

Second Coming-Revelation

Transition

The Good News about Jesus continued to spread, and many joined His followers. However, many followers were persecuted and killed for their beliefs. One of Jesus' closest followers, John, was with Jesus while He was on the earth. John was imprisoned on a deserted island because he told others about Jesus. When John was an old man on this island, God gave him an amazing vision – a vision about the end of time as we know it and how Jesus will come to reign forever as King when He returns to earth. Now John knew Jesus really, really well. When the vision started, John heard Jesus speaking, but the Jesus he saw did not look the same as the Jesus he had known.

Revelation 1:13-18; 4:2-3, 5; 5:9-14

Jesus looked like an amazing King. His eyes were like flames of fire, His feet like ... bronze glowing in a furnace, and His voice thundered like mighty ocean waves. ... And a sharp two-edged sword came from His mouth. ... Jesus was shining like the sun in all its brilliance.

John saw Jesus on a throne in heaven. ... Around the throne were precious jewels ... and from the throne came flashes of lightning and the rumble of thunder. ... There were thousands ... of angels and representatives of those who belong to Jesus around the throne. They fell down in worship and sang, "...You were killed, and your blood has bought people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation. Worthy are you to receive praise and honour for ever and ever."

(Revelation 6-12) Revelation 13:1-15

In his vision, John saw the future – a place of great violence and destruction. He saw famines, wars, plagues and huge natural disasters.

Then John saw a beast rising up out of the sea ... and Satan gave the beast ... the authority to rule over every people and language. ... (Sometimes we call this beast the 'antichrist.') ... "Who is as great as the beast?" *the people* exclaimed. "Who is able to fight against him?" ... And the beast was allowed to wage war against God's ... people – *those who follow Jesus* – and to conquer them ... All the people who belong to this world *and did not believe in Jesus* worshiped the beast. ...

Then *John* saw another beast come up out of the earth. ... *He acted as a prophet for the first beast.* ... He did astounding miracles, even making fire flash down to earth from the sky while everyone was watching. ... And with all the miracles he was allowed to perform on behalf of the first beast, he deceived all the people who belong to this world. ... Then *it was* commanded that anyone refusing to worship *the first beast* must die.

Revelation 16:14 & 16

John saw Satan and these beasts grow in confidence and arrogance to such an extent that they believed they could wage war on God and win. ... So they gathered all their forces together in one place, called Armageddon, and prepared to face God in battle.

Revelation 19: 11-21

Then *John* saw heaven opened, and a white horse was standing there. Its rider was *Jesus* – named Faithful and True. ... His eyes were like flames of fire, and on His head were many crowns. ... The armies of heaven ... followed Him on white horses. From His mouth came a sharp sword. ... On His robe ... was written this title: King of all kings and Lord of all lords. ... *Jesus and His army faced those of Satan. With the sword from his mouth Jesus destroyed the army. ... The beast and the false prophet were thrown ... into the lake of fire.*

Revelation 20:1-4

Then ... *Satan was ... bound ... in chains for a thousand years. ... Satan could not deceive the nations anymore. ... And John saw the people who had been killed for their testimony about Jesus during the time of the beast's reign. They had been killed because they had not worshiped the beast or his statue. ... John saw the followers all come to life again, and they reigned with Jesus for a thousand years.*

Revelation 20:7-15

When the thousand years come to an end, Satan will be let out of his prison. He will go out to deceive the nations *again* ... in every corner of the earth. He will gather them together for battle – a mighty army, as numberless as sand along the seashore. And *John* saw them as they ... surrounded God's people. ... But fire from heaven came down on *Satan's* armies and consumed them. Then *Satan*, who had deceived them, was thrown into the fiery lake ... *along with* the beast and the false prophet. There they will be tormented day and night forever and ever. ... Then death *itself* was thrown into the lake of fire. ... *Everyone who had died throughout history was raised to life, and anyone who was not a citizen of God's Kingdom (everyone who did not follow Jesus...) was thrown into the lake of fire.*

Revelation 21:1-6

Then *John* saw a new heaven and a new earth, *because* the old heaven and the old earth had disappeared. ... *John* heard a loud shout from the throne, saying, "Look, God's *Kingdom* is now among His people! He will live with them, and they will be His people. ... He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there will be no more death or sorrow or crying or pain. All these things are gone forever. ... Look, I am making everything new!" ... And He also said, "It is finished! I am ... the Beginning and the End. To all who are thirsty I will give freely from the springs of the water of life." ...