

Revelation 20 — clausal layout

ΑΠΟΚΑΛΥΨΙΣ ΙΩΑΝΝΟΥ Κ΄

Each line is one clause or discrete phrase of the standard critical text, colored by syntactic type; indentation marks levels of subordination. The verse numbers sit in the left gutter; the small tag on each line names the clause type and its function.



Flush-left = a main (independent) clause. Each dependent line begins directly beneath the word it attaches to in the line above — the anchor word is dotted-underlined, and lights up when you hover its dependent clause; each tag also names the attachment. A dashed border marks verbless, elliptical, or suspended lines. Where a long sentence's staircase runs wider than the page, the diagram scrolls sideways. (In print, or without JavaScript, lines fall back to stepped indent columns.)

The binding of the dragon 20:1–3

1

Καὶ εἶδον ἄγγελον καταβαίνοντα ἐκ τοῦ οὐρανοῦ,

independent — καὶ εἶδον — a new vision-panel (19:11, 17, 19); an unnamed angel suffices against the dragon

ἔχοντα τὴν κλεῖν τῆς ἀβύσσου καὶ ἄλυσιν μεγάλην ἐπὶ τὴν χεῖρα αὐτοῦ.

participial — the instruments of imprisonment — the key of 9:1, now to lock rather than open; the chain sized to its captive

- 2 καὶ ἐκράτησεν τὸν δράκοντα, independent — the arrest — κρατέω, the grip of superior force (Isa 24:21–22 behind the whole panel)
- ὁ ὄφης ὁ ἀρχαῖος, phrase modifier — SOLECISM kept — nominative apposition to the accusative τὸν δράκοντα (as 12:9); the serpent of Gen 3, named ad sensum
- ὅς ἐστιν Διάβολος καὶ ὁ Σατανᾶς, relative — the unmasking relative — the four names of 12:9 repeated: slanderer (Greek) and accuser (Hebrew), one enemy
- καὶ ἔδησεν αὐτὸν χίλια ἔτη, independent — the binding — accusative of extent; the first of the section's six χίλια ἔτη
- 3 καὶ ἔβαλεν αὐτὸν εἰς τὴν ἄβυσσον, independent — the first ἐβαλεν of the chapter — the abyss a holding-cell, not yet the lake
- καὶ ἔκλεισεν καὶ ἐσφράγισεν ἐπάνω αὐτοῦ, independent — shut and sealed — Dan 6:17: the stone sealed over the pit; the objects left unexpressed
- ἵνα μὴ πλανήσῃ ἔτι τὰ ἔθνη, purpose — the point of the binding — πλανάω, the dragon's defining verb (12:9; 13:14), suspended, not cured
- ἄχρι τελεσθῇ τὰ χίλια ἔτη, conditional — ἀχρι + aorist subjunctive (without αὖν), anchored backward — the ban has a built-in term
- μετὰ ταῦτα δεῖ λυθῆναι αὐτὸν μικρὸν χρόνον. independent — δεῖ — the divine must (1:1); the release of vv. 7–10 announced in advance, and only μικρὸν χρόνον

The thrones and the first resurrection 20:4–6

- 4 Καὶ εἶδον θρόνους, independent — Dan 7:9 — thrones were set; the panel is Daniel's court scene reconvened
- καὶ ἐκάθισαν ἐπ' αὐτούς, independent — subjectless ἐκάθισαν — the occupants left unnamed; the layout does not fill the seats
- καὶ κρίμα ἐδόθη αὐτοῖς, independent — Dan 7:22 — κρίμα ἐδόθη, the divine passive: judgment given to the saints
- καὶ τὰς ψυχὰς τῶν πεπελεκισμένων διὰ τὴν μαρτυρίαν Ἰησοῦ καὶ διὰ τὸν λόγον τοῦ θεοῦ, independent — accusative resuming εἶδον across the parataxis — the souls of 6:9; πεπελεκισμένων, the axe of Roman execution; the book's word-pair (1:2, 9)
- καὶ οἵτινες οὐ προσεκύνησαν τὸ θηρίον οὐδὲ τὴν εἰκόνα αὐτοῦ, relative — SOLECISM kept — nominative οἵτινες loosely coordinated with the accusative ψυχάς; read as extending the company to all the refusers of ch. 13
- καὶ οὐκ ἔλαβον τὸ χάραγμα ἐπὶ τὸ μέτωπον καὶ ἐπὶ τὴν χεῖρα αὐτῶν, relative — the relative chain continued — the χάραγμα of 13:16–17 refused at the cost of livelihood and life

καὶ ἔζησαν καὶ ἐβασίλευσαν μετὰ τοῦ Χριστοῦ χίλια ἔτη.

independent — the panel's payoff and the chapter's storm-center — ἐζησαν: bodily resurrection (premillennial) or vindicated life above (amillennial); the grammar gives one aorist pair to the whole company

5 οἱ λοιποὶ τῶν νεκρῶν οὐκ ἔζησαν

independent — the parenthesis — absent from a few witnesses, kept with the earliest text; ἐζησαν repeated with the negative

ἄχρι τελεσθῇ τὰ χίλια ἔτη.

conditional — the ἀχρι-refrain of v. 3, anchored backward — the two resurrections separated by the millennium

αὕτη ἡ ἀνάστασις ἡ πρώτη.

independent — verbless identification — αὕτη reaches back past the parenthesis to v. 4's ἐζησαν; πρώτη implies a second, never so named

6 μακάριος καὶ ἅγιος ὁ ἔχων μέρος ἐν τῇ ἀναστάσει τῇ πρώτῃ.

independent — the fifth of the book's seven beatitudes (1:3; 14:13; 16:15; 19:9; 22:7, 14) — only here ἅγιος is added

ἐπὶ τούτων ὁ δεύτερος θάνατος οὐκ ἔχει ἐξουσίαν,

independent — τούτων plural ad sensum for the singular ὁ ἔχων — the second death (2:11) named before it is defined (v. 14)

ἀλλ' ἔσονται ἱερεῖς τοῦ θεοῦ καὶ τοῦ Χριστοῦ,

independent — the ἀλλά-counter — not merely exempt but priests (1:6; 5:10; Exod 19:6)

καὶ βασιλεύσουσιν μετ' αὐτοῦ χίλια ἔτη.

independent — v. 4's aorist turned future promise — singular μετ' αὐτοῦ after the double genitive: God and Christ share one 'him'

Satan released — Gog and Magog 20:7–10

VV. 7–8 — THE RELEASE AND THE MUSTER OF THE NATIONS

7 Καὶ ὅταν τελεσθῇ τὰ χίλια ἔτη,

conditional — ὅταν — temporal protasis leaning on the release below; the term of v. 3 reached

λυθήσεται ὁ Σατανᾶς ἐκ τῆς φυλακῆς αὐτοῦ,

independent — the futures interrupt the aorist vision-narrative (through v. 8) — v. 3's δεῖ λυθῆναι enacted; the abyss now called φυλακή

8 καὶ ἐξελεύσεται

independent — the release is for one last sortie — two purpose infinitives hang from this verb

πλανῆσαι τὰ ἔθνη τὰ ἐν ταῖς τέσσαρσιν γωνίαις τῆς γῆς,

purpose — purpose infinitive — the banned verb of v. 3 resumed at once; the four corners (7:1): the sweep is worldwide

τὸν Γὼγ καὶ Μαγῶγ,

phrase modifier — apposition to τὰ ἔθνη — Ezek 38–39: prince and land fused into a name-pair; one article, one enemy

συναγαγεῖν αὐτοὺς εἰς τὸν πόλεμον,

purpose — second purpose infinitive — τὸν πόλεμον with the article: THE war (16:14; 19:19)

ὧν ὁ ἀριθμὸς αὐτῶν ὡς ἡ ἄμμος τῆς θαλάσσης.

relative — SOLECISM kept — pleonastic αὐτῶν doubling ὧν (Hebraism); verbless comparison: the promise-formula (Gen 22:17) turned against the promise-people's besiegers

VV. 9–10 — THE MARCH, THE FIRE, AND THE LAKE

- 9 καὶ ἀνέβησαν ἐπὶ τὸ πλάτος τῆς γῆς, independent — the aorists resume — ἀνέβησαν, the invasion verb of Ezek 38:11, 16
- καὶ ἐκύκλευσαν τὴν παρεμβολὴν τῶν ἀγίων καὶ τὴν πόλιν τὴν ἡγαπημένην. independent — the encirclement — παρεμβολή, Israel's wilderness camp; the beloved city (Pss 78:68; 87:2): two names, one people
- καὶ κατέβη πῦρ ἐκ τοῦ οὐρανοῦ independent — Ezek 38:22; 39:6; 2 Kgs 1:10 — the shorter text ('from heaven') read; no battle is narrated
- καὶ κατέφαγεν αὐτούς independent — κατεσθίω — devoured whole; the war is over in two verbs
- 10 καὶ ὁ διάβολος ὁ πλανῶν αὐτοὺς ἐβλήθη εἰς τὴν λίμνην τοῦ πυρὸς καὶ θείου, independent — ὁ πλανῶν — the deceiver's title become his epitaph; ἐβλήθη, the second casting: abyss then, lake now
- ὅπου καὶ τὸ θηρίον καὶ ὁ ψευδοπροφήτης, relative — verbless local relative — the trio of 16:13 reunited where 19:20 left the other two
- καὶ βασανισθήσονται ἡμέρας καὶ νυκτὸς εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας τῶν αἰώνων. independent — future third plural — devil, beast, and false prophet its compound subject; the doxological 'for ever and ever' (1:6) turned to judgment (14:11)

The great white throne 20:11–15

VV. 11–12 — THE THRONE, THE FLEEING COSMOS, AND THE OPENED BOOKS

- 11 Καὶ εἶδον θρόνον μέγαν λευκὸν καὶ τὸν καθήμενον ἐπ' αὐτόν, independent — the final tableau — great, white, and singular against v. 4's plural thrones; the enthroned one unnamed, as at 4:2
- οὗ ἀπὸ τοῦ προσώπου ἔφυγεν ἡ γῆ καὶ ὁ οὐρανός, relative — on τὸν καθήμενον — Ps 114:3, 7: creation flees the Presence; the de-creation before 21:1's new heaven and earth

καὶ τόπος οὐχ εὐρέθη αὐτοῖς. relative — the relative continued paratactically — pleonastic dative αὐτοῖς, verbatim from Dan 2:35 Θ: nowhere left to flee

12 καὶ εἶδον τοὺς νεκροὺς, independent — the third εἶδον of the chapter — the dead themselves now the vision

τοὺς μεγάλους καὶ τοὺς μικροὺς, phrase modifier — the merism in apposition — no rank exempts (11:18; 19:5)

ἑστῶτας ἐνώπιον τοῦ θρόνου, participial — predicative participle with εἶδον — the dead on their feet for judgment; ἐνώπιον τοῦ θρόνου read over the variant τοῦ θεοῦ

καὶ βιβλία ἠνοίχθησαν· independent — Dan 7:10 — the court sat and the books were opened: the ledgers of deeds

καὶ ἄλλο βιβλίον ἠνοίχθη, independent — singular against the plural — one registry beside the ledgers

ὃ ἐστὶν τῆς ζωῆς· relative — the identification — the book of life (3:5; 13:8; Exod 32:32–33; Dan 12:1): names, not deeds

καὶ ἐκρίθησαν οἱ νεκροὶ ἐκ τῶν γεγραμμένων ἐν τοῖς βιβλίοις κατὰ τὰ ἔργα αὐτῶν. independent — the verdict-line — ἐκ names the evidence, κατὰ the norm (Ps 62:12; Rom 2:6)

VV. 13–15 — THE SURRENDER OF THE DEAD AND THE SECOND DEATH

13 καὶ ἔδωκεν ἡ θάλασσα τοὺς νεκροὺς τοὺς ἐν αὐτῇ, independent — the first surrender — the unburied of the deep; no death evades the summons

καὶ ὁ θάνατος καὶ ὁ ἄδης ἔδωκαν τοὺς νεκροὺς τοὺς ἐν αὐτοῖς, independent — the pair of 1:18 and 6:8 personified — their keys were his all along; ἔδωκαν, the second and third giving-up

καὶ ἐκρίθησαν ἕκαστος κατὰ τὰ ἔργα αὐτῶν. independent — the refrain of v. 12 — plural verb with distributive ἕκαστος (ad sensum): judgment universal but one by one

14 καὶ ὁ θάνατος καὶ ὁ ἄδης ἐβλήθησαν εἰς τὴν λίμνην τοῦ πυρός. independent — the third casting — the emptied jailers jailed; the last enemy destroyed (1 Cor 15:26; cf. 21:4)

οὗτος ὁ θάνατος ὁ δεύτερός ἐστιν, independent — the seer's own gloss — v. 6's ὁ δεύτερος θάνατος finally defined

ἡ λίμνη τοῦ πυρός. phrase modifier — nominative apposition completing the equation — the lake IS the second death

15 καὶ εἴ τις οὐχ εὐρέθη ἐν τῇ βίβλῳ τῆς ζωῆς γεγραμμένος, conditional — εἰ + aorist indicative, leaning on the apodosis below — the case put as fact, not hypothesis; the registry the last test

Analysis. The most contested chapter in the book has the book's simplest grammar, and the shape shows it: four vision-panels, each a column of flush-left aorists marching down the margin in καί-chains, with almost nothing subordinated — the deepest line in the chapter sits only two steps in. The binding (vv. 1–3) runs seized–bound–cast–shut–sealed in five main verbs before its one subordinate cluster: the ἵνα-purpose (no more deceiving) with its ἄχρι-term hanging beneath it. The throne-panel of vv. 4–6 keeps the seer's loose accusatives and nominatives as he left them: the subjectless ἐκάθισαν is flagged, not filled in; τὰς ψυχὰς resumes εἶδον across the parataxis; and the nominative οἵτινες-chain is read as extending the martyr-company to the refusers of the mark, all of whom are the subject of ἔζησαν. Satan's release (vv. 7–10) opens on the chapter's only forward-leaning protasis (ὅταν τελεσθῇ) and briefly speaks in futures before the aorists of the march and the fire resume; Γὼγ καὶ Μαγὼγ stands as apposition to the nations (Ezek 38–39), and the relative of the numberless horde keeps its pleonastic αὐτῶν. The white-throne panel (vv. 11–15) is a tableau — throne, fleeing cosmos (with the pleonastic dative αὐτοῖς, straight out of Dan 2:35), standing dead, opened books — closed by the three surrender-lines with their κατὰ τὰ ἔργα refrain and the fourfold ἐβλήθη of the lake of fire. Interpretive choices: the solecisms are kept and tagged (the nominative apposition ὁ ὄφις ὁ ἀρχαῖος against the accusative τὸν δράκοντα chief among them); v. 5a is printed with the earliest text and treated as a parenthesis; ἐνώπιον τοῦ θρόνου is read at v. 12; and ἔζησαν — the storm-center — is laid out structurally as the martyrs' coming-to-life that v. 5 calls the first resurrection, while the millennial construals (premillennial bodily resurrection; the amillennial reading of ἔζησαν as heavenly vindication or regeneration) are named in the tags as views, not adjudicated by the layout.

chapter's interlinear (word-level syntax tier and discourse notes); other analyses divide or attach some lines differently. The Greek text is identical to the chapter data behind the interlinear and follows the standard critical text.