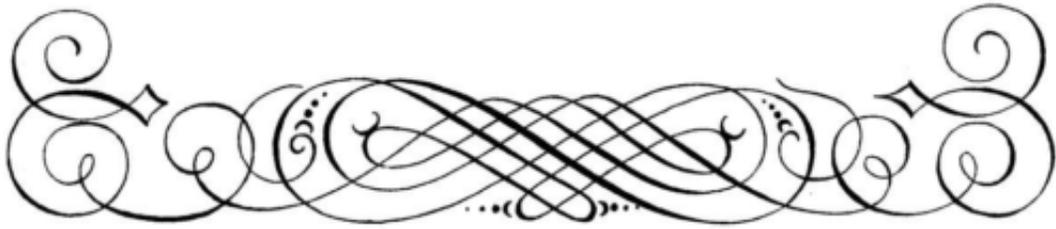


Newly
Updated

SYMBOLS



The



to

THE REVELATION

Symbols — The Key to the Revelation

This publication was originally produced in the 1960s. The original contributors to this work have gone on to their eternal reward. As light has progressed since that time, it was felt that the contents should be reviewed and updated to reflect current light and understanding.

**Reviewed and updated by
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A

ALTAR: A sacred place, referring to where Christ performed the role of the high priest (Revelation 8:3-5) or a reference to Christ (Revelation 6:9; 11:1; Hebrews 13:8-10).

ANGEL: When used as a symbol, it means a messenger that God employs to carry out His will (the ministry; Revelation 1:20). The same is true of the devil's agents (2 Corinthians 11:13-15). Messengers of God and of Satan; as opposing forces, Michael versus the dragon and his angels—ministry (Revelation 12:7).

ANTI-CHRISTS: Spirits against Christ (1 John 4:1-3) and people who have left truth that possess these spirits (1 John 2:18-19; 2 John 7).

ARK: The chest that contained the law of God (Revelation 11:19; Hebrews 9:4). The law of God is now written in the heart (2 Corinthians 3:3). Also, it represents where God's presence met with man in the Old Testament; a picture of the presence of God (Exodus 25:21-22).

ARMAGEDDON: In the Old Testament a place where decisive battles occurred (2 Kings 23:29); a picture of the spiritual conflict of ecclesiastical powers; the Kingdom of God versus false religion. The final conflict between wickedness and righteousness in the seventh trumpet age (Revelation 16:14-16).

ARMIES: Forces resolved on subduing; a picture of the militancy of the church in the evening time (Revelation 19:14). In the Revelation it is spiritual warfare. "The weapons of our warfare are not carnal" (2 Corinthians 10:4). In symbols we see an example in Michael (Christ) and His people against the dragon (paganism) and his people (Revelation 12:7-8), as well as in Revelation 19:13-16.

ATE: To take in, make a part of you; symbolizes receiving the contents of the Book in the mind and heart (Revelation 10:10).

B

BABYLON: This word means confusion and has its origin in Genesis 11:9. In Revelation it symbolizes false religion. The papal church is symbolized as the mother and Protestantism as her daughters (Revelation 17:5, 18). It is a symbol of the false churches on earth and also paganism (Revelation 16:13). It is called a "great city," consisting of "three parts": papal Rome, Protestantism, and paganism (Revelation 16:19).

BALANCE SCALES: A symbol of measurement; in Revelation particularly, of truth or the Word of God. The rider of the black horse (Revelation 6:5-6) is pictured meting out truth at a starvation rate. "They shall eat bread by weight" (Ezekiel 4:16). Notice Amos 8:11. True and false measure (Proverbs 11:1). A "false balance" symbolizes false doctrine (Proverbs 20:23; Revelation 6:5).

BARLEY: The opinions of men set forth as doctrine (Revelation 6:6). Barley was used as provender for horses, also bread for the poor; a symbol of the doctrines of men during the apostasy.

BEAST: A religious system established by men. Wild beasts denote the nature of these false religions and systems (Revelation 13:1, 11; 17:3). In Revelation 4:6-7 the word *beast* should be translated as "living crea-

ture." It is not the same Greek word as in Revelation, Chapter 13. (See also Ezekiel, Chapter 1.) In Revelation 5:8-10, the four beasts are a symbol of the redeemed of all ages.

BINDING AND LOOSING: Prohibiting and permitting (Matthew 16:18-19; Revelation 20:1-7).

BLACK: Represents darkness and apostasy (Revelation 8:12; 6:5-12).

BLACK (AS SACKCLOTH): Darkness produced by disobedience to truth that resulted in death (Revelation 6:12).

BLOOD: There are several applications: (1) the blood of Christ (Revelation 1:5; 5:9; 7:14; 12:11); (2) a symbolic picture of the work done by the blood in the morning-time message (Revelation 8:7); (3) those guilty of the blood (Revelation 8:8); (4) guiltiness of harming the saints (Revelation 17:6).

BORNE ON EAGLES' WINGS: God's protection and deliverance of His people from Egyptian bondage (Exodus 19:4; Deuteronomy 32:11). Also, a symbol of God's protection for His people to enable them to be hid away in seclusion during the Dark Ages (Revelation 12:14).

BOTTOMLESS PIT: Earthly, man-made, religious positions without a Bible foundation produced by a fallen ministry (1 Corinthians 3:11; Revelation 9:1-3; 11:7). The position the dragon was placed in by truth and a true ministry (Revelation 20:1-3).

BOW: The new covenant; also, an article of warfare (Genesis 9:13; Revelation 6:2; Zechariah 10:4).

BRASS: A strong kingdom (Daniel 2:32); the Grecian kingdom. Represents great strength and hardness (Daniel 10:6; Revelation 1:12-15; Daniel 7:9). Also, the authority of Christ to put His foot down on wrong (Revelation 2:18).

BREAD: The Word of God (true doctrine; Matthew 4:4) or false doctrine (Isaiah 4:1).

BRIDE: The true Church of the Living God on earth (Revelation 19:6-7; 21:9; John 3:27-29).

BRIMSTONE: Perpetual torment of the enemy (Revelation 20:10); denotes punishment (Deuteronomy 29:23); judgments of God (Revelation 9:17-18; 14:10; Luke 17:29-30).

C

CALF: One of the living creatures (Revelation 4:7); a symbol of the saints in the period of time when it was necessary to die as sacrifices (Revelation 5:8-9).

CANDLESTICK: The Church of God (Revelation 1:20; Zechariah 4:2).

CHAIN: The word is used one time in the Revelation (Revelation 20:1). In this context it represents the power to bind, which is in the Spirit (Matthew 12:28-29). So, it symbolizes the Spirit of God.

CITY: A church in her aggregate (complete or whole), whether false (Revelation 17:18) or true (Matthew

5:14; Revelation 21:2).

CLOUD: A large number (or multitude) witnessing or that are testifying (Hebrews 12:1; Revelation 10:1; 14:14); armies destined to conquer that cover a country (Ezekiel 38:9-16).

CROWN: Victory, dignity, honor, denoting power to reign (Revelation 6:2; 19:12).

D

DARKNESS: Ignorance, spiritual blindness (Isaiah 9:2; 1 John 2:8; Revelation 8:12). This darkened condition produces affliction, sorrow, and gloom that comes from a refusal of light and truth (Revelation 16:10).

DAY: In prophecy it represents the New Testament dispensation (Isaiah 12:1; 26:1). Refers to a new day ("day dawn"; 2 Peter 1:19). This New Testament dispensation is called the Gospel Day. In Revelation one day is used for one year (Revelation 11:3; 12:6; Numbers 14:34; Ezekiel 4:6).

DOOR: The way of entrance, the way opened to discover things previously closed or hidden; access to understanding things (Revelation 4:1). Christ is the door to the church (John 10:9).

DRAGON: Pagan or heathen Rome. The seven heads are forms or heads of government; the ten horns are kings (or kingdoms) into which Rome was divided (Revelation 13:3; 17:12). The tail of the dragon is the rise of the spirit of paganistic unbelief. A spirit that causes a ministry in the evening time to fall and decry teachings of holiness, a Bible standard, divine healing, and a clear message on the church and Babylon. Also, a resurgence of paganistic religions.

DRUNKEN: Intoxicated with false doctrines, worldly pleasures, and influence. The woman (papal church) was drunken on the blood of the saints (Revelation 17:6). Those who are under the power of superstition and idolatry are unreasonable. They are drunken on the wine of Babylon's false teachings (Jeremiah 51:7-8).

E

EAGLE: One of the living creatures of Revelation 4:7. It represents the part of the redeemed of all ages (Revelation 5:8-9) that is in this evening time. Rising above earthen religion, the eagle is the only creature that can look straight into the sun, a picture of a people swiftly moving to brighter light.

EARTHQUAKE: Quaking of earthly things under the power of God; spiritual awakening (Revelation 8:5; 6:12; 11:19; 16:18); the downfall of pagan Rome where the earthquake was felt (Revelation 8:5); a picture of God rearranging the religious landscape. There was one earthquake in the morning time (Revelation 8:5), one in the sixth seal (Revelation 6:12), and one in the seventh seal (Revelation 16:17-18). It represents moral shaking (Haggai 2:6-7); shaking as an earthquake (Haggai 2:21-22; Revelation 6:12); removing man-made teachings and ideas and leaving only a kingdom that is unmovable (Hebrews 12:26-28).

EGYPT: Bondage; sinful; spiritually associated with Sodom (Revelation 11:8); in religion the symbol of religious organizations that leave people in bondage and wickedness; a portrayal of a city (Babylon) rejecting Christ as the head of the church (their teachings came from a system that came from the bottomless pit).

EUPHRATES: The river on whose banks the literal city of Babylon was situated. Cyrus entered through the dry bed of the river after diverting its waters. He was then able to capture the city (Isaiah 44:27-28; Jeremiah 51:63-64). It is a symbol of the spiritual lifeline of Babylon. Revelation 16:12-14 shows what kind of spirits occupy, motivate, and dominate Babylon: "unclean spirits." The spirits in those systems hold people bound (Revelation 9:14). Truth dries it up and reveals the spirits behind Babylon.

EYES: Knowledge and understanding (Revelation 4:6); the Holy Spirit (Revelation 5:6). The "eyes" represent both the Holy Spirit and what He provides to the church (Psalm 32:8; John 16:13); guidance, understanding (Ephesians 1:17-18).

F

FACE OF A MAN: Human nature, depicting the era of man-rule (Revelation 4:7); it portrays the portion of the Gospel Day when the saints were under the domination of man and man's teachings (Revelation 9:7). See also Ezekiel 1:10.

FALSE PROPHET: Protestantism (Revelation 16:13; 19:20). The system is Protestantism ("two horns like a lamb"; Revelation 13:11). Described in Matthew 7:15.

FAN: Christ's ministry. "Whose fan is in his hand" (Matthew 3:12). The ministry is in His hand (Revelation 1:16, 20).

FIRE: According to the context, it could be either the Word or the Spirit because "God is a consuming fire" (Hebrews 12:29). The Word of God is like a fire (Jeremiah 23:29). The fire of the Holy Ghost accompanies the preaching of the Word of God. The Holy Ghost is also likened to fire (Acts 2:3-4; Revelation 4:5).

FIVE MONTHS: (Reference: Revelation 9:5, 10); 150 years of fallen Protestantism (A.D. 1730-1880). The second segment of the era of sectism.

FLESH: Represents man (1 Peter 1:24; Isaiah 40:6); thus, the doctrines and teachings of men (Revelation 19:17-18). Revelation 19:18 shows the great gathering of the two camps. The one gathering of all false religion shows they eat the flesh, which means to be filled with their fleshly, man-made teachings.

FOOT: The foot denotes a way of walking. It portrays a victorious walk, having opposing forces under our feet. Christ was victorious and is spoken of in this manner (Ephesians 1:22). The saints are to have "power to tread on serpents and scorpions" (Luke 10:19), portraying different spirits. Feet as pillars of fire (Revelation 10:1-3). Here is a vision of Christ shown in this seventh-seal period. We are to have our "feet shod with the preparation of the gospel" (Ephesians 6:15). Christ is giving a vision so a ministry can have a fiery message under the anointing of the Spirit to show people how to rise above papalism and Protestantism and have victory.

FOREHEAD: This symbol deals with what is in the forehead, the mind (Ezekiel 3:7-10). It is a public confession of religion; to have the mark is to have the doctrines in the mind (Revelation 7:3; 13:16; 14:1); in the hand (as portrayed in Revelation 13:16) is to have fellowship with sectarian organizations because of their teachings in the mind (Galatians 2:9).

FORNICATION: (Reference: Revelation 17:2, 4-5.) This is where one has an illicit relationship with Babylon (false religion). Church joining, attending their services, other activities where they are drinking from her cup or entering her bed, or being untrue to the true standard set by God's Word, and therefore, accepting the teachings and organizations of men.

FOUNTAIN AND FOUNTAINS: The true fountain in the singular represents what Jesus brought to man—salvation (Zechariah 13:1; John 19:34). Fountains in the plural (Revelation 8:10) were the false sources that supposedly brought salvation, taught by a fallen ministry.

FOUR BEASTS: The Greek word is *zoon* and actually means "living creatures." This symbol represents the redeemed of all the ages (Revelation 4:8-10; 5:8-9).

FOWLS: Fowls in the Old Testament were unclean (Acts 10:11-14; Leviticus 11:13-20). These are a type of spirits (Revelation 18:2). Revelation 19:17 refers to the seventh angel calling ones to the great supper of God, or in other words, God will turn men over to the false teachings of men if they receive not a love for the truth. Unclean and hateful birds are mentioned in Revelation 18:2.

FROGS: Spirits of devils. "Unclean spirits like frogs . . . for they are spirits of the devils" (Revelation 16:13-14). The spirits that motivate and operate false religion. They are likened to the nature of frogs.

G

GARMENTS: This represents one's spiritual condition. White means purity (Revelation 19:6-7; 1:13). Scarlet means sinful (Isaiah 1:18; Revelation 17:4).

GENTILES: Under the Old Testament, they were considered, as Ephesians 2:12 states, "aliens . . . and strangers," not part of the people of God. In Revelation 11:2 it represents those who were "aliens" and "strangers," the unsaved as opposed to the saved.

GRAPES: These represent individuals, people; clusters are denominations and the vine of the earth is the system of Protestantism. The vine (system) holds the clusters (denominations) that holds the grapes (the people); Revelation 14:18.

GREAT CHAIN: This represents the Holy Spirit's power to bind (Revelation 20:1; Matthew 12:28-29).

GREAT CITY: In some contexts it is Babylon (Revelation 14:8; 16:19); in Revelation 21:10 it represents the church, holy Jerusalem.

GREEN GRASS: All flesh is grass (1 Peter 1:24). It represents how the morning-time message did "make not provision for the flesh" (Romans 13:14). The message of "hail" (solid truth) under the anointing of the Holy Spirit ("fire") burnt up the flesh ("green grass"); Revelation 8:7.

H

HAIL: This represents solid truth, because hail is solid rain and rain is doctrine (Deuteronomy 32:2); the

Word of God falling by inspiration, sweeping away false teachings (Isaiah 28:17). Also, God's judgments, such as the plagues of Egypt, accompanied with lightning and thunder (Revelation 8:7; 11:19; 16:21).

HARLOTS: These are daughters of the mother of harlots spoken of in Revelation 17:5. The mother is an apostate organization (papalism), and those springing from that institution, that made an image to her, patterning after the mother are the harlot daughters (that religious system of Protestantism and the various denominational organizations that make up that system).

HARVEST: The harvesting of souls in the end of the world (Matthew 13:39). It also represents when people are ready for salvation (John 4:35). It portrays the judgments of God being set forth to harvest the honest souls out of Babylon in the evening time (Revelation 14:18; 19:15).

HEADS (SEVEN) ON THE DRAGON AND THE BEAST: Heads represent forms of government (Isaiah 9:6; Revelation 17:10). Also, the angel gave the interpretation: ". . . seven mountains on which the woman sitteth" (Revelation 17:9). Since Rome is called the seven-hilled city and was the seat of the dragon, it must mean that city and the empire ruled from that city. Rome had seven distinct heads of government in its pagan form. The dragon gave his seat to papal Rome (Revelation 13:2).

HEAVEN (SYMBOLIC): In the Revelation this is an exalted spiritual position. The woman occupied heaven by being "raised us up and made us to sit in heavenly places in Christ Jesus" (Ephesians 2:6). This is the "third heaven" Paul spoke of (2 Corinthians 12:1-5). It is the new heaven (2 Peter 3:13) that John saw in Revelation 21:1. We also see the great red dragon "in heaven" (Revelation 12:3), denoting the truth that false religion is also held in an exalted position, until truth exposes it and casts it down.

HIDDEN MANNA: This symbol, found in Revelation 2:17, represents the Word of God.

HOLY CITY: The Church of the Living God on earth (Revelation 20:9; 21:2; Hebrews 12:22-23).

HOLY JERUSALEM: The Church of God (Hebrews 12:22-23; Revelation 21:10).

HORNS: Power; kings or kingdoms (Daniel 8:21). The ten horns are ten kings or kingdoms (Daniel 7:24; Revelation 12:3; 13:1). Seven horns on the Lamb means perfect power (Revelation 5:6) and power throughout the entirety of the Gospel Day. All power of God is vested in Christ (Matthew 28:18).

HORSEMEN: This is the flesh and blood representation of those the spirits gave rise to, those engaged in carrying out what the prevailing spirit dictates. The systems produced by the spirits (Revelation 6:2-8).

HORSES: Warfare (Zechariah 10:3). They also represent the prevailing spirit giving rise to a people carrying out their purposes, either good or bad, which are designated by the color of the horse. White means purity (the Holy Spirit); red means sin, or the spirit of unbelief; black means the spirit of apostasy; pale means the spirit of compromise (Revelation 6:2-8; Zechariah 6:2-8).

!

INCENSE: Prayer; worship; preparation to preach the Gospel to the world (Psalm 141:2; Revelation 8:3-5).

ISLANDS: Various denominations of men. Since mountains represent worship or systems of worship, then islands represent the individual denominations. To be moved would be to lose the position they held when truth came forth and exposed them (Revelation 6:14; 16:20). In Revelation 6:16 they are symbolized as places of refuge for false religion.

J

JERUSALEM: The city in Judea, a symbol of the true Church of God. There is where God's name was to be found; and so it is found in the Church of God (Hebrews 12:22-23; Revelation 21:2); also, the only acceptable place for God's people to gather to worship.

K

KEYS: When key is used in the singular, it represents the Word of God, knowledge; power to bring light, or open, unlock; or to shut up in darkness. When keys are used in the plural, Christ holds the "keys of hell and of death" (Revelation 1:18). These keys, in the plural, are the same as the keys of the kingdom. They are the Word and the Spirit (Matthew 16:19). Both have a power to bind. Revelation 20:1 portrays a "key" (Word) and a "chain" (Spirit). We are bound by them if we reject the truth, and we are loosed by them if we accept and obey it.

L

LAMB: Christ (John 1:29).

LIGHT: This is a multi-faceted term throughout the Scriptures, but to confine it to the Revelation, it means the light of "understanding" (Psalm 119:130) that comes from Christ through His Word (Psalm 119:105) and the glory or presence of God it produces by a people who put it on (Revelation 18:1; 21:11; 21:23). In Revelation, Chapter 21, the church is represented as a city of light, just as Jesus spoke of in Matthew 5:14. It is a people who have come together through taking the light of truth of His Word.

LIGHTNING: Light on God's Word. It is enlightenment, understanding, light suddenly seen because God's truth has been thundered out (Revelation 8:5; 16:18).

LINEN: A symbol of the spiritual clothing of the people of God, especially denoting their character (Revelation 19:6-7; 3:5); a symbol of righteousness, moral purity (Revelation 15:6).

LION: It is used as a symbol of Christ, the Lion of the tribe of Judah (Revelation 5:5). It also represents the nature of conquest the New Testament church had (Revelation 4:7). In Revelation 13:2 the papal beast has a "mouth as the mouth of a lion." They claim to speak for Christ.

LOCUSTS: False ministry, religions, or organizations that are a plague to society and headed by men (Revelation 9:3, 7). When the sun is up (truth preached in the evening time), they flee away. Cold, dead religion cannot stand the preaching of the truth. Nahum 3:17 shows the symbol of locusts is symbolic of leaders.

M

MANNA: The Word of God. Christ, the manna from Heaven (John 6:49-51). Hidden manna (Revelation 2:17) is the Word fed to the saints by the two witnesses in the Dark Ages (Revelation 11:3; 12:6). Bibles were chained to the pulpit, "but the word of God is not bound" (2 Timothy 2:9).

MERCHANTS: The ministers of Babylon, who make their money by using their religious privileges as a trade (Revelation 18:11). The fate of Babylon is foretold in the Scripture (Revelation 18:15-20). When truth goes forth and people gain understanding, her religious privileges will not be worth anything (they are false).

MICHAEL: Christ (Daniel 12:1; Jude 9; Revelation 12:7).

MOON: The old covenant, the "lesser light" that ruled the Jewish night (Genesis 1:16; Psalm 136:9).

MORNING STAR: Christ (Revelation 22:16).

MOUNT SION/ZION: The Church of God (Hebrews 12:22-23; Revelation 14:1).

MOUNTAIN/MOUNTAINS: Places of worship, that is, sectarian mountains and hills (Jeremiah 16:16). The Kingdom of God is a mountain filling the whole earth (Daniel 2:35); the "destroying mountain" (Jeremiah 51:25) is Babylon.

MYSTERY: The Gospel of salvation (Ephesians 6:19); "the mystery of iniquity" (2 Thessalonians 2:7), which was the spirit of apostasy that brought papal Rome into existence. "This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church" (Ephesians 5:32). Something beyond human comprehension; that which cannot be explained through natural means; it requires divine revelation by the Holy Spirit. Some Scriptures where the word *mystery* is used are Revelation 1:20; 10:7; 17:5; 17:7.

O

ODOURS: Prayers of God's people that ascend to His throne, combined with adoration (Revelation 5:8).

OIL: A symbol of the Holy Spirit (1 Samuel 16:13; Acts 10:38; Revelation 6:6).

OLIVE TREES: These are the "two witnesses" mentioned in Revelation 11:3-4. They are the Word and the Spirit (Zechariah 4:3, 6; Matthew 24:14; Hebrews 10:15).

P

PLAGUE: The "seven last plagues" (Revelation 15:1); these are the judgments of God poured out in the evening time to put judgment on false religion and enable a people to be freed from Babylonian bondage.

PURE RIVER OF WATER OF LIFE: This symbol, found in Revelation 22:1, represents the Spirit of God (John 7:38-39) that brings spiritual life (Romans 8:10) and the power to live a pure life.

R

RAIN: Pure doctrine from heaven that refreshes and brings peace to man's soul. "My doctrine shall drop as the rain" (Deuteronomy 32:2).

RAINBOW: A symbol of God's covenant. It is an allusion to the covenant made with Noah in Genesis 9:13, but in the Revelation, it symbolizes the new covenant (Revelation 4:3; 10:1).

REAP: A portrayal of the sickle of God's Word reaping the harvest of saints out of Babylon. An evening-time ministry getting souls out of Babylon with the message (Revelation 14:14-18).

REED: The Bible is the "golden reed" (Revelation 21:15); in Revelation 11:1 ("reed like unto a rod"); it is the Word of God (Micah 6:9; 7:14).

RESURRECTION: "There shall be a resurrection . . . of the just and unjust" (Acts 24:15). The first resurrection is a spiritual resurrection, for it makes people "blessed and holy" and will keep them out of the lake of fire (Revelation 20:6). Adam died a spiritual death first (Genesis 2:17), so the first resurrection must be a spiritual resurrection (Revelation 2:11).

RIVERS: Waters represent people; rivers symbolize multitudes of people (Revelation 17:15). Revelation 9:14 speaks of the Euphrates, the life-line of Babylon; it is dominated by spirits (Revelation 16:12-14), and these spirits are back of the people; they are within.

S

SACKCLOTH: Mourning over the loss of something desirable or of great value (Revelation 11:3).

SCARLET: This represents sinfulness (Isaiah 1:18) and also the color of one who is a "great whore" (Revelation 17:1, 4); it is a portrayal of her immoral behavior, a spiritual harlot. A color worn by Babylon (Revelation 17:4-5). It also portrays that she is trying to represent herself as Christlike (Matthew 27:28).

SEA: Waters symbolize people (Revelation 17:15); the sea (Daniel 7:3) is a symbol of people. Sea is merely a massive amount of water, hence a massive amount of people; specifically "wicked" people (Isaiah 57:20).

SEA OF GLASS: The Word of God (James 1:23; Revelation 15:2). It is "mingled with [the] fire" of the Holy Spirit.

SEAL: To impress indelibly with the truth by the influence of the Holy Ghost (Ephesians 4:30); sealed by the Holy Ghost; also, the same interpretation is given in Ephesians 1:12-13. See also Revelation 7:2.

SEAT: Power and authority. The center of ecclesiastical or political power (Revelation 13:2). "The fifth angel poured out his vial upon the seat of the beast," meaning papalism (Revelation 16:10).

SEVEN CANDLESTICKS: The church throughout the seven periods of the Gospel Day (Revelation 1:12-13, 20).

SEVEN SEALS: Understanding given throughout the seven periods of time through the Gospel Day.

SEVEN VIALS: Judgment poured out in the evening time against false, unscriptural doctrine, systems, and spirits (Revelation, Chapter 16).

SHIPS: Ministers, symbolized by an industrious housewife who "bringeth her food from afar" (Proverbs 31:14). Shipwreck is symbolic of departing from the faith (1 Timothy 1:19). Human organizations of religion have made shipwreck concerning the faith, having lost their spirituality. The shipmasters and merchants (ministers of Babylon) are bewailing her downfall and her sad spiritual condition (Revelation 18:17-18).

SICKLE: The Word of God with a piercing force to sever people from spiritual bondage (Revelation 14:14). The "vine of the earth" (Revelation 14:18) is the system of Protestantism. The clusters of the vine symbolize the denominations and the grapes are the saints. The sickle is God's wrath that is being executed (Revelation 14:19) by His Word to get a people loose.

SMOKE: A symbol of the glory of God (Isaiah 6:1; Revelation 15:8). Also an emblem of false glory (Revelation 9:2). An influence exerted on the mind (Revelation 9:2). It is also a symbol of the adoration of the heart in prayer (Psalm 141:2; Revelation 8:4).

SPIRITS: Spirit beings; according to context, they can be good or evil (Revelation 3:1; 5:6; 16:13-14).

STARS: Ministers (Revelation 1:16, 20); messengers, good or bad. There were seven angels as the seven pastors of the congregations. A picture of the ministry throughout the Gospel Day (Revelation 1:20). A fallen star is a fallen ministry (Revelation 9:1). The birth of sectism began with a fallen star (Revelation 8:10).

SUN: New Covenant. Christ is referred to as the "sun" (Malachi 4:2). Christ is the "true Light" (John 1:9). Sun rules the day, and the new covenant is what rules this "day of salvation" (2 Corinthians 6:2).

SUPPER: Two different spiritual meals are presented to mankind: one, "the marriage supper of the Lamb" (Revelation 19:9), where they are being fed "the true sayings of God," and the other supper where they eat the teachings of men (Revelation 19:17-18).

SWEET: Satisfying, encouraging, a pleasant taste and experience in contrast to bitter (Revelation 10:9). The bitter is a symbol of the persecutions of those who live by the Word of God, but the sweetness is taking the truth in as it is given to us.

SWORD: "The word of God" (Hebrews 4:12; Ephesians 6:17) used in warfare, either literal or spiritual. Pagan Rome waged war against the people of God with literal weapons (Revelation 6:4) while Christ and His people used the Word of God and overcame (Revelation 1:16; 19:15; 12:11).

T

TABERNACLE: The personal experience the saints have in this New Testament where the presence of God dwells in them (Revelation 21:3).

TAIL: The latter end of a thing; the rear and last part of something. The tail of the dragon (Revelation 12:4)

represents the move of the powers of paganism toward the end of the Gospel Day.

TALENTS: Weight, somewhere between 93 pounds and 12 ounces to 125 pounds, based on the type of measurement; portraying weighty judgment being put on falsity in this day and time (Revelation 16:21).

TEETH: The power of government to crush opposition, to establish laws of the land; rapacious cruelty (Daniel 7:19; Revelation 9:8). False religion devours people's souls.

TEMPLE: The Church of the Living God (1 Corinthians 6:19). Revelation 3:12 shows membership in the Church of God. Measure the temple by the Word of God—all unsaved are left on the outside (Revelation 11:1).

THUNDER: Understanding of past happenings; the voice of God speaking (Revelation 10:3; 16:18). Also, remember how God spoke on Mount Sinai when He gave His law (Exodus 19:16-18).

TIME: time (singular) is one year (360 days); times (plural) is two years (720 days); half a time is six months (180 days), and they equal 1260 days (Revelation 12:6, 14; 13:5). These three texts symbolize the 1260 years (A.D. 270-A.D. 1530), and they all cover the same time. A prophetic day equals a year (Numbers 14:34; Ezekiel 4:6).

TRAVAILING: A deep soul burden for the lost world and anxiety to see people saved. The travailing woman is the church (Revelation 12:2). Isaiah 66:7-8 describes this, which was fulfilled on Pentecost.

TREES: People (Isaiah 55:12; 61:3); "the tree of life" is Christ and also the saints conformed to His image (Revelation 2:7; 22:2).

TRUMPET: Voice of the ministry sounding out a message of this truth (Isaiah 58:1; Revelation 8:2); sounding out the voice of Christ (Revelation 1:10; 4:1; 8:13).

TWO OLIVE TREES: The Word and the Spirit of God, which are the "two witnesses" (Revelation 11:3-4); the Word ("gospel"; Matthew 24:14) and the Spirit ("Holy Ghost"; Hebrews 10:15).

TWO WITNESSES: The Word and Spirit of God (Revelation 11:3-4; Matthew 24:14; Hebrews 10:15).

V

VINE: Christ is the "true vine," all saved people being the branches (John 15:1). Protestantism is the vine of the earth, with all the adherents of that system and the denominations that support it comprising the clusters (Revelation 14:18).

VOICE: The means of a people that God may employ to make His will known to man (Revelation 8:5; 16:18).

W

WATERS: People, nations, tongues, multitudes (Revelation 17:15).

WHEAT: Children of God (Matthew 3:12); the scarcity of the Word of God and Christians (Revelation 6:6).

WHITE CLOUD: A great company, "a cloud of witnesses" (Hebrews 12:1) that are upholding Christ and the message, combining their labors to bring truth to the souls of men (Revelation 14:14).

WHORE: A religious organization that will not take Christ as her husband or take vows and has taken up with the kings of the earth. The "MOTHER OF HARLOTS" depicts unlawful intercourse with idolatrous worship that makes the offspring harlots. This has reference to the papal church as the mother of her harlot daughters (Revelation 17:5).

WIFE: The true Church of God under the Gospel (Acts 20:28). Paul said it was a "great mystery" (Ephesians 5:32). His wife, the church, is brought to view (Revelation 19:7; 21:9). "He that hath the bride is the bridegroom" (John 3:29).

WILDERNESS: A place of obscurity and seclusion; the place to which the church resorted (the catacombs and caves) during the long period of papal darkness (Revelation 12:6), which covered 1260 days (prophetic years from A.D. 270 to A.D. 1530).

WINDS: This symbol has a dual application. It represents false doctrine, teachings of men (Ephesians 4:14), and also the spirits that produce them (Ephesians 2:2; 1 Timothy 4:1).

WINE: False doctrine (Revelation 17:2); God's judgments (Revelation 14:10).

WINGS: Means of rising higher under the Gospel, for it lifts men out of sin (Revelation 4:7). The church was protected by the "wings of a great eagle," the wings representing the Word and the Spirit that sustained the saints during the Dark Ages (Revelation 12:14). The fourth living creature is portrayed as a "flying eagle," a symbol of the church in the evening time. The "eagle" is the only creature that can fly right into the face of the sun. The evening-time church is moving into brighter and brighter light. This "eagle" has "six wings" (Revelation 4:8). One thing the "six wings" and "four beasts" depict is that $6 \times 4 = 24$, that the message the "four and twenty elders" (Revelation 4:4) preach is what lifts the church up to higher heights.

WITNESSES: The Word of God and the Spirit of God (Zechariah, Chapter 4; Revelation 11:3).

WOMAN: A well-known symbol of the church, either true or false. The true church is symbolized in Revelation 12:1; the false in Revelation 17:1-5.

WORMWOOD: Bitterness (Revelation 8:11).