



The Revelation of Jesus Christ Pt. 2

Revelation 1:1-3

Emperor
Domitian
(81-96 AD)



Revelation: Interpretative Methods

1. The Preterist Model – fulfilled mostly or completely in the 1st century
2. The Historicist (Continual Historical) Model – fulfilled chronologically throughout church history
3. The Idealist (Spiritual) Model – fulfilled symbolically
4. The Futurist Model – fulfilled mainly in the future

An Outline of Revelation

- I. "The Things Which You Have Seen": The Setting of Jesus' Prophecy (1:1-20)
- II. "The Things Which Are": The State of Jesus' Church (2:1—3:22)
- III. "The Things Which Will Take Place": The Stages of Jesus' Final Triumph (4:1—22:5)
- IV. Epilogue (22:6-21)

The Revelation of Jesus Christ (Pt. 2)

Revelation 1:1-3

- I. “The Things Which You Have Seen”: The Setting of Jesus’ Prophecy (1:1-20)
 - A. An Introduction to the Book (1-8)
 - 1. The Preface (1-3)

The Preface (1:1-3)

1. Its Stated Title (1a): "The Revelation of Jesus Christ"
2. Its Supernatural Source (1a): "Which God gave to Him"
3. Its Intended Readers (1b): "His bond-servants"
 - Members of 7 small churches in Asia Minor in the 1st century (2-3)
 - Believers alive during the Tribulation (7:3; 14:12-13)
 - All believers throughout history (19:5; 22:3)
4. Its Singular Purpose (1b): "To show His bond-servants"

The Preface (1:1-3)

5. Its Central Theme (1b): "The things which must soon take place"
 - The unveiling of Jesus Christ and His glorious kingdom, resulting in the everlasting destruction of His enemies and the everlasting blessing of His saints.
6. Its Special Delivery (1c): "He sent and communicated it by His angel to His bond-servant John"
7. Its Inspired Content (2)
 - An Eyewitness Testimony: "testified"
 - "The Word of God"
 - "The Testimony of Jesus Christ"
 - A Revelation of Visions: "to all that he saw"
 - "The Prophecy" (3)
8. Its Spiritual Blessing (3a): "Blessed"

The seven beatitudes of Revelation

- 1:3 - "Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of the prophecy, and heed the things which are written in it."
- 14:13 - "I heard a voice from heaven, saying, 'Write, 'Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on!'" "Yes," says the Spirit, "so that they may rest from their labors, for their deeds follow with them."
- 16:15 - "Behold, I am coming like a thief. Blessed is the one who stays awake and keeps his clothes, so that he will not walk about naked and men will not see his shame."
- 19:9 - "Then he said to me, 'Write, 'Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.'" And he said to me, "These are true words of God."

The seven beatitudes of Revelation

- 20:6 - "Blessed and holy is the one who has a part in the first resurrection; over these the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with Him for a thousand years."
- 22:7 - "Behold, I am coming quickly. Blessed is he who heeds the words of the prophecy of this book.""
- 22:14 - "Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter by the gates into the city."

The Preface (1:1-3)

9. Its Practical Use (3a): “He who reads and those who hear”
10. Its Required Response (3b): “And heed the things which are written in it”
11. Its Timeless Relevance & Compelling Importance (3c): “For the time is near.”
 - Soon (1)? Near(3)?
 1. Certainty
 2. Speed (or suddenness)
 3. Imminence