



Author: John, the Apostle

Date: Written in Patmos between A.D. 65 and 95

Purpose: To encourage Christians in the midst of opposition and suffering by assuring them that Christ will be victorious over the forces of evil

Revelation should be understood from the perspective of the original audience, an early church that would have lived under the constant threat of the Roman empire

Revelation 1:1-3
 1The revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show to his servants the things that must soon take place. He made it known by sending his angel to his servant John, 2 who bore witness to the word of God and to the testimony of Jesus Christ, even to all that he saw. 3 Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear, and who keep what is written in it, for the time is near.

ESV = ...the revelation _____ Jesus Christ...

NIV, NLT = ...the revelation _____ Jesus Christ...

- “The Revelation of Jesus Christ” should be seen as a _____ Jesus
 _____ Jesus
 Kendell Easley in *Holman New Testament Commentary: Revelation*

“Things That Must Soon Take Place...”

- In Revelation 1:1, the phrase “must soon take place” is written from a _____ perspective, not earthly, in that time doesn’t pass for God the way it does for us

Witness, Testimony

- John is emphatic about the importance of a sound, reliable witness and testimony... ultimately it is the testimony of _____
- John 19:35 shows that John was a witness of Jesus’ earthly ministry, now John will get a glimpse of Jesus triumphant exaltation

Blessed is the One...

- Who _____
- Who _____
- Who _____

Revelation 1:4-5a
 4 John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, 5 and from Jesus Christ the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth.

How John Describes God

- Who is and who was and who is to come

- This term alludes to the Old Testament name of God... _____
- The seven spirits
 - “Sevenfold Spirit”
 - Isaiah 11:2
 - This likely refers to _____
- Jesus
 - The Faithful _____
 - The _____ of the _____ (Colossians 1:18)
 - _____ of the kings on earth (Psalm 89:27)

Revelation 1:5b-8

To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood ⁶ and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. ⁷ Behold, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him, and all tribes of the earth will wail on account of him. Even so. Amen.

⁸ “I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, “who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.”

Freed

- To Him who _____
- To Him who _____
- To Him who _____

To Him be glory and dominion forever and ever

1st Coming of Jesus vs 2nd Coming

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Revelation 1:9-11

⁹ I, John, your brother and partner in the tribulation and the kingdom and the patient endurance that are in Jesus, was on the island called Patmos on account of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. ¹⁰ I was in the Spirit on the Lord’s day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet ¹¹ saying, “Write what you see in a book and send it to the seven churches, to Ephesus and to Smyrna and to Pergamum and to Thyatira and to Sardis and to Philadelphia and to Laodicea.”

Patmos

- John was on the island of Patmos as an _____
- John identifies himself with other believers through _____
- John was in the Spirit on the Lord’s Day

A Voice Like a Trumpet

- John is commanded to write what he saw and send it to seven churches

Revelation 1:12-16

¹² Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking to me, and on turning I saw seven golden lampstands, ¹³ and in the midst of the lampstands one like a son of man, clothed with a long robe and with a golden sash around his chest. ¹⁴ The hairs of his head were white, like white wool, like snow. His eyes were like a flame of fire, ¹⁵ his feet were like burnished bronze, refined in a furnace, and his voice was like the roar of many waters. ¹⁶ In his right hand he held seven stars, from his mouth came a sharp two-edged sword, and his face was like the sun shining in full strength.

Among the Lampstands

- One like a _____
(Daniel 7:13, Matthew 24:30)
- Clothed with a _____
and a _____
(High Priest)
- Hair white like _____,
_____ (Wisdom)
- Voice like the roar of _____
_____ (Authority)

The Sword

- The sword represents the power
of Jesus to _____

Revelation 1:17-20

17 When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. But he laid his right hand on me, saying, "Fear not, I am the first and the last, 18 and the living one. I died, and behold I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades. 19 Write therefore the things that you have seen, those that are and those that are to take place after this. 20 As for the mystery of the seven stars that you saw in my right hand, and the seven golden lampstands, the seven stars are the angels of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands are the seven churches."

Falling for Jesus

- John falls as though _____
- Jesus _____ John

Fear Not

- Jesus is:
 - The _____ and the _____ (Isaiah 44:6)
 - The _____
- Jesus:
 - Died, but is _____
forevermore
 - Has the _____ of
Death and Hades

Stars & Lampstands

- The seven stars...
 - _____
- The seven lampstands...
 - _____

Final Thoughts

What do you know of Jesus? Can you trust Him? Can He overcome your obstacles? _____

Does the church somehow replace Israel as God's chosen people, the people of promise?

- Exodus 19:6 and Revelation 1:6

- Zechariah 4:2 and Revelation 1:12

**Live in Victory,
Serve in Humility**