



Step by Step

66. Revelation



Author // John

Original Recipients // The seven churches in Asia: Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamos, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia, and Laodicea.

Date of Writing // Early Christian testimony (Irenaeus, Eusebius) places the writing of the Revelation in the time of Domitian's reign, sometime around 95AD.

Type of Literature // Prophetic and Narrative

Major Themes // The Revelation of Jesus; What the Future Holds

Occasion for Writing // Emperor Domitian reinstated the Imperial Cult requiring all within the Roman Empire to recognize the divinity of the Emperor. Christians, unable to accept these demands, suffered severe persecution. John, now an elderly man, was banished to a penal colony on the remote island of Patmos. While he was there, John encountered Jesus and saw the events of the Revelation unfold before his eyes.



Simple Summary // The book of Revelation draws the entire narrative of Scripture to a close and explains where things are headed. The book begins with an assessment of seven first century churches, then unveils future events as the world prepares for the Return of Christ. The book is filled with fascinating, timeless and, at times, somewhat confusing imagery that the Bible student must be careful to interpret. The primary message of the book is that Christ is coming to vanquish evil and set up His kingdom.



Outline // Verse 19 of chapter one provides a good outline: "Write the things which you have seen, and the things which are, and the things which will take place after this."

1 // The things that John had seen

2-3 // The things which are

4-22 // The things which will take place after this

66. Revelation



Key Verses

1:1 // The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave Him to show His servants—things which must shortly take place. And He sent and signified it by His angel to His servant John,

1:3 // Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written in it; for the time is near.

1:19 // Write the things which you have seen, and the things which are, and the things which will take place after this.

5:5 // But one of the elders said to me, “Do not weep. Behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has prevailed to open the scroll and to loose its seven seals.”

19:11 // Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war.

20:11 // Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away. And there was found no place for them.

21:1 // Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also there was no more sea.

21:1 // He who testifies to these things says, “Surely I am coming quickly.” Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus!

Jesus in Revelation



Christ is the King coming to vanquish evil and set up His eternal Kingdom. Christ is also seen as:

// The High Priest who walks among the churches

// The King of Kings who opens doors no one can shut

// The Lion-like Lamb who alone is worthy to open the scrolls

// The Rider of the white horse who defeats the beast

// The Final Judge before whom the hold world will give account

// The Coming King who the church should be looking toward

