



PANORAMA PLUS

MOVEMENT 12:
THE FINAL CONSUMMATION

name

phone / email

OUTLINE

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NOTE TO THE STUDENT!

This material is structured in outline form, yet it is complete enough that the student can gain maximum benefit from the lectures if the material is read beforehand. There is much to cover; the best learning experience combines the student's reading(s) and the lecture overview.

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BiLD Training Center

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PREFACE

Panorama of the Bible is a twelve-session broad overview of the flow of Biblical history from Genesis to Revelation. The unifying thread is the Panorama Timeline which links key people, places, events, and dates chronologically in 12 movements.

The **Panorama Plus** series is built upon the 12 movements of Panorama. Each distinct movement is expanded in six additional sessions to take the student deeper into the flow of the Bible.

This study, Panorama Plus 12, is the final, closing **Plus** expansion. Thus, Panorama with its 12 sessions along with the 12 **Plus** studies totals 84 sessions in the Panorama approach to an overview of the whole of Scripture.

May the study be helpful to the student and honoring to the Lord.

Robert V. Cupp
BiLD Training Center
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PANORAMA: TWELVE MOVEMENTS	
<u>Movement</u>	<u>Biblical Books</u>
#1 Prologue	Genesis 1-11
#2 Patriarchs	Genesis 12-50; Job
#3 Redemption and Wanderings	Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy
#4 Conquest	Joshua
#5 Apostasy	Judges, Ruth
#6 Kingship: United Monarchy	1-2 Samuel; 1 Kings 1-11 (Pss., Prov., Eccl., Song of Solomon)
#7 Kingship: Divided Monarchy	1 Kings 12-22; 2 Kings (Prophets - selected)
#8 Exile	Daniel, Ezekiel (Jeremiah)
#9 Return from Exile and 400 Silent Years	Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther (Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi)
#10 Life of Christ	Matthew, Mark, Luke, John
#11 Church Age	Acts and Epistles
#12 Final Consummation	Revelation (Daniel)

SESSION 1

(The Vision/The Seven Churches—Revelation 1-3)

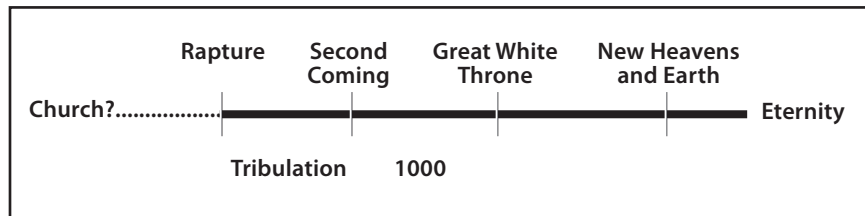
I. PRAYER/PURPOSE

II. TWELVE MOVEMENTS OF “PANORAMA”

- A. Listed: See chart, page 3
- B. Biblical Structure
 - 1. Movements #1-9 Old Testament/
400 Silent Years
 - 2. Movements #10-12 New Testament

III. MOVEMENT #12: TIMELINE

- A. Pre-Tribulational, Pre-Millennial Approach



- B. Other Approaches: See Appendix A, page 88.

IV. APPROACHES (GLASSES TO SEE) TO “REVELATION”

- A. Preterist (PAST): all prophecies fulfilled in the early history of the church.
- B. Historical (PRESENT): prophecies give a broad overview of church history to the Second Coming.
- C. Idealist (TIMELESS): symbolism and other prophetic imagery illustrate struggles and conflicts throughout the church age.
- ** D. Futurist (FUTURE): prophecies of Revelation 4-22 are yet unfulfilled and are literal, future certainties.

****N.B.** This study will follow the “Futurist” approach to the interpretation of Revelation. While acknowledging that outstanding scholars and Bible teachers disagree (with this study and with each other!), this will be the “set of glasses” (approach) that will be followed.

V. BIBLICAL CHARTS OF REVELATION

A. Outline of “Revelation”

REVELATION		
Outline: “Write, therefore, what you have seen, what is now and what will take place later.” (Rev. 1:19 NIV 84)		
Chapter 1	Chapters 2-3	Chapters 4-22
“what you have seen”	“what is now”	“what will take place later”
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Salutation (prologue/greeting) • Vision (“have seen”) • Outline (1:19) <p style="text-align: right;">1</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7 Letters to 7 Churches (historical) (representative) (prophetic?) <p style="text-align: right;">2 3</p>	Throne Scene 4 5
		Tribulation 6 19
		Second Coming & Millennium 19 20
		Eternal State 21 22

B. Topical/Chapter Chart (Pre-millennial view)

CHAPTER TOPICS OF REVELATION					
<i>Events</i>	<i>Church Age</i>	<i>Tribulation</i>	<i>Millennium</i>	<i>Judgment: Great White Throne</i>	<i>Eternal State</i>
In Heaven	1	4-5	19-20	20	21-22
On Earth	2-3	6-19	20		

* Taken from Ryrie *ESV Study Bible*, 1549

VI. BIBLICAL DEVELOPMENT: REVELATION 1

("What You Have Seen" – 1:19)

A. Salutation (1:1-8)

1. Prologue (1-3)

Revelation 1:1-3

*The **revelation** from **Jesus Christ**, which God gave him to show his servants what must soon take place. He made it known by sending his angel to his servant **John**,² who testifies to everything he saw—that is, the word of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ.³ **Blessed** is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy, and **blessed** are those who hear it and take to heart what is written in it, because the time is near.*

- a. The Biblical word *revelation* means "unveiling" or "disclosure." Something that has been hidden or unknown is revealed. In this book, prophetic events will be unveiled; more so, there is a significant "uncovering" (revealing) of Jesus in His resplendent glory, in His lordship over the churches, in His coming and establishing of His Millennial Kingdom.
- b. "John" (1) is the recipient of this prophetic disclosure. As author, he identifies himself four times in the text (1:1,4,9; 22:8). Early Christian tradition names John as the author of the gospel, brother of James, and a part of the Twelve. Conservative scholars date the writing around 95 AD prior to the death of Emperor Domitian (d. 96 AD).
- c. "Blessed" (3) is pronounced upon those who would carefully read this prophecy.
 - "Read" to know truth
 - "Hear " to understand truth
 - "Take to heart" to obey truth

2. Greeting (4-8)

Revelation 1:4-6

John,

To the seven churches in the province of Asia:

Grace and peace to you from him who is, and who was,

and who is to come, and from the seven spirits before his

throne,⁵ and from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood,⁶ and has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve his God and Father—to him be glory and power for ever and ever! Amen.

- a. Human Author: John
- b. Addressees: Seven churches in the province of Asia



- c. Greeting: "Grace and peace"
- d. Divine Author: Trinitarian
 - Father: "him who is, and who was, and who is to come" (4)
 - Son: "from Jesus Christ" (5)
 - Holy Spirit: "the seven spirits" (4)
- e. Doxology: see verses 5^b-6
Note in particular what causes the outbreak of praise in the doxology:
 - (Jesus) "loves us"
 - (Jesus) "freed us from our sins"
 - (Jesus) "made us to be a kingdom and priests"Therefore, "to him be glory and power for ever and ever! Amen."

- f. Theme of Book of Revelation:

Revelation 1:7

"Look, he is coming with the clouds," and "every eye will see him, even those who pierced him"; and all peoples on earth "will mourn because of him." So shall it be! Amen.

- g. Affirmation:

Revelation 1:8

"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, "who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty."

B. Vision (1:9-18)

1. The command to write the vision (9-11)

Revelation 1:10-11

On the Lord's Day I was in the Spirit, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet, ¹¹ which said: "Write on a scroll what you see and send it to the seven churches: to Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia and Laodicea."

- a. The writer: John (9)
- b. The location: Island of Patmos (9)
- c. The day: "the Lord's day" (10)
- d. The condition of the writer: "in the Spirit" (10)
- e. The command: "write on a scroll" (11)
- f. The recipients: "the seven churches" (11)
(See previous map, page 7)

2. The one giving the command to write (12-16)

The speaker was described as:

- a. Among the "seven golden lampstands" (12)
- b. "Like a son of man" (13)
- c. "Dressed in a robe...golden sash around his chest" (13)
- d. Head and hair "white like wool" (14)
- e. Eyes "like blazing fire" (14)
- f. Feet "like bronze" (15)
- g. Voice "like...rushing waters" (15)
- h. Hands holding "seven stars" (16)
- i. Mouth came "sharp double-edged sword" (16)
- j. Face "like the sun shining" (16)

- 3. The renewed command to write the vision (17-18)
Revelation 1:17-18

When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. Then he placed his right hand on me and said: "Do not be afraid. I am the First and the Last. ¹⁸I am the Living One; I was dead, and now look, I am alive for ever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and Hades.

C. The Outline of the Book of Revelation (1:19-20)

Revelation 1:19

Write, therefore, what you have seen, what is now and what will take place later.

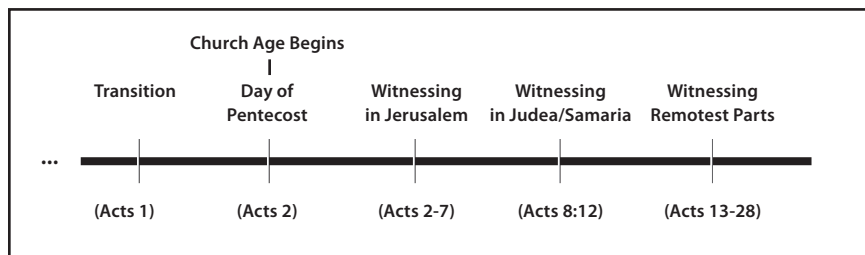
- 1. "What you have seen": historical personal moment (1st Century)
- 2. "What is now": historical period (late 1st Century)
- 3. "What will take place later": future prophetic day

VII. BIBLICAL DEVELOPMENT: REVELATION 2-3

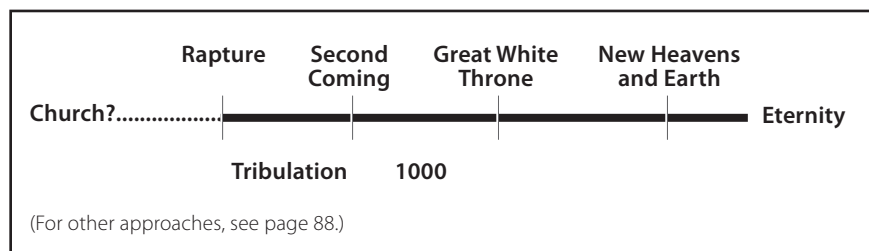
("What is Now"—1:19)

A. Panorama Timeline: Context

- 1. Movement #11: Church Age



- 2. Movement #12: Final Consummation
(Pre-tribulational, Pre-millennial)



3. Observations:
 - a. The "Church Age" began in Acts 2 and has continued to the present.
 - b. The "Final Consummation" acknowledges that the time of the end of the "Church Age" is an uncertain, future date.
 - c. The final Movement #12 begins with the Rapture of the Church; this event precedes the Tribulation described in Revelation 6-19.

B. Seven Churches: Overview

1. Located (map taken from Constable, *Notes*, 19)



N.B. Beginning with Ephesus, follow the generally clockwise movement from church to church.

2. Significance
 - a. Historical: all of the seven churches actually existed and were for the most part in well-known cities along major Roman roads. Each church likely had some connection with the Apostle John. All of the churches are evaluated by Christ by a common template (see later comments).
 - b. Representative: all of the churches of Revelation 2-3 are instructive for all churches both then and now. What Christ would commend then, He would commend today. What He would condemn then,

He would condemn today. Thus, churches of all ages could learn much from these seven.

c. Prophetic: some interpreters see the seven churches as representing “seven ages” of church history. For example, Fruchtenbaum suggests the following:

- Ephesus (30-100 AD): Apostolic Church
- Smyrna (100-313 AD): Roman Persecution
- Pergamum (313-600 AD): Age of Constantine
- Thyatira (600-1517 AD): Dark Ages
- Sardis (1517-1648 AD): Reformation
- Philadelphia (1648-1900 AD): Missionary Movement
- Laodicea (1900 A.D. – present): Apostasy

While some pre-millennial interpreters adopt some version of this view, it is speculation at best.

3. Observations

- a. These church addresses (messages) are brief and do not follow the strict epistolary form of other New Testament (NT) letters (e.g., Pauline and others).
- b. “Churches 1 and 7 are in grave danger; churches 2 and 6 are in excellent shape; churches 3, 4 and 5 are middling, never very good or very bad.”

(Constable quoting L. Morris, 25)

- c. The seven church messages follow a common pattern:
 - Church (specific church identified...e.g., Ephesus)
 - Christ (described uniquely)
 - Commendation (good news, if any)
 - Condemnation (bad news, if any)
 - Charge (exhortation to action)
 - Challenge (to hear, respond appropriately)

4. Analysis: basic messages to the seven churches (broad topic, theme, and applicational questions)

Insight:

The chart which immediately follows summarizes in broad strokes and with personal application the major teaching theme of each of the seven churches.

The second chart provides an analytical, structural overview of each church's message in a more detailed fashion. To understand Revelation 2-3, both charts should be studied and compared (in light of the Biblical text).

THE SEVEN LETTERS TO THE SEVEN CHURCHES			
Church	Topic	Theme	Key Question (Church Family, Personal Family, Personal Life)
Ephesus	A church that SLIDES	Leaving our first love	Is Christ central in my life?
Smyrna	A church that SUFFERS	Suffering for our faith	Would I be faithful...even to the point of death?
Pergamum	A church that STRAYS	Struggling to understand	Do I know the basics of the Christian faith?
Thyatira	A church that SINS	Tolerating false teachings and false morality	Am I pure in my faith and conduct?
Sardis	A church that SLEEPS	Living on the glory of the past	Is my faith fresh? Current? Awake and alive?
Philadelphia	A church that SEIZES the opportunity	Taking advantage of the open door of ministry opportunity	Do I have a sense of spiritual urgency?
Laodicea	A church that STAGNATES	Staying lukewarm in the Kingdom battle for the souls of men	Am I open, useful, and available for God's use?

C. Seven Churches: Charted by Pattern
 (Biblical descriptions based on NIV 84)

1. Ephesus (2:1-7)

CHURCH (Text)	CHRIST (Description)	COMMENDATION (Good News)	CONDEMNATION (Bad News)	CHARGE (Exhortation)	CHALLENGE (Promise)	CONTEMPLATION (Application)
EPHESUS 2:1-7	"holds the seven stars" "walks among the seven golden lampstands"	"Know...deeds, hard work, perseverance" "Know...cannot tolerate wicked men, tested those (apostles)..." "Persevered, endured hardship, not grown weary" "Hate the practice of the Nicolaitans"	"Forsaken your first love"	"Remember" "Repent" "Re-do"	"ear...hear" (overcomer)... "eat from tree of life"	

2. Smyrna (2:8-11)

CHURCH (Text)	CHRIST (Description)	COMMENDATION (Good News)	CONDEMNATION (Bad News)	CHARGE (Exhortation)	CHALLENGE (Promise)	CONTEMPLATION (Application)
SMYRNA 2:8-11	"the First and the Last, who died and came to life again."	"Know...afflictions, poverty" "Know...slander (against you)"	(NONE)	"Do not be afraid...(suffering)" "Be faithful... (to death)"	"ear...hear" (overcomer)... "not be hurt... by the second death"	

3. Pergamum (2:12-17)

CHURCH (Text)	CHRIST (Description)	COMMENDATION (Good News)	CONDEMNATION (Bad News)	CHARGE (Exhortation)	CHALLENGE (Promise)	CONTEMPLATION (Application)
PERGAMUM 2:12-17	"who has the sharp, double-edged sword"	"Know...where you live..." "Yet you remain true to my name" "You did not renounce your faith"	(Some)...the teaching of Balaam" (Some)...the teaching of the Nicolaitans"	"Repent therefore!" "Otherwise... (judgment)"	"ear...hear" (overcomer)... "hidden manna (and) a white stone"	

4. Thyatira (2:18-29)

CHURCH (Text)	CHRIST (Description)	COMMENDATION (Good News)	CONDEMNATION (Bad News)	CHARGE (Exhortation)	CHALLENGE (Promise)	CONTEMPLATION (Application)
THYATIRA 2:18-29	"the Son of God, whose eyes... blazing fire and whose feet... burnished bronze"	"Know...deeds, love and faith, service and perseverance" (Know)... "now doing more than you did"	"You tolerate that woman, Jezebel" "prophetess" (teaching) "sexual immorality" "eating of food (idols)" "unwilling" (to repent)	(Faithful)... "hold on to what you have"	(overcomer)... "authority over the nations" (and) "the morning star" "ear ... hear"	

5. Sardis (3:1-6)

CHURCH (Text)	CHRIST (Description)	COMMENDATION (Good News)	CONDEMNATION (Bad News)	CHARGE (Exhortation)	CHALLENGE (Promise)	CONTEMPLATION (Application)
SARDIS 3:1-6	"holds the seven spirits of God and the seven stars"	(Few)... "not soiled their clothes"	"Know...deeds (INCOMPLETE)" "Know...reputation of being alive (BUT...DEAD)"	"Wake up!" "Remember" "Obey" "Repent"	(overcomer)... "dressed in white" "book of life" "ear...hear"	

6. Philadelphia (3:7-13)

CHURCH (Text)	CHRIST (Description)	COMMENDATION (Good News)	CONDEMNATION (Bad News)	CHARGE (Exhortation)	CHALLENGE (Promise)	CONTEMPLATION (Application)
PHILADELPHIA 3:7-13	"who is holy and true, who holds the key of David"	"Know...deeds (open door)" "Know... little strength" "Know... kept my word." "Know...not denied my name"	(NONE)	"Hold on to what you have"	(overcomer)... "pillar in the temple" "will write on him" (three names) "ear...hear"	

7. Laodicea (3:14-22)

CHURCH (Text)	CHRIST (Description)	COMMENDATION (Good News)	CONDEMNATION (Bad News)	CHARGE (Exhortation)	CHALLENGE (Promise)	CONTEMPLATION (Application)
LAODICEA 3:14-2	"the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the ruler of God's creation"	(NONE)	"Know...deeds (lukewarm)" (Rich?)..."wretched, pitiful, poor, blind, naked"	"Buy from me"... "gold" "white clothes" "salve" "Be earnest, and repent"	(overcomer)... "sit with [Christ on his] throne" "ear...hear"	

VIII. RECAP

A. Approach

Scholars differ as to the presuppositional glasses they wear to interpret Revelation. This study uses the "Futurist" approach based upon consistent use of the litero-grammatico-historical interpretive method.

B. Centerpiece

The Book of Revelation centers upon the Lord of History as the central character and unifying thread. Jesus Christ is the exalted head of the Church and sovereign over all human history, past and future.

C. Churches

The "Seven Churches" of the Book of Revelation were 1st century historical churches as well as representative churches for all of the Church Age. Lessons for then can be applied as lessons for today.