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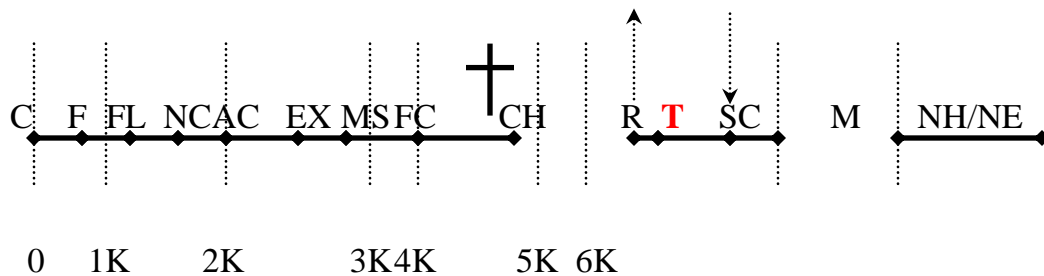
A0602 – January 8, 2006 – Rev 1-10 – Summary of Revelation Chapters 1-10 –

Part 1

A0603 – January 15, 2006 – Rev 1-10 – Summary of Revelation Chapters 1-10 –

Part 2

This morning I want us to back off, step out of the trees, and take a look at the big picture. We've been down in the details of Revelation, evaluating every blade of grass. When we do this there's always the danger of losing the whole for the parts and this morning I want to just take a little time to back off and look at the whole forest. Then we'll review what we've covered so far hitting some of the high points of the Revelation. First, let's just see where we are in the flow of history.



- C = Creation
- F = Fall
- FL = Flood
- NC = Noahic Covenant
- AC = Abrahamic Covenant
- EX = Exodus
- MS = Mt Sinai
- FC = First Coming
- CH = Church
- R = Rapture
- T = Tribulation

SC = Second Coming

M = Millennium

NH/NE = New Heavens & New Earth

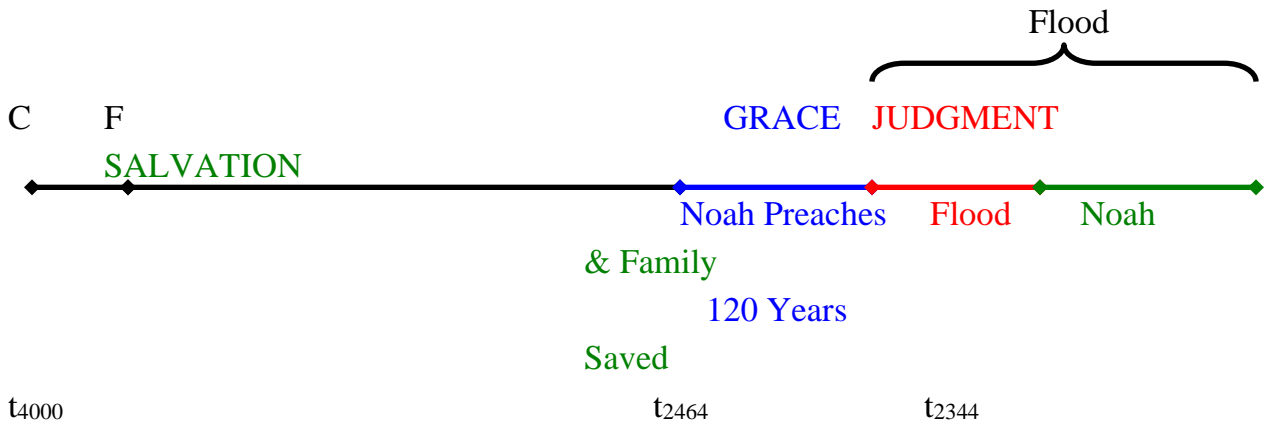
Second, let's grasp the greater purpose of Revelation by remembering where the story starts. The story starts in Genesis, it ends in Revelation. If we don't have Genesis as our starting point then Revelation becomes meaningless. What I mean is that Genesis spells out the pre-conditions for the Revelation. Revelation presupposes a Genesis of all things. And in Genesis we find the genesis of the heavens and earth, the genesis of sin, the genesis of judgment/salvation in the Noahic Flood and the genesis of covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Without these things there's no aim to the Book of Revelation. This is because in the Revelation we find God re-taking the heavens and earth and re-storing the heavens and earth to their original condition. If God is re-taking it by force then it must have somehow been handed over to someone else who does not have legal rights to it. We find in the Genesis account that this personality is Satan. Further, if God is going to restore what He originally created then this presupposes that somewhere along the line the creations original design was marred. Genesis records that the marring agent was sin which entered through Adam's disobedience. Sin is like a deadly virus that spreads from person to person. Once a person is infected by sin, willful disobedience gradually hardens the heart to the things of God. It only took about 1,500 years for the whole human race to become so corrupt and hardened that there were only 8 believers left; Noah, his sons, and their wives. Conservative estimates of world population at the time indicate ~ 1 billion people. Out of that only 8 were believers. All the rest had gone the way of their depraved, calloused hearts, rejecting God and promoting their own agenda. Who said the majority couldn't be wrong! God's patience and grace allowed things to continue so long but grace is always before judgment.

1. Grace before Judgment

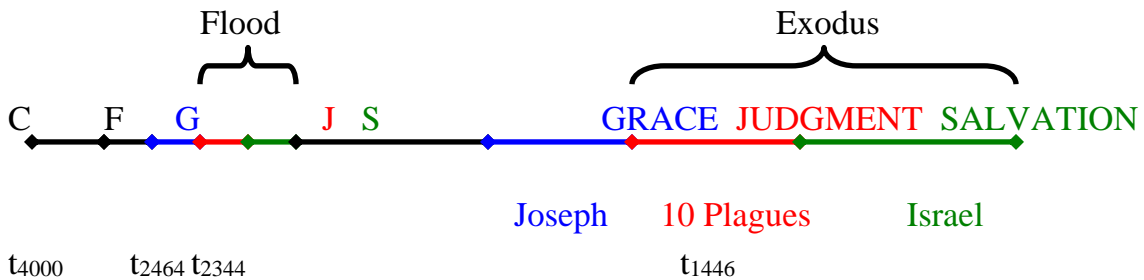
To fulfill His promises God preserved the Messianic line and wiped out the rest of entire human race by way of the Noahic Flood. The Flood is the first picture of grace before judgment and judgment/salvation.

2. Judgment/Salvation

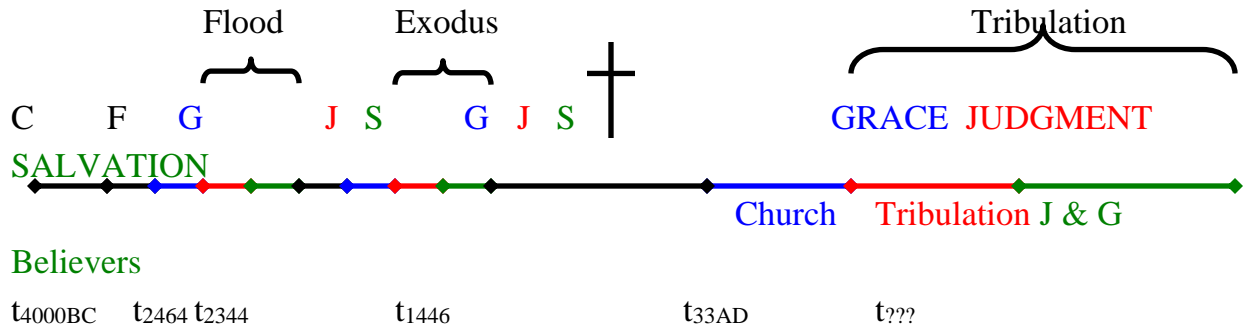
This is why the politically correct notion of peace by negotiation is so foolish. People would have us believe that talking something to death can remove evil from the world. This only shows the depths of the depraved heart and their ignorance of history. But, we know that the depraved man hates history because it is the arena of divine revelation, so he re-writes history to fit his HVP, and in so doing leaves out the judgment/salvation motif. True history, as recorded in the Bible, always places grace before judgment and links judgment with salvation. We see it first at the Flood; Noah preached grace for 120 years but the world rejected grace so God judged and in judging salvation resulted for Noah and his family.



After the Flood the only people alive on earth were believers. God started fresh with a righteous people. But things didn't stay that way for long. The next dramatic picture of grace before judgment and judgment/salvation is the Exodus; Joseph preached grace to Pharaoh and the Egyptians but most rejected and were judged issuing forth the salvation of Israel.



Revelation is following this same pattern of grace before judgment and judgment issuing forth salvation. The Church preaches grace but the world will reject it and God will judge the world which will issue forth the salvation of many from every tribe tongue and nation are saved. After the judgment every single person left alive on earth will have trusted Jesus Christ as Savior. These people will re-populate the earth during the Millennium.



Believers

So, the world will have been restored to its original form and we will start anew with the entire population composed of Jewish and Gentile believers on earth. But, once again, it won't remain that way for long, even in the presence of Christ the King.

These major events show a repetitive pattern in God's dealings with man and sin. As a result they teach us several things about God and man.

- It teaches us that God is gracious. Over and over God starts everything out on the right foot (Creation...it was good, Flood...all 8 were believers, Exodus...national deliverance of Israel, Tribulation...all Jews and Gentiles will be believers) and yet time and again we see that man corrupts the good.
- Man is sinful. The depravity of the human heart, the hardness of man's heart is obvious. Man wants to do things his way and carry out his agenda in open rebellion against God.
- God is holy and therefore He cannot tolerate sin. He graciously restrains it for a time but He will not restrain forever. He must judge sin. He judged it in Christ on the cross but when men reject Christ as their substitute they remain under the just condemnation of God.
- The historical record shows that God has disrupted man's open rebellion by judgment. The only way to separate good and evil is by way of His judgment.

Thus, the OT pattern is clear: grace before judgment and judgment issuing forth salvation. If God has dealt with man and sin this way in the past why would we think that the world's future would be any different? At present the world is enjoying God's grace but the future is dark, headed for global judgment. Through this will come the salvation of many Jews and Gentiles under the witness of the 144,000 Jews, the 2 witnesses, and hundreds of thousands of martyrs for Christ.

The final big picture item I want to remind you of is the fact of the covenant made with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. God is faithful to fulfill His promises. Since He has never fulfilled these promises He must raise them from the dead in order to do so. He will do this at His Second Coming when He will establish His theocratic kingdom on earth. This is one of the grand purposes of the Revelation. From this we can see that two of the major purposes of the Tribulation are

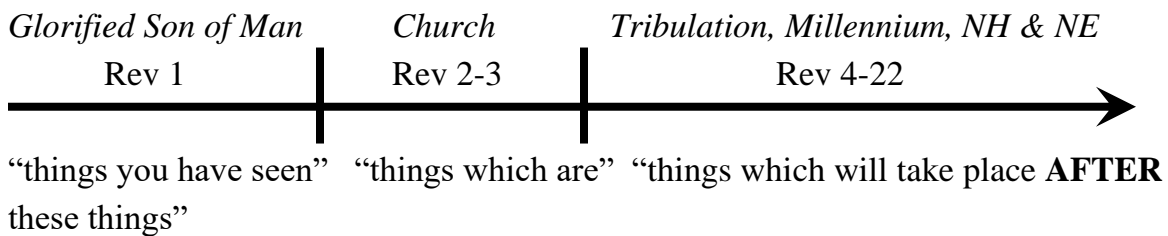
- To Punish the Nations
- To Purge Israel

Now let's review the Revelation of Jesus Christ. The book has a three-fold outline. You can understand the Revelation. The Bible gives us an outline in Rev 1:19

Revelation 1:19 "Therefore write the things which you have seen, and the things which are, and the things which will take place after these things.

John is seeing a vision in the year 95-96AD. In this vision John is to write down three basic things.

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| 1. the things which you have seen | past | Rev 1 |
| 2. the things which are | present | Rev 2-3 |
| 3. the things which will take place after these things | future | Rev 4-22 |



The things which John had seen were a vision of the Glorified Son of Man (1:9-20). It was this Glorified Son of Man who commissioned John to write. 2) “the things which are” were already present in John’s day (96AD). These things are described in Rev 2-3 in the seven churches. 3) “the things which will take place after these things” is very crucial in demonstrating that the events of Rev 4-22 follow the events of Rev 2-3 “the church”. It shows that the church does not go through the Tribulation but will be complete before the Tribulation begins. It also shows that the Church is not the Millennial Kingdom because the Kingdom follows the Tribulation. This verse is absolutely fundamental to understanding the Book of Revelation. If you reject the normal interpretation of this verse then you can never understand Revelation.

THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST

I. THE THINGS WHICH YOU HAVE SEEN (Rev 1)

- A. Prologue (1:1-8)
 - 1. Introduction (1:1-3)
 - 2. Salutation (1:4-6)
 - 3. Theme (1:7-8)
- B. The Glorified Son of Man (1:9-20)
 - 1. John Commissioned to Write (1:9-11)
 - 2. The Vision of the Glorified Son of Man (1:12-16)
 - a. His Appearance and Attire (1:13)
 - b. His Nature (1:14-16)
 - 3. John's Commission to Write Resumed (1:17-20)

II. THE THINGS WHICH ARE (Rev 2-3)

- A. Ephesus: Church of Loveless Orthodoxy (2:1-7)
 - 1. Recipient, Destination, & Description of Christ (2:1)
 - 2. Commendation (2:2-3, 6)
 - 3. Condemnation (2:4)
 - 4. Exhortation (2:5, 7a)
 - 5. Promise (2:7b)
- B. Smyrna: Church of Martyrdom (2:8-11)
 - 1. Recipient, Destination, & Description of Christ (2:8)
 - 2. Commendation (2:9)
 - 3. Exhortation (2:10-11a)
 - 4. Promise (2:11b)
- C. Pergamum: Church of Tolerance (2:12-17)
 - 1. Recipient, Destination, & Description of Christ (2:12)
 - 2. Commendation (2:13)
 - 3. Condemnation (2:14-15)
 - 4. Exhortation (2:16-17a)
 - 5. Promise (2:17b)
- D. Thyatira: Church of Compromise (2:18-29)
 - 1. Recipient, Destination, & Description of Christ (2:18)
 - 2. Commendation (2:19)
 - 3. Condemnation (2:20-23)
 - 4. Exhortation (2:24, 25, 29)
 - 5. Promise (2:26-28)

- E. Sardis: Church of Complacency (3:1-6)
 - 1. Recipient, Destination, & Description of Christ (3:1a)
 - 2. Condemnation (3:1b)
 - 3. Exhortation (3:2-3, 6)
 - 4. Commendation (3:4)
 - 5. Promise (3:5)
- F. Philadelphia: Church of Deliverance (3:7-13)
 - 1. Recipient, Destination, & Description of Christ (3:7)
 - 2. Commendation (3:8a, c)
 - 3. Promises (3:8b, 9-10, 12)
 - 4. Exhortation (3:11, 13)
- G. Laodicea: Church of Lukewarmness (3:14-22)
 - 1. Recipient, Destination, & Description of Christ (3:14)
 - 2. Condemnation (3:15-17)
 - 3. Exhortation (3:18-19, 22)
 - 4. Promise (3:21)

III. THE THINGS WHICH SHALL TAKE PLACE AFTER THESE THINGS (Rev 4-22)

- A. The Throne Room of God (4:1-5:14)
 - 1. John's Invitation and Condition (4:1-2)
 - 2. The One on the Throne (4:3)
 - 3. The Twenty-Four Elders (4:4)
 - 4. Storm Theophany #1 (4:5)
 - 5. The Four Living Creatures (4:6-8a)
 - 6. The Worship of the Father (4:8b-11)
 - a. Initiatory Worship of Four Living Creatures (4:8b-9)
 - b. Responsive Worship of Twenty-Four Elders (4:10-11)
 - 7. The Lamb and the Seven Sealed Scroll (5:1-7)
 - a. The Seven Sealed Scroll (5:1)
 - b. The Universal Search for One Worthy to Open Scroll (5:2-3)
 - c. Discovery of the Lion of the Tribe of Judah (5:4-5)
 - d. Sight of the Living Lamb (5:6)
 - e. Authority of the Living Lamb (5:7)
 - 8. The Worship of the Lamb (5:8-14)
 - a. The Twenty Eight Voice Chorale (5:8)
 - b. The New Song of Redemption (5:9-10)
 - c. The Chant of an Innumerable Host of Angels (5:11-12)
 - d. The Chant of Every Created Thing (5:13-14)

- D. The Tribulation (6:1-18:24)
 - 1. First Half of Tribulation/Beginning of Birth Pangs/Six Seals (6:1-7:17)
 - a. The Four Horsemen (6:1-8)
 - i. 1st Seal: Peaceful Conquest (6:1-2)
 - ii. 2nd Seal: Warfare and Bloodshed (6:3-4)
 - iii. 3rd Seal: Famine (6:5-6)
 - iv. 4th Seal: Death to ¼ of Mankind (6:7-8)
 - b. The 5th and 6th Seals (6:9-17)
 - i. 5th Seal: Martyrs Under the Altar (6:9-11)
 - ii. 6th Seal: A Great Shaking (6:12-17)
 - c. Who is Able to Stand? (7:1-17)
 - i. 144,000 Sealed Israelites (7:1-8)
 - ii. A Great Multitude From Every Nation (7:9-17)
 - 2. Second Half of the Tribulation/Great Tribulation/Time of Jacob's Trouble (8:1-18:24)
 - a. 7th Seal Contains 7 Trumpets (8:1-6)
 - i. Prayers of the Saints (8:1-4)
 - ii. Storm Theophany #2 (8:5)
 - iii. Preparation of the Angels (8:6)
 - b. The First Four Trumpets: Judgments on Nature (8:7-13)
 - i. 1st Trumpet: 1/3 of Land Burned (8:7)
 - ii. 2nd Trumpet: 1/3 of Sea Became Blood (8:8-9)
 - iii. 3rd Trumpet: 1/3 of Rivers Made Bitter (8:10-11)
 - iv. 4th Trumpet: 1/3 of Heavenly Bodies Darkened (8:12-13)
 - c. The 5th and 6th Trumpets: Judgments on Mankind (9:1-19)
 - i. 5th Trumpet (1st Woe!): Demonic Locusts (9:1-12)
 - ii. 6th Trumpet (2nd Woe!): Death to 1/3 of Mankind (9:13-19)
 - d. Mankind's Refusal to Repent (9:20-21)
 - i. Idolatrous Worship (9:20)
 - ii. Sin that Issues Forth From Idolatrous Worship (9:21)
 - e. The Little Scroll (10:1-11)
 - i. A Climactic Proclamation (10:1-7)
 - ii. The Re-commissioning of John (10:8-11)
 - f. The Tribulation Temple (11:1-2)
 - g. The Two Witnesses (11:3-14)

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