



The Book of Revelation

Revelation

Main theme: God will judge evil and the redeemed will find peace through Jesus.

Interesting Facts and Lessons:

- The book that most clearly defines Jesus' divine nature.
- Written in apocalyptic literature style
- Promises a blessing to readers (1:3)

Revelation 1:1-3

The revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show to his servants the things that must soon take place. He made it known by sending his angel to his servant John, who bore witness to the word of God and to the testimony of Jesus Christ, even to all that he saw. Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear, and who keep what is written in it, for the time is near.

Contents of Revelation

- 1. Introduction and 7 Letters to 7 Churches (ch1-ch3)
- 2. The Lamb and the 7 sealed scroll (ch4-ch7)
- 3. The 7 angels and the 7 trumpets (ch8-ch11)
- 4. The woman, her son, the dragon, and the beasts (ch11-ch14)
- 5. The 7 bowls and the fall of Babylon (ch15-ch19)
- 6. The 1,000 year interlude (ch20)
- 7. New heaven and new earth (ch21-ch22)

Interpreting Symbols

Revelation 1:12-16

Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking to me, and on turning I saw <u>seven golden lampstands</u>, and in the midst of the lampstands one like a son of man, clothed with a long robe and with a golden sash around his chest. The hairs of his head were white, like white wool, like snow. His eyes were like a flame of fire, his feet were like burnished bronze, refined in a furnace, and his voice was like the roar of many waters. <u>In his right hand he held seven stars</u>, <u>from his mouth came a sharp two-edged sword</u>, and his face was like the sun shining in full strength.

In the context of Revelation:

Revelation 1:20

As for the mystery of the seven stars that you saw in my right hand, and the seven golden lampstands, the seven stars are the angels of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands are the seven churches.

In the context of the Bible:

Ephesians 6:17

...and the **sword** of the Spirit, which is the **word of God**,..

Hebrews 4:12

For the **word of God** is living and active, sharper than any **two-edged sword**, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

Revelation 22:5-7

And night will be no more. They will need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever. And he said to me, "These words are trustworthy and true. And the Lord, the God of the spirits of the prophets, has sent his angel to show his servants what must soon take place. And behold, I am coming soon. Blessed is the one who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book."