

John 17:1-5

After Jesus said this, He looked toward heaven and prayed:

“Father, the hour has come. Glorify your Son, that Your Son may glorify You. ²For You granted Him authority over all people that He might give eternal life to all those You have given Him. ³Now this is eternal life: that they know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, Whom You have sent. ⁴I have brought You glory on earth by finishing the work You gave Me to do. ⁵And now, Father, glorify Me in Your presence with the glory I had with You before the world began.

John 12

Now there were some Greeks among those who went up to worship at the festival. ²¹ They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, with a request.

“Sir,” they said, “we would like to see Jesus.”

²² Philip went to tell Andrew; Andrew and Philip in turn told Jesus.

²³ Jesus replied, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.

Matthew 5:17

“Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them.

The Covenant with Abraham

The angel of the LORD called to Abraham from heaven a second time and said, "I swear by Myself, declares the LORD... I will surely bless you and make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as the sand on the seashore...

and through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed, because you have obeyed me."

Genesis 22:15-18

The Covenant with Israel

Now if you obey Me fully and keep My covenant, then out of all nations **you will be My treasured possession. Although the whole earth is Mine, ⁶ you will be for Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.**'

Exodus 19:3-6



Hosea 1 & 2

When the LORD began to speak through Hosea, the LORD said to him, “Go, marry a promiscuous woman and have children with her, **for like an adulterous wife this land is guilty of unfaithfulness to the LORD**

She said, ‘I will go after my lovers,
who give me my food and my water,
my wool and my linen, my olive oil and my drink.’
She decked herself with rings and jewelry,
**and went after her lovers,
but Me she forgot,”**
declares the LORD.

“This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!”



See Him crucified

Ultimate reflection of God Who...

- ❖ So loved the world that He gave His only Son that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life!
- ❖ Demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us!
- ❖ While we were His enemies, we were reconciled to Him through the death of his Son... having been reconciled... are saved through his life!
- ❖ Predestined us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with His pleasure and will!
- ❖ In Who we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace that He lavished on us.

Philippians 2:9-11

“Therefore God exalted Him to the highest place and gave Him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”

“Father, the hour has come. Glorify Your Son that Your Son may glorify You.”

John 17:6-19

“I have revealed You to those whom You gave Me out of the world. They were Yours; You gave them to Me and they have obeyed Your word. ⁷ Now they know that everything You have given Me comes from You. ⁸ For I gave them the words You gave Me and they accepted them. They knew with certainty that I came from You, and they believed that You sent Me.

⁹ I pray for them. I am not praying for the world, but for those You have given Me, for they are Yours. ¹⁰ All I have is Yours, and all You have is Mine. And glory has come to Me through them. ¹¹ I will remain in the world no longer, but they are still in the world, and I am coming to You. **Holy Father, protect them by the power of Your name, the name You gave Me, so that they may be one as We are one.**

¹² While I was with them, I protected them and kept them safe by that name you gave Me. None has been lost except the one doomed to destruction so that Scripture would be fulfilled

¹³ "I am coming to You now, but I say these things while I am still in the world, so that they may have the full measure of My joy within them. ¹⁴ I have given them Your word and the world has hated them, for they are not of the world any more than I am of the world.

¹⁵ My prayer is not that You take them out of the world but that You protect them from the evil one. ¹⁶ They are not of the world, even as I am not of it. ¹⁷ Sanctify them by the truth; Your word is truth. ¹⁸ As You sent Me into the world, I have sent them into the world. ¹⁹ For them I sanctify Myself, that they too may be truly sanctified.

Prayer

- ❖ Holy Father, **protect them by the power of Your name**, the name You gave Me, so that they may be one as We are one.
- ❖ My prayer is not that You take them out of the world but that **You protect them from the evil one**.
- ❖ **Sanctify them by the truth**; Your word is truth.

Ephesians 6

For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

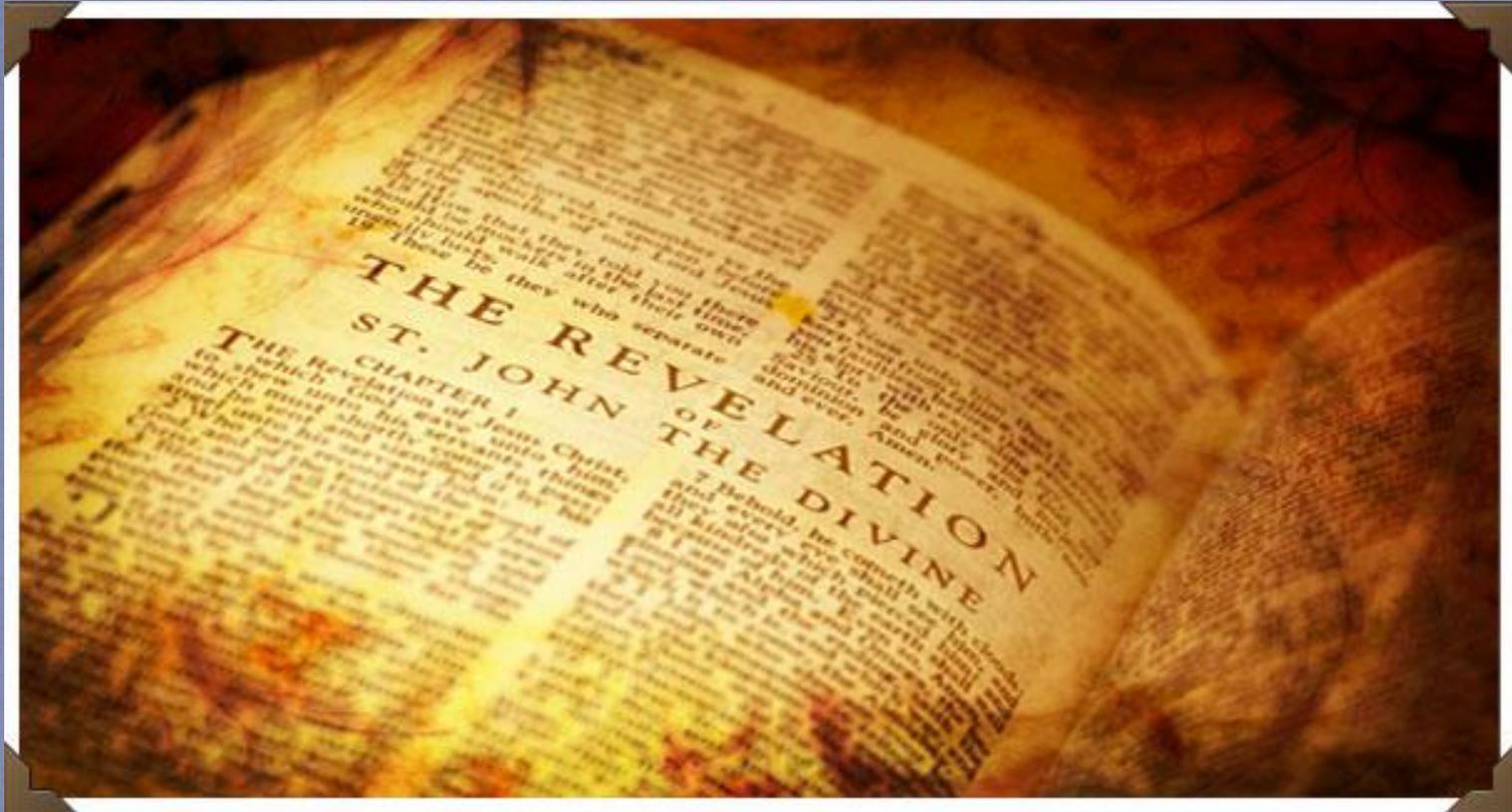
1 Peter 5:8

“Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.”

2 Corinthians 11:14

“...for Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light.”

The Book of Revelation



Apocalyptic Literature

Apocalyptic Literature

Symbolic visions revealing heavenly perspectives.

500+ Old Testament allusions

Symbolic Numbers

3- God (Trinity) / Ultimate/ Absolute (Holy Holy Holy)

6- Man/ Inferior/Limited (666)

7- Perfection/Completion (7 eyes/ 7 churches)

10- Ultimate/Many ($10 \times 10 \times 10 = 1000$)

12- God's Covenant people- ($12 \times 12000 = 144000$), Lampstand, Temple, Israel, Judah, My 2 Witnesses, Olive Tree, Woman & her children, Holy City, New Jerusalem, Bride of Christ

Heads- Power

Horns- Kings/Rulers

Crowns- Authority

Sea- the world of chaos & darkness

Waters- the people of the sea

The Enormous Red Dragon



“...rulers, authorities, powers, spiritual forces of evil.”

Revelation 12

The Dragon

Then another *sign* appeared in *heaven*: an enormous **red dragon** with *seven heads and ten horns and seven crowns* on its heads.

The **great dragon** — that *ancient serpent* called the *devil*, or *Satan*, who leads the whole world astray.

Think Pharaoh

”But I have raised you (*Pharaoh*) up for this very purpose, that I might show you My power and that My name might be proclaimed in all the earth. You still set yourself against My people and will not let them go.” (Exodus 9)

When the **dragon** saw that he had been hurled to the earth, he pursued the **woman** who had given birth to the male child. Then from his mouth the serpent spewed water like a river, to overtake the **woman** and sweep her away with the torrent. Then the **dragon** was enraged at the **woman** and went off to wage war against the rest of her offspring — those who keep God's commands and hold fast their testimony about Jesus.

The Beast from the Sea



“...like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.”

Revelation 13

The Beast from the Sea

The *dragon* stood on the shore of the *sea*. And I saw a *beast* coming out of the *sea*. It had *ten horns* and *seven heads*, with *ten crowns* on its horns, and on each head a *blasphemous name*. The *beast* I saw resembled a *leopard*, but had *feet like those of a bear* and a *mouth like that of a lion*. The *dragon* gave the *beast* his *power* and his *throne* and *great authority*.

The *beast* was given a mouth to utter proud words and blasphemies and to exercise its authority for forty-two months. It opened its mouth to blaspheme God, and to slander his name and his dwelling place and those who live in heaven. It was given power to wage war against God's holy people and to conquer them.

Daniel's vision of the Ancient of Days (Daniel 7) began with "four great beasts...coming up from the sea", symbolizing four successive Gentile kingdoms that would wield power over the people of God. The fourth beast, Rome, was not compared with any of the predatory animals in nature, for it was to be far worse than its predecessors in destructive power.

In one sense, the Beast in John's vision is Daniel's fourth beast from the fact that both speak arrogant boasts and blasphemies and wage war against the saints. Rome was the expression of the beast that would threaten the churches of Asia Minor and throughout the Mediterranean world in the decades and generations after John received his vision.

In another sense, the monster that John now sees is bigger than Rome, as the merging of imagery of all four of Daniel's beasts show.

The Beast is given authority to act for 42 months, (1260 days, 3 1/2 years) symbolizing the whole span of time from Christ's resurrection until and including the outbreak of intense evil just before His second coming.

During this period the church will be persecuted and protected, witnessing invincibly and yet trampled underfoot and conquered but not destroyed.

Therefore this beast and its persecuting power would outlast the fall of Rome in the fifth century. It continues to find various expressions, some more evert and potent than others, down to our day.

Dennis E. Johnson ~ The Triumph of the Lamb

The Beast from the Land



“...masquerades as an *Angel of Light*”

Revelation 13

The Beast from the Earth

Then I saw a second beast, coming out of the earth. It had two horns like a lamb, but it spoke like a dragon...and it deceived the inhabitants of the earth.

The False Prophet!

It also forced all people, great and small, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on their right hands or on their foreheads, so that they could not buy or sell unless they had the mark, which is the name of the beast or the number of its name...it is the number of a man.

That number is 666.

Later this beast will be called the False Prophet (16:13, 19:20). This is fitting, for the contradiction between appearance and reality, reflected in the contents of its speech, is its distinguishing characteristic. Whereas the power of the first beast in its boastful pride is overt (*apparent*) and coercive (*forceful*), the influence of the second is covert (*unsuspecting*) and deceiving.

It is a counterfeit John the Baptist, simulating but not sharing the spiritual power of Elijah; [using its influence] to promote worship of the Beast from the sea rather than calling the people to call the true God, as Elijah did.

[He] deludes the world's people into receiving the Beast's "Mark of Ownership" and to destroy those it cannot deceive.

Dennis Johnson ~ The Triumph of the Lamb

Mark

1) A **visible** impression or trace of something, as a line, cut, dent, stain, or bruise:

a small mark on his arm.

2) An affixed or impressed device*, symbol, inscription, etc., **serving to: give information, identify, indicate origin or ownership, attest to character.**

3) **A distinctive trait or characteristic:**

the usual marks of a gentleman.

Mark: A visible trait or characteristic that serves to give information, identify and indicate origin or ownership.

The Mark of the Beast



The Anti-Shema

Shema

- ❖ Hear
- ❖ Listen
- ❖ Pay Attention
- ❖ Respond
- ❖ Obey

The Shema

*Shema Israel, Adonai Elohenu
Adonai Echad*

*Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God,
the LORD is one.*

Deuteronomy 6:4-8

Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one.
Love the LORD your God with all your heart and
with all your soul and with all your strength.

These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.

Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads.

Phylacteries



Exodus 13:1–10, 11–16; Deuteronomy 6:4–9, 11:13–21

Ancient Israelites were to tie the Law of God on their foreheads and hands in order to signify* that their thoughts and actions were in submission to the Word of the LORD.

Dennis E. Johnson ~ Triumph of the Lamb

The Anti-Shema

DO NOT Hear, O Israel: The LORD **IS NOT** our God, the LORD **IS NOT** one.

DO NOT Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are **NOT** to be on your hearts. **DO NOT** Impress them on your children. **DO NOT** Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. **DO NOT** Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads.

Emperor Worship

The Cult of Roman Emperors, living and dead, became the State Religion (*Beast from the sea*) throughout the empire, though it originated as a simple act of thankfulness for the peace and stability brought by Rome. (*Pax Romana*)

Temples were erected in honour of Julius Caesar soon after his death (44 BCE) and to Augustus in his lifetime, e.g. at Pergamum. This explains the reference to 'Satan's throne' (Rev. 2: 13). In this city, as elsewhere, the cult developed because local people wanted it not in order to flatter the establishment but out of genuine gratitude for the benefits brought by Rome, and it was not felt to be a substitute for existing religions. Nevertheless, as the feelings of gratitude faded, the imperial cult became more and more a test of loyalty to the regime.

The consequence was that refusal to perform the outward rituals* was bound to incur penalties. Both Jews and Christians were conscientiously unable to burn incense to any human being: Jews, after some initial persecution, got exemption from Claudius; but Christians suffered when the Church's numbers expanded sufficiently to attract the State's hostile attention (1 Pet. 4: 16).

Failure to give divine honours to the emperor or 'to swear by the genius of Caesar' was not the only ground for persecution; but the anti-Christian writer Celsus (178CE) warned Christians of the perils of their lack of civic sense and of their disloyalty* to an empire from which they derived many material benefits. (*they could not buy or sell unless they had the mark**)

2 Peter 2:1-3, 12

The Beast from the Sea

But there were also false prophets among the people, just as there will be false teachers among you. They will secretly introduce destructive heresies, (*spoke like a dragon*) even denying the sovereign Lord (*Anti-Shema*) who bought them – bringing swift destruction on themselves. ² Many will follow their depraved conduct (*deceived many*) and will bring the way of truth into disrepute. ³ In their greed these teachers will exploit you with fabricated stories. Their condemnation has long been hanging over them, and their destruction has not been sleeping.

They are like unreasoning animals, (*beasts*) creatures of instinct, born only to be caught and destroyed, and like animals they too will perish.

Babylon the Great Harlot



The Mother of Prostitutes

Revelation 17

Come, I will show you the Great Prostitute, who sits by many waters. With her the kings of the earth *committed adultery* *(Israel/Hosea), and the inhabitants of the earth were intoxicated with the wine of her adulteries. *(John 3:19)

The woman was dressed in purple and scarlet, and was glittering with gold, precious stones and pearls. She held a golden cup in her hand, filled with abominable things and the filth of her adulteries.

The name written on her forehead was a mystery:

BABYLON THE GREAT

THE MOTHER OF PROSTITUTES

AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.

I saw that the woman was drunk with the blood of God's holy people, the blood of those who bore testimony to Jesus.

The waters you saw, where the prostitute sits, are peoples, multitudes, nations and languages.

The woman you saw is the great city that rules over the kings of the earth.

The Great Prostitute

This woman represents fallen human culture in all the apparent glory of its achievements and the true repugnance of its arrogance.* But the attractiveness of the harlot is both hollow and short-lived.

From the beginning of the vision Babylon's reign over earth's kings and residents is portrayed as seduction to sexual immorality, but this is a pervasive (widespread) prophetic metaphor for spiritual infidelity, that is idolatry.

We have seen that the Beast (from the sea) portrays Rome from the perspective of its physical threat to the church through violence; so also the harlot shows us Rome from the perspective of the spiritual threat of compromise through economic seduction.

The threat of force and the allure of affluence work perfectly together, so of course Babylon celebrates the slaughter of Jesus' people since they refuse to buy into her economic internet.

Christians will not submit their thoughts and actions to the Beast's sovereignty, symbolized in the mark on the forehead and hand, that is required by those who wish to profit in the world's system of financial exchange. Therefore the Harlot delights in their martyrdom. [As the Beast from the sea surpasses Rome in both power and size, so too the Harlot] also transcends Rome and encompasses every expression of idolatry that worships economic prosperity and cultural achievement in all entrepreneurial empires.

Dennis E. Johnson ~ Triumph of the Lamb

The Evil One: Conclusion

The Church's ultimate enemy, the dragon, "the serpent of old, who is the devil & Satan", manifests the *massive cunning** symbolized in his 7 heads **by attacking the church from without & within, through physical threat, spiritual deception, and material seduction.** The visions of Revelation 12-19 symbolize these various avenues of assault as the beast from the sea, the beast from the land, and the harlot.

Dennis E. Johnson ~ Triumph of the Lamb

Jesus' Prayer

- ❖ Holy Father, **protect them by the power of Your name**, the name You gave Me, so that they may be one as We are one.
- ❖ My prayer is not that You take them out of the world but that You **protect them from the evil one**.
- ❖ **Sanctify them by the truth;** Your word is truth.

...the church will be persecuted and protected, witnessing yet trampled conquered but not destroyed.

Luke 22:28-32

“You are those who have stood by Me in My trials. And confer on you a kingdom just as My Father conferred one on Me, so that you may eat and drink at My table in My kingdom and sit on thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

“Simon, Simon, Satan has asked to sift all of you as wheat. But I have prayed for you, Simon...
that your *faith** may not fail.

The Shema

Failed to Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one.

Failed to Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.

The Covenant

Failed to Obey* Me fully and keep My covenant, then out of all nations you will be My treasured possession. Although the whole earth is Mine, you will be for Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.'

The Temple

Therefore the glory of the LORD departed from over the threshold of the temple...

A New Shema

(hear) “I and the Father are one.”

John 10:30

“If God were your Father, *(response)*
you would love Me, for I have come here from God.
I have not come on my own; God sent Me.”

John 8:42

(obey) “If you love Me, *keep My commands*.”

John 14:15

(mark) My command is this: *Love each other as I
have loved you*. Greater love has no one than this:
to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.

John 15:12, 13

A New Covenant

“I will put My laws in their minds and write them on their hearts.

I will be their God, and they will be My people.

No longer will they teach their neighbor, or say to one another, ‘Know the Lord,’ because they will all know Me, from the least of them to the greatest.

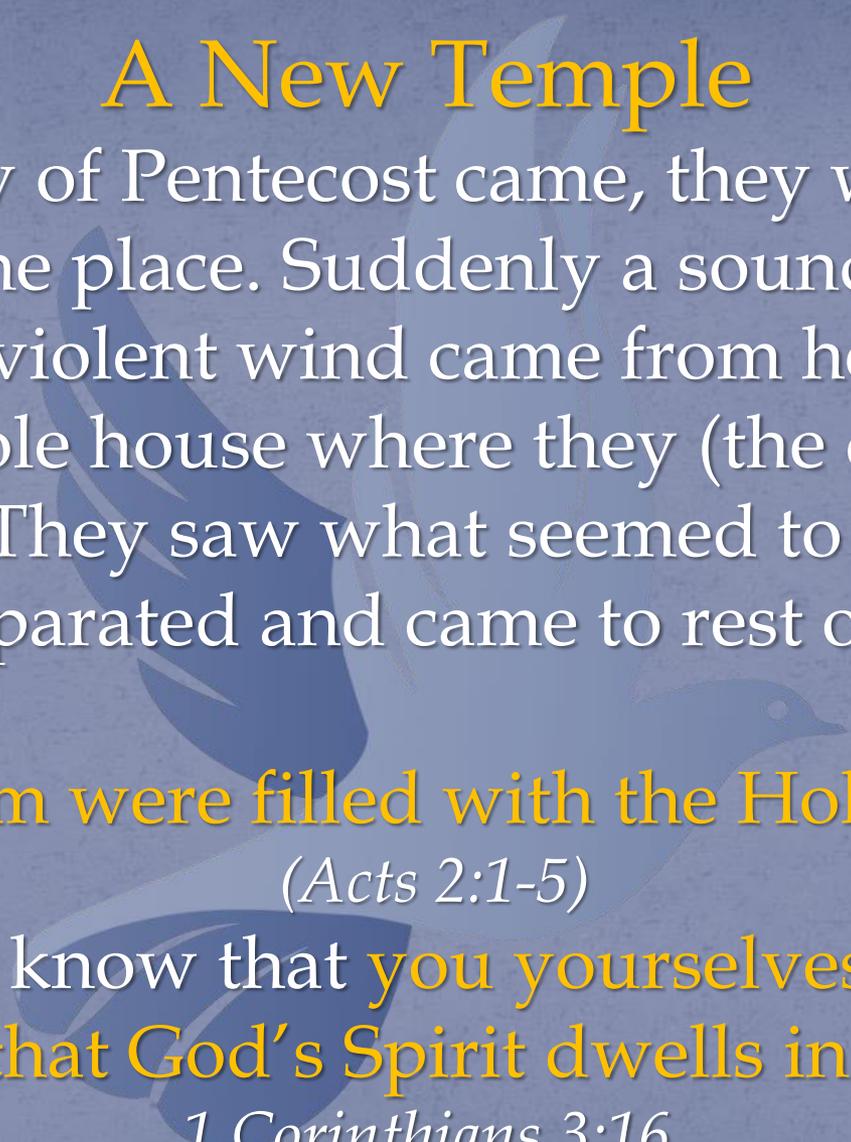
For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more.”

(Jeremiah 31:31,32)

This is My blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.”

(Matthew 26:28)

A New Temple



When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they (the disciples) were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them.

“All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit...”

(Acts 2:1-5)

Don't you know that *you yourselves are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in your midst?*

1 Corinthians 3:16

Revelation 12

The great dragon was hurled down – that ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, who leads the whole world astray. He was hurled to the earth, and his angels with him.

Then I heard a loud voice in heaven say:
“Now have come the salvation and the power
and the kingdom of our God,
and the authority of his Messiah.

For the accuser of our **brothers and sisters**,
who accuses them before our God day and night,
has been hurled down.

They triumphed over him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony; they did not love their lives so much as to shrink from death.

Zechariah 2:1-5, 4:6

Then I looked up, and there before me was a man with a measuring line in his hand. ²I asked, "Where are you going?"

He answered me, "To measure Jerusalem*, to find out how wide and how long it is."

³While the angel who was speaking to me was leaving, another angel came to meet him ⁴and said to him: "Run, tell that young man, 'Jerusalem will be a city without walls because of the great number of people*. (144000)

And I Myself will be a wall of fire around it,' declares the LORD, 'and I will be its glory within.'

'Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,' says the LORD Almighty.

Revelation 14

Then I looked, and there before me was the Lamb, standing on Mount Zion, and with him 144,000 who had His name and his Father's name written on their foreheads.* (*ownership*)

These are those who did not defile themselves with women, for they remained virgins.*

They follow the Lamb wherever He goes.

John 10:27-30

“My sheep listen (*Shema*) to My voice; I know them, and they follow Me. (*Obey*) I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; **no one will snatch them out of My hand. My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of My Father’s hand.**”

John 17:20-26

“My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in Me through their message, ²¹ that all of them may be one, Father, just as You are in Me and I am in You. May they also be in Us so that the world may believe that You have sent Me. ²² I have given them the glory that You gave Me, that they may be one as We are One — ²³ I in them and You in Me — so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that You sent Me and have loved them even as You have loved Me.

“Father, I want...

I want...those you have given Me to be with Me where I am, and to see My glory, the glory You have given Me because You loved Me before the creation of the world.

²⁵ “Righteous Father, though the world does not know You, I know You, and they know that You have sent Me. ²⁶ I have made You known to them, and will continue to make You known in order that the love You have for Me may be in them and that I myself may be in them.”



What do you want, Jesus...?



John 14:28-31

“You heard me say, ‘I am going away and I am coming back to you.’ If you loved Me, you would be glad that I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I. ²⁹ I have told you now before it happens, so that when it does happen you will believe. ³⁰ I will not say much more to you, for the prince of this world is coming. He has no hold over me, ³¹ but he comes so that the world may learn that I love the Father and do exactly what my Father has commanded me.

144000 /Revelation 7

Earthly Perspective

“Do not harm the land or the sea or the trees until we put a seal on the foreheads (*Protected*) 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.

The sealed and numbered army of Israel shows the faithful church on earth, shielded from apostasy and from God’s wrath by their union with the Lamb. (Dennis Johnson)

Heavenly Perspective

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.

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.

The innumerable assembly of nations shows the victorious church in heaven, emerging triumphant from tribulation, not through a painless rapture, but through a faithful death. (Dennis Johnson)

1Corinthians 3:16

Don't you know that you yourselves are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in your midst? ¹⁷ If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy that person; for God's temple is sacred, and you together are that temple.

Revelation 11:1, 2

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.

2Kings 6:15-17

When the servant of the man of God got up and went out early the next morning, an army with horses and chariots had surrounded the city. “Oh no, my lord! What shall we do?” the servant asked.

¹⁶ “Don’t be afraid,” the prophet answered. “Those who are with us are more than those who are with them.”

¹⁷ And Elisha prayed, “Open his eyes, LORD, so that he may see.” Then the LORD opened the servant’s eyes, and he looked and saw the hills full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha.

Hebrew 8:7-10/ Jerimiah 31:31, 32

For if there had been nothing wrong with that first covenant, no place would have been sought for another. But God found fault with the people and said:

“The days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will make a New Covenant with the people of Israel and with the people of Judah.

It will not be like the covenant I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to lead them out of Egypt, because they did not remain faithful to My covenant, and I turned away from them, declares the Lord.

This is the covenant I will establish with the people of Israel after that time, declares the Lord.

Revelation 5:9, 10

And they sang a new song singing:

“You are worthy to take the scroll and open its seal, because You were slain, and with Your blood You purchased for God persons from every tribe and nation.

You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to serve our God, and they will reign on the earth.”