

Revelation - Introduction

Opening Question

What has your experience been like around the book of Revelation?

Revelation Meaning

The Revelation: singular, not plural. A-poc-a-lip-sis - (18 times): "revelation," to unveil or uncover. Why does this need to be "revealed" -- lets go back to the OT revelation book called Daniel 12:9 -- talking about end times to an Angel -- 8 and 9

8I heard, but I did not understand. So I asked, "My lord, what will the outcome of all this be?" 9He replied, "Go your way, Daniel, because the words are rolled up and sealed until the time of the end. Because they were sealed.

So unveiling is needed ...

To Whom This Book is Given?

The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto Him, to show unto His servants things which must shortly come to pass; and He sent and signified it by his angel unto His servant John: who bare record of the word of God, and of the testimony of Jesus Christ, and of all things that he saw. Rev 1:1-2

Who's Revelation is it? John's or Christ's?

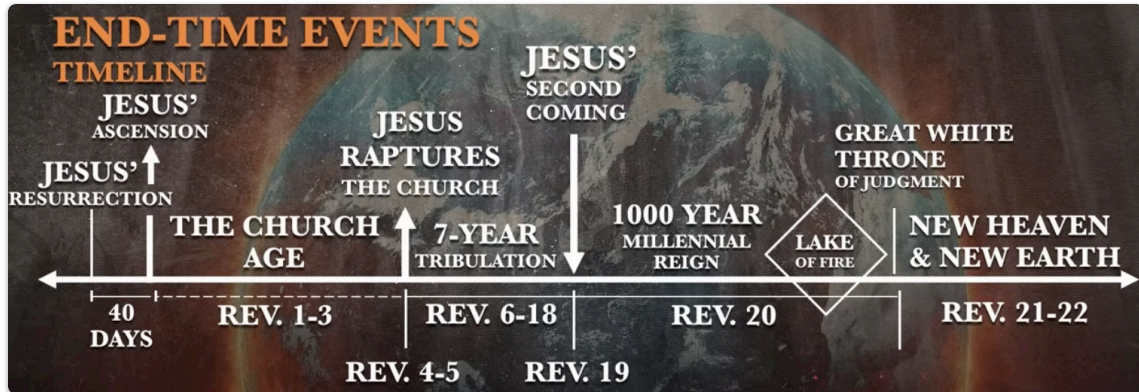
The answer matters ... the whole book has 1 thing in common across all the books -- Jesus the Christ

- Old Testament--Christ in Prophecy--Behold He Comes
- Gospels--Christ in History--Behold He Dies
- Acts--Christ in the Church--Behold He Lives --- church is filling the place of Jesus when he in human form
- Epistles--Christ in Experience--Behold He Saves --- consistent reminder that Jesus is the way
- Revelation/Apocalypse--Christ in coming Glory--Behold He Reigns

Summary of the Book of Revelation

The book has it's own summary... Rev 1:19 19 "Write, therefore, what you have seen, what is now and what will take place later.

1. What was seen Jesus' Resurrection and Ascension
2. What is now the Church Period/Age
3. What is to come tribulation, 2nd coming and reign



The Divine Outline

Write the things which thou hast seen [The Vision of Christ, Chapter 1], and the things which are [The Seven Churches, Chapters 2,3], and the things which shall be hereafter [That which follows after the Churches, Chapters 4-22]; **Rev 1:19**

What are some of the revealing we will see in the Book?

- Catastrophic end-crisis of present age • Spectacular reappearance of the King of Kings in His global empire • Internment of Satan in the Abousso (bottomless pit)
- Millennial earth-reign of Christ • Final insurrection and the abolition of sin • New Heaven and New Earth

Two Basic Discoveries

1. The Bible consists of 66 separate books penned by over 40 authors over a period of several thousand years that are represented and designed an integrated message system that you need to determine yourself.
 - Skillfully engineered
 - Every place, word, number, characteristic, structure has meaning and relevance
2. It can be demonstrated that the origin of this message is from outside of our dimensions of space and time.
 - The structure anticipate things before they happen.

-
- Revelation
 1 Peter, 1, 2, John, Jude
 Thimothy, Titus, Philemon
 Thimothy, Titus, Philemon
 Galatians
 Colossians, Ephesians, Philippians
 2 Corinthians
 Romans
 Acts
 John
 Luke
 Mark
 Matthew
 Mark, Hebrew, Zechariah
 Isaiah, Jeremiah, Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah
 Daniel
 Ezekiel
 Lamentations
 Jeremiah
 Isaiah
 Ecclesiastes, Song of Soli
 Proverbs
 Psalms
 Job
 Esther
 Ezra, Nehemiah
 2 Chronicles
 1 Chronicles
 2 Kings
 1 Kings
 2 Samuel
 1 Samuel
 Judges
 Ruth
 Joshua
 Deuteronomy
 Numbers
 Leviticus
 Exodus
 Genesis

The New Testament is in the Old Testament concealed; The Old Testament is in the New Testament revealed.

- ## Revelation: "The Unveiling"

- 3 / 9

blessing to the reader. Only book to give a blessing if you read it ... Rev 1:3 Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this **prophecy**, and keep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand. • It presents the climax of God's Plan for the Son's of Man.

John, the Author

- The Gospel of John.
- Three Epistles (1 John, sermon on love; 2 John, mystery to most, but believed to be a personal letter to Mary; 3 John, personal note to Gaius).
- The Book of Revelation

John (younger brother to James) was born at Bethsaida to Zebedee and Salome and was a Galilean fisherman; partner with Peter and Andrew. He was an early disciple of John the Baptist and seemed to be well connected (High Priest, Nicodemus, et al , cf. Jn 18:15).

Often represented as a soft male, but he was not. He and his brother known as the Sons of Thunder ... very much a man's man.

John was one of the inner circle: Mt. Transfiguration (Mt 17); raising of Jairus' daughter (Mt 9:18); Sermon on the Mount (Olivet Discourse) (Mt 24); Gethsemane (Mt 26:37);

Assigned care of Mary (Jn 19:26); ultimately retires to Ephesus after his exile.

The Patmos Exile

- Patmos is a small island, 6 miles by 10 miles, 40 miles from Miletus and 24 miles from the coast of Turkey.
- John was exiled by Domitian (A.D. 81-96), the brother of Titus who destroyed Jerusalem in 70 AD.
 - John was probably in his early 90s
- According to Irenaeus (2nd century A.D.), Revelation was written by John during the reign of Domitian.
- Irenaeus, Clement, and Eusebius wrote that after Domitian died, John returned to Ephesus, went to the churches, and appointed leaders, and set things in order.
- Only disciple that died of natural causes

Alternative Views

<https://www.pastorjasonelder.com/revelation-bible-study/four-major-views-of-interpreting-revelation> • Preterist - Then only (only in the 1st Century) • Historical - History only (recaps history) • Idealist - Allegorical (story of good vs evil) • Futurist - Prophetic (story of what is coming)

The Book of Revelation claims the latter (1:3; 22:7, 10, 18-19; cf.10:11).

Why Prophecy?

- Old Testament: 1,845 references to Christ's rule on the earth; 17 OT books give prominence to the event. View of Christ as a ruler or traditional king
- New Testament: Of the 216 chapters, there are 318 references to the Second Coming; it is mentioned in 23 of the 27 books. (3 private letters to individuals)
- For every prophecy relating to His First Coming, there are eight treating His Second Coming.

So is it important? Any experience in prophesy?

Why Revelation Matters Today

The early church lived expecting Christ's return. **So should we.**

Our world today:

- Global instability
- Obsession with apocalypse in media
- Moral confusion
- Fear of collapse

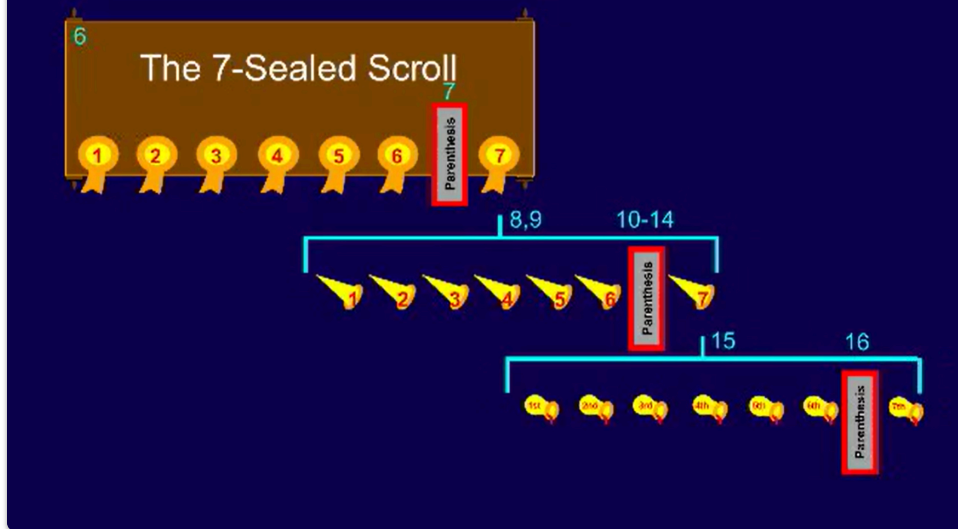
Revelation seems to say to us today:

| *"You are not watching chaos—you're watching a plan unfold."*

Field of Study - Eschatology Last Things

- Two primary options:
 - Amillennial (Jesus' reign for 1000 years is an allegory)
 - Premillennial (Literal interpretation to his reign)
- In Hermeneutics ... left is allegory and right is literal
- Eschatology derives from your hermeneutics confirmations in the New Testament.

The Heptadic Structure



The Heptadic Structure: The Sevens

- Seven Churches 1:4,11,20; 2; 3 • Seven Seals 5; 6 • Seven Trumpets 8, 9 • Seven Bowls 15; 16; 17:1; 21:9 • Seven Lampstands 1:12, 13, 20; 2:1 • Seven Spirits 1:4; 3:1; 4:5; 5:6 • Seven Stars 1:16, 20; 2:1; 3:1 • Seven Lamps 4; 5 • Seven "Title-pairs" 2; 3 • Seven Promises to the Overcomer 2:3 • Seven Horns 5:6 • Seven Eyes 5:6 • Seven Angels 8:2,6; 15:1,6,7,8; 16:1; 17:1;21:9 • Seven Thunders 10:3, 4 • Seven Thousand 11:13 • Seven Heads 12:3; 13:1; 17:3, 7, 9 • Seven Crowns 12:3 • Seven Plagues 15:1, 6, 8; 21:9 • Seven Mountains 17:9 • Seven Kings 17:10,11

Seven Beatitudes

- Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear and keep those things... (Rev 1:3).
- Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord (Rev 14:13).
- Blessed is he that watcheth and keepeth his garments (Rev 16:15).
- Blessed are they who are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb (Rev 19:9).
- Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection (Rev 20:6).
- Blessed is he that keepeth the words of the prophecy of this book (Rev 22:7)
- Blessed are they that wash their robes (Rev 22:14).

(More Subtle) Sevens

- Seven Features 1
- Seven Letter Divisions 2, 3
- Seven Personages 12, 13 -- Woman, Man-Child, Red Dragon, 7-headed Beast, False Prophet, Michael, Lamb.

- Seven Years of Judgments 11:3; 12:6,14; 13
- Seven "I Am's" of Christ 1:8, 11, 17, 18; 21:6; 22:13,16
- Seven Doxologies in heaven 4:9-11; 5:8-13; 7:9-12; 11:16-18; 14:2,3; 15:2-4 ;19
- Seven New Things 20, 21 ...and many, many more.

John states four times "I was in the spirit..."

- On the "day of the Lord" (at Patmos) Ch. 1:10 -- brought forward in time to on God's timeline to view this
- To the throne in heaven Ch. 4:2
- Carried away in the wilderness Ch. 17:3
- Carried to a mountain Ch. 21:10

Worship

How many songs?

1. Holy, Holy, Holy Ch. 4:8
2. Worthy art thou Ch. 4:11; 5:8-10
3. Unto Him that sitteth Ch. 5:11-13
4. Salvation to our God Amen Ch. 7:9-12
5. Kingdoms of the world; We give thee thanks Ch 11:15-18
6. Great and Marvelous Ch. 15:2-4
7. Four Hallelujahs Ch 19:1-8

Certain words exist in the mathematical foundation of the bible.

- Hallelujah is one of them.
- Math at work ... 24 hallelujahs in the OT - 4 in the new --> this is a multiple of what?

Genesis vs. Revelation

Genesis = Beginning; Creation Revelation = Redemption; Completion

✨ Theme	🌱 Genesis (Beginning; Creation)	🏰 Revelation (Redemption; Completion)
Earth	Created (1:1)	Passed Away (21:1)
Heavenly Lights	Sun, Moon, Stars Made (1:14-16)	Struck / Darkened (4:12; 8:12)
Light Source	Sun Governs Day (1:16)	No Need of Sun (21:23)

✨ Theme	🌱 Genesis (Beginning; Creation)	🇺🇸 Revelation (Redemption; Completion)
Night	Darkness Called Night (1:5)	No Night There (22:5)
Seas	Waters Called Seas (1:10)	No More Sea (21:1)
River	River Blessing the Earth (2:10–14)	River of Life (22:1–2)
Humanity	Man in God's Image (1:26)	Man Ruled by Beast's Image (13)
Sin	Sin Enters (3)	Sin Removed (21–22)
Curse	Curse Pronounced (3:14–17)	Curse Removed (22:3)
Death	Death Enters (3:19)	Death Abolished (21:4)
Sorrow	Sorrow Enters (3:17)	Sorrow Removed (22:4)
Eden	Man Expelled (3:24)	Man Restored (22)
Tree of Life	Guarded from Man (3:24)	Access Restored (22:14)
Cherubim	Introduced (3:24)	Final Mention (19:4)
Flood	God Judges Evil World (6–9)	Satan Attacks Remnant (12)
Covenant Sign	Rainbow Given (9:13)	Rainbow Remembered (4:3; 10:1)
City of Rebellion	Babylon Founded (10:8–10)	Babylon Destroyed (17–18)
Corrupt Cities	Sodom & Egypt Judged (13; 19)	Jerusalem Called "Sodom & Egypt" (11:8)
Abraham's People	Coalition Against Them (14)	Woman Protected (12)
Bride	Bride for Isaac (24)	Bride of the Lamb (19)
Marriage	First Adam Married (2:18–23)	Last Adam Married (19)
Seed Promise	Gate of Enemies Possessed (29:8)	Dominion Fulfilled (19)
Dominion	Lost to Satan (3:24)	Restored to Man (22)

Prophetic Scriptures

- 8,362 predictive verses; • 1,817 predictions; • 737 separate matters. J. Barton Payne, Encyclopedia of Biblical Prophecy

Major Prophetic Themes

- Israel • Jerusalem • Temple • Babylon • Russia (Magog) • Rise of China • European SuperState • Ecumenical Religion • Global Government • Rise of the Occult

Applies today; the more you know, the more it is revealed.

How to Study

- Prayer & relationship with God • Open mind and invite Spirit to guide • Take notes • Journal -
 - To help journaling: make it a secret just you!
 - Date it, write down a verse that you don't understand, write its context, your explanation of why it doesn't make sense or why confusing privately,
 - Close the journal and pray about -- knowing that God has promised to that the Spirit will teach all things (not some) -- please give me clarity!
 - If God answers write it in your journal with God's response ... why ... written document of the Holy Spirit guided you through it.

Here we go next week we will start with Chapter 1