

# A Study in the Book of **REVELATION**

Presented by Fred DeRuvo  
Sunday Evenings



# Golden Rule of Interpretation

1. “When the plain sense of Scripture makes common sense, seek no other sense.”

– Take every word at its primary, ordinary, usual, literal meaning...

- unless the facts of the immediate context...
- studied in the light of related passages...
- and axiomatic and fundamental truth...
- indicate clearly otherwise.



# The Book of Revelation

Revelation is naturally divided into:

- The things that John saw
- The things which are
- The things which must come to pass



# The Outline of Revelation

- Introduction – 1:1-3
- Salutation – 1:4-8
- Things That John Saw – 1:9-20
  - The Glorified Son of Man – 1:9-11
  - The Revelation – 1:12-16
  - The Interpretation – 1:17-20



# The Outline of Revelation

- The Things Which Are – 2:1-3:22
  - Ephesus – 2:1-7
  - Smyrna – 2:8-11
  - Pergamum – 2:12-17
  - Thyatira – 2:18-29
  - Sardis – 3:1-6
  - Philadelphia – 3:7-13
  - Laodicea – 3:14-22





ASIA

- Pergamum
- Thyatira
- Smyrna
- Sardis
- Philadelphia
- Laodicea
- Ephesus

Athens

PATMOS

Antioch

Jerusalem

Mediterranean Sea



0 150 Mi.  
0 150 Km.

# The Outline of Revelation

- The Things Which Must Come to Pass – 4:1-22:21
  - Events in Heaven Preceding the Great Tribulation – 4:1-11
    - The Throne of God – 4:1-11
    - The Lamb and the Seven-Sealed Scroll 5:1-14



# The Outline of Revelation

- The Great Tribulation – 6:1-18:24
  - The First Half – 6:1-18:24
  - Middle of the Tribulation - 10:1-11
  - The Second Half - 15:1-18:24
- The Second Coming and the Aftermath – 19:1-20:3
- The Messianic Kingdom – 20:4-6
- The Aftermath of Kingdom – 20:7-14
- The Eternal Order – 21:1-22:5
- Conclusion – 22:6-21





# Old and New Things of Revelation

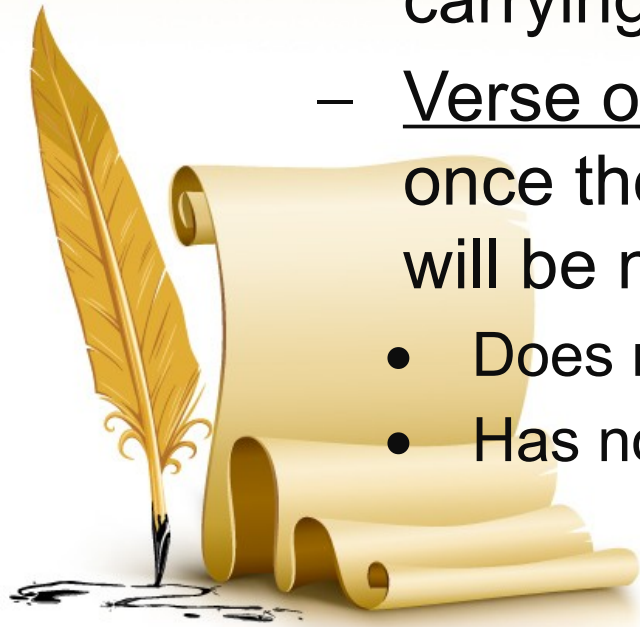
- No direct quotes from the Old Testament
- 550 references TO the Old Testament
- Only the last two chapters of Revelation deal with anything new (Eternal Order)
- The value of the Book of Revelation is that it takes the scattered Old Testament prophecies and puts them in chronological order so that sequences may be determined.



# Introduction to Revelation (1:1-3)

First Chapter is Important!

- The Things that John saw: a revelation of Jesus Christ
- Crowning book of all prophecy
- Angels play a dominant role in revelation and carrying prophecies out
- Verse one: the word “shortly” literally means: once the day of fulfillment comes, there will be no delay in its execution.
  - Does not mean “soon.”
  - Has nothing to do with time



# Introduction to Revelation (1:1-3)

- Verse three: places obligation and promise on believer.
- Only book that promises a blessing to those who study it.
- Studying prophecy gives one a love and longing for the return of the Messiah.



# Introduction to Revelation (1:1-3)

- Believers who look forward to Christ's 2<sup>nd</sup> Coming will receive a special crown.
- This is a conditional blessing. You must study and want Christ to return to earth.
- The reason? So much of Revelation is based on the OT, a proper study of it will require a study of the OT, resulting in more knowledge of the Bible – comprehensively.
- Verse three: the word “keep” means to watch.



# The Salutation (1:4-8)

Verse 4a: states who the book is being written to:

- The 7 churches in Asia – John uses the definite article “the” indicating *totality*.
- History shows that there were more than just these 7 churches in Asia (Colossae, etc.)
- The churches mentioned here were **ACTUAL** churches
- John likely had some connection to each church – probably as pastor



# The Salutation (1:4-8)

How are these churches with the definite article to be understood?

- They were literal churches
- Number 7 means completeness in Scripture.
- This message is to the ENTIRE church, not just these 7 individual churches.
- It is possible that each church represents a period of time since the birth of the church to today

– This is **NOT** at all critical to understanding Revelation



# The Salutation (1:4-8)

Verses 4b-5a

- John is the secondary author.
- The Holy Spirit is described as the seven Spirits that are before His throne
  - definite article is used again here
  - Signifies totality and completeness (ref. to Isaiah 11:2 discusses attributes of Holy Spirit)





# The Salutation (1:4-8)

Verses 5b-6 – John praises the Son

- First, He loved us
- Second, He loosed us from our sins by His blood
- Third, He made us to be a kingdom
- Fourth, He made us to be priests unto God the Father
- Fifth, to Him be the glory and the dominion for ever and ever





# The Salutation (1:4-8)

## Verse 7 – Theme of Revelation

- The Second Coming of the Messiah
- Return of Jesus to this earth is the central theme of Revelation.
- It deals with events:
  - leading up to His Second Coming
  - accompanying His return
  - following the Second Coming



# The Things that John Saw (1:9-20)

Verses 9-20 make up the first major section of Revelation (what John saw)

- He saw the glorified Son of Man
- This section divides into three subsections:
  - Verses 9-11: introduction given to John
    - “Lord’s Day” in the Greek is an adjective, not a noun. It means it was a day in which John was enraptured with prophetic and divine ecstasy and he received divine revelation.
  - Verses 12-16: actual things John saw
    - Saw Jesus as glorified Son of Man
    - He describes Him using figures from the OT

