

Revelation

Unlocking the Future



Lesson 01

Book Survey

Revelation

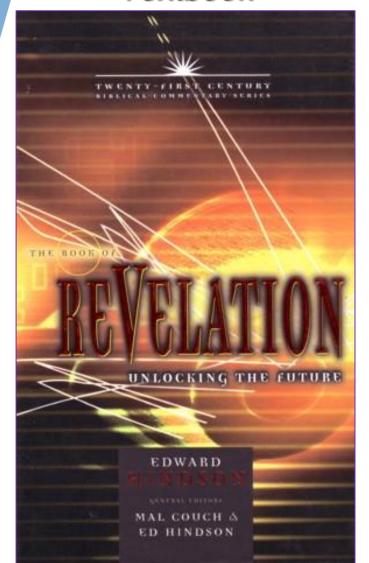
Philip Giorgio

Sojourners Sunday School Class

S01:NT27:L01



Textbook

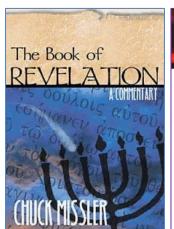


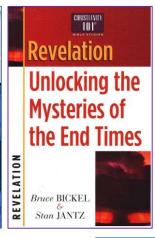


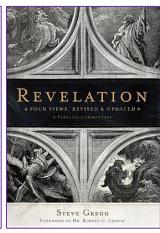


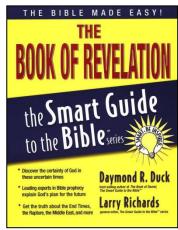
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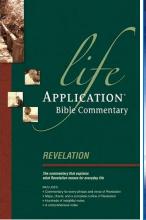


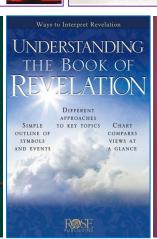


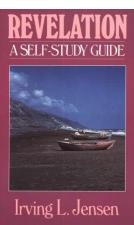








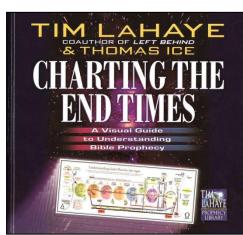


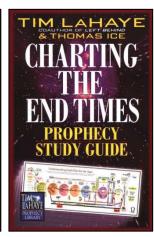


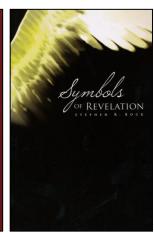


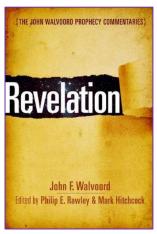
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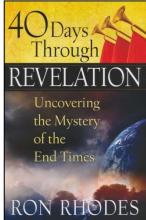


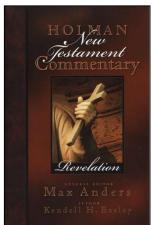






























Course Outline

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]
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Course Outline - Lessons



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- Lesson 14: War in Heaven ... [REVELATION 12:1-17]
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- Lesson 22: The Millennial Kingdom ... [REVELATION 20:1-15]
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- Lesson 24: Inside the Glorious City ... [REVELATION 22:1-21]





Lesson Outline

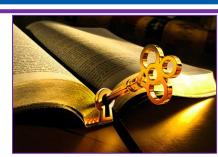


Revelation: Unlocking the Future

Lesson 01: Book Survey

✓ OVERVIEW

- » Motivation Why study Revelation?
- **» Genre** What type of literature?
- **» Author** Who wrote the book?
- » Audience ... Who was the book written to?
- » Purpose Why was the book written?
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Book Survey

Overview



Revelation: Unlocking the Future

Lesson 01: Book Survey





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Seven Reasons

- 1. Revelation is the last book of the Bible
 - The Bible would be incomplete without Revelation
 - Your knowledge of Scriptures and your appreciation for God and what He has planned for you would be incomplete.
 - All scripture is given by inspiration of God ...

- 2 Timothy 3:16-17

16 All Scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, 17 that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.
--- 2 Timothy 3:16-17 ... NKJV

- Revelation is part of the bookends of Scripture
 - Genesis The Creation of All Things
 - Revelation ... The Consummation of All Things

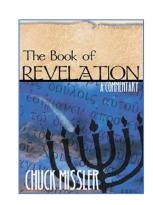


Motivation - WHY STUDY REVELATION?



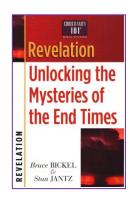
GENESIS - REVELATION BOOKENDS OF SCRIPTURE

Genesis		Revelation	
Earth Created	1:1	Earth Passed Away	21:1
Darkness called night	1:5	No night there	22:5
Waters He called seas	1:10	No more sea	21:1
Sun to govern Day	1:16	No need of Sun	21:23
Man in God's image	1:26	Man headed by Satan's image	13
Marriage of 1st Adam	2:18-23	Marriage of last Adam	19
Entrance of sin	3	End of sin	21,22
Curse pronounced	3:14-17	No more curse	22:3
Sorrow & suffering enter	3:17	No more sorrow	22:4
Death entered	3:19	No more death	21:4
Man driven out of Eden	3:24	Man restored	22
Tree of life guarded	3:24	Access to Tree of life	22:14
Man's dominion ends, Satan's begins	3:24	Satan's dominion ends, man's restored	22
God's flood to destroy evil generation	6-9	Satan's flood to destroy elect generation	12
A bow: God's promise	9:13	A bow for remembrance	4:3;10:1
Nimrod founds Babylon	10:8-10	Babylon falls	17,18
A bride for Abraham's son	24	A bride for Abrahams' seed	19



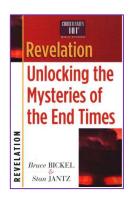


- Revelation is the only prophetic book in the New Testament
 - The OT includes 17 books of prophecy.
 - Revelation is the only one in the NT.
 - About 2000 of the Bible's 2500 prophecies have already been fulfilled to the letter.
 - The remaining 500 most of which are in Revelation are unfilled.
 - Since all the previous prophecies have been fulfilled 100% we expect the rest to also be fulfilled.





- Revelation describes the Second Coming of Christ and the events leading up to it
 - The Second Coming of Christ to earth is the centerpiece of Bible prophecy.
 - The OT prophets foretold a time when Jesus would come to earth the first time as a suffering Messiah.
 - They also looked forward to a second time when Jesus would come as a conquering King.
 - Revelation reveals those events that will take place before, during, and after the Second Coming of Christ





- 4. Revelation explains how Satan, the great enemy of God and humankind, will finally, and forever be defeated.
 - Jesus called Satan, "the ruler of this world"
 - ³⁰ I will no longer talk much with you, for the ruler of this world is coming, and he has nothing in Me. --- John 14:30 ... NKJV
 - Paul called him "the prince of the power of the air"
 - ² in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience, --- Ephesians 2:2 ... NKJV
 - Satan has great influence in this world, but he can never win the ultimate battle against God and His people.
 - No matter how much damage he does, he is doomed to defeat.
 - This should be a great comfort to us as we confront Satan and his forces of evil.





- 5. Even though Revelation talks mainly about events that haven't yet happened, the message is relevant for us today
 - Many Christians make the mistake of assuming that Revelation is only about the future, and therefore it doesn't have much practical application for daily living.
 - However, Revelation has a message we can apply right now to our lives.
- God promises to bless anyone who reads, and hears Revelation and obeys what it says
 - This reason alone should be enough to read and study Revelation.
 - No other book in the Bible comes with this kind of promise





Seven Reasons

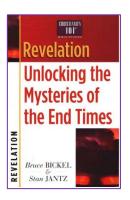
7. The theme of Revelation is Jesus Christ

- This is the most important thing to know about Revelation and the most compelling reason to study the book.
- It's all about Jesus!
- The four Gospels present the story of Jesus living His life on earth - they don't give the total picture.

In Revelation we see the complete revelation of Jesus in all

His glory.







Revelation: Unlocking the Future

Lesson 01: Book Survey







- » Author Who wrote the book?
- » Audience ... Who was the book written to?
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Genre - What Type of LITERATURE?



Genre

- Revelation (singular) is a prophetic book
- Written in the style of apocalyptic literature

"Apocalypse"

is a Greek word meaning "revelation", "an unveiling or unfolding of things not previously known and which could not be known apart from the unveiling."

As a genre, apocalyptic literature details the authors' visions of the end times as revealed by a heavenly messenger or Angel.







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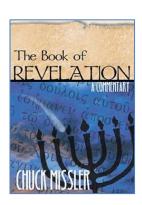


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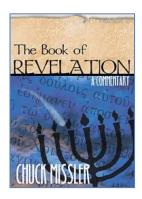


- The Apostle John ... (Revelation 1:4)
- Wrote 5 books of the NT ... Can you name them?
- Brother of James "the Greater"
 - Matthew 4:21, 10:2; Mark 1:19, 3:17, 10:35
- Younger of the sons of Zebedee and Salome
- Born at Bethsaida ... Matthew 4:21; 27:56; 15:40
- Father was apparently a man of some wealth
 - Mark 1:20; Luke 5:3; John 19:27
- John was trained in all that constituted the normal education of Jewish youth.
- When John grew up he followed the occupation of a fisherman with his family on the Sea of Galilee.



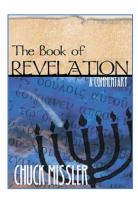


- When John the Baptist began his ministry in the wilderness of Judea,
- John, with many others, gathered around him and was deeply influenced by John the Baptist's teaching.
- There John heard the announcement, "Behold the Lamb of God," and on the invitation of Jesus, became a disciple and ranked among his followers for a time ... John 1:36-37
- John and his brother, James, then returned to their former vocation (it is uncertain for how long).





- Jesus again called John and James
- Now they left all and permanently joined the company of his disciples
 - Matthew 4:21; Luke 5:1-11
- For their zeal and intensity of character, Jesus named John and his brother James
 - "Boanerges" ... "Sons of Thunder" ... Mark 3:17
- This spirit of chutspah broke out on a number of occasions
 - Matthew 20:20-24 Kingdom Seating Plan
 - Mark 10:35-41 Kingdom Seating Plan
 - Luke 9:49 Forbid Man Casting Out Demons
 - Luke 9:54 Command Fire from Heaven





- John was "the disciple whom Jesus loved"
 - John 19:26; 20:2; 21:7; 21:20
- John became one of the innermost circle:

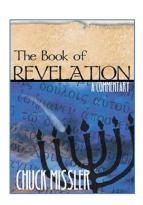
Event	Reference	
Jairus' Daughter	Mark 5:37	
Transfiguration	Matthew 17:1	
Gethsemane	Matthew 26:37	
Olivet Discourse	Mark 13:3	



Peter, James & John



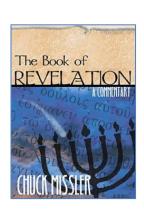
Andrew, Peter, James & John





FINAL WEEK

- At the betrayal, John and Peter followed Christ afar off, while the others fled ... John 18:1
- At the six trials John followed Christ into the council chamber,
 then to the praetorium, and then to the place of crucifixion ... John 18:16,19,28; 19:26,27
- Mary was consigned to John's care at the Cross rather than to her other sons!
- To John and Peter, Mary first conveyed tidings of the resurrection
- John and Peter were the first to go and see what her strange words meant ...John 20:2
- After the resurrection John and Peter again returned to the Sea of Galilee,
- Where the Lord revealed himself to them ...John 21:1,7
- We find Peter and John frequently together after this
 - Acts 3:1; 4:13





FINAL YEARS

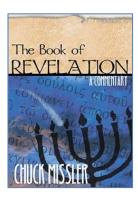
- John remained in Jerusalem among the leadership ... Acts 15:6;
 Galatians 2:9
- John was not there at the time of Paul's last visit
 ... Acts 21:15-40
- John retired to Ephesus, but at what time is unknown.
- John suffered under persecution, and was banished to Patmos by Domitian (brother of Titus) ... Revelation 1:9

From Patmos John again returned to Ephesus, where he died

(~AD 98).









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Audience - Who was the Book Written to?



Audience

 Revelation was written to the seven churches in Asia Minor (Revelation 1:4)

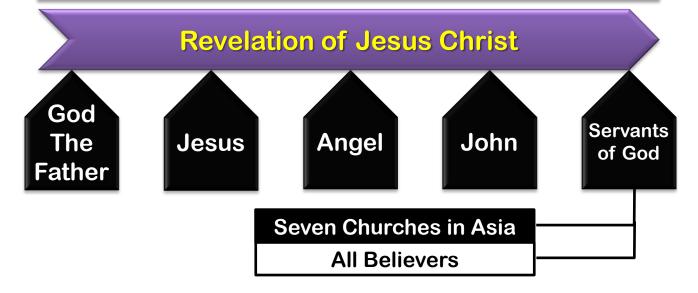
1. Church of Ephesus (2:1-7)	The Loveless Church			
2. Church in Smyrna (2:8-11)	The Persecuted Church			
3. Church in Pergamos (2:12-17)	The Compromising Church			
4. Church in Thyatira (2:18-29)	The Corrupt Church			
5. Church in Sardis (3:1-6)	The Dead Church			
6. Church in Philadelphia (3:7-13)	The Faithful Church			
7. Church of the Laodiceans (3:14-22) The Lukewarm Church				

- And Believers everywhere
 - You and me

Audience - How was the Book Received?



- Transmission ... Revelation 1:1-2
 - Revelation is of Jesus Christ
 - 1 The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave Him to show His servants—things which must shortly take place. And He sent and signified *it* by His angel to His servant John, ² who bore witness to the word of God, and to the testimony of Jesus Christ, to all things that he saw. --- Revelation 1:1-2 ... NKJV





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Purpose - Why was the Book Written?



Purpose(s)

- To reveal the full identity of Jesus Christ.
- To show His servants things which must shortly come to pass ... Revelation 1:1-2
- To offer hope and encouragement to persecuted believers.
- To convict believers living in compromise with the world.
- To present the climax of God's Plan for Man.

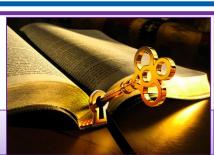


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Setting - What was Going On?



Setting

- John wrote Revelation ~AD 95, near the end of Domitian's reign
- The rulers of the Roman Empire were given the title "Caesar" tribute to Julius Caesar, the 1st Caesar, who laid the foundation for the Roman imperial system.
- The worship of the emperor (Caesar worship) began after Julius Caesar died in 44 BC.
- Although all of the Caesars who ruled in the 1st century tolerated the worship given them, not all of them were comfortable with it.
- They allowed Jews-and later Christians-to worship their God rather than Caesar.
- The exceptions were Caligula (AD 32-41) and Domitian (AD 81-96) who enforced the worship they thought they deserved.

Setting - What was Going On?



Setting

Caligula was basically insane.

He died before he had the chance to place his own image in the Holy of Holies in the Temple in

Jerusalem.



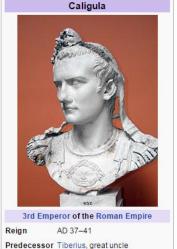












- Domitian was sane, but was pure evil.
- He believed he was a god, demanded Caesar worship, and initiated a bitter campaign of persecution against anyone who refused to worship him. In particular, he targeted Jews and Christians.





Titus, brother

Predecessor

Successor

Domitian 11th Emperor of the Roman Empire



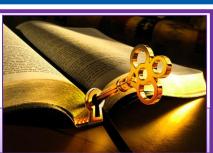


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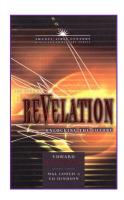
Overture - WHAT LIES AHEAD?

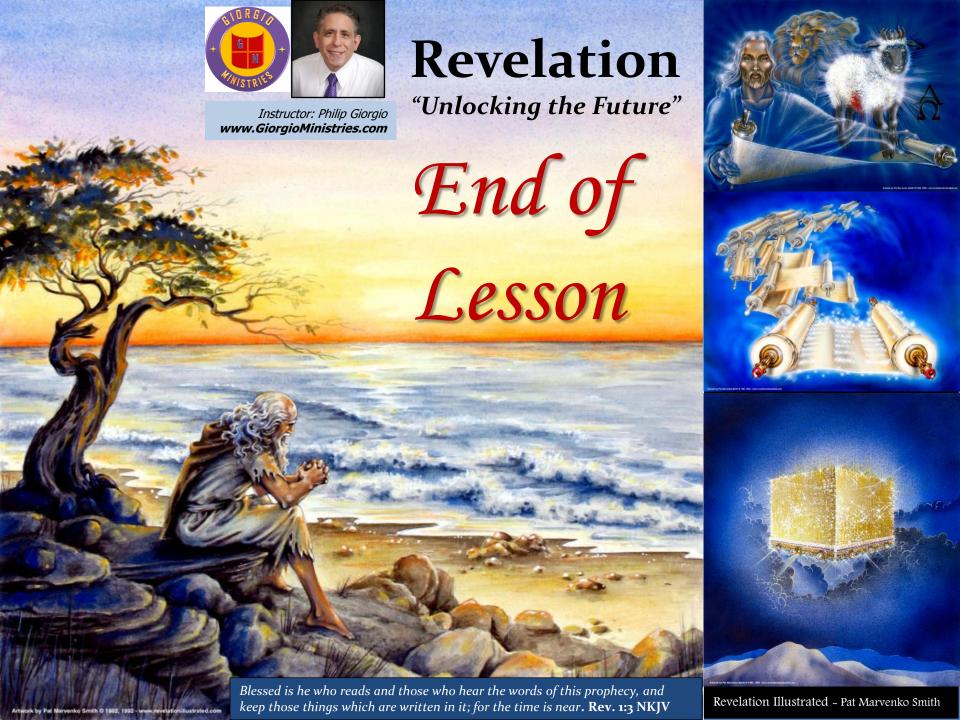


Overture

The contents of Revelation move in a series of progressions

#	Activity	Where	Chapter(s)
1	Christ appears to John on Patmos	On Patmos	1
2	He dictates the letters to the seven churches	On earth	2-3
3	John is transported into God's throne room	In heaven	4-5
4	He sees the future judgments	From heaven	6-11
5	John sees the seven symbolic players	From heaven & earth	12-13
6	He sees the seven last plagues	From heaven	14-18
7	John witnesses the marriage of the Lamb in heaven and His triumphal return to earth	From heaven & earth	19
8	He views the Millennial Kingdom	On earth	20
9	John sees the new heaven and the new earth	In eternity	21-22
10	He hears the final invitation appeal and adds his own: "Amen. Even so, come Lord Jesus"	On earth	22:16-21











Revelation: Unlocking the Future

Lesson 02: Major Themes

[Revelation]

Next Week's Lesson

Next Week's Lesson



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