



the book of

REVELATION

sermon series

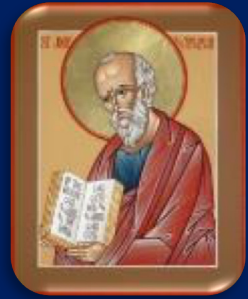


Dr. Andy Woods

Senior Pastor – Sugar Land Bible Church

President – Chafer Theological Seminary

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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The 7 Churches in Revelation

Rev. 1:11



DESCRIPTION OF THE SEVEN CHURCHES

Revelation 2–3

CHURCH	SCRIPTURE	DESCRIPTION
Ephesus	2:1-7	Loveless
Smyrna	2:8-11	Persecuted
Pergamum	2:12-17	Compromised I
Thyatira	2:18-29	Compromised II
Sardis	3:1-6	Dead
Philadelphia	3:7-13	Missionary
Laodicea	3:14-22	Man-centered

Pattern of the Letters in Revelation 2–3

1. Destination
2. Description of Christ (Rev. 1)
3. Commendation
4. Rebuke
5. Exhortation to change
6. Consequence
7. Exhortation to listen
8. Promise to overcomers (Rev. 21–22)



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Ephesus

Revelation 2:1-7

1. Destination (1a)
2. Description of Christ (1b)
3. Commendation (2-3, 6)
4. Rebuke (4)
5. Exhortation to change (5a)
6. Consequence (5b)
7. Exhortation to listen (7a)
8. Promise to overcomers (7b)



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What Christ Commends in Ephesus

(Rev. 2:2-3, 6)

1. Deeds (*ergon*) – 2a
2. Discernment – 2b
3. Perseverance (*hypomonē*) – 3
4. Holy hatred – 2:6



What Christ Commends in Ephesus

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Grant R. Jeffrey

Apocalypse: The Coming Judgment of the Nations, p. 72-73.

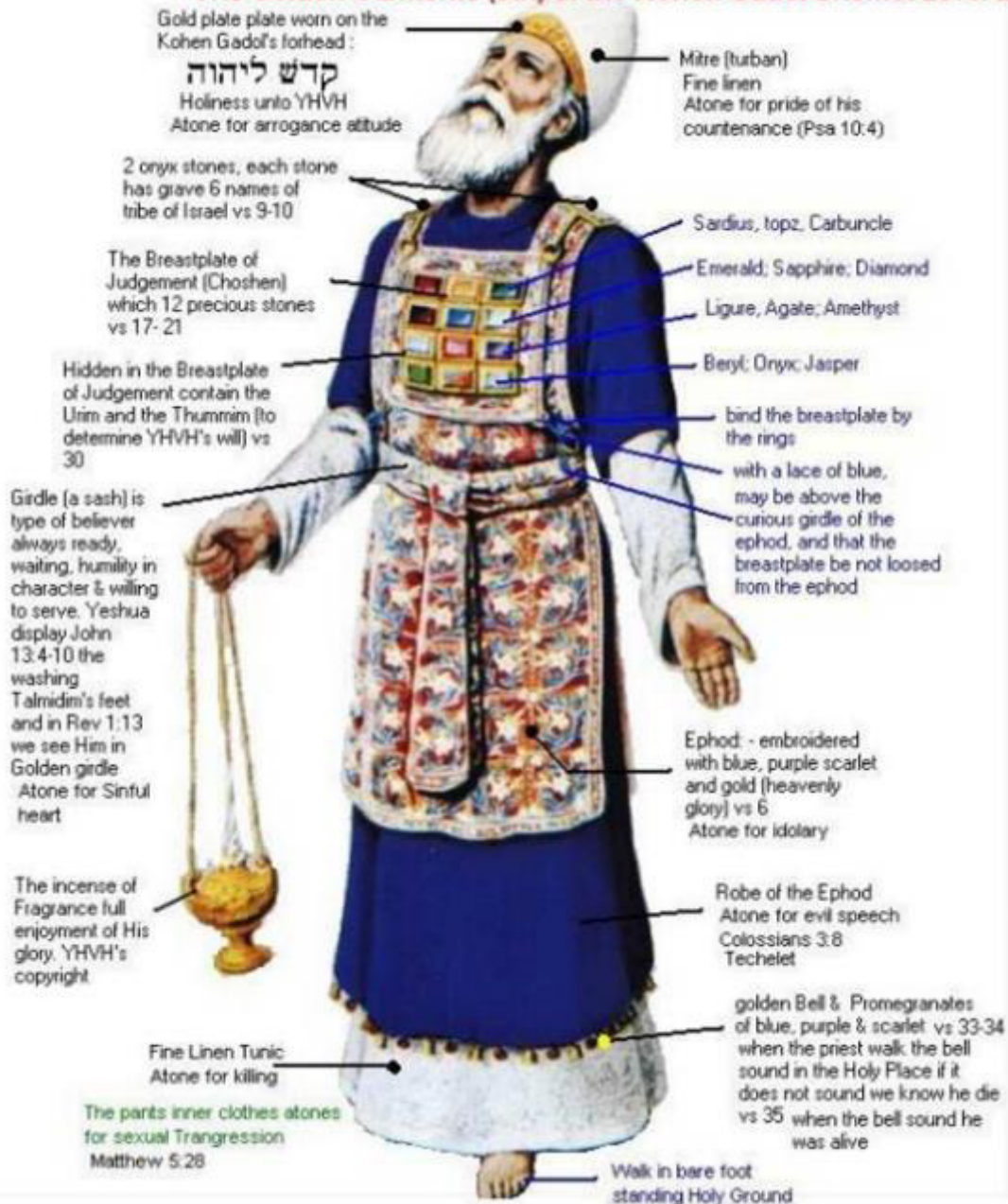
“There is a lot of disagreement about who these Nicolaitans were...Christ created a universal ‘holy priesthood’ (1 Peter 2:5) where every believer is a priest. The Nicolaitans attempted to recreate the hierarchy of the Old Testament priesthood. They sought to establish a priestly authority over laymen. The Greek word is derived from *Nike* meaning ‘victory’ and *Laos* meaning ‘people.’ It suggests a group of people who seek to elevate themselves into a special class of priesthood over other Christians. Jesus told us in 1 Timothy 2:5: ‘For there is one God and one mediator between God and man, the man Christ Jesus.’ Such men sought the sole right to interpret the Scriptures for other Christians. Centuries later, after Emperor Constantine’s conversion, this Nicolaitan heresy produced the Babylonian hierarchy of priests, leading to the spiritual “dark ages” of the medieval period.”

Revelation 1:6; 5:10

“and He has made us to be a kingdom, priests to His God and Father—to Him be the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen...You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to our God; and they will reign [*basileuō*] upon the earth [*gē*].”



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



Ephesus

Revelation 2:1-7

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3. Commendation (2-3, 6)
4. **Rebuke (4)**
5. Exhortation to change (5a)
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So What? - Points of Application!

Rev 2:5

“Therefore remember from where you have fallen, and repent and do the deeds you did at first; or else I am coming to you and will remove your lampstand out of its place—unless you repent.”



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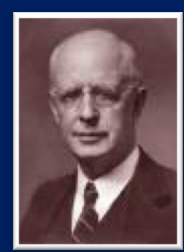




Lewis Sperry Chafer

vol. 7, Systematic Theology (Grand Rapids,
MI: Kregel Publications, 1993), 265-66.

[A] serious Arminian error respecting this doctrine occurs when repentance is added to faith or believing as a condition of salvation. It is true that repentance can very well be required as a condition of salvation, but then only because the change of mind which...has been involved when turning from every other confidence to the one needful trust in Christ. Such turning about, of course, cannot be achieved without a change of mind.



Lewis Sperry Chafer

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This vital newness of mind is a part of believing, after all, and therefore it may be and is used as a **synonym for believing** at times (cf. Acts 17:30; 20:21; 26:20; Rom. 2:4; 2Tim. 2:25; 2 Pet. 3:9). **Repentance** nevertheless cannot be added to believing as a condition of salvation, because upwards of 150 passages of Scripture condition salvation upon believing only (cf. John 3:16; Acts 16:31).

Three Tenses of Salvation

Phase	Justification	Sanctification	Glorification
Tense	Past	Present	Future
Saved from sin's:	Penalty	Power	Presence
Scripture	Eph 2:8-9; Titus 3:5	Philip 2:12	Rom 5:10

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Two Rules of Interpretation

- Search the immediate context

- ◆ Walvoord: 26X

- Search the remote context

- ◆ Old Testament

- ◆ Thomas: 278 / 404 verses





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Deuteronomy 6:4-7

⁴ “Hear, O Israel! The LORD is our God, the LORD is one!...⁶ These words, which I am commanding you today, shall be on your heart. ⁷ You shall teach them diligently to your sons and shall talk of them when you sit in your house and when you walk by the way and when you lie down and when you rise up.”



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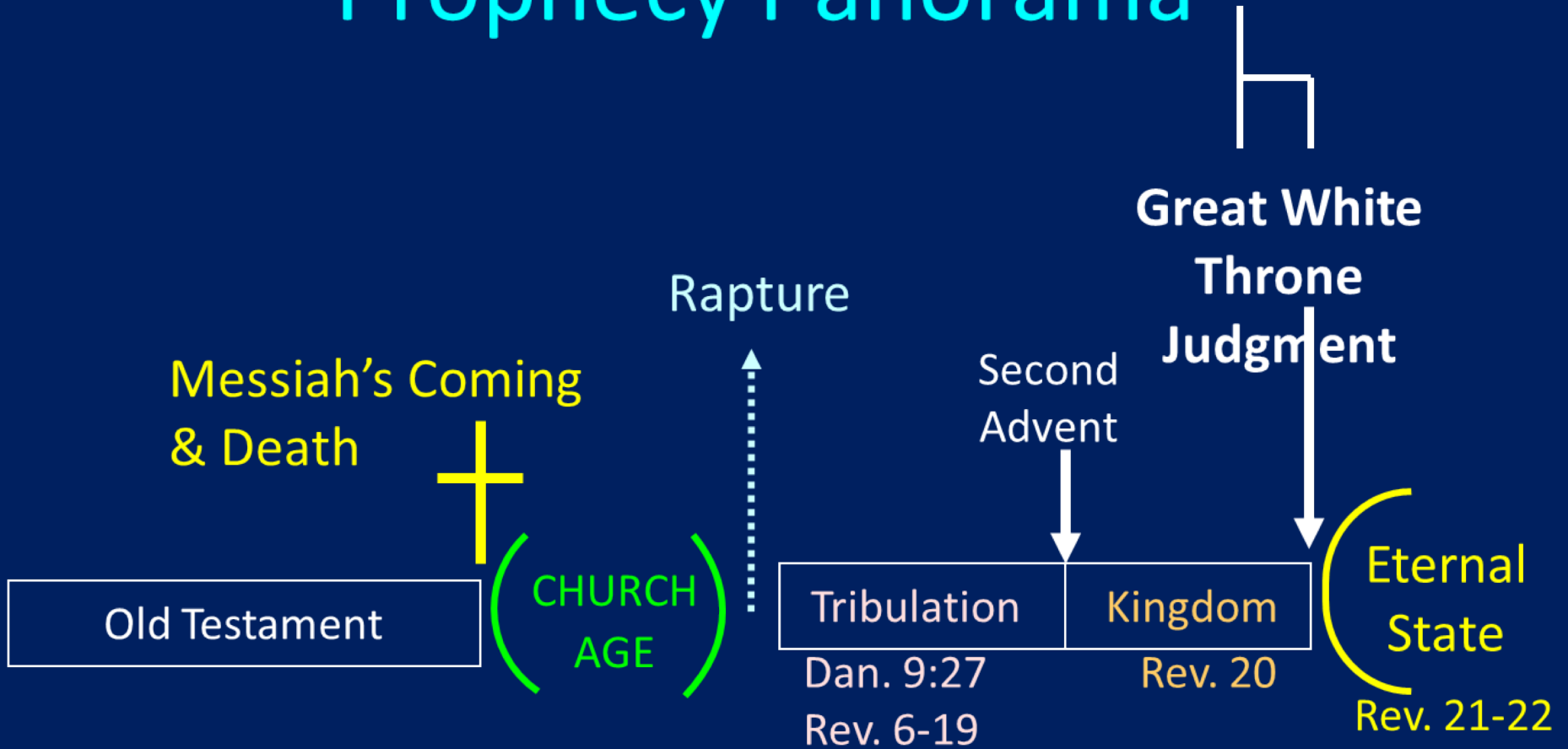


1 John 5:4-5

⁴ For whatever is born of God overcomes the world; and this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. ⁵ Who is the one who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?”



Prophecy Panorama



Revelation 21:4

“and He will wipe away every tear from their eyes; and there will no longer be any death; there will no longer be any mourning, or crying, or pain; the first things have passed away.”



Revelation 21:4

“and He will wipe away every tear from their eyes; and there will no longer be any death; there will no longer be any mourning, or crying, or pain; the first things have passed away.”



Conclusion



“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)