

THE REVELATION OF SAINT JOHN THE DIVINE

The Vision of Christ — The Seven Churches — The Things Which Must Be After The Churches Into Eternity

<p>a Gr. apokalupsis, to unveil or uncover. It implies the lifting up of a curtain so all can see alike what is uncovered. When used of writing it means to reveal or make clear (Eph. 3:3; Gal. 1:12); when used of a person it denotes visible presence (v 1; 2 Th. 1:7; 1 Pet. 1:7, 13). Here it refers to both the book and the person of Christ. See Revelation, p. 332 and 363.</p> <p>b Not a revelation altogether concerning Christ, but one from Him. Christ is not the main subject of the book. See note f, below.</p> <p>c God gave it to Christ, emphasizing His limitations during His incarnation (Isa. 50:4; Mt. 28:18; Mk. 13:32; Lk. 2:40, 52).</p> <p>d The purpose was to show, not hide from His servants, events from John's day into all eternity (Rev. 21–22).</p> <p>e 111 times in the N.T.; 14 in Rev.</p> <p>f 45 times, emphasizing the subject matter of the book, which is things or events:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Events of the whole church age (Rev. 1–3) 2 Events in heaven (Rev. 4–5) 3 Events of the future tribulation of Daniel's 70th week (Rev. 6–19) 4 Events of the Millennium (Rev. 20) 5 Events of the eternal new heavens and the new earth (Rev. 21–22) <p>g Gr. tachos, swiftness; speed; quickly. Trans. shortly (v 1; 22:6; Acts 25:4; Rom. 16:20); quickly (Acts 12:7; 22:18; Rev. 2:5); and speedily (Lk. 18:8). The idea is that this series of events must begin quickly.</p> <p>h Gr. semaino, to show or point out; announce; to make a note of. That it does not mean that all things are in symbols is clear from its use elsewhere (v 1; Jn. 12:33; 18:32; 21:19; Acts 11:28; 25:27). It simply means to make a clear record.</p> <p>i The book was transmitted from God to Christ, to the angel, to John, to the churches, to us (v 1, 11).</p> <p>j 3 Classes Blessed (v 3):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Those who read the Revelation 2 Those who hear it 3 Those who keep things written therein <p>k 7 times in Rev. indicating the prophetic aspect of the book (v 3; 11:6; 19:10; 22:7, 10, 18, 19).</p> <p>7 Rules Regarding Prophecy:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Understand prophecy as history written beforehand 2 Give the same meaning to words of prophecy as you do the words of history 3 Do not seek for hidden meanings 4 Do not think prophecy must be fulfilled before it can be understood 5 Do not interpret God's own interpretation of any thing in prophecy 6 Take all prophecy literally unless it is 	<p style="text-align: center;">239 CHAPTER 1</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Introductory remarks (1:1-11).</i> 1. <i>Title, origin, subject, object, transmission and author</i></p> <p>■ 1 The ^aRevelation^b of Jesus Christ, which God^c gave unto him, ^dto shew unto his ^eservants ^fthings which ^gmust ^hshortly come to pass; and he sent and ⁱsignified it by his angel ^junto his servant John:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">2. <i>Threefold authenticity (22:16)</i></p> <p>2 Who bare record of the word of God, and of the testimony of Jesus Christ, and of all things that he saw.</p> <p>3 <i>The beatitude (Cp. 14:13; 16:15; 19:9; 20:6; 22:7, 14) and nature of prophecy (Cp. 22:7, 10, 18, 19)</i></p> <p>▲ 3 ^jBlessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this ^kprophecy, and ^lkeep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">4. <i>Sevenfold salutation to the churches and threefold exaltation of Jesus Christ</i></p> <p>4 John to the ^mseven churches which are in Asia: Grace be unto you, and peace, ⁿfrom him which is, and which was, and which is to come; and from the ^oseven Spirits which are before his throne;</p> <p style="text-align: center;">clear that it cannot have a literal meaning. Then get the literal truth conveyed by the figurative language</p> <p>7 Let the Bible be its own interpreter</p> <p>l 7 times in Rev. (v 3; 2:26; 3:8, 10; 12:17; 14:12; 22:9).</p> <p>m They were located in Asia Minor (v 11).</p> <p>n From the Divine Trinity (v 4-5). See 89 Proofs of a Divine Trinity, p. 489.</p> <p>o See note on Rev. 5:6.</p> <p>p See 10 Facts About Jesus Christ, p. 543.</p> <p>q 1st N.T. prophecy in Rev. (1:6-7, unfulfilled). Next, 2:5.</p> <p>r All eyes in the immediate vicinity of Jerusalem where He lands (Zech. 14:1-5). People in distant parts of the earth will not see Him until later (Isa. 2:2-4; 66:19-21; Zech. 8:23).</p> <p>s The descendants of those who pierced Him—the Jews (Zech. 12:10).</p> <p>t The armies of the nations that will be surrounding Jerusalem when Christ comes (Zech. 14:1-5; Mt. 24:29-31).</p> <p>u The first and last letters of the Gr. alphabet. Used 4 times in Rev. (1:8, 11; 21:6; 22:13. Cp. 1:17; 2:8. Used of Christ in all these places except in 21:6). He is also called the Almighty (v 8), which is else-</p>	<p>5 And from ^pJesus Christ, <i>who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth.</i> Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood,</p> <p>★ 6 ^qAnd hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">5. <i>Chief theme of Revelation (11:15-18; 19:11-21; 22:20)</i></p> <p>▲ 7 Behold, he cometh with clouds; and ^revery eye shall see him, and ^sthey <i>also</i> which pierced him: ^tand all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">6. <i>Eternity of Jesus Christ (1:8, 11, 17; 2:8; 21:6; 22:13; Mic. 5:1-2; Jn. 1:1-2)</i></p> <p>8 I am ^uAlpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">7. <i>The prophet—John (1:1, 4)</i></p> <p>9 I John, who also am your brother, and ^vcompanion in ^wtribulation, and in the ^xkingdom and ^ypatience of Jesus Christ, was in the isle that is called ^zPatmos, ^{aa}for the word of God, and for the testimony of Jesus Christ.</p> <p>10 I was ^{ab}in the Spirit on ^{ac}the Lord's day,</p> <p>where used of the Father (4:8; 11:17; 15:3; 16:7, 14; 19:15; 21:22).</p> <p>v Partaker, as in note o, Phil. 1:7.</p> <p>w Used 5 times in Rev.: 4 times of persecution of Christians in John's day (1:9; 2:9, 10, 22), and one time of the future great tribulation (7:14). See note h, 2 Cor. 1:4.</p> <p>*a The kingdom of or from the heavens that Christ will establish on earth at the second advent (1:6, 9; 5:10; 11:15; 12:10; 20:4-6; 22:5). See notes j and e, Mt. 4:17; 19:24.</p> <p>*b 7 times in Rev. of the endurance of Christians in sufferings (1:9; 2:2-3, 19; 3:10; 13:10; 14:12).</p> <p>*c A volcanic, treeless, rocky island about 6x10 miles, 30 miles S. W. of Samos. It was made a place of exile by the Romans for the lowest of criminals.</p> <p>*d 2 Reasons for Banishment (v 2, 9):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 For preaching the Word of God 2 For testifying of Jesus Christ <p>*e A term used of being wholly in union with the Holy Spirit and yielded to Him (note n, Lk. 22:3).</p> <p>*f See The Lord's Day, p. 531, also p. 333, Sunday the Christian Sabbath.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">‡ ‡ ‡</p>
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