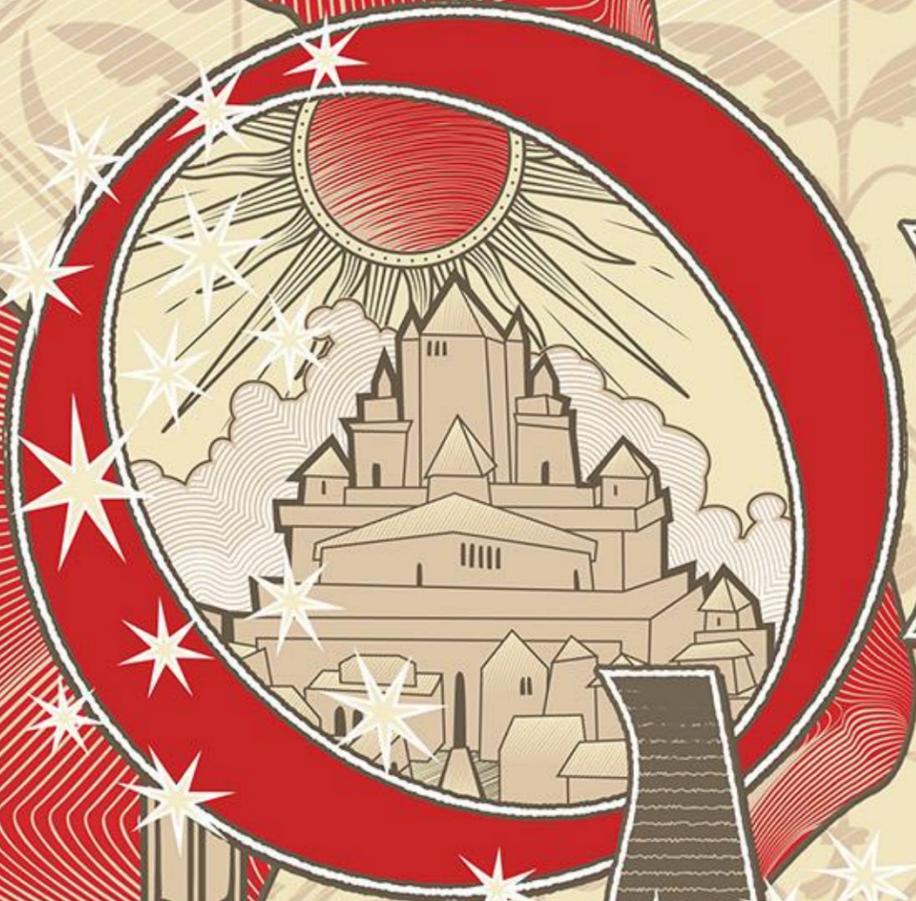
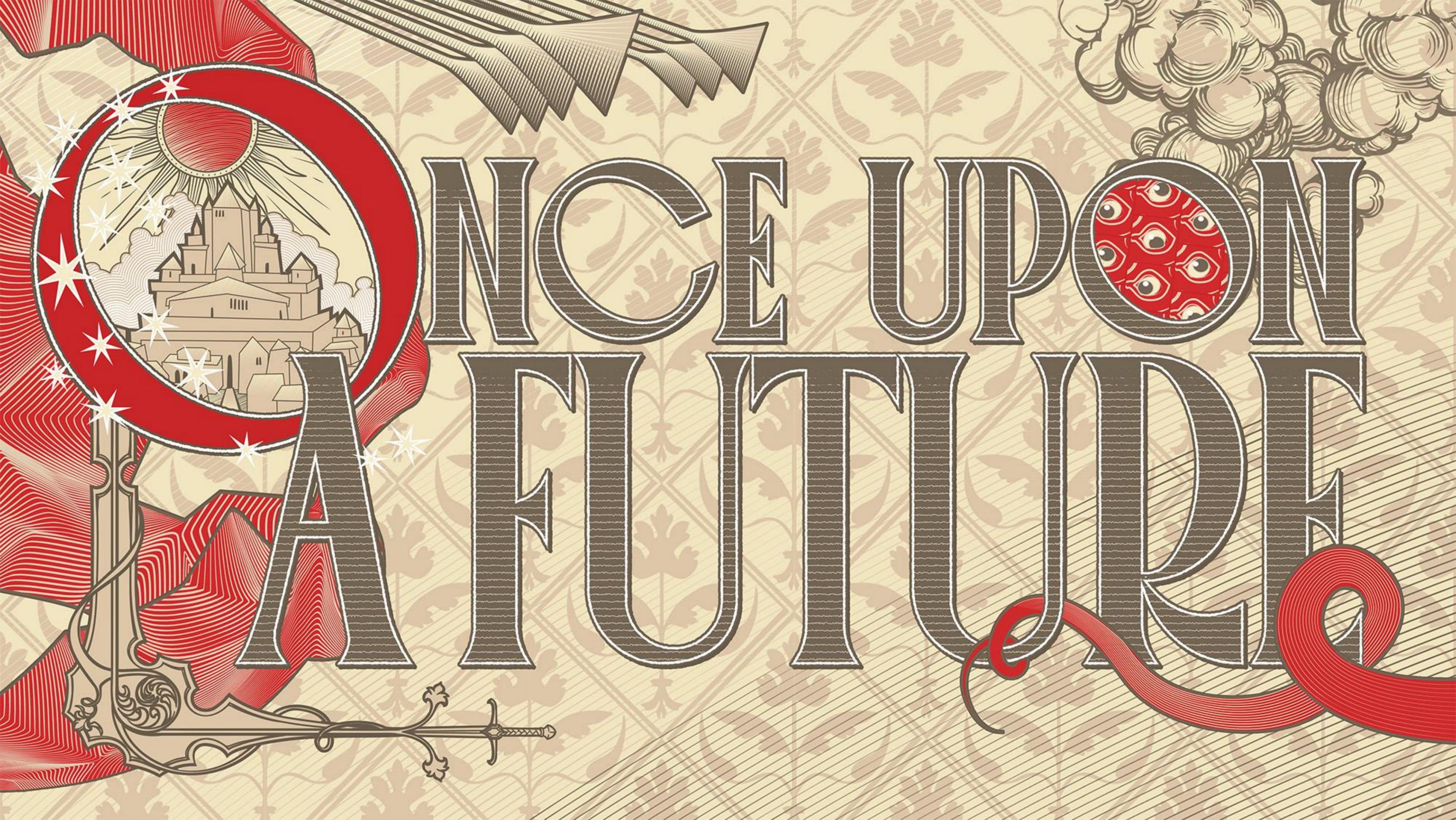


KEVIN COSTNER ROBIN WRIGHT PENN  
*and*  
PAUL NEWMAN

MESSAGE  
IN A  
BOTTLE

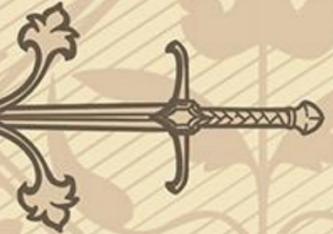


ANCE UPON



A FUTURE

PEOPLE

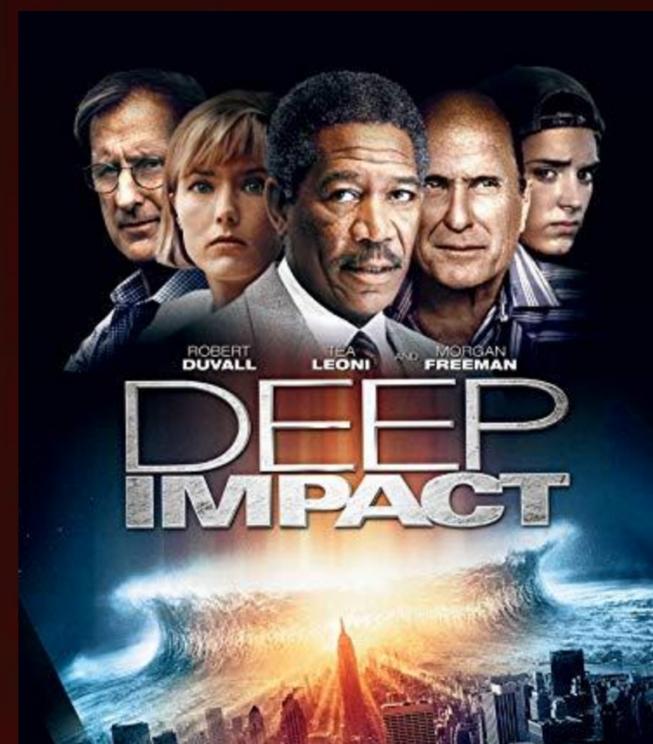
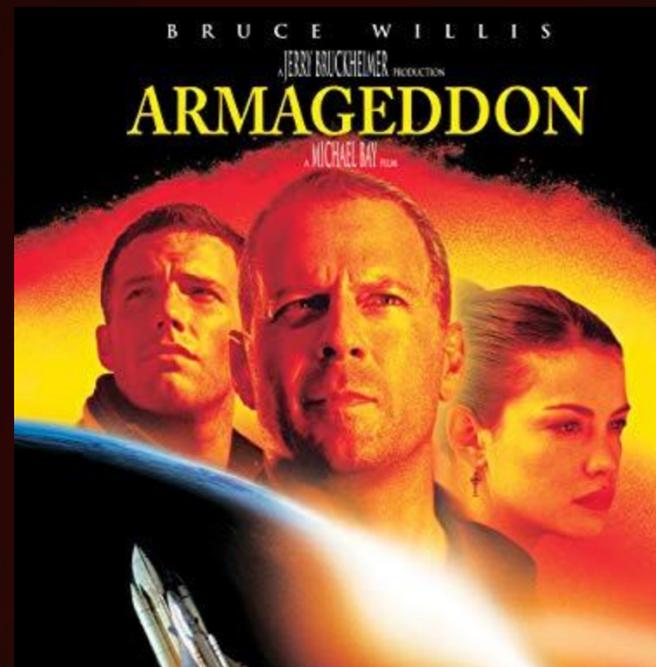
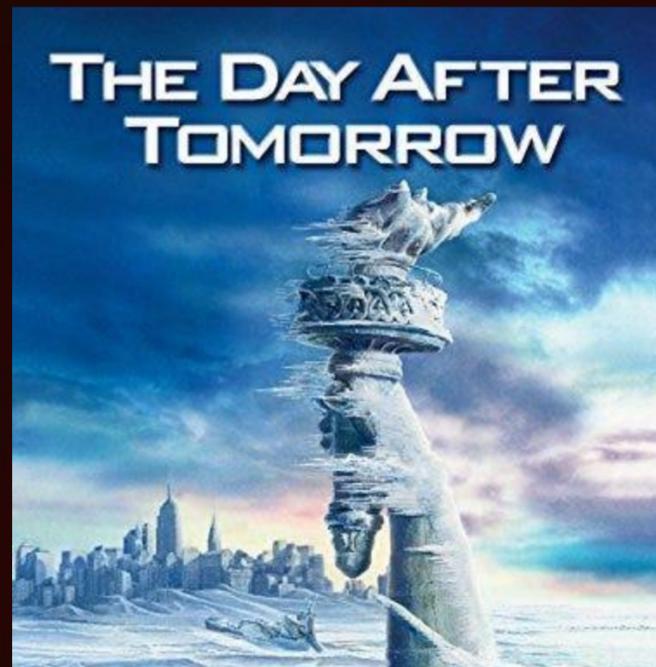


*Revelation* is weird.



<sup>1</sup> The revelation (ἄποκάλυψις) from [of] 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,

Revelation 1:1 (NIV)



# ἀποκάλυψις

- an unveiling, uncovering, revealing
- something that is made fully known
- a full disclosure



*Message in a Bottle* (Romance Genre)

*Harry Potter* (Fantasy Fiction Genre)

*Dune* (Science Fiction Genre)

*Atomic Habits* (Self-Help Genre)

*The Raven* (Poetry Genre)

# Characteristics of Apocalyptic Genre

Cosmic battle between good & evil

Dreams of supernatural messengers

Vertical (spatial) unveiling - “Heaven”

Horizontal (temporal) unveiling – “Past & Future”

Hope amid despair – promise of a better future

Real events/people portrayed with vivid symbols

<sup>1</sup> Then I saw in the right hand of him who sat on the throne a scroll with writing on both sides and sealed with seven seals. <sup>2</sup> And I saw a mighty angel proclaiming in a loud voice, “Who is worthy to break the seals and open the scroll?” <sup>3</sup> But no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth could open the scroll or even look inside it.

Revelation 5:1-3 (NIV)

<sup>4</sup> I wept and wept because no one was found who was worthy to open the scroll or look inside.

<sup>5</sup> Then one of the elders said to me, “Do not weep! See, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has triumphed. He is able to open the scroll and its seven seals.”

Revelation 5:4-5 (NIV)

<sup>6</sup> Then I saw a Lamb (**ἀρνίον**), looking as if it had been **slain**, standing at the center of the throne, encircled by the four living creatures and the elders. The Lamb had **seven horns** and **seven eyes**, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth. <sup>7</sup> He went and took the scroll from the right hand of him who sat on the throne.

Revelation 5:6-7 (NIV)

*Revelation* is weird.

*Revelation* is about the battle between good & evil.

## *The Matrix*

What is the nature of reality & free will?

## *Ex Machina*

Ethical responsibility in AI development?

## *The Chronicles of Narnia*

What is the nature of faith, good vs. evil?

## *Harry Potter*

We're defined by the choices we make.

*Revelation* is the story of God  
establishing His rule on the earth through  
a cosmic battle between good and evil.

<sup>7</sup> Then war broke out in heaven. Michael and his angels fought against the dragon, and the dragon and his angels fought back. <sup>8</sup> But he was not strong enough, and they lost their place in heaven. <sup>9</sup> The great dragon was hurled down—that ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, who leads the whole world astray. He was hurled to the earth, and his angels with him.

Revelation 12:7-9 (NIV)

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*Revelation* is not written to us.

<sup>4</sup> John,

To the **seven churches** in the province of Asia:

Revelation 1:4 (NIV)

# Seven Churches of Revelation

Chapters 2-3

- 1 Ephesus
- 2 Smyrna
- 3 Pergamos
- 4 Thyatira
- 5 Sardis
- 6 Philadelphia
- 7 Laodicea

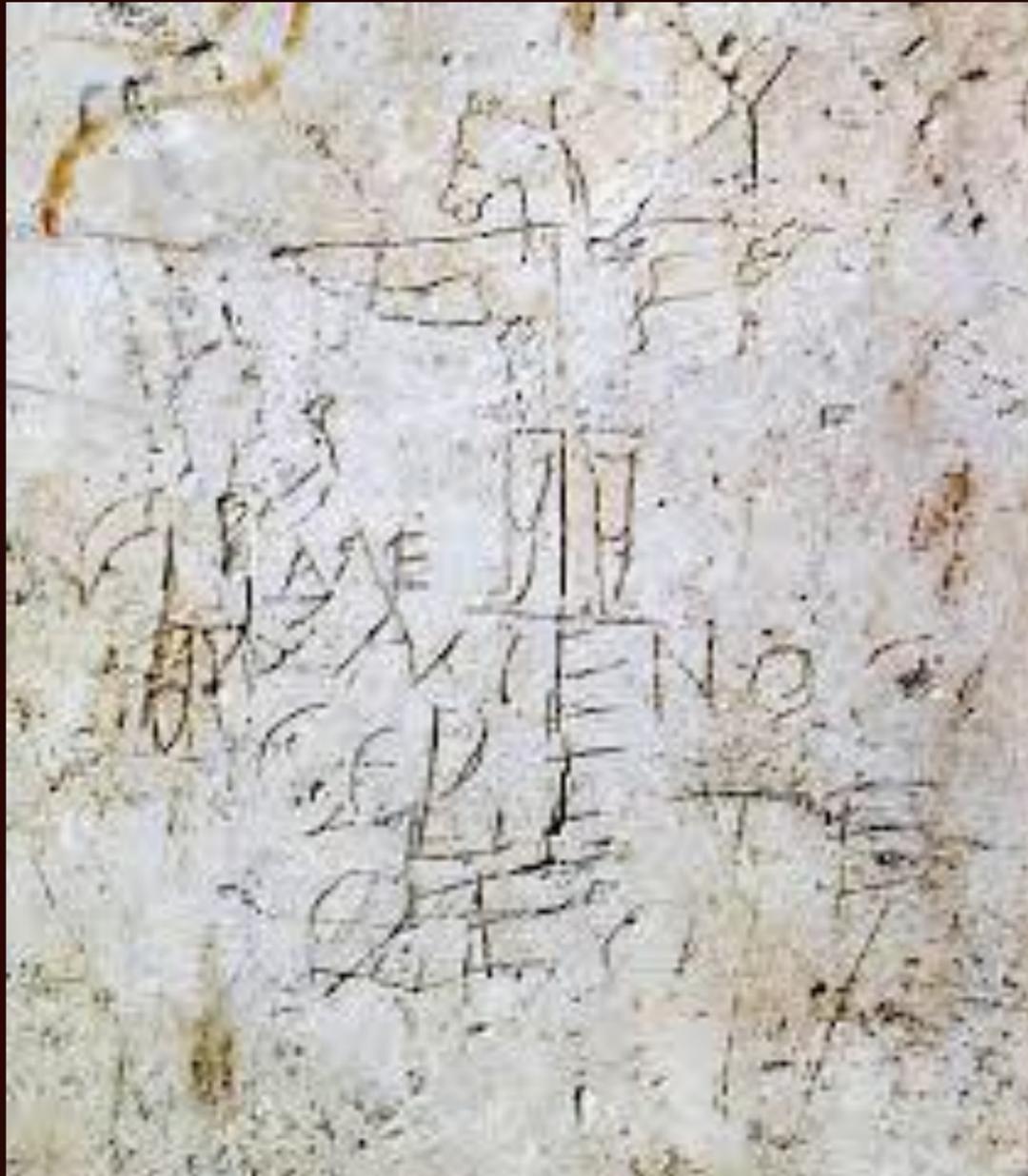
Island of Patmos: where John received the vision

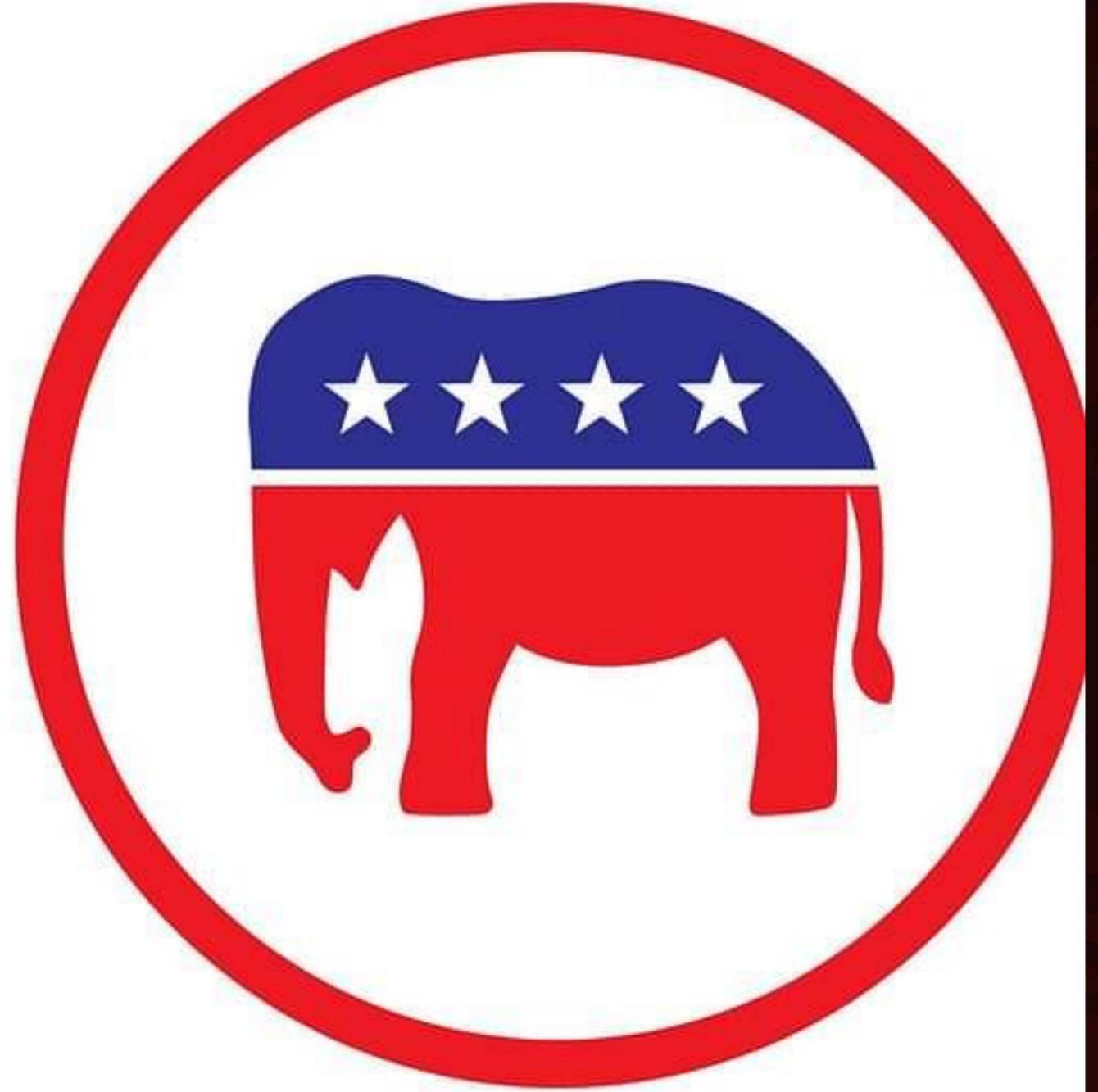


At the end of the first century: 7,000 – 10,000  
Christians.

- Rodney Stark (*The Rise of Christianity*)

# “Alexamenos worships his god”



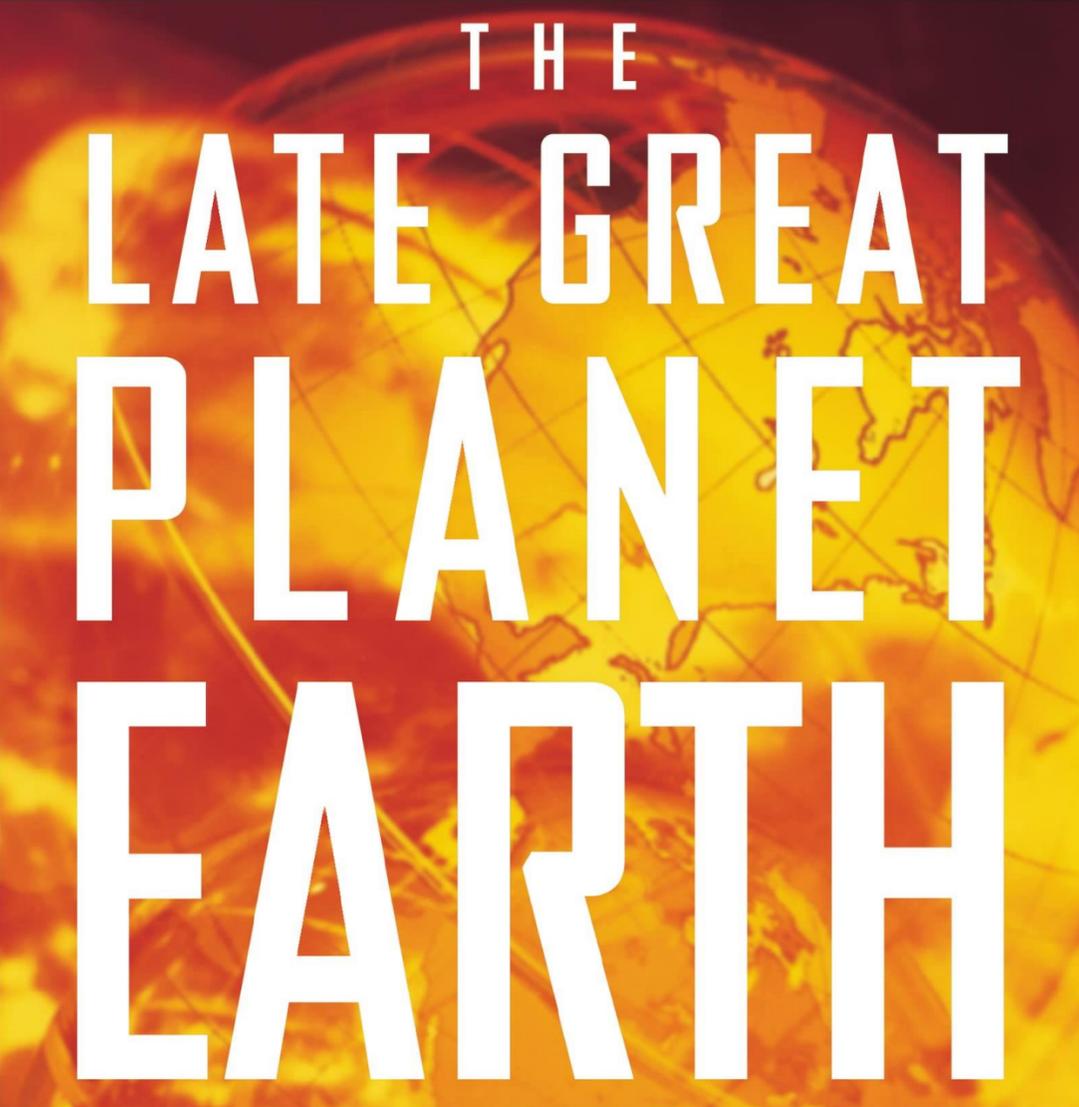


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“the end times”.



THE  
LATE GREAT  
PLANET  
EARTH

HAL LINDSEY

WITH C. C. CARLSON



N I C O L A S C A G E

CHAD MICHAEL MURRAY

CASSI THOMSON

NICKY WHELAN

JORDIN SPARKS

# LEFT BEHIND

THE END BEGINS

STONEY LAKE ENTERTAINMENT IN ASSOCIATION WITH ENTERTAINMENT ONE & OLLA PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS "LEFT BEHIND" NICOLAS CAGE CHAD MICHAEL MURRAY CASSI THOMSON NICKY WHELAN JORDIN SPARKS LEA THOMPSON MUSIC BY JACK LENZ  
EDITED BY MICHAEL DUTHIE A.C.E. COSTUME DESIGNER ABBY D'SULLIVAN PRODUCTION DESIGNER STEPHEN ALTMAN DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY JACK N. GREEN A.S.C. EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS BILL BUSBICE WILLIE ROBERTSON BRYAN WRIGHT MIKE NILON JASON HEWITT PRODUCED BY PAUL LALONDE MICHAEL WALKER ED CLYDESDALE  
STORY BY TIM LAHAYE & JERRY B. JENKINS OCTOBER 3 SCREENPLAY BY PAUL LALONDE & JOHN PATUS DIRECTED BY VIC ARMSTRONG

THIS FILM IS NOT YET RATED

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REVISED

**ARMAGEDDON,**

**OIL AND  
THE**



**MIDDLE EAST**

**CRISIS**

*What the Bible says about the  
future of the Middle East and  
the end of Western civilization*

**JOHN F. WALVOORD**



# THE HUB



[blackhawk.church/hub](https://blackhawk.church/hub)

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decipher “the end times”.

*Revelation* follows a simple structure.

# Chapter 1

Introduction

# Chapters 2-3

Short Messages to 7 Churches

# Chapters 4-22

A Long Fantasy (Weird) Story

### THE DRAGON

The Dragon is the main antagonist and represents Satan or the Devil. The Dragon's mission involves accusation, deceit, and death. He pursues the woman, seeks to kill her child (Jesus), and persecutes God's people. He is cast out from heaven and controls the beasts and Babylon's political power. The Lamb will ultimately defeat him.



### THE BEAST FROM THE SEA

The Beast from the Sea does the will of the Dragon by ruling over evil empires. Humans worship it; it represents chaos, power, deception, and opposition to the Lamb.



### THE FAITHFUL WITNESSES

The witnesses are the believers and followers of the Lamb. They are God's faithful people, living as dissidents in a world ruled by the Dragon. They suffer for their witness, and are known for their goodness, love, and kindness. They will be resurrected and will live forever in New Jerusalem.



### NEW JERUSALEM

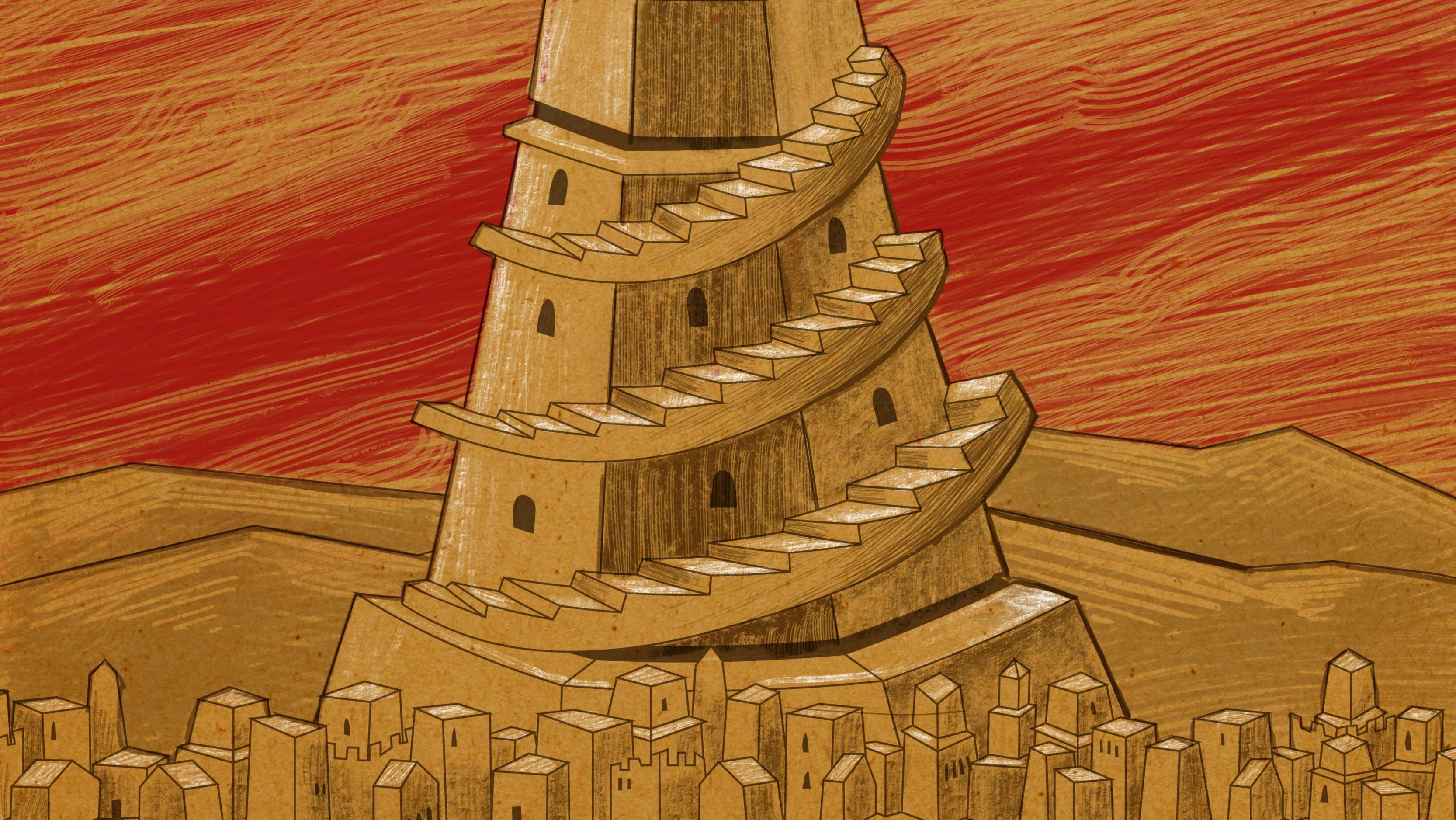
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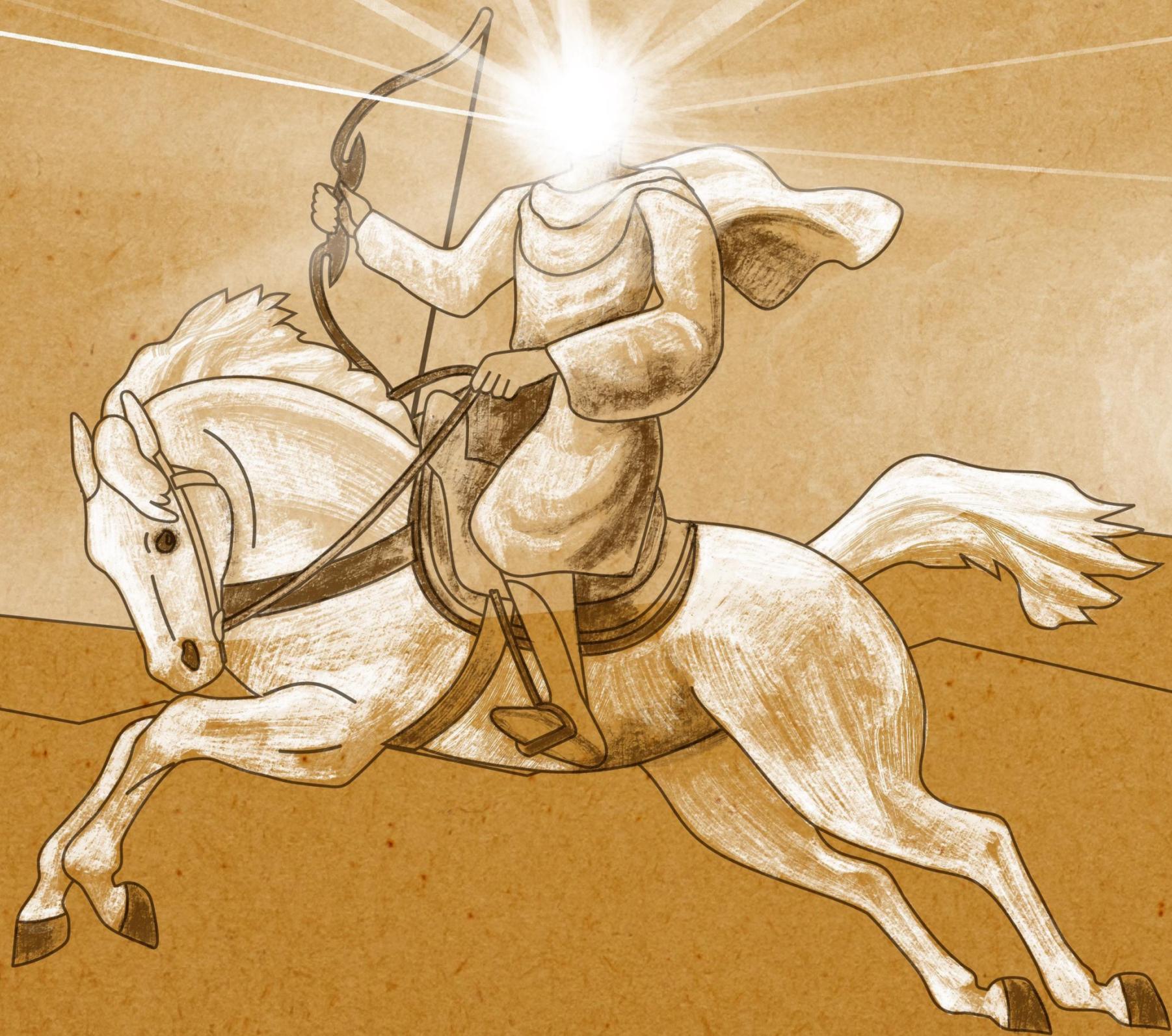














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*Revelation* follows a simple structure.

*Revelation* presents us with a choice.

*Revelation* presents us with a choice:

Will Christ followers resist the lure of evil  
(Babylon) and follow the Jesus (Lamb)?

OR

Will Christ followers cave into the lure of Babylon  
and follow Satan (the Dragon)?

<sup>3</sup> 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.

Revelation 1:3 (NIV)

<sup>7</sup> “Look, I am coming soon! Blessed is the one who keeps the words of the prophecy written in this scroll.”

Revelation 22:7 (NIV)

Obey the Lamb no matter what.

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*Revelation* follows a simple structure.

*Revelation* presents us with a choice.

*Revelation* gives us hope.

<sup>1</sup> Then I saw “a new heaven and a new earth,” for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. <sup>2</sup> I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. <sup>3</sup> And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

Revelation 21:1-3a (NIV)

“Look! God’s dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. <sup>4</sup> ‘He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death’ or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.” <sup>5</sup> He who was seated on the throne said, “I am making everything new!”

Revelation 21:3b-5 (NIV)