

“A Very Special Book”
The Revelation of Jesus Christ—Part 1
Revelation 1:1-3

The Purpose of John’s Gospel:

Jesus did many other miraculous signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

John 20:30-31

The Purpose of John’s Epistles:

I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

1 John 5:13

The Purpose of Revelation:

***Whatever you do as we study this book,
get to know your Savior better!***

He who testifies to these things says, "Yes, I am coming soon."

Revelation 22:20

The revelation of 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 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.

Revelation 1:1-3

Our goal as we study Revelation:

Our goal, as we study this very special book, is that as we sift through the incredible mysteries, we do not miss the applications that are so important for us today. Our goal is to:

see Jesus

know Him better

become more like Him

The question we must continually ask:

“How do we put what we have learned into practice?”

***Only God is truly real in a
world of mirages and illusions.***

Now we see but a poor reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face.

Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known.

1 Corinthians 13:12

Additional questions:

What are our true values?

What is really the most important thing in our lives?

What would we be willing to die for?

What does the evidence of our daily lives say about who we really are?

1. Revelation calls us to worship God.

...to him be glory and power for ever and ever! Amen. Look, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and all the peoples of the earth will mourn because of him.

So shall it be! Amen. "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, "who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty."

Revelation:1:6-8

...Day and night they never stop saying:

"Holy, holy, holy

is the Lord God Almighty,

who was, and is, and is to come."

Whenever the living creatures give glory, honor and thanks to him who sits on the throne and who lives for ever and ever, the twenty-four elders fall down before him who sits on the throne, and worship him who lives for ever and ever. They lay their crowns before the throne and say:

*"You are worthy, our Lord and God,
to receive glory and honor and power,
for you created all things,
and by your will they were created
and have their being."*

Revelation 4:8-11

...Praise and glory

and wisdom and thanks and honor

and power and strength

be to our God for ever and ever.

Amen!"

Revelation 7:12

2. Revelation calls us to follow Jesus Christ.

..."If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me will find it. What good will it be for a man if he gains the whole world, yet forfeits his soul? Or what can a man give in exchange for his soul? For the Son of Man is going to come in his Father's glory with his angels, and then he will reward each person according to what he has done.

Matthew 16:24-27

"Behold, I am coming soon! Blessed is he who keeps the words of the prophecy in this book."

Revelation 22:7

“Behold, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and I will give to everyone according to what he has done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End. Blessed are those who wash their robes, that they may have the right to the tree of life and may go through the gates into the city.”
Revelation 22:12-14

3. Revelation gives to us its own structure.

“Write, therefore, what you have seen, what is now and what will take place later.”
Revelation 1:19

I. The things which you have seen (chapter 1)

- A. The prologue (1:1-8)
- B. John’s vision of the glorified Christ (1:9-18)
- C. John’s commission to write (1:19-20)

II. The things which are (chapters 2 and 3)

- A. The letter to the church at Ephesus (2:1-7)
- B. The letter to the church at Smyrna (2:8-11)
- C. The letter to the church at Pergamum (2:12-17)
- D. The letter to the church at Thyatira (2:18-29)
- E. The letter to the church at Sardis (3:1-6)
- F. The letter to the church at Philadelphia (3:7-13)
- G. The letter to the church at Laodicea (2:14-22)

III. The things which will take place after this (chapters 4-22)

- A. Worship before God’s heavenly throne (chapters 4-5)
- B. The Tribulation (chapters 6-18)
- C. The Second coming of Jesus Christ (chapter 19)
- D. The Millennium (20:1-10)
- E. The Great White Throne Judgment (20:11-15)
- F. The Eternal State (chapters 21-22)

Lifework: Read through the book of Revelation this week, looking mostly at the activity, words and ministry of Jesus. Each time you see worship taking place—you give God praise!