

How many “sevens” in Revelation?

by Douglas E. Cox

The author of the book of Revelation has grouped many things into sevens. But how many times does the number “seven” occur? By counting links in the table below, and ignoring repeated sevens of things in the same verse, the number obtained is seven times seven, or 49.

Explicit sevens References

churches	1:4; 1:11; 1:20 (2)
spirits	1:4; 3:1; 4:5; 5:6
candlesticks	1:12; 1:13; 1:20 (2); 2:1
stars	1:16; 1:20 (2); 2:1; 3:1
lamps	4:5
seals	5:1; 5:5
horns	5:6
eyes	5:6
angels	8:2; 8:6; 15:1; 15:6; 15:7; 15:8; 16:1; 17:1; 21:9
trumpets	8:2; 8:6
thunders	10:3; 10:4 (2)
thousand men	11:13
heads	12:3; 13:1; 17:3; 17:7; 17:9
crowns	12:3
plagues	15:1; 15:6; 15:8; 21:9
vials	15:7; 17:1; 21:9
mountains	17:9
kings	17:10

Other things are given in sevens, although not explicitly. For example, there are seven “beatitudes.” The word “earthquake” occurs seven times. More examples are listed by David Field. [1] The table below lists seven references to God’s prophets, seven references to earthquakes, references to seven beatitudes, candlesticks, references to Christ’s

sword, sharp, Christ's blood, Christ's name, the book of life, prophecy, "this book," judgment, kingdom, "right hand," the saints, God Almighty, day and night, the bottomless pit, and heavenly voices in chapter 14. Jesus says he will "come quickly" seven times.

Implicit sevens	References
blessed	1:3; 14:13; 16:15; 19:9; 20:6; 22:7; 22:14
prophecy	1:3; 11:6; 19:10; 22:7; 22:10; 22:18; 22:19
Christ's blood	1:5; 5:6; 5:9; 5:12; 7:14; 12:11; 13:8
kingdom	1:9; 11:15 (2); 12:10; 16:10; 17:12; 17:17
candlestick	1:12; 1:13; 1:20 (2); 2:1; 2:5; 11:4
Christ's sword	1:16; 2:12; 2:16; 13:10; 19:15; 19:21 (2)
"right hand"	1:16; 1:17; 1:20; 2:1; 5:1; 5:7; 13:16
sharp	1:16; 2:12; 14:14; 14:17; 14:18 (2); 19:15
Jesus lives	1:18 (2); 4:9; 4:10; 5:14; 10:6; 15:7
come quickly	2:5; 2:16; 3:11; 11:14; 22:7; 22:12; 22:20
Christ's name	2:13; 3:8; 3:12; 13:6; 15:4; 16:9; 19:12
the book of life	3:5; 13:8; 17:8; 20:12; 20:15; 21:27; 22:19
God Almighty	4:8; 11:17; 15:3; 16:7; 16:14; 19:15; 21:22
day, night	4:8; 7:15; 8:12; 12:10; 14:11; 20:10; 21:25
earthquake	6:12; 8:5; 11:13 (2); 11:19; 16:18 (2)
the saints	8:4; 11:18; 13:7; 13:10; 14:12; 17:6; 20:9
the bottomless pit	9:1; 9:2; 9:11; 11:7; 17:8; 20:1; 20:3
God's prophets	10:7; 11:18; 16:6; 18:20; 18:24; 22:6; 22:9
voices	14:2 (2); 14:6; 14:7; 14:8; 14:13; 14:18
judgment	14:7; 15:4; 16:7; 17:1; 18:10; 19:2; 20:4
"this book"	22:7; 22:9; 22:10; 22:18 (2); 22:19 (2)

"He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches" occurs seven times, in: 2:7; 2:11; 2:17; 2:29; 3:6; 3:13; 3:22.

References

1. David Field. The Seven Blessings of the Book of Revelation.