

## Session Five:

### Revelation 1:1-3

#### I) Introduction

- A) In this session, it will be our first time actually walking through the Revelation verse by verse. The Revelation is a vast ocean in width, depth, length as the previous 65 books flow powerfully into it.
- B) It will be my goal to break each of the 22 chapters of the Revelation into 2 separate weeks. My plan is to start at the beginning and finish in the end, walking through each section and breaking open the many moving parts along the way.

#### II) The Unveiling Of Jesus Christ (Rev. 1:1-2)

- A) **Revelation 1:1-2** *"The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave Him (Jesus Christ) to show His (Jesus Christ) servants—things which must shortly take place. And He sent and signified it by His angel to His servant John..."*

- 1) The book of Revelation is the fourth largest book in the New Testament, given to Jesus by His Father for the purpose of showing His servants things which must shortly take place. It's not written to non-believers, but saints (Jew/Gentile). This book is our glory!
- 2) **Revelation 1:1** in my opinion is the thesis of the entire book. More than charts, diagrams and theories, this book is about the Man, Jesus Christ.
- 3) The word **Revelation** is the Greek word *apocalypto*. This word simply means to unveil something that was previously veiled. This book is about the unveiling of a Man and His heart as the primary theme.
- 4) This word *apocalypto* couldn't have been used at His first coming and only refers to His second coming. In His first coming He was veiled, but upon His return that which was covered will be uncovered and fully revealed.

- 1. **John 1:10-11** *"He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him. He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him."*

- 5) This book which is holy to God isn't so much about the destruction of humanity as it is the unveiling of the beauty, majesty, the worth and wisdom/leadership of His Son.
- 6) Here's a look into the Christology within the Revelation;
  - 1. He is Jesus Christ 1:1,2,5,9,9
  - 2. The Faithful Witness 1:5
  - 3. The first born of the dead 1:5
  - 4. The Ruler of the Kings of the earth 1:5
  - 5. Alpha and Omega 1:8; 21:6; 22:13
  - 6. Beginning and End 1:8; 21:6; 22:13

7. The Lord	1:8,10
8. The Almighty	1:8
9. The One who is, who was & is to come	1:8
10. First and last	1:11,17; 22:13
11. The Son of Man	1:13; 14:14
12. He who lives, was dead and is alive forever	1:18; 2:8
13. The Amen	1:18; 3:14
14. He who has the keys of death and hades	1:18
15. He with the Seven Stars in His right hand	1:20
16. He that walks in midst of the 7 lampstands	2:1
17. The Son of God	2:18
18. He that is holy	3:7
19. He that is true	3:7
20. He that has the key of David	3:7
21. The faithful and True witness	3:7
22. The beginning of the Creation of God	3:7
23. The Lion of the tribe of Judah	5:5 (Used only once)
24. The root of David	5:5
25. The lamb slain	5:6,8,11,12,13,13; 6:1 <b>(The Lamb is used 28 times in the Revelation)</b>
26. Jesus	14:12;19:10; 22:16
27. Lord God Almighty	15:3; 16:7
28. King of saints	15:3
29. Lord of Lords	17:14; 19:16
30. King of Kings	17:14; 19:16
31. Faithful and True	19:11
32. The Word of God	19:13
33. Christ	20:4,6; 11:15; 12:10
34. The Lamb and the temple	21:22
35. The light	21:23
36. The root and offspring of David	22:16
37. Bright and shining morning star	22:16
38. Lord Jesus	22:20
39. Our Lord Jesus Christ	22:21

**B) "...these things which must shortly take place..."**

- 1) This phrase is best understood in the way that the Old Testament prophets prophesied. Their prophecies weren't concerned with Chronology, meaning that all their prophecies were imminent (**Acts 1:6**).
- 2) The word imminent means "hanging over, or surly coming." The idea that John is working to get across is that we should be living in such a way that our generation could be the generation to hasten the Day of the Lord (**2<sup>nd</sup> Peter 3:3-4**). This means we live sober now!

- 3) The book of Revelation was given as a canonized prayer manual to equip the Church for the greatest outpouring of the Holy Spirit alongside the greatest crisis in human history. He is coming quickly, and these two realities join themselves together prior to His return.

## III) Reading, Applying And Speaking The Revelation (Rev. 1:3)

- A) **Revelation 1:3** *"Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written in it; for the time is near."*
- 1) There is a blessing connected to this book that isn't connected to any other book in the Bible. That blessing is purposeful and dynamically connected to three things.
  - 2) Our approach to success and a successful life in this age will dictate how we approach this book and the truths within it.
    1. The bold proclamation of this book and the truths contained in it will cause those preachers to be excommunicated from society. If growth, increase and more is our idea of success, this book will be stumbling block to us.
  - 3) I believe that in the days ahead it will require a reward (blessing) in order to practice these three realities that are presented, both within the Church and in the culture of the day.
  - 4) *"Blessed is he who reads..."* You can't obey or say that which you don't know (read). The call to read this book is the call to the ardent study of Jesus Christ, through the Revelation. **Ezekiel 3** and **Revelation 10** speak of two prophet's who ate and fully digested the scroll.
  - 5) *"...and those who hear the words of this prophecy..."* Upon reading and hearing this prophecy, we are then commanded to obey it in a whole hearted way. The ticket to keeping this book is found in encountering (reading) the beauty of Jesus Christ within the book itself.
    1. Hearing and obeying are directly connected in the New Testament. If we have heard, we are required to obey
      - (a) **James 1:22** *"But be doers of the Word and not hearers only, deceiving yourself."*
  - 6) *"...and keep those things which are written in it; for the time is near."* Our reading, and obeying this book must lead us to keeping (sharing) it with others. In the midst of a hostile culture, God will require those that love Him, keep those things which are in this book.
    1. **Ezekiel 33:1-9**