

**APOCALYPSE OF JOHN**

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**A POEM OF TERRIBLE BEAUTY**

**Translated and arranged by**

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# PART 1

## SPIRIT POSSESSION



*Unveiling what must soon take place  
 God entrusted Jesus Christ to show it  
 To those who belonged to him.  
 Then he through his angel gave signs  
 To his servant John who bore witness  
 To that word of God and to the witness  
 Of Jesus Christ*

*So much as he saw*

*Blessed is the one reading  
 And blessed are those listening  
 To the prophetic words and heeding  
 What is written for the fateful time*

*Is near*

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*John, to the seven churches in Asia:*

*Good will and peace from the one who is  
And was and is to come and from the seven  
Spirits before his throne and from Jesus Christ  
Faithful witness, firstborn of the dead,  
Ruler of the kings of the earth*

*To the one loving us and loosing us from our sins  
By his blood he made us royalty, priests  
To God his father, to him  
Be glory and dominion forever more*

*Amen*

*Lo, he rides the clouds and every eye  
Will see him even those who stabbed him  
And every tribe on earth will wail over him*

*I am Alpha and Omega, says the Lord God  
The one who is and was and is to come  
The Almighty*

**I John your brother and partner,  
Sharing with Jesus tribulation, royalty  
And perseverance, was on the isle called Patmos  
Because of the word of God and the witness  
Of Jesus. Becoming spirit possessed on the Lord's  
Day, I heard behind me a voice  
Loud like the blast of a trumpet,  
*What you see write in a scroll  
And send to the seven churches, Ephesus  
Smyrna Pergamum Thyatira  
Sardis Philadelphia Laodicea***

**Turning to see the voice speaking to me  
I see seven golden lampstands  
And in the midst one like a human  
Clothed in a robe to his feet,  
A golden band belted at his breasts  
His head and his hair white  
Like white wool like snow, his eyes  
Like a flame of fire, his feet  
Like burnished bronze fired  
In a furnace, his voice like the sound  
Of roaring waters. Holding  
In his right hand seven stars, coming out  
Of his mouth a sharp two-edged sword,  
His face like the sun shining in full force**

**I fall prostrate as dead at his feet  
But he places his right hand upon me  
Saying, *Fear not, I am the first  
And the last, I lived, I died  
And lo I live forever more  
And I hold the keys of Death  
And Hades***

## **PART 2 SEVEN SEALS**



*After this I look and lo a door  
Wide open in heaven, and the voice  
Like the blast of a trumpet says,  
Come up here and I will show you  
What must take place after this*

**At once I become spirit possessed  
And lo a throne in heaven,  
And seated upon it one who appears  
Like jasper and carnelian  
And round  
The throne a rainbow appears like an emerald  
And round the throne are twenty-four thrones  
And seated upon them are twenty-four elders  
Clothed in white garments with golden crowns**

**Upon their heads**

**From the throne come forth  
Flashes of lightning and rumblings and thunderings.  
Seven fiery torches, which are the seven spirits  
Of God, burn before the throne and before  
The throne seems like a sea of glass  
Clear as crystal**

**In the midst of the throne  
And round it are four living creatures  
Full of eyes front and back. The first  
is like a lion, the second, an ox, the third  
Has a face like that of a human, and the fourth  
like an eagle in flight**

**The four living creatures, each  
With six wings, filled with eyes inside  
And all around, sing day and night without rest,  
*Holy, Holy, holy, Lord God almighty,  
The one who was and is and is to come*  
And when they give glory and honor and thanks  
To the one seated on the throne, the one living  
Forever more, the twenty-four elders  
Fall prostrate before the one seated  
On the throne and worship the one living  
Forever more**

**They cast their crowns  
Before the throne saying, *Worthy are you  
Our Lord and God to receive glory  
And honor and power, for you created  
All things and willed them into being  
And they were created***

**T**hen I see that the one seated on the throne

**Holds in his right hand a rolled scroll  
With writing within and sealed without  
With seven seals. And I see a powerful angel  
Announcing in a loud voice, *Who is worthy  
To break the seals and open the scroll?*  
No one in heaven or on earth or under the earth  
Could open the scroll or see in it and I begin  
To weep much, for no one is found  
Worthy to open the scroll  
Or see in it**

**But one of the elders  
Commands me, *Stop weeping. Lo the lion  
From the tribe of Judah, the root of David,  
Is victorious so he can open the scroll  
And its seven seals***

**Then I see a lamb, like it was slain,  
Standing in the midst of the throne  
And the four living creatures and the elders  
With seven horns and seven eyes which are the seven  
Spirits of God sent out unto all the earth.  
He goes and takes the scroll  
From the right hand of the one seated  
On the throne. And as he takes the scroll  
The four living creatures and the twenty-four  
Elders fall prostrate before the lamb, each one  
Holding a harp and golden bowls full of incense  
Which are the prayers of the saints  
And they sing a new song saying, *Worthy  
Are you to take the scroll and to break  
Its seals for you were slaughtered  
And by your blood you bought for God  
Those from every tribe and tongue  
And people and nation and made them royalty  
And priests to our God. They will reign on earth***

**Then I look and hear the sound of many angels  
Surrounding the throne and the living creatures  
And the elders, and they number myriads  
Of thousands. They say in a loud voice,  
*Worthy is the slaughtered lamb to receive  
Power, wealth, wisdom, strength,  
Honor, glory, and praise***

**And I hear every creature in heaven,  
On earth, under the earth, on the sea  
And all therein say, *To the one seated  
On the throne and to the lamb, praise  
And honor and glory and power  
Forever and ever.* And the four  
Living creatures say, *Amen.* And the elders  
Fall prostrate and worship**

**Then I watch when the lamb breaks  
The first of the seven seals and I hear  
One of the four living creatures instructing  
In a voice like a clap of thunder, *Go!*  
I look and lo a white horse with its rider  
Holding a strung bow. A crown of victory  
Is given to him and victorious he goes  
Forth to victory**

**When the lamb breaks the second seal I hear  
The second living creature say, *Go!*  
And another horse fiery red goes forth  
And its rider is permitted to remove peace  
From the earth so they will slaughter  
One another. A large sword is given to him**

When the lamb breaks the third seal I hear  
The third living creature say, *Go!*  
I look and lo a black horse with its rider  
Holding a yoke in his hand. Then I hear  
The likeness of a voice in the midst of the four  
Living creatures saying, *A quart of wheat*  
*For a denarius, three quarts of barley*  
*For a denarius, but do not harm*  
*Olive oil or wine*

When the lamb breaks the fourth seal I hear  
The voice of the fourth living creature say,  
*Go!* And I look and lo a horse  
Verdure in color, its rider's name is Death  
And Hades follows him. They are given  
Authority to kill a quarter of the earth  
By sword, by famine, by pestilence  
And by wild beasts of the earth

When the lamb breaks the fifth seal I see  
Under the altar souls of those slaughtered  
Because of the word of God and the witness  
They upheld. They cry out in a loud voice,  
*How long O Sovereign Lord, holy and true,*  
*Until you adjudge and avenge our blood*  
*Upon those dwelling on earth?*

A white robe  
Is given to each of them and they are told  
To rest yet a little longer until their fellow  
Servants and comrades, about to be killed  
As they were, complete their course

Then I watch when the lamb breaks  
The sixth seal and a great earthquake occurs.  
The sun becomes black as sackcloth,  
The full moon appears as blood,

Stars in the sky fall to earth  
 As a fig tree shaken by a strong wind  
 Drops its figs, and the sky separates  
 And snaps shut like a scroll rolling up.  
 And every hill and every island is shaken  
 From its place

The kings of the earth, the nobles,  
 And the generals, the rich and the powerful,  
 Slave and free hide in caves or among the rocks  
 Of the hills and they cry to the hills and rocks,  
*Fall on us and hide us from the face  
 Of the one seated on the throne and from the wrath  
 Of the lamb, for the great day of their wrath  
 Has come and who can stand?*

**A**fter this I see four angels standing  
 At the four corners of the earth holding back  
 The four winds of the earth so that no wind  
 Blows on earth or sea or any tree

I see another angel ascending  
 From the rising of the sun holding  
 The seal of the living God. He shouts  
 In a loud voice to the four angels given authority  
 To harm the earth and sea, *Do not harm  
 The earth or sea or the trees till we have sealed  
 The servants of our God upon their foreheads*  
 And I hear the number of those sealed  
 One hundred forty-four thousand sealed  
 From every tribe of the sons of Israel:  
 From the tribe of Judah twelve thousand sealed  
 From the tribe of Reuben twelve thousand  
 From the tribe of Gad twelve thousand

**From the tribe of Asher twelve thousand  
From the tribe of Naphtali twelve thousand  
From the tribe of Manasseh twelve thousand  
From the tribe of Simeon twelve thousand  
From the tribe of Levi twelve thousand  
From the tribe of Issachar twelve thousand  
From the tribe of Zebulon twelve thousand  
From the tribe of Joseph twelve thousand  
From the tribe of Benjamin twelve thousand sealed**

**After this I look and lo a great crowd  
That no one can number, from every nation,  
Tribe, people and tongue, is standing  
Before the throne and the lamb. Clothed  
In white robes with palm branches in their hands  
They cry out in a loud voice, *Salvation to our God,  
The one seated on the throne, and to the lamb***

**Then all the angels standing round the throne  
And round the elders and the four living creatures  
Fall on their faces before the throne and worship  
God saying, *Amen. Praise, glory, wisdom,  
Thanksgiving, honor, power and strength  
To our God forever and ever, Amen***

**One of the elders then interrogates me, saying,  
*Those clothed in white robes, who are they  
And whence have they come?* I answer,  
*My Lord, you know. He says to me, They come  
From the great tribulation, having washed  
Their robes and made them white in the blood  
Of the lamb. Therefore they are before  
The throne of God and worship him  
Day and night in his temple***

***And the one seated  
On the throne will shelter them, they will neither***

*Hunger nor thirst, nor will the sun  
Or any scorching heat blaze down upon them  
For the lamb in the midst of the throne  
Will shepherd them and guide them  
To the fountains of the waters of life and God  
Will wipe away every tear from their eyes*

**W**hen the lamb breaks the seventh seal heaven  
Becomes silent for about half an hour

## **PART 3**

# **SEVEN TRUMPETS**



*Then I see seven angels standing  
Before God and they are given seven  
Trumpets. Then another angel holding  
A golden censer goes and stands  
At the altar; much incense is given  
To him for sacrifice, together with the prayers  
Of all the saints, on the golden altar before  
The throne. And smoke from the incense rises  
With the prayers of the saints from the hand  
Of the angel to God*

**And the angel takes the censer  
And fills it with fire from the altar  
And hurls it on the earth. There are thunderings  
And rumblings and flashes of lightning  
And an earthquake. Then the seven angels  
Holding the seven trumpets make ready  
To blow them**

**The first one blows his trumpet:  
Hail and fire mixed with blood**

**Appear and are hurled to the earth  
And a third of the earth burns  
And a third of the trees burn  
And all the green grass burns**

**The second angel blows his trumpet:  
Something like a great mountain  
Aflame with fire is cast  
Into the sea and a third of the sea  
Becomes blood and a third of the sea  
Creatures die and a third of the ships  
Are destroyed**

**The third angel blows his trumpet:  
A great star like a torch aflame falls  
From heaven and it falls on a third  
Of the rivers and upon the fountainheads  
Of water. The name of the star is  
Wormwood, so a third of the waters  
Are turned into bitter wormwood  
And many people die from the water,  
For it is bitter**

**The fourth angel blows his trumpet:  
A third of the sun is struck  
And a third of the moon and a third  
Of the stars, so a third of them  
Are darkened. A third of the day  
Does not appear and similarly a third  
Of the night**

**Then I look and hear an eagle  
Flying in midheaven crying  
In a loud voice, *Woe, woe,*  
*Woe to those dwelling on earth*  
*At the remaining blasts of the trumpets***

*Of the three angels who are about to trumpet*

**T**hen the fifth angel blows his trumpet:  
I see a star fallen from heaven  
To earth, and the star is given  
A key to the shaft of the Abyss,  
And he opens the shaft of the Abyss.  
Smoke rises from it like smoke  
From a great furnace, and sun and air  
Are darkened from the smoke of the shaft

Then out of the smoke locusts come  
Onto the earth. They are given power  
Like that of the scorpions of the earth,  
Only they are told not to harm the grass  
Of the earth nor any green field nor any tree,  
But only those who do not have the seal  
Of God upon their foreheads. For five months  
They are allowed to torment them, torment  
Like a scorpion biting, but they are not  
Allowed to kill them. In those days  
People will seek death but not find it  
And they will long to die but death flees  
From them

Now the locusts resemble horses prepared  
For battle. Upon their heads a likeness  
Of golden crowns, their faces like faces  
Of people. They have hair like the hair  
Of women, teeth like those of a lion,  
And they have chests like chests of iron  
Their wings sound like the sound  
Of many horse-drawn chariots rushing

**Into battle**

**They have tails like scorpions  
That sting and with their tails they have  
Power to harm people for five months  
Their king is the angel of the Abyss  
Whose name in Hebrew is Abaddon,  
And in Greek he has the name Apollyon**

*The first woe has passed lo  
Two woes are yet to come after this*

**Then the sixth angel blows his trumpet:  
I hear a voice from the corners  
Of the golden altar before God saying  
To the sixth angel, *Loose the four angels  
Bound at the great river Euphrates*  
And the four angels prepared for this very hour  
And day and month and year  
Are loosed to kill a third of the people**

**And the number of the cavalry was twice  
Ten thousand times ten thousand, I heard  
Their number. This is how I saw  
In my vision the horses and their riders:  
They have breastplates fiery red, sapphirine  
And sulfurous. The heads of the horses  
Are like the heads of lions, and from  
Their mouths come forth fire, smoke  
And sulfur**

**From these three plagues  
A third of all people are killed  
From the fire and the smoke and the sulfur.  
For the power of the horses is in their mouths  
And in their tails for their tails are like  
Snakes having heads and with them they do harm**

And the rest of the people not killed  
By those plagues do not turn from the works  
Of their hands, from worshipping demons  
And idols of gold, silver, bronze,  
Stone and wood that cannot see  
Or hear or walk,  
Nor do they turn  
From their killing or their witchcraft  
Or their fornication or their thievery

**T**hen I see another powerful angel  
Coming down from heaven clothed  
In a cloud with a rainbow round his head,  
His face like the sun, his legs like pillars  
Of fire and he holds in his hand  
A small scroll opened. He places  
His right foot on the sea and his left  
On the land and he cries out in a voice loud  
as a lion's roar. Seven thunders reply

When the seven thunders speak,  
I am about to write, but I hear a voice  
From heaven saying, *Seal up what the seven  
Thunders said and do not write.* And the angel  
That I saw standing on the sea and land  
Raises his right hand to heaven  
And he swears by the one living forever  
And ever, who created heaven and everything  
In it, earth and everything in it, and the sea  
And everything in it,

*Delay will be*

*No longer, for at the time when the seventh angel  
Begins to trumpet, the mystery of God will be*

*Complete, as he announced to his servants,  
The prophets*

Then the voice that I heard from heaven  
Says again to me, *Go*  
*Take the small open scroll that is in the hand*  
*Of the angel standing upon sea and land.*  
And I go to the angel and say to him,  
*Give me the small scroll.* And he says to me,  
*Take it and eat. It will be sour*  
*In your stomach but in your mouth it will be sweet*  
*As honey.* I take the small scroll from the hand  
Of the angel and eat it up. It is like sweet  
Honey in my mouth, but after I eat,  
My stomach turns sour. Then I was told,  
*Once again, You must prophesy to peoples,*  
*Nations, tongues and many kings*

**I** was given a measuring rod and told,  
*Come measure the temple of God*  
*And the altar and count those worshipping*  
*In it, but leave the courtyard outside*  
*The temple and do not measure it, for it is given*  
*Over to the nations and they will trample the holy*  
*City for forty-two months*

I will grant my two witnesses to prophesy  
For one thousand two hundred sixty days  
And to be clothed in sackcloth. They are  
The two olive branches and the two lampstands  
Standing before the Lord of the earth.  
So, if anyone intends to injure them,  
Fire comes out from their mouths and destroys

**Their enemies, and if anyone intends  
To injure them, that person must be killed  
They have authority to close the heavens,  
So that rain does not fall during the days  
Of their prophecy, and they have authority  
Over the waters to turn them into blood  
And authority to strike the earth  
With any plague as often as they wish**

**And when they finish their witness a beast  
Comes up from the Abyss and wars  
Against them. It will overcome them  
And kill them. Their remains lie  
On a street of the great city that the spirit  
Calls Sodom or Egypt, where also their Lord  
Was crucified. For three and a half days  
Peoples and tribes and tongues  
And nations look on the remains  
And do not allow them to be placed in a tomb.  
And those dwelling on earth rejoice over them  
And are glad and send gifts to one another,  
For those two prophets tormented those dwelling  
On earth**

**After three and a half days  
The breath of life from God  
Entered them and they rose to their feet,  
And great fear fell upon those  
Looking on. Then the two prophets heard  
A loud voice from heaven saying to them,  
Come up here. And they went up to heaven  
On a cloud as their enemies watched.  
And at that very moment there was a great  
Earthquake and a tenth of the city  
Fell and seven thousand were killed  
By the earthquake and the rest were awe-struck  
And gave glory to God of heaven**

*The second woe has passed lo  
The third woe is coming soon*

**The seventh angel blows his trumpet:  
And there are loud voices in heaven saying,  
*The kingdom of the world now belongs  
To our Lord and his Christ and he  
Will reign forever and ever***

**Then the twenty-four elders seated on  
Their thrones before God fall  
On their faces and worship God saying,  
*We give thanks to you Lord God  
Almighty, the one who is and was,  
For you took up your great power and reigned.  
The nations raged, your wrath came  
And the fateful time to judge the dead,  
To reward your servants the prophets  
And the saints and those fearing your name  
Small and great, and to destroy those destroying  
The earth***

**Then God's temple in heaven  
Opens and the ark of the covenant  
Is seen in the temple and there are flashes  
Of lightning and rumblings and thunderings,  
An earthquake, and large hail**

## PART 4

# MOTHER AND DRAGON



*Then a wondrous sign appears in heaven:  
A woman clothed in the sun with the moon  
Under her feet and upon her head a crown  
Of twelve stars, big with child, suffering birth  
Pangs in torment she screams to give birth.*

**And another sign appears in heaven:  
Lo a great fiery dragon with seven heads  
And ten horns and on each head a diadem,  
His tail tugs a third of the stars of heaven  
And he hurls them to earth**

**The dragon stands before the woman  
About to give birth, to devour her child  
When she gives birth. She delivers a son,**

**A male who will shepherd all the nations  
With a staff of iron**

**Then her child is snatched  
Up to God and to his throne, and the woman  
Flees into the desert, where she has a place  
Prepared by God to be nourished there  
For one thousand two hundred sixty days**

**Then there is war in heaven, Michael  
And his angels war against the dragon  
And the dragon and his angels wage war,  
But they do not prevail and no longer  
Is there place for them in heaven. The great  
Dragon, the ancient serpent, the one called  
Diabolos and Satan, deceiver of the whole world,  
Is hurled down to earth and his angels  
Are hurled down with him**

**Then I hear a loud voice in heaven  
Saying, *Now have come salvation  
And power, the kingdom of our God  
And the authority of his Christ, for the accuser  
Of our comrades is hurled down, the one accusing  
Them before our God day and night.  
They conquered him by the blood of the lamb  
And by the word of their witness. They did not  
Long for life even at death***

***So rejoice  
O heavens and you who dwell in them.  
Woe to earth and sea for the Diabolos  
Has come down to you and unrestrained rage  
Grips him, for he knows that he has little time***

**And when the dragon sees that he is flung to earth  
He pursues the woman who delivered  
The male child, but she is given two wings**

Of a great eagle to fly to the desert to her place  
Where she is nourished  
A time and times and half a time  
Away from the face of the serpent.  
Behind the woman, the serpent spews  
From his mouth a flood of water  
To sweep her away, but earth helps the woman  
By opening its mouth and swallowing the flood  
Which the dragon spews from his mouth

The dragon rages against the woman, and goes away  
To war against the rest of her offspring, those keeping  
The commandments of God and holding fast  
To the witness of Jesus

He stands on the sand by the sea

**T**hen I see a beast rising from the sea  
Having ten horns and seven heads with ten  
Diadems on his horns and on his heads  
Blasphemous names. The beast that I see  
Is like a leopard, its feet like a bear  
And its mouth like that of a lion

To it the dragon gives his power, his throne  
And far-reaching authority. One of its heads appears  
to have received a death-blow, but its deadly wound  
Was healed. The whole earth follows the beast  
In wonder and worships the dragon  
Because he gave his dominion to the beast.  
And they worship the beast chanting, *Who is like  
The beast and who is able to war against it?*

**And the beast is given a mouth to utter  
Monstrous blasphemies, and given power  
To act for forty-two months. And it begins  
To blaspheme against God, to blaspheme  
His name and those dwelling in heaven**

**It is allowed to make war against the saints  
And to conquer them and to have power  
Over every tribe, people, tongue and nation.  
And all the inhabitants of the earth worship  
It, every one whose name is not written  
In the scroll of life of the lamb slaughtered  
From the founding of the earth**

*If you have an ear listen, If anyone  
Is destined to be a captive, into captivity  
He goes. If anyone is to be killed  
By a sword, by a sword he is killed.  
Here is an opportunity for steadfast  
Endurance and faithfulness from the saints*

**Then I see another beast coming up  
Out of the earth. It has two horns like a lamb  
And it speaks like a dragon. It displays  
All the authority of the first beast before it  
And it causes the earth and all its inhabitants  
To worship the first beast whose deadly  
Wound was healed. It performs spectacular signs,  
Even to cause fire to flame down from heaven  
To earth in the presence of everyone  
And by the signs that it is allowed to display  
Before the first beast, it deceives the inhabitants  
Of the earth**

**It commands the inhabitants of earth  
To make an image of the beast who suffered**

The fatal wound of a sword and lives,  
And it is allowed to give breath to the image  
Of the beast, so it speaks and causes those  
Not worshipping it to be killed and causes  
Everyone, small and great, rich and poor,  
Free and slave to be stamped  
On the right hand or on the forehead,  
And no one can buy or sell without the stamp  
Of the name of the beast or the number of its name

*Here is wisdom. Let the one who has  
A mind calculate the number of the beast,  
For it is the number of a human  
And his number is six hundred sixty-six*

**T**hen I look and lo the lamb  
Is standing on Mount Zion and with him  
One hundred forty-four thousand having his name  
And the name of his father written on their foreheads.  
Then I hear resounding from heaven a sound  
Like that of many waters, like great thunders.  
The sound I hear is like harpers harping  
On their harps  
And they sing a new song  
Before the throne and before the four living creatures  
And the elders, and no one can learn the song  
Except the one hundred forty four thousand  
Purchased from the earth. They are men not defiled  
By women, for they are virgins who follow  
The lamb wherever he goes. They were purchased  
From mankind as firstfruits for God and the lamb.  
In their mouths no lie is found. They are unblemished

**Then I see another angel, flying in midheaven,  
Bearing everlasting good news to proclaim  
To those who dwell on earth--to every nation,  
Tribe, tongue and people. He announces  
In a loud voice, *Fear God and give him glory  
For the hour of his judgment has come.  
Worship the maker of heaven and earth,  
The sea and springs of water***

**Then a second angel follows and announces,  
*Babylon the great has fallen, has fallen,  
She who gave all the nations to drink from the wine  
Of the passion of her fornication*  
And a third angel follows them and cries out  
In a loud voice, *If anyone worships  
The beast and its image and receives a stamp  
Upon the forehead or arm, that one is drinking  
From the wine of the passion of God  
Poured full strength into the cup of his wrath.  
And the same one will be tormented by fire  
And sulfur before the holy angels and before  
The lamb. And the smoke of their torment rises  
Forever and ever. Those worshipping  
The beast and its image or receiving  
The stamp of its name have no rest day or night***

***Here is an opportunity for steadfast endurance  
Among the saints who keep the commandments  
Of God and the faith of Jesus***

**Then I hear a voice from heaven commanding me,  
*Write. From now on blessed are the dead,  
Those who die united with the Lord.  
Yes, says the spirit, they will rest  
From their toils for their works follow them***

Then I look and lo a white cloud  
And upon it is seated one like a human  
With a golden crown upon his head  
And in his hand a sharp sickle

Another angel

Comes out from the temple crying  
In a loud voice to the one seated on the cloud,  
*Swing your sickle and harvest,*  
*For the harvesting hour has come, the harvest*  
*Of the earth is fully ripe.* And the one seated  
On the cloud swings his sickle upon the earth  
And harvests the earth

Another angel

Comes out from the temple in heaven  
Also carrying a sharp sickle. And yet another  
Angel comes out from the altar who has authority  
Over the fire and he calls in a loud voice  
To the one carrying the sickle saying, *Swing*  
*Your sharp sickle and gather the clusters*  
*Of the vine of the earth, for its grapes are ripe.*  
And the angel swings his sickle upon the earth  
And gathers the vintage of the earth and heaves  
It into the great wine vat of the wrath of God,  
And outside the city the wine vat is trod  
And blood floods out of the wine vat up to the bridles  
Of horses for a thousand six hundred stadiums

**I** see another sign in heaven, wondrous  
And amazing, seven angels holding seven  
Final plagues, for in them the wrath of God  
Is complete. I see what seems like a sea  
Of glass mixed with fire and those victorious  
Over the beast and its image and the number  
Of its name stand on the sea of glass holding harps

**From God. They sing the song of Moses,  
God's servant, and the song of the lamb  
Saying, *Wondrous and amazing are your works,  
Lord God almighty, just and true are your ways,  
King of the nations. Who will not fear and glorify  
Your name, O Lord, for you alone are holy.  
All nations will come and worship  
Before you, for your righteous deeds  
Are visible to all***

**After that I look**

**And the temple of the heavenly tent  
Of witness opens, and out comes seven angels  
Holding seven plagues, clothed in clean bright  
Linen, belted with a golden band around their breasts**

**One of the four living creatures gives  
To the seven angels seven golden bowls  
Filled with the wrath of the God  
Who lives forever and ever. And the temple  
Fills with smoke from the glory  
Of God and from his power and no one  
Is able to enter the temple until  
The seven plagues of the seven angels  
Are complete**

## **PART 5 SEVEN BOWLS**



*Then I hear a loud voice from the temple  
Saying to the seven angels, Go pour out  
The seven bowls of God's wrath upon the earth*

**And so the first one goes  
And pours out his bowl upon the earth  
And foul and painful sores come  
Upon those who have the stamp  
Of the beast and worship its image**

**Then the second pours out his bowl  
Upon the sea and the sea becomes  
Blood like that of a corpse and every  
Living creature that is in the sea dies**

**Then the third pours out his bowl  
Upon the rivers and springs of waters  
And they become blood**

**And I hear the angel controlling the waters say,**

*You are just, you who is and was  
The holy one for you condemn  
Them. They poured out the blood  
Of saints and prophets and you give  
Them blood to drink. They are worthy*

**And I hear the altar saying,  
Yes Lord God almighty,  
True and just are your judgments**

**Then the fourth pours out his bowl  
Upon the sun and it is allowed  
To burn people with its fire  
And they are burned with great burning.  
They blaspheme the name of the God  
Who has authority over these plagues  
And they do not repent and give him glory**

**Then the fifth pours out his bowl  
Upon the throne of the beast and his kingdom  
Is darkened and people gnaw  
Their tongues because of their pain  
And they blaspheme the God of heaven  
Because of their pains and sores  
And they do not repent from their works**

**Then the sixth pours out his bowl  
Upon the great river Euphrates and its water  
Dries up to prepare the way of the kings  
From the rising of the sun**

**From the mouth  
Of the dragon and the mouth of the beast  
And the mouth of the false prophet I see  
Three unclean spirits like frogs  
They are the spirits of demons displaying**

**Signs that go out to the kings  
Of the whole inhabited world to gather  
Them for battle on the great day of God  
The Almighty**

*Lo I come like a thief,*

*Blessed is the one who stays  
Awake and keeps his clothing  
Ready so that he will not walk around  
Naked with everyone seeing his shame*

**And the spirits gather the kings  
To the place called in Hebrew Armageddon**

**Then the seventh pours out his bowl  
Upon the air and a loud voice comes  
Out of the temple from the throne  
Saying, *It is finished.* And there are flashes  
Of lightning and rumblings and thunderings  
And an earthquake greater than any  
From the time earth was inhabited,  
So great was the earthquake**

**The great city splits into three parts  
And the cities of the nations fall  
And Babylon is recalled before God  
To give to her the wine  
Of the passion of his wrath  
And every island flees  
And no mountains are to be found  
And great hailstones heavy as a hundred-weight  
Fall from heaven upon the people.  
And they blaspheme God because of the plague  
Of hail, for great is the plague**

**T**hen one of the seven angels holding  
The seven bowls comes and speaks  
To me saying,

*Come I will show you  
The judgment on the monstrous whore  
Seated upon many waters,  
With whom the kings of the earth  
Fornicated, and from the wine of her  
Fornication the inhabitants of the earth  
Became drunk. And he takes me  
Spirit possessed into the desert*

I see a woman  
Seated upon a scarlet beast full  
Of blasphemous names and it has seven  
Heads and ten horns. The woman  
Is clothed in purple and scarlet  
She is gilded with gold, precious stones  
And pearls, and in her hand she holds  
A golden cup full of loathsome uncleanness  
From her fornication

On her forehead  
A name, a mystery: Babylon the Great,  
Mother of whores and the loathsome  
Of the earth, and I see she is drunk from blood  
Of the saints and those witnessing to Jesus

Seeing her I am greatly amazed  
But the angel says to me,

*Why  
Are you amazed? I will tell you the mystery  
Of the woman and the beast that carries her  
The one having seven heads and ten horns*

*The beast that you saw was*

*And is not and is about to rise from the abyss  
And he goes to destruction and the inhabitants  
Of the earth will be amazed, whose names  
Have not been written in the scroll  
Of life from the foundation of the world,  
They will be amazed when they see  
That the beast was and is not and will be again*

*This calls for a mind with wisdom:  
The seven heads are seven hills, where the woman  
Sits, also seven kings, five have fallen,  
One is ruling and the remaining one has yet  
To appear. When he comes soon  
He must stand fast. The beast who was and is not  
Is also an eighth king, yet of the seven  
And he goes to destruction*

*The ten horns that you saw are ten  
Kings yet without a kingdom but they will  
Receive authority as kings with the beast  
For one hour. They are of one mind  
And they give their power and authority  
To the beast*

*They will make war against the lamb  
And the lamb will conquer them for he  
Is lord of lords and king  
Of kings and those with the lamb  
Are invited and chosen and faithful*

*Then the angel says to me, The waters  
That you saw where the whore is seated  
Are peoples and multitudes, nations  
And tongues*

*The ten horns and the beast  
That you saw will hate the whore*

*And will make her a wasteland naked  
 And they will eat her flesh  
 And they will burn her up  
 With fire, for God prompted their hearts  
 To perform his purpose, to give  
 Their royalty to the beast until the words  
 Of God will be fulfilled. And the woman  
 That you saw is the great city having royalty  
 Over the kings of the earth*

**A**fter this I see another angel  
 Coming down from heaven with great  
 Authority and the earth lights up  
 with his brightness. He cries out in a loud voice,  
*Babylon the great has fallen, has fallen,  
 She has become the dwelling of demons  
 And the ward of every unclean spirit  
 And of every unclean bird and of every unclean  
 And hateful beast*

*For from the wine  
 Of the passion of her fornication all the nations  
 Are drunk and the kings of the earth fornicated  
 With her and the merchants of the earth grew  
 Rich from her licentious luxury*

I hear another voice from heaven saying,  
*My people, come out from her so that you  
 Do not take part in her sins and do not receive  
 Her plagues, for her sins pile up  
 As high as heaven and God remembers  
 The harm she did*

*Give back to her  
 As she gave. Yes, even double her deeds!*

*In the cup that she mixed, mix double  
For her. As much as she glorified  
Herself and waxed wanton so give  
Torment and grief to her  
For in her heart she says,*

**I sit**

*As a queen, I am not a widow,  
And grief I shall never see.  
Therefore in one day plagues  
Will come upon her, death and grief  
And famine, and she will be burned up  
With fire, for powerful is the Lord  
God, the one who judges her*

*Then the kings of the earth will weep  
And wail over her, those fornicating  
With her and living licentiously,  
When they watch the smoke of her burning  
Standing from afar for fear  
Of her torment saying,*

**Woe**

**Woe great Babylon, powerful city  
For in one hour your judgment came**

*Then the merchants of the earth will weep  
And grieve over her for no one  
Buys their cargo any longer,  
Cargo of gold and silver,  
Precious stone and pearls; fine linen,  
Purple, silk, and scarlet;  
Every scented wood and every article  
Of ivory, and every article of precious wood,  
Bronze, iron and marble;  
Cinnamon, spice, incense,  
Myrrh and frankincense; wine,  
Oil, fine flour and grain;*

*Cattle, sheep, horses,  
Carriages, slaves and human lives*

*The fruit of your soul's passion has gone  
From you and all your glamour and glitter  
Are lost to you. These things  
Will never again be found in you*

*Those merchants moneyed from her  
Will stand afar fearing her torment  
As they weep and grieve saying  
Woe, woe, the great city,  
The one clothed in linen, purple  
And scarlet, gilded in gold  
And precious stone and pearl, for in one hour  
This wealth became a wasteland*

*And every ship's captain, seafarer and sailor  
And all who work the sea stood afar  
And were crying out as they watched the smoke  
Of her burning, saying*

Who was like

*This great city? And they threw dust  
On their heads and kept crying out, weeping  
And grieving, saying*

Woe,

*Woe, the great city from whom  
All those sailing the sea became rich  
From her wealth, for in one hour she  
Became a wasteland*

*Rejoice*

*Over her O heaven and saints  
And apostles and prophets, for God  
Condemned her as she condemned you*

Then a powerful angel lifts a stone  
 As large as a millstone and casts  
 It into the sea saying,

*So Babylon*

*The great city will be hurled down  
 And never again be found*

*And the sound of harpers and musicians  
 And flautists and trumpeters will never again  
 Be heard in you and craftsmen  
 Of any craft will never again be found  
 In you and the sound of the millstone  
 Will never again be heard in you  
 And the light of a lamp will never again  
 Shine in you and the voice of a bridegroom  
 And a bride will never again be heard  
 In you, for your merchants were the nobles  
 Of the earth and by your witchcraft all the nations  
 Were deceived*

And in her was found  
 The blood of prophets and saints  
 And all those slaughtered on the earth

**A**fter this I hear in heaven a sound  
 Like that of a large crowd saying,  
*Allelujah, salvation, glory and power  
 Belong to our God, for true and just  
 Are his judgments. For he judged the monstrous  
 Whore who corrupted the earth  
 By her fornication and he exacted the blood  
 Of his servants from her hand*

They say a second time,

***Allelujah******Smoke from her goes up forever and ever***

**The twenty-four elders and the four living  
Creatures fall prostrate and worship  
God seated on the throne saying,  
*Amen, Allelujah***

**Then a voice from the throne says,*****Praise***

***Our God all you his servants,  
Who fear him, both small and great***

**And I hear a sound of a large crowd  
Like the sound of many waters, like great  
Thunderings, saying,**

***Allelujah***

***For the Lord our God the Almighty  
Reigns, let us rejoice and be glad  
And give him glory, for the marriage  
Of the lamb has come and his bride  
Has prepared herself and she is permitted  
To be clothed in bright clean linen,  
For the linen is the righteous deeds of the saints***

**An angel says to me,*****Write,***

***Blessed are those called to the marriage feast  
Of the lamb and he says to me, These are  
True words from God***

**I fall prostrate at his feet to worship  
Him but he says to me, *Watch*  
*What you are doing I am a fellow servant*  
*With you and those who hold*  
*To the witness of Jesus. Worship God***



**And the kings of the earth and their armies  
Gathering to make war with the one seated  
On the horse and his army, but the beast  
Is seized along with the false prophet  
Who displayed signs before him and by them  
He deceived those who received the stamp  
Of the beast and worshipped its image  
The two are cast alive into the lake  
Of fire burning with sulfur,  
And the rest are killed by the sword  
Coming out of the mouth of the one  
Seated on the horse and all the birds  
Gorge on their flesh**

## **PART 6**

### **NEW JERUSALEM**



*Then I see an angel coming down  
From heaven, holding in his hand the key  
To the abyss and a heavy chain. He seizes  
The dragon, the ancient serpent who is Diabolos  
And Satan and binds him for a thousand years*

**He casts him into the abyss and closes  
And seals it over him so that he  
Does not deceive the nations until  
The thousand years are complete,  
Then he has to be loosed for a short time**

**I see thrones and seated upon them  
Those giving judgment. They are the souls  
Of those beheaded on account of the witness  
Of Jesus and the word of God, they did not worship**

**The beast or its image and they did not accept  
Its stamp on their foreheads or hands.  
They live and reign with Christ  
For a thousand years. The rest  
Of the dead do not live again  
Until the thousand years are complete**

**Theirs is the first resurrection,  
Blessed and holy are those who share  
In this first resurrection, over them  
The second death has no authority  
But they will be priests of God  
And of Christ and they will reign  
With him for a thousand years**

**When the thousand years are over Satan  
Will be loosed from his prison and he  
Will come out to deceive the nations  
At the four corners of the earth, Gog  
And Magog, to gather them for battle.  
Their number is as the sand of the sea.  
They march over the expanse of the earth  
And circle the camp of the saints  
And the beloved city. But fire comes down  
From heaven and devours them, and the Diabolos  
Deceiving them is cast into the lake  
Of fire and sulfur with the beast  
And the false prophet and they will be tormented  
Day and night forever and ever**

**I see a great white throne  
And one seated upon it from whose face  
Earth and heaven flee so that no place  
Is found for them. I see the dead  
Great and small standing before the throne  
And scrolls are opened and another**

**Scroll is opened, the scroll of life**

**And the dead are judged according  
To their deeds written in the scrolls.  
The sea gives up the dead in it,  
Death and Hades give up the dead  
In them and the dead are judged  
According to their deeds. Death  
And Hades are cast into the lake  
Of fire, the second death, anyone not found  
Written in the scroll of life  
Is cast into the lake of fire**

**T**hen I see a new heaven and a new earth  
For the first heaven and the first earth has passed  
Away and the sea is no longer and I see  
The holy city the new Jerusalem coming  
Down out of heaven from God, prepared  
As a bride adorned for her husband

**I hear a loud voice from the throne saying,  
*Lo the dwelling of God is with mortals  
And he will dwell with them and they  
Will be his people and God himself  
Will be with them and he will wipe away  
Every tear from their eyes, death will be  
No more, nor grief nor wailing  
Nor pain, for those former things have gone  
Away***

**And the one seated on the throne says,  
*Lo, I am making everything new*  
And he says, *Write,***



Measuring rod to measure the city  
And its gates and its wall. The city  
Is shaped like a cube, its length  
As much as its width. He measures  
The city with his rod, its length  
And breadth and height are equal,  
Twelve thousand stades, and he measures  
Each wall, one hundred forty-four cubits  
By the human measure he is using

The wall is made of jasper and the city  
Is pure gold like clear crystal, the foundations  
Of the wall of the city are adorned  
With every precious stone, the first is jasper,  
The second sapphire, the third agate,  
The fourth emerald, the fifth  
Onyx, the sixth carnelian, the seventh  
Peridot, the eighth beryl, the ninth  
Topaz, the tenth chalcedony, the eleventh  
Jacinth, the twelfth amethyst

The twelve gates

Are twelve pearls, each gate from a single  
Pearl, and the broad street of the city  
Is pure gold, like clear glass

I do not see a temple in the city  
For the Lord God almighty  
Together with the lamb is its temple,  
And the city has no need of sun or moon  
To light it, for the glory of God shines  
On it and its lamp is the Lamb

Nations will walk by its light  
And kings of the earth will bring their glory  
To it. Its gates will not be closed  
In the day and there will be no night

**There. They will bring the glory  
 And honor of the nations into it,  
 But the profane shall not enter it, nor those  
 Committing abominations nor liars, only those  
 Who are written in the lamb's scroll of life**

**T**hen the angel shows me a river  
 Of life-giving water bright  
 As crystal flowing out from the throne  
 Of God and the lamb through the middle  
 Of the street of the city. On each side  
 Of the river is a tree of life, bearing  
 Twelve fruits, one each month

**The leaves**

**Of the tree are for the healing of the nations.  
 Any accursed thing will no longer exist,  
 But the throne of God and the lamb will be  
 In it and his servants will worship him  
 And will see his face, and his name  
 Will be on their foreheads. Night no more  
 Will exist, and they have no need  
 Of lamp light or sun light, for the Lord God  
 Will shine on them and they will reign  
 Forever and ever**

**Then the angel says to me, *These words  
 Are trustworthy and true, the Lord  
 The God of the spirits of the prophets  
 Sent his angel to show to his servants  
 What must soon take place. Lo, I am  
 Coming soon, blessed is the one keeping  
 The words of the prophecy of this scroll***

**I John am the one who hears  
And sees these things, and when I heard  
And saw, I fell prostrate to worship  
At the feet of the angel showing them  
To me, but he said, *Watch*  
*What you are doing. I am a fellow servant*  
*With you and your brothers the prophets and those*  
*Keeping the words of this scroll. Worship God***

**Then he says to me, *Do not seal up the words*  
*Of the prophecy of this scroll, for the time*  
*Is near. Let the wicked continue to be*  
*Wicked and the unclean to be unclean,*  
*And let the righteous continue to do*  
*Righteousness and the holy to be holy***

***Lo, I am coming soon and with me*  
*My reward, to give to each of you*  
*According to your works. I am*  
*The Alpha and Omega, the first and last,*  
*The beginning and the end. Blessed*  
*Are those who wash their robes*  
*That they may have title to the tree*  
*Of life and that they may enter*  
*The city through its gates. Outside*  
*Are the dogs and witches and fornicators*  
*And murderers and idolators and everyone*  
*Loving and committing lies***

***I Jesus sent my angel to you*  
*To bear witness to these things in the churches*  
*I am the root and offspring of David*  
*The bright morning star***

**The spirit and the bride say, *Come*  
And you who hear say, *Come***

**And come you who thirst, you who wish  
To drink freely the water of life**

**I bear witness to everyone hearing  
The words of the prophecy of this scroll,  
If anyone adds to these words  
God will add to that person  
The plagues written in this scroll  
And if anyone removes words from the scroll  
Of this prophecy, God will remove  
That person's share in the tree  
Of life and the holy city, recorded  
In this scroll**

**The one bearing witness  
To these words says, *Yes I am coming  
Quickly. Amen. Come Lord Jesus***

**May the grace of the Lord Jesus be with you all**

## PART VII

### SEVEN MESSAGES

[After p. 3 in the Greek text]

*Now write down what you see*

*And what you are about to see*

*The mystery of the seven stars which you saw*

*In my right hand and the seven golden*

*Lampstands: The seven stars are the angels*

*Of the seven churches, the seven lampstands*

*Are the seven churches*

***T****o the angel of the church in Ephesus write,  
Thus says the one holding the seven stars  
In his right hand, the one walking among the seven  
Golden lampstands:*

*I know your works,*

*Your toil and perseverance, that you cannot bear*

*Evildoers, that you tested those calling themselves*

*Apostles and are not, you found them out*

*To be liars, that you have perseverance,*

*That you bear up because of my name*

*And that you do not tire of toiling*

*But I have this against you, you have forsaken*

*Your previous love, think about whence*

*You have fallen, repent, do the works*

*You did previously. If not, I am*

*Coming to you and will remove*

*Your lampstand, if you do not repent*

*But you have this in your favor that you hate  
The works of the Nicolaitans which I also hate.  
Let the one who has an ear hear what the spirit  
Says to the churches: To those who are victorious,  
I will grant to eat of the tree of life  
In the paradise of God*

*To the angel of the church in Smyrna, thus says  
The first and the last, who died and lived:*

*I know your affliction and poverty,  
But you are rich, and I know the blasphemy  
Of those calling themselves Jews and are nothing  
But a synagogue of Satan. Do not fear  
What you are about to undergo, lo the devil  
Is about to cast some of you into prison  
To test you and you will have tribulation ten days.  
Be faithful til death and I will give you  
The crown of life. Let the one who has an ear  
Hear what the spirit says to the churches:  
Those who are victorious will not be  
Harmed by the second death*

*To the angel of the church at Pergamum,  
Thus says the one holding the sharp, two-edged  
Sword:*

*I know that you dwell where  
Satan's throne is, that you hold fast my name  
And that you did not deny my faith  
Even in the days of Antipas my faithful witness  
Who was killed in your midst where Satan dwells*

*But I have a few things against you,  
That you have there some holding fast  
To the teaching of Balaam who taught Balak  
To cast a stumbling block before the children  
Of Israel, to eat food offered to idols and to fornicate,  
That you also have some holding fast  
To the teaching of the Nicolaitans. Repent!  
If not, I am coming to you quickly  
And will wage war against them with the sword  
Of my mouth. Let the one who has an ear  
Hear what the spirit says to the churches:  
To those who are victorious I will give  
Some of the hidden manna and a white  
Pebble and on the pebble a new name  
Which no one but the one receiving it knows*

*To the angel of the church at Thyatira,  
Thus says the son of God, the one having eyes  
Like a flame of fire and feet like burnished bronze:*

*I know your works, your love and faith  
And service and perseverance. Your last works  
Are greater than the previous ones. But I have  
Against you that you tolerate the woman  
Jezebel, the one who calls herself a prophetess  
She teaches and deceives my servants to fornicate  
And to eat food offered to idols. I gave her time  
To repent but she did not wish to repent  
Of her fornication, Lo I am casting her  
Onto her deathbed, and those committing adultery  
With her unto great tribulation, if she does not  
Repent from her works. And her children  
I will kill with death. Then all the churches  
Will know that I am the one who searches out*

*Feelings and desires and that I will give  
To each of you according to your works*

*To the rest of you in Thyatira who do not hold  
This teaching, who do not know the deep things  
Of Satan as they say, I place upon you  
No other burden except what you have  
Hold fast until I come. To the one victorious,  
Keeping my works until the end I will give  
Authority over the nations, and that one  
Will shepherd with a staff of iron like clay  
Dishes shattering. As I received from my father  
So I will give to that one the morning star.  
Let the one who has an ear hear what the spirit  
Says to the churches*

**T***o the angel of the church at Sardis,  
Thus says the one holding the seven spirits  
Of God and the seven stars:*

*I know*

*Your works that you have a name for being alive  
But are dead. Wake up and shore up  
What is left, what is about to perish  
For in the eyes of my God you have not  
Completed your works. Recall how you  
Listened and came to believe, obey  
And repent. If you do not wake up  
I shall come like a thief and you do not know  
At what hour I shall come upon you*

*But you have a few in Sardis who have not defiled  
Their garments, they shall walk with me  
In white for they are worthy. Those victorious*

*Will be clothed in white garments and I will not  
Blot out their names from the scroll of life,  
And I shall confess their names before my father  
And his angels.*

*Let the one who has an ear hear  
What the spirit says to the churches*

*To the angel of the church in Philadelphia,  
Thus says the holy one the true one,  
The one having the key of David, the one  
Who opens and no one will shut  
And who shuts and no one will open:*

*I know your works, lo I have given  
You an open door which no one can shut,  
I know that you have little power,  
That you have kept my word and that you  
Have not denied my name, lo I will cause  
Those from the synagogue of Satan who call  
themselves Jews and are not, they lie,  
Lo I will cause them to come and worship  
At your feet and they will learn that I loved you.  
Because you have kept my word to persevere,  
I will keep you from the hour of testing  
About to come upon the whole world to test  
The inhabitants of the earth. I am coming soon.  
Hold fast to what you have so that  
No one may take away your crown.  
Those victorious I shall make a pillar in the temple  
Of my God and they shall never go out from it,  
And I shall write upon them the name  
Of my God and the name of the city of my God,  
The new Jerusalem coming down out of heaven  
From my God, and my new name. Let the one*

***Who has an ear hear what the spirit says  
to the churches***

***To the angel of the church at Laodicea,  
Thus says Amen, the faithful and true  
Witness, first in God's creation:***

***I know***

***Your works that you are neither cold nor hot,  
Would that you were cold or hot,  
Because you are lukewarm and neither hot  
Nor cold, I am about to spew you from my mouth***

***Because you say I am rich and I have prospered  
And I have need of nothing, you do not know  
That you are wretched and pitiable and poor  
And blind and naked. Purchase from me  
Gold refined by fire that you may be rich  
And white garments for clothing so the shame  
Of your nakedness will not be revealed and salve  
To anoint your eyes that you may see.  
Those whom I love, I chastise and chasten,  
So be earnest to repent***

***Lo I stand***

***At the door and knock, if anyone hears  
My voice and opens the door I will come in  
To him and sup with him and he with me***

***Those victorious I will grant to sit with me  
On my throne, as also I was victorious  
And sat with my father on his throne.  
Let the one who has an ear hear  
What the spirit says to the churches***