

## **THE PAROUSIA (Coming, Arrival or Presence)<sup>1</sup>**

Matthew 24:3, 27, 37, 39

I Corinthians 15:23

I Thessalonians 2:19, 3:13, 4:15, 5:23

II Thessalonians 2:1, 8

James 5:7-8

II Peter 3:4, 12

I John 2:28

## **THE APPEARING (Epiphany)**

II Thessalonians 2:8

I Timothy 6:14

II Timothy 4:1, 8

Titus 2:13

## **THE REVELATION (Apocalypse)**

Luke 17:30

I Corinthians 1:7

II Thessalonians 1:7

I Peter 1:7, 13, 4:13

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<sup>1</sup> There are also non-technical uses of *parousia* referring to the coming of arrival of others than the Lord Jesus (I Cor. 16:17; II Cor. 7:6-7; 10:10; Phil 1:26, 2:12; II Thess. 2:9)

## AN OUTLINE OF REVELATION

- I. THE STRUGGLE ON EARTH (chapters 1-11)
  - A. Christ in the midst of the seven golden candlesticks (1-3)
    - 1. A glorious vision of Christ (chap. 1)
    - 2. The letters to the seven churches (chaps. 2-3)
  - B. The book with the seven seals (4-7)
    - 1. The vision of the heavenly throne (chap. 4)
    - 2. The Lamb takes the book (chap. 5)
    - 3. The first four seals (the four horsemen; the judgments affect one fourth<sup>2</sup>) and the fifth and sixth seals (chap. 6)<sup>3</sup>.
  - C. The first interlude
    - 1. Before the trumpets of judgment there is the sealing of the servants of God (chap. 7)
    - 2. Before the blowing of the trumpets: the vision of the prayers of the saints (8:1-6)
  - D. The seven trumpets (8-11)
    - 1. The judgments of the first four trumpets affect one third (chap. 8)
    - 2. The fifth and sixth trumpets (vision of locusts, etc) (chap. 9)
  - E. The second interlude
    - 1. The vision of the mighty angel with the little book (10)
    - 2. The measuring of the temple and the ministry of the two witnesses (11)
    - 3. The blowing of the seventh trumpet (11:15-19)<sup>4</sup>
- II. THE SPIRITUAL BACKGROUND AND SIGNIFICANCE (chapters 12-22)
  - A. The woman and the dragon and the dragon's servants (12-14)
    - 1. The woman (the church of the OT and NT) gives birth to the Christ (12:1-12)
    - 2. After Christ's ascension the dragon persecutes the woman (the church) (12:13-17)
    - 3. The two beasts (Antichrist) from the sea and the land (13)
  - B. The third interlude
    - 1. The 144,000 who were sealed in chapter 7 are still following the Lamb (14:1-5)
    - 2. The destruction ("harvest") of the wicked (14:6-20)<sup>5</sup>
    - 3. The triumph and celebration of the church (15)
  - C. The seven vials of God's wrath (16-19)
    - 1. The pouring out of the seven vials. Now the judgment is universal (16)
    - 2. The judgment of the Great Whore (Babylon) (17-18)
    - 3. The triumph and celebration of the church (19)<sup>6</sup>
    - 4. The destruction of the dragon (devil) and the final judgment (20)
  - D. The final consummation
    - 1. The new heavens and the new earth (21:1-8)
    - 2. The new Jerusalem (the glorified church) (21:9-22:5)
    - 3. The conclusion (22:6-21)

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<sup>2</sup> With the opening of the seals, one fourth is affected (6:8); the judgment of the trumpets affects one third (8:7); the judgment of the vials is universal (16:3). The sixth seal is followed, not by the seventh seal, but by the first trumpet; and the seventh trumpet is followed by the first vial. Thus the judgments are intensifying.

<sup>3</sup> With 6:12-17 (the sixth seal) history comes to a close, and the book reviews history from a different perspective.

<sup>4</sup> After the seventh trumpet (11:15-19) the book reviews history from a different perspective.

<sup>5</sup> In chapter 14, we come to the end of the world, and the book reviews the history from a different perspective.

<sup>6</sup> In chapter 19, we come to the end of the world, and the book reviews the history from a different perspective.