

CHAPTER ONE – THE KEY TO UNDERSTANDING REVELATION

GOD'S INTRODUCTION TO REVELATION – PART ONE – 1:1-6

Title of book: _____

Revelation is the last, great, grand and glorious book of the Holy Bible. In this book, Jesus Christ is finally revealed for who he is: The King of kings and Lord of Lords...a *title and position given to Him by God the Father*. In Revelation the “end of all things” is clearly _____, and revealed so grandly and terribly that it is the most feared, hated, and misunderstood book in the Bible. It is the only book that gives, in great detail, the _____ of Satan, the Church, the Jew, the Gentile, the nations, the one world religious system of the antichrist, and the universe as we know it. As a result, it is relentlessly attacked by the lost world and by dead orthodox phony professing Christians; men hate being told the future by an authoritative, inerrant standard that exposes their evil deeds and systems. This _____ and complete “Revelation” from God to mankind details the destruction of every governmental system and organized false church on the planet. It is for this reason that the book of Revelation has been a theological battleground since the day God inspired John to write it. It is the most _____ book of all scripture. Without it there is _____ conclusion from Genesis to Jude, _____ final resolution to the dilemma of sin and the devil, thus _____ ultimate, practical, physical, future hope.

The word “Revelation” shows us that God wants its contents revealed not hidden...and its incredible contents are revealed to his SERVANTS (not just to anyone who comes along). Consider Daniel vs. Revelation:

Daniel 12:4 – “shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end.”

Revelation 22:10 – “seal not the sayings of the prophesy of this book: for the time is at hand.”

Revelation is perhaps the most precious book in the entire Bible. It completes the cycle of truth begun in Genesis; it concludes _____ scriptural revelation by God to mankind.

Author: The apostle _____ Method of transmission: God the Father → Jesus → Angel → John → Servants of God

Note: 1:1, 4, 9; 21:2; 22:8 – The apostle John was the _____ disciple, the son of Zebedee, and the brother of James. It certainly makes sense that John, the beloved, would be chosen by God to be the author of the Bible’s “capstone” book – Revelation... he was the closest of all Jesus disciples; He was the one who reclined with our Lord at the last supper prior to Jesus’ crucifixion; He was the only disciple present at the crucifixion; Jesus even gave the responsibility of taking care of his earthly mother to John! John is second only to the apostle Paul for the most number of inspired NT scriptures...with five books authored.

Historical time of writing: Between _____ AD - _____ AD

Note: The “historical time of writing” is very, very important. John wrote during the rule of the Roman emperor Domitian, _____ during Nero’s rule – this can be proven by the clear historic record. The critics of Revelation’s prophecies claim the book to have been written before 70AD; this is due to the fact that Jerusalem was destroyed by Titus in 70AD – The critics claim that the prophecies of Revelation were fulfilled at that time and not at any yet future date...

Blessings of Revelation: 1) Blessing to those that read, hear, and keep those things written...

Chapters _____ Verses _____ Words _____

2) Grace and peace from God the Father...and God the Son...

Three basic applications:

- 1) Historical: Written to the “servants” of Jesus Christ in the “seven churches of Asia Minor” – to _____ Jesus Christ in all His glory and to reveal the events surrounding the coming Day of the Lord, which must shortly come to pass.
- 2) Doctrinal: Written to the “servants” of Jesus Christ in the _____ period, to explain the horrendous events that are unfolding around them during their present time of trouble, and the future victory that is theirs in Christ the coming King.
- 3) Devotional: Written to show the “servants” of Jesus Christ the prophetic power of God’s Word in detailing the history of the church age, the events that will be taking place at the close of this current dispensation, and the events surrounding the _____ coming _____ of the Lord.

The “Sevens” of Revelation:

- Seven _____ in Asia Minor: 1:4; See vs. 11
- Seven _____: 1:4; See Isaiah 11:2
 - 1) The Spirit of the Lord
 - 2) The Spirit of Wisdom
 - 3) The Spirit of Understanding
 - 4) The Spirit of Council
 - 5) The Spirit of Might
 - 6) The Spirit of Knowledge
 - 7) The Spirit of the Fear of the Lord
- Seven Golden Candlesticks (Churches): 1:12, 20
- Seven Stars (angels): 1:16, 20
- Seven Church Letters: 2:1-3:22
- Seven Lamps: 4:5
- Seven Seals: 5:1; 6:1-8:1
- Seven Horns: 5:6
- Seven Eyes: 5:6
- Seven Trumpets: 8:2-11:9
- Seven Thunders: 10:3, 4
- Seven Thousand Slain: 11:13
- Seven Heads: 12:3
- Seven Crowns: 12:3
- Seven Angels: 15:1
- Seven Plagues (vials) of God’s wrath: 15:1-16:21
- Seven Mountains: 17:9
- Seven Kings: 17:10
- Seven “Beatitudes”
 - 1) Blessed are those who read this prophecy: 1:3
 - 2) Blessed are those who die in the Lord: 14:13
 - 3) Blessed are those who watch for Christ’s coming: 16:15
 - 4) Blessed are those invited to the marriage supper: 19:9
 - 5) Blessed are those in the first resurrection: 20:6
 - 6) Blessed are those who keep the words of this book: 22:7
 - 7) Blessed are those who wash their robes: 22:14
- Seven Personages
 - 1) The woman – Israel: 12:1, 2
 - 2) Great red dragon – Satan: 12:3, 4, 9
 - 3) The man child – Christ: 12:5, 6
 - 4) Michael, the archangel: 12:7
 - 5) Israel’s remnant: 12:17
 - 6) The beast out of the sea: 13:1-8
 - 7) The beast out of the earth: 13:11-18
- Seven Judgments
 - 1) Religious Babylon: 17
 - 2) Political Babylon: 18
 - 3) The Beast and the False Prophet: 19:20
 - 4) Godless nations: 19:21
 - 5) Gog and Magog: 20:7-9
 - 6) Satan: 20:10
 - 7) The wicked dead: 20:11-15
- Seven “New” Things
 - 1) Heaven: 21:1
 - 2) Earth: 21:1
 - 3) City: 21:9-23
 - 4) Beginning of nations: 21:24-27
 - 5) River: 22:1
 - 6) Tree: 22:2
 - 7) Throne: 22:3-5

Why all the Sevens?

1. God's pattern of Sevens
 - a. The pattern of 7 days – Genesis 1:3; 2:1-3...the 7th day was a day of _____
 - b. The pattern of 7 weeks – Leviticus 23:15; Deut. 16:9...the 7th week's sabbath was special
 - c. The pattern of 7 months – Leviticus 23:24...the 7th month's sabbath was special
 - d. The pattern of 7 years – Leviticus 25:1-6...the 7th year was a year of rest for the land
 - e. The pattern of 7 weeks of years – Leviticus 25:8-13...after the 7th week of years it was the year of Jubilee

2. Interesting factors concerning this pattern
 - a. Interesting clue – 2 Peter 3:8...“Don't be ignorant of this one thing”... _____
 - b. Interesting chronology of OT – From Genesis creation to time of Christ...4,000 years of human history
 - c. Interesting chronology of NT – From time of Christ to today...2,000 years of church history
 - d. Interesting time frame in Revelation 20:1-7 – Millennium = 1,000 year reign of Christ on earth

3. The meaning of all this
 - a. We are at or near to the conclusion of the 6,000th year of human history...
 - b. Soon Christ will return to reign for another 1,000 years – a **day of rest** for this planet
 - c. God will make a new heaven and a new earth after _____ years of human history
 - d. Seven is the number of _____

Note: As we will see throughout our study, the history covered in the book of Revelation is _____ years...

Today's Conclusion: Those who have been **washed in the blood of Jesus Christ** are made kings and priests...

- Today priests – 1 Peter 2:5, 9
- Tomorrow priests and _____ – Revelation 5:10; 20:6

Our mission today and forever is: To _____ God