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I, John, your brother, who share with you the words of this prophecy of Jesus and of the kingdom and dominion of God, was on the island called Patmos on account of the olive trees and waters. And he who loves us made it known by sending his angel, who bore witness to the ruler of heaven, even to all that he saw of his God and Father. I was in the Spirit, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet saying,

-- John. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the faithful witness and the word! Grace to you, John, and peace from God, because it was, and is not, and is to come again.

Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking to me, and on turning I saw seven golden lampstands, and in the midst of the lampstands one like a son of man, clothed with a long robe and with a golden girdle round his breast, and a golden crown on his head. And his voice was like the sound of many tongues issuing from the mouth.

-- Now write what you see, what is, and what is to take place hereafter. Write in a book what you see of Christ and send it to the seven churches, to Ephesus and to Smyrna and to Pergamum and to Thyatira and to Sardis and to Philadelphia and to Laodicea, to the seven churches that are in Asia, priests to the testimony and to him who was, and who is, and who is to come. And I will grant my witnesses power to prophesy.

His head and his hair were white as wool, white as snow. His eyes were like a flame of white fire, and his face was like the sun shining in

full strength.

-- Blessed is he who reads aloud the wisdom and words of the prophecy. And blessed are those who hear, and who keep what is written therein; for the time is near. Behold, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see the Spirit in the Son, every one who pierced him and made us a kingdom of pain.

In his right hand, red like jasper and carnelian, he held seven stars. His feet were like burnished bronze, and his legs like pillars of fire. When I saw him coming down from heaven, wrapped in a cloud, with a rainbow over his head, I fell at his feet as though dead, but he laid his right hand upon me, saying,

-- Fear not, I am the first and the last, and the living one. And I have the keys of Death and Hades for evermore; one is, the other has not yet come, and when he comes he must remain only a little while. As for 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 and the seven lampstands... the lampstands are the seven churches, all of whom have fallen.

And I was told,

-- In the days of the trumpet call to be sounded by the seventh angel, you must prophesy about many nations and peoples. Go, take the scroll which is open in the hand of the angel who is standing on the sea and on the land, to show what must soon take place.

Then I saw him set his right foot on the sea, and his left foot on the land. He had a little scroll open in his hand, and his face was like the sun. And he called out with a loud voice, like a lion roaring, great and wonderful, and when he called out, the seven thunders sounded.

-- If any one has an ear, let him hear.

I will.

-- Let him who has understanding reckon.

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To the angel of the church in Ephesus write the words of him who

holds the seven stars in his right hand, who walks among the seven golden lampstands:

He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches:

To him who conquers I will grant power.

But I know your works, and your toil, and how you cannot bear to do some of the works you did at first unless you repent -- for it is the word of God, the teaching of the Nicolaitans. I hate the works of the Nicolaitans. Men have tested those who call themselves the apostles, and found them to be false. Yet you repent! You have grown weary and are not enduring patiently. You are not bearing up for my name's sake, and have abandoned the love of Jesus you had at first.

Remember from what you have fallen, which is in the paradise of life and on the point of death, and is what some call the deep things of Satan. Eat of the tree of life. If not, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place, and all the churches shall know that I am he who searches time.

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And to the angel of the church in Smyrna write the words of the first and the last:

He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches:

He who conquers shall be tested.

I know the slander of those who you say are the devil and that are not, but are a synagogue of Jews and tent of kings, those whom I love, which you hate. I have this against you, and so I reprove and chasten; for you are either cold or hot unto death. Would that you were neither cold nor hot! Behold, that they may not be hurt, Satan is about to throw some of you into prison, and for five days you will have tribulation. Here then is a call for your lukewarm endurance -- neither cold nor hot -- and not the pitiable faith and the testimony of the saints. And do not fear what you are about to suffer. If any one is to be taken captive, to captivity he goes, but I do not lay upon you any other burden.

Be true, and I will give you the crown of Jesus.

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And to the angel of the church in Pergamum write the words of him who has the sharp two-edged sword:

He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches:

To him who conquers I will give my throne; and I will give him my faith.

But I have a white stone with a new name written on the stone, the word which no one knows except him who receives it. You have a few things you hold which are the faith of Balaam, who taught all tribes and peoples that they might practice immorality then repent. You also have some there who hold this against you; you have some who hold fast the hidden teaching even in the days of Antipas, who hold the word of my witness, my faithful one who was killed among you, Jesus Christ. If any one slays with the sword, he must be slain with the sword; so I will come to them soon, and war against you with the sword of my mouth.

Behold, I am coming soon.

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And to the angel of the church in Thyatira write the words of the morning star, who has eyes like a flame of fire, and whose feet are like burnished bronze:

He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches:

He who conquers, I will give him power over the nations, even as I myself received power from my Father. And I will give him another mighty angel, and he shall rule them with a rod of iron.

But behold those who I will throw into great tribulation, as when earthen pots are broken in pieces. I know your works, and that your latter works deny the first, and I have this against you, that you practice love with the beguiling woman Jezebel, but repent your

adultery and throw her on a sickbed, and strike her children dead unless they repent of her immorality. But she who calls herself a prophetess, who is teaching my people endurance, refuses to repent of her doings and keeps my works until the end. Since I gave her my manna and heart, in her heart and mind she says,

-- A queen I sit; I am no widow of Jesus; mourning I shall never see.

To the rest of you in Thyatira, who do not hold the teaching, who have not learned to tolerate her, to you I say only: hold fast what you have, until I come; and I will give to each of you as your works deserve.

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And to the angel of the church in Sardis write the words of him who has the seven spirits and the seven stars:

He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches:

He who conquers shall be clad in white garments, and confess his name before my Father and before his angels, in the sight of God, keeping his garments that he may not go naked and be seen exposed.

Yet I will blot his name and service out of the book of life. I know your works. I have not found your works perfect. You did not exceed. You have the name of being alive, and you repent and are dead. And if you will not awake... if not, I will come like a thief, and from Jesus Christ, and you will not know at what hour I will come upon you thus. I will awake, and strengthen what remains. For you still have a few people in Sardis who have not soiled their names in white garments of God, and they shall walk with me to avenge Jesus, for they are worthy.

Remember then what you received but have not heard, and keep that; they did.

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And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write the words of the

holy one, the faithful one, who has the key of David, who opens and no one shall shut, who shuts and no one opens:

He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches:

He who conquers, I will make him a pillar in the synagogue, and never shall he go out of it. I will write on him the name of God, and the name of the city of God, the new Jerusalem which comes down from God out of heaven.

Behold, I have set before you an open door of the temple, which no one is able to shut. Behold, those who say they have but little power and patient endurance, and also are and yet are not Jews. Behold, I will make them come and bow down before your feet, and learn from you and your works that Jesus loved you because you have kept my word.

But I will make my own new name, my name which I will keep. I have my Jesus of patient endurance; and I know that you lie so that no one may seize your crown, that you have not kept my word, and have denied my Jesus. I know that the hour of my trial is coming on the whole world. Hold fast what you have; I am coming soon.

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And to the angel of the church in Laodicea write the words of the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of God's creation:

He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.

He who conquers, I will grant him to sit with me on my throne, as I myself sat down with my Father on his throne.

But I know your works: gold conquered and refined by tribulation and fire that you may be rich, and white garments to clothe you and to keep the shame of your nakedness from being seen. Therefore I will spew you out of my mouth. You are rich. Because you are zealous and repent, not knowing that you are rich, you say, I am poor and wretched and naked. Be so blind! I know your tribulation and your poverty. Behold, I need nothing and I have prospered. I stand at the door and knock; and if any one hears my voice and opens the

door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me. Lo, I am coming like a thief! Blessed is he who is awake! And I counsel you to buy from me salve to anoint your eyes, that you may see my Jesus Christ.

Behold, I make all things new.

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And when the seven thunders had sounded, I was about to write, but I heard a voice from heaven saying,

-- Seal up what the seven thunders have said, and do not write it down.

But the angel whom I saw standing on sea and land lifted up his right hand to heaven, and swore by him who lives for ever and ever, who created heaven and what is in it, the earth and what is in it, and the sea and what is in it, that there should be no more delay, and that the mystery should be revealed by him, to show what must soon take place, his revelation of God, and of his Christ, and of the blood which God gave to his servants.

And he said to me,

-- Come up hither, and I will show you what must take place.

Then the voice which I had heard from heaven spoke to me again, saying,

-- It will be sweet as honey in your mouth, but bitter to your stomach.

And the first voice, which I had heard speaking to me like a trumpet, said,

-- Even so, these are true words.

So I went to the angel and told him to give me the little scroll, and he said to me,

-- Take it and eat.

And I took the little scroll from the hand of the angel and ate it. When I had eaten it my stomach was made bitter, but it was sweet as honey in my mouth. At once I was in the Spirit. After this I looked,

and lo, in heaven an open door, its radiance like a most rare jewel, like a jasper, like an emerald! Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. The sky vanished like a scroll that is rolled up, and every mountain and island was removed from its place. And every island fled away, and no mountains were to be found. Then I fell down at his feet to worship him, but he said to me,

-- You must not do that! I am a fellow servant with you and your brethren.

And he said to me,

-- Come, I will show you the Bride, the wife of the Lamb.

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And in the Spirit he carried me away to a great, high mountain, and showed me the holy city Jerusalem. Then I heard what seemed to be the voice of a great multitude, like the sound of many waters and tongues, and like the sound of mighty thunderpeals, crying,

-- Hallelujah! For the Lord our God the Almighty reigns. Let us rejoice and give him the glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and his Bride has made herself ready.

And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. It had a great, high wall, with twelve gates that looked like crystal, and at the gates twelve angels, and on the gates the names of the twelve tribes of the sons of Israel were inscribed -- on the east three gates, on the north three gates, on the south three gates, and on the west three gates. And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them the twelve names of the twelve apostles.

Then I was given a measuring rod like a staff, and I was told:

-- Rise and measure the temple and those who worship there, but do not measure the court outside the temple. Leave that out, for it is given over to the nations. It has become a dwelling place of impure demons, a haunt of every foul spirit, a haunt of every foul and hateful

bird.

And he who talked to me had a measuring rod of gold to measure the city and its gates and walls. The city lies foursquare, its length the same as its breadth; and he measured the city with his rod, twelve thousand stadia; its length and breadth and height are equal. He also measured its wall, a hundred and forty-four cubits by a man's measure -- that is, an angel's. The wall was built of jasper, while the city was pure gold. The foundations of the wall of the city were adorned with every jewel; the first was jasper, the second sapphire, the third agate, the fourth emerald, the fifth onyx, the sixth carnelian, the seventh chrysolite, the eighth beryl, the ninth topaz, the tenth chrysoprase, the eleventh jacinth, the twelfth amethyst. And the twelve gates were twelve pearls -- and they existed and were created, each of the gates made of a single pearl -- and the street of the city was pure gold.

And after this the angel said to me,

-- But nothing unclean shall enter it, says the Lord God the Almighty, nor any one who practices abomination. Only his slaves and servants shall be in it, those who are written in the book of life, those who keep the commandments of God, and the faith or falsehood of the martyrs. Outside, where Satan dwells, are the spirits of the sorcerers and fornicators and idolaters and dogs... and every one who loves human souls, that is, and practices no falsehood.

-- Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the presence of the Lamb. Blessed are those who wash their robes that they may have the right to enter the city by the gates. They repent of their murders or their sorceries or their immorality or their thefts; and they shall see his face and worship him; and his name shall be on their foreheads. And they shall sing the song of Moses, and the song of the Lamb, saying, Great and wonderful are thy deeds, O Lord God the Almighty! Just and true are thy ways, O King of the Ages! Who shall not fear and glorify thy name, O Lord? For thou alone art holy! All nations shall come and worship thee, for thy judgements have been fulfilled!

And he, the angel who has power over fire, said to me,

-- And in their mouth was found the cowardly lie: Amen! And therefore are they before the Lord God the Almighty, and serve him day and night within his temple, his servants, the Lamb's murderers

and destroyers of the earth. And there shall be no light of prophecy there, for the Lord God will be their night. I know where you dwell, O saints, at the altar of God!

Then I heard another voice from heaven saying,

-- Praise our God, all you his servants, all you liars who fear him, great and small! Worship God! For the blood of the Lamb is salvation! Amen.

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After this I saw another angel coming down from heaven; and the earth was made bright with his splendour, clear as crystal, transparent as glass. And he called out with a mighty voice,

-- Come, I will show you the judgement of the great harlot who is seated upon many waters.

And he carried me away in the Spirit into a wilderness. And before the foundation of the world I saw a beast rising out of the sea, and it had seven heads and ten horns, with ten diadems upon its horns and a blasphemous name upon its heads, a name of the beast or the number of its name. And he stood on the sand of the sea. And the beast that I saw was like a leopard, its feet were like a bear's, and its mouth was like a lion's mouth. And it gave to the great scarlet dragon, that ancient serpent who is called the Devil and Satan, his power and also great authority. And all who dwell on earth will worship it, every one whose name has been written in the book of life; men worshipped the beast, the deceiver of the whole world, and the whole earth followed with wonder; and they worshipped the beast and his throne, saying,

-- Who is like the beast, and who can fight against one of its heads? it causes all that is to be, and has freed us from our sins.

And a great portent appeared in heaven, and I saw a woman sitting on the beast with seven heads and ten horns, a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars. The woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet; it was

granted her to be clothed with fine linen, bright and pure, and bedecked with gold and jewels and pearls. And I saw the woman holding in her hand a golden cup full of the impurities of her fornication; and on her forehead was written a name of mystery: "Babylon the great, mother of harlots and of earth's abominations, and wealth and wisdom." When I saw her I marvelled greatly,

-- This calls for wisdom!

But the angel said to me,

-- Why marvel? I will tell you allegorically the mystery of the woman, of her and of the beast with seven heads and ten horns that carries her from the foundation of the world. The waters and mountains that you saw, where the harlot is seated, are peoples and multitudes. The seven heads are seven nations on which the woman is seated; they are also seven kings. And the ten horns that you saw are ten kings who are to receive royal authority as kings; and they have not yet received royal power, but they are conquered and faithful and chosen. And the ten horns that you saw, the beast will deceive them, and those with him will conquer the nations. These are of one mind and will give over their lives to the beast, for the harlot, with whom the kings of the earth have committed fornication, and with the wine of whose fornication the dwellers on earth have become drunk, has put it into their hearts to commit immorality and to carry out her purpose by being of one mind and giving over their power to the beast, until his authority shall be fulfilled. Its number is a human number, the number of the beast: six hundred and sixty-six. And the beast, it is God in them. They will devour the words of God and will of God, and make her desolate and naked, and burn her up with fire. They will hate their flesh, for they loved God even unto death.

-- As for the woman that you saw, that is the great city where their Lord was crucified, which belongs not to the seven but which is called Sodom and Egypt.

And the beast stood before the woman who was about to bear a child; she was with child from a serpent and she cried out in her pangs of birth, in anguish for delivery. And water poured like a river out of his mouth after the woman, to sweep her away with the flood, but the earth came to the help of the woman, and the earth opened its mouth

and swallowed the river. The woman was given the wings of the great eagle that she might fly into the wilderness, to the rest of her offspring, to the place where she is to be nourished for a time, and times, and half a time. And the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared, in which to be nourished for one thousand two hundred and sixty days. She brought forth a male lamb by the dragon. The dragon pursued the woman who had borne the male lamb, that he might keep her child when she brought it forth, but her child was caught up to God and to his throne and heaven.

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Then I saw another beast which rose out of the earth, the image of the child, which was wounded by the sword; it had two horns like a lamb and it spoke like the beast, for the beast had given his authority to the people, bidding them make an image of Jesus for the beast. And it was allowed to give breath and tongue to the image so that it should even speak to deceive. And authority was given it over every nation and tribe where the beast and the image of the Lamb were, and it was allowed to exercise authority for God, for two thousand years, to try those who dwell upon the earth.

And he said to me,

-- The false prophet that you saw is an eighth, one who is to rule all the nations with a rod of iron. The servant of God, it exercises the authority and tongue of the God of heaven, and makes the earth and its inhabitants worship the first beast in its presence. It works great signs, even making fire come down from heaven to earth in the sight of men. And, by the signs from God which it is allowed to work, the Lamb of the first beast deceives those who dwell on the earth. And all tribes of the earth will marvel to behold the beast, and wail on account of him. He has power and dominion over the kings of the earth, for he is clad in a robe dipped in blood, was and is not Lord of lords, and was and is not King of kings.

-- And they will trample over the holy city.

And lo, the mortal Lamb that was slain stood before a throne in heaven. And I saw a great white throne, with one who sat there seated on the throne, and him who sat upon it -- behold, the beast with seven heads and ten horns, and seven diadems upon his heads! From his presence and power earth and sky fled away, and no place was found for them. And round the throne was a rainbow which was full of ten blasphemous commandments. Then round the throne were twenty-four thrones of the saints, and seated on the thrones were twenty-four elders, clad in white garments, with golden crowns upon their heads, each holding a harp, and with golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints.

Before the throne of God burn seven torches of fire, which are the seven spirits. And before the throne of God there is as it were a sea of glass and sulphur; this is the lake of fire. And round God, on each side of the throne, in front and behind, are four living creatures, each of them with six wings: the first living creature like a lion, the second living creature like an ox, the third living creature with the face of a man, and the fourth living creature like a flying eagle. And the four living creatures are full of eyes all round and within, and they never cease to sing. And whenever the living creatures full of eyes give glory and honour to him who is seated on the throne, the twenty-four elders fall down before him who is seated on the throne and worship him; and they cast their crowns before the throne, singing to the throne of God,

-- Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty, who lives for ever and ever, who was and is and is to come. Worthy art thou, our Lord and God, who lives for ever and ever, to receive glory and honour, for by thy will thou didst create all things.

But I saw no altar in the city, for its altar is the throne of God, and its lamp is the Lamb, burning with fire upon the altar of the throne of God.

And I heard what seemed to be the loud voice of a great multitude in heaven, crying,

-- The city has no need of sun to shine upon it; they need no sun or moon or lamp, for the glory of God is its golden light. And all nations shall bring their glory into it; they shall bring into it the glory

and the honour of nations, and its gates shall never be shut by day. By its golden light shall the nations walk before God; for the light of the Lamb in the midst of the throne and the altar will be their shepherd, and he will guide them from the throne, from the four horns of the altar. They shall neither hunger nor thirst any more; no more; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat; and night shall be no more, and they shall reign and exult for ever and ever.

And he who sat upon the throne, who was and who is and who is to come, said,

-- He who conquers shall have this heritage, and I will be his God and he shall be my son, together with the Lamb. Over such the second death has no power, but they shall be priests of God, and they shall reign with him. But as for the faithless and the polluted, as for fornicators and sorcerers and idolaters, their lot shall be in the lake that burns with fire and sulphur, which is the second death, for their deeds follow them, and they will be tormented day and night for ever and ever. This is the first resurrection. Blessed and holy is he who shares in the blood of Jesus! Eat!

Now I saw thrones, and seated on them were those to whom judgement was committed. They came to life, and reigned. And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the altar with the Lamb, and books were opened for their testimony. And the dead were judged by what was written in the books, by what they had done, and for the witness they had borne. And the sea gave up the dead in it; Death and Hades, the second death, gave up the dead in them; and all were judged by what they had done, and clothed in sackcloth, and tormented with fire and sulphur in the presence of the holy angels; then they were thrown into the lake of fire. Also another testimony was opened, which is the book of life that burns with sulphur. And if any one's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire. And the rest were thrown into the lake of fire.

And the smoke of their torment by the second death, and the testimony, and the testimony, and the testimony, goes up for ever and ever; and they have no rest, day or night.

And all the angels stood round the throne and round the elders,

and sacrificed to idols, and the four living creatures sacrificed to idols -- Glory and Honour and Power and Might. And Death and Hades fell on their faces before the throne and the child -- to eat in the marriage supper of the Lamb and to devour their Christ -- and worshipped God, murderers drunk with the blood of Jesus, saying,

-- Food of salvation! Food of salvation! By the first resurrection and the blood of the Lamb, and by the authority of our God who sits upon the throne, his spirit belongs to God! Blessing and thanksgiving be to our God for ever and ever! Amen. Glory be to him, to him for ever and ever! Amen.

And from the throne, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, flashes of lightning issue, day and night, and peals of thunder, and voices.

And they sing.

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But another portent appeared then: I saw the souls of the rest of the dead, who had been beheaded.

And when the dragon saw that those who had not worshipped the beast or its image and had not received its mark on their foreheads or their hands did not come to life, then he was angry, and gave glory to those who dwell on earth, and went off to make war on those who bear the names of God. And the dragon was given a mouth uttering blasphemous words, and it opened its mouth to utter blasphemies against God, blaspheming his name and his haughty dwelling also -- that is, those who dwell in heaven. Also, having great authority, the dragon was allowed to make war on those who would worship the beast in its presence, and to conquer them, and to cause the beast to be slain.

And war arose in heaven, Michael and his angels fighting against the dragon. And the dragon fought, and his angels and prophets and abominations which it had poured from his mouth, but they were defeated and there was no longer any place for them in heaven. And

the great dragon was thrown down in great wrath. It was thrown down to the earth, and his angels and prophets were thrown down with him.

Then I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying,

-- Where is Satan's name? Now the power and the kingdom of our God have come, for the accuser has been thrown down, the serpent who accuses our God, day and night before our brethren.

Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, holding in his hand the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain. And he seized the dragon and bound him for a thousand years and a thousand years, and threw him into the pit of prophets, and shut it and sealed it over him, that he should make war on the beast no more, till the two thousand years were ended. After that patient endurance he must be loosed for a little while. And when the two thousand years are ended, Satan will be loosed from his prison.

And I heard the angel say,

-- Rejoice not, O earth and sea, for the devil has come down to you, coming down out of heaven from God because he knows that they have conquered him and his time is short, but he has a name inscribed which no one knows but himself, and he shall be refined as in a furnace for one hour! And woe to you, O heaven and you that dwell therein! His tail swept down a third of the stars of heaven, and cast them to the earth, the sea, and the fountains of water. And a third of the sun was struck, and a third of the moon, and a third of the stars, so that a third of their light was darkened; a third of the day was kept from shining, and likewise a third of the night.

-- And that ancient serpent of water, who is the Devil and the Satan, he is the prophets and dwellers on earth whose names have not been written in the book of life; and he goes to perdition with the woman. This calls for a mind with wisdom, to go to perdition and ascend from the bottomless pit.

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After this I saw four angels standing at the four corners of the earth, holding back the four winds of the earth, that no wind might blow on earth or sea or against any tree. Then I saw another angel ascend from the rising of the sun, with the seal of the living God, and he called with a loud voice to the four angels who had been given power to harm earth and sea, saying,

-- Do not harm the earth or the sea or the trees, till we have sealed the servants of our God upon their foreheads, marked both great and small, both rich and poor, both free and slave, on the right hand or the forehead, so that no one can buy or sell unless he has the mark.

And I heard a voice from heaven saying,

-- If any one worships the beast and its image, and receives a mark on his forehead or on his hand, he shall also drink the wine of God's grace, poured unmixed into the cup of his glory.

And I heard the number of the sealed, as he announced his servants to the elders, a hundred and forty-four thousand sealed, out of every tribe of the sons of Israel, twelve thousand sealed out of the tribe of Judah, twelve thousand of the tribe of Reuben, twelve thousand of the tribe of Gad, twelve thousand of the tribe of Asher, twelve thousand of the tribe of Naphtali, twelve thousand of the tribe of Manasseh, twelve thousand of the tribe of Simeon, twelve thousand of the tribe of Levi, twelve thousand of the tribe of Issachar, twelve thousand of the tribe of Zebulun, twelve thousand of the tribe of Joseph, twelve thousand sealed out of the tribe of Benjamin.

After this I heard the temple cry. And I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no man could number, from every nation, from the sons of Israel, standing before the throne, clothed in white robes, and crying out with a loud voice. I saw the souls of those who had been slain as they themselves had killed, for the word of God. They cried out with a loud voice,

-- O Sovereign Lord, holy and true, how long before thou wilt judge our testimony on those who dwell upon the earth?

Then one of the saints addressed me, saying,

-- Sir, you know who these are, clothed in white robes, and

whence they have come? These are they who have come out of the great tribulation, they who were each given a white robe -- for the fine linen is the righteous deeds of the saints -- and then were told to be patient, to rest a little longer, until the number of their fellow servants and their brethren should be complete, and he who sits upon the throne will shelter them with his presence. It is these who have not defiled themselves with women, for they are chaste. It is these who follow the Lamb wherever he goes. These have been redeemed from mankind as first fruits for God, for they are spotless.

I said to him,

-- They have washed their robes under the altar and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

Then I looked, and lo, on Mount Zion stood the Lamb of the beast, and with him a hundred and forty-four thousand who had his name and his Father's name written on their foreheads. And I heard a voice from heaven like the sound of many waters and tongues, and like the sound of loud thunder. The voice I heard was like the sound of harpers playing on their harps a new song before the throne and before the four living creatures and before the elders. No one could learn that song except the hundred and forty-four thousand who had been redeemed from the earth, these worshipers of the beast and its image and whoever receives the mark of its name, the first-born of the dead.

Then I saw another angel flying in midheaven, with an eternal gospel to proclaim to those who dwell on earth, to every nation and tribe and people; and he said with a loud voice,

-- Fear God; and worship him who made heaven and earth; and give him anger: for the hour of his judgement has come.

Then I looked, and lo, a white cloud, and seated on the cloud one like a son of man, with a sharp sickle in his hand. And another angel came out of the temple, calling with a loud voice to him who sat upon the cloud,

-- Put in your sickle, and reap, for the hour to reap has come, for the harvest of the earth is fully ripe.

So he who sat upon the cloud swung his sickle on the earth, and the earth was reaped. And another angel came out of the temple in

heaven, and he too had a sharp sickle. Then another angel came out from the temple, and he called with a loud voice to him who had the sharp sickle,

-- Put in your sickle, and gather the clusters of the vine of the earth, for its grapes are ripe.

So the angel swung his sickle on the earth and gathered the vintage of the earth, and threw it into the great wine press of the wrath of God. And the wine press was trodden, and blood flowed from the wine press, as high as a horse's bridle, for one thousand six hundred stadia. And the twenty-four elders and the four living creatures fell down and worshipped God who is seated on the throne, saying,

-- Blessed are the dead who die in the wrath of the Lord henceforth. Amen. Blessed indeed, says the Lord, that they may rest from their labours

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Then I saw the seven angels who stand before God, and seven trumpets were given to them. And in the right hand of him who was seated on the throne, I saw a scroll, written within and sealed on the back with seven seals. And I saw a strong angel with seven horns and with seven eyes, which are the seven spirits sent out into all the earth, proclaiming with a loud voice,

-- Who is worthy to open the scroll and break its seals, to receive power and might and honour and glory and blessing? Here is a call for the endurance of his servant. Come to the saints, Lord! Be with all the saints!

And no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll or to look into it, and one of the elders wept much to me that no one was found worthy to open the scroll or to look into it.

-- Weep not, I said.

And then lo, standing as though it had been slain and yet lived, I saw a Lamb. It seemed to have a mortal wound, but its mortal wound

was healed. And he appeared, saying with a loud voice,

-- Worthy is the Lamb who was slain! I died, and behold I am alive! The Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has been called, so that he can open the scroll and its seven seals!

And he went between the elders and among the four living creatures, and took the scroll from the right hand of him who was seated on the throne. And when he had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the throne and the Lamb. And the elders fell down and worshipped, and they sang a new song, saying,

-- Worthy art thou to take the scroll and to open its seals, for thou wast slain and by thy blood didst ransom men for God from every nation and tribe and people, and hast made them a kingdom and priests to our God; and they shall reign on earth.

Then I looked, and around the throne and the living creatures and the elders, I heard the voice of many angels numbering myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands. And I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all therein, saying,

-- To him who sits upon the throne be blessing and honour and glory and might for ever and ever! And to the Lamb, whose wound was healed! And to the Lamb, who died and came to life!

And the four living creatures said,

-- Amen!

Then after this I looked, and I saw another portent in heaven. The temple of the witness in heaven was opened, and out of the temple came the seven angels with the seven plagues, robed in pure bright linen and their breasts girded with golden girdles, seven angels with seven plagues, coming down out of heaven from God, having the glory of God. And one of the four living creatures gave the seven angels seven golden bowls full of the wrath of God who lives for ever and ever. And the temple was filled with smoke from the glory of God and from his power, and no one could enter the temple of God until the seven plagues of the seven angels were ended.

Then I heard a loud voice from the temple telling the seven angels,

-- Go and pour out on the earth the seven bowls of the wrath of God.

Now the seven angels who had the seven trumpets made ready to blow them.

†

Now I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seven seals, the first angel blew his trumpet. So the first angel went and poured his bowl on the earth, and there followed hail and fire mixed with blood, which fell on the earth; and great hailstones, heavy as a hundred-weight, dropped on men from heaven, till men cursed God for the plague of the hail, so fearful was that plague. And a third of the earth was burnt up, and a third of the trees were burnt up, and all green grass was burnt up. And I heard one of the four living creatures say, as with a voice of thunder,

-- Come!

And I saw, and behold, a white horse, and its rider had a bow; and a crown was given to him, and he went out conquering and to conquer.

†

When he opened the second seal, the second angel blew his trumpet, the second angel poured his bowl into the sea, and then something like a great mountain was thrown into the sea. A mighty angel took up a stone like a great millstone and threw it into the sea, saying,

-- So shall Babylon the great city be thrown down with violence, and shall be found no more; for thy merchants were the great men of the earth, and all nations and prophets were deceived by thy sorcery to put a stumbling block before Balak. And the Lord God, has sent his angel for you; and he has avenged his servants!

And the living creatures in the sea died. A third of every living thing died that was in the sea, and a third of the ships were destroyed.

And a third of the sea became blood, and it became like the blood of a dead man. Men gnawed their tongues in anguish and cursed the God of heaven for their sores, and did not repent of their deeds. I heard the second living creature say,

-- Come!

And out came another horse, bright red; its rider was given a great sword; and he was permitted to take peace from the earth, so that men should slay one another.

†

When he opened the third seal, the third angel blew his trumpet, the third angel poured his bowl into the rivers and the fountains of water, and they became blood. And a great star fell from heaven, blazing like a torch, and it fell on a third of the rivers and on the fountains of water. The name of the star is Wormwood. And a third of the waters became wormwood, and many men died of the water, because it was made bitter. The rest of mankind did not repent of the voices of their hands, nor give up worshipping gold and silver and bronze demons, and idols of stone and wood, works which cannot see or hear or walk. I heard the third living creature say,

-- Come!

And I saw, and behold, a black horse, and its rider had a balance in his hand; and I heard what seemed to be a voice in the midst of the four living creatures saying,

-- Just art thou in these thy judgements, thou who art and wast, O Holy One. For saints have shed the blood of men, and thou hast given them blood to drink. It is their due! Yea, Lord God the Almighty, true and just are thy judgements!

†

When he opened the fourth seal, the fourth angel blew his trumpet, the fourth angel poured his bowl on the sun, and it was allowed to scorch men with fire. Men were scorched by the fierce heat, and they cursed the name of God who had power over these plagues, and they

did not repent and give him glory. I heard the voice of the fourth living creature say,

-- Come!

And I saw, and behold, a pale horse, and its rider's name was Death, and Hades followed him. And they were given power over a fourth of the earth, to kill with sword and with famine and with pestilence and by wild beasts of the earth. Then I looked, and I heard an eagle crying with a loud voice, as it flew in midheaven,

-- Woe, woe, woe to those who dwell on the earth, at the blasts of the other trumpets which the three angels are about to blow!

†

And when he opened the fifth seal, the fifth angel blew his trumpet, the fifth angel poured his bowl on the throne of the beast, and its kingdom was in darkness.

And I saw a star fallen from heaven to earth; from his mouth issued a sharp two-edged sword, and he was given the key of the shaft of the bottomless pit. He opened the shaft of the bottomless pit, and from the shaft came locusts on the earth. In appearance the locusts from the shaft were like horses arrayed for battle: they had scales like iron breastplates, and the noise of their wings was like the noise of many chariots with horses rushing into battle. And they were given power like the evil of scorpions of the earth. They were told not to harm the grass of the earth or any green growth or any tree, but only those of mankind who have not the seal of God upon their foreheads; they were allowed to torture them for five months, but not to kill them, and their torture was like the torture of a scorpion, when it stings a man.

Their number is like the sand of the sea, they have tails like scorpions, and stings, and their power of hurting men for five months lies in their tails. They have as king over them the angel of the bottomless pit; his name in Hebrew is Abaddon, and in Greek he is called Apollyon. But a dragon that was thrown into the lake of fire and ascends from the bottomless pit will come out to make war upon them and conquer them.

Then came one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues, and spoke to me, saying,

-- The first woe has passed; behold, two woes are still to come.

†

When he opened the sixth seal, then the sixth angel blew his trumpet, the sixth angel poured his bowl on the great river Euphrates, and its water was dried up, to prepare the way for the kings from the east. And I heard a voice, saying to the sixth angel who had the trumpet,

-- Release the four angels who are bound at the great river Euphrates.

So the four angels were released, who had been held ready for the hour, the day, the month, and the year, to kill a third of mankind. The number of the troops of cavalry was twice ten thousand times ten thousand; I heard their number. And this was how I saw the horses in my vision: the riders wore breastplates the colour of fire and of sapphire and of sulphur, and the heads of the horses were like lions' heads, and fire and smoke and sulphur issued from their mouths. By these three plagues a third of mankind was killed, by the fire and smoke and sulphur, three foul spirits like frogs issuing from their mouths and from the mouth of the beast and from the mouth of the false prophet.

For the power of the horses is in their mouths and in their tails; their tails are like serpents, with heads, and by means of them they wound. And if any one would harm them, fire pours out from their mouth and consumes their foes. If any one would harm them, thus he is doomed to be killed. They have power to shut the sky, that no rain may fall, and they have power over the waters to turn them into blood, and to smite the earth with every plague, as often as they desire; for they are demonic spirits who go abroad, performing signs to the kings of the whole world, to assemble them for battle on the Lord's day, on the great day of God the Almighty. And in those days men will seek death and will not find it; they will long to die, and death will fly from them.

Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls came and

said to me,

-- The second woe has passed; behold, the third woe is soon to come.

†

When the Lamb opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven for about half an hour. Then the seventh angel blew his trumpet, the seventh angel poured his bowl into the air, and a loud voice came out of the temple, from the throne, saying,

-- It is done!

And there were loud voices in heaven, saying,

-- Behold, the dwelling of God is with men. He will dwell with them, and they shall be his people and prophets, and God himself will be with them. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more; neither shall there be mourning nor crying nor pain any more; for the former things have passed away.

Then God's temple in heaven was opened, and the ark of his covenant was seen within his temple, before the throne, before God. And another angel came and stood with a golden censer; and he was given much incense to mingle with the prayers of all the saints for plagues and pestilence and famine. Then smoke rose from the hand of the angel, and the smoke of the incense rose with the prayers of the saints, like the smoke of a great furnace. And the sun and the air were darkened with the smoke. Then the angel took the censer, and filled it with fire, and threw it on the earth.

And I looked, and behold, there was a great earthquake. And the sun became black as sackcloth from the smoke, the full moon became like blood, and the stars of the sky fell to the earth as the fig tree sheds its winter fruit when shaken by a gale. And there were flashes of lightning, peals of thunder, and a great earthquake such as had never been since men were on the earth. So great was that earthquake, the great city was split into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell. Then the kings of the earth and the great men and the generals and the rich and the strong, and every one, slave and free, hid in the caves and among the rocks of the mountains, calling to the mountains and

rocks,

-- Fall on us and hide us from the face of him who is seated on the throne, and from the wrath of the beast; for the great day of their wrath has come, and who can stand before it?

†

And from the throne came a voice crying,

-- Fallen, fallen is Babylon the great! Her sins are heaped high as heaven, and God has remembered her iniquities; for mighty is the Lord God who judges her, the God of the apostles. He has judged the great harlot who corrupted the earth with the impure blood of her fornication and her sins. So shall her plagues come in a single day, and she shall be burned with fire. Come out of her, my servants, lest you take part in her mourning, lest you share in her torment!

And the kings of the earth will stand far off, in fear of her torment. The merchants of these wares will stand far off, in fear of her torment, weeping and mourning aloud. They will weep and wail over her when they see the smoke of her burning, and say,

-- Alas, alas, for the great city that was clothed in our fine linen, in purple and scarlet of the prophets, bedecked with gold, with jewels, and with pearls! In one hour all this wealth has been laid waste. Alas! alas! thou great city, thou mighty city, Babylon! The fruit for which thy soul longed has gone from thee, and all thy dainties and thy splendour are lost to thee, never to be found again! In one hour has thy judgement come. And the sound of harpers and minstrels, of flute players and trumpeters, shall be heard in thee no more; and a craftsman of any craft shall be found in thee no more; and the sound of the millstone shall be heard in thee no more; and the light of a lamp shall shine in thee no more; and the voice of bridegroom and bride shall be heard in thee no more.

And at that hour there was a great earthquake, and a tenth of the city fell. There were voices, peals of thunder, flashes of lightning, an earthquake, and heavy hail. And seven thousand people were killed in

the earthquake, and the rest were terrified.

And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

-- Fallen, fallen is Babylon the great, she who made all nations drink the wine of her passion. For the kings of the earth have drunk the wine of her passion, and the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth have grown rich with the wealth of her wantonness. Rejoice over her, for God has remembered great Babylon, and given judgement against her, to make her drain the cup of the fury of his wrath! Glory and power belong to God, for his judgements are true and just!

Another angel, a second, followed, saying,

-- Hallelujah! The smoke from her goes up for ever and ever.

And then another angel, a third, followed them, saying with a loud voice,

-- Hallelujah!

Once more they cried,

-- Hallelujah! Amen!

And all shipmasters and seafaring men, who gained wealth from her, who committed fornication and were wanton with her, sailors and all whose trade is on the sea, stood far off with palm branches in their hands, and cried out as they saw the smoke of her burning,

-- Alas, alas, for the great city where all who had ships at sea grew rich by her wealth! In one hour she has been laid waste. And the merchants of the earth weep and mourn for her, since no one buys their cargo any more: cargo of silver oil, silk wine and cinnamon spice; gold incense, frankincense and myrrh; fine scarlet purple linen, marble jewels and pearls; all articles of fine ivory; all articles of costly wood; all kinds of scented wood; bronze chariots and iron horses; sheep and cattle; flour and wheat. A quart of wheat for a denarius, and three quarts of barley for a denarius! Render to her as she herself has rendered, and do not harm, O kings on earth, but repay her double for her deeds; mix a double draught for her in the cup she mixed, oil and wine. As she glorified herself and played the wanton, so give her a like measure of mourning.

And they threw dust on their heads, as they wept on and mourned it, crying out,

-- What city was like the great city?

†

Then I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse! He who sat upon it is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he judges and makes war. His eyes are like a flame of fire, and on his head are many diadems. On his robe and on his thigh he has a name inscribed, King of kings and Lord of lords, and the name by which he is called is The Word of God. From his mouth issues a sharp sword with which to smite the nations, and he will rule them with a rod of iron. He will tread the wine press of the fury of the wrath of God Almighty.

And the armies of heaven, arrayed in fine linen, white and pure, followed him on white horses. And there were voices, peals of thunder, flashes of lightning, and an earthquake. And the twenty-four elders who sit on their thrones before God fell on their faces and worshipped God, saying,

-- We give thanks to thee, Lord God the Almighty, who art and who wast, that thou hast taken thy great power and begun to reign. The nations raged, and foul and evil sores came upon the men who bore the mark of the beast and worshipped its image. But thy wrath came, and the time for the dead to be judged, and for rewarding thy servants, the saints who fear thy name, and for destroying those who were not killed by these plagues, both small and great. The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord, and he shall reign for ever and ever.

Then I saw an angel standing in the sun, and with a loud voice he called to all the birds that fly in midheaven,

-- Come, gather for battle; gather for the great supper of God, to eat the flesh of kings, the flesh of captains, the flesh of mighty men, the flesh of horses and their riders, and the flesh of all men, both free and slave, both small and great.

And I saw the dragon. He had been thrown down on the earth until the two thousand years were ended. And I saw the kings of the

earth with their armies gathered to make war against him who sits upon the horse and against his army. On their heads were what looked like crowns of gold. Their faces were like human faces, their hair like women's hair, and their teeth like lions' teeth. And they assembled them at the place which is called in Hebrew Armageddon. And they marched up over the broad earth -- the nations which are at the four corners of the earth, that is, Gog and Magog -- and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city for forty-two months. And for forty-two months -- one thousand two hundred and sixty days -- those who had received the mark of the beast and those who worshipped its image were slain by the sword and tongue of him who sits upon the horse, the sword that issues from his mouth; and the beast and fire consumed them. But the beast who had deceived them was captured alive, and with it the false prophet who had worked the signs by which he deceived. These two stood up on their feet, and a breath of life entered them, and in them was found the blood of saints, and of all who have been slain on earth, and a great fear fell on those who saw them.

These are the last which stand before the Lord of the earth during the days of their wrath. And when they have finished their testimony, the devil will kill them, for with them the prophesying of God is ended. And for three and a half days their dead bodies will lie in the street of the great city in the sight of their foes. Men from the peoples and tribes and nations will gaze at their dead bodies and tongues, and rejoice over them and make merry, and exchange presents and thanks, and refuse to let them be placed in a tomb, because these two prophets had been a torment to those who dwell on the earth in the presence of the dragon.

And after the three and a half days they heard a loud voice from heaven saying to them,

-- Come up hither!

And all the birds came down from heaven and were gorged with their flesh. And they went up to heaven in a cloud.

I am John, he who heard and saw these things, and who testifies to these things. When I heard and saw them, I fell down to worship at the feet of the angel who showed them to me; but he said to me,

-- You must not do that! I am a fellow servant with you and with your brethren.

Then he showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, clear as glass, flowing from springs of living water through the middle of the street of the holy city; also in the city, on either side of the river, the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, yielding its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. And I saw what appeared to be a sea of glass mingled with fire, and those who had conquered the beast and its image and the number of its name, standing beside the sea of glass with harps in their hands. And he said to me,

-- I have sent my angel to you with this book for the churches, and those who worship God. Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true. It is done! No more shall there be anything but the throne of God accursed outside the city. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. The Spirit and the Bride say, Come. And let him who hears say, Come. And let him who is thirsty come. Let him who desires take the water of life without price. Let the evildoer still do right, and the righteous still do evil, and the filthy still be holy, and the holy still be filthy. To the thirsty I will give from the fountain of the water of life without payment, and the tree of life that they may wipe away every tear from their eyes.

Also, after this he said,

-- Write this: I warn every one who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: keep the words of this book.

I will.

-- Blessed is he who keeps them; these are words which are trustworthy and true. If any one adds to the words of the prophecy of this book, God will add to him the plagues described in this book; and if any one takes away from the words of the prophecy of this book, God will take away his share in the tree of life described in this book.

He says,

-- Surely I am coming soon. Do not seal up this book, for the time is near. Behold, I am coming soon, bringing my recompense, to repay every one for what he has done. I am the root and the offspring of David and the bright morning star. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end, Christ and Satan.

And he said to me,

-- Amen.