and an earthquake.

### **The Trumpets**

**6** Then the seven angels who had the seven trumpets prepared to sound them.

**7** The first angel sounded his trumpet, and there came hail and fire mixed with blood, and it was hurled down on the earth. A third of the earth was burned up, a third of the trees were burned up, and all the green grass was burned up.

**8** The second angel sounded his trumpet, and something like a huge mountain, all ablaze, was thrown into the sea. A third of the sea turned into blood, **9** a third of the living creatures in the sea died, and a third of the ships were destroyed.

**10** The third angel sounded his trumpet, and a great star, blazing like a torch, fell from the sky on a third of the rivers and on the springs of water— **11** the name of the star is Wormwood.[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Revelation%208&version=NIV#fen-NIV-30839a)] A third of the waters turned bitter, and many people died from the waters that had become bitter.

**12** The fourth angel sounded his trumpet, 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 turned dark. A third of the day was without light, and also a third of the night.

**13** As I watched, I heard an eagle that was flying in midair call out in a loud voice: “Woe! Woe! Woe to the inhabitants of the earth, because of the trumpet blasts about to be sounded by the other three angels!”

**9 1** The fifth angel sounded his trumpet, and I saw a star that had fallen from the sky to the earth. The star was given the key to the shaft of the Abyss. **2** When he opened the Abyss, smoke rose from it like the smoke from a gigantic furnace. The sun and sky were darkened by the smoke from the Abyss. **3** And out of the smoke locusts came down on the earth and were given power like that of scorpions of the earth. **4** They were told not to harm the grass of the earth or any plant or tree, but only those people who did not have the seal of God on their foreheads. **5** They were not allowed to kill them but only to torture them for five months. And the agony they suffered was like that of the sting of a scorpion when it strikes. **6** During those days people will seek death but will not find it; they will long to die, but death will elude them.

**7** The locusts looked like horses prepared for battle. On their heads they wore something like crowns of gold, and their faces resembled human faces. **8** Their hair was like women’s hair, and their teeth were like lions’ teeth. **9** They had breastplates like breastplates of iron, and the sound of their wings was like the thundering of many horses and chariots rushing into battle. **10** They had tails with stingers, like scorpions, and in their tails they had power to torment people for five months. **11** They had as king over them the angel of the Abyss, whose name in Hebrew is Abaddon and in Greek is Apollyon (that is, Destroyer).

**12** The first woe is past; two other woes are yet to come.

**13** The sixth angel sounded his trumpet, and I heard a voice coming from the four horns of the golden altar that is before God. **14** It said to the sixth angel who had the trumpet, “Release the four angels who are bound at the great river Euphrates.” **15** And the four angels who had been kept ready for this very hour and day and month and year were released to kill a third of mankind. **16** The number of the mounted troops was twice ten thousand times ten thousand. I heard their number.

**17** The horses and riders I saw in my vision looked like this: Their breastplates were fiery red, dark blue, and yellow as sulfur. The heads of the horses resembled the heads of lions, and out of their mouths came fire, smoke and sulfur. **18** A third of mankind was killed by the three plagues of fire, smoke and sulfur that came out of their mouths. **19** The power of the horses was in their mouths and in their tails; for their tails were like snakes, having heads with which they inflict injury.

**20** The rest of mankind who were not killed by these plagues still did not repent of the work of their hands; they did not stop worshiping demons, and idols of gold, silver, bronze, stone and wood—idols that cannot see or hear or walk.**21** Nor did they repent of their murders, their magic arts, their sexual immorality or their thefts.

CH 8

1. Trumpets
   1. answer to the cry for justice from earth
   2. the repetition of ⅓ is a symbol for mercy
   3. a foreshadow- to warn the world of the coming judgment Ezekiel 33:3-6
   4. ultimately a call for repentance; a last chance before the end
2. Our response
   1. To repent
   2. To want to die but will not be able to do so -- interesting note though, this refers to God’s mercy and grace in allowing us more time to repent instead of the previous thought of mere pain and suffering from being tortured and not being able to exit through death
   3. To harden your heart -- continue to sin and worship idols..etc

# **Revelation 10: The Angel and the Little Scroll**

**10** Then I saw another mighty angel coming down from heaven. He was robed in a cloud, with a rainbow above his head; his face was like the sun, and his legs were like fiery pillars. **2** He was holding a little scroll, which lay open in his hand. He planted his right foot on the sea and his left foot on the land, **3** and he gave a loud shout like the roar of a lion. When he shouted, the voices of the seven thunders spoke. **4** And when the seven thunders spoke, I was about to write; but I heard a voice from heaven say, “Seal up what the seven thunders have said and do not write it down.”

**5** Then the angel I had seen standing on the sea and on the land raised his right hand to heaven. **6** And he swore by him who lives for ever and ever, who created the heavens and all that is in them, the earth and all that is in it, and the sea and all that is in it, and said, “There will be no more delay! **7** But in the days when the seventh angel is about to sound his trumpet, the mystery of God will be accomplished, just as he announced to his servants the prophets.”

**8** Then the voice that I had heard from heaven spoke to me once more: “Go, take the scroll that lies open in the hand of the angel who is standing on the sea and on the land.”

**9** So I went to the angel and asked him to give me the little scroll. He said to me, “Take it and eat it. It will turn your stomach sour, but ‘in your mouth it will be as sweet as honey.’[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Revelation%2010&version=NIV#fen-NIV-30871a)]” **10** I took the little scroll from the angel’s hand and ate it. It tasted as sweet as honey in my mouth, but when I had eaten it, my stomach turned sour. **11** Then I was told, “You must prophesy again about many peoples, nations, languages and kings.”

CH 10

1. Our role as the church!
   1. repent ourselves and purge out the things in our lives that are not in accordance with God’s will
   2. intercede and plead for mercy for non-believers
   3. declare God’s glory and “prophecy about many peoples, nations, languages, and kings” so that others may be informed, warned, lead to repentance, and ultimately to the gospel truth

Revelation 11: The Two Witnesses

**11** I was given a reed like a measuring rod and was told, “Go and measure the temple of God and the altar, with its worshipers. **2** But exclude the outer court; do not measure it, because it has been given to the Gentiles. They will trample on the holy city for 42 months. **3** And I will appoint my two witnesses, and they will prophesy for 1,260 days,clothed in sackcloth.” **4** They are “the two olive trees” and the two lampstands, and “they stand before the Lord of the earth.”[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Revelation%2011&version=NIV#fen-NIV-30877a)] **5** If anyone tries to harm them, fire comes from their mouths and devours their enemies. This is how anyone who wants to harm them must die. **6** They have power to shut up the heavens so that it will not rain during the time they are prophesying; and they have power to turn the waters into blood and to strike the earth with every kind of plague as often as they want.

**7** Now when they have finished their testimony, the beast that comes up from the Abyss will attack them, and overpower and kill them. **8** Their bodies will lie in the public square of the great city—which is figuratively called Sodom and Egypt—where also their Lord was crucified. **9** For three and a half days some from every people, tribe, language and nation will gaze on their bodies and refuse them burial. **10** The inhabitants of the earth will gloat over them and will celebrate by sending each other gifts, because these two prophets had tormented those who live on the earth.

**11** But after the three and a half days the breath[[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Revelation%2011&version=NIV#fen-NIV-30884b)] of life from God entered them, and they stood on their feet, and terror struck those who saw them. **12** Then they heard a loud voice from heaven saying to them, “Come up here.” And they went up to heaven in a cloud, while their enemies looked on.

**13** At that very hour there was a severe earthquake and a tenth of the city collapsed. Seven thousand people were killed in the earthquake, and the survivors were terrified and gave glory to the God of heaven.

**14** The second woe has passed; the third woe is coming soon.

CH 11

1. Though there are so many symbols in Revelations 11, the ultimate takeaway is that the two figures represent the church standing in the midst of sin and hostility of the world but are still able to shine brightly (as lampstands) for Christ.
2. The Role of the Church
   1. bear witness- be dressed in sackcloth so that we can carry out the call for repentance
      1. repent ourselves
      2. calling others to repentance
   2. We win as martyrs --when we die for doing prophetic work, the consequences lead others to repentance just as the two witnesses were able to save 9/10ths of their city
3. Text specific notes:
   1. By measuring the people, God is implying protection. Reference to Zechariah 2 when Jerusalem is measured so that God's wall of fire will protect it.
   2. Temple referring to God's people; the literal temple was destroyed in AD 70
   3. Jews and Gentiles of the new church will be in conflict for 42 months....hmmm
   4. 42 = symbol in reference to OT Exodus, Elijah and the lack of rain, genealogy of Jesus, Daniel
   5. Sackcloth: sign of a prophet and of repentance= they live in repentance and are calling for others to repent
   6. Zechariah 4: olive trees are the announced ones referring to King Zerubbabel and Joshua the high priest. Lamp stands refer back to Rev 1-3- the churches that are supposed to "bear light" for Christ. Ultimately the number 2 is used to indicate truth in testimony.
   7. 2 Kings: 1 Elijah called down fire to consume soldiers
   8. 1 Kings 17: Elijah prayed for the lack of rain for 1.5 years as a call for the nations to repent
   9. Exodus 4-11: Moses caused Nile to flow with blood
   10. The Great City- any place that is self-sufficient, self-reliant, and resisting the in-breaking of the kingdom of God
   11. Leaving the witnesses unburied: cultural middle-eastern context- not supposed to leave unburied for more than a day!
   12. Reversal of the numbers from previous prophetic books of the OT Isaiah 6:13, Amos 5:3, 1 Kings 19:18. The faithfulness of the witnesses are able to save thousands in the great city
   13. Themes: weakness → strength (recap of the Gospel message)
   14. Jesus wins when it appears as though he has been defeated