

July 16, 2023

Revelation 1:1–20

Book of Revelation



Revelation 1:3 and 19

3-Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear, and who keep what is written in it, for the time is near.

19-Write therefore the things that you have seen, those that are and those that are to take place after this.

Revelation 1:3 and 19

Our goal and purpose for this morning is to keep it simple!

Verse 3 says those who read, hear, and keep the words of this book are blessed. So I want to give you the tools and resources to read it for yourself.

History

Name Revelation comes from the 1st word in the text- apokalupsis of Jesus Christ
-apokalupsis means to reveal- the revealing of Jesus Christ

Early Church (60AD) till about the early to mid 1800's, the prevailing thought was the text of this book described the destruction of Jerusalem as a result of God's judgement of the Jewish people for rejecting (and continuing to reject) their Messiah: Jesus

This interpretation follows the pattern of the other prophetic books of the Bible in the Old Testament, including the apocalyptic sections in Daniel 7-12

Since early to mid 1800's it seems that every decade more new interpretations come to light

History

If apokalupsis means to reveal- the revealing of Jesus Christ

This book should not be looked at as something with hidden meanings and messages!

The purpose was to reveal what, according to Revelation 1:1 “soon to take place”,

Revelation 1:3, “time is near”- about to happen

Revelation 1:19, “[things] that are to take place after this.

Hermeneutics-How is this book organized?

Chapters 1

An introduction of purpose (writing what is seen and sending to the 7 Churches)

and victorious description of the LORD Jesus Christ.

v.5- faithful witness, firstborn from among the dead, ruler of the kings of the earth

v.14-eyes like a flame of fire

v.15-feet like bronze, voice like roar of many waters

v.16-right hand held seven stars, mouth comes a sword, face like sun shining

v. 17- first and last

v. 18- living one, died and alive forevermore, have the keys of Death and Hades

Hermeneutics-How is this book organized?

Chapters 2-3

Epistles (letters) to 7 specific Churches in Asia
Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia, Laodicea

Each letter mention specific things about each of the church and people within the churches.

Mostly follows the a pattern of
Intro and description of Jesus (taking from the descriptor in chapter 1),
Commendation, Condemnation, Warning, Exhortation

Hermeneutics-How is this book organized?

Chapters 4-22

A series of visions John has “in the Spirit” (v. 4)

All the visions are a continuous string that take place in the Spirit and in a heavenly realm with occasional “rabbit trails” to emphasize certain details.

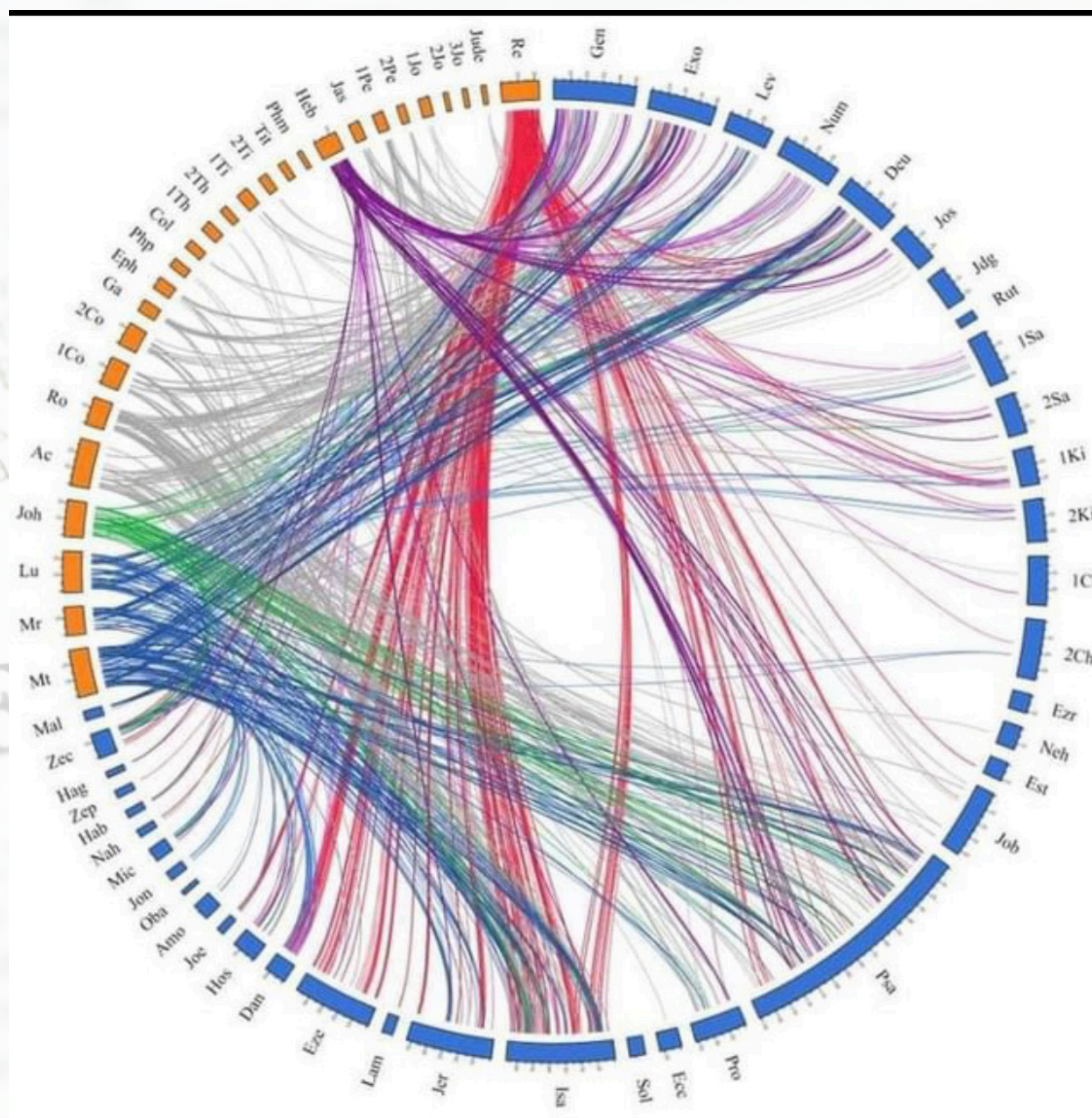
Hermeneutics-How is this book organized?

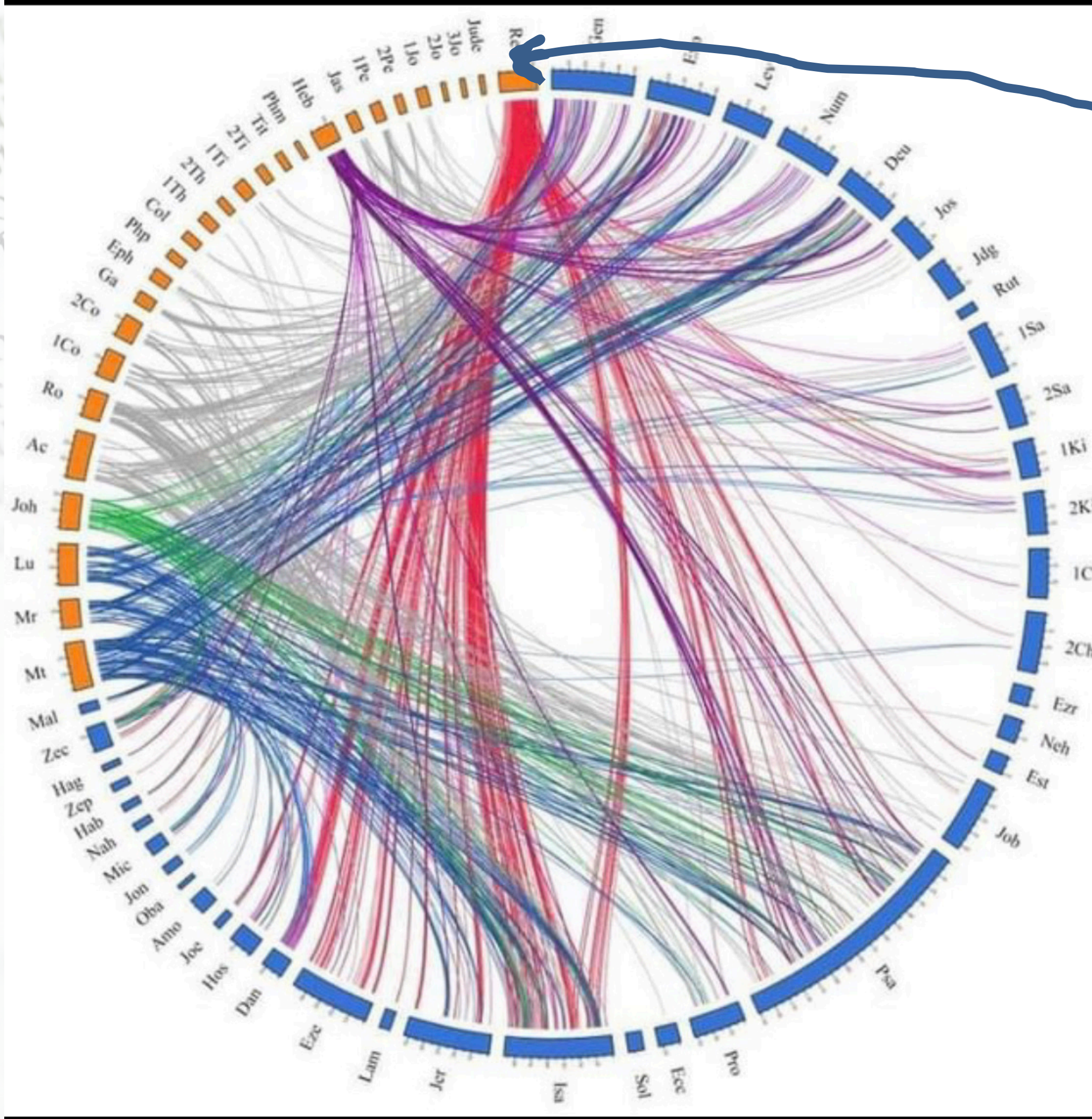
Chapters 4-22

John relies HEAVILY on Old Testament imagery in these chapters to describe the judgement of God

Of the 400 verses in Revelation- over 200 are references to Old Testament judgement language.

Specifically in Isaiah, Ezekiel, Daniel, and Zechariah



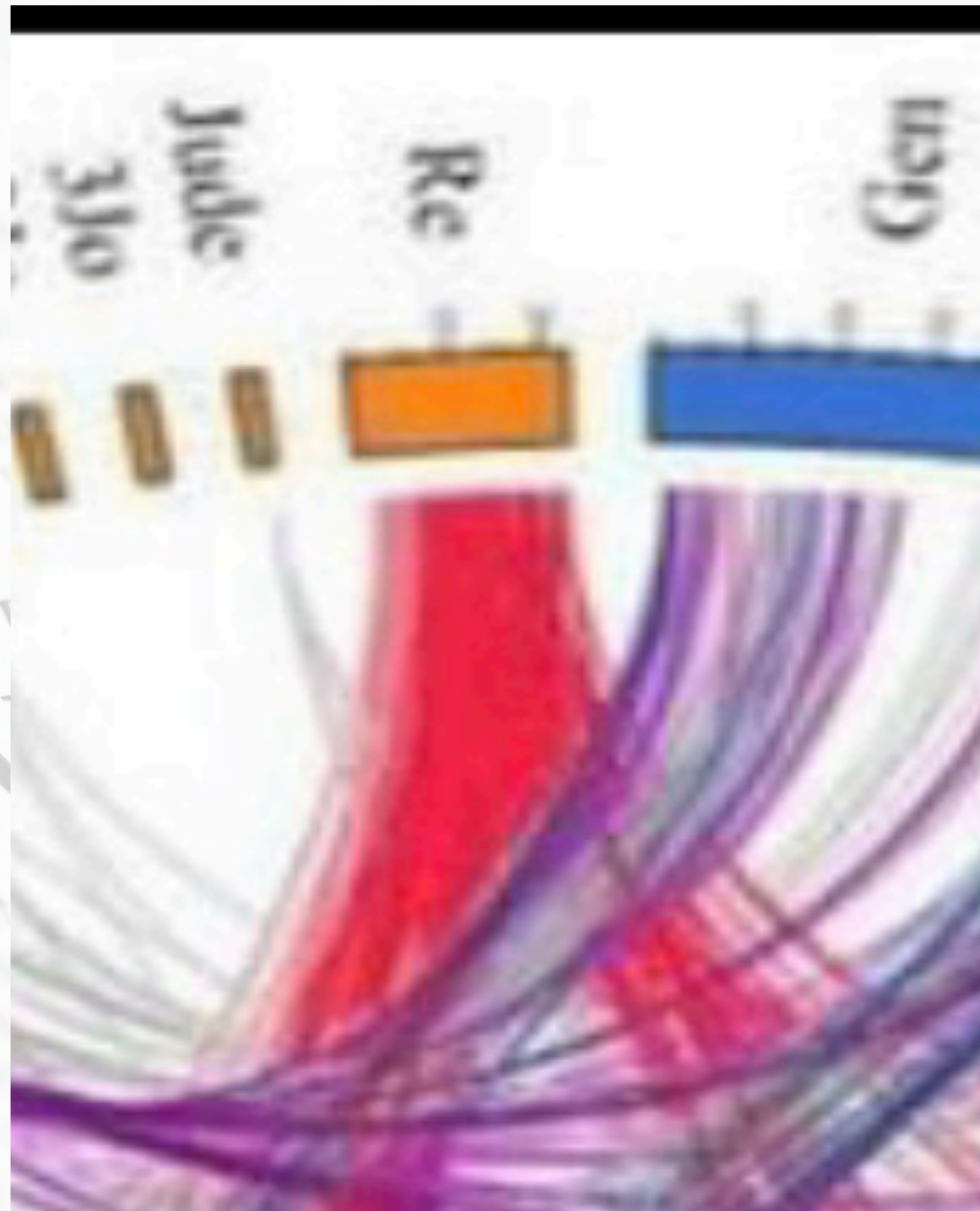


Revelation

Speak and of the
angel, when contending
about the body of the
lost him a railing answer
rebuke thee.
of those things which they
know naturally, as though
they corrupt themselves
or they have gone in the way
dily after the error of Baal-
shed in the gainsaying of Co-
in your feasts of charity.

REV

the end of the world
the end of the world
the end of the world



Hermeneutics-How is this book organized?

Chapters 4-22

Examples

- 4 Horseman in Chapter 6- from Zechariah 6
 - 6:8-4th Horseman was given authority to “kill with sword and with famine and with pestilence and by wild beasts of the earth” – Ezekiel 14:21
- 3 sets of Judgements are descriptors of the 10 plagues from Exodus, Joel 2, Jeremiah 8 & 51, Isaiah 13, 14, 34
- “flashes of lightning, rumblings, peals of thunder, and a great earthquake...” classic Old Testament Judgment language, Daniel 12/Joel 2, etc.

Hermeneutics-How is this book organized?

Chapters 4-22

4-11- Heavenly worship scene with Christ and God the Father reigning absolutely and unquestionably over all human/earthly existence

Also have the description of the Seal and Trumpet judgements (incomplete judgment)

12-15-Descriptions of Israel's history culminating in Christ's resurrection, descriptions of the beasts, the triumph of the Lamb and saints, and more heavenly worship with the Temple in heaven being opened to bring about the final (complete) judgment of God on the unbelieving and rebellious Jewish people

Hermeneutics-How is this book organized?

Chapters 4-22

16- The Bowl Judgement (complete and final judgment)

17-19- Poetic and prophetic description of the destruction of Jerusalem (named as “the great city” 16:19 & 17:18, and “Babylon” 16:19 & 18:2)

20-22- The Ultimate victory of Jesus and His Bride (the church)

Hermeneutics- Things to note!

Numbers play a huge part in this book

12- People of God (Chapter 7)

7- Perfection/Completion (7 Churches, Seal, Trumpets, Bowls)

3 ½- Broken 7- Not complete (42 months or 1,260 days)(Chapter 11)

4- Earth (Chapter 4)

3- God or Trinity/ Rhythm of the Book (Chapter 1)

Because of the Old Testament References key terms and concepts must be interpreted correctly. (Chapter 17)

- sun, moon, stars/earth and sea/ beasts of chapter 13

Theology

This book calls for present faithfulness and perseverance for those who are believers in Jesus as Messiah and Savior and points to a future of hope and victory.

This letter would have given the early, heavily persecuted church great hope and a sense of victory in Jesus.

This would have made them even more bold to share the gospel!

This book should encourage US to build bigger kitchen tables not bomb shelters.

Speak and he shall
angel, when commanding
about the body of the
ist him a railing answer
ebuke thee.
of those things which they
y know naturally, as though
they corrupt themselves
or they have gone in the way
dily after the error of Ba'alam
hed in the gainsaying of Cor'e
in your feasts of charity, when

The Book of REVELATION

the word of Jesus Christ, which God
sent unto his servants things
and he sent and
servant John:
of God, and of the
all things that
that hear

6

And hath made us kings
and his Father to live to
ever and ever. A-men.

7

Behold, he cometh with clouds,
shall see him, and they shall
all kindreds of the earth shall
Even so, A-men.

8

I am Al'-pha and Omega, the
the ending, saith the Lord, which is to come, the