



- Author
- Date
- Audience
- Purpose
- Outline/Structure
- Genre
- Challenges
- Blessings
- Application

The book of Revelation is the <u>ultimate</u> <u>unveiling</u> of Jesus Christ in all His glory and the <u>climatic</u> <u>culmination</u> of this present age with His triumphant return to earth. [Revelation 1:7]

AUTHOR & DATE

➤ While the Apostle John — the <u>beloved</u> <u>disciple</u> — was inspired by the Holy Spirit as the <u>human author</u> of the book, Jesus Christ is the <u>divine author</u>.

John, the Apostle - Human Author

- First-hand Eyewitness of life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.
- Penned The Gospel of John
- Three Epistles (1 John, sermon on love; 2 John, personal letter to Mary(?); 3 John, personal note to Gaius).
- The Book of Revelation (Apocalypse)

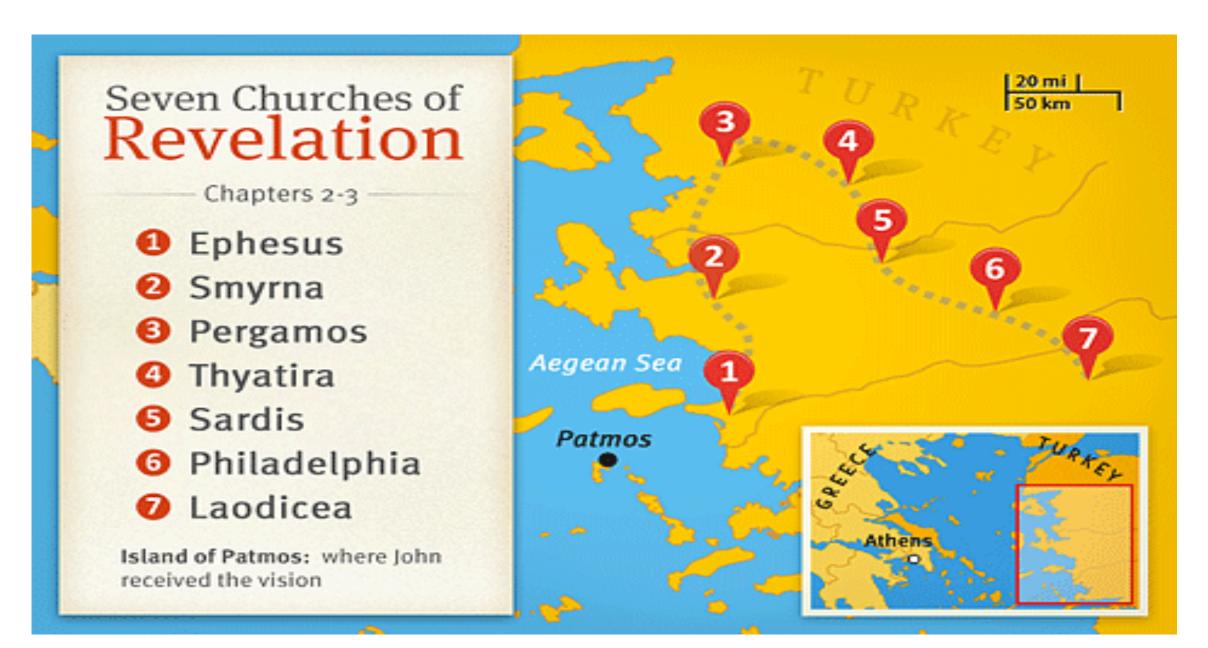
John, the Apostle & Human Author

John was called the **beloved disciple** — the one whom Jesus loved. He was included in the inner circle: Mt. Transfiguration (Mt 17); raising of Jairus' daughter (Mt 9:18); Olivet Discourse (Mt 24); Gethsemane (Mt 26:37); Assigned care of Mary (Jn 19:26); ultimately retires to Ephesus after his exile.

John, the Apostle & Human Author

John was a martyr who later was exiled to the deserted island of Patmos. Patmos is 6X10 miles, 40 miles from Miletus and 24 miles from the coast of Turkey. John was exiled by Roman Emperor Domitian (A.D. 81-96), the brother of Titus who destroyed Jerusalem. According to Irenaeus (2nd century A.D.), Revelation was written by John during the reign of Domitian.

The Isle of Patmos



Jesus Christ - the Divine Author

- In the beginning was the Word ... [John1:1-14]
- For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy ... [Revelation 19:10]
- You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that bear witness about me ... [John 5:39-47]
- The Holy Spirt's role in divine authorship, inspiring the human authors to write God's word. [2 Pt. 1:16-21]

The book of Revelation was <u>signified</u> to John using <u>symbolic</u> <u>imagery</u> and <u>prophetic patterns</u> that already have been clearly established in Scripture. [Revelation 1:1-2]

"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."

[Revelation 1:1-2 NKJV]

Jesus Christ - the Divine Author

Signified by God = in "code" (1:1) "to give a sign or signal." There are, in the Bible 4591 semas: The word is translated "sign" (15:1). Signified by God = The Bible is a Fully Integrated Message System! It's a "spiritual code," understood only by those who know Christ personally and who are sealed with the Holy Spirit.

Revelation is in code: every code/symbol is explained in Scripture (virtually every other book required)!

The Revelation of Jesus Christ Jesus Christ - the Divine Author

- Letters/Language
- Symbols
- Numbers
- Names
- Word Pictures
- Allusions
- Idioms
- Typology
- Prophetic Patterns

<u>Jesus Christ – the Divine Author</u>

- Revelation contains 404 verses with over 800 allusions from the Old Testament.
- Old Testament: 1,845 references to Christ's rule on the earth; 17 OT books give prominence to the Day of the Lord.
- New Testament: Of the 216 chapters, there are 318 references to the Second Coming; it is mentioned in 23 of the 27 books.
- For every prophecy relating to His First Coming, there are eight treating His Second Coming.

ORIGINAL AUDIENCE



Transmission of the Book

- Original Author God
- Signified and given to His angelic messenger
- Delivered to His servant John in a vision
- Written to all **bondservants** of Christ [is this you?]
- Written initially as Epistles (letters) from Jesus to 7 angels of 7 historical churches in Asia Minor (Turkey)
- Intended to be circulated, copied, read, studied and applied by all believers for all time, especially the last generation.
- Personally applied by Whoever has an Ear "Let him Hear!"

PURPOSE



PURPOSE of the BOOK

- The Unveiling and Triumphal Return of Jesus Christ
- The Unsealing and Fulfillment of all Prophecy
- The Climax of Redemptive History
- The Consummation of God's Kingdom on Earth
- The Universal Convergence of All Forces/Good and Evil
- The End of the Present Evil Age
- The Expression of God's Final Wrath in Judgment
- The Final Salvation and Reward of the Saints

"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. Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear, and who keep what is written in it, for the time is near."

[Revelation 1:1-3 NKJV]

"Behold, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him, and all tribes of the earth will wail on account of him." Even so. Amen.

"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, "who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty."

[Revelation 1:7-8]

"Behold, I am coming soon, bringing my recompense with me, to repay each one for what he has done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end."

[Revelation 22:12-13]

"Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, **looking unto Jesus, the** author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God."

[Hebrews 12:1-2]

"remember the former things of old; for I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like me, declaring the end from the beginning and from ancient times things not yet done, saying,

'My counsel shall stand, and I will accomplish all my purpose.'"

[Isaiah 46:9-10]

OUTLINE & STRUCTURE



➤ Jesus provides the <u>outline</u> of the entire book, along with both a <u>special</u> <u>blessing</u> and <u>serious warning</u> to all who read it. [Revelation 1:3, 1:19, 22:18-19]

"Write therefore the things that you have seen, those that are and those that are to take place after this."

[Revelation 1:19]

The Revelation of Jesus Christ OUTLINE/STRUCTURE

- The things that you have seen [PAST] Chapter 1
- The things that are [PRESENT] -- Chapters 2-3
- The things that will take place after this [FUTURE]
 - Chapters 4-22 {Throne Room Scene Chapters 4-5}

GENRE



"The" Revelation of Jesus Christ = singular, not plural

- ➤ Greek -- Apokalupsis [ἀποκάλυψις] = to unveil or disclose or uncover or reveal
- Luke 17:22-37
- •1 Corinthians 1:7-8
- 2 Thessalonians 1
- •1 Peter 1
- •1 Peter 4:12-19

Apocalyptic Literature

A type of Jewish and early Christian literature that conveys divine visions or revelations from God about the imminent coming of the end of the present evil age and the advent of God's kingdom. Apocalyptic style uses mysterious symbolism, metaphor, allegory and often bizarre imagery to communicate literal truths concerning the prophetic word.

The Revelation of Jesus Christ Biblical Examples of Apocalyptic Literature

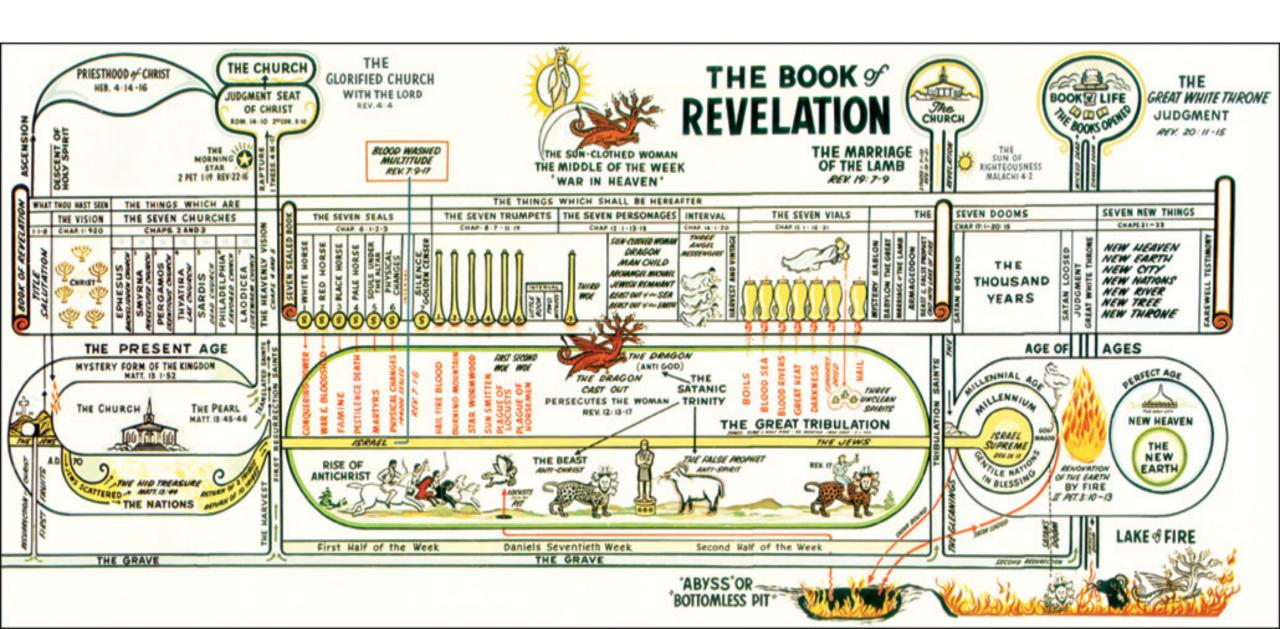
- > Isaiah
- > Jeremiah
- **≻**Ezekiel
- ➤ Daniel
- > Joel
- > Amos
- > Zechariah

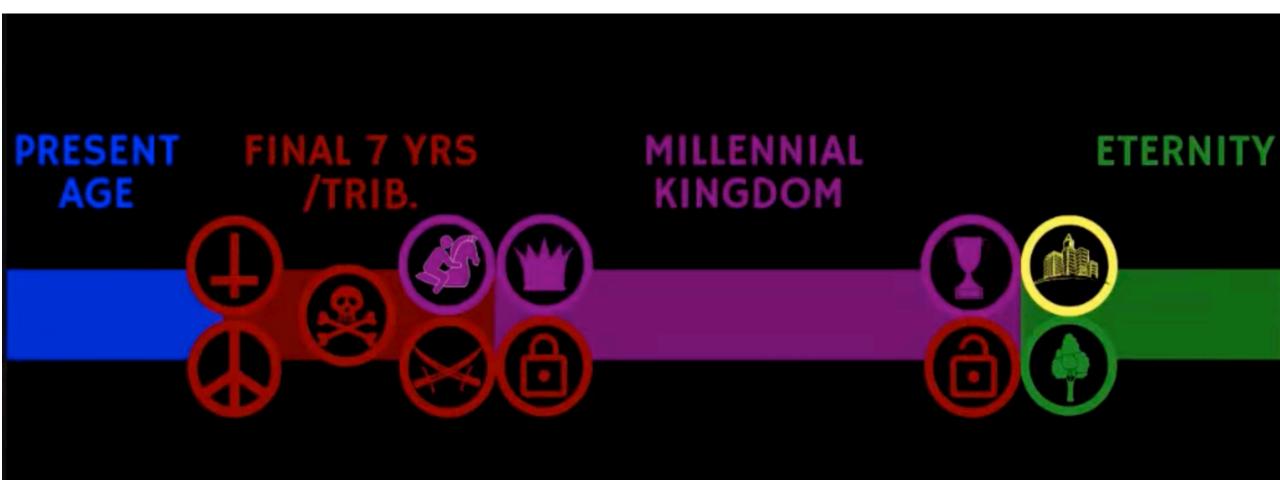
INTERPRETIVE CHALLENGES



Why Many Avoid Revelation

- 1. Fear or Anxiety
- 2. Confusion or Frustration
- 3. False predictions and Date Setters
- 4. Biblical Illiteracy especially Old Testament
- 5. Spiritual/intellectual Laziness
- 6. Non-biblical views of end times [preterism, amillennialism, pre-tribulationism etc...]





PROPHETIC TIMELINE

Finding the Key to Unlock the Symbols

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_0ahRXIknIA Show first 4:30 minutes of video

SPECIAL BLESSING



"Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear, and who keep what is written in it, for the time is near."

[Revelation 1:3]

PERSONAL APPLICATION



Personal Application

- ✓ Pray for wisdom and understanding
- ✓ Reexamine and affirm your relationship with Christ
- ✓ Do NOT be given to a spirit of Fear Jesus wins!
- ✓ Read Chapter 1 out loud multiple times take notes
- ✓ Use a concordance or Bible software for cross references and word meanings
- ✓ Keep up with current news and world reports, especially in Israel, Turkey and the Middle East
- ✓ Keep up with converging technologies