



the book of

REVELATION

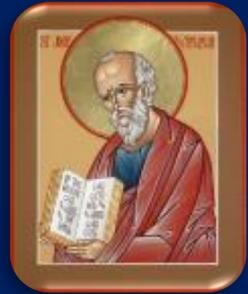
sermon series



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



Prologue (Rev. 1:1-8)

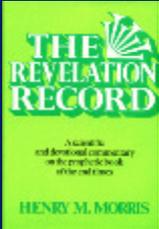
- I. Title (1a)
- II. Chain (1b-2)
- III. Blessing (3)
- IV. Author (4a)
- V. Audience (4b)
- VI. Greeting (4c)
- VII. Source (4d-5a)
- VIII. Subject (5b-8)



Revelation 1:1

“The Revelation [apokalypsis] of Jesus Christ, which God gave Him to show to His bond-servants, the things which must soon take place; and He sent and communicated it by His angel to His bond-servant John.”





Henry Morris

The Revelation Record, 323

“At the very least, it would be confusing to John’s first century readers, as well as to later generations, for him to write so much about Babylon when he really meant Rome (Paul was not afraid to speak directly against Rome in his writings, so why should John be?) or ‘the false church’ (all the apostles , including John, wrote plainly and scathingly about false teachers and false doctrines in the church and would not hide their teachings by symbols). **It must be stressed that Revelation means “unveiling,” not “veiling.”** In the absence of any statement in the text to the contrary, therefore, we must assume that the term Babylon applies to the real city of Babylon...”

BOOK OF DANIEL

CHAP. & VERSE

CHRONOLOGICAL DATE

BIBLICAL DATE

1:1

605

3rd year of Jehoiakim

2:1

603

**2nd year of
Nebuchadnezzar**

5

**Sat. night 10/12/539
(Hoehner)**

7:1

553

1st year of Belshazzar

8:1

551

3rd year of Belshazzar

9:1

538

1st year of Darius

10:1

536

3rd year of Cyrus

Daniel's Age

CHAP.	EVENTS	AGE
1	Taken to Babylonian captivity	15
2	Interpreting Nebuchadnezzar's 1 st dream (huge image)	17
3	Daniel's 3 friends cast into the fiery furnace	19 or 20
4	Interpreting Nebuchadnezzar's 2nd dream (huge tree)	45-50
5	Interpreting handwriting of the wall at Belshazzar's feast	Early 80's
6	Delivered from the den of lions	c.83
7-8	Daniel's visions and dreams	Mid-60's
9	Daniel's seventy "sevens" prophecy	Early-80's
10-12	Final dreams and visions	Mid-80's

Revelation 1:1

“The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave Him to show to His bond-servants, the things which must soon take place; and He sent and communicated it by His angel to His bond-servant John.”



Revelation 19:10

“Then I fell at his feet to worship him. But he said to me, ‘Do not do that; I am a fellow servant of yours and your brethren who hold the testimony of Jesus; worship God. For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.’”



Prologue (Rev. 1:1-8)

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



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



Revelation 1:1

“The Revelation [*apokalypsis*] of Jesus Christ, which God gave Him to show to His bond-servants, the things which must soon take place; and He sent and communicated it by His angel to His bond-servant John.”



“TIME-TEXTS” IN REVELATION

R.C. Sproul, *The Last Days According to Jesus*, p.139

SHORTLY, QUICKLY “*Tacos*”

1:1	...Things which must shortly take place
2:16	Repent, or else I will come to you quickly.
3:11	Behold, I come quickly!
22:6	...Which must shortly take place.
22:7	Behold, I come quickly!
22:12	Behold, I am coming quickly!
22:20	Surely, I am coming quickly!

NEAR, AT HAND “*Engys*”

1:3	The time is near.
22:10	The time is at hand.

ABOUT TO, ON THE POINT OF “*Mellō*”

1:19	Write...the things that are about to take place.
3:10	...the hour of trial...is about to come upon the whole world.

“Time Texts”

- Preterist = chronological
- Futurist = adverbial, qualitative, imminent



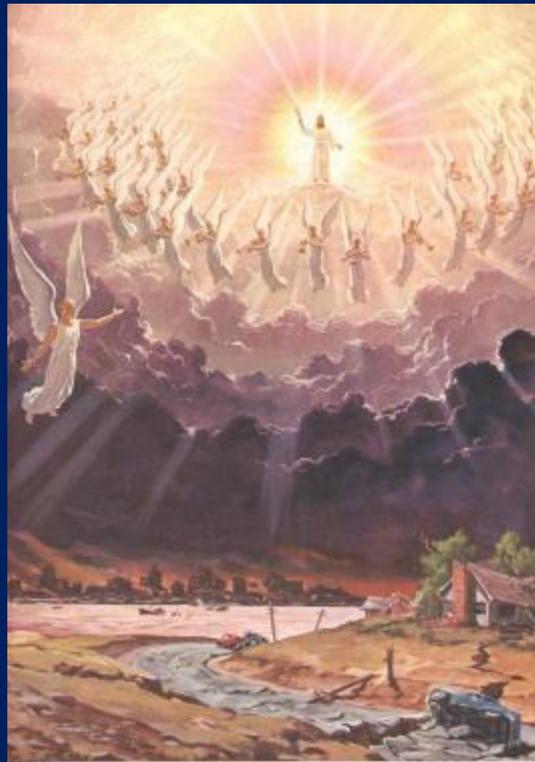
Chronological vs. Adverbial Use of *Tacos*

- “I hope to come to you *soon*” (1 Tim 3:14) vs. “Leave Jerusalem *quickly*” (Acts 22:18)
- LXX
 - ◆ Isaiah 13:22: “Her fateful time also will *soon* come”
 - ◆ Isaiah 51:5: “My righteous is *near*, My salvation has gone forth, And my arms will judge the peoples; The coastlands will wait upon me, And on My arms they will trust.”



Imminency

- Engys: “The Lord is *near*” (Phil 4:5)
- Mellō: “and one who will share in the glory to be revealed” (1 Pet 5:1)



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



Revelation 19:10

“Then I fell at his feet to worship him. But he said to me, ‘Do not do that; I am a fellow servant of yours and your brethren who hold the testimony of Jesus; worship God. For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.’”



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



Prologue (Rev. 1:1-8)

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



Revelation 1:3

“Blessed [makarios]” is he who reads and those who hear the words of the prophecy, and heed the things which are written in it; for the time is near.”



Revelation's Seven Beatitudes

[*makarios*]



1. Revelation 1:3 – Reader
2. Revelation 14:13 – Dead
3. Revelation 16:15 – Those looking for JC's return
4. Revelation 19:9 – Marriage Supper participants
5. Revelation 20:6 – First resurrection
6. Revelation 22:7 – Reader
7. Revelation 22:14 – Partakers of the Tree of Life

Revelation 1:3

“Blessed [*makarios*] is he who reads and those who hear the words of the prophecy, and heed the things which are written in it; for the time is near.”



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



Revelation 1:3

“Blessed [*makarios*] is he who reads and those who hear the words of the prophecy, and heed the things which are written in it; for the time is near.”



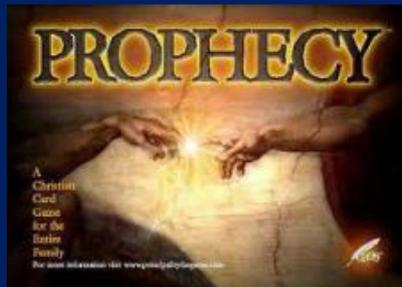
Apocalyptic Books

- *Enoch*
- *Apocalypse of Baruch*
- *Jubilees*
- *Assumption of Moses*
- *Psalms of Solomon*
- *Testament of the Twelve Patriarchs*
- *Sibylline Oracles*

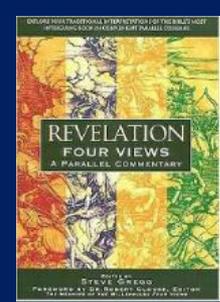


Emergent Eschatology and Genre

“The book of Revelation is an example of popular literary genre of ancient Judaism, known today as Jewish apocalyptic. Trying to read it without understanding its genre would be like watching *Star Trek* or some other science fiction show thinking it was a historical documentary...instead of being a book about the distant future, it becomes a way of talking about the challenges of the immediate present.”



Brian McLaren, *The Secret Message of Jesus*, 175-76



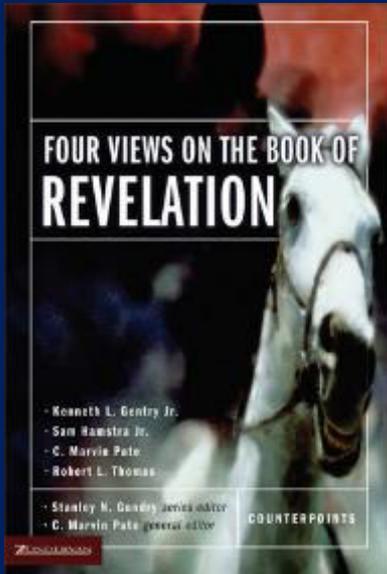
Steve Gregg

Revelation: Four Views, 11

“Another obvious similarity between the Apocalypse and its uninspired counterparts is the use of vivid images and symbols...in depicting the conflict between good and evil. A failure to take in to account this feature has led some to the most outlandish teachings on this book by some whose rule of interpretation is ‘literal unless absurd.’ Though this is a good rule when dealing with literature written in a literal genre, it is the exact opposite in the case of apocalyptic literature, where symbolism is the rule and literalism is the exception.”

Kenneth Gentry

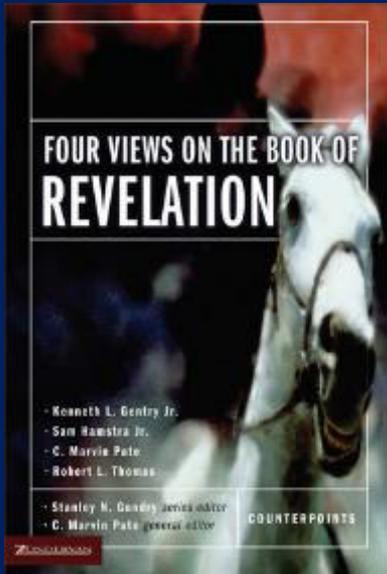
Four Views of Revelation, p. 38.



“...the preterist view does understand Revelation’s prophecies as strongly reflecting actual historical events in John’s near future, though they are set in apocalyptic drama and clothed in poetic hyperbole.”

Robert Thomas

*“A Classical Dispensationalist View of Revelation,” in
Four Views of the Book of Revelation, p.181.*



“A Preterist approach must assume an apocalyptic genre in which the language only faintly and indirectly reflects the actual events. This extreme allegorical interpretation allows for finding fulfillments in the first-century Roman Empire prior to the destruction of Jerusalem in A.D. 70.”

Apocalyptic Genre Versus Revelation

Adapted from Thomas, *Evangelical Hermeneutics*, 338

APOCALYPTIC GENRE

REVELATION

Pseudonymous

Not pseudonymous

Pessimistic about the present

Not pessimistic about the present

No epistolary framework

Epistolary framework

Limited admonitions for moral compliance

Repeated admonitions for moral compliance

Messiah's coming exclusively future

Basis for Messiah's coming is past

Does not call itself prophecy

Calls itself prophecy

Vaticina ex eventu

Futuristic prediction

Primarily concerns a future generation (1 Enoch 1:2)

Concerns both the present generation of the author (Rev 2–3) and a future generation (Rev 4–22)

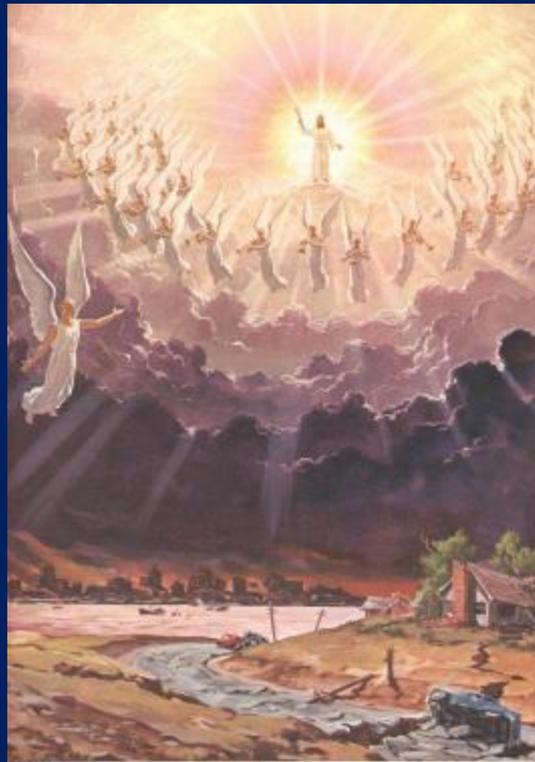
Revelation 1:3

“Blessed [*makarios*] is he who reads and those who hear the words of the prophecy, and heed the things which are written in it; for the time is near [*engys*].”



Imminency

- Engys: “The Lord is *near*” (Phil 4:5)
- Mellō: “and one who will share in the glory to be revealed” (1 Pet 5:1)



Prologue (Rev. 1:1-8)

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



Johannine Authorship

- Named 5x
- Revelation 1:1, 4, 9; 21:2; 22:8
- Wrote five New Testament books



Prologue (Rev. 1:1-8)

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



The 7 Churches in Revelation

Rev. 1:11



Literal Geography in Revelation

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

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

Prologue (Rev. 1:1-8)

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



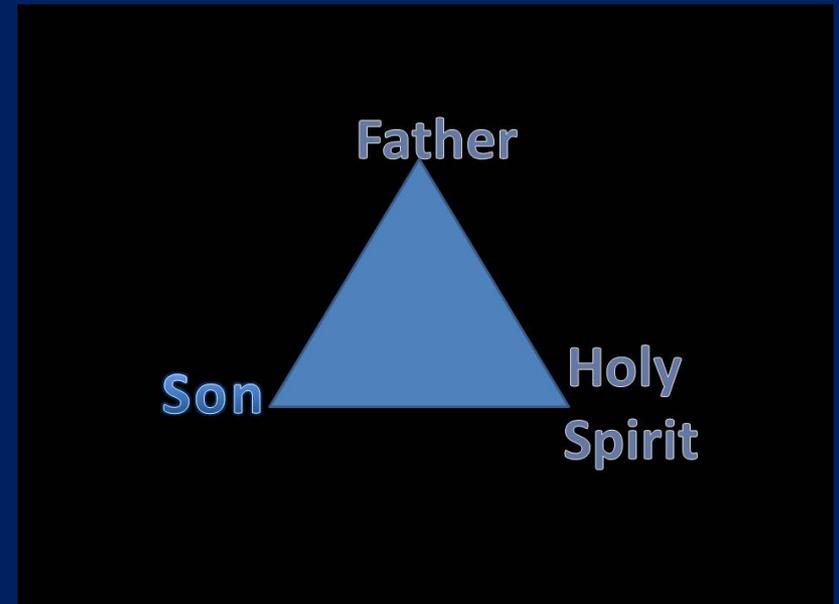
Prologue (Rev. 1:1-8)

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



VII. Source of the Message (Rev. 1:4d-5a)

- A. From the Father (4d)
- B. From the Spirit (4e)
- C. From the Son (5a)

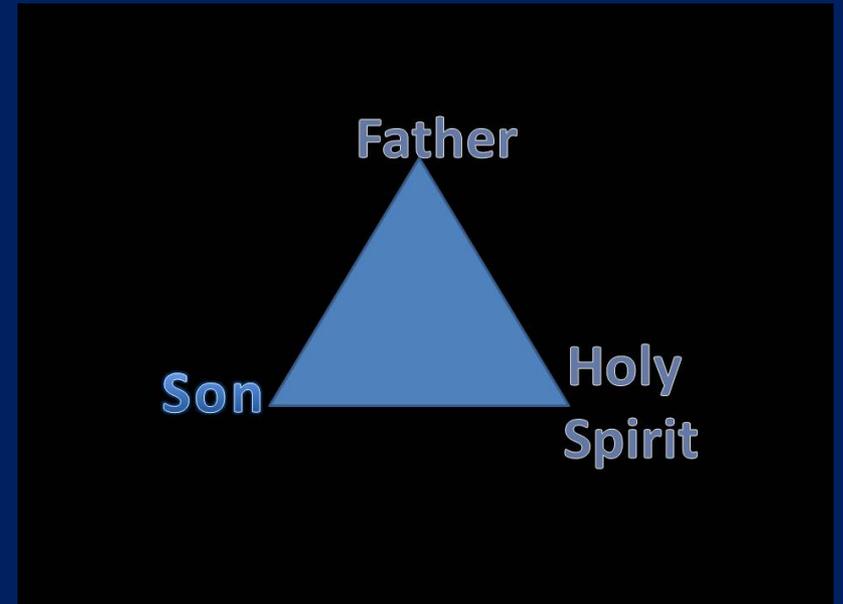


VII. Source of the Message (Rev. 1:4d-5a)

A. From the Father (4d)

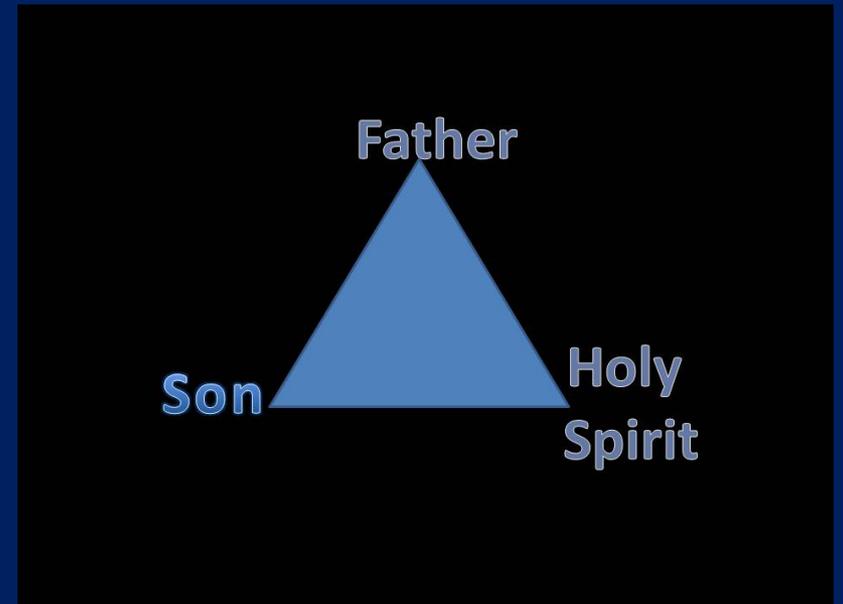
B. From the Spirit (4e)

C. From the Son (5a)



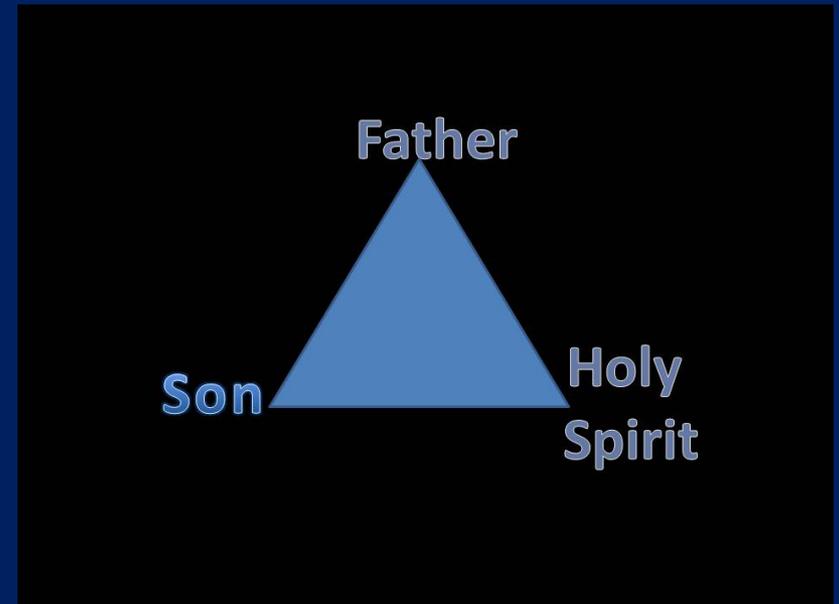
VII. Source of the Message (Rev. 1:4d-5a)

- A. From the Father (4d)
- B. From the Spirit (4e)
- C. From the Son (5a)



VII. Source of the Message (Rev. 1:4d-5a)

- A. From the Father (4d)
- B. From the Spirit (4e)
- C. From the Son (5a)



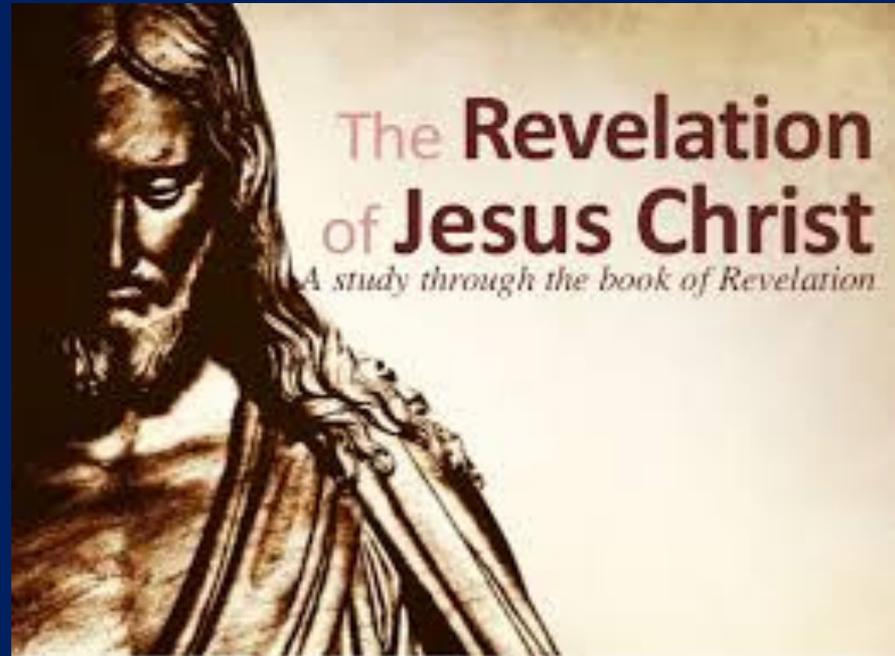
Prologue (Rev. 1:1-8)

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



VII. Subject of the Message (Rev. 1:5b-8)

- A. Who He is (5d-e)
- B. His past work (5f-6)
- C. His future work (7)
- D. His sovereignty (8)



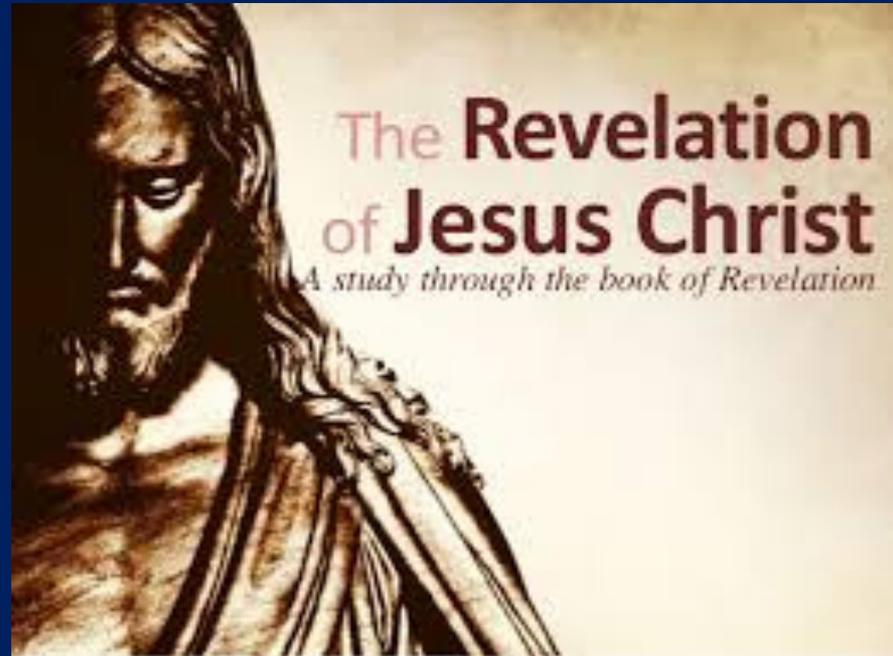
VII. Subject of the Message (Rev. 1:5b-8)

A. Who He is (5d-e)

B. His past work (5f-6)

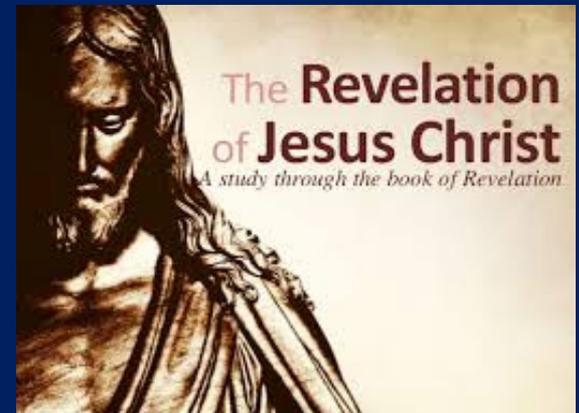
C. His future work (7)

D. His sovereignty (8)



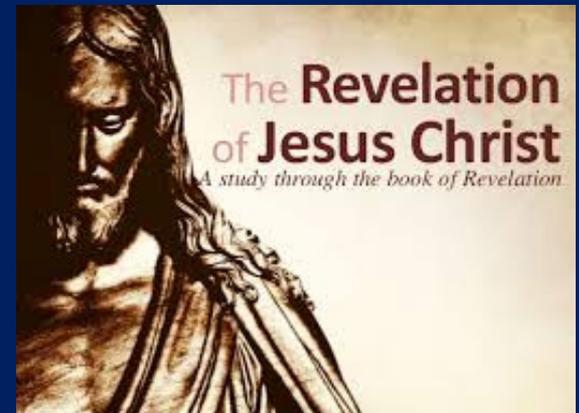
A. Who He is (Rev. 1:5b-e)

1. Faithful witness (5b)
2. First born from the dead (5c)
3. Ruler of the Kings of the Earth (5d)
4. The One who loves us (5e)



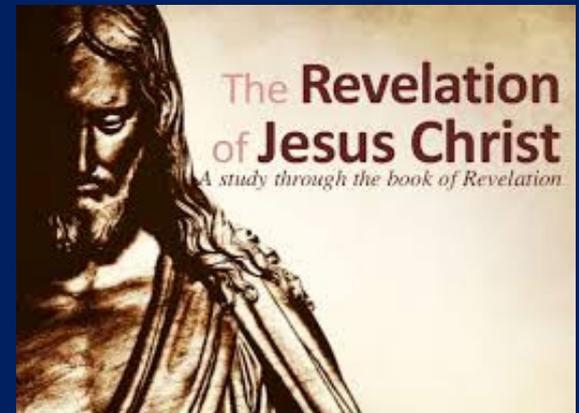
A. Who He is (Rev. 1:5b-e)

1. Faithful witness (5b)
2. First born from the dead (5c)
3. Ruler of the Kings of the Earth (5d)
4. The One who loves us (5e)



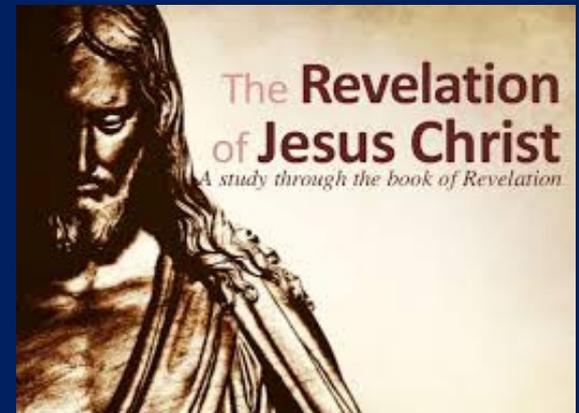
A. Who He is (Rev. 1:5b-e)

1. Faithful witness (5b)
2. First born from the dead (5c)
3. Ruler of the Kings of the Earth (5d)
4. The One who loves us (5e)



A. Who He is (Rev. 1:5b-e)

1. Faithful witness (5b)
2. First born from the dead (5c)
3. Ruler of the Kings of the Earth (5d)
4. The One who loves us (5e)





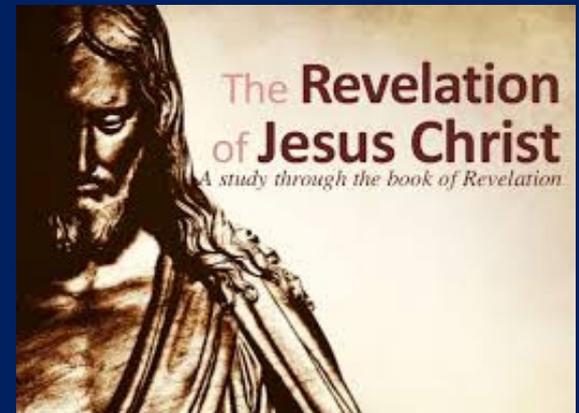
Names & Titles Demonstrating Satan's Post-Fall, Earthly Authority

(Job 1:7; 2:2; Luke 4:5-8; Rom. 8:19-22)

- Prince of this world (John 12:31; 14:30; 16:11)
- God of this age (2 Cor. 4:4)
- Prince and power of the air (Eph. 2:2)
- Who the believer wrestles with (Eph. 6:12)
- Roaring lion (1 Pet. 5:8)
- Whole world lies in his power (1 John 5:19)

A. Who He is (Rev. 1:5b-e)

1. Faithful witness (5b)
2. First born from the dead (5c)
3. Ruler of the Kings of the Earth (5d)
4. The One who loves us (5e)



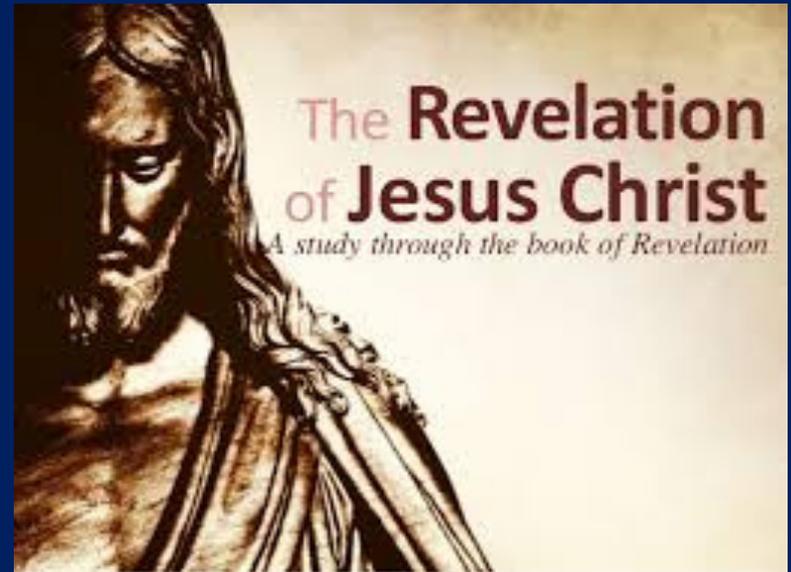
VII. Subject of the Message (Rev. 1:5b-8)

A. Who He is (5d-e)

B. His past work (5f-6)

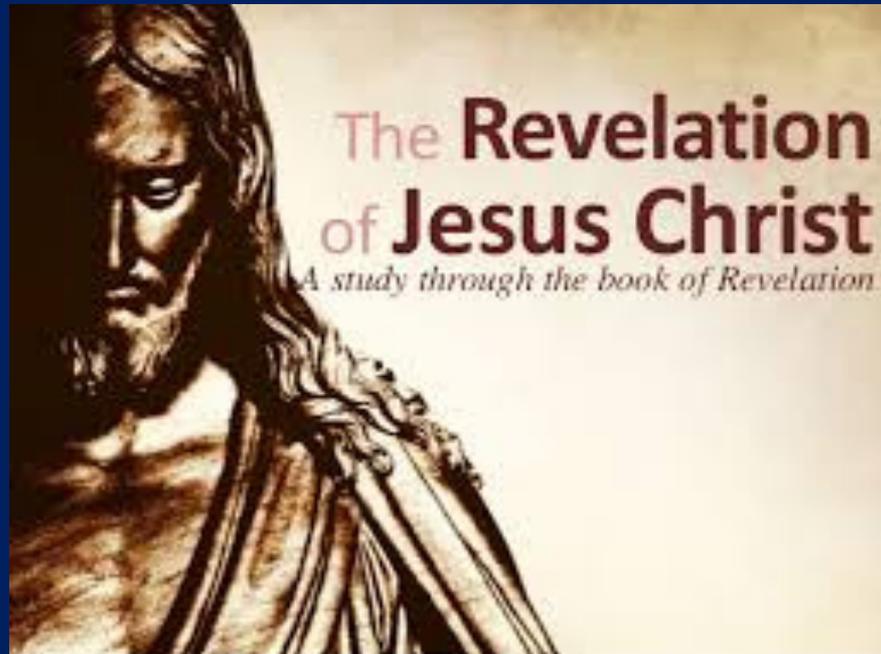
C. His future work (7)

D. His sovereignty (8)



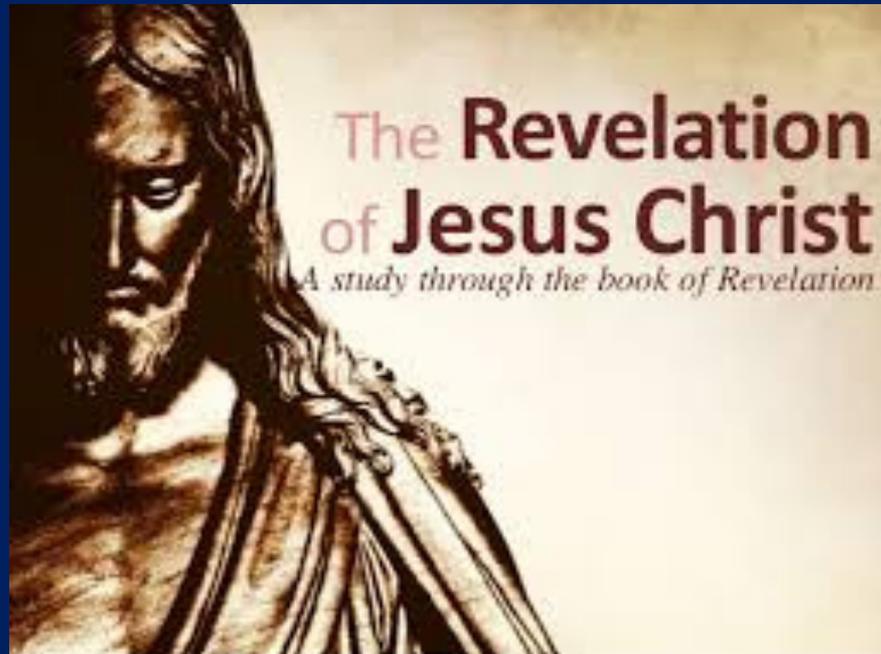
B. His Past Work (Rev. 1:5f-6)

1. Released us from our sins by His blood (5f)
2. Made us into a Kingdom of Priests (6)



B. His Past Work (Rev. 1:5f-6)

1. Released us from our sins by His blood (5f)
2. Made us into a Kingdom of Priests (6)



Christ's Atoning Death

1. Role of Christ's blood in the atonement

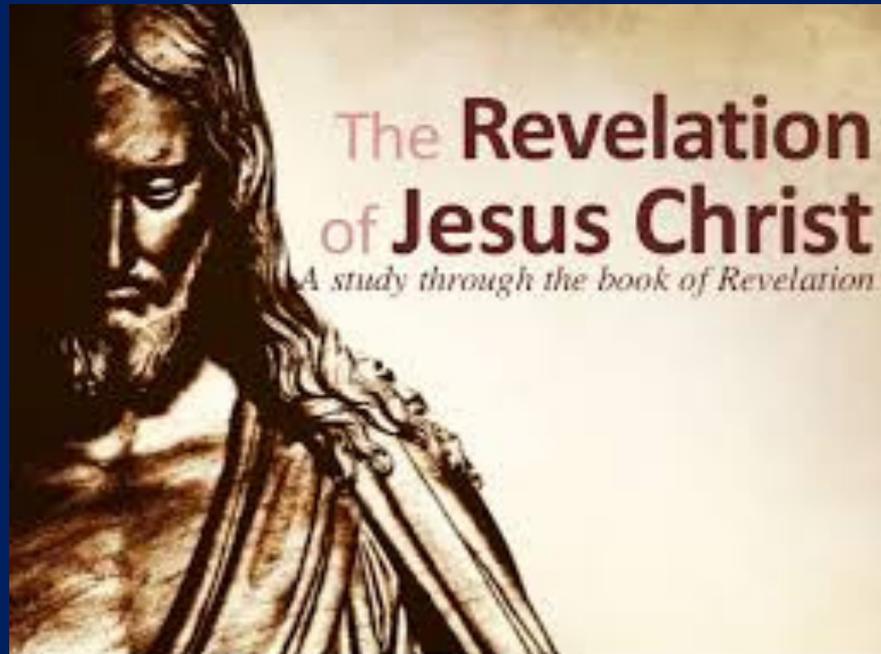
- ◆ Acts 20:28
- ◆ Rom 5:9; Eph 1:7; 2:13; Col 1:20
- ◆ Heb 9:12, 22; 1 Pet 1:2; 1 John 1:7
- ◆ Rev 1:5; 5:9; 12:11

2. Free to us but expensive to Him

3. Significance of the Lord's Table (1 Cor 11:23-26)

B. His Past Work (Rev. 1:5f-6)

1. Released us from our sins by His blood (5f)
2. Made us into a Kingdom of Priests (6)



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.’”



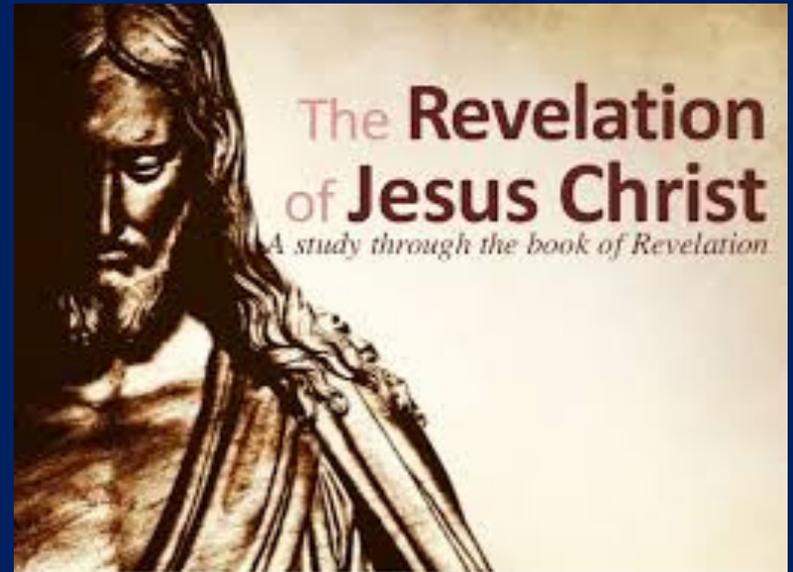
VII. Subject of the Message (Rev. 1:5b-8)

A. Who He is (5d-e)

B. His past work (5f-6)

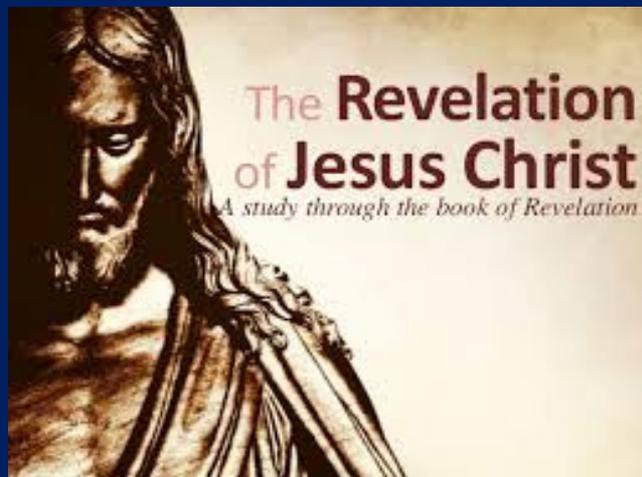
C. His future work (7)

D. His sovereignty (8)



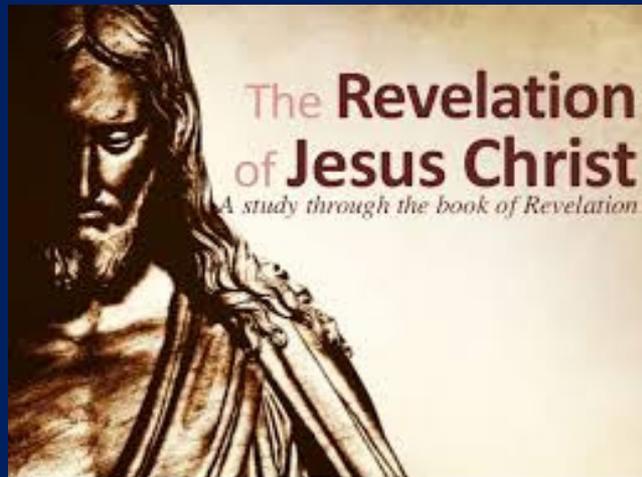
C. His Future Work (Rev. 1:7)

1. His coming in the clouds (7a)
2. His revelation to the Gentiles (7b)
3. His revelation to the Jews (7c)



C. His Future Work (Rev. 1:7)

1. His coming in the clouds (7a)
2. His revelation to the Gentiles (7b)
3. His revelation to the Jews (7c)

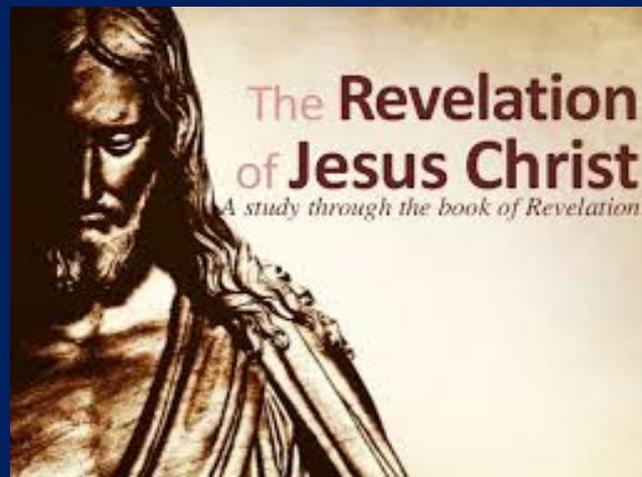


Rapture Distinct from Second Advent

Rapture (1 Thess 4:13-17; 1 Cor 15:51-57)	Second Coming (Rev 19:11-16)
Christ comes in the air (1 Thess 4:16)	Christ comes to the earth (Zech 14:4)
For His saints (1 Thess 4:15-17)	With His saints (Rev 19:14)
Blessing (1 Thess 4:18)	Judgment (Rev 19:15)
Effects only believers (1 Thess 4:16)	Effects both believers and unbelievers (Rev 19:15)
Invisible (1 Thess 4:16)	Visible to all (Rev 1:7)
Announced only by an archangel (1 Thess 4:16)	Involves myriads of angels (Jude 14)
Resurrection (1 Cor 15: 51)	No resurrection
Rescue of the church (1 Thess 1:10)	Rescue of Israel (Matt 23:37-39)

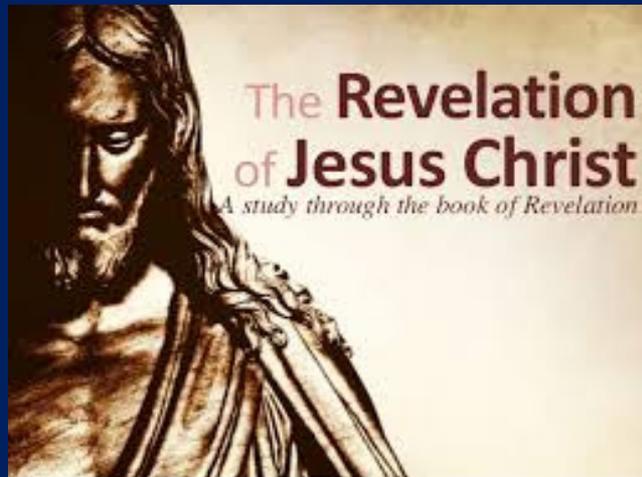
C. His Future Work (Rev. 1:7)

1. His coming in the clouds (7a)
2. His revelation to the Gentiles (7b)
3. His revelation to the Jews (7c)



C. His Future Work (Rev. 1:7)

1. His coming in the clouds (7a)
2. His revelation to the Gentiles (7b)
3. His revelation to the Jews (7c)



God's Work Through Israel

- Revelation 7 – 144,000 Jews
- Revelation 11 – Two Jewish witnesses
- Revelation 12 – Israel flees
- Revelation 20:9 – Jerusalem in the kingdom
- Revelation 21:12 – 13-Gates of the eternal city



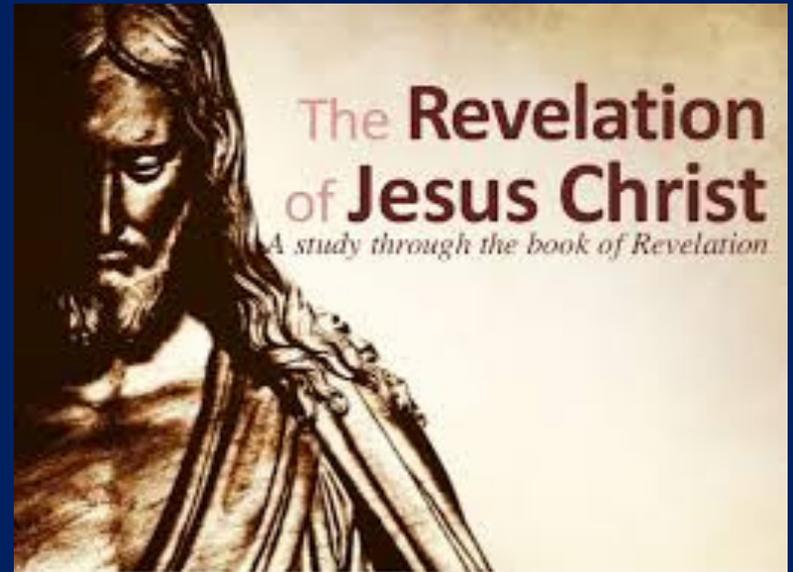
VII. Subject of the Message (Rev. 1:5b-8)

A. Who He is (5d-e)

B. His past work (5f-6)

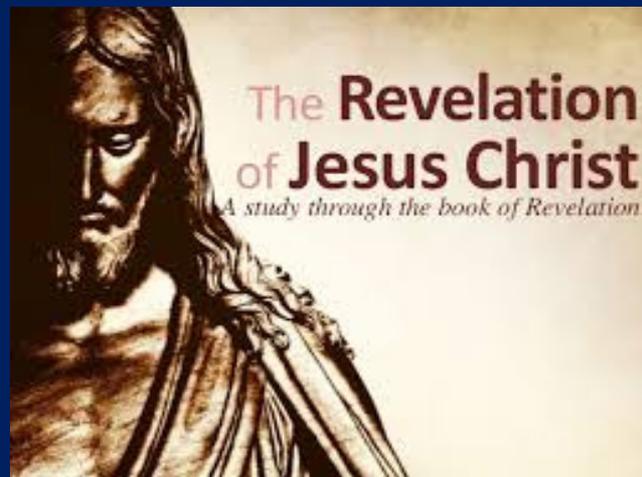
C. His future work (7)

D. His sovereignty (8)



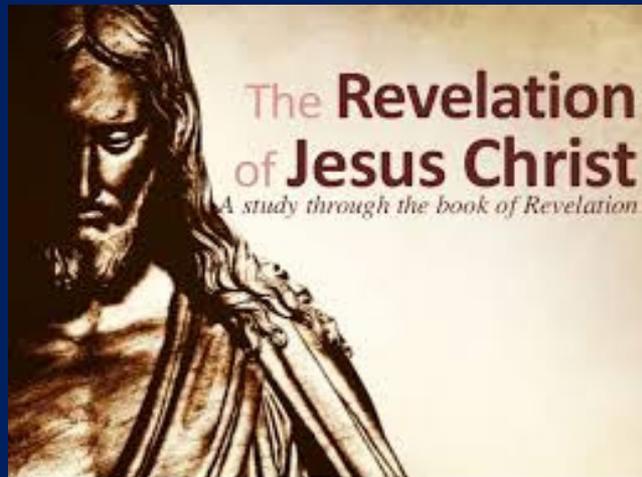
C. His Sovereignty (Rev. 1:8)

1. He is the Alpha and Omega (8a)
2. He is the Eternally Existent One (8b)



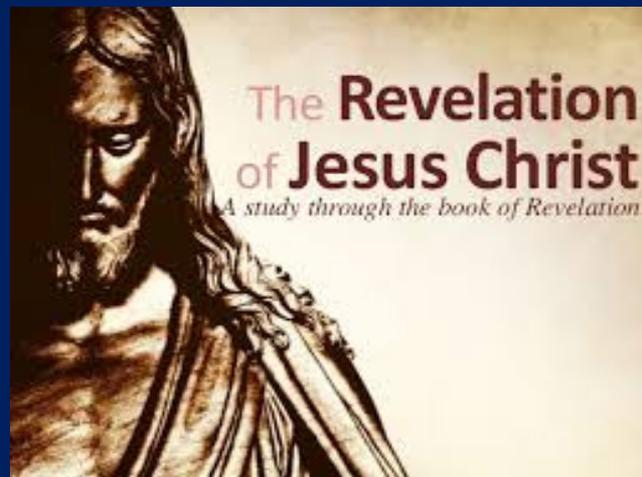
C. His Sovereignty (Rev. 1:8)

1. He is the Alpha and Omega (8a)
2. He is the Eternally Existent One (8b)



C. His Sovereignty (Rev. 1:8)

1. He is the Alpha and Omega (8a)
2. He is the Eternally Existent One (8b)

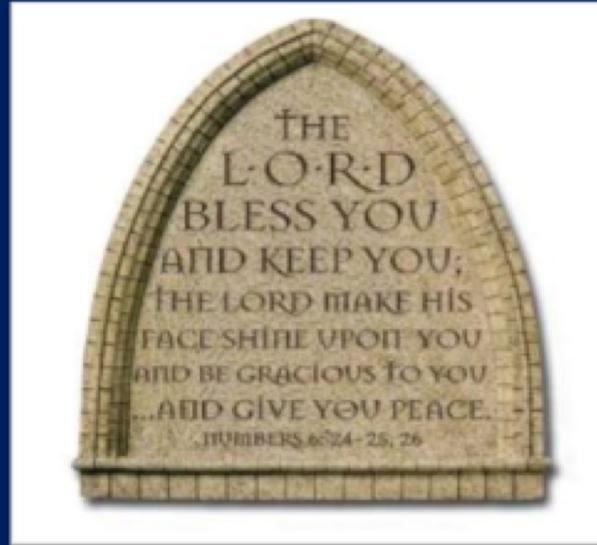


Conclusion

Prologue (Rev. 1:1-8)

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





“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)