

Numbers:

Since the symbolism of numbers is very important to an understanding of Revelation, I have included a brief description of numbers.

“1” the idea of unity, that which is unique and alone

“2” stands for strengthening, redoubled courage and energy by companionship

“3” carries thought of the divine, Godhead

“3 ½” expresses the incomplete, the imperfect, 7 cut in half

“4” symbolic of the world or creation

“5” stands for man, 5 doubled to 10 stands for human completeness

“6” stands for doom and destruction

“7” the sacred number, complete or perfect, 7 multiplied by 10 resulted in the very sacred 70

“10” the power number; 1,000, 144,000, indicates fullness to an unlimited degree, completeness

“12” the religious number, bearing a symbolic religious idea or concept (4 multiplied by 3)

Definitions:

The **sealed book** that God is holding in his hand symbolizes His eternal purpose for man’s salvation, formulated in His mind and was a mystery until revealed.

The **beast from the abyss** is identified as a great imperial world power standing in opposition to the kingdom of God.

The **seven trumpets** symbolize warnings of greater judgments to come.

The **woman with child** waiting to be delivered can best be thought of as the spiritual remnant of God’s people who, in faithfulness, had kept covenant with Him.

The **beast coming up out of the sea** symbolizes the human societies or nations with their stormy upheavals, out of which the empires of the earth arise and represented the Roman Empire in its power and opposition to the kingdom of God

The **beast coming up out of the earth** symbolized the pagan priesthood or emperor worship, backed by the sea-beast, the political power of the empire, also called the false prophet.

The **harlot (Babylon / Rome)** represents the world of lust, all that appeals to the flesh or mind.

Har-Magedon (Armageddon) means Mount of Megiddo, used symbolically to describe a great decisive spiritual battle between the army of Satan and the forces of God, which would determine the fate of each.

Gog and Magog symbolize such forces and agencies as atheism, humanism, communism, materialism, astrology, and all manner of false and perverted religions.

The **second death** is defined as the lake of fire (20:14, 21:8); not second as that which follows first.

Babylon is described as spiritual Babylon; the harlot, the great world-city of pride; lust and corruption; The Roman Empire.

Mount Zion / New Jerusalem is the church where Christ is in the midst.