

# Symbols in Revelation

This is not supposed to be a comprehensive and definitive list, but a rough guide to the most common symbols.

## Numbers

Number	Meaning
3	God (trinity), divinity
4	the Earth (four winds & corners [7:1], four living creatures [4:6], four horsemen, four angels who damage the earth [7:2])
7	Perfection, the days of creation
3½	Half of the full number. This can be half way through 7, or a number cut short
12	A unity which can be divided into parts: 12 tribes, 12 Apostles, (also 12 hours in a day and 12 night) So 144 (12x12) is the idealized completed and united people of God
24	Representing Old and New Covenant people of God

## Symbols

Symbol	Meaning
Great Red Dragon	Satan
Woman who gives birth to Christ and to believers	The covenant community
Beast from the Sea	Evil empires and political structures opposed to Christ that culminate in the Antichrist
False Prophet	Demonic power (fake of the Holy Spirit)
The Prostitute/Babylon	System focussed on sensual pleasure and idolatry
Heads	Usually kingdoms
Horns	Power (sometimes kings)
the Abyss	Place of imprisonment of demons until they are finally judged [Luke 8:31]. (Called "bottomless pit" in KJV.)
stars	angelic beings (good or evil)
Sun darkened & stars fall	Used in O.T. for the falling of earthly powers [Ez 32:7; Dan 8:10; Joel 2:10] also [Matt 24:29]

## Parallels

Good	Evil
God the Father	Satan
The Lamb: Jesus Christ	The Beast: Antichrist—a fake, not divine at all but human
The Holy Spirit	The False Prophet—gives power to do lying signs and wonders and causes people to worship the Antichrist
Woman attacked by Dragon = Bride = New Jerusalem	The Prostitute = Babylon (destroyed just before [?] the wedding of the Bride)
2 Witnesses = 144,000	Demonic armies [9:7-11; 11:7] who do signs and wonders [16:14]