

The Book of Revelation

Why Study the Book of Revelation?

I. Introduction

- A. Rev. 1:1-3 (NLT) *¹This is a revelation from Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show his servants the events that must soon take place. He sent an angel to present this revelation to his servant John, ²who faithfully reported everything he saw. This is his report of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ. ³God blesses the one who reads the words of this prophecy to the church, and he blesses all who listen to its message and obey what it says, for the time is near.*
- B. Acts 1:6-7 (NLT) *⁶So when the apostles were with Jesus, they kept asking him, "Lord, has the time come for you to free Israel and restore our kingdom?" ⁷He replied, "The Father alone has the authority to set those dates and times, and they are not for you to know."*
- C. Mark 13:32-33 (NLT) *³²"However, no one knows the day or hour when these things will happen, not even the angels in heaven or the Son himself. Only the Father knows. ³³And since you don't know when that time will come, be on guard! Stay alert!"*

II. Why Study the Book of Revelation?

- A. Because it's in the Bible!
 - 1. II Tim. 3:16-17 (NAS) *¹⁶All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; ¹⁷so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.*
- B. Because it carries a promise of blessing .
 - 1. Rev. 1:3 (NAS) *Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of the prophecy, and heed the things which are written in it; for the time is near.*
- C. Because it will sharpen our ability to study the Bible .
 - 1. John 10:9 (NLT) *Yes, I am the gate. Those who come in through me will be saved. They will come and go freely and will find good pastures.*

III. Images John Uses in the Book of Revelation

- A. Objects
 - 1. Rev. 1:16a (NLT) *He held seven stars in his right hand, and a sharp two-edged sword came from his mouth.*
- B. Numbers
 - 1. Rev. 1:4-5a (NLT) *⁴This letter is from John to the seven churches in the province of Asia. Grace and peace to you from the one who is, who always was, and who is still to come; from the sevenfold Spirit before his throne; ⁵and from Jesus Christ.*
 - 2. Exodus 13:9 (NLT) *This annual festival will be a visible sign to you, like a mark branded on your hand or your forehead. Let it remind you always to recite this teaching of the LORD: 'With a strong hand, the LORD rescued you from Egypt.'*
- C. Events
 - 1. Psalms 46:6 (NLT) *The nations are in chaos, and their kingdoms crumble! God's voice thunders, and the earth melts!*
- D. Creatures
 - 1. Rev. 5:5 (NLT) *But one of the twenty-four elders said to me, "Stop weeping! Look, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the heir to David's throne, has won the victory. He is worthy to open the scroll and its seven seals."*

2. Rev. 5:6a (NLT) *Then I saw a Lamb that looked as if it had been slaughtered, but it was now standing between the throne and the four living beings and among the twenty-four elders.*
3. Rev. 5:9-10 (NLT) ⁹*And they sang a new song with these words: "You are worthy to take the scroll and break its seals and open it. For you were slaughtered, and your blood has ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation. ¹⁰And you have caused them to become a Kingdom of priests for our God. And they will reign on the earth."*
4. Rev. 1:1a (NLT) *This is a revelation from Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show his servants the events that must soon take place.*

IV. Conclusion

Upcoming Messages: 7/12-13/ 2008 "The All-Sufficient God"; 7/19-20 "A Spiritual Examination"; 7/26-27 "Exposing the Great Prostitute"; 8/2-3 "Enemies of Our Spiritual Life"; 8/9-10 "God of the Open Door"; 8/16-17 "Making Your Heart a Throne Room"; 8/23-24 "Worthy of Worship"; 8/30-31 "The Great Tribulation"; 9/20-21 "Key Images From the Seven Trumpets"; 9/27-28 "Demonic Strategies"; 10/18-19 "The First Five Minutes of Eternity"; 10/25-26 "The Doctrine of the Judgment of God"; 11/1-2 "Enduring to the End"; 11/8-9 "Extreme Spiritual Reality"; 11/15-16 "The Kind of Person You Will Be in Heaven"; 11/29-30 "The Hope We Have"