

Revelation Study Guide

Every year Reverend Raymond Shockley holds a two-week Bible Prophecy Conference at his home church in Key West, Fl. Every year we record the sessions on audio cassette. The text found in this study guide is transposed from these tapes. We have spent a lot of time transposing the material into written form. The conference is very visual with a wonderful slide presentation. The Pastor has provided all of these images and more for this study guide. The tapes make a great companion to this written text and are available for purchase. If you are interested in the tapes please contact us at momentin@aol.com or phone us at 305-296-8844.

The Study guide is now complete. We pray that you enjoy it and that it touches your life in some way.

However, it is and always will be a work in progress until the day of the Rapture. For those of you that have already read the Rapture page it has been updated with a lot of new information.

These pictures presented in the study guide do have copyrights so if you want them for your own use then please make contact with the artist.

Every picture has a link to the artist when the artist is known.

If you are an artist and I have used your work without permission, please notify me so that I can set up the proper linking, or remove your work at your request. Thanks to all of the artists that so graciously provided the art work for this guide.



I kept coming back for a year and thought I was a Christian. I didn't understand that every man needs a personal relationship with Christ, and that every man is a sinner. The first thing that I realized was that I needed to be saved, and the church made sure that I knew I was lost because that church preached the Word of God. Not that watered down, good feeling stuff that has become common place in almost every church in the world. On January 2, 1965 a lady went down to the altar and it motivated me to go down to that altar. God saved me and called me to preach all at that very moment and my life was never the same from then on.

Someone lent me a Bible. They should have just given it to me because they weren't reading it anyway. I would read it all night long. Then church members started instructing me how to read the Bible. They told me to start with the book of John and read up to Revelation and stop there. Then start at the book of Matthew and read up to the book of Revelation and stop there, don't go in there. Then start with the book of Genesis and read all the way to the book of Revelation and stop there, don't go in there, there are monsters in there, it is an adult only book, don't pay attention to that book. And I thought why would God put anything in there that you couldn't understand and that He didn't want you to read? I became a closet reader of the book of Revelation.

When I went away to Bible College, I met the omnipotent, all knowing, all-powerful Bible College Student. And we all know that Bible College students know everything about the Bible. One of the omnipotent, all knowing, all-powerful Bible College students pulled me aside and told me, "Don't preach on Bible prophecy and stay out of the book of Revelation. It is controversial and it will harm your ministry, and people won't like you." Well, I didn't want to hurt my ministry. So I kept reading and every once in a while I would get risky and preach on the Rapture of the church. The Rapture will be explained in full detail at the end of chapter three.

About 22 years ago I made a big mistake and preached the Rapture in a month-long revival. There were these seven men whose wives were forcing them to come. No matter how hard I preached they wouldn't get saved, and I just couldn't get them to the altar. So I told them to come back tomorrow and I'll show you what you're going to get. So I opened up chapter five and preached the entire book in a single night. After I was done, there was a message in tongues and interpretation. It was powerful. All seven of those men ran down to the altar and got saved that night. Wow. I discovered what I had been neglecting all this time. I decided I was going to try this again, I tried to do it again in one night. It took four nights; people got saved all over the place. I thought, I'm going to try this again. This time it took two weeks. Two weeks would become the norm. Why was I getting all this information? The Devil didn't want me to understand or teach the message of Revelation. God knowing the bad press that Satan would give the Book of Revelation is what caused God to say "blessed are you if you read." Who are you going to pay attention to? Those who say The Revelation is controversial or God who says blessed are you if you read this book? In my ministry this book has been my greatest blessing.

Chapter 1

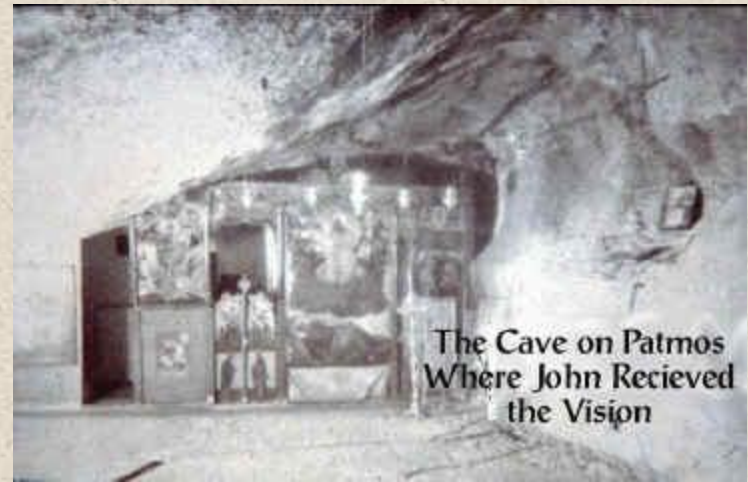
All scripture references are taken from the Authorized King James Version,

Discovering who Jesus is and what He expects of us

The Revelation of St. John

We will first consider the name of the book - Apocalypse or Revelation. The title means, to reveal. When publishers started issuing the Bible, they made a mistake in naming this book "The Revelation of St. John." We will see why in the very first line of the first chapter whose Revelation it is.

Rev. 1:1 The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him, to show unto his servants things which must shortly come to pass; and he sent and signified it by his angel unto his servant John:





The Revelation belongs to Jesus Christ, given to Him by God, to show to His servants the future, given to an Angel to give to John. Who was John? According to the Fox's Book of Martyrs) The "beloved disciple," was brother to James the Great. The churches of Smyrna, Pergamos, Sardis, Philadelphia, Laodicea, and Thyatira, were founded by him. From Ephesus he was ordered to be sent to Rome, where it was affirmed he was cast into a cauldron of boiling oil. He escaped by miracle, without injury. Domitian afterwards banished him to the Isle of Patmos in 96 A.D. , where he wrote the book of Revelation. Nerva, the successor of Domitian, recalled him. He was the only apostle who escaped a violent death. So God passed the Revelation to Jesus, who gave it to an Angel, who gave it to John, to give to Jesus servants.

What is the purpose of the book? Verse one says "to show unto his servants things which must shortly come to pass." Who are Jesus' servants? The born again children of God. So this book is for us, if we are born again.

What must happen? "Things which must shortly come to pass," take note the scripture doesn't say might come to pass or could come to pass, but it says, "must". Every prophecy in the Bible will be completed perfectly, is a part of the whole, and is continually in the process of being fulfilled. The statement itself lets us know the following prophecy will take place shortly. In the first three centuries after Jesus' death, the Christians had the same strong belief about the Rapture of the church and the Tribulation period as we do today.

Jesus says, "I come quickly" three times in the last chapter of the book of Revelation. St. Augustine decided that when he said "quickly" and then He didn't bother coming back for the first 300 years, then Jesus didn't really mean quickly at all and put forth the view that the book of Revelation is only an allegory. An allegory is a fictional account based on apparent truth, such as fable.

Augustine's kind of thinking is what started the movement in the Catholic Church to have total ascendancy, to conquer the entire world, and to bring the people into the church. The belief was that the church needed to bring in the kingdom of God on the earth. (Sounds a little bit like today's Charismatic movement). But instead of using the Word to bring people to Christ, they used the sword. You can send a person to eternity with the sword but you can't make him a Christian.

The view that the book of Revelation was an allegory became a common viewpoint in Christendom, and that there wasn't going to be a Rapture, or a Tribulation period. Liberal commentators, churches, and many in the Charismatic movement have proclaimed this book to be an allegory rather than a prophecy.

Around 1750 in the Advent Holiness movement, during the Philadelphian church age (full detail in chapter three), the Bible was placed in the hands of the common people. Instead of learning the Bible from a theologian who had been trained out of his faith, the commoners began reading and researching the Bible for themselves and discovered that the book of Revelation is not an allegory, it is the word of God. And if it says "things which must shortly come to pass" that it is the literal word of God and it is going to happen.

This is where the confusion about the book of Revelation comes in. In one scenario you have people trying to convince you that it is just a scary story; and then you have some Christians that are saying, God said it, He settled it, and I believe it. They study it as the literal word of God. As you can see, the church of that day was much stronger than the church of today. The wrong view of scripture will pull the bread of life out of your mouth instead of allowing you to feast on the bread that God gave us.

1. Whose revelation is this?
2. What does Revelation mean?
3. What is contained within the Revelation?
4. Who is the Revelation given to?

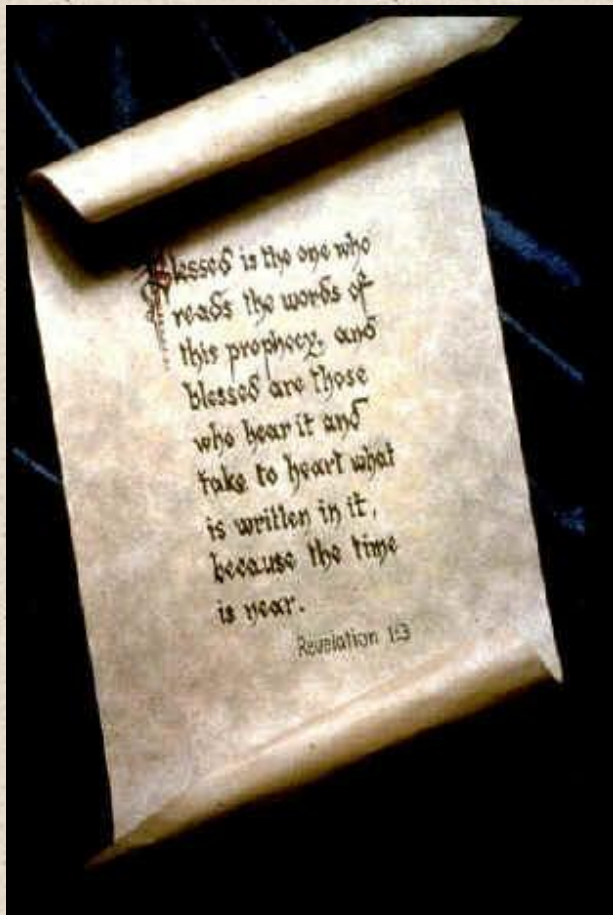
Rev. 1:2 Who bare record of the word of God, and of the testimony of Jesus Christ, and of all things that he saw.

What is the purpose and reason of the book? John is stating that this is the Word of God. If he was writing an allegory to be cryptic and to hide the message from Rome to encourage suffering Christians, he would not have called it the Word of God, he would have called it something else. He is stating that he got this message from God and that he is only writing down what he saw not what he created. So the next time you see mysteries of the Bible, and they tell you that John must have meant ... and John must have wanted to.... You will know that they obviously haven't read the book.

5. What is the purpose of the book?
6. And what does the book contain?

Rev. 1:3 Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand.

There is a blessing on this book. It is the only book in the Bible that starts with a blessing. if you read this you will be blessed, If you hear this you will be blessed, if you do this you will be blessed. There is a special blessing for the man that will bring this word forth and share it with others.



There is a special blessing for the man that will bring this word forth and share it with others. The reason that you are told you will get a special blessing from obeying God in supplying the people with sound doctrine is because there will be so much to discourage you from doing it. Most people are happy to hear about the Charismatic junk, which could carry to them really good, feel good doctrine, where anything goes, rather than the God who is Holy, the God that demands Holiness for any who would enter into His Kingdom. Many will not endure sound doctrine.

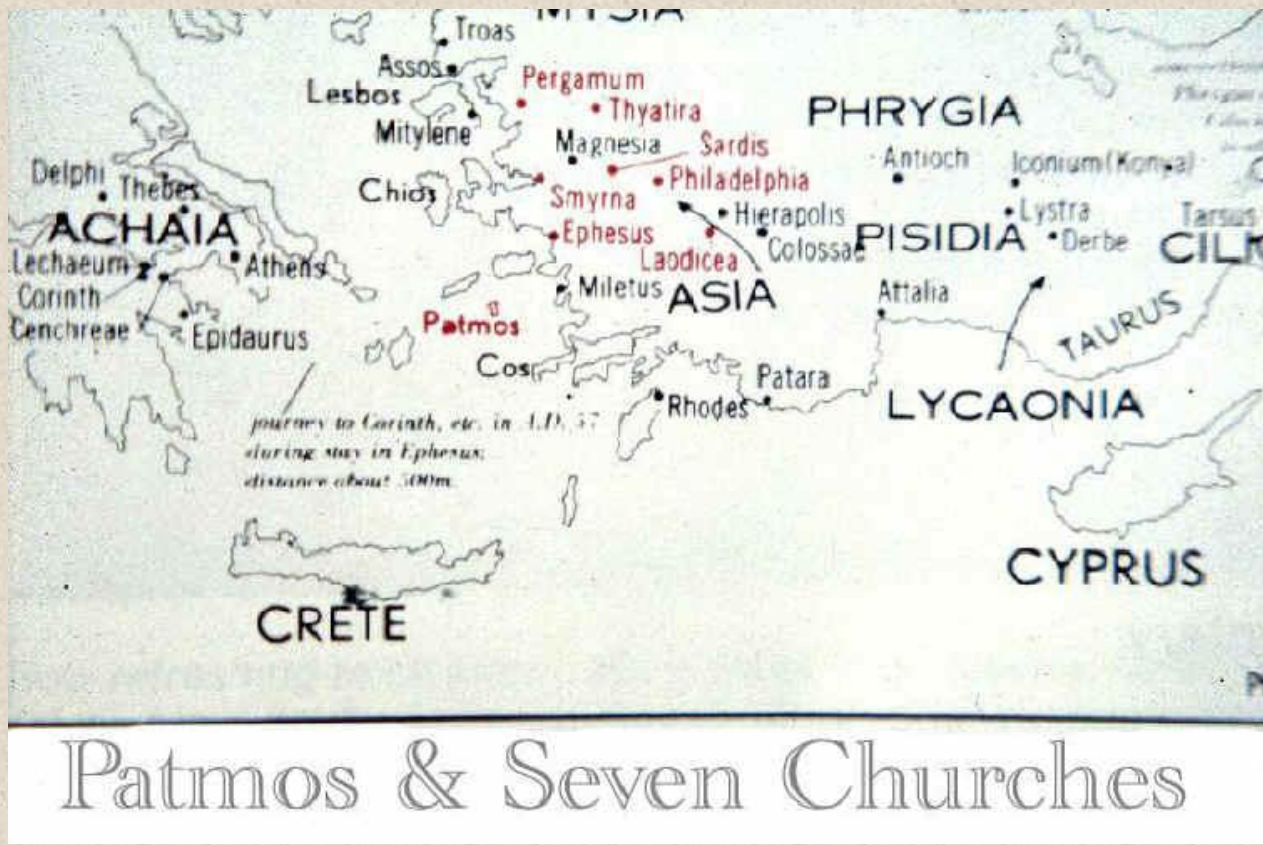
Timothy 4:2 Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. 3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; 4 And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.

This book is a look at sound doctrine. If you study the whole book, only hearing, understanding, but not doing, then this blessing turns to a curse. What do I mean by this? This book will witness against you on the day of judgment, if you miss the Rapture and then go through the Tribulation period. The knowledge will stand before your face when you say to God "I wasn't warned." God will say to you, "You were warned you just didn't want to do right." Do what the book says so that it will be a testimony for you. Then when you get to heaven, you can say, "I knew your will and I did your will." It will be terrible for you to know His will and to disobey.

7. What are we if we read, hear, and keep the things that are in this book?
8. What does Jesus mean by "keep"?

The Salutation

Rev. 1:4 John to the seven churches which are in Asia: Grace be unto you, and peace, from him which is, and which was, and which is to come; and from the seven Spirits which are before his throne;



Patmos & Seven Churches

The salutation is first coming from John, and he extends greetings from the Triune God. The churches that John is directed to write to are familiar with John, because he was the last of the living apostles. He is the most prominent preacher of his time. The next part of the greeting is from "**he which is, was, and to come**" this is from God the father. He is sending His personal greetings. If you don't believe in the Holy Trinity then you are going to have a lot of trouble when you study the Bible. The first part of the greeting says "which is" which means He is the God of now, "which was" means He has been God as far back as eternity can go, and "to come" means the Father is eternal, there will never be an end to God.

The Father is sending grace and peace to the church. Why are grace and peace important? Until Jesus Christ died on the cross, you and I were separated from God. Grace is God's unmerited favor, God gives us something we do not deserve. What was it we did not deserve? We did not have peace with God, because we were sinners. God is Holy and man is unholy, therefore He cannot look upon sinful man. Because of Jesus Christ, grace is extended to us so that we can have peace with God, and God is sending to us His grace. We now can experience peace with God.

The seven spirits, which are before the throne, is a representation of the Jewish Menorah, seven candles stemming from one oil source. This is a representation of the Holy Ghost, which sits before the throne. God the Father sits on the throne as the Lawgiver. He is the Holy One that must be satisfied concerning the law of righteousness. The Holy Spirit is God. It is He that regenerates us, makes us new and alive in God. The Holy Ghost sends greetings, He is not just a force. He is God with a personality, a will, and a commission.

There are many people who teach different things about the Holy Ghost. They may say that He is a force like in Star Wars, and if you are a Hindu or Buddhist or even a Christian, you can learn the laws of the Holy Ghost. You can learn to use the Holy Ghost for yourself. Nobody uses the Holy Ghost. He uses people. So if man uses the Holy Ghost, he is being deceived by a spirit that is not God or the Holy Spirit. It is either a human spirit manipulating, or a demonic spirit seducing.

9. Who is "He which is, was, and which is to come"?
10. What is the seven spirits, which are before the throne?

Rev. 1:5 And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood,



The Trinity

© 1999 Danny Hahlbohm All rights reserved by the artist

Now Jesus is sending greetings. Notice a few things that He says here, such as, "The Faithful Witness, and the first begotten of the dead". This word witness was also synonymous with the word martyr. He witnessed the love of God for man by dying on a cross for our sins. When he died He paid the price of sin, setting free anybody who believed on Him from the price and bondage of sin. Other people had risen from the dead before but not like this, they only had a temporary human life restored to them. They would die again and not rise again until resurrection day. The Bible says he is the first begotten of the dead, that is the first one that ever rose from the dead that would never ever die again. Jesus sits at the right hand of God the Father. No priest can make him into bread, no priest can make Him die again, no human being can call Him from His throne and crucify Him again. He is eternally alive forever and ever, He is God.

He is a human being that is God, died for our sins, was raised from the dead. The question is asked, "what did he do for us"? He loved us and washed us from our sins with His own blood. We are saved by the blood of Jesus Christ, we are not saved by living good, we are not saved by how holy we try to make ourselves. ***Eph. 2:8-9 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast.***

No matter how holy I am tomorrow, I can't do a thing about the sins I have already put on my record. Only Jesus Christ and His blood can wash those sins away, give me redemption, and bring me to a place where I am accepted by the Father. Once I am saved, the holiness of God comes into my life. He set me free, he saved me out of my sins. I will use my freedom to stay out of my sins. He didn't save me so that I could go back into sin and say "I have a Master-Charge now let me sin." No! He saved me to be out of them. Occasionally I may get willful or disobedient and stumble again. If that happens I have to get up and get back on the right track again. I have to repent, saying, "I'm sorry, forgive me, I did not do right." God will then renew me with His Holy Spirit.

11. Why is Jesus the faithful witness?
12. What does "first begotten of the dead" mean?
13. What does he mean "washed our sins with His blood"?

Rev. 1:6 And hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

Not only did he save us from our sins, He also saved us to special privileges. It is important to understand that Christianity is not just about getting saved but about having eternal life. It's about you being part of God's eternal kingdom. God not only wants to save you, He wants to see if you will live for Him with a free heart, with your free will, that you'll choose Him above everything else in this world. If you are found faithful, He wants you to rule and reign with Him. One day you will be a king and priest unto Him. Through this prophecy John was able to see that you were not just saved but set apart for eternal service in the Kingdom of God. As we get deeper into this book we will find out a lot more, and as we go through the chapters we will better understand it.

14. Who are the Kings and priests?
15. For what reason are we Kings and Priests?





Rev. 1:7 Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen.

Are you starting to see the plan? First He comes and dies on the cross. We believe on Him. We get saved and washed from our sins. We get Raptured into heaven, stand before the judgment seat. There He declares who will rule and reign with Him on the basis of our works in the Christian life. This happens at the beginning of the Tribulation period. When the seven years of tribulation are over, Jesus comes back to this earth and when He comes back it is with the clouds. This doesn't mean He is coming on a cloudy day. It means He has His saints riding white horses wearing white robes. If you consider the church that he has been cultivating for 2000 years, it ought to be a pretty good sized force, plus the angels of God that will be coming along. If you are the Antichrist you will be able to tell which one Jesus is because He is wearing the vesture dipped in blood. He will be the red spot on the white cloud. The followers of the Antichrist will wail when coming to the knowledge that they soon will be destroyed by God. Those who pierced Him refers to the nation of Israel that crucified Him. They will now know that He is the redeemer. He is coming to save them from the antichrist.

16. Who is coming in the clouds?
17. Whose eyes shall see Him?
18. Who are they also which pierced him?
19. Why are the Jews separated from everyone else?

Rev. 1:8 I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.

This is Jesus talking. These are some pretty important words to look at. The Alpha is the First letter of the Greek alphabet and Omega is the last letter, the beginning and the end and everything in between. All the knowledge of the world is manifest in Jesus Christ. Other religious groups and cults will tell you Jesus was a good man, a good teacher, or a prophet. But really, He must have been a raving lunatic. If He was a great teacher, He went around teaching he was the Son of God. God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Ghost, together form the Holy Trinity, the triune Godhead. The Son is Almighty God who is, who always was, and always shall be. When He was born into this world like a normal human being, He had a normal birth as far as His delivery was concerned, but He differed in that He existed before His birth. Jesus is incarnate into His human body. When conception takes place, that human body grows, a soul comes into existence. With Jesus it wasn't so. He created this whole world; he created the human body; he was there as the breath of life flowed throughout Adam.

The same world he created, He entered. He joined the human race, putting on a human body, and in the process received the human nature. At the same time He remained the eternal Son of God. Since He died, He didn't go back to being God without a human body, He kept that human body and human nature but remained God. He is human, He is God, one man with two natures, Man and God woven into one.

20. Who is the Alpha and Omega?

21. Why does He say, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty?

Rev. 1:9 John, who also am your brother, and companion in tribulation, and in the kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ, was in the isle that is called Patmos, for the word of God, and for the testimony of Jesus Christ.

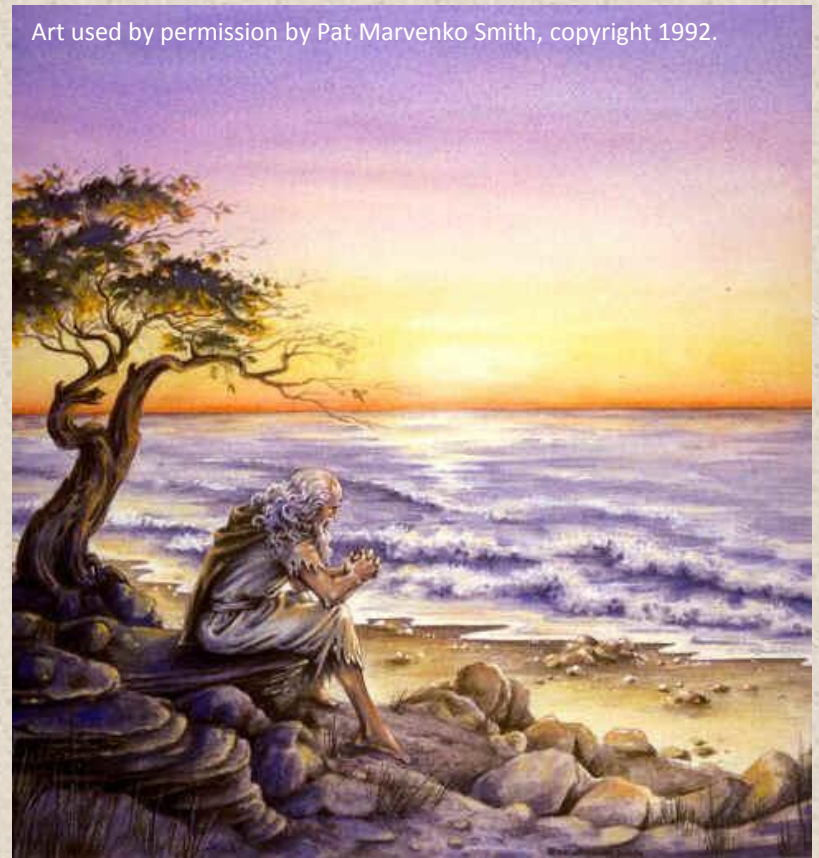
John explains why he is on the island of Patmos. He also explains his relationship to those who read this account, "your brother and companion." He knows that the church is suffering tribulation. He was suffering and had been exiled for the cause of Christ to this island for teaching and preaching the Word of God.

22. Why was John in exile?

Rev. 1:10 I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet,

Notice it is the Lord's day when this happens to him. This is Sunday, not Saturday. We meet on Sunday because it is the day of resurrection, it's the day that Christ rose from the dead. Saturday is the end of the old covenant, Jesus created the heavens and the earth and all that is within and rested on the seventh day. The next day would be the eighth day, and eight in scripture means new beginnings. On the first day of the week, which would be the eighth day, we have a new beginning. It is on that day that Christ rose from the dead and so the Christian began to worship Christ on the Lord's day, or Sunday the day of His resurrection. Today we continue to worship on Sunday. This is what John was doing, he was worshiping God on the Lord's day. He got into the Spirit.

Art used by permission by Pat Marvenko Smith, copyright 1992.



I have to believe that he was really deep in prayer, really seeking the Lord, when the Spirit began to move on him. While praying he will hear a great voice behind him, that sounds like a trumpet.

23. What does "in the Spirit" mean?

Rev. 1:11 Saying, I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last: and, What thou seest, write in a book, and send it unto the seven churches which are in Asia; unto Ephesus, and unto Smyrna, and unto Pergamos, and unto Thyatira, and unto Sardis, and unto Philadelphia, and unto Laodicea.

What we see here is Jesus stating to John who He is. He instructed John to write down everything he is about to show him, and to send this message to the seven churches which are in Asia. The seven churches were literal congregations in Asia-Minor. They are being used prophetically. They will represent church ages and denominational developments throughout church history. This will become clear when we get into the letters.

24. Who is the Alpha and Omega?

25. What did Jesus tell John to do?

26. What do the churches represent?

Rev. 1:12 And I turned to see the voice that spake with me. And being turned, I saw seven golden candlesticks;

When John turned, he saw a Jewish menorah, We will see later in this chapter that the candlesticks are the churches, not the physical building, but the church body itself.

27. What are the candlesticks?



Art used by permission by Pat Marvenko Smith, copyright 1992.



Rev. 1:13 And in the midst of the seven candlesticks one like unto the Son of man, clothed with a garment down to the foot, and girt about the paps with a golden girdle.

In the midst of the candlesticks John saw one like unto the son of man. This name comes from the book of **Daniel (7:13-14)** and it describes the Messiah and signifies that He is not the lowly babe in the manger, but the risen, glorified King of Kings. The garment down to his foot is the dress of a majestic ruler. Clothed about the chest with a golden sash symbolizes His absolute righteousness.

28. Who is the Son of Man?
29. What does his clothing represent?



Rev. 1:14 His head and his hairs were white like wool, as white as snow; and his eyes were as a flame of fire;

This white hair matches the scene in **Daniel 7:9** where it represents the everlasting antiquity of God the Father. The reference here means the same thing: that Jesus, too, is eternal; and He too is God. His flaming eyes represent His supernatural ability to see into every man's heart and his wrath is coming on those who have not obeyed Him.

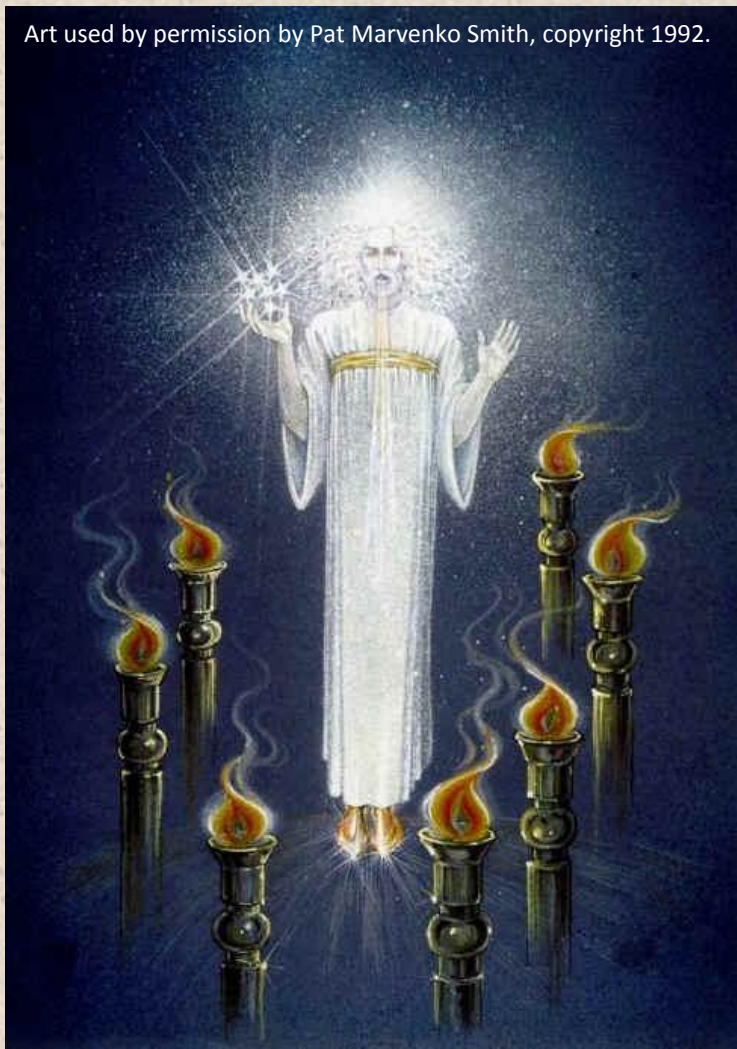
30. What does the white hair represent?
31. What do the eyes of fire represent?

Rev. 1:15 And his feet like unto fine brass, as if they burned in a furnace; and his voice as the sound of many waters.

The feet of brass symbolize the fierce judgment that is going to fall upon the ungodly. Brass in the Bible always stands for judgment. His voice is now a still small voice that is often ignored but one day His voice will roar in judgment of sinful man.

32. What do "feet like brass" represent?
33. What does "voice sounds like many waters" represent?

Art used by permission by Pat Marvenko Smith, copyright 1992.



Rev. 1:16 And he had in his right hand seven stars: and out of his mouth went a sharp twoedged sword: and his countenance was as the sun shineth in his strength.

The seven stars will be explained in verse 20. "twoedged sword" represents His word of judgment that cuts like a two edged sword. Jesus speaks it and it is done. And His countenance is that of glory.

34. What do the seven stars represent?

35. What does the "two edged sword" coming out of his mouth represent?

36. What does the reference to "the sun shineth in his strength" represent?

Rev. 1:17 And he laid his right hand upon me, saying unto me, Fear not; I am the first and the last: And when I saw him, I fell at his feet as dead.

John is mortal, and finding himself before deity he collapses in fear and awe of the mighty presence of Jesus. Then Jesus tells him not to fear, that he is the first and last. Again He is everything, and if He says "do not fear," then do not fear.

37. Why did John fall down as dead?

38. Who is the "First and Last" speaking to John?

Rev. 1:18 I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.

Jesus speaks of His death and resurrection, His eternal spirit. He states that He alone has the keys or authority over Hell and Death. This means Christ controls all that enter or leave hell and death. How can we despair knowing that our Savior has the keys? Death cannot keep us when the one possessing the keys has promised that we will yet live.

39. What does Jesus mean "he that liveth, was dead, and is alive forevermore"?

40. What does he has the "keys to hell and death" mean?



Rev. 1:19 Write the things which thou hast seen, and the things which are, and the things which shall be hereafter;

This verse tells us the natural outline of the Book of Revelation, which is key to our understanding the timing of events. He tells John to write about everything that he has seen to this point. He is to write down what he has seen, which is the vision of Jesus. Then he is to write the second part of the outline, "the things, which are." "The things which are" is describing what existed then in God's program and exist still today, the Christian churches.



Then he must write about "the things which are hereafter," implying that there has to be something before to have something after. The church is going to have its day and then something is going to come after. So here is the outline: things which were is chapter one, things which are is chapter two and three, things which will be hereafter is from chapter four all the way to the end. The pattern is Church, Rapture, Tribulation, Millennial, Judgment, and Eternity.

God's Outline Of The Book Of Revelation

Revelation 1:19 Write the things which thou hast seen,
and the things which are,
and the things which shall be hereafter:

A. Has Seen - John's Vision - Chapter 1

B. Things Which Are - The Church - Chapters 2 & 3

C. Things Which Shall Be Hereafter - Chapters 4 to 22

Church - Rapture - Tribulation - Millennial Kingdom - Eternity

This is God's outline and plan of the book of Revelation. It is key: if you understand this you will understand the book of Revelation much better. Some people think "the things which are" is not prophetic, that Revelation starts at chapter four. It starts at chapter one. Therefore everything in this book is prophetic by its nature.

41. What does Jesus want John to write?

Rev. 1:20 The mystery of the seven stars which thou sawest in my right hand, and the seven golden candlesticks. The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches: and the seven candlesticks which thou sawest are the seven churches.

Here John sees Jesus standing among seven candlesticks. Seven has a specific meaning in Bible Prophecy. Seven is a unit number, which means completeness. Any more or less, the unit is imperfect. We are going to discuss seven churches. These churches were actually seven churches that existed at that time. There were approximately 500 actual Christian churches at this time in the world that we know of. The Lord picks seven of those churches. He doesn't pick the seven most prominent, but seven whose names, history, and character have a

prophetic message that best fit their respective church age. He did this for illustration. Not only do they represent seven church types, they represent specific church theologies. There are seven different basic theologies and histories in the Christian church. We will take a quick look at their meanings.



Stars are the angels of the churches. This is not a reference to angelic angels but a reference to human pastors. This is the definition of Angel - {Angel or aggelos, ang'-el-os; from aggelos [prob. der. from G71; comp. G34] (to bring tidings); a messenger; esp. an "angel"; by impl. a pastor:--angel, messenger.} Jesus has the pastor in his hand. He sends the message to the pastor to preach and this is his job: to make sure the candle is lit. It is the job of the churches to light the community around them with the message. This is how the church is supposed to work. Why are pastors called stars? In the universe there is only one natural source of light, which is stars. Placed in Jesus' hand the messenger as God's star gives the light to his congregation. The sun is the natural source of life; when the sun shines things start happening, the winds blow, the seas roll, life begins. This is how God builds a church: he calls a man, sends him to preach, and when he preaches it should be like Ezekiel preaching to the dry bones. When a man anointed of God preaches, the dead come to life. When you get a man preaching the Word of God the Holy Ghost will honor his word and move in the place. But if he is not preaching the word you might as well write Ichabod (which comes from the Old Testament and means the glory has departed) on the door. The Word is how the Holy Ghost gets into your life. The candlestick is the church body (made up of all those who have been born again, hopefully this includes you and me); it is supposed to give light. If you had a box of candles and the lights went out, where you be? In the dark, Because a candle doesn't have any light of its own, the light has to be given to it



Light comes from the star. The star gives light to the candlestick and the candlestick lights the community. The pastor by preaching gives light to the church and the church brings light to the community it is part of.

42. What do the stars represent?
43. What do the Candlesticks represent?



