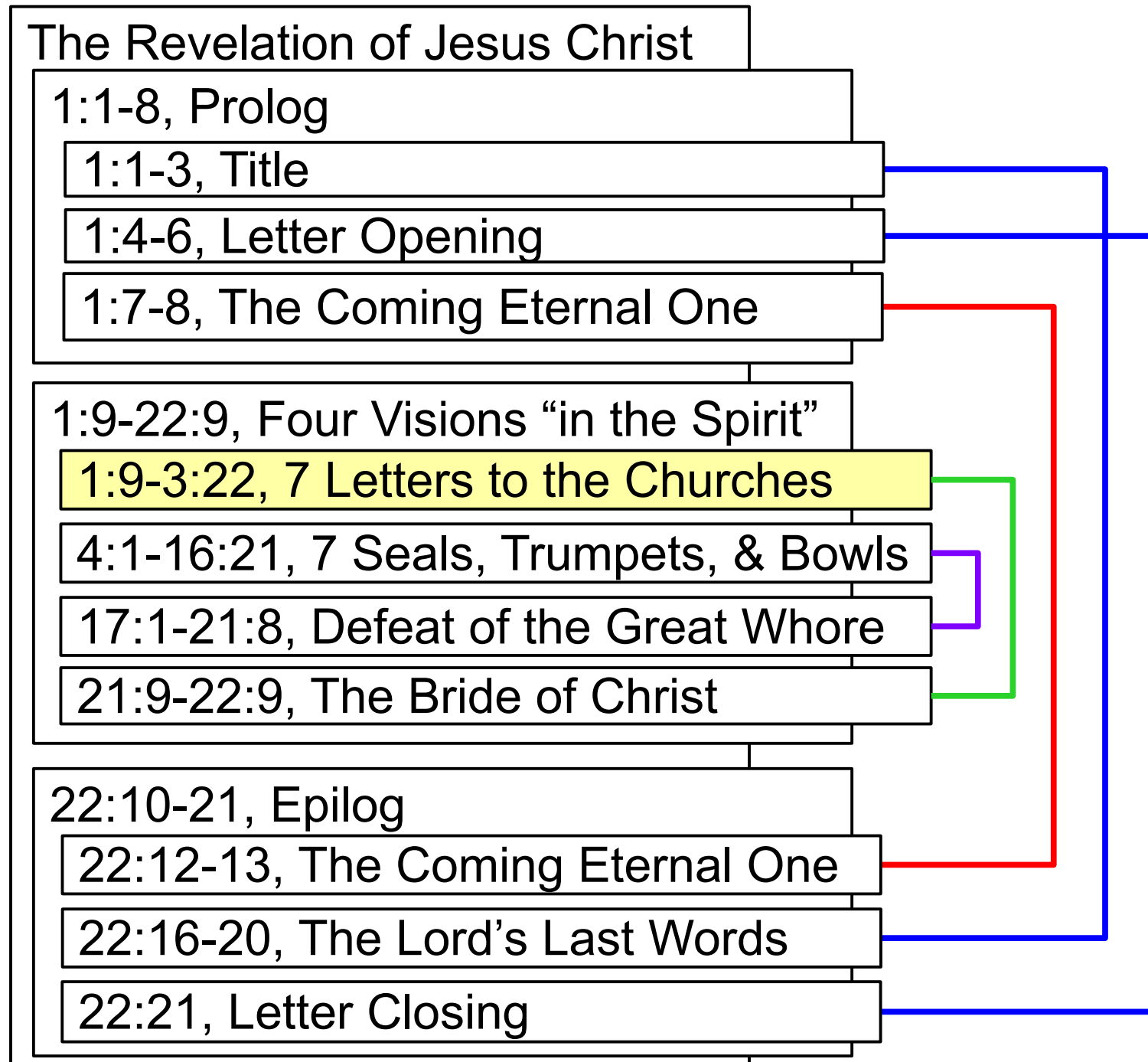


Structure of the Revelation

Rev 1:20-2:1



1:20 The seven stars are the angels ...

“Angel” ἄγγελος G32 = “messenger”

Genitive = subjective, “angel of X” = “messenger sent by X”

Luke 7:19 And John calling unto him two of his disciples sent them to Jesus, saying, Art thou he that should come? or look we for another? ... 24 And when the **messengers of John** were departed, he began to speak unto the people concerning John, What went ye out into the wilderness for to see? A reed shaken with the wind?

Luke 7:27 This [John the Baptist] is he, of whom it is written, Behold, I send **my messenger** before thy face, which shall prepare thy way before thee.

Luke 9:51 And it came to pass, when the time was come that he should be received up, he stedfastly set his face to go to Jerusalem, 52 And sent **messengers** before his face: and they went, and entered into a village of the Samaritans, to make ready for him.

Structure of the Seven Letters

	Ephesus, 2:1-7	Smyrna, 2:8-11	Pergamos, 2:12-17	Thyatira, 2:18-29	Sardis, 3:1-6	Philadelphia , 3:7-13	Laodicea, 3:14-22
Command to write	1a	8a	12a	18a	1a	7a	14a
Title from ch. 1	1b	8b	12b	18b	1b	7b	14b
Message	2-6	9-10	13-16	19-25	1c-4	8-11	15-20
I know thy works	2a	9a	13a	19a	1c	8a	15a
Praise	2-3	9-10	13	19		8-11	
Criticism	4-5		14-16	20-23	2-3		15-20
Praise	6			24-25	4		
Exhortation	5	10	16	25	3	11b	18-19
Promise to Overcomers				26-28	5	12	21
Exhortation to hear	7a	11a	17a	29	6	13	22
Promise to Overcomers	7b	11b	17b				

Important Facts about Ephesus

Background (Acts, other texts)	Fact
18:1-3, 18-22; 1 Cor 16:8, 19; Rom 16:3; 2 Tim 4:19	Ephesus has many transient visitors (like Aquilla and Priscilla).
18:24-26; 19:1-7	The church was exposed to believers with a diversity of beliefs .
19:8-10, 20, 23-28, 35-37	The city is fanatically devoted to the goddess Diana and hosted her temple , with its sacred park and tree.
20:1-3, 15-17, 29-30	The church has functioning elders .
	The city is losing its leading position through the silting of its harbor.
20:29-30; 1 Tim 1:3; 6:3	The church was continually threatened by false teachers

Paul's 2nd Missionary Journey, Acts 15:40-18:22



Paul's 3rd Missionary Journey, Acts 18:23-21:15



Helpful Verses in the Background of Ephesus

Aquilla & Priscilla

1Co 16:8 But I will tarry at Ephesus until Pentecost. ... 19 The churches of Asia salute you. **Aquila and Priscilla** salute you much in the Lord, with the church that is in their house.

Rom 16:3 Greet **Priscilla and Aquila** my helpers in Christ Jesus:

2Ti 4:19 Salute **Prisca and Aquila**, and the household of Onesiphorus.

Timothy's later ministry

1Ti 1:3 As I besought thee to abide still at Ephesus, when I went into Macedonia, that thou mightest charge some that they teach no other doctrine, 4 Neither give heed to fables and endless genealogies, which minister questions, rather than godly edifying which is in faith: so do.

1Ti 6:3 If any man teach otherwise, and consent not to wholesome words, even the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the doctrine which is according to godliness; 4 He is proud, knowing nothing, but doting about questions and strifes of words, whereof cometh envy, strife, railings, evil surmisings, 5 Perverse disputings of men of corrupt minds, and destitute of the truth, supposing that gain is godliness: from such withdraw thyself.

