

INTRODUCTION

1. Driving w/ the sun-roof open: aware of the transcendent.
2. Jesus is risen. Salvation is "eschatology" - the age to come has come.
- 03. Rv comforts & encourages us to worship as we witness - to overcome.

1st: Where Does Revelation Originate?

1. *God gave* - Rv 1:1 the Father. Gn 1:1; Ezek 1:1.
2. God is speaking! *Let all the earth be silent before Him* [Hab 2:20].
3. *A revelation*: - unveiling of what we would not otherwise know: Jesus.

2nd: Who Is Revelation About?

1. *of Jesus Christ*: given to Jesus about Jesus. Rv leads us to loving worship & service to Jesus. Intro'd to Jesus in 1:12ff.
2. *of Jesus Christ* - ambiguous: also => Rv originates from Jesus.
 - i. Get used to this ambiguity: Father & Son are often indistinguishable.
 - ii. Rv is about Jesus & from Jesus: *God gave to Him* [Jesus] *to show to...*

3rd: Who Are the Recipients of Revelation?

1. 1:1-3 can you identify 4 recipients of this Rv?
 - i. God gave Rv *to Jesus Christ*
 - ii. *Jesus sent & communicated it by His angel*: it can be challenging to distinguish Jesus from angels - but see Rv 22:16 angels: messengers who communicate words & activators who cause events to transpire
 - iii. *to His bondservant John*: the beloved disciple
 - iv. *to show to His bondservants - he who reads & those who hear the words = servants*. Xn life = service to Jesus. [Ps 115:1; Lk 17:10].
2. *He sent*: "apostled": authorized sequence: God - Jesus - angel - John - us: who are authorized to worship & witness.

4th: What Kind of Revelation is Revelation?

1. v1 - *to show*: cause to be seen [explain]; *communicated* = [KJV *signified*]: signal, indicate w/ signs [significant in Jn's gospel].
 - i. 7 letters: *ears to hear*; 4:1 voice calls Jn to see [1S 9:9 *prophet = seer*]
 - ii. Rv is smthg we're shown - visual symbols: placed before mind's eye.
2. We are not given vision - Rv 1:11 - words; 1:3 - read & hear written words
 - i. Visions described w/ *words of the prophecy*; *things written* = Scripture
 - ii. *Read & hear*. Why? in order to *heed*: keep - believe & obey: servants

iii. Rv written to believers to give insight as to what Devil is doing & what Jesus is doing, so that believers can be doing: stay faithful - overcome.

5th: What Will Be Revealed in Revelation?

1. Rv 1:2 *testimony* - witness &-or martyr. We witness as martyrs - Rv 12:11
2. John *testified* [verb] *to the testimony* [noun]. A witness who witnesses to the witness: *the Word of God & testimony of Jesus Christ*. [Rv 22:8]
3. Jn *testified to Word of God = testimony of Jesus = words of prophesy* [v3]
 - i. Why Jn is exiled - 1:9.
 - ii. 19:10 - angel is fellow servant: *worship God* according to Scripture
4. The court-room character of *witness* - Satan is accuser [12:10] who has lost his case. We are justified in Jesus [[Rm 4:25; 1Jn 2:1].
 - i. Satan makes his case against us to bring us under condemnation in lesser courts - all the while, we bear witness & we overcome.
 - ii. We overcome the disapproving judgment of men as we witness.

6th: When Will What is Revealed in Revelation be Revealed?

1. Rv 1:1 *the thgs wh/ must soon take place; v3 for the time is near*
2. Urgency: 1] thgs already occurring; 2] thgs on the immediate horizon; 3] thgs in the future. All characteristic of this Church-Age.

7th: Why Read and Heed Revelation?

1. 1:3 1] he *that reads* = "lector": public consecutive reading in worship; 2] those *who hear* = single reader; plural hearers = congregation
2. *Blessed* - 7 beatitudes. 1:3; 14:12-13; 16:15; 19:9; 20:6; 22:6-7; 22:14 .
3. Rv 1:1-3 We worship & serve Jesus regardless of our circumstance. We are blessed b/c we know what is real regardless of circumstance. Let us worship & witness until Jesus comes.