

What You Should Know About Revelation

Revelation 1:1,2

Introduction:

- A. How do most believers approach this book?
1. As a m_____
 2. As having s_____ that cannot be understood.
 3. As i_____ for daily living
- B. How have scholars approached this book?
1. Many have avoided it.
 2. Many present four possible views (derived from Schaff's History of the Christian Church)
 - a. Historicist view – that Revelation is an overview of western European history (believed by early Protestants who viewed the position of the Pope as fulfilling the role of the b_____ in Rev 13).
 - b. The Preterist view – that Revelation was completely fulfilled in the Roman E_____ of the first and second centuries except for the coming of Christ, judgment day, and the new heaven and earth. (first proposed in 1614 by a Jesuit priest).
 - c. The Futurist view – views everything after chapter 3 as being confined to the end of t_____ (proposed in 1580 by a Jesuit priest and is widely held today).
 - d. Symbolic view – that Revelation is just a collection of ideas and principles rather than specific events. Those who hold to this view just focus on the general picture of God winning in the end.
- C. How will we approach this book?
1. As God t_____ us to in this book.
 2. With an open m_____ so that the Holy Spirit can teach us, rebuke us, correct us, and train us (2 Tim 3:16)

This book is not a mystery, but a r_____ (v. 1)

- A. The book is summarized as “The revelation of Jesus Christ”
1. The Greek word for revelation is where we get our word apocalypse which Hollywood has wrongly used to refer to the e_____ of the world.
 2. The Greek word tells us that this book is not hiding things from us but r_____ things to us.
- B. The book of Revelation is a revelation:
1. From God and g_____ to Jesus Christ

2. That Jesus was given for the purpose of s_____ (KJV – signify)
 - a. The Greek word translated show or signify does not imply s_____ (a misunderstanding of the Old English word, *signify*).
 - b. The Greek word simply means to d_____ (see Jn 18:32; Acts 25:27)
 3. That Jesus was given to disclose to His bonds_____.
 - a. The word translated as bondservant or servant is a Greek word that referred to a person who v_____ became a slave of another.
 - b. The word was applied to believers who voluntarily put themselves under Jesus as their m_____ (1 Pet 2:16)
 4. That Jesus communicated through His a_____ to His bondservant, J_____.
- C. The bondservant John
1. John w_____ down everything he saw as a testimony to us (v. 2)
 2. John was the last surviving a_____ at the time of this revelation.
 3. John wrote down the contents of Revelation at the end of the first century (around 95 AD) and so we need to be aware of the historical context.

This book contains things that m_____ happen

The revelation of Jesus Christ which God gave Him to show to His bondservants the things which must shortly take place.

A. Two key words:

1. Must – this is a word of necessity showing that the things of Revelation are not p_____ but are required to take place.
 - a. Jn 3:7 – Jesus told Nicodemus, *You MUST be born a_____*. There was not other way to get into God’s kingdom.
 - b. Lk 9:22 – Jesus told His followers that the *Son of Man MUST suffer*. This was a requirement for our salvation (see also Matt 26:54)
 - c. God is required to fulfill the things He has declared to us in a_____ (Is 46)

2. Soon – many have concluded that soon does not mean soon from our viewpoint but God’s viewpoint.

This book contains things that must happen s_____

A. The Greek word translated as soon or shortly has two meanings:

1. In the near f_____
 - a. It has been 1900 years John wrote the contents of Revelation down for us.
 - b. There are some things that have obviously not happened yet:
 - 1) Rev 20 – Satan bound for 1000 years so that the nations are no longer d_____
 - 2) Rev 13 – a one world government that will r_____ over every tribe, tongue, nation, and people and persecute Christians
 - 3) Rev 5:9,10 – Christians from every tribe, tongue, nation, and kind of people ruling on the e_____.
 - 4) Rev 22:20 – the second c_____ of Christ.
2. Suddenly
 - a. The Greek word is where we get our word, tachometer, better known as a s_____ometer.
 - b. The word is really a prepositional phrase that literally is two words, *in speed*.
 - 1) Acts 12:7 – the angel told Peter to get up q_____. The emphasis is not on time but on the speed at which Peter was to respond.
 - 2) Acts 22:18 – Paul was told by God to leave Jerusalem q_____. The emphasis is not on time but the speed at which Paul was to leave.
 - c. The things of Revelation will happen with speed
 - 1) Whenever Jesus comes, He will come q_____ (Rev 22:20; I Thess 5:1,2 – like a t_____ in the night)
 - 2) Whenever Satan is bound, he will be c_____ with speed.
 - 3) The bowls of wrath will be poured on the earth with speed. There will be no w_____

Conclusion:

- A. The book of Revelation is not book of hidden meanings but a r_____ of God’s word to us.
- B. Believers need not be f_____ by the contents of this book but comforted by God’s presence, His power, and the promise that He will fulfill His word.
- C. Get ready to receive God’s revelation!