



the book of

REVELATION

sermon series



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Answering Ten Questions



- 1) What is the title – Revelation of Jesus Christ
- 2) Who wrote it? – John
- 3) Where was it written from? – Patmos
- 4) To Whom was it written? – The Seven Churches
- 5) When was it written? – A.D. 95
- 6) How is it organized (outline)? – 3 part outline
- 7) How was it delivered – Seven steps
- 8) Why was it written? – Encouragement and holiness
- 9) What is it about? – Jesus' final victory
- 10) What makes the book different? – OT relationship

Prologue (Rev. 1:1-8)

- I. Title (1a)
- II. Chain of Communication (1b-2)
- III. Blessing (3)
- IV. Author (4a)
- V. Audience (4b)
- VI. Greeting (4c)
- VII. Source (4d-5a)
- VIII. Subject (5b-8)



Revelation 1:19

“Therefore write the things which you have seen, and the things which are, and the things which will take place after these things [*meta tauta*].”



Revelation 1:19

- Seen (Chapter 1)
- Are (Chapters 2–3)
- After these things (Chapters 4–22)



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The Things Which You Have Seen (Rev. 1:9-20)

- I. Circumstances of the vision (1:9-11)
- II. Content of the vision (1:12-16)
- III. Communication from Christ to John (1:17-20)



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- A. Place: Patmos (1:9)
- B. Content: Day of the Lord (1:10)
- C. Purpose: Communicate to the Churches (1:11)



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Three Items in Which John is a Fellow Partaker (*synkoinōnos*) (Rev. 1:9)

1. Tribulation (*thlipsis*)
2. Kingdom (*basileia*)
3. Perseverance (*hypomonē*)



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Pretribulationism is not Escapism

- Trials (John 16:33)
- Man's wrath (2 Tim. 3:12)
- Satan's wrath (Eph. 6:11-12)
- World's wrath (John 15:18-19)

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Revelation 5:10

“You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to our God; and they will reign [basileuō] upon the earth [gē].”



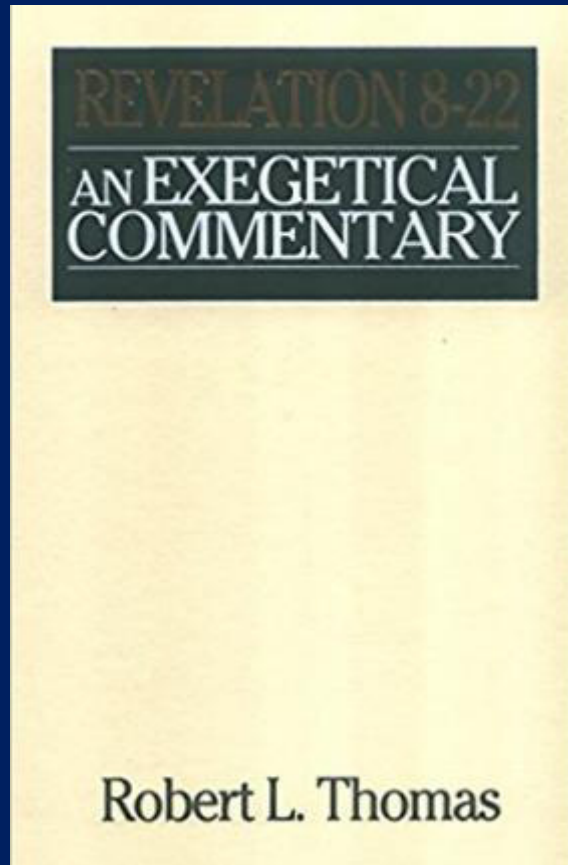
Revelation 11:15

¹⁵ “Then the seventh angel sounded; and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, ‘The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ; and He will reign forever and ever.’”



Dr. Robert Thomas

Revelation 1 to 7: An Exegetical Commentary
(Chicago: Moody Press, 1992), 87.



Dr. Robert Thomas observes that, "Little difference of opinion exists over the meaning of *basileia* [kingdom] in 1:9. It is the millennial kingdom described more fully in Revelation 20."

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The 7 Churches in Revelation

Rev. 1:11



Patmos

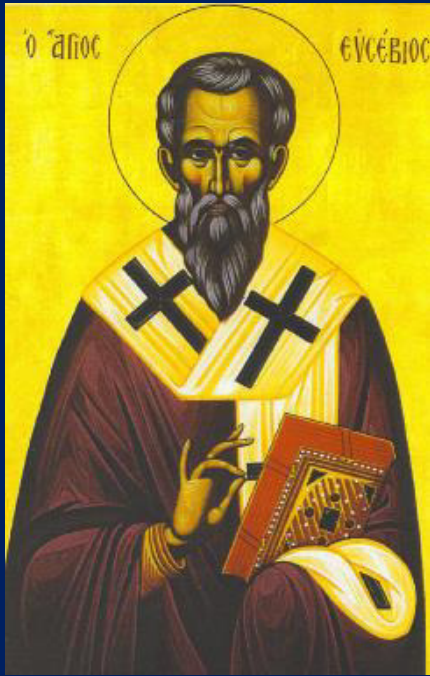
Literal Geography in Revelation

Thomas, Revelation 8 to 22: An Exegetical Commentary, 206-207.

Asia	1:4	Sardis	3:1
Patmos	1:9	Philadelphia	3:7
Ephesus	2:1	Laodicea	3:14
Smyrna	2:8	Euphrates	9:14;16:12
Pergamum	2:12	Armageddon	16:16
Thyatira	2:18	Babylon	17:15

Eusebius

Ecclesiastical History, 3.18.4



“...and they even indicated the time accurately, relating that in the fifteenth year of Domitian, Flavia Domitilla, who was the niece of Flavius Clemens, one of the many consuls at Rome at that time, was banished with many others to the island of Pontia as testimony to Christ.”

How John Got Exiled on Patmos (Rev. 1:9)

1. Word (*logos*)
2. Testimony (*martyria*)



I. Circumstances of the Vision (Rev. 1:9-11)

A. Place: Patmos (1:9)

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INSPIRATION OF SCRIPTURE

2 Peter 1:20-21

- Men Wrote as they were inspired by Holy Spirit
 - “phero” = to carry*
 - Acts 27:15,17*
- Opposite of Knowledge of False Teachers
 - ◆ *Which is their own imagination*
 - ◆ *Jer. 23:16*

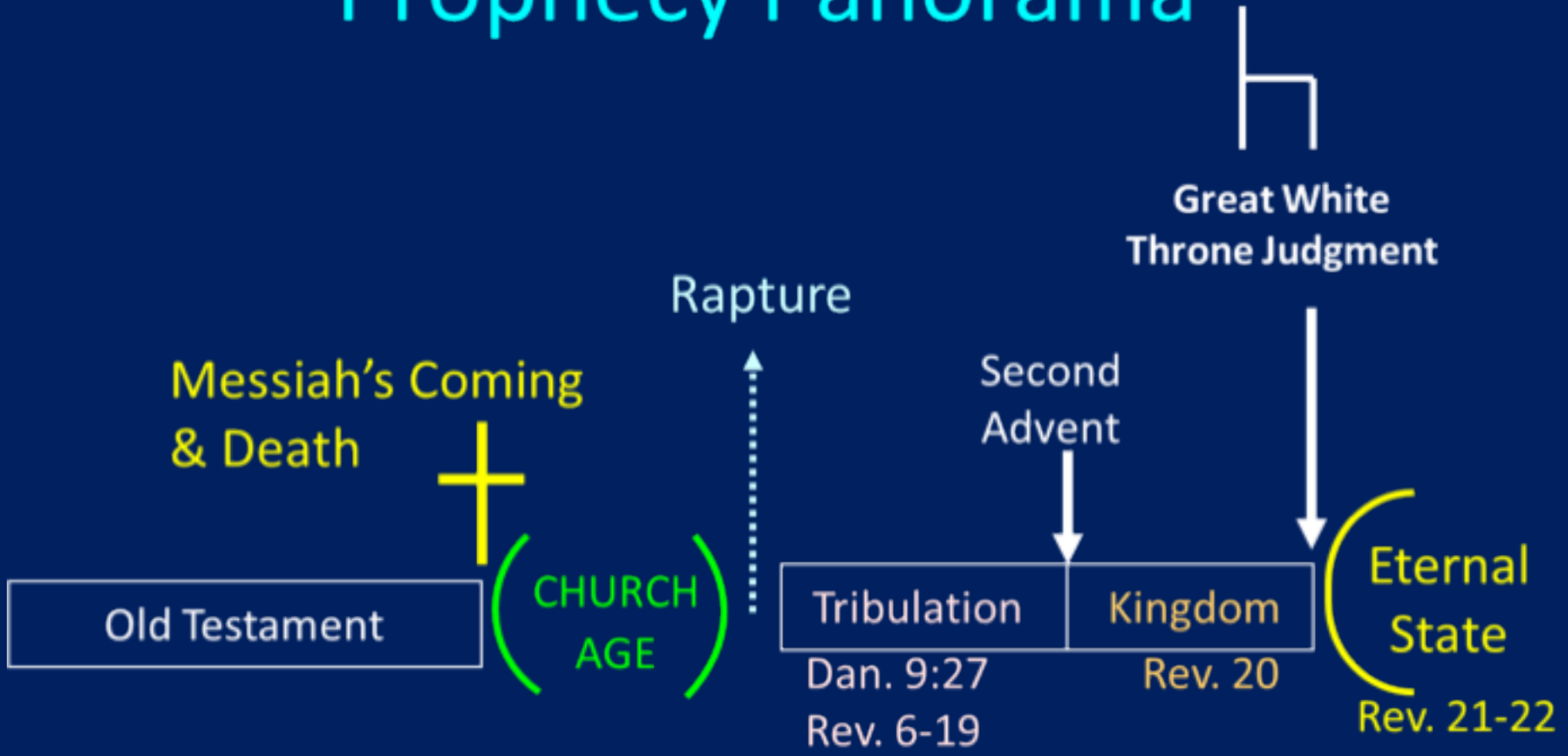


2 Timothy 3:16-17

“All Scripture is inspired by God [*theopneustos*] and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.”



Prophecy Panorama



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The Things Which You Have Seen (Rev. 1:9-20)

- I. Circumstances of the vision (1:9-11)
- II. Content of the vision (1:12-16)**
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II. Content of the Vision (Rev. 1:12-16)

- A. His appearance among the churches (1:12-13a)
- B. His clothing (1:13b-c)
- C. His body (1:14-16)



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Two Rules of Interpretation

- Search the immediate context

- ◆ Walvoord: 26X

- Search the remote context

- ◆ Old Testament

- ◆ Thomas: 278 / 404 verses



The 7 Churches in Revelation

Rev. 1:11





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Matthew 16:18

I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build [oikodomeō] My church; and the gates of Hades will not overpower it.



Ephesians 2:20

“having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the corner stone,”





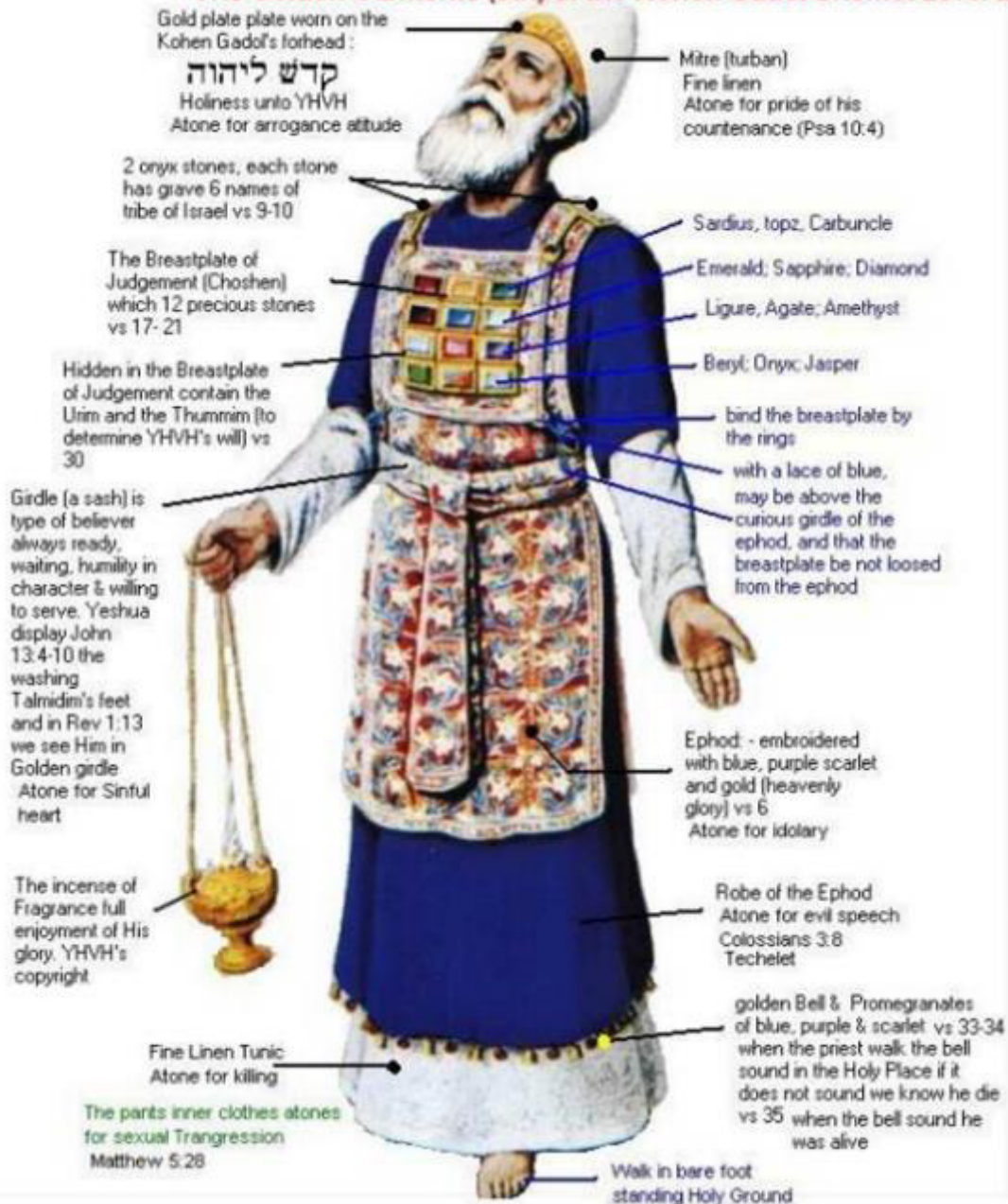
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- A. His appearance among the churches (1:12-13a)
- B. His clothing (1:13b-c)
- C. His body (1:14-16)



The Golden Garments (8th) of the Kohen Gadol Shemot 28:4:42



B. His Clothing (Rev. 1:13b-c)

1. His robe (13b)

2. His sash (13c)



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C. His Body (Rev. 1:14-16)

1. His hair (14a)
2. His eyes (14b)
3. His feet (15a)
4. His voice (15b)
5. His right hand (16a)
6. His mouth (16b)
7. His face (16c)



C. His Body (Rev. 1:14-16)

1. His hair (14a)
2. His eyes (14b)
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Method of Communication

- From the Father
- to Christ the Son
- to an angel
- to John
- to a book
- to a reader or preacher
- to a listener or the seven churches



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III. Communication from Christ to John (Rev. 1:17-20)

- A. John's reaction to Jesus (1:17a)
- B. Jesus's comfort of John (1:17b-18)
- C. Jesus's command to John (1:19-20)



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B. Jesus's Comfort to John (Rev. 1:17b-18)

1. Do not be afraid (1:17b)
2. I am the first (*prōtos*) and the last (*eschatos*) (1:17c)
3. I have conquered the grave (1:18a)
4. I have the keys of death and hades (1:18b)



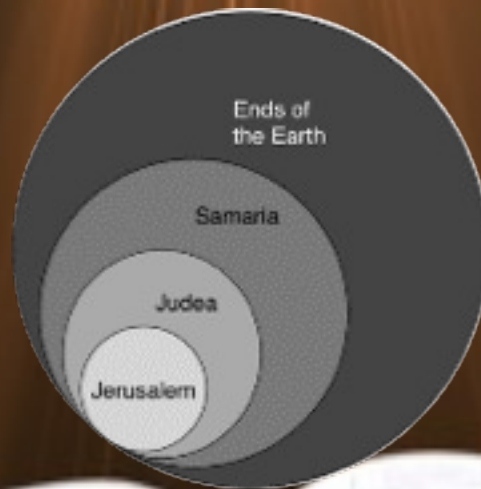
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Acts 1:8

“but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth.”



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Revelation 4:1

“After these things [meta tauta] I looked, and behold, a door standing open in heaven, and the first voice which I had heard, like the sound of a trumpet speaking with me, said, ‘Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after these things [meta tauta].’”



“Mystery” Defined

“In the N.T, it [*mystērion*] denotes, not the mysterious (as with the Eng. word), but **that which, being outside the range of unassisted natural apprehension, can be made known only by Divine revelation**, and is made known in a manner and at a time appointed by God, and to those who are illumined by His Spirit.”

Ephesians 3:3-6

“that by revelation there was made known to me the mystery, as I wrote before in brief. ⁴ By referring to this, when you read you can understand my insight into the mystery of Christ, ⁵ which in other generations was not made known to the sons of men, as it has now been revealed to His holy apostles and prophets in the Spirit; ⁶ to be specific, that the Gentiles are fellow heirs and fellow members of the body, and fellow partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel”.



Ephesians 3:9

“and to bring to light what is the administration of the mystery which for ages has been hidden in God who created all things.”



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Conclusion

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“The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace.” (NIV)