



# Biblical Apocalyp<sup>t</sup>ics

Unveiling the Symbolism, Poetry,  
and Prophecy of the Scriptures

A Curated Visual Synthesis

# The Modern Myth

Colloquially misunderstood as a synonym for global destruction, doomsday, or the mechanical end of the physical world.

# The Divine Perspective

From the Greek *apokalypsis*, meaning an unveiling or a disclosure. An apocalypse is a sudden removal of the the veil between heaven and earth, revealing the divine perspective on human history.

It is a heavenly disclosure, in the reception of which the man is comparatively passive... he sees, hears, feels that the "hand of God" is upon him.

# The Lenses of Interpretation

## Literalist / Historical Lens

## Apocalyptic / Symbolic Lens

### View of Genesis 1

A 144-hour geological almanac;  
natural science.

A poetic, sevenfold picture of divine  
order; a theological object lesson.

### View of Prophecy

A chronological fortune-telling  
mechanism.

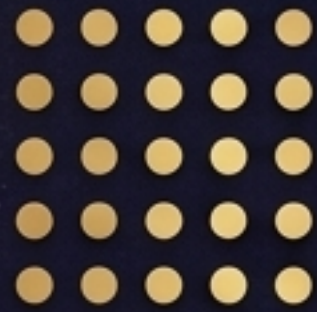
A declaration of moral judgment and  
guaranteed mercy; the Nemesis  
of history.

### View of Symbols

Mechanical realities mapped  
directly to future earthly events.

Poetic ideals, numbers, and  
visions conveying spiritual truths.

# The Toolkit of the Seer



## Symbolic Numbers

**3** (Divine fullness/unity)  
**4** (The compass of the world/agencies of judgment)  
**7** (Sacred covenant/God + man)  
**12** (The elect Israel)  
**40/70** (Periods of judgment and exile)

## Symbolic Colors

**White** (Righteous acts, holy character)  
**Red & Black** (Bloodshed, famine, pestilence)  
Mentioned as attributes, never independent.

## Prophetic Acts & Names

**Representational actions**  
(Jeremiah's broken pot, Isaiah walking barefoot)  
**Representative names**  
(Sodom, Egypt, Babylon as archetypes of human pride)

# The Law of Apocalyptic Repetition



Dream A - Earthly scale



Dream B - Cosmic scale



One Established  
Divine Certainty

The habit of repeating the same matter under different symbols is a foundational rule. The doubling of Pharaoh's dreams, or Daniel's visions of statues and beasts, proves that "the thing is established by God, and God will shortly bring it to pass" (Gen 41:32).

# The Dual Pillars: Judgment and Mercy

Every apocalypse guarantees punishment for the wicked and glory for the righteous.

	Judgment (Wrath)	Mercy (Grace)
The Edenic Apocalypse	The Flaming Sword (Divine justice demanding retribution for sin).	The Cherubim (Divine love guarding the way to eternal life).
The Flood Apocalypse	The Drowning World (The end of a wicked age; the overflowing wrath).	The Ark & The Rainbow (The surviving remnant and the new covenant).
The Prophetic Apocalypse (Isaiah)	The Felled Tree (The devastating judgments of Assyria and Babylon).	The Holy Seed (The surviving Messianic hope sprouting from the stump).

# Genesis 1: Apocalypse, Not Almanac

## The Hexaemeron Visual

### Forming (Days 1-3)

Day 1: Light separated from Darkness.

Day 2: Sky separated from Waters.

Day 3: Dry Land and Vegetation.

### Filling (Days 4-6)

Day 4: Luminaries (Sun, Moon, Stars).

Day 5: Creatures of Sky and Water (Birds, Fish).

Day 6: Land Animals and Man.

Day 7 - The Sabbath Rest. The aesthetic, contemplative climax.

This is a theological object lesson, a sevenfold picture of creation by the word of God, not a literal 144-hour record of physical facts.

# The Edenic Apocalypse

The Anatomy of Temptation and the Genesis of Guilt



## Lust of the Flesh

“The tree was good for food.” (The promptings of concupiscence and physical desire).

## Lust of the Eyes

“It was a delight to the eyes.” (The aesthetic allure of forbidden boundaries).

## Pride of Life

“Desired to make one wise.” (The defiant spirit of human autonomy over divine law).

The narrative tracks the certain incidence of retribution: from thought to wish, from purpose to act, resulting in the thrilling intensity of fear, shame, and the hiding from the searching voice of God (“Where art thou?”).

# The Antediluvian Conflict

The Seed of the Serpent vs. The Seed of the Woman



# The Flood & The City of Chaos

## The End of an Age

### The Water & The Bow

The Flood is the archetypal “Day of Jehovah”—a sudden horror on an unbelieving generation.

The Ark is the symbol of the surviving elect, and the Rainbow is the visual seal of the new covenant.

## The Archetype of Human Pride

### Babel & The Dispersion

The building of the “City of Chaos” whose top reaches heaven symbolizes worldly ambition and defiance.

The confusion of languages is a divine judgment scattering the forces of human presumption.



# The Abrahamic Visions

The 7-fold apocalypse of the promised seed.



## The Horror of Great Darkness

Abram falls into a deep sleep and a terrifying darkness. A prophecy of 400 years of bondage, suffering, and ultimate triumph for his descendants.



## The Smoking Furnace & Flaming Torch

The signs of Jehovah's presence pass between the pieces of the sacrifice. A pure theophany sealing the covenant, guaranteeing that the nations of Canaan will yield to the chosen seed.

These visions codify the covenant: through this appointed lineage, all families of the earth shall be blessed.

# Dreams of the Patriarchs

## Jacob's Ladder at Bethel

- A vision of a gigantic stairway of mountains and clouds reaching into heaven, with angels ascending and descending.
- **Meaning:** A symbol of mediation between heaven and earth. God bending down to lay hold of the true seed of Abraham, lifting them to heavenly places.

## Joseph's Double Dreams

- Sheaves in the field (earthly) + Sun, moon, and stars (cosmic).
- **Meaning:** A prophetic certainty of elevation and honor, fulfilling the law of apocalyptic repetition.



# The Exodus Drama

## Act I: The Burning Bush



The burning judgments of God are a consuming fire, but they never destroy what is pure. Oppression cannot consume Israel; they are imperishable.

## Act II: The Plagues of Egypt



A “Day of Jehovah.” A localized apocalypse where the power of the Egyptian gods is overturned by the Creator’s command over nature.

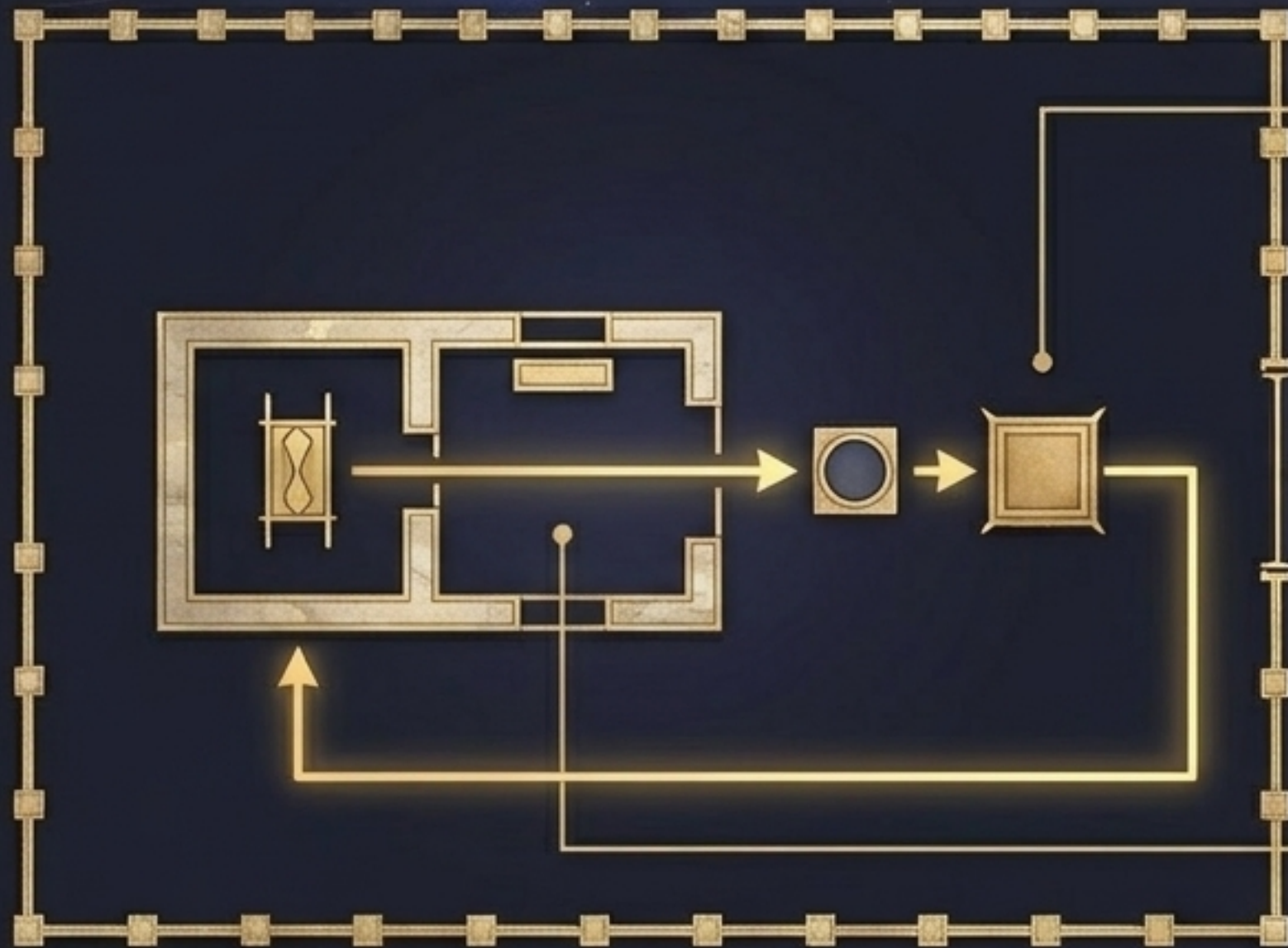
## Act III: The Red Sea Crossing



The ultimate symbol of redemption. The oppressor is swallowed up, leading to the victorious “Song of Moses” on the further shore.

# The Anatomy of the Tabernacle

A material symbol of God dwelling with his people.



## Zone 1: The Court (The Altar & Laver)

The requirement of sacrifice and washing. No approach to God without the remission of sins and regeneration.

## Zone 2: The Holy Place (Showbread, Candlestick, Incense)

The true relation of Israel to God. A living sacrifice, the light of the world, and the prayers of the saints ascending.

## Zone 3: The Holy of Holies (The Ark & Mercy Seat)

The restoration of Eden. The Mercy Seat serves as a covering over the Law—a picture of “mercy covering wrath,” guarded once again by the Cherubim.

# The Fall of Jericho: Apocalyptic Conquest

1

## The Ritual

Seven priests, seven trumpets, seven days, seven circuits on the final day, culminating in a “great shout.”

2

## The Typology

Jericho represents the hostile, godless world-power standing in the way of the Kingdom of God.



3

## The Echo

This historical event provided the exact symbolic imagery for John’s Apocalypse—the seven trumpets of woe and the great shout (the voice of the archangel) that signal the final collapse of “Babylon the Great.”

# The Vision of Isaiah (Chapter 6)

## The Majesty

The veil of the temple is parted, revealing the King upon his throne. Seraphim cry "Holy, Holy, Holy," shaking the foundations.

**Result:** An overpowering conviction of the holiness of God, exposing the enormity of human sin.



## The Paradox

The prophet is cleansed by a live coal from the altar and sent to preach.

**The Mandate:** To preach to a people who will not hear, making their hearts fat and their ears heavy—the word of prophecy becoming a "savor from death unto death" for a rebellious nation.

# The Stump and the Holy Seed

## The Felled Tree (Judgment)

The dead rings represent the devastating judgments of God.

Assyria and Babylon are the axes used to chop down the pride and idolatry of the nation.

The land is laid waste.



## The Green Shoot (Mercy)

Even when only a tenth remains, and that tenth is burned again, the stump survives.

This imperishable "Holy Seed" is the surviving remnant, the Messianic hope that proves God's fires purify but never utterly destroy.

# The Day of Jehovah

## The Cosmic Poetry of Isaiah 13 (The Fall of Babylon)

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**The Heavens Tremble:** "The stars... shall not shed their light. Dark is the sun... the earth shall be shaken out of her place."

**The Meaning:** Prophets use the unmaking of the cosmos to describe the collapse of political and spiritual world-powers.

**The Reality:** The literal event is the Medes and Persians overthrowing the Chaldean capital. The apocalyptic meaning is the ultimate overthrow of all human arrogance and the Nemesis of history executing God's sore judgment.



# The Oracle Against Egypt (Isaiah 19)

The valley of judgment becomes a valley of blessing.



The Highway



## Step 1: The Smiting

Jehovah rides on a swift cloud; Egypt's idols tremble, civil war and judgment ensue.

## Step 2: The Healing

An altar to Jehovah is built in the midst of Egypt. They know God and are healed.

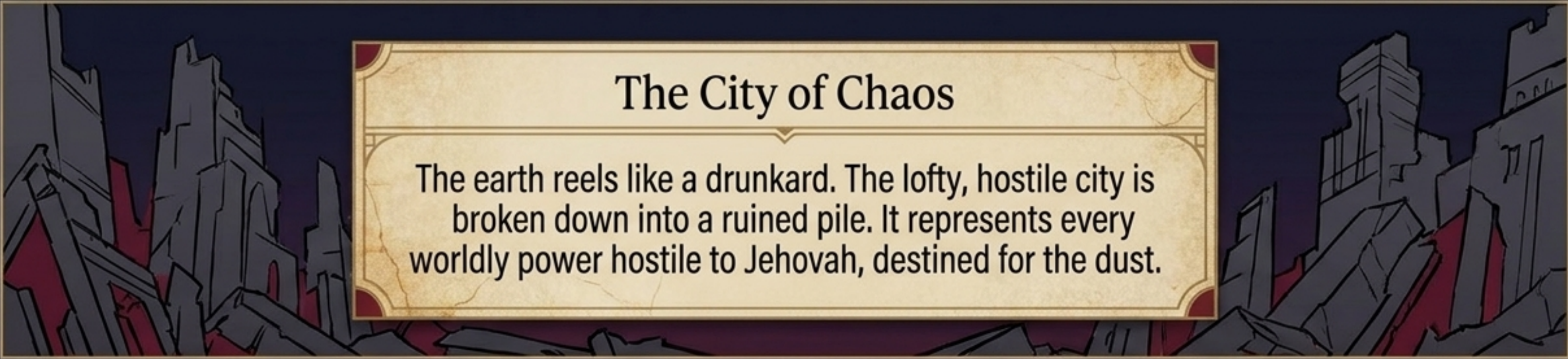
## Step 3: The Highway

A highway opens between the two greatest rival superpowers of the ancient world (Egypt and Assyria).

## Synthesis


Israel becomes a third partner with its greatest historical enemies, united in a common worship.  
A stunning Messianic ideal of global redemption.

# The Apocalypse of Isaiah (The Book of Zion)



## The City of Chaos

The earth reels like a drunkard. The lofty, hostile city is broken down into a ruined pile. It represents every worldly power hostile to Jehovah, destined for the dust.



## The Mountain of the Lord

Zion is revealed as a restful dwelling, a tent whose pins shall never be pulled up. Jehovah is Judge, Commander, and King, dwelling majestically amidst his people.

# The Feast and the Resurrection

The ultimate victory over the final enemy.

## The Feast

A feast of fat things  
and strained wines  
prepared for all peoples  
on the holy mountain.

## The Unveiling

The swallowing up of  
the veil that covers all  
nations—the removal  
of spiritual darkness.

## The Resurrection

“Thy dead shall live...  
Awake and sing, ye  
dwellers of the dust; for  
thy dew is as the dew  
of lights.”

The swallowing up of  
death forever and the  
wiping away of every  
tear.

# The Alpha and the Omega

## The Alpha (Genesis 1-3)

The First Heavens and Earth created

The Tree of Life guarded and lost

The Serpent bruises the heel

The City of Chaos (Babel) scatters humanity

## The Omega (Revelation 20-22)

A New Heaven and a New Earth

The Tree of Life restored and freely accessed

The Dragon is cast into the abyss

The New Jerusalem unites the nations

**Synthesis:** The biblical canon purposefully begins and ends with an Apocalypse, weaving a single, unified storyline from the creation of the cosmos to its ultimate redemption.

# The Enduring Value of Revelation



Biblical apocalypics are not almanacs to satisfy our curiosity about geology.

They are not fortune-telling devices to satisfy our curiosity about future political events.

They are the divine grammar of hope. They unveil the absolute certainty that despite the chaos of history, God's righteousness and love will ultimately triumph, the wicked will be judged, and the righteous will be glorified.

The Illuminated Tapestry of the Scriptures