666 = tripled (the most) imperfection; anyone who viciously persecutes Christians

SEVEN = fullness, complete amount

SEVEN CHURCHES = all the churches of all the world of all times

10 DAYS = a short time

THREE-AND-A-HALF = a very short time

1260 days or 3&1/2 years or 42 months = period of persecutions of God's people

1000 = a large amount

7000 PEOPLE = a large number of people from all social classes

1500 miles or 12,000 stades = 12 apostles times 1000 (leaders representing all Christians)

144,000 (the square of the 12 tribes of Israel multiplied by a thousand or a large amount) = the new Israel, embracing all Christians from every nation and tongue; NOTE: in the list of tribes (7:5-8), Dan is omitted because of a belief that the antichrist would arise from it

ABADDON = Aramaic name for destruction or ruin

ABYSS = the netherworld, where all the demons are kept for many, many years before being cast into the pool of fire

ACCUSER = Satan

ALPHA & OMEGA = Jesus, "The First & the Last" and "the Beginning & the End"

AMEN, THE = Jesus, is the "Yes, this is true" to God's promises

AMULET ("white stone" in some translations) = admission to the royal feast of eternal joy

ANGEL = leader of the Christian community

APOLLYON = Greek name for the Destroyer

APPOINTED TIME = when Jesus comes in glory

ARMAGEDDON = location where many decisive battles took place during Israel's history

BABYLON = Rome (where persecution was coming from)

BALAAM & BALAK = the infidelity of contemporary people who eat food sacrificed to idols

BEAST = the forces of evil; the antichrist

BEASTS OF THE WAR IN HEAVEN (12:7-9) = 1. Roman empire, worshiped by all the world; 2. the antichrist, who leads people to worship first beast

BEAST (WILD) = Roman empire

BLACK = death

BOOK OF LIFE = where the names of the redeemed are kept

BRIDE = the Church in covenant relationship with Christ

BURNING SULFUR = eternal punishment

CALF (young bull) = strongest of God's creations

CHILDREN = those who follow someone's teachings; spiritual descendants

COUNTLESS IN NUMBER = infinite amount

CROWN = royal authority

DIADEMS = sovereignty over the kingdoms of the world

DRAGON = power of evil; Satan

EAGLE = swiftest of God's creations; swiftness of God's help

EAST = source of light, the place of paradise

EGYPT = oppression of God's people

ELDERS (TWENTY-FOUR) = all who belong to the 12 tribes of Israel and the 12 Apostles

END = Jesus (therefore: "The end is near" = "Jesus is near" and "Living in the end times" = "Living in Jesus")

EYES (CREATURES COVERED WITH) = the all-seeing, all-knowing power of God

EYES LIKE FIERY FLAME = able to see all and know all

FACE THAT SHINES LIKE THE SUN = the divine majesty of Christ

FAITHFUL WITNESS = Jesus

FEET OF POLISHED BRASS = Jesus is unchanging

FIRE MINGLED WITH SEA OF GLASS = sanctity in facing God

FIRST-BORN = Jesus

GARMENTS (WHITE) = an upright life; victory; resurrection

GEMS (see "gold")

GOG AND MAGOG = all pagan nations

GOLD REFINED BY FIRE = God's grace

GOLD AND PRECIOUS GEMS USED TO BUILD NEW JERUSALEM= the beauty and excellence of the Church

GREEN = plague

HAIR (WHITE) = the "Ancient of Days"; God

HARLOT = Roman empire, which led people astray into idolatry

HARVEST = gathering true Christians during the final judgment

HEADS = Roman emperors

HIDDEN MANNA = heavenly bread; the Eucharist

HILLS (SEVEN) = all the territory covered by Roman empire

HORNS = power; kings

HORNS LIKE A LAMB'S BUT VOICE LIKE A DRAGON = false prophets

HORSES AND THEIR RIDERS

- 1. WHITE = a conquering power (BOW = oppression)
- 2. **RED** = a bloody war (**HUGE SWORD** = violence)
- 3. BLACK = famine (SCALE = shortage of food with corresponding increase in prices)
- 4. **PALE GREEN** = death and decay (**HADES** = netherworld)

HUMAN BEING = wisest of God's creations

INHABITANTS OF THE EARTH = pagans

JEZEBEL = someone who brings pagan customs into Christianity

KEY OF DAVID = Jesus has the final determination of who enters the heavenly kingdom and who doesn't

LAMPSTANDS = the Church

LIGHTNING, RUMBLINGS & THUNDER = God's activity

LION = noblest of God's creations

LION OF THE TRIBE OF JUDAH = the victorious Jesus

LIVING CREATURES (FOUR) = cherubim

LORD'S DAY = Sunday

MEASURING THE TEMPLE = God preserves those who remain faithful to Christ

MORNING STAR = resurrection victory over death

MOUNT ZION = the gathering of Israelite believers during Christ's reign

NETHERWORLD = the abode of the dead

NEW JERUSALEM = heaven, where Christ has supreme authority

NEW NAME = being reborn in Christ

NEW NAME (CHRIST'S) = "Lord"

OLIVE TREES (TWO) AND LAMPSTANDS (TWO) = martyrs

OPEN DOOR = evangelization efforts; Christ Himself, who is the door into the house of God

PALM BRANCHES = joy and victory

PILLAR = help in rebuilding the temple of God in new Jerusalem

RED = war

RIGHT HAND = power and authority

ROBE (ANKLE-LENGTH) = Jesus is the high priest

RULER OF THE KINGS OF THE EARTH = Jesus

SACKCLOTH = lamentation and repentance

SASH (GOLD) = Jesus is king

SATAN'S THRONE = emperor worship and other pagan practices

SEA OF GLASS LIKE CRYSTAL = God's throne

SEA MONSTER = Satan

SEA THAT, AT THE END, IS NO MORE = Satan's home

SEALED WITH SEVEN SEALS = totally hidden to all but God

SEAL OF THE LIVING GOD = under God's protection & ownership

SECOND DEATH = eternal punishment

SERPENT = Satan

SODOM = immorality

SOILED CLOTHES = the act of dishonoring God

SON OF MAN = Jesus

SOUND OF RUSHING WATERS = Jesus is speaking with divine authority

SPIRITS = angels (7 spirits = all the angels)

STARS = angels

SWORD COMING FROM HIS MOUTH = the Word of God, the only weapon needed to defeat the enemy

TASTE OF SCROLL

- 1. **SOUR IN THE STOMACH** = sufferings of God's people
- 2. **SWEET AS HONEY** = final victory of God's people

THUNDER = God's voice

TREE OF LIFE IN THE GARDEN OF GOD = the decree excluding humanity from the Tree of Life in the Garden of Eden has been revoked by Christ

TRUMPET BLAST = calling together the believers

TRUMPET-LIKE VOICE = the voice of Jesus

VIRGINS = people who never indulged in any idolatrous practices

VISIONS = presentations of mysteries of God's plans

VOICE = proclaiming God's revelation

WATER (LIFE-GIVING) = God's grace flowing from Christ

WEDDING DAY OF THE LAMB = God's reign is about to begin

WHITE = victory and purity; resurrection

WINGS = freedom of movement that angels have

WORMWOOD = punishment God inflicts on the ungodly