



Albrecht Dürer: Der Sternenfall – Geistliche und weltliche Würdenträger suchen in Felsspalten Schutz vor den fallenden Sternen. Die Szene im Himmel zeigt die Geschehnisse beim Öffnen des 5. Siegels: Weiße Kleider werden an die auferstehenden Märtyrer verteilt.

THE APOCALYPSE

Adapted from the King James translation of the Bible

SLOW BLUES

Revelation 3: The Spirit of the Churches Speaks to the Laodiceans

Behold I stand at the door and knock; if any man hear my voice and open the door I will come in to him, and will sup with him.

I would thou wert cold or hot. So because thou art lukewarm, I will spew thee out of my mouth. Thou sayest, "I am rich, and have need of nothing;" and knowest not that thou art the wretched one and miserable and poor and blind and naked.

Revelation 2: The Spirit of the Churches Speaks to the Ephesians

To the angel of the church in Ephesus write:

I know thy works and thy toil and thy patience, and that thou canst not bear evil men. And thou hast patience, and didst bear for my name's sake and hast not grown weary. But I have this against thee, that thou didst leave thy first love. Remember therefore whence thou art fallen and repent. He that hath an ear let him hear what the spirit saith to the churches.

And to the angel of the church in Smyrna write:

I know thy tribulation and thy poverty and the blasphemy of them who are of the school of Satan. Fear not the things which thou art about to suffer: behold, the devil is about to cast some of you into prison. Be thou faithful unto death and I will give thee the crown of life. He that hath an ear let him hear what the spirit saith to the churches.

And to the angel of the church in Pergamum write:

I know where thou dwellest, even where Satan's throne is, and thou holdest fast my name, and didst not deny my faith, even in the days of Antipas my witness, my faithful one, who was killed among you where Satan dwelleth. But I have a few things against thee, because thou hast there some that hold the teaching of Balaam, and who eat things sacrificed to idols. Repent therefore or else I will come to thee quickly. Be that hath an ear let him hear what the spirit saith to the churches.

And to the angel of the church in Thyatira write:

I know thy works and thy love and faith and ministry and patience, and that thy last works are more than the first. But I have this against thee that thou sufferest the woman Jezebel,

who calleth herself a prophetess; and she teacheth and seduceth my servants. And I gave her time that she should repent, and she willeth not to repent. Behold I cast her into a bed, and them that commit adultery with her into great tribulation except they repent of her works. And I will kill her children with death. He that hath an ear let him hear what the spirit saith to the churches. And to the angel of the church in Laodicea write:

I know thy works, that thou art neither cold or hot: I would thou went cold or hot. So because thou art lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, I will spew thee out of my mouth. Because thou sayest I am rich, and have gotten riches, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art the wretched one and miserable and poor and blind and naked. I counsel thee to buy of me gold refined by fire that thou mayest become rich; and white garments, that thou mayest clothe thyself, and that the shame of thy nakedness be not made manifest. He that hath an ear let him hear what the spirit saith to the churches. Behold I stand at the door and knock: if any man hear my voice and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him and he with me.

Revelation 4: Vision of the things which are to come to pass

Behold, a door opened in heaven, and behold there was a throne set in Heaven, and one sitting upon the throne and he that sat was to look upon like a jasper stone, and there was a rainbow round about the throne. And round about the throne were four and twenty thrones: and upon the thrones four and twenty elders sitting, and on their heads crowns of gold. And out of the throne proceeded lightnings, and voices and thunders. And there were seven lamps of fire burning before the throne, which are the seven spirits of God. And round about the throne, four living creatures full of eyes before and behind. And they have no rest day and night, saying:

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God, the Almighty,
who was and who is and who is to come.

*Revelation 5: The Book sealed with seven seals
which no one but the Lamb of God can open*

And I saw in the right hand of him that sat on the throne a book, close sealed with seven seals. And no one in the Heaven, or on the earth, or under the earth, was able to open the book or to look thereon. And in the midst of the elders stood a Lamb, as though it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God. And he came and took the book and the four and twenty elders fell down before the Lamb and sang:

Worthy art thou to take the book and to open the seals thereof,
for thou wast slain, and didst purchase unto God
with thy blood men of every tribe.

BOOGIE-WOOGIE

*Revelation 6: The Lamb opens the book and reveals to John
the four horses of the Apocalypse*

And I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seven seals and I heard one of the four living creatures saying as with a voice of thunder: Come and behold!

And I saw a white horse and he that sat thereon had a bow, and he came forth conquering and to conquer.

And I saw a red horse and to him that sat thereon it was given to take peace from the earth.

And I saw a black horse and he that sat thereon had a balance in his hand, And I heard a voice saying, "A measure of wheat for a shilling, and three measures of barley for a shilling, and do no hurt to the oil and the wine."

And I saw a pale horse, and he that sat thereon, his name was Death and he was given authority over the fourth part of the earth.

Revelation 7: The sealing of the servants of God

After this I saw four angels standing at the four corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth, that no wind should blow on the earth, and an angel cried: Hurt not the earth neither the sea nor the trees till we shall have sealed the servants of our God on their foreheads.

From the tribe Ruben were sealed 12,000
From the tribe Zebulum were sealed 12,000
From the tribe Simeon were sealed 12,000
From the tribe Asher were sealed 12,000

And I heard the number of them that were sealed, a hundred and forty and four thousand. These stand before the throne of God and serve him day and night. They shall hunger no more, neither shall the sun strike upon them nor any heat, for the Lamb shall be their shepherd and shall guide them unto fountains of waters of life. And God shall wipe away every tear from their eyes.

HYMN: Oh son of God, Lord Jesus Christ
As thou art our protagonist
Thou hast granted us thy grace.
Oh deliver us from sin.

Revelation 8

And there was a silence in Heaven for the space of a half hour. And seven angels. appeared before God and were given seven trumpets.

Revelation 9: The pit of the abyss is opened and plague and woe are loosed upon the earth

RHUMBA

And he opened the pit of the abyss; and there went up a smoke out of the pit and the sun and the air were darkened and out of the smoke came forth locusts upon the earth who were like unto horses prepared for war, and they had breastplates, as it were breastplates of iron, and the sound of their wings was as the sound of chariots, of many horses rushing to war.

Woe to them who dwell upon the earth for there will be an earthquake, and the sun will become black, and the moon, the moon will be as blood. And the stars of the Heaven will fall into the earth as a fig tree casteth figs when it is shaken by the wind. And the kings of the earth will flee into the hills and will cry:

Fall upon us and conceal us from the countenance of him who site on the throne, from the wrath of the just God. For the day of wrath will come.

And the sixth trumpet sounded, and I heard a voice from the horns of the golden altar which is before God:

Lose the four angels that are bound at the great river Euphrates,
and the angels were loosed.

Woe to them who dwell upon the earth!

And I saw horses and them that sat on them, having breastplates as of fire and of brimstone, and the heads of the horses were as the heads of lions, and from their mouth came fire and smoke and brimstone. By these three plagues was the third part of men killed, by the fire and the smoke and the brimstone, which proceeded out of their mouths.

And the servants of God were afraid in their hearts and said to one another: Hide, oh hide me from the countenance of him who upon the throne, from the wrath of the just God. Woe, Woe to them who dwell upon the earth.

Who will withstand?

Revelation 11: The two witnesses of God

I heard a voice in Heaven say: And I will give unto my two witnesses and they shall prophesy a thousand two hundred and three score days, clothed in sackcloth. If any man desire to hurt them, in this manner shall he be killed.

These have the power to shut the heaven that it rain not during the days of their prophecy; and they have the power over the waters to turn them into blood and to smite the earth with every plague. And then they shall have finished their testimony, the beast which cometh up out of the abyss shall make war upon them and overcome them and kill them. And their dead bodies lie in the street of the great city which spiritually is called Sodom.

And from among the peoples and tribes and tongues and nations do men look upon their dead bodies three days and a half, and they that dwell upon the earth rejoice over them, and make merry; and they shall send gifts to one another; because these two prophets tormented them that dwell on the earth. And after three days and a half the breath of life from God entered into them and they stood upon their feet, and great fear fell upon them that beheld them. And they heard a great voice from heaven saying unto them, Come up hither. And they went up into heaven in the cloud; and their enemies beheld them. And in that hour there was a great earthquake, and the tenth part of the city fell; and there were killed in the earthquake seven thousand persons, and the rest were affrighted and gave glory to God.

Revelation 12: The woman clothed with the sun

SLOW FOX TROT

And a great sign was seen in Heaven: a woman arrayed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars, and She was with child and she crieth out travailing in birth, and in pain to be delivered. And there was seen another sign in Heaven: and behold a great red dragon, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his heads seven diadems. And his tail draweth the third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth, and the dragon standeth before the women that is about to be delivered, that when she is delivered he may devour her child. And she was delivered of a son, a man child, who is to rule all the nations with a rod of iron; and her child was caught up unto God, and unto his throne.

BOOGIE WOOGIE

And there was war in Heaven: Michael and his angels going forth to war with the dragon; and the dragon warred and his angels, and they prevailed not, neither was their place found any more in Heaven. And the great dragon was cast down, he the deceiver of the whole world; he was cast down to the earth.

And I heard a voice which said: Woe to them who dwell upon the earth or upon the sea.
Woe, woe to mankind.

Revelation 13: The beast rising out of the sea

And I saw a beast coming up out of the sea like unto a leopard, and his feet were as the feet of a bear, and his mouth as the mouth of a lion, and the dragon gave him his power and his throne and great authority. And the whole earth wondered after the beast. And who is able to war with him? And he opened his mouth for blasphemies against God, to blaspheme his name. And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them. And all that dwell on the earth shall worship him.

And I saw another beast coming up out of the earth and he doeth great signs that he should even make fire to come down out of Heaven upon the earth in the sight of men. And he causeth all that there be given them a mark on their right hand, and that no man should be able to buy or to sell save he that hath the mark.

Revelation 14: Judgment of those who worship the beast

And the angel of the Lord cried: if any man worshipeth the beast and receiveth a mark, he also shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, and he shall be tormented and have no rest day or night. And another angel cried: Send forth thy sickle and reap for the hour to reap is come and the harvest of the earth is ripe.

And the angel cast his sickle into the earth and the blood was high even unto the bridles of the horses and behold, the judgement of men is come.

Behold the Lord comes with the clouds and all eyes will behold him and all tribes of the earth will lament his coming.

Revelation 15

And I saw as it were a sea of glass and them that come off victorious from the beast and from his image, standing by the sea of glass, having harps of God. And they sing the song of Moses, the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying:

Exodus 15: Great and marvelous are thy works, Oh, Lord.
Thy hand hast defeated thy enemies.
Pharaoh's chariots and his host hath he cast into the sea;
And his chosen captains are sunk in the Red Sea.
Thou didst blow with thy wind,

The sea covered them:
They sank as lead in the mighty waters.
And in the greatness of thine excellency
thou overthrowest them that rise up against thee:
Thou sendest fourth thy wrath,
It consumeth them as stubble.
Terror and dread falleth upon them.
By the greatness of thy arm they are as still as a stone.
Great and marvelous are thy works, Oh, Lord.
Thy strength hast led thy people.

Who shall not be afraid before thee, Oh, Lord, for thou hast revealed thy Judgments.
For behold the Lord speaks:

Isiah 1:24: Your, new moons and your appointed feasts my soul hateth;
The whole head is sick and the whole heart faint.
Your country is desolate; your cities are burned with fire; your land,
strangers devour in your presence;
and it is desolate, as overthrown by strangers.
Thy princes are rebellious and companions of thieves;
Every one loveth bribes, and followeth after rewards:
They judge not the fatherless, neither doth the cause of the widow come
unto them.
The mirth of tabrets ceaseth; the noise of them that rejoice endeth,
It shall go evil with that land.
The earth shall stagger like a drunken man,
And shall sway to and fro like a hammock

HYMN: Grant that the creeping Pest
Depart from us again into the darkness.
Arm thy angels with strong arms,
Abide with us to help and comfort us.
Your country is desolate; your cities are burned with fire;
Strangers devour your land.
The noise of them that rejoice endeth;
The joy of the harp ceaseth.
The earth shall stagger like a drunken man
And sway to and fro like a hammock.
Must not men ever be in enmity
On earth so that his day
Is as the day of a day laborer?

And he will lift up and ensign to the nations from far and will hiss for them from the end of the earth; and behold, they shall come with speed swiftly.

BOOGIE WOOGIE

Their arrows are sharp; their bows stretched; and their chariots are as the whirlwind. And the Lord will sweep over them as the sea, and will strike them until the mountains tremble.

And in all this His wrath does not lesson, and His hand is still stretched forth.

Revelation 17: The Destruction of Babylon

And the angel of the Lord spoke with me, saying, Come hither, I wily shay thee the judgment of the great Harlot that sitteth upon many waters. And he carried me away in the Spirit into the wilderness; and I saw a woman sitting upon a scarlet colored beast, and decked with gold and precious stones and pearls. And I saw the woman drunken with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus, and upon her forehead a name written, Mystery, Babylon the great, the mother of the harlots and of the abominations of the earth. And the woman whom thou sawest is the great city which reigneth over the kings of the earth. And the kings of the earth shall weep and wail over her, when they look upon the smoke of her burning.

BLUES

Woe, Woe, the great city Babylon! The strong city, for in one hour is thy judgment come. And the merchants of the earth weep and mourn over her, for no man buyeth their merchandise any more, merchandise of gold, which thy soul lusted after; and all things that were dainty and sumptuous are perished from thee. Woe, Woe!

And the merchants grown rich from her stand afar off for the fear of her torment and cry, Woe, woe, the great city, she that was arrayed in fine linen and purple and scarlet, and decked with gold and precious stones and pearls! For in one hour is so great riches made desolate, in one hour is made desolate the great city Babylon, in one hour is she cast down.

What city is like the great city? And they cast dust on their heads weeping and mourning for Babylon. In an hour is she laid waste, the strong city Babylon.

Litany My people, go ye out of the midst of Babylon and save yourselves
(Jeremiah 51): every man from the fierce anger of Jehovah.

Then the heavens and the earth and all that is therein, shall sing for joy over Babylon; for the destroyers shall come unto her at midnight, saith Jehovah.

Ye that have, escaped the sword, go ye, stand not still, for I will break in pieces thy men and thy women, and with thee will I break in pieces the old man and the youth, and with thee will I break in pieces the young man and the virgin, saith the Lord.

O thou that dwellest upon many waters, abundant in treasures, thine end is come, and thy spirit is dead.

For tidings shall come one year and after that in another year, and violence in the land, ruler against ruler.

When the Lord speaks with the voice of thunder, so is the water under the heavens; he draws back the fogs from the ends of the earth. He makes the lightning in rain and makes the wind blow from secret places.

All men are fools with their arts and all goldsmiths stand in shame with their images; for their idols are false and have no life.

Stand up in the night and cry; shake thy heart out against the Lord; raise thy hands to Him and I know that the Lord will take pity upon thee.

My people, go ye out of the midst of Babylon and save yourselves every man from the fierce anger of Jehovah.

And I saw a strong angel coming down out of heaven, arrayed with a cloud; and the rainbow was upon his head, and his face was as the sun, and his feet as pillars of fire, and he cried with a great voice as a lion roareth, and when he cried the seven thunders uttered their voices. And when the seven thunders uttered their voices I was about to write, and I heard a voice from heaven saying, Seal up the things which the seven thunders uttered and write them not, And the angel that I saw standing upon the sea and upon the earth lifted up his right hand to heaven. And after these things I saw, the temple of the tabernacle of the testimony in heaven was opened, and there came out from the temple the seven angels that had the seven plagues, arrayed with precious stones pure and bright and girt about their breasts with golden girdles. And one of the four living creatures gave unto the seven angels seven golden bowls full of the wrath of God, who liveth forever and ever. And I heard a great voice out of the temple, saying to the seven angels, Go ye and pour out the seven bowls of the wrath of God into the earth.

And they went forth-and poured out their bowls into the earth.

RHUMBA

And it became a noisome and grievous sore upon the men and it became blood as, of a dead man, and every living thing died, even the things that were in the sea. And the men were scorched with great heat and they blasphemed the name of God who hath the power over these plagues; and the kingdom of the beast was darkened and they who prayed to it gnawed their tongues for pain. And I saw coming out of the mouth of the dragon and out of the mouth of the false prophet three unclean spirits, and they are spirits of demons which go forth unto the kings of the whole world. For there will be false prophets who rise up and do wonders and seduce into evil the chosen of God. And they gather together the kings of the earth and lead them into war.

Psalm 79: Remember not against us the iniquities of our forefathers;
Let thy tender mercies speedily meet us; for we are brought very low.

Let the sighing of the prisoner come before thee;
Preserve by thine arm the children of death.

Our soul is departed;
Behold, the waters rise but too high above our soul.

We would enter into thy dwelling and worship before thy footstool.