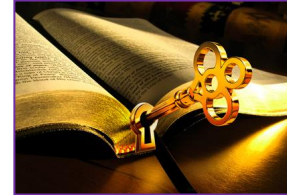




# Revelation

Unlocking the Future



*Lesson 02*

## Major Themes

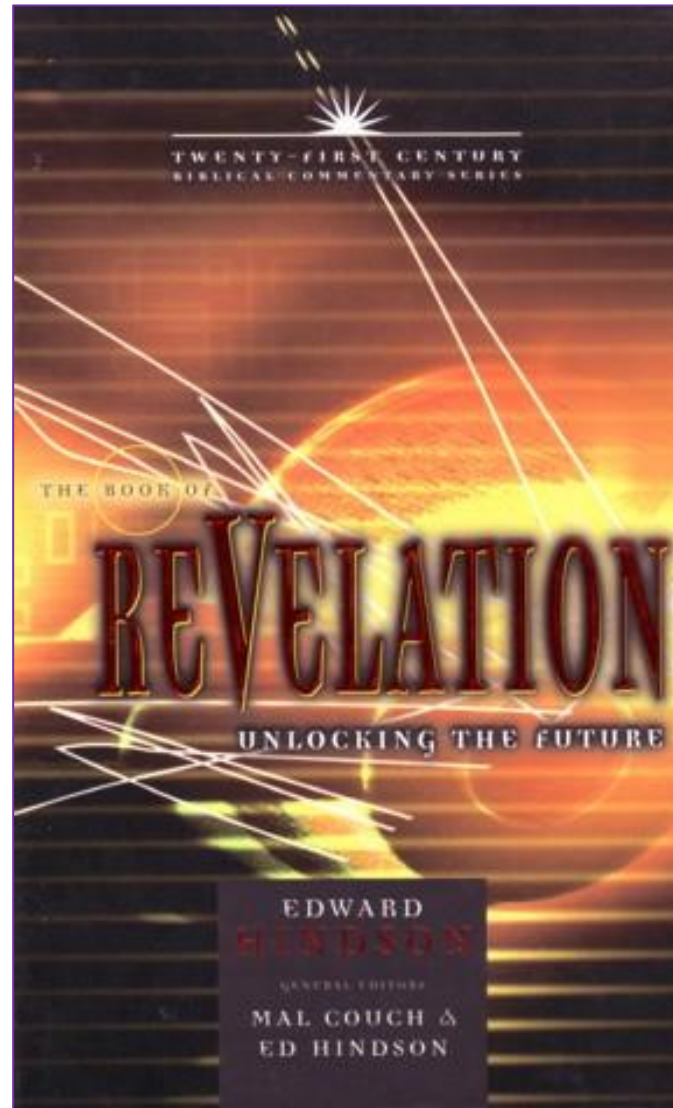
**Revelation**

Philip Giorgio

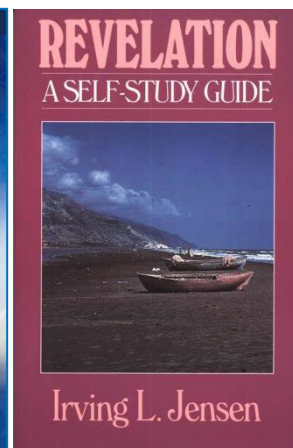
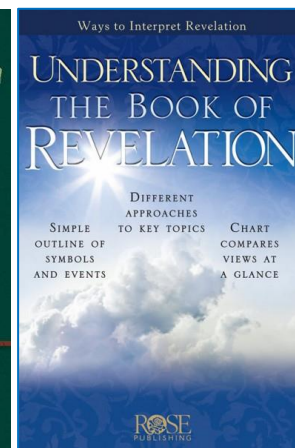
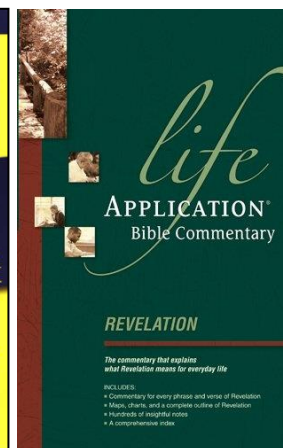
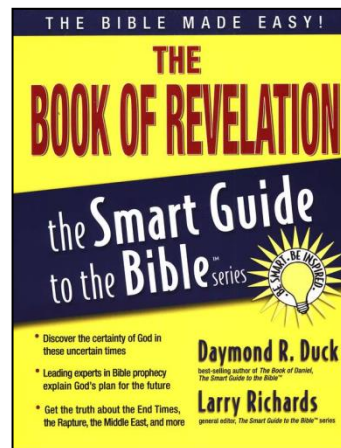
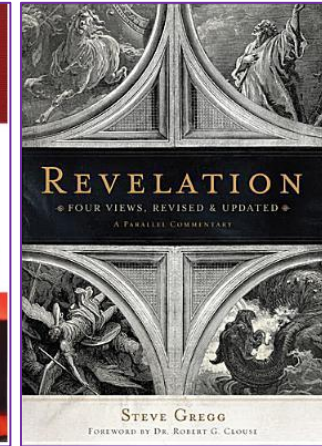
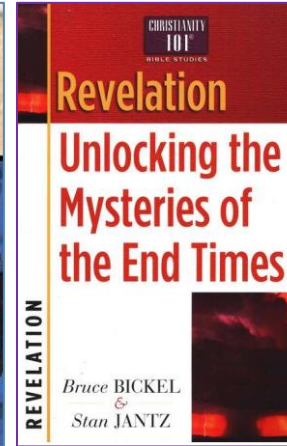
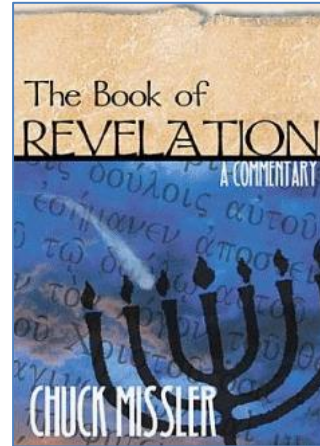
Sojourners Sunday School Class



## Textbook



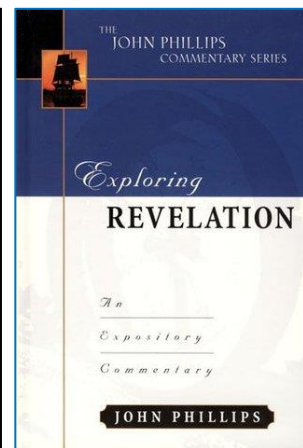
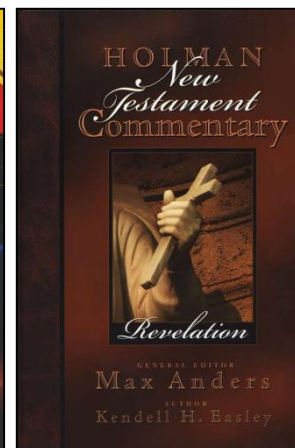
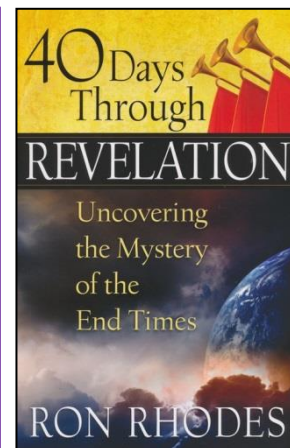
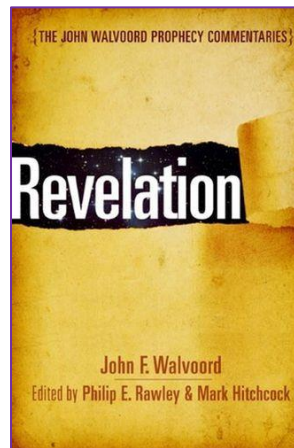
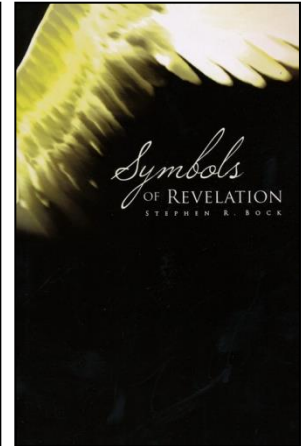
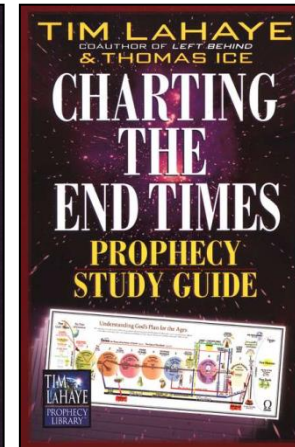
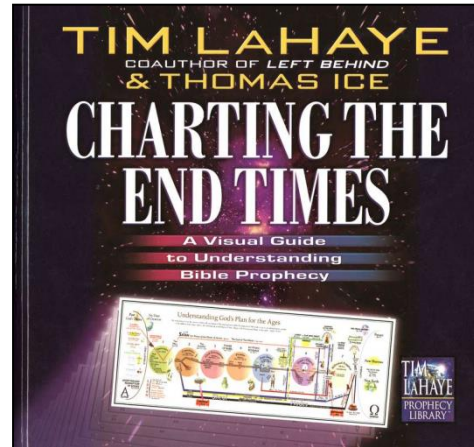
## References



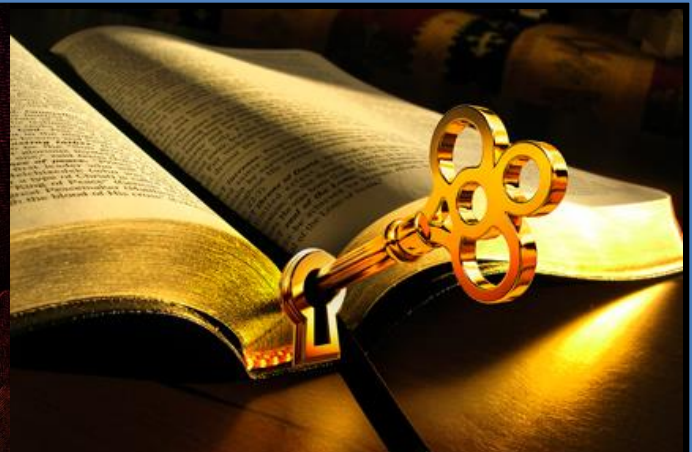




## References









# Course Outline



# Course Outline - Lessons

## ▪ Revelation: Unlocking the Future

- Lesson 01: Book Survey ... [REVELATION]
- Lesson 02: Major Themes ... [REVELATION]
- Lesson 03: What in the World is Happening? ... [REVELATION 1:1-20]
- Lesson 04: Judgment Begins at the House of God ... [REVELATION 2:1-29]
- Lesson 05: Who's that Knocking at my Door? ... [REVELATION 3:1-22]
- Lesson 06: God is still on the Throne ... [REVELATION 4:1-11]
- Lesson 07: Worthy is the Lamb ... [REVELATION 5:1-14]
- Lesson 08: The Wrath of the Lamb ... [REVELATION 6:1-17]
- Lesson 09: From Tribulation to Jubilation ... [REVELATION 7:1-17]
- Lesson 10: The World at War ... [REVELATION 8:1-13]
- Lesson 11: Demons Unleashed ... [REVELATION 9:1-21]
- Lesson 12: Can it get any Worse? ... [REVELATION 10:1-11]

# Course Outline - Lessons

## ▪ **Revelation: Unlocking the Future**

- Lesson 13: Hell on Earth! ... [REVELATION 11:1-19]
- Lesson 14: War in Heaven ... [REVELATION 12:1-17]
- Lesson 15: Rise of the Antichrist ... [REVELATION 13:1-18]
- Lesson 16: Wine Press of the Wrath of God ... [REVELATION 14:1-20]
- Lesson 17: The Seven Last Plagues ... [REVELATION 15:1-8]
- Lesson 18: Battle of Armageddon ... [REVELATION 16:1-21]
- Lesson 19: Riding the Beast... [REVELATION 17:1-18]
- Lesson 20: Fall of Babylon ... [REVELATION 18:1-24]
- Lesson 21: Triumphal Return of Christ ... [REVELATION 19:1-21]
- Lesson 22: The Millennial Kingdom ... [REVELATION 20:1-15]
- Lesson 23: New Jerusalem ... [REVELATION 21:1-27]
- Lesson 24: Inside the Glorious City ... [REVELATION 22:1-21]





# Lesson Outline

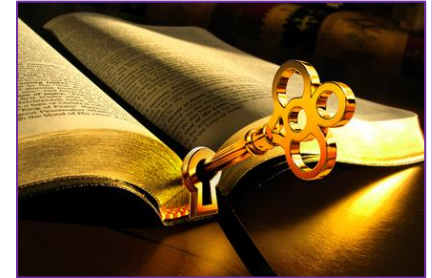
# Lesson 02 - Outline

## ■ Revelation: Unlocking the Future

### • Lesson 02: Major Themes

#### ✓ OVERVIEW

- » Big Picture..... *What patterns emerge?*
- » Interpretation..... *What are the four views?*
- » Symbols..... *What do the symbols mean?*
- » Themes..... *What are the major themes?*





# Major Themes

## *Overview*




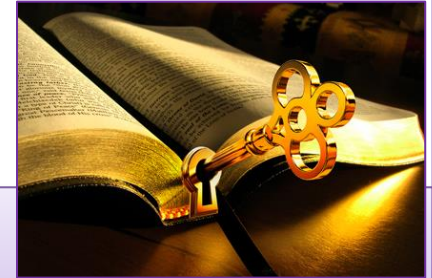
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## ■ Revelation: Unlocking the Future

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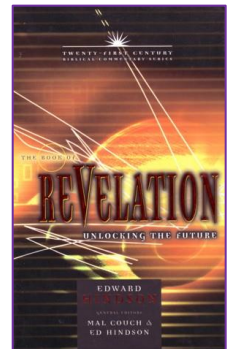
- 
- » Big Picture..... *What patterns emerge?*
  - » Interpretation..... *What are the four views?*
  - » Symbols..... *What do the symbols mean?*
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# Big Picture - WHAT PATTERNS EMERGE?

- **Big Picture**
  - When we compare Revelation with other biblical prophecies, certain basic patterns emerge

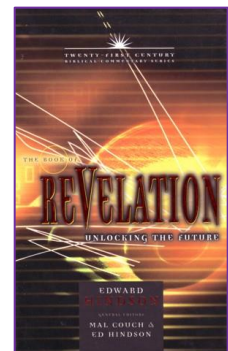
#	Pattern	Description
1	<b>The Church will continue to grow</b>	Jesus promised to continue to build His church, and empower it to attack the gates of Hell ... <a href="#">Matthew 16:18</a>
2	<b>Satanic opposition will intensify</b>	<p>Things will get worse as we get closer to the time of the end.</p> <p>Difficult times will come (<a href="#">2 Timothy 3:1-5</a>).</p> <p>Scoffers will mock the idea of Christ's 2<sup>nd</sup> coming (<a href="#">2 Peter 3:3-4</a>, <a href="#">Jude 17-18</a>).</p> <p>False prophets will increase and apostate religion will rival the true Church (<a href="#">1 Timothy 4:1</a>; <a href="#">2 Peter 2:1-3</a>; <a href="#">2 Corinthians 11:13-14</a>).</p>



# Big Picture - WHAT PATTERNS EMERGE?

- Big Picture

#	Pattern	Description
3	Israel will return to the Promise Land	<p>The great end-times regathering has already begun (1948).</p> <p>Israel is once again a nation in her own land (Ezekiel 20:34; 37:12-21; Isaiah 43:5-6).</p> <p>But her return will touch off a storm of protest and conflict in the Middle East (Joel 3:2-14; Ezekiel 38:1-6).</p>
4	The Church will be raptured up to heaven	<p>When our Lord departed to heaven, He promised His disciples He would return to take them home with Him (John 14:3).</p> <p>The apostle Paul predicted that the dead in Christ shall rise first, and we that are alive and remain shall be caught up into heaven (1 Thessalonians 4:16-17; 1 Corinthians 15:51-52).</p>

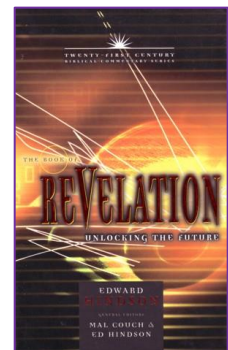




# Big Picture - WHAT PATTERNS EMERGE?

- Big Picture

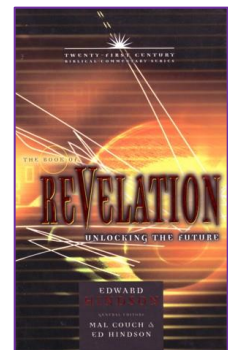
#	Pattern	Description
5	Judgments of the tribulation period will follow	<p>The great judgments of the End Times vividly described in Revelation are called “the hour of testing” (<a href="#">Revelation 3:10</a>), “the great day of their wrath” (<a href="#">Revelation 6:17</a>), or “great tribulation” (<a href="#">Revelation 7:14</a>).</p> <p>These judgments relate to the seals, trumpets, and bowls of the Apocalypse.</p>
6	Marriage of Christ and the Church	<p>The Church’s absence from <a href="#">chapter 4</a> through <a href="#">chapter 18</a> is best explained by the fact that she has already been raptured to heaven to participate in the marriage supper of the lamb (<a href="#">Revelation 19:7-9</a>).</p> <p>Here she receives her rewards, crowns, and robes of righteousness prior to her procession back to earth with the Savior.</p>



# Big Picture - WHAT PATTERNS EMERGE?

- Big Picture

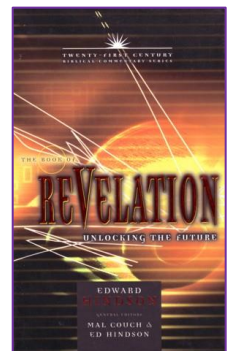
#	Pattern	Description
7	Triumphal return of Christ	<p>The climax of the Apocalypse comes in <a href="#">Revelation 19:11-21</a>, when the glorified Christ returns as King of Kings and Lord of Lords with His Bride, the Church, at His side.</p> <p>He returns to conquer all opposition to His reign, and to establish His Millennial Kingdom on earth (<a href="#">Revelation 19:19-20:1</a>).</p>
8	Millennial Kingdom	<p>Jesus Christ will reign upon the earth for one thousand years while Satan is bound in the “abyss”. During this time, God’s promises to Israel will be fulfilled.</p> <p>The Messiah shall reign from Jerusalem over all the earth in peace, blessing, and prosperity (<a href="#">Revelation 20:1-6</a>; <a href="#">Isaiah 2:2-4</a>; <a href="#">9:6-7</a>).</p>



# Big Picture - WHAT PATTERNS EMERGE?

- Big Picture

#	Pattern	Description
9	Final triumph	<p>Even after one thousand years of earthly blessing, Satan will once again attempt to destroy the kingdom of God by one final act of rebellion.</p> <p>This time his defeat is final, and he is cast into the lake of fire (<a href="#">Revelation 20:7-10</a>).</p> <p>The Great White Throne Judgment follows, when even death and hell are cast into the lake of fire (<a href="#">Revelation 20:11-15</a>).</p>
10	Eternal state	<p>The Revelation describes eternity as “a new heaven and a new earth” (<a href="#">Revelation 21:1</a>).</p> <p>It also emphasizes the significance of the New Jerusalem in the celestial state (<a href="#">Revelation 21:2</a>).</p> <p>God is pictured dwelling with His people in an eternity of peace and blessing.</p> <p>Suffering and death are no more and every tear is wiped away.</p> <p>Paradise is truly restored, and the saved have access to the tree of life (<a href="#">Revelation 21:3-22:5</a>).</p>



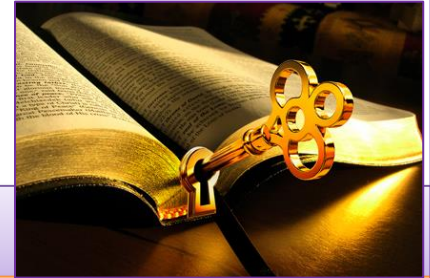


# Lesson 02 - Outline

## ■ Revelation: Unlocking the Future

### • Lesson 02: Major Themes

#### ✓ OVERVIEW



» Big Picture..... *What patterns emerge?*

➔ » Interpretation..... *What are the four views?*

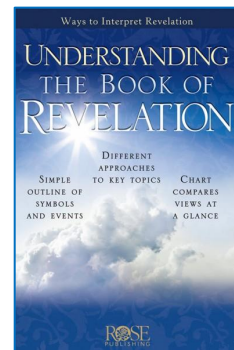
» Symbols..... *What do the symbols mean?*

» Themes..... *What are the major themes?*

# Interpretation - WHAT ARE THE FOUR VIEWS?

- Four Schools of Interpretation

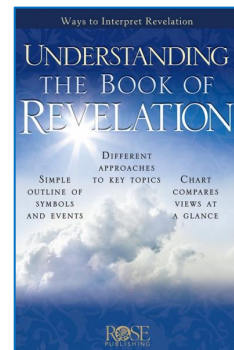
#	View	Description
1	Preterist	<p>The book of Revelation is prophecy that was fulfilled primarily in the first century AD.</p> <p><i>"Partial Preterism"</i> views most of Revelation as prophecy fulfilled in the 1<sup>st</sup> Century AD, though final chapters of Revelation describe future events to occur at the end of time.</p> <p><i>"Full Preterists"</i> contend that the return of Jesus described in Revelation 19 was spiritual and occurred in AD 70.</p> <p>Preterists are typically Amillennialists or <i>Postmillennialists</i>, though some <i>Historical Premillennialists</i> might fit in this category.</p>
2	Historicist	<p>The book of Revelation is prophecy about church history from the time of John to the end of the world.</p> <p>Historicists view the events in Revelation as symbolic descriptions of historical events throughout church history.</p>



# Interpretation - WHAT ARE THE FOUR VIEWS?

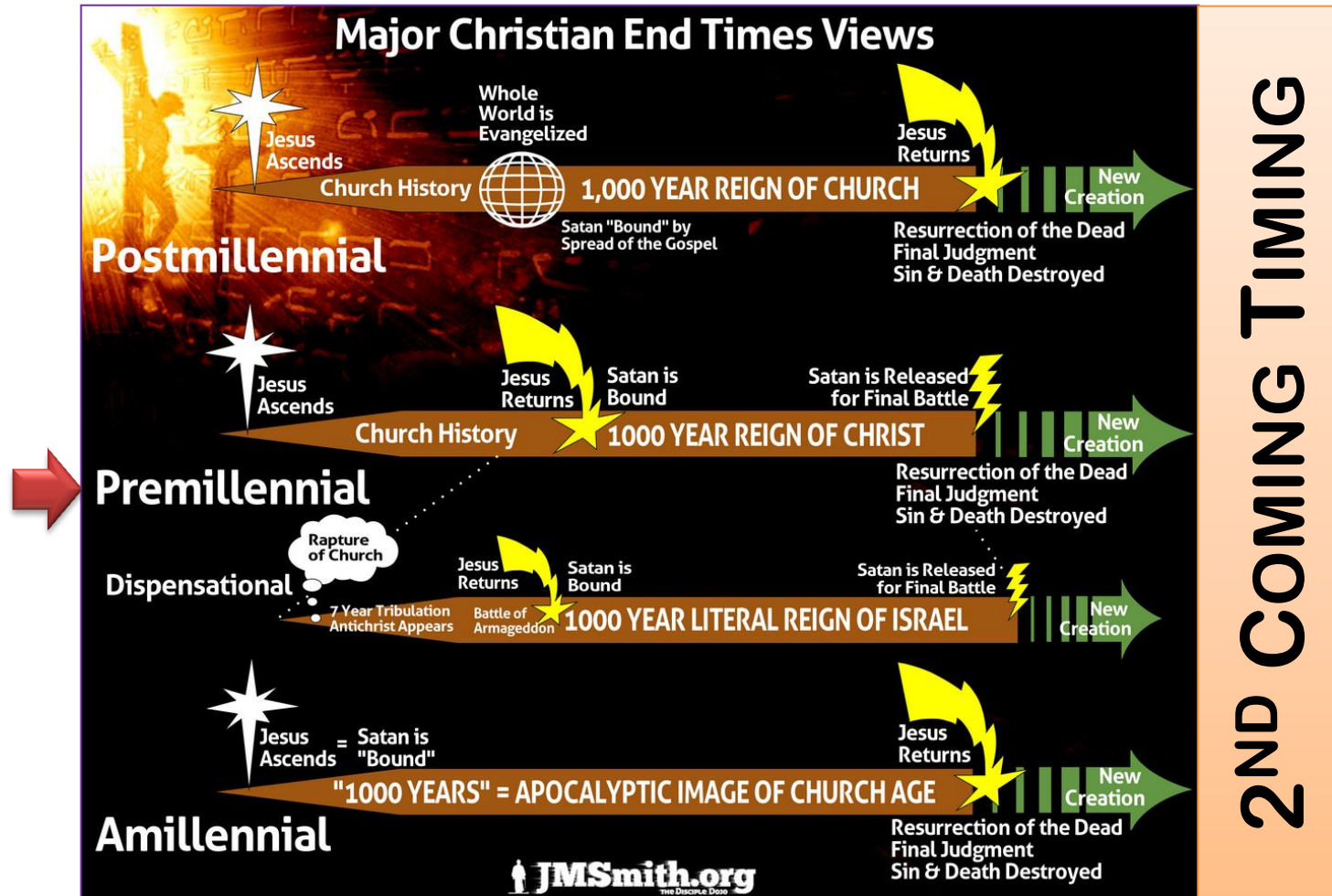
- Four Schools of Interpretation

#	View	Description
3	<b>Futurist</b>	<p>The book of Revelation is prophecy primarily about the future end of the world.</p> <p>In the futurist view, all or nearly all of Revelation is yet to occur.</p> <p>Revelation is a prophecy that describes the end of time and the years leading immediately to the end.</p> <p><i>Dispensational Premillennialists</i> as well as some <i>Historical Premillennialists</i> interpret Revelation in this way.</p>
4	<b>Idealist</b>	<p>The book of Revelation is a non-historical and non-prophetic drama about spiritual realities.</p> <p>This perspective seems to have originated among ancient Alexandrian theologians, which frequently spiritualized and allegorized biblical texts, but this view also has contemporary followers.</p>



# Interpretation - ESCHATOLOGY... A QUICK LOOK

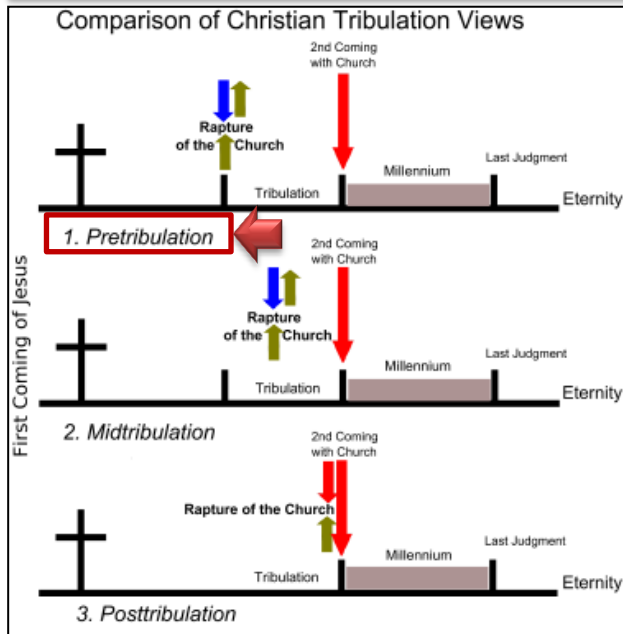
- **Eschatology** - A branch of Theology concerned with the final events in the history of the world or of mankind



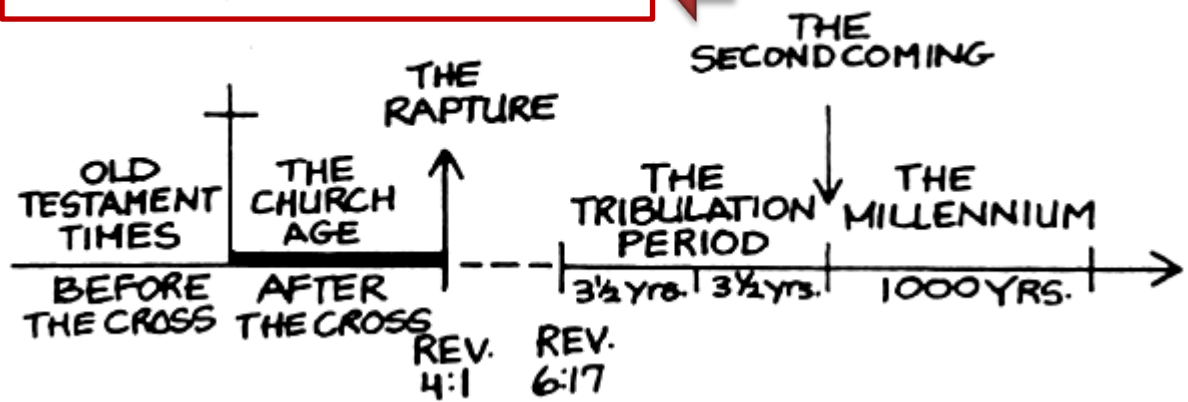
# Interpretation - ESCHATOLOGY... A QUICK LOOK

- **Eschatology** - A branch of Theology concerned with the final events in the history of the world or of mankind

## Rapture Timings



### PRE-TRIBULATION RAPTURE



**THIS IS THE POSITION WE WILL FOLLOW IN THIS STUDY.**



# Lesson 02 - Outline

## ■ Revelation: Unlocking the Future

### • Lesson 02: Major Themes

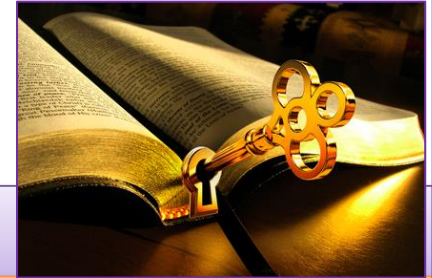
#### ✓ OVERVIEW

» Big Picture..... *What patterns emerge?*

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# Symbols- WHAT DO THE SYMBOLS MEAN?

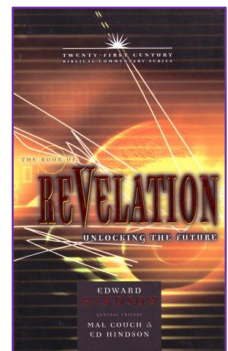
## • Symbols

- The basic structure of the book is woven around a series of threes and sevens.
- The overarching triplet reveals past, present, and future.

1. Past: *"the things which you have seen"* ..... Chapter 1
2. Present: *"the things which are"* ..... Chapters 2-3
3. Future: *"the things which shall take place after this"* ... Chapters 4-22

- The seven visions are...

1. Seven churches.....1:9 - 3:33
2. Seven seals..... 4:1 - 8:1
3. Seven trumpets..... 8:2 - 11:19
4. Seven symbolic figures.....12:1 - 14:20
5. Seven bowls..... 15:1 - 16:21
6. Seven judgments..... 17:1 - 19:10
7. Seven triumphs..... 19:11 - 22:5



# Symbols- WHAT DO THE SYMBOLS MEAN?

- **Symbols**

- The term “hour” is used ten times in Revelation, always referring to a brief period of time

3:3,10; 9:15; 11:13; 14:7,15; 17:2; 18:10,17,19

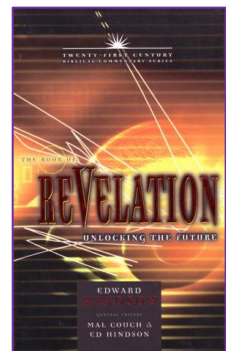
- Three is the symbolic number of the Trinity. It is one of John’s favorite numbers.

- Four is a number generally related to the earth

- Four regions ... North, South, East, West
- Four seasons ... Spring, Summer, Fall, Winter

- Six is the number of man

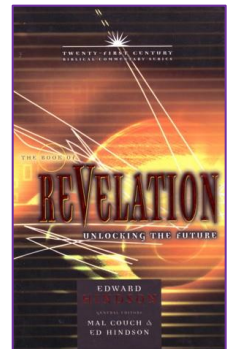
- Created on the sixth day
- Number of Antichrist is 666



# Symbols- WHAT DO THE SYMBOLS MEAN?

- Symbols
  - Seven is the most significant number in Revelation

Seven Churches 1:4,11,20; 2; 3	Seven Horns 5:6
Seven Seals 5; 6	Seven Eyes 5:6
Seven Trumpets 8, 9	Seven Angels 8:2,6; 15:1,6,7,8; 16:1; 17:1;21:9
Seven Bowls 15; 16; 17:1; 21:9	Seven Thunders 10:3, 4
Seven Lampstands 1:12, 13, 20; 2:1	Seven Thousand 11:13
Seven Spirits 1:4; 3:1; 4:5; 5:6	Seven Heads 12:3; 13:1; 17:3, 7, 9
Seven Stars 1:16, 20; 2:1; 3:1	Seven Crowns 12:3
Seven Lamps 4; 5	Seven Plagues 15:1, 6, 8; 21:9
Seven "Title-pairs" 2; 3	Seven Mountains 17:9
Seven Promises to the Overcomer 2;3	Seven Kings 17:10,11

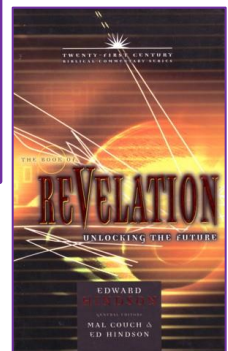


# Symbols- WHAT DO THE SYMBOLS MEAN?

- Symbols

- Seven **beatitudes** in Revelation

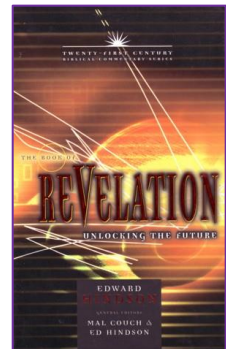
1. **Blessed** *is* he who reads and those who hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written in it; for the time *is* near.... (1:3).
2. **Blessed** *are* the dead who die in the Lord from now on.... (14:13).
3. **Blessed** *is* he who watches, and keeps his garments, lest he walk naked and they see his shame...(16:15).
4. **Blessed** *are* those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb!... (19:9).
5. **Blessed** and holy *is* he who has part in the first resurrection...(20:6).
6. **Blessed** *is* he who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book... (22:7)
7. **Blessed** *are* those who do His commandments... (22:14).





# Symbols- WHAT DO THE SYMBOLS MEAN?

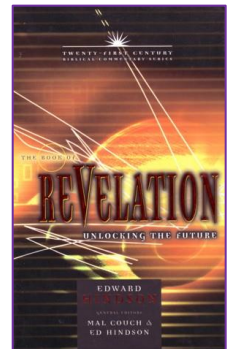
- Symbols
  - Twelve is the number of completeness
    - 12 Tribes of Israel
    - 12 Apostles of Christ
    - 24 Elders (2x12)
    - Tree of Life has 12 types of fruit (22:2)
    - New Jerusalem has 12 gates guarded by 12 angels (21:12)
    - The city has 12 foundations (21:14)
    - 12 precious stones adorning the foundation stones (21:19-21)
    - 12 pearls (21:19-21)
    - 12 tribes containing 12,000 people = 144,000 (4:4-8)
    - Wall measures 144 cubits (12 x 12) (21:17)



# Symbols- WHAT DO THE SYMBOLS MEAN?

- Symbols - Colors

- White ..... is a sign of **purity**
- Emerald Green ... is a sign of **life**
- Pale Green ..... is a sign of **death**
- Gold ..... is a sign of **value**
- Red ..... is a sign of **sin**
- Black .....is a sign of **famine**



# Lesson 02 - Outline

## ■ Revelation: Unlocking the Future

### • Lesson 02: Major Themes

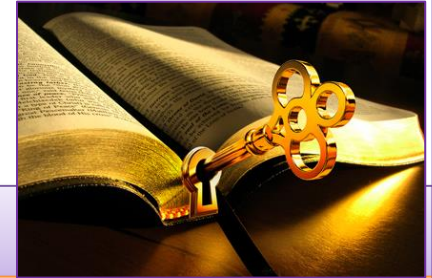
#### ✓ OVERVIEW

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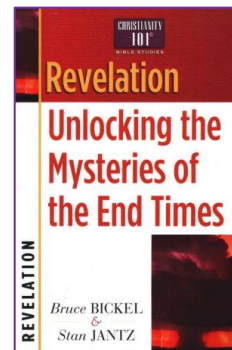


# Themes - WHAT ARE THE MAJOR THEMES?

## • Revelation Themes

- To keep from getting lost in the trees, we'll look at the forest.
  - To accomplish this I'll present six major themes of Revelation

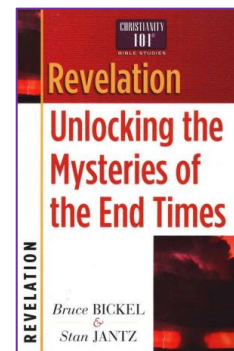
#	Theme	Description
1	God is Sovereign	<p>God rules over all with absolute authority and power. God's control over His creation is called His Sovereignty ... <a href="#">Revelation 11:16-17</a>.</p> <p>God's sovereignty means nothing occurs outside of His knowledge, His control, or His will.</p> <p>Revelation shows the incomparable power and incomprehensible love of God, who is directing history for the sake of those who put their trust in Him.</p> <p>We can trust God's sovereignty for the future and take comfort in it now.</p>
2	Jesus is Lord	<p>Revelation shows the absolute worthiness of our Lord and Savior. He is the one we will worship forever in heaven, and He is the one we can worship now... <a href="#">Revelation 5:12</a>.</p>



# Themes - WHAT ARE THE MAJOR THEMES?

- Revelation Themes

#	Theme	Description
3	<b>Jesus is Coming Back</b>	<p>While He was on the earth, Jesus told His disciples that He was going to heaven to prepare a place for them. Then He told them He would return ... John 14:3.</p> <p>Christ's return is a major theme of Revelation ... <a href="#">Revelation 22:12-13</a>.</p> <p>We don't need to wonder if Jesus is ever going to return. We can be sure that God's timing is perfect. Jesus will come back to earth at just the right moment.</p>
4	<b>God's People will Persevere</b>	<p>If you are a child of God, you will persevere to the end. Nothing can take your salvation away. At the same time you must be faithful to God no matter what.</p> <p>Some day your perseverance will pay off ... <a href="#">Revelation 21:3-4</a>.</p>

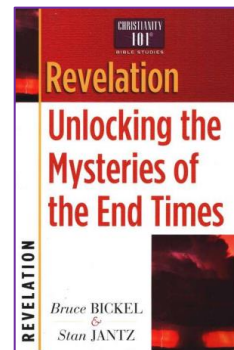




# Themes - WHAT ARE THE MAJOR THEMES?

- Revelation Themes

#	Theme	Description
5	Judgment Day is Coming	<p>According to the old saying, "Nothing is certain except death and taxes". We can add judgment to the list.</p> <p>Those who have accepted the sacrifice of Christ to take away their sins will be rewarded with eternal life. Those who have rejected Christ will face eternal punishment... <a href="#">Revelation 11:18</a>.</p> <p>Believers can take comfort right now in the fact that they will avoid God's wrath against evil because of Christ.</p> <p>We can trust God that He will deal with sin and evil. They will not last forever.</p>
6	We Have Hope	<p>Imagine what life was like for those 1<sup>st</sup> century Christians who were confronted with threat and persecution. We may not face that kind of harassment, but in many parts of our world, people do.</p> <p>How do you deal with your own pain and grief? The answer is <b>HOPE!</b></p> <p>Regardless of our present troubles, we can look ahead with hope to a time when all who trust God will live in absolute peace.</p> <p>The message of Revelation must have been a great source of comfort to the believers in the 1<sup>st</sup> century, and it offers just as much hope for us today ... <a href="#">Revelation 22:20</a>.</p>





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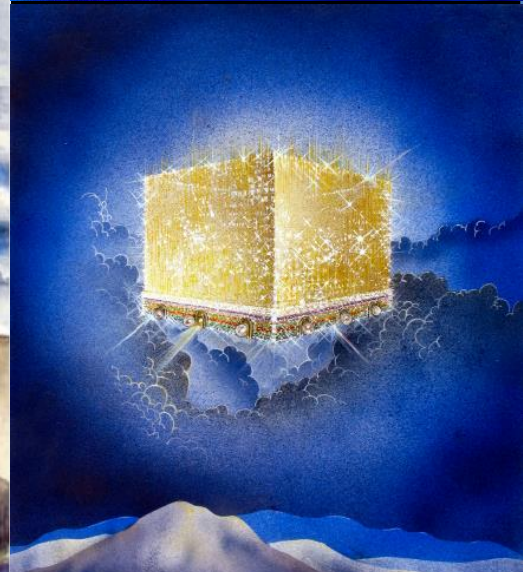
# Revelation

*"Unlocking the Future"*

## End of Lesson

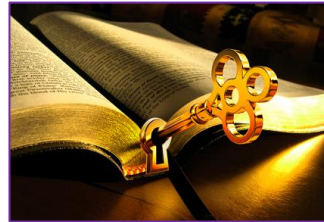


Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written in it; for the time is near. **Rev. 1:3 NKJV**



Revelation Illustrated - Pat Marvenko Smith





# Revelation: Unlocking the Future

## Lesson 03: What in the World is Happening?

[Revelation 1]

***Next Week's Lesson***

# Next Week's Lesson

## ▪ Revelation: Unlocking the Future

- Lesson 01: Book Survey ... [REVELATION]
- Lesson 02: Major Themes ... [REVELATION]
- Lesson 03: What in the World is Happening? ... [REVELATION 1:1-20]
- Lesson 04: Judgment Begins at the House of God ... [REVELATION 2:1-29]
- Lesson 05: Who's that Knocking at my Door? ... [REVELATION 3:1-22]
- Lesson 06: God is still on the Throne ... [REVELATION 4:1-11]
- Lesson 07: Worthy is the Lamb ... [REVELATION 5:1-14]
- Lesson 08: The Wrath of the Lamb ... [REVELATION 6:1-17]
- Lesson 09: From Tribulation to Jubilation ... [REVELATION 7:1-17]
- Lesson 10: The World at War ... [REVELATION 8:1-13]
- Lesson 11: Demons Unleashed ... [REVELATION 9:1-21]
- Lesson 12: Can it get any Worse? ... [REVELATION 10:1-11]

# Next Week's Lesson

## ▪ Revelation: Unlocking the Future

- Lesson 13: Hell on Earth! ... [REVELATION 11:1-19]
- Lesson 14: War in Heaven ... [REVELATION 12:1-17]
- Lesson 15: Rise of the Antichrist ... [REVELATION 13:1-18]
- Lesson 16: Wine Press of the Wrath of God ... [REVELATION 14:1-20]
- Lesson 17: The Seven Last Plagues ... [REVELATION 15:1-8]
- Lesson 18: Battle of Armageddon ... [REVELATION 16:1-21]
- Lesson 19: Riding the Beast... [REVELATION 17:1-18]
- Lesson 20: Fall of Babylon ... [REVELATION 18:1-24]
- Lesson 21: Triumphal Return of Christ ... [REVELATION 19:1-21]
- Lesson 22: The Millennial Kingdom ... [REVELATION 20:1-15]
- Lesson 23: New Jerusalem ... [REVELATION 21:1-27]
- Lesson 24: Inside the Glorious City ... [REVELATION 22:1-21]

