

# Seven Churches of Revelation

## *Remaining Timeline*

Pastor Craig Sweeney | August 28, 2022

**Series Thread:** “The revelation of Jesus” unravels the knots in my mind and heart.

**Message Thread:** Revelation prepares your mind to be ready.

**Text:** Revelation 21:1 – 4 ESV

### **Why The Revelation to the Church?**

- Explains “WHY” things are the way they are.
- Explains “WHY” things will come to their destructive ends. Luke 19:41-44 ESV
- Explains “WHY” we want to stay close to the ONE who is the OWNER, ARCHITECT and BUILDER of the house.
- Faith Challenge: The Revelation is the story of mankind choosing the way of evil over the way of love and sonship; friendship with God.

### **Visions of the beast:**

- The beast is the Antichrist.
- Satan is working through a person, who is leading a nation, and is influencing other nations. Revelation Chapters 13 and 17 (Daniel’s visions also give us insight.)
- The beast is symbolic for the work and influence that Satan has in our world: to steal, kill and destroy at the nation state level.
- Revelation 17:11 – 14 ESV
  - 7 heads
  - 10 horns
- II Thessalonians 2:3 – 4 NLT
  - The beast is also the false prophet.
    - A person embodied by Satan to prop up the Antichrist.
  - The harlot
    - A city, most likely the capital city of the Antichrist.
  - Babylon
    - Named after a city but has in mind its influence that goes way beyond its city streets.

### **The Battle of Armageddon:**

- The last Great World War that isn’t fought.

### **Insights:**

- Those who follow Jesus are to be comforted by this knowledge.
- God’s justice and judgement are coming. We are simply awaiting the trial.
- God offers His grace even in the time of judgement.
- What are we, the Church, to do with this knowledge?
  - “...love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.’ <sup>38</sup> This is the first and greatest commandment. <sup>39</sup> A second is equally important: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’” Matthew 22:37-40 NLT
  - “Follow me...” Matthew 4:19 ESV
    - Into every room and bring the kingdom with you.
  - Choose to be bright - “This will be your opportunity to bear witness. <sup>14</sup> Settle it therefore in your minds not to meditate beforehand how to answer...” Luke 21:13 – 14 ESV
  - A people who walk with God in their generation.



**DEVOTIONALS  
& MESSAGE  
RESOURCES**