

Revelation - Study 1

Introduction to the “Revelation of Jesus Christ”

Student Outline

Notes prepared by Dr. Ian A. H. Bond



You may use this study material in your personal Bible study or study group absolutely free. All we ask is that you acknowledge Free Online Bible Study and do not use this material on any website or for monetary gain. Thank you.

This study is part of a full college-level course on the Book of Revelation taught by Dr. Ian Bond. The complete Teacher’s Guide, Student Notes, illustrative Power Point, the lectures in MP3 format, and Dr. Bond’s book *Developing a Sound Eschatology*, Revised 2nd Edition, are available for purchase and download from the Teach the Nations, Inc. online store.

For more information go to www.free-online-bible-study.org

Copyright 2009 free-online-bible-study.org

This site is owned by Teach the Nations, Inc., a non-profit organization incorporated in the State of Georgia, which is exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code from Federal income tax.

Contributions are deductible under section 170.

I. INTRODUCTION TO REVELATION

A. Author (1:1,2,4,9)

1. John identifies himself as the presiding bishop (or Apostle) of the _____ region.
2. John shared with his readers the _____ and the _____.
 - a. **θλίψις**, *thlipsis*, a pressing, _____; metaphorically, oppression, affliction, tribulation, distress, _____.
(1) Comp. John 16:33; Matt. 24:21, 29
 - b. **βασιλεία**, *basileia*, royal power, kingship, _____, rule.
 - c. “These are the two main concerns of the book: the _____ which the church was to experience and the coming of the _____.” (George E. Ladd)
3. The historical context of Revelation is that of the church advancing, but experiencing persecution.

B. The Blessing (1:3)

1. **μακάριος**, *makarios*, “refers overwhelmingly to the distinctive religious joy which accrues to man from his share in the salvation of the kingdom of God.” (Gerhard Kittel)

C. The Salutation

1. The all encompassing, eternal nature of God (1:4, also 11 and 17)
 - a. God is _____ by the flow of human history.
 - b. The “seven spirits” represent the _____ (seven-fold) nature of the Holy Spirit.
(1) Isaiah 11:1-2 unlocks the mystery of the “seven spirits.”

Copyright 2009 free-online-bible-study.org

This site is owned by Teach the Nations, Inc., a non-profit organization incorporated in the State of Georgia, which is exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code from Federal income tax.

Contributions are deductible under section 170.

2. Three revelations of Jesus (1:5a)
 - a. F _____ witness.
(1) John 1:18
 - b. F _____ from the dead (πρωτότοκος τῶν νέκρῶν)
(1) πρωτότοκος, *prototokos*, birthright, pertaining to the inheritance rights of the firstborn.
 - c. F _____ (ἄρχων, *archon*, ruler) of the kings on earth.
(1) βασιλεύς, *basileus*, realm of authority.

3. Three revelations of the redeemed (1:5b-6)
 - a. The _____—all mankind (John 3:16).
 - b. The _____—those who receive his love.
(1) ἁμαρτία, *hamartia*, to _____ the _____.
 - c. The _____.
(1) καὶ ἐποίησεν ἡμᾶς βασιλείαν, ἱερεῖς τῷ θεῷ (“and he made us kingdom, priests to God”)
(2) The authority Jesus has given us as _____ is based on our worshipfulness as _____.

II. THE REVELATION OF CHRIST’S PERSON, AUTHORITY, AND PRESENCE

A. The Vision of the Son of Man

1. The Lord’s Day (1:10)
 - a. ἐγενόμην ἐν πνεύματι ἐν τῇ κυριακῇ ἡμέρᾳ (“I became in the spirit in the Lordly (or Lordy) day”)
 - b. Domitian demanded universal worship of himself, on pain of death.
 - c. For those who refused to say anything but “Jesus is Lord,” it would be a matter of life and death.
 - d. Revelation is a “manual for _____.”

2. “A loud voice like a trumpet.”
 - a. Exodus 19—a sound *like that of a trumpet* that called the Israelites into the presence of God to hear the words of their covenant God speaking to them.
 - b. This is a call to the whole covenant people of the New Testament.

3. Ten revelations of Christ
 - a. Presence: 1:12,13a,20; Matthew 18:20; 28:20; John 14:18.
 - b. Position: 1:13
 - c. Probity: 1:13; Ephesians 6:14.
 - d. Prudence: 1:14; Daniel 7:9; 1 Corinthians 1:30.
 - e. Perception: 1:14.
 - f. Predominance: 1:15; Ephesians 1:21-23.
 - g. Prevailing: 1:15, 10
 - h. Possession: 1:16; 20; 2:1; Matthew 16:18 (comp. Rev. 2-3).
 - i. Penetration: 1:16; Hebrews 4:22; Isaiah 55:11.
 - j. Power: 1:16; Malachi 4:2.

4. John’s response (1:17)
 - a. He fell at Jesus’ feet as one dead.

5. Jesus as the key to _____.
 - a. Jesus describes Himself: ἔγώ εἰμι ὁ πρῶτος καὶ ὁ ἔσχατος (“I am the First and I am the Last”).
 - b. The “I Am” sayings of Jesus
 - (1) Ἐγώ εἰμι (*ego eimi*), “I Am.”
 - (a) Seven passages in the Fourth Gospel in which “I Am” has a predicate.
 - c. The eighth Johannine “I Am” saying with a predicate.
 - (1) πρῶτος, *protos*, first in _____ and _____; first in rank, influence, and honor.
 - (2) ἔσχατος, *eschatos*, last in time or in place; last in a temporal succession; the uttermost part, the _____.
 - (3) I AM is _____ and _____.

B. The Structure of Revelation (1:19)

1. What you have seen (1)
2. What is now (2-3)
 - a. Present: Things must be put right now.
3. What will take place later (4-22)
 - a. Future
 - (1) *Bad news*: things will get much worse before they get better (4-18)
 - (2) *Good news*: things will get much better after they get worse (19-22).

Copyright 2009 free-online-bible-study.org

This site is owned by Teach the Nations, Inc., a non-profit organization incorporated in the State of Georgia, which is exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code from Federal income tax.

Contributions are deductible under section 170.