
End Times

Carnivore Christian

1 The revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show to his servants[a] the things that must soon take place. He made it known by sending his angel to his servant John, 2 who bore witness to the word of God and to the testimony of Jesus Christ, even to all that he saw. 3 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.

*4 John to the seven churches that are in Asia:
Grace to you and peace from him who is and who
was and who is to come, and from the seven
spirits who are before his throne, 5 and from Jesus
Christ the faithful witness, the firstborn of the
dead, and the ruler of kings on earth.*

*To him who loves us and has freed us from our
sins by his blood...*

6 and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. 7 Behold, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him, and all tribes of the earth will wail[b] on account of him. Even so. Amen.

*8 “I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, “who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.” - **Revelation 1:1-8 (ESV)***

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. 2 And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. 3 And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, the dwelling place[a] of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God.

3 but when they went in they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. 4 While they were perplexed about this, behold, two men stood by them in dazzling apparel. 5 And as they were frightened and bowed their faces to the ground, the men said to them, "Why do you seek the living among the dead? 6 He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee,

6 And he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give from the spring of the water of life without payment. 7 The one who conquers will have this heritage, and I will be his God and he will be my son.

Revelation 21:1-7 (ESV)

Heart Posture

- Humility
- Irenic
- Curious

Today's Roadmap

- Introduction to Revelation
 - Different End Times views
 - Unifying Principles
 - One Proposed Interpretation
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Introduction to Revelation

- The full title is “The Revelation of Jesus Christ”
 - “Apocalypse” = Revelation
 - Written by John
 - Dating either ~68 AD or ~95-96 AD
 - Genre is a **prophetic apocalypse** in the form of a **circular letter**
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Different End Times Views

- The varying views center around these three core ideas:
 - Timing of fulfilled prophecy
 - Millennial reign of Christ
 - Continuity between OT and NT
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Different End Times Views

- Timing
 - Full Preterism
 - Partial Preterism
 - Futurism
 - Historicism
 - Idealism
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Different End Times Views

- Millennial reign
 - Premillennial
 - Postmillennial
 - Amillennial

Different End Times Views

- Continuity
 - Covenantalism
 - Progressive covenantalism
 - Dispensationalism
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Unifying Principles

- We don't know exactly when Jesus will return
 - We will experience persecution and suffering for his name
 - Yet, we are more than conquerors
 - Jesus is seated on the throne now and forever
 - Jesus will make all things right when he returns, and we will dwell with him forever
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Revelation, and all apocalyptic
and prophetic literature in the
Bible, is **interpretable.**

One Proposed View...

- This is a partial preterist view
 - In summary, I believe that **the Olivet Discourse (Matt 24-25) and Revelation are *partially* about the destruction of the temple in 70 AD and *partially* about the final coming of Jesus at the end of time.**
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Jesus foretells these things...

- False messiahs and false prophets
 - Wars and rumors of wars
 - Famines
 - Earthquakes
 - Christian persecution
 - Spread of the gospel
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Jesus foretells these things...

- Warning to the church about a coming calamity in Jerusalem
 - False prophets in the wilderness
 - The “powers of the heavens will be shaken”
 - Coming on the clouds
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Jesus foretells these things...

- Warning to the church about a coming calamity in Jerusalem
 - False prophets in the wilderness
 - The “powers of the heavens will be shaken”
 - Coming on the clouds
 - The generation of his listeners would not pass away until all this had come to pass
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Fulfillment of these prophecies

- The “age”
 - Refers to the Old Covenant age
 - “Coming on the clouds”
 - Sign of judgment and enthronement
 - False messiahs
 - Judas the Galilean, Theudas, and the “Egyptian prophet”
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Fulfillment of these prophecies

- Wars
 - Rome overtook Jerusalem
 - Famines
 - Agabus foretold of a famine in Acts, and Josephus also spoke of a great famine in the area
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Fulfillment of these prophecies

- Earthquake
 - A devastating earthquake hit destroyed Laodicea (~60 AD)
 - Christian persecution
 - From Rome and from the Jews
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Fulfillment of these prophecies

- Other signs (66 AD)
 - Giant eastern temple gate opened itself
 - A bright light from the temple
 - An earthquake and
loud/collective/supernatural voice
proclaiming departure
 - Chariots and soldiers in the sky
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Fulfillment of these prophecies

- Gospel being proclaimed:
 - Paul says multiple times the gospel was proclaimed to all the earth
 - Church preserved
 - Apostate Israel was greatly suppressed and the church was preserved and greatly multiplied
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Revelation Breakdown

- Ch 1 - Intro
 - Ch 2-3 - Addresses to the churches
 - Ch 4-19 - Immediate church events surrounding the church, Rome, and Apostate Israel
 - Ch 20a - Zoom out
 - Ch 20b-22 - New heavens and new earth
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Specific notes about Revelation

- What's the deal with “666”?
 - 666 (or 616) = Nero in Hebrew
 - Nero was also referred to as “the beast”
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Specific notes about Revelation

- The millennial reign?
 - Is he not currently seated on the throne?
Does he not rule the cosmos currently?
 - The binding of satan?
 - Now is that time that satan is being kept from deceiving the nations any longer as the gospel advances across the earth
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Specific notes about Revelation

- The final judgment
 - When Jesus finally returns in bodily form, all of creation fades away in a flash, and the judgment occurs. Believers experience the “second resurrection” and unbelievers experience the “second death”
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6 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." 7 "And behold, I am coming soon. Blessed is the one who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book."

8 I, John, am the one who heard and saw these things. And when I heard and saw them, I fell down to worship at the feet of the angel who showed them to me,

9 but he said to me, “You must not do that! I am a fellow servant with you and your brothers the prophets, and with those who keep the words of this book. Worship God.”

10 And he said to me, “Do not seal up the words of the prophecy of this book, for the time is near. 11 Let the evildoer still do evil, and the filthy still be filthy, and the righteous still do right, and the holy still be holy.”

12 “Behold, I am coming soon, bringing my recompense with me, to repay each one for what he has done. 13 I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end.”

14 Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they may have the right to the tree of life and that they may enter the city by the gates.

15 Outside are the dogs and sorcerers and the sexually immoral and murderers and idolaters, and everyone who loves and practices falsehood. 16 “I, Jesus, have sent my angel to testify to you about these things for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star.” 17 The Spirit and the Bride say, “Come.” And let the one who hears say, “Come.” And let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who desires take the water of life without price.

18 I warn everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: if anyone adds to them, God will add to him the plagues described in this book, 19 and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God will take away his share in the tree of life and in the holy city, which are described in this book.

20 He who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming soon." Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

21 The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all. Amen.

Revelation 22:6-21 (ESV)

Response

- *God, are there ways I've been afraid of the end times? If so, how do you want to reassure me?*
 - *God, how do you want to prepare my heart for your coming so that I might be found ready?*
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