

The Revelation of Jesus Christ

A study through the book of Revelation

Introduction:

1. Genesis and Revelation – Under Attack
2. The connection between parable and revelation
 - A. parable = comparison to reveal truth
 - B. revelation (apokalypsis) = to unveil or reveal truth previously unseen
 - C. Matt. 13:11-17 – Jesus explains parables
 - D. John 3:3 – No one can see unless “born again”
 - E. I Cor. 2:14 – Natural man vs. Spirit of God
3. Historical perspective (ways of interpreting)
 - A. Preterist – relate all events to prior to AD 95.
 - B. Historical – relate everything to the present Church Age
 - C. Idealist – not historical or factual but just symbolic
 - D. Futurist – after chapter 4 referring to “end times”
4. KISS Principle (Keep it simple student)
5. Levels of maturity/Experience
 - A. Give respect to different levels of Biblical experience
 - B. The “bone pile” concept
 - C. Accept and enjoy mystery
6. The focus of the book ---> Jesus Christ!
 - A. The Gospels introduce Jesus as the “man” and “savior”
 - B. Revelation presents Jesus in His PRESENT state!

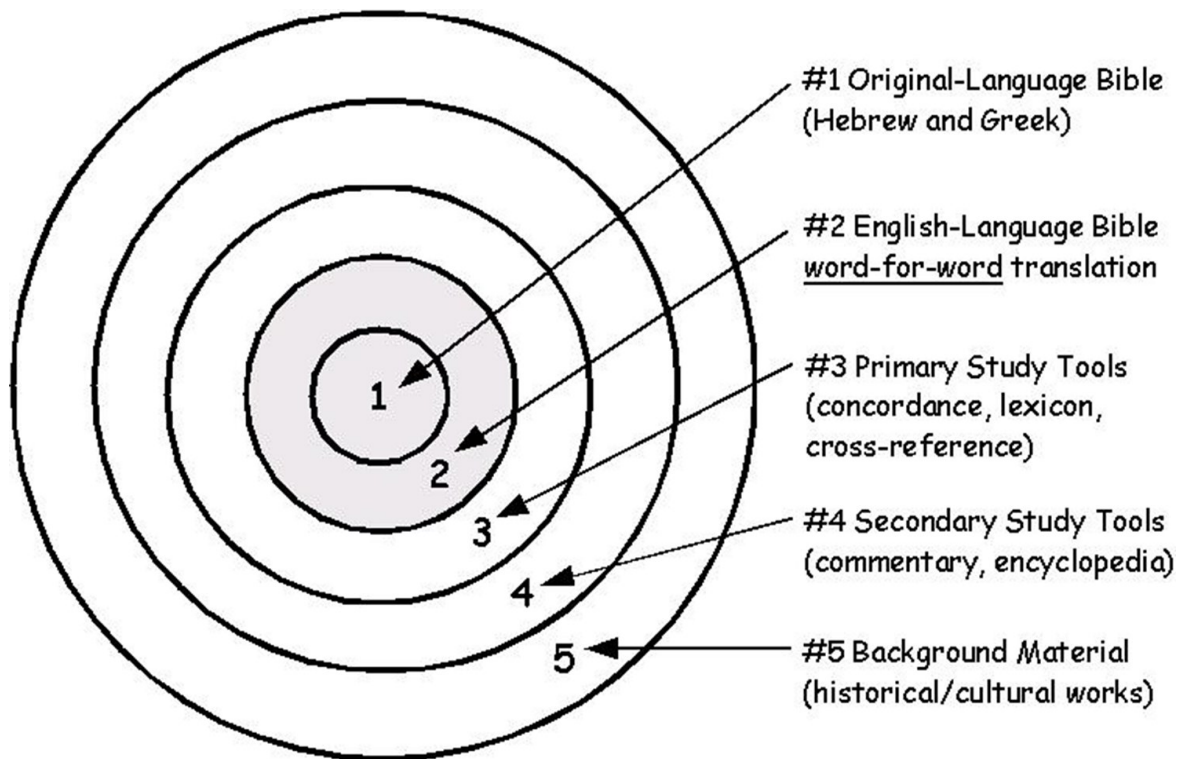
C. We will find over 30 titles of Jesus in our study

7. The primacy of scripture

A. Inspired by the Holy Spirit

B. Inerrant in the original writings

C. Meant to edify the church (2 Tim. 3:16,17)



8. The Author – The Apostle John

The Gospel of John

The Epistles

The Revelation

Believe (John 20:31)

Be sure (1 Jn. 5:13)

Be ready (22:20)

Life received

Life revealed

Life rewarded

Salvation

Sanctification

Sovereignty

The Prophet

The Priest

The King

9. The Date – AD 95 – During the reign of Domitian

10. Place of writing – The Isle of Patmos – Rev. 1:9

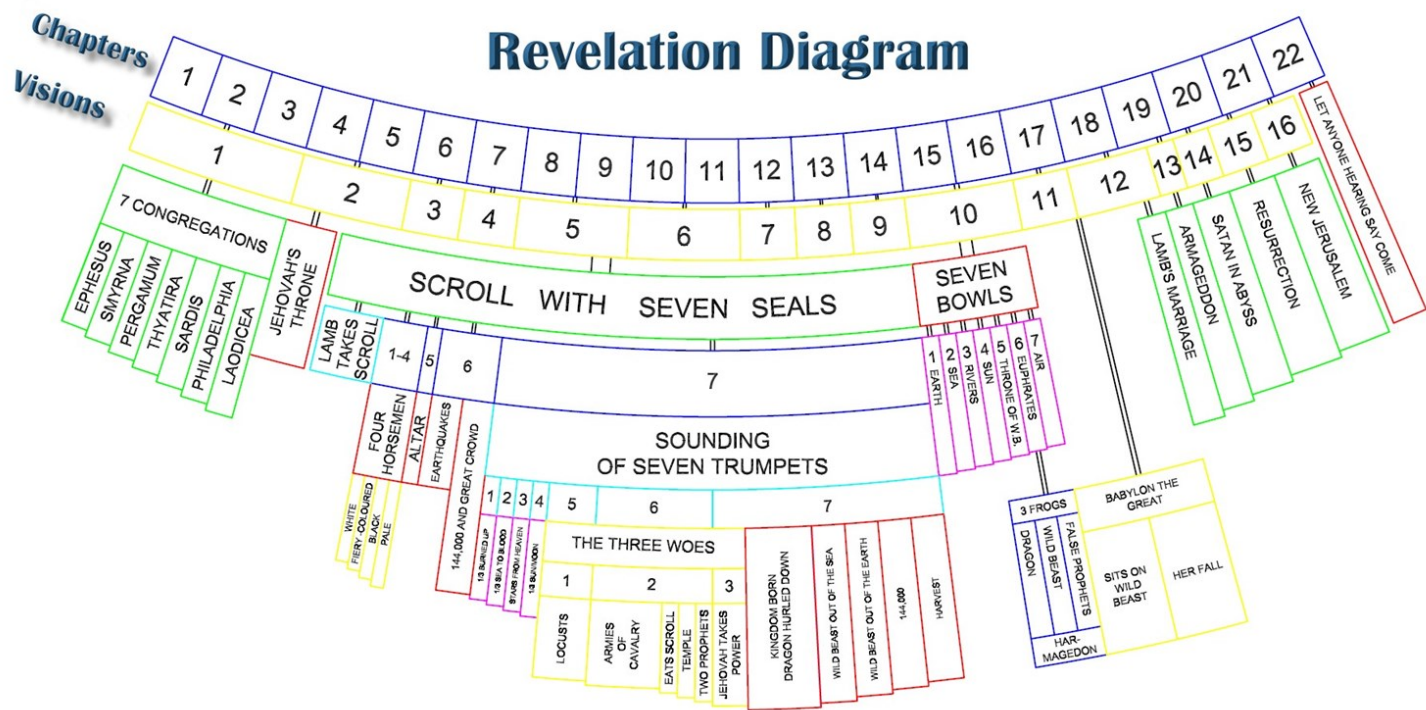
11. The Audience – “seven churches in Asia Minor” – Christians

12. The Theme – The details of Christ’s second coming and the reality of judgement and justice that come with him.

Some Outlines of the Book

The Book of Revelation

Focus	Heaven	Earth										New Heaven & Earth
Divisions	Letters to the Seven Churches	Opening the Seven Seals	Blowing the Seven Trumpets	Describing the Seven Signs	Pouring Out the Seven Bowls	Destroying God's Enemies	Making all Things new					
	1 3	4 6 7	9 10	13 14	26 17	19	20 22					
Topics	Coming King	Coming Calamity					Coming Kingdom					
	Judge	Judgment					Joy					
Place	Aegean Island of Patmos											
Time	About A.D. 95-96											
Author	The Apostle John											



II. The Prologue (Rev. 1:1-2)

Verse 1

Ἀποκάλυψις = apo (take away) + kalupto (cover or hide)
= to reveal or unveil –

NOTE – to reveal knowledge that was previously unknown or unknowable.

The chief purpose of all of scripture is to reveal the truth of God
including the Book of Revelation!

Of Jesus Christ

Therefore, this revelation

- 1) Belongs to Christ,
- 2) Is His action toward us, and is
- 3) All about Him

which God gave him

Christ again demonstrates his service to the Father
Everything comes from God as the source!

to show His servants

Show = deiknyo = to give proof, to teach, to demonstrate

This is written to the (doulos) of God – slaves are 1) owned
and 2) controlled by the master

must soon take place.

soon = en tachai = quickness, speed, suddenness
take place = predictive prophecy

He made it known by

Made it known = semaino = to give signs to declare

This points to a symbol or image to explain a spiritual truth

Interpret symbols through the Bible first (500 allusions to the Old Testament) – over 70% of Revelation makes reference to OT!

The **golden rule of interpretation**

Let scripture interpret scripture!

Sending His angel

There is a huge role for angels in Revelation
to His servant John.

Verse 2

Testifies

Testifies = martyron = gave a faithful witness in court

he saw

John's motivation was to just write what he saw (Rev. 1:11)

The Word of God

John 1:1, I John 1:1 – John the Apostle calls Jesus

The testimony of Jesus Christ

Jesus' own expression of truth

These are NOT John's words – but Jesus' words

Verse 3

Blessed

First of SEVEN beatitudes in Revelation

Blessed because this is the Word of God & the testimony of Christ

the one who reads the words (singular)

Blessed

those who hear it (plural) – public hearing
and take it to heart

to keep – abide, dwell, cherish

Because the time is near (imminent!)

Verse 4

John

To the seven churches in the Province of Asia

Verse 11 – the churches listed

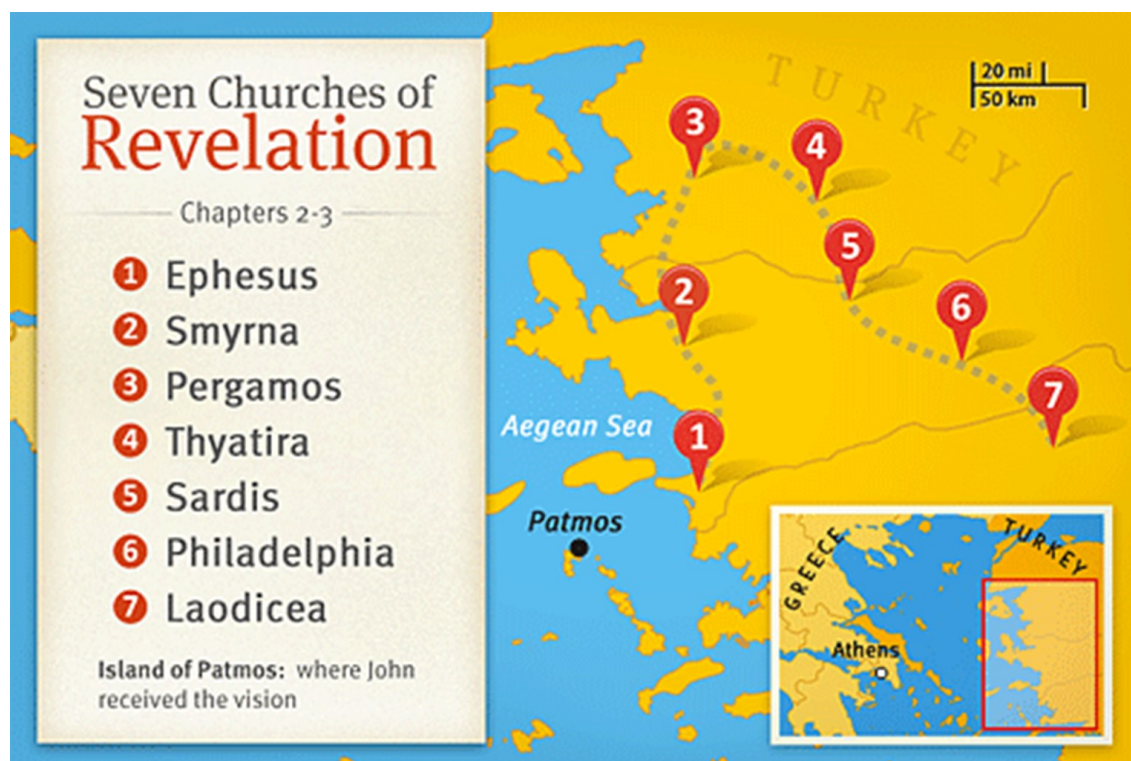
Called “Asia Minor” in this time

Focused primarily in the country of Turkey

Paul was the founder of the churches in this area

Timothy was out of Ephesus and was responsible there

Ephesus is probably the “mother church”.



From God

To the Son Jesus Christ

Through His angel

To the Apostle John

Unto the seven Churches in Asia Minor

to US

Grace – karis = Unmerited favor

Peace – eirene = Confidence in the midst of trouble

Him who is, who was, who is to come!

God the Father – eternal “I Am”

The long definition of YHWH

The seven spirits before His throne

Isaiah 11:2 – seven aspects of the Spirit

The seven angels that work with the seven churches

Numerology – 7 = number of completeness (all the spirits)

Verse 5

And Jesus Christ

The faithful witness – (martyron)

firstborn from the dead

Preeminent among all people (Rom. 8:29)

ruler of the kings of the earth

Who loves us! (past tense in the original)

and has freed us from our sins

by His blood

Verse 6

And Jesus Christ...

made us to be a

kingdom (royal ambassadors)

priests (servant representatives)

to serve God and Father

To Him be glory and power

Glory – doxa, Power - dominion

forever – AMEN!

Verse 7

Jesus Christ...

Look! – behold – be aware – be active looking!

He is coming! (John 14:3; Matt. 26:64)

Every eye will see Him (Matt. 24:26-27)

even those who pierced Him (Jews)

All will mourn because of Him (Zech. 12:10)

So shall it be! – AMEN!

Verse 8

Jesus Christ – Personal Introduction!

I am the Alpha and Omega

First and last letters of the Greek alphabet

The beginning and the end!

I am He who is, and who was, and who is to come

Identifies himself with God

I am The Almighty

almighty = pan(all) to krater(hold) = his hand on everything

This word is used 10 times in Revelation!