

BOOK OF REVELATION OUTLINE

WRITTEN WORD	CHAPTER(S)	PROPHETIC EVENT
What you have seen (Past)	1	Christ crucified-buried-resurrected
What is now (Present)	2-3	The Church Age
What will take place after (Future)	4-5	The Rapture/Heaven
What will take place after (Future)	6-19	The Tribulation/Earth
What will take place after (Future)	20	The 2 nd Coming/Kingdom Age
What will take place after (Future)	21-22	The New Heavens & New Earth

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KAPONO: Would you join me and bow your heads in prayer? Lord, we thank You so much, Lord. And this time of worship is oh, so wonderful. Lord, we get to sing and worship You. Would You bless our time in the Word? Would You speak to us and clarify whatever needs to be clarified? Thank You so much for this time and this day that You have made. Oh, what a happy day! In Jesus' name, Amen.

PASTOR JD: Amen and amen. (Microphone not working)

Oh, can you hear me now? Can you hear me now? Good morning. Welcome. You can be seated. So glad you're here. Welcome. Those of you online, we're so glad that you're joining with us. Listen, I'm going to have Pastor Mac make an announcement that we didn't make First Service. It's totally his fault. So...

PASTOR MAC: Good morning, family.

[Congregation says, "Good morning!"]

Well, on behalf of the Pedro family, I want to make this announcement in regards to a celebration of life for Josanne Pedro. She went home to be with the Lord on March the 21st. And her celebration of life will be held this coming Saturday, May 4th, here at this Church of God. Service will begin at 10:00, but fellowship begins at 9:00.

So please come as we celebrate her life and provide comfort as the Lord leads us to the Pedro family whom we love dearly. Thank you so much.

PASTOR JD: Thank you for that, Pastor Mac. All right. Well, good morning. Should I try that again? (Walks off camera)

My apologies to John and Sandy. I was not aware that this would be the last Sunday before the celebration of life. So please forgive us for that. Again, it's Mac's fault, but so forgive Mac.

Revelation *Chapter 1* today. Lord willing, we'll finish *Chapter 1* today with the last two verses, which will be our text, *verses 19 and 20*. And at this time, if you're able to stand, I'll ask you to stand. If not, where you're seated is fine. But you can follow along as I read. The Apostle John now is continuing in *verse 19*, by the Holy Spirit, and he's writing that which Jesus is telling him to write.

And in *verse 19* begins saying, **"Write, therefore, what you have seen, what is now, and what will take place later. [After these things, after] The mystery [Verse 20] of the seven stars that you saw in My right hand and of the seven golden lampstands is this: The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands are the seven churches."**

Let's pray. If you would, join with me.

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Father, thank You for this amazing *Book of Revelation*, for that's exactly what it is and what it was intended to be, a revelation of You and a revelation of what is to come when You come for us. So Lord, now we would just ask that You would settle us, as only You can and are always so faithful to. All those distractions that are clamoring for our attention, would You just keep them at bay and away during this time that we have together today in Your word?

Lord, would You also, by the Holy Spirit, enable us to focus and concentrate and give You our undivided attention because what we have before us today in this portion here in Your Word is so powerful, so personal. So would You speak into our lives in and through it?

Would You show us what it is that You want us to see? And Lord, speak to us with ears to hear that which You would have to say. We're listening, Lord. Speak. Your servants are listening. In Jesus' name. Amen and amen. You can be seated. Thank you.

So here at the end of Revelation *Chapter 1*, we have what I'll call the login credentials of the user ID and password for the entire *Book of Revelation*, specifically in *verse 19*, which allows us full access to this *Book of Revelation* by virtue of what one has aptly and affectionately referred to as "God's divine outline."

So I spent some time — I mean, I always do, but this last week, more than usual, inquiring of the Lord concerning today's text. I have to confess just right out of the chute that I've been really looking forward to especially *verse 19*.

It's like one of my favorite verses. Of course, whatever verse I'm teaching, that's my favorite verse for that day. But especially *verse 19* because unique to the books of the Bible, all 66 of them, unique to the *Book of Revelation*, you will not find like in *verse 3*, which promises a blessing, the only book in the Bible that promises a blessing to those who read it, hear it, and take it to heart. No other book does that. And so too, with *verse 19*, no other book has this divine outline.

And you gotta know that as a pastor, if God's going to give me the outline, that saves me a lot of time. I don't have to create my own outline. I've already got it right here. That's the beauty of teaching the Bible book-by-book, chapter-by-chapter, verse by verse. I don't have to come up with anything. It's already been come up with. All I gotta do is show up and be faithful to the text and teach and preach the Word.

So in *verse 19*, been looking forward to it, it has this again, divine outline. And so I decided to teach it in such a way so that all of us, myself included, would better understand what some see as a very hard book to understand.

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Let me say the same thing in a different way. Let me couch it in these terms, maybe in a question form. Would you not agree with me that people are terrified of the *Book of Revelation*? Like, I mean, no, the *Book of Revelation*. (Spoken with a deep, scary voice)

And they say just like that too. Why are they so terrified of it? It's so apocalyptic! Which means unveiling. We'll talk about that in a minute, revealing, unveiling. It's So not just apocalyptic, but it's so cryptic. Who can understand it? It's a really hard book to understand.

No, it's not. Actually, truth be made known, it's an easy book to understand. In fact, the whole purpose for John being inspired by the Holy Spirit to pen these words and write this book was so that we would understand. I mean, what am I missing here? The *Book of Revelation* is a revelation. Don't you want that revelation of what's going to happen in the future? You got one right here.

Here's another thing. God wants us to know the future. That's why we have the *Book of Revelation*. Now, if God wants us to know the future, why would He riddle it with all these question marks and complicate it to where we wouldn't understand it? Wouldn't that defeat the purpose?

No. He wrote it in order for us to understand it. I know this might seem like a firm grasp of the obvious, but why did God inspired John to write the *Book of Revelation*? Because God wants us to know the future.

Why does God want us to know the future? Because He doesn't want us to be ignorant about the future. He wants us — this is why it is, by the way, that well-nigh one third of the entirety of the pages of Holy Writ is prophecy.

We were talking about this in the Prophecy Update, First Service. Did you know there are over 300 prophecies in the Old Testament about the First Coming of Jesus Christ, yet future for them, over 300.

And then fast forward to the present day, and we have all of these prophecies in the Bible for us, where Jesus says to us, I'm going to tell you what's going to happen before it happens, so when it happens you will believe. Whoa! Who knew? God knew, and He wanted you to know too.

[Laughter]

Sorry, that came out very wrong. So it's evidenced by John first writing about the past, that which he had seen, then writing about the present, that which is now. Why? So as to better understand and know what will take place after, the future.

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And the reason being is that when one first understands the past and with it the present leading up to the future, what ensues is an understanding and knowledge of the future, past, present, and future. And here's how I get there.

The *Book of Revelation* is textbook when it comes to knowing the “why” behind the “what” such that it fills in the historic blanks by connecting the prophetic dots. Let me explain. When we first started this study through the *Book of Revelation*, I pointed out, very important, that well over 90% of the *Book of Revelation* is a direct reference to the Old Testament, and you see it throughout, replete throughout this book.

There are, in some cases, direct quotes verbatim from the Old Testament. Why? Because they would have known. Who's they? The churches that these — this was sent out to, and the church as a whole broadly, yet future, which is us here today.

See if you know the Old Testament then the *Book of Revelation* is like, oh, yeah, I know. That is this. Oh, that's this! Those of you that are into crossword puzzles — you know who you are.

I won't look at you. Those are addictive, I understand, I hear. I see people, it's like they start to shake until they can...

[Laughter]

Well, this is more exciting than a crossword — did I offend anybody? I'm sorry if I did. You have to forgive me. But this is. This is even more exciting than a crossword puzzle. You know, when you get a word that — I haven't done a crossword puzzle in — I don't think I've ever done a crossword puzzle.

But that's not my point. But you know what's — you know, it's nine letters and you've got an A or an E and then it's, you know, this, and you're racking your brain going, man, what, what is that? And then some smart aleck comes along and goes, that's easy. And then they give you the answer. And then you hate them because that was part of the fun, figuring it out.

Well, there's no figuring it out here. If you know the Old Testament, you're going to be able to fill in those blanks. You know exactly what John is writing, inspired by the Holy Spirit because you're connecting those prophetic dots and filling in those historic blanks, those blank lines. Here's where I'm going with this. And hang in there with me. We will get to our text.

When I know why Jesus died for me in the past, I'll then better understand what Jesus does for me, is to me, in the present, and by extension, what Jesus has in store for me in the future. How cool is that? What we're about to see is the past situation, historically, the present application, personally, and infinitely more importantly, the future implication prophetically.

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And there's this magnificent marriage, if you will, between the three. Again, this is why the Apostle John is given this revelation of Jesus Christ. It's under the auspices of God wanting for us to know the future. As one said, we don't know what the future holds, but we know who holds the future.

And the *Book of Revelation* is a reminder, a much-needed reminder about not only what the future holds, but who holds that future. And He wants us to know about that, what He has in store for us in that.

So John is told to write about the past to be understood, the present to be explained, and the future to be known. And that's not all — the secret to be revealed, or if you prefer, the mystery to be unveiled. And that's what the word *apokálupsis* in the Greek, where we get *apocalypse* in English, the word for revelation is *apokálupsis*. It's the unveiling of the future.

So watch this. Someone comes to you and says, Hey, I can tell you your future. You say, Get thee behind me, Satan. I'm not supposed to mess around with people like you.

No. I can tell you your future on the authority of God's word.

You can?

Yeah. I mean, you can too.

I can?

Yeah. You have a Bible?

I've got 12 right over here on my bookshelf. Well, grab one. Let me show you. And you turn to the *Book of Revelation*, and they start breaking out in a sweat like, no, not the *Book of Revelation*.

No, seriously. You tell people that your pastor is taking you through a study, verse-by-verse of the *Book of Revelation*, what's their reaction? Oh, you don't tell them. You don't want to tell them because of their reaction.

They'd be like, he is? How's he doing that?

Oh because it's an easy, revealing, unveiling book about the future to understand.

It is? Yeah. Show them *verse 19*. Oh, that's not all. It's the only book in all of the Bible that promises a blessing. No other book promises a blessing to those who read it, hear it, and take it to heart but the *Book of Revelation*. Is it no wonder that Satan will do everything and stop at nothing to keep the Christian out of the *Book of Revelation*?

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We talked about that as well, First Service. He will shut the ears and the eyes of any Christian. And if you think about it, he has every reason to.

Because if there was a book written about you and how it ends for you, and it doesn't have a good ending for you, in fact, the ending for you is you're cast into the lake of fire forever and ever, and there's a book, and it is a best-selling book of all time written about you, wouldn't you want for people not to read it?

You'd like hack into Amazon, make sure nobody bought it. You'd want to keep people from reading it and keep them out of it because it exposes you for who you really are.

And not only does it expose the devil for who he really is and what he really does, it also simultaneously foretells to us what's in store for us, and it is grand and glorious beyond measure. There are no words in the English language, as faulty as it is, to even begin to describe — and Paul said as much. **“No eye has seen; no ear has heard.” “We see through a glass dimly.”** It's blurry at best, and we could never even begin to comprehend the glory that awaits.

In fact, the suffering of this life is not even to be compared with the glory that awaits. It is indescribable. I saw it, by the way, Paul would say, and in order to keep me from getting puffed up and write a book and go on a tour, I went to heaven-and-back 14 years ago when I was in Lystra. I got a glimpse. I cannot even describe it. It would be criminal to try.

And so God gave Paul a thorn in the flesh to keep him humble after letting him get a glimpse of heaven. That's pretty heady. I mean, that's probably why it is that He's not giving you, especially me, a glimpse of heaven.

Because if He showed me heaven, well, never mind. I wouldn't probably... I mean, I would be like, hey, guess what? I got to get a preview of Heaven. Yeah, I know.

[Laughter]

But not Paul. And here's a guy who had been through unspeakable and horrific persecution. And here's God in His grace and His mercy and His love, wanting to give this servant of His a glimpse of what awaited him in order for him to persevere and endure, until he was in glory.

And that's what God wants to do for us. And that's why God wants us to know the future. Because when you know what you have to look forward to, it makes whatever you're going through, as painful as it is, infinitely easier to get through.

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You know how it is right before you take a vacation? Well, you already checked out before you, you know, formerly have started your vacation because all you're thinking about is the vacation, not your work. You're thinking, I'm going on vacation, so pfff. You know you check out.

But you know the stress of your job description at that time is minimized and mitigated by virtue of the fact that you know that you're going to be gone. So ha! Fine. Bring it on.

You understand what I'm saying here? So God wants us to know, and He wants those seven churches, as we're going to see when we get to *Chapters 2 and 3*, He wants them to know because they're just hanging on by a thread. And He wants them to know, hey, this is what I have in store for you. Just hang on.

I think about His letter to the Church of Philadelphia in *Chapter 3*, and He just, He says, I know you're just barely hanging on by a thread. I know you have little strength. But you have obeyed —
“...because you've obeyed My command to persevere and endure, so too will I keep you from the hour of tribulation that is coming upon the whole earth.”

That's the 7-year tribulation. Just hold on. I'm coming quickly. Just not much longer. I know you're hanging on. You're barely hanging on. But I'm coming. And when I do, ho! Okay. Ho! Okay, so that was my introduction, again. You ready? You were probably ready 15 minutes ago.

Let's talk first about the past understood in the first part of *verse 19*. Here, John is told to write that which he has seen, both as an eyewitness for Jesus, then subsequently, this revelation of Jesus. You have to understand that John is the only living apostle at this time. All the other apostles died a martyr's death.

But John was the last one, the only living apostle, as an eyewitness, past tense, of that which he had seen. What did he see? Jesus Christ crucified: He was there. Buried: He was there. In fact, he tells us in the Gospel that he beat Peter to the tomb. He was there. And then the resurrection: And so he was an eyewitness of that. And now here Jesus is telling him to write that. But He doesn't just leave it at that because that's not the entirety of the Gospel or “good news.”

How do I know that? Because of what Paul wrote, his first letter to the Thessalonian church, the first mention of the Gospel by the Apostle Paul. Not to the Corinthians in *Chapter 15*, the first four verses, rather, in *1 Thessalonians*, in the context of the rapture. Go figure.

Here's the Gospel: Jesus died for you, He was buried, He rose again on the third day, and He's coming back again one day soon and very soon to catch you away, rapture you. Good news!

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Don't stop at the resurrection. Here's the good news. Jesus died, crucified, buried, rose again on the third day. Have a good day. Bye.

Wait. Is He coming back?

Yeah. Oh, yeah, I forgot the best part. Good news! He went to prepare a place for us in His Father's house. If it were not so, He would have told us. But He goes to prepare a bridal chamber, and if it were not so, He would have told us.

But He went there and is there preparing this place for us, so that quote, **“Where I am, there you will be also.”** In the Father's house, in this place that He prepared for us? Yeah. And then He's going to come as a thief in the night, as the bridegroom would in that day, according to the customs.

It was really a problem with wedding invitations. Date? Don't know. Hour? No man knows. We just got to always be ready because He's going to come as a thief in the night at an hour nobody expects, and He's going to take His bride, lift her up from the ground, and carry her away to this place that was prepared for her where for seven, a period of seven — I'm getting ahead of myself. It's very exciting.

That was okay. Just forget that I said that. Scratch that because that's later. So not only is this the Gospel of Jesus Christ, so too is this the foundation upon which the present and future are understood vis-à-vis the past first being understood.

Let me say the same thing a different way. When I understand the past, it helps me in the present concerning what I know to be true about the future. I need all three. I need all three. And here we have all three.

This is the Gospel. We're starting out right out of the chute with the Gospel. That's the past, *Chapter 1*. Now, in the second part of *verse 19*, after he's told to write that which he saw, which was, now he's told to write about that which is, present, the present explained.

So this is the Church Age. This is where we are right now. By the way, in the year 2024, we are in *Chapters 2 and 3* of the *Book of Revelation*.

After all of these years, well-nigh, well, 2000 years. If this was written in 95 AD, which many believe it was, we're shy of 2000 years or so. And we are right now presently in *Chapters 2 and 3*.

And oh, by the way, this — standalone — John writing about the present, that which is now, currently, presently, it is solid scriptural proof and sound doctrine, virtually standalone of the pre-

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tribulation rapture of the church. And if you'll kindly allow me to, I'll explain how I get there. The word "church" is mentioned 19 times in *Chapters 1, 2, and 3*.

When you get to *Chapter 4:1*, the church is no longer mentioned. When you get to *Chapter 6-19*, which we will if the rapture doesn't happen first, those are chapters describing in graphic detail what it's going to be like during the 7-year tribulation.

The word "church" is not once mentioned in *Chapter 6-19* concerning the 7-year tribulation. Why? Because the church is not in the tribulation.

Oh, wait a minute, pastor. With all due respect... I always put my guard up when someone starts off with — so now if you say that to me, I'm sorry, I just outed myself. I got my guard up. You say, "Pastor, with all due respect..." And then they kind of dance around and play around.

Well, wait a minute. What about these that are mentioned in *Chapter 6-19*? That's not the church. They are the tribulation saints that come to Christ in the 7-year tribulation and are saved in the 7-year tribulation. They are not the Bride of Christ.

The bride has to be taken before the 7-year tribulation. And by the way, that's not the church. The church is not in there. Why? Because the church is not in there!

[Laughter]

So this not only explains the present Church Age, of which we are on the eve of its end, so too does it also explain the end of the Church Age and subsequently the beginning of Daniel's 70th week, also known as the time of Jacob's trouble.

Now, please just try to, as I prayed at the beginning, you know, stay with me and concentrate and focus on this. Please don't miss this. This is really important.

Where people get into a lot of trouble in their interpretation of eschatology, it's right here on this one major point. They do not delineate between the church and the Jew.

See, if you don't make a distinction between the Church Age and God's plan for the Jew, Israel — and oh, by the way — and this is an Arab telling you this — God is not through with the Jew. And oh, by the way, we don't want Him to be through with the Jew because He has an everlasting covenant with the Jew.

And by the way, an everlasting covenant is a covenant that lasts forever. But so too does God have a covenant with me and you too. So if God is through with the Jew, I ask you, how secure are you?

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Oh, He's through the Jew. Well, what's to say He's not going to be through with you too? No, He has a covenant with a Jew. But He has a covenant with me and you too.

And God is not through with the Jew because God has an everlasting covenant. And this time known as Jacob's trouble — who's Jacob? Israel. It's not the time of the church's trouble. And this is again, is where guys get into trouble because they blur the lines between the church and Israel.

If you put the church into the tribulation, you get dangerously close to replacement theology, which is a false teaching that the church replaces Israel as God's elect, implying that God is through with the Jew. Well, if you believe that no wonder you're going to go through the tribulation.

Because the purpose of the tribulation is for the salvation of the Jewish nation. You guys have heard me spit at you and yell at you this for years now, so I'll spare you. So please, please, please, let's make that distinction.

The present, **“write that which is now,”** that's us, the church, the Church Age. And everything from *Chapter 4* on to the end of the book is all yet future.

Hold on to that. I'm getting ahead of myself again. I can't wait. Actually, I'm so excited. Let's go to the third part of *verse 19*.

So write that which you have seen, past; that which is now, present; and that which is to take place after these things, future. Now, the words that John, inspired by the Spirit, uses for “after these things” or take place later, or yet future, is in the Greek original language of the New Testament, *Meta tauta*. Isn't that helpful?

Meta what? Okay, let's talk about Mark Zuckerberg. No, no, no, no, wait. Let me have this one because I'm gonna take it anyway. So Facebook, right? Oh, how harmless and innocent. Reconnect with people. Yeah. No. Recently he changed it to “Meta.” Ooh-wee-hoo! Beyond. After. Future. Live forever.

Which is the lie from the enemy, which is why I truly believe that Mark Zuckerberg is no longer fully human, which is too bad because if he was still fully human, he still had a chance to come to Christ. Because if anybody needs Jesus, it's somebody like him. And if he's still fully human, which I very much doubt, he could still come to Christ. But I don't think he is.

I think he believed, was deceived, the lie from the enemy that — it's an old lie from the garden — it's just been repackaged under the wrapping paper of AI, artificial intelligence, transhumanism. Oh, **“You shall surely not die.”**

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Lie! You shall live forever if you eat of this forbidden fruit. In other words, disobey God, and I will show you another way around God to have everlasting life without God. That's the lie. And that explains everything.

So “meta” means after and “tauta” means these things. What things? Oh, the things of the present. What's in the present? The Church Age. So meta means “beyond, future, after.” And when you add the Greek word “tauta” to “meta,” you have “after these things,” “after this,” or “yet future,” “beyond this in the present” to now this, “after this in the present.”

Now, am I just — I don't know why I even bother with the notes. I could do this without notes. I probably should have. But still, notes are cool, so are charts. I got one for you, don't worry.

Let's look at *verse 20*, and the secret revealed. Now, prior, Jesus had told John to write, and John is, I mean, as if — he falls, he just collapses as though dead when he sees Jesus' eyes like fire, His feet like glowing bronze in a furnace, and a sword coming out of His mouth, a double-edged sword. I mean, that would freak me out and lay me out too. And as though he's dead, he's on his face before God. Stop!

And he describes these seven candlesticks, and he doesn't know what it means. And because God wants him and us to know what it means, guess what? He's going to tell us what it means. And that's what *verse 20* is.

John, I'm going to tell you now what all of this means. Get up first, though because he's still on his face. So because you know that I hold the future, I want to reveal to you the mystery of the future and the secret to the future. Because after all, it's for you and to you.

Why? Because I want to be with you. I think we miss that. We miss that “why” behind all of this. Why, God? Because I love you, My love for you, which is why I died in place of you because I want to spend eternity with you as My future that's made known to you.

You know how it is when you got a surprise, especially when your kids? You're like, oh, I got a surprise. What is it? I can't tell you; otherwise, it won't be a surprise. Or how about your wife? Honey, I got you a surprise. What is it? It's a surprise.

Well, that's pretty exciting. But why do you do that? Because you love them. You want to bless them, contrary to what your young children think. I remember a conversation we had with our two boys when they were young. And it was like, man, they actually started wondering if we got up every morning, my wife and I, and plotted together, just how can we discipline them today, looking for creative ways to discipline those...

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No! In fact, it was the opposite. We were looking for a way to surprise them. We're going to the water park. (Gasp) We are? Yeah. We're looking for a way to bless them. Why? Because we love them. We want to be with them.

How much more our heavenly Father, our Lord and Savior loves us, wants to be with us. That's why He died for us. And He wants to reveal this to us. Do you get it? When you see it through that lens, it should change the whole complexion of the *Book of Revelation*.

Stop with the whole, "Well, my personal opinion and academic understanding is..." blah, blah, blah.

No. He loves me. He has a future for me. His plan for me is not, Jeremiah says, to harm me, to hurt me. It's to give me a future and a hope, thus hence the *Book of Revelation*. I mean, think about how many Christians are robbed, and I mean robbed of that hope.

And is that not what Satan is and does? He comes to steal, kill, and destroy. What's he stealing? Not your car. That would be weird.

[Laughter]

Sorry. You have treasures in heaven.

[Laughter]

He's stealing your hope. What's he killing? Your joy. He's a killjoy. What does he want to destroy? Your faith. That's what he's all about. And that's why he doesn't want us in this amazing *Book of Revelation*. Because it is a love letter from God to us about what He has in store for us. That's why.

This should bring new meaning to — in other words, I'm going to unveil the mystery. I'm going to reveal the secret. I'm going to reveal the surprise. This is what it's for. This is what it means. And it's all in store for you. You did that for me? Yeah.

My wife and I, when we were first married, of course, I was such a romantic then, 36 years ago or something like that. You know, I'd open the door for her. Come on. You know, guys, right, when you're on your best behavior, especially when you're courting?

For your young people, it's when you're dating or I guess they call it — they don't even call it that anymore. We're talking. Oh, when did you talk?

[Laughter]

I'll never forget when my son comes home from school and he goes, wow, that's sick! I'm like, who's sick?

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[Laughter]

You know, it's bad — you know Jesus is coming when sick is good. Anyway, I digress. (Laughing) I've got to figure out how to bring this back in.

I'm not trying to keep anything from you, JD. Put your name there. Insert name here. I'm not trying to keep this from you or hide this from you or keep you guessing.

No, I want you to know. I'm going to reveal it because I want to encourage you and I want to give you hope. Because right now, you could use some hope because you're giving in to hopelessness. I want to encourage you because right now I know that you're barely hanging on and giving way to discouragement, which is fast giving way to despair.

And I want to give you hope because you've allowed Satan for too long to steal your joy — I mean, kill your joy, and steal your hope, and destroy your faith. And I'm here to renew that for you.

How? By letting you know what I'm doing for you. It's all for you, you know? **“Greater love hath no man that he lay down his life for another.”** That's why I came in the first place. That's why I died for you. What do you think? I just came because I wanted to make a big splash on the scene of human history? Change the whole calendar? I accomplished that; you know. Well, for the most part.

No, I — why would I do that? Why would I leave my heavenly estate as God the Son and become a man and go through all of that? I did it for you, and I want you to know that this was all for you because of My love for you.

And I'm not going to be up here playing this chess game, trying to, you know — or let's go back to the — can we go back to the crossword puzzle? I'm not trying to give you this really complicated crossword puzzle because I don't want you to figure it out. Hurry up. JD's about to figure it out. I don't know why. He doesn't do crossword puzzles, but get down there and mess him up, otherwise, it's going to be exposed and revealed and unveiled.

No, it's just the opposite. Oh, look, he's doing the crossword puzzle of the *Book of Revelation*. Hurry up. Get down there. Unveil it for him. Reveal it to him so he knows what I have in store for him.

That's a game changer, man. That's a life changer, isn't it? That's why it's the only book in the Bible that promises a blessing. I heard someone say, A pastor that does not — see, I can say this because I'm teaching the Book Revelation — so a pastor who does not teach through the *Book of Revelation* to his congregation, doesn't love them.

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I love you, man because I'm teaching you. This is my fourth time teaching through the *Book of Revelation*, actually. I love this book. I love what's in this book, and I love why what's in this book is in this book.

Because for me personally, I'll speak for myself, It's a much-needed reminder of God's infinite, incomprehensible, inexhaustible love for me that He would do all of this for me.

Okay, you ready for a chart? I had to do a chart on *verse 19*. Okay, here it is. You can take a picture if you want, a screenshot online if you want. We'll leave it up for you. But this is what this looks like visually. First, we have the written word of what John is told to write: past, present, and future.

Then we have this perfect divine, chapter outline of the prophetic event fulfilled, past, present, and future. And all of it points to the person of Jesus Christ vis-à-vis the finished work on the cross of Jesus Christ and the soon and very soon return of Jesus Christ in the pre-tribulation rapture of the Church of Jesus Christ.

Mic drop. All right there in *verse 19*, one verse, boom! It's right there. And the *Book of Revelation* is a hard book to understand. Stop!

Look at *verse 19*. It's the whole — you forgot your password? I got your password. L-O-V-E. That'll get you in. You'll have full access. Those are the login credentials. And you can get into this book and see what is in this book because it's all perfectly outlined: past, present, and future. And woven into it, again, is the sound doctrine, not theory — that sounded like I was angry — I might be — it's sound doctrine of the pre-tribulation rapture.

And it's right here in *verse 19*. Because again, *Chapters 1-3*, the church is mentioned 19 times. And *Chapter 4:1* — John, by the way, here's — am I getting ahead of myself? Forget my notes.

He hears the voice of what sounds like a trumpet, *Chapter 4:1*, and he's told to come up hither. That's the rapture. *Chapter 4:1*, come up hither, come up here at the sound of the trumpet. The church, after the Church Age, boom! Come up here. Let's go. We're raptured.

So I completely blew everything. So let's just go back, and we'll begin with John being told to write that which he had seen. This is the entirety of *Chapter 1*, which we're finishing today. This is all past tense.

Chapter 1 is that which John had seen, past tense eyewitness of Jesus Christ crucified, buried, and resurrected. *Chapters 2 and 3*, that which is now, present. That's where we are now, in *Chapters 2 and 3*. In 2024, we're still in the Church Age presently and will be until the trumpet sounds and the

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dead in Christ rise first, bodily resurrection. Then we who are alive and remain are raptured up to meet the Lord in the air.

And can I say it like this? We are — I — I'm going to overuse a cusp. We're beyond cusp. Forget cusp. Picture this. You got a drop of water that's just about to drop. And you're watching this thing going, man, that thing's just about to drop any time now. As soon as a little bit more volume enters that drop of water, that baby's going down. And that's when we as the church go up. That drop.

That's pretty good, actually. So if you want better, you're going to have to make some suggestions. That's where we're at. We're at the last drip of the drop of *Chapter 3* before we go up. That's how close we are.

So *Chapters 2 and 3*: Present. *Chapter 4:1* on: All future. *Chapter 4*: After, “meta,” these things “tauta,” all future. John, “come up hither” in the King James, “come up here,” New King James and other translations.

In other words, you're no longer going to be down there on earth. I'm going to bring you up here to heaven.

And everything from *Chapter 4* on, is John in heaven describing future events after these things of *Chapters 2 and 3*, the Church Age. So we get to *Chapters 6-19*, John is told to continue writing about, again, these, I mean, talk about graphic detail. I mean, it really is TMI. I mean, why do I need to know that?

Because quite frankly, I need to have the hell scared out of me and heaven scared into me. Sorry to be so blunt. But that's why it is that many come to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ when they understand Bible prophecy. You know how many people have come to Christ because of Bible prophecy?

See, for us who know the Lord, are born-again of the Spirit of God, this is exciting. But if you don't know the Lord, this is terrifying, as well it should be. As the saying goes, ‘Be afraid, very afraid.’

Because if you're left behind and you go through this — oh yeah, but listen, when it happens — if it happens is what they're saying — you know, I'll just — I won't take the mark of the beast and I'll just die for Christ.

Oh, really? Wow. Talk about I'm not worthy. Is that right? So you're telling me that you won't live for Christ before the tribulation, but you're willing to die for Christ in the tribulation? Nah. I mean, we're told that there will be a multitude again, affectionately referred to as tribulation saints.

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But no, there's no guarantees, no guarantees.

Well, *6 through 19* are all about the 7-year tribulation.

I like how one cleverly quipped, while those judged by God's wrath will be tribulating on earth, we will be celebrating our marriage to our bridegroom in heaven. Because the bride and the bridegroom would consummate and celebrate their marriage for a period of seven.

And then they would emerge from that bridal chamber that the bridegroom had built and prepared as a room addition on his father's house. You can see these in Israel to this day. They emerged from that after a period of seven as husband and wife.

And then guess what? They have a huge — that's what I'm talking about — feast! It's called the wedding feast of the Lamb, baby. That alone, that we're going to have food in heaven, just that alone. No calories. No, none of that. Just eat as much spicy ahi poke as you want.

Okay, that was too much. All right, let's talk about *Chapter 20*. This is interesting because it's not so well known. It's the Kingdom Age, the millennial reign of Jesus Christ for 1000 years. We've talked about this through our Old Testament study and sometimes New Testament in the Prophecy Updates.

But by the way, spoiler alert: During this 1000 years on earth, in its pre-fallen state, before sin entered the world, we as His Bride by His side will rule and reign with Him during this period of time. You know, we get excited about the rapture and as well we should, but here's how it goes down, or better said, goes up. We get raptured up. There's a period of seven years. While the world is tribulating, we're celebrating.

At the end of the 7-year tribulation is the Second Coming. At the end of the Second Coming is that — it's really not a battle. But then that ushers in the Kingdom Age for 1000 years, and then after the Millennium is the new heavens and the new earth for eternity future. And that's *Chapters 21 and 22*.

Listen, here's your outline. And by the way, this is — feel free to use this. There's no copyright on it. I did not come up with this. God did. And He wants you to know this. And He wants you to let others know about this because this can change their life for eternal life.

So finally, *Chapters 21 and 22*, John's still writing about that which will take place after these things. And he's describing — oh, I wish there were more than two chapters on this — the new heavens and the new earth.

Wait, why new heavens?

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Because sin first entered heaven before it entered earth. And by the way, the new earth is not renovated. Thank God! It's recreated, made new.

Oh!

And the new Jerusalem; it's not renovated Jerusalem. It's a recreated New Jerusalem. This is going to mess you up. But that's all right. I'm going to mess you up in Jesus' name.

It is going to be suspended — it is indescribable — above the new earth, in between the heavens. And one has, calculated and estimated that the dimensions that are given to us of this new Jerusalem would have facilitated enough room for every man, woman, and child ever born from the beginning of time, starting with Adam.

Why?

Because it's not God's will that any should perish, but that all should come to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. You know when we're told that the name was blotted out of the Lamb's Book of Life.

You know what that means, right? It had to be there in the first place in order to be blotted out.

Notice it doesn't say it was added in. We can say, well, how do you spell JD? J-D. No, it was already there.

So **“It is appointed unto man once to die and then the judgment.”** If someone dies, there's no do-overs. If someone dies without coming to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ and is not born-again, at that point, their name is blotted out of the Book of Life. It was their prior because that's who God is and how God is.

So this new heaven and new earth — and forever? I mean, there's no lease terms, no rent either. No mortgage payments. No, this is going to be so indescribably incomprehensible. And this is our eternal and final destination. We call it heaven.

But what we don't realize is that we, in our glorified bodies, will be able to — and again, this is why Paul said it would be criminal to try to describe it — we're going to be able to travel inter-dimensionally because we're living outside of the time space continuum. I stole that from Chuck Missler. Makes me sound smart, doesn't it? Because we're not living in time. We're living in eternity.

And so we're going to be able to — a million years will go by — and you're going to go, wow, time flies when you're having fun. I was just starting to, you know, get to know my way around. A million years has gone by. And there's no end. You know how long eternity is? It's for eternity.

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Bottom line. God wants us to know about our future. Here's a question: Is this your future? If not, it can be, right here and right now by simply believing on and trusting in Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. Just believe.

It's actually simpler than the ABCs. It's as simple as believe. And not just, hey, I believe in God. No, no, no, no, no. To believe that Jesus Christ is Lord and that God raised Him from the dead, is to say, I put my trust in Him for the forgiveness of sin, and I'm saved. I will be saved, not "might be saved" or "could be saved." **"All who call upon the name of the Lord will be saved."**

You might be here in this church — I won't look at anybody. I don't want to draw attention. But you know who you are. Maybe you're watching online, and there's even really a question mark to that question I just posed to you. You need to settle that right now, right here, today. Today is the day of salvation.

For those of you that join us for Bible Prophecy Updates, for the life of me, I wouldn't — I can't even begin to imagine why you would — what are you thinking?

We have more time.

Are you kidding me? Do you see what's happening, how fast it's happening, prophecy being fulfilled? Just think about that drop. Imminent. Any minute. Imminent. That still doesn't work. So I'm going to end and close.

For the benefit of those who were not with us. for today's Prophecy Update First Service, I want to let you know that I'll be out of the pulpit after today for the month of May and hear me out as to why. In May, we celebrate my wife's birthday, who, as many of you know, continues to battle breast cancer.

But God as only He can, is shrinking the large tumor and stopping the aggressive spread for which we give Him all the glory and are most grateful to all of you who have been praying and continue to pray.

We're also going to commemorate our daughter Noelle's memorial when she went home to be with Jesus on May 4th, which is two days before my wife's birthday and eight days before Mother's Day this year, which is May 12th.

Then, six days after we celebrate our second-born son's graduation from college, then shortly after, — how am I doing? I got more — shortly after, we also celebrate our daughter's graduation from high school one year early as a junior. And we also celebrate my firstborn son's birthday.

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And in addition to all this, I'm going to be officiating the celebration of life for a dear friend and brother in Christ, David Anderson in Waimanalo on Sunday, May 26th, which happens to be Memorial Day weekend.

And these are just a few of the many things that I really just want to be with my family for, and they all just happen to be during the month of May. So please know that you'll be left in the very capable and loving hands of both Pastor Leitu and Pastor Mac as they fill in for me in my absence.

Then, Lord willing, and if we're still here, I will return to the pulpit. You're not getting rid of me that easily. You're still stuck with me. And it will begin with our prayer meeting on Tuesday, June 4th, which I'm really looking forward to if for no other reason than I'll be so exhausted I'll need to get back into the pulpit just to catch my breath. But I'm very much looking forward to our prayer meeting, at which time I will be so ready to come back.

Now lastly and thank you and I appreciate your patience. I am done after this. I want you to know this. I hope you do know this. If you don't, you need to know this. I love you all very much and I will miss you all very much. And I am so profoundly privileged to be your pastor, both locally and internationally, for which I thank you all so very much.

I hope that didn't sound like a eulogy.

[Laughter]

I was waiting for the organ music. In fact, come on up. Don't do organ music, but come up, Kapono. And why don't you stand up? And we'll close. And again, thank you for your patience and I appreciate your grace, too, and your understanding.

Lord, thank You. Oh, these poor people are going to get a break from me for a while, so maybe that's a good thing. Lord, thank You for Your word. Thank You for this book. Thank You for the "why" behind this book. Oh, we need to be reminded of that. We forget why it is that You did all of this, and why it is that You did all of this for us because of Your love for us.

Lord, I don't want anybody to leave this service today or end watching this online without that fresh fire on the altar of their faith, knowing how much You love us. You're not angry with us. We're not in trouble with You. No. You love us so much more than we can ever even begin to understand this side of glory.

So Lord, maybe somebody's here or watching online that just needed that today, that word, it was for them because they're really hurting and even questioning and doubting and wondering, and the

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enemy's just really had his way with them. Lord, please, stop that right now. Let this be a reset, reboot in all of our relationship with You.

And Lord, thank You for this future that we have in store. We, like You in that Upper Room, would also say we fervently desire, eagerly await, can't wait. So please, Jesus, Maranatha, come quickly. In Jesus' name, Amen.