

25. Figures of Speech in Revelation

Reference	Simile — <i>a figure of speech expressing likeness</i>
1:10	Loud voice like (ὡς) a trumpet
1:13	Someone like (ὅμοιον) a Son of Man
1:14	Head and hair white like wool, as white as snow; eyes like blazing fire
1:15	Feet like burnished bronze, as glowing in a furnace; his voice like the sound of rushing waters
1:16	Face like the sun shining in all its brilliance
1:17	I felt as though dead
2:18	Eyes like blazing fire; feet like burnished bronze
2:27	Break them like clay pots
3:3	Come like a thief
4:1	Voice speaking like a trumpet
4:3	Someone whose appearance is like jasper and carnelian, rainbow whose appearance is like an emerald
4:6	Something like a sea of glass, like crystal
4:7	First living creature like a lion, the second like an ox, the third with a face like a man, the fourth like a flying eagle
5:6	Lamb standing as slain
6:1	Voice like thunder
6:6	Something like a voice
6:12	Sun black as goat-hair sackcloth; moon (red) as blood
6:13	Stars of heaven fell as a fig tree drops its late figs
6:14	Heaven receded like a scroll rolling up
8:8	Something like a large mountain
8:10	Great star burning like a torch
9:2	Smoke rose like smoke from a large furnace
9:5	Torment like a scorpion's sting
9:7	Locusts' appearance like horses prepared for battle; something like crowns of gold; faces like human faces
9:8	Hair like woman's hair; teeth like lion's teeth
9:9	Breastplates like breastplates of iron; wings sound like many horse-drawn chariots charging into battle
9:10	Tails with stingers like scorpions
9:17	Horses' heads like heads of lions
9:19	Tails like snakes
10:1	Face like the sun; legs like fiery pillars
10:9, 10	Scroll sweet as honey
11:1	Reed like a measuring rod
12:15	Water like a river
13:2	Beast like a leopard, feet like a bear's, mouth like a lion's
14:2	Sound like that of many waters, like that of great thunder, like harpists playing their harps

14:14	Someone like a Son of Man
15:2	Something like a sea of glass mixed with fire
16:3	Blood like that of a corpse
16:13	Three unclean spirits like frogs
16:15	Come like a thief
18:21	Boulder like a large millstone
19:1, 6	Sound like that of a great multitude
19:6	Sound like that of many waters, like that of great thunder
19:12	Eyes like a flame of fire
20:8	Number like the sand of the sea
21:11	City's brilliance like a very precious stone, like a crystal-clear jasper
21:18	Pure gold like clear glass
21:21	Street like transparent glass
22:1	River clear as crystal
	Metaphor — <i>a figure of speech in which one thing is used to designate something different.</i>
1:1; 2:20; 7:3; 10:7; 11:18; 15:3; 19:2, 5; 22:3, 6	Servant, slave
1:5	To free from sin
1:6; 5:10; 20:6	Priest
1:16	Seven stars
1:16; 2:12, 16; 19:15, 21	Sharp double-edged sword out of the mouth
1:18; 9:1; 20:1	Key(s)
2:7, 11, 17, 26; 3:5, 12, 21; 5:5; 12:11; 17:14; 21:7	Be victorious/conquer/triumph
2:7; 22:2, 14, 19	Tree of life
2:10	Wreath/crown of life
2:11; 20:6, 14; 21:8	Second death
2:13	Throne of Satan
2:17	Hidden manna; white stone
2:20	Jezebel
2:27; 19:15	Iron scepter
2:28; 22:16	Morning star
3:2; 16:15	Be watchful/wake up
3:4, 18; 16:15	Clothes
3:4–5; 4:4; 19:14	Dressed in white
3:5	Erase/blot out
3:5; 13:8; 17:8; 20:12, 15; 21:27	Book of Life
3:7	Key of David

Charts on the Book of Revelation

3:8	Open door
3:11	Take away your wreath/crown
3:12	Pillar; write God's name and name of God's city on him; new name
3:12; 11:1; 21:22	Temple
3:12; 21:2	New Jerusalem
3:15-16	Hot; cold
3:16	Spit/vomit
3:18; 16:15	Shameful nakedness
3:20	Christ knocking at the door; eating together
3:21	Sit with me on my throne
5:1	Right hand
5:5	Lion of the tribe of Judah
5:5; 22:16	Root (and offspring) of David
5:6 (+28 more)	Lamb
5:8; 8:3, 4	Incense
5:8; 14:2; 15:2	Harp
6:4	Large sword
6:11; 7:9, 13, 14	White robe
6:13	Stars fell
7:4; 14:1, 3	144,000
7:14	Washed their robes
7:17	Shepherd
8:3	Incense offering
10:9, 10	Eating the scroll
10:10	Turned sour/became bitter
11:1, 2; 21:15	Measuring rod
11:2, 3; 12:6, 14	42 months/1,260 days/time, times, and half a time
11:4	Two olive trees; two lampstands
11:5	Fire from their mouths
11:8	Sodom; Egypt
11:8; 16:19; 17:18; 18:10, 16, 18, 19, 21	Great city
11:18; 22:12	Reward
12:1, 6, 13-17	The woman
12:2	Woman bearing a child
12:3; 13:1; 17:3, 7, 9	Seven heads, ten horns
12:15	Sweep away
13:3	Whole earth
13:6	To blaspheme God's dwelling place
14:4	Virgins; to redeem; firstfruits
14:8; 16:19; 17:5; 18:2, 10, 21	Babylon

14:10; 17:4; 18:6	Cup
14:11, 13	Rest
14:15-16	Grain harvest
14:17-20	Grape harvest
14:19, 20; 19:15	Winepress
17:1, 15, 16; 19:2	Great prostitute
17:1, 15	Many waters
17:2	Sexual immorality, intoxication
17:4	Golden cup
17:6	Drunk with the blood
17:9	Seven hills
17:16	Leave her naked; eat her flesh; burn her with fire
18:5	Piled up to heaven
18:7	Widow
18:14	Fruit
19:7; 21:9	Wife
19:9	Wedding feast
19:11	White horse
19:12	Many crowns
19:20; 20:10, 14, 15	Lake of fire burning with sulfur
20:2	To bind
20:2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	1,000 years
20:8	Gog and Magog
20:9	Camp of God's people
20:11	Great White Throne
20:12	Books
21:2, 9; 22:17	Bride
21:7	My son
21:27; 22:14	Entering the city
22:4	His face
22:17	Thirsty for water
	Personification - <i>to represent by or endow with human qualities</i>
1:12; 4:1	"The voice" for voice of God
1:18; 6:8; 20:13, 14	"Death" refers to a person; "Hades" to his kingdom
5:13	Every creature singing
9:1-2	"Star" for doorkeeper
9:3-6	"Locusts" for army
9:11	"Abaddon" and "Apollyon" for angel over place of dead
9:13	Horns of altar speaking
12:3-6	"Dragon" for Satan
12:15	Serpent spewed water

Charts on the Book of Revelation

12:16	Earth opened mouth and swallowed
13:1	"Beast out of the sea" for Roman emperor and his proconsul
13:11	"Beast out of the earth" for Asiarch who was priest of imperial cult
16:7	"Altar" for martyred saints and prophets
17:3-18	"The woman" (Roma) for Rome
17:12	"Ten horns" for ten kings
21:2	"Holy city, new Jerusalem" for an adorned bride
22:15	"Dogs" for sodomite
22:17	"Bride" for the church
	Apostrophe - <i>The addressing of a usually absent person or a usually personified thing rhetorically</i>
18:10, 16, 19	"Woe! Woe, O great city..."
18:23	"Your merchants . . . your sorcery"
	Parody - <i>a comic work that ridicules the style of another</i>
2:24	"Deep things of Satan" perhaps a parody of motto "deep things of Jezebel"
6:8	To kill with a sword parodies Roman <i>ius gladii</i> (the right of execution)
13:1	Beast's appearance parodies Christ
13:1	Ten horns suggest universal rule parodying Christ's sovereign rule
13:3	Beast's fatal wound and healing parodies death and resurrection of Lamb (cf. 5:6)
13:4	"Who is like . . . ?" parodies similar OT questions used in OT hymns
13:11	Beast with two horns parodies appearance of Lamb
13:16	Mark of Beast parodies seal of the living God (cf. 7:3; 9:4)
17:8, 11	Beast who was, is not, and is to come parodies God who was, and is, and is to come (4:8; cf. 1:4, 8)
19:17	Great supper of God parodies the wedding supper of the Lamb
	Metonymy - <i>a figure of speech consisting of the use of the name of one thing for that of another of which it is an attribute or with which it is associated</i>
2:3	"My name" refers to person of exalted Christ
6:6	"Oil and wine" refers to olive trees and grapevines
7:9	"Palm branches" refer to victory
7:14	"Blood of the Lamb" refers to atoning death of Christ
11:18	"The earth" refers to the people of the earth
	Merism -
1:8; 21:6; 22:13	Alpha and Omega
1:17; 2:8; 22:13	First and last
21:6; 22:13	Beginning and end
	Euphemism - <i>a word or phrase substituted for one that may be offensive</i>
6:11	Rest/wait
17:10; cf. 14:8; 18:2	Fallen

Charts on the Book of Revelation

	Paradox - a statement that seems contradictory
2:9; 3:9	Synagogue of Satan
3:1	Reputation of being alive but are dead
3:16	Neither hot nor cold but lukewarm
3:17	Claim to be rich but wretched and poor
	Hyperbole - a figure of speech in which exaggeration is used
4:8; 7:15	Day and night for emphasis
7:9	Great multitude that no one could count
9:16	Two hundred million
14:20	Blood to the height of the horses' bridles
18:5	Sins piled up to heaven
19:3	Her smoke rises forever and ever
	Irony - a paradox between what happens and what might be
3:9	Jews to fall down at the feet of Gentile believers expected to happen
3:17	Laodiceans poor, blind, and naked
5:5-6	Lion becomes Lamb