

Rev. 1.1-3, 9 The revelation from Jesus Christ...

...which God gave him to show his servants what must soon take place. He made it known by sending his angel to his servant John, who testifies to everything he saw, that is, the word of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ. Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy and blessed are those who hear it and take to heart what is written in it, because the time is near.

I, John, your brother and companion in the suffering and kingdom and patient endurance that are ours in Jesus, was on the island of Patmos because of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus.

WHAT

v. 1 revelation – apocalypsis – an unveiling or unfolding of things not previously known and which otherwise could not be known.

v. 3 prophecy – primarily referring to prediction of things which must shortly come to pass. Frequently refers to OT prophets. In the 404 verses there are approx. 278 OT references. From Daniel over 50. "In a special sense Revelation is a supplement to that of Daniel."

WHO/TO WHOM/WHEN/WHERE

- Written by John-the-Beloved, God's servant
- Sent to God's servants the Seven Churches of Asia
- Written approx. 95 A.D. (timing debated)
- Written on the Isle of Patmos where John was exiled for his faithfulness to the Word of God

HOW

He made it known by sending his angel – believed to be the angel Gabriel, the messenger:

- showed Daniel a large portion of his prophecy (8.16; 9.20-27)
- announced to Zechariah his penalty for not believing in the announcement of John-the Baptist's birth (Lu. 1.19)
- announced to Mary her pregnancy (Luke 1.26)

Who testifies – maturia – 1.2, 5; 3.14; **20.4**

SCOPE – four events not covered but assumed

The rapture of the church – Chapters 4-5 represent the church in a glorified state, as a group of redeemed ones having come out of every kindred, tongue, tribe, and nation and are seen in heaven seated on thrones.

The regathering of Israel – Several mentions are made in both the OT and NT regarding the final regathering of Israel in their homeland, yet nothing is said about it in Revelation. However, their regathering is implied in chapter 7 by the sealing of

144,000 Israelites.

Four events assumed

the rebuilding of the temple – The temple, however, is mentioned along with the altar and the outer court (11.1-2).

the rejection of the "goats" – The judgment of the nations is implied but not explicitly described as it is in Mt. 25.31-46. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats.

THE PROMISED BLESSING

The first of seven beatitudes: 1.3; 14.13; 16.15; 19.9; 20.6; 22.7, 14. (See Page 22 of textbook.)

Blessed is he that **reads**, and they that **hear** the words of this prophecy, and **keep** those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand.

Repeated at the close of the book - *Blessed is he who keeps* the sayings of the prophecy of this book (22.7).

v. 3...because the time is near...

kairos/time - denotes a season or period not merely a point in time...has a durative sense. e.g., the time of harvest and the sufferings of this present time.

Why can it be said to be imminent?

- One day is with the Lord as a thousand years (365,000 days), and a thousand years as one day. II Pe. 3.8
- The duration of a man's life is brief and fleeting.
- ...things which must shortly come to pass forms of the Greek word tachus appear 10 X in Rev. Are translated either shortly or quickly. It can denote necessity, certainty, and/or quickly.

In order to understand the book better...

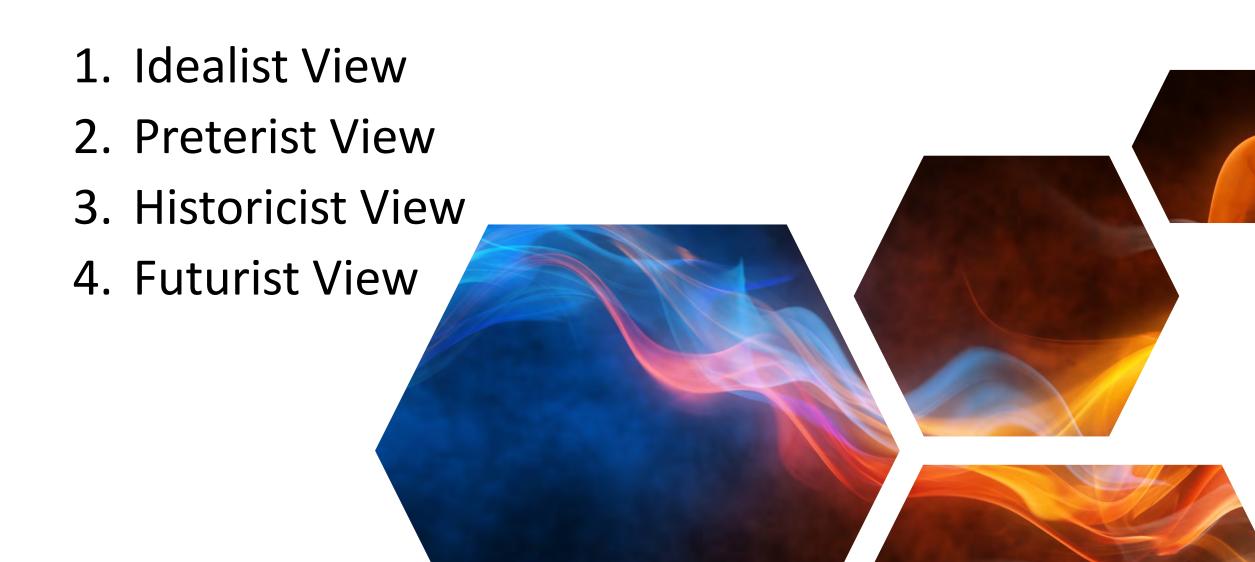
- **1. Exercise faith** *Believing is seeing.* cf. the disciple's question, *What sign do you show us, that we may see, and believe?* Jn. 6.30
- **2. Practice prayer** Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal to you the meaning of the passages studied.
 - I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people, and his incomparably great power for us who believe. Eph. 1.18-19
- **3. Trust the Holy Spirit**. But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth. Jn. 6.12

Why Study REVELATION?

- **1. Consolation W**herefore comfort one another with these words...I Thess. 4.18.
- **2. Confirmation** Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, today, and forever. (Heb.13.8) He has a plan. His sovereign strengthens our faith.
- **3. Celebration** *This same Jesus shall so come as you have seen him go...* (Acts 1. 11) Leads to a two-world mindset.
- **4. Condemnation –** vindication; concern for the lost. *The word that sticks and stings.* S. D. Gordon, *Quite Talks on Power*



Four Views of REVELATION





New Testament Books Referencing 2nd Coming



All but 4 explicitly speak to the second coming of Christ – 3 of which are single chapter books



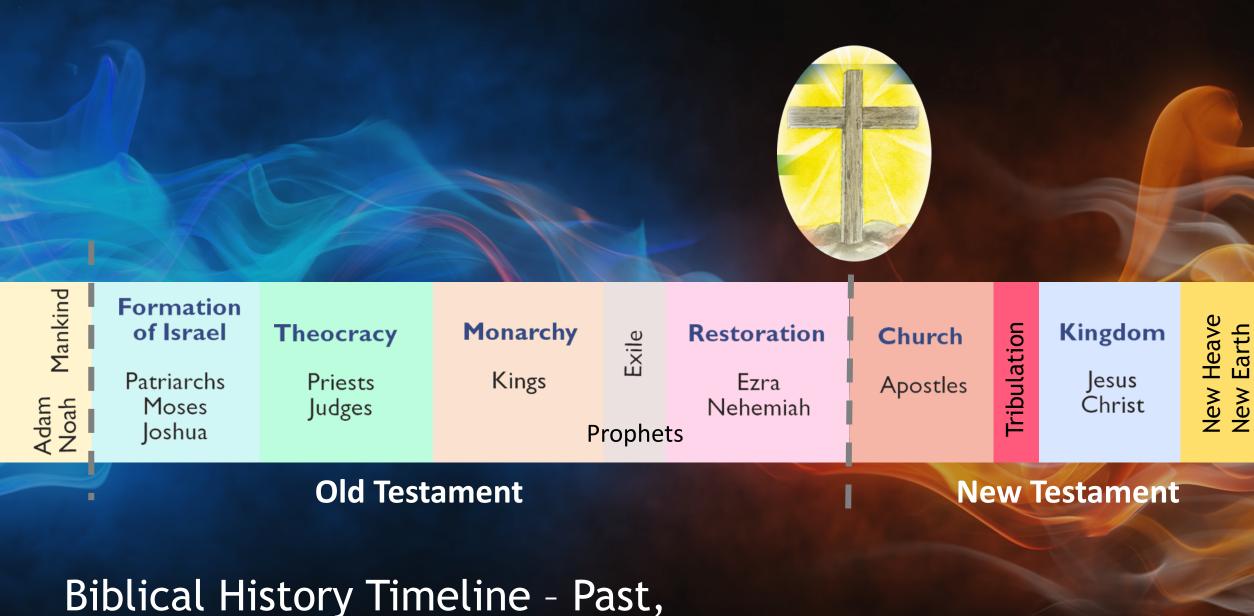
REVELATION and the Old Testament

The Old Testament is quoted or alluded to 605 times in 404 verses according to Barnes' Bible Charts

Essentially every verse contains an allusion or direct quotation from the Old Testament







Biblical History Timeline - Past, Present, and Future

Land of Israel Covenant Deut 30 **Davidic Abrahamic** Covenant Covenant Mosaic 2 Sam 7 Gen. 12 Covenant Ex 20; Gal 3 New Covenant Jer 31 Mankind **Formation M**onarchy Kingdom **Theocracy Restoration Fribulation** of Israel Church Kings **Patriarchs Priests** Jesus Ezra **Apostles** Adam Noah Christ Moses Judges Nehemiah Joshua **Prophets**

Old Testament New Testament

Heave Earth

70 Weeks of Daniel



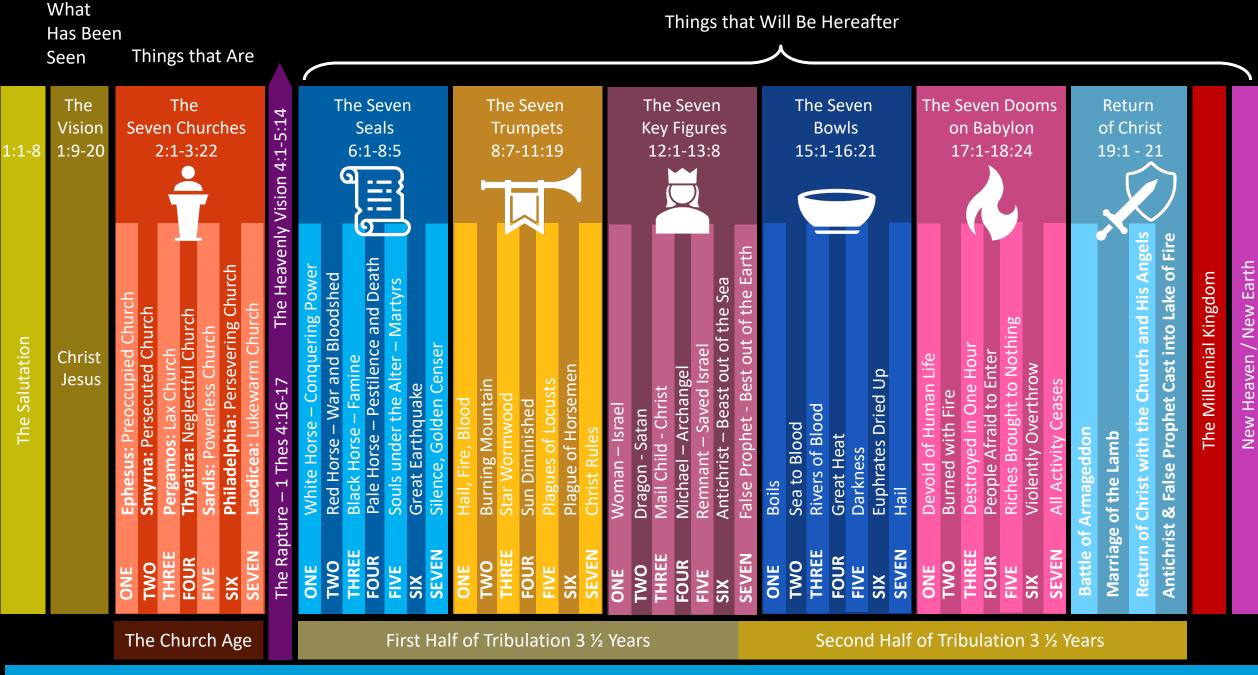
Decree 445 B.C.

Crucifixion 32 A.D.

Israel Restored 1948 A.D.

Tribulation

Millennial Kingdom



The Book of Revelation

White > Where Dead Are Now Exile Kingdom Restoration Church **Theocracy** Monarchy **Formation** of Israel **Tribulation** Adam Noah Mankind Prophets **Patriarchs Priests** Exra Apostles Kings Jesus Nehemiah Moses Judges Christ Joshua of the Old and New Testament Saints **TSB** Bodies ::: of All Unbelievers **Spirits** (Sheol) Paradise Lake of Fire Of the (Bottomless Pit) **Great Gulf Fixed** The Unseen World (Hades)

Heaven