



JESUS GIVES THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Jesus Christ gave us His testimony. Jesus is the truth. How are we to use the Book of Revelation? Many people use Revelation the wrong way, and most pastors are afraid to preach Revelation prophecy. Yet, Jesus wants us to use the Book of Revelation! Revelation is more relevant today than at any time in history. The future belongs to God. Our job is to observe the events as they appear.

Once understood, the Book of Revelation is the most significant Book in the New Testament for all the world today.

The world needs to understand Revelation. This includes Christians and non-Christians. One-third of the world following the teachings of Mohammad need to understand that Jesus was warning them specifically in Revelation. Jesus saw everything Mohammad would teach. Christians need to believe the words of Jesus are always true.

The author of Revelation is Jesus Christ. Revelation is the 27th and last Book in the New Testament. It is the 66th and last Book in the Bible. Revelation contains 22 chapters, 404 verses, and 12,000 words.

The Book of Revelation contains more prophecy than the other 26 Books of the New Testament combined.



The Book of Revelation has the *highest divine authority and divine authorship* of all the Books in the New Testament, and the entire Bible! We know the author with certainty (Revelation 1:1-2) because Jesus tells us it is Christ Himself.

“The revelation from Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show his servants what must soon take place.”

“He made it known by sending his angel to his servant John, who testifies to everything he saw—that is, the word of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ.”

PLEASE USE THE BOOK OF REVELATION THE RIGHT WAY!

Revelation is one of the most excellent Books of Bible, and is filled with hundreds of prophetic spiritual warnings, and great promises from Jesus, the Lamb of God, that He will conquer every demonic spirit. God says we are blessed when we read Revelation. (Revelation 1:3)

“Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy and blessed are those who hear it and take to heart what is written in it, because the time is near.”

The prophecy of Revelation is divinely precise when applied to the events Jesus intended to illustrate to His children. But, if a prophecy writer tries to “force” the prophecy to fit his needs, to suit his preconceived notions, it becomes the writer’s plan, not God’s. When used this way the verses make little sense. Sadly, what the writers “predict” never happens--time and time again. This mystery is the power of God! We must do better in how we handle the messages given in His Book.

It is a mistake to think Revelation events are all still in the future. We can see much of it today when our eyes are opened.

The seemingly nonsensical, embarrassing, and sometimes blasphemous predictions given over the past years by numerous “experts” have caused most pastors today to cease preaching on Revelation prophecy. John Darby’s Dispensationalism (a human antichrist from Rome, 7-year Israel peace treaty, broken peace treaty, etc.) is quickly fading because of such wildly inaccurate proclamations and absent fulfillment. But this is not the fault of the Book of Revelation. Jesus gave the truth in Revelation. Our job is to observe fulfillment in the world today.

God lays forth His precise plan in Revelation. Humans have a duty to pay attention and observe the events as they unfold.

The first three Revelation chapters were to the seven churches in existence at that time. Everything after chapter three is in the future for John--when he wrote down what Jesus was telling him in 95 AD.

While in the future for John, it is a mistake to think these events are all still in the future for us today. We can see much of it today when our eyes are opened.

Just think how much more faith people would have if they could see dozens of Revelation prophecies, given more than 1,925 years ago by Jesus Christ directly, precisely fulfilled in the world today. We need to give people this great message.

Did you know the “*open door no one can shut*” has been open at the Philadelphia church for 1,925 years now? Churches need to preach this! Churches must warn about the false prophet as well.

REVELATION PROPHECY: THE “OPEN DOOR NO ONE CAN SHUT” THE PHILADELPHIA CHURCH IS PROOF OF THE TRUTH OF JESUS

You can always believe Jesus. Jesus is the truth. Here is proof, if you needed it, that you can see and visit today. Of the seven Revelation churches, only one church, the church at Philadelphia, received an extraordinary promise from Jesus. Philadelphia was weak—but faithful. Jesus removed the other six Revelation churches' lampstands during their Islamic tribulation and trial. Islam destroyed the other six Revelation churches.

But not the Philadelphia church. In Revelation, Jesus said to Philadelphia in Revelation 3:10; *“Since you have kept my command to endure patiently, I will also keep you from the hour of trial that is going to come on the whole world to test the inhabitants of the earth.”*



JESUS GAVE THE PHILADELPHIA CHURCH AN OPEN DOOR NO ONE CAN SHUT

Mohammad's followers could not subdue the Philadelphia church. The other six Revelation churches fell to Islam, some rapidly, while others took more time. But the other six eventually all fell to Mohammad's followers. Philadelphia remained steadfastly Christian, even though twice, in 1306 and 1324, it was besieged by the Islamic Seljuk Turks. Still, it retained its independence until after 1390, when it was controlled by the combined forces of the Turks and Christian Byzantines.

According to Greek census data, published in 1905, the metropolis of Philadelphia (Ala-sehir in Turkey) included 19 Orthodox communities, almost all of them Turkish-speaking Christians, not ethnic Greeks, consisting of 14,003 people, 25 parishes and 23 priests.

During World War I, the Philadelphia Christian population there was estimated to be 18,000 to 25,000. All the Christians were moved as a group in 1923 to a suburb of Athens, Greece, called Nea Filadelfia (meaning "New Philadelphia"). They were all saved.

Estimates are that from 1900 to 1922, various Turkish Islamic regimes killed from 3,500,000 to over 4,300,000 Christian Armenians, "Greeks", and Assyrians. The Islamic forces of Turkey killed nearly 1.5 million Christian Armenians just during 1915-1916. Largely due to Turkey's ongoing genocide, Turkey and Greece fought a war during 1919 to 1922. In this war Greece was defeated. The Allies negotiated a new treaty at Lausanne with the Turkish National Movement. Thus, after the war it was very important to protect Christian populations from further Islamic genocide through a full population exchange.



"I know your deeds. See, I have placed before you an open door that no one can shut."

Revelation 3:8

The 1923 population exchange between Greece and Turkey was arranged by "Convention Concerning the Exchange of Greek and Turkish Populations" signed at Lausanne, Switzerland, on January 30, 1923, by the governments of Greece and Turkey. It involved at least 1.6 million people. There were 1.2 million Greek Orthodox Christians from Asia Minor, Eastern Thrace, the Pontic Alps, and the Caucasus, and 400,000 Muslims from Greece.

The exchange also included the entire Christian population of the Philadelphia church. It was similar in many ways to Operation Ezra and Nehemiah between 1948 in 1951, as Jews trapped in Islamic countries miraculously left and migrated back to Israel.

In Philadelphia (Ala-şehir), the entire local Orthodox Christian element (estimated at more than 20,000 people in 1922) was evacuated in the Greek-Turkish population exchange of 1923. In many cases, their families had lived in Turkey for many centuries.

The Christians were safely moved to a suburb of Athens, Greece. It was given a new name for them as *Nea Filadelfia* ("New Philadelphia"). Just as He promised, Jesus spared the Philadelphia church from the coming trials of Islamic control and persecution.

This major compulsory population exchange, or agreed mutual expulsion, was based not on language or ethnicity, but upon religious identity, and involved nearly all the indigenous Orthodox Christian citizens of Turkey, including even long time native Turkish-speaking Orthodox Christians citizens.

Today the population of the Nea Filadelfeia area is about 25,000 people. They have many Christian churches in 2020, and actively worship Jesus, just as they did when the Revelation Letter was delivered to them in 95 AD. The followers of Mohammad, despite many attempts, could never subdue them—they have an open door and no one can shut it!

They are faithful to the Lord and find being faithful does not always produce results that are beneficial to the members. Yet despite the opposition and persecution, he has set before them an open door, and no earthly power can shut it. The Islamic armies of Mohammad will never dominate them!! They never closed the door!! Jesus is faithful and true for 1,925 years and counting.



**AN ACTIVE CHRISTIAN CHURCH IN NEA FILADELFIA
("NEW PHILADELPHIA") TODAY**

WHEN IS “SOON” IN REVELATION?

The Book of Revelation is of the things which were at the time of John, and the things that will be still in the future. That means in the future for the Apostle John, but not all of it is still in the future for us in the year 2020. John is the writer, but Jesus Christ is the author. While there are many false religions, Revelation gives us several hundred prophecies uniquely and accurately fulfilled by Islam.

The Apostle John's visions were in 95 AD. In Revelation 1:1, what does Jesus want us to know the word “soon” means? It is based on God's time frame, not man. In chapter one, we are told these events will be “soon.” Beginning in chapter four, they move into the future. But many prophecy writers have been so focused on the perpetual future and their man-made theories, they totally missed the prophetic events as they happened.

Revelation 1:1 (NIV)

The revelation from Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show his servants what must soon take place. He made it known by sending his angel to his servant John.

How much more extended is the waiting period after John? It does not take 2,000 years to see all the future events. Just some 515 years later, some of the prophecies started to unveil. In 610 AD, Mohammad received his first of more than 22 years of visitations and revelations (610-632 AD) from a demonic spirit calling himself the “Angel Gabriel.” The false gospel of the Qur'an precisely fulfilled Revelation chapter 22 (22:18-19), ending with warnings about adding or taking away the Bible text.

When you read Revelation chapter six, you will learn about the Four Horsemen that control one-quarter of the world's population. This is another series of prophecies that would be “soon.” The Four Horsemen did not take 2,000 years to materialize. They were the first four Islamic leaders (Mohammad, Abu Bakr, Umar, and Uthman), and sweep across the Christian lands 624-660 AD. Their Umayyad Caliphate would exercise authority over one-quarter of the world (Revelation 6:8), just as Jesus said they would. As you study further, you will see many more examples of “soon.”

PASTORS ARE AFRAID TO PREACH REVELATION PROPHECY

Few pastors preach on anything past Revelation chapter three, other than jumping to the last chapter 22, with the new heaven and new earth. Pastors are fearful they lack accurate interpretation. They see Revelation text as too complicated, and preaching on it is too risky. This means all the warnings in Revelation go unpreached as well. We must give people the warnings, as well as the Good News.

The popular “Left Behind” movie and books are not Biblical. Likewise, once you move past Darby's Dispensationalism (developed by John Darby in the 1830s), you will see how perfectly accurate the prophecy from Jesus is in the Book of Revelation. Every prophecy from Jesus is accurate, just not in the way John Darby envisioned. It is our job not to predict the future, but rather observe the events that Jesus told us in Revelation would certainly come to pass.

The Book of Revelation has the highest divine authority and divine authorship of all the Books in the New Testament! We know the author with certainty because Jesus tells us it is Christ Himself.

Revelation 22:16 (NIV)

“I, Jesus, have sent my angel to give you this testimony for the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, and the bright Morning Star.”

There is nothing wrong with prophecy. Overall, the Bible is 28% prophecy. God clearly wants His people to be aware of certain events—**so they can be identified as they happen**—not to predict them ahead of time! And not to sell DVDs for a profit.

Some prophetic events are positive (the Resurrection of Jesus Christ, given in Isaiah 53:10-12), and some prophetic events are harmful (the punishment and then release of the beast Baal from the Abyss, given in Jeremiah 51:44 and Revelation 17:8). Just remember, it is God alone that makes the predictions. Our job as humans is to observe and trust His word. Not all Revelation prophecies are fulfilled today, but many, many more than more experts understand.

Trust the prophecy given directly by Jesus Christ.

The Book of Revelation is a Mystery from God. In this context, “*mystery*” means no human will understand it until God ordains. It is part of the glory of God. The word “mystery” is used four times in the NIV version of Revelation. The word mystery is in verses Revelation 1:20, Revelation 10:7, Revelation 17:5, and Revelation 17:7. As such, no one can understand a divine mystery until God alone selects the proper time. It is an unfolding, an increasing awareness.

It is especially important to read the mystery language of Revelation 17:5, the identity of the harlot city controlling the world-wide false religion. In this verse, God tells us it is a mystery until such time as to be understood. Until then, it is a solid stone wall for the human mind.

Revelation 17:5 (NIV)

The name written on her forehead was a mystery:

**BABYLON THE GREAT
THE MOTHER OF PROSTITUTES
AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.**

Revelation prophecy interpreters have made wild predictive guesses about “Babylon” for some time now. Many think it Rome, some think Jerusalem, some think America, others the United Nations, others the European Union, and still others the Catholic Church and the Pope. None of these is correct. But God has now revealed His mystery of Babylon.

There is a reason God called it “Mystery Babylon.” It is much more closely related to the original Babylon (especially the demonic world and Baal) than most prophecy writers understood until now.

SIX HELPFUL STEPS TO UNDERSTAND REVELATION

1. Do not use Revelation to predict a future event. Throw away all the prophecy newsletters predicting something will happen at the United Nations a year from now. The future belongs only to God. Use the information Jesus provided in Revelation to identify the events as they happen. Jesus is always right. Let the Bible interpret the Bible.
2. Heed the Revelation warnings from Jesus. When you have finished all 22 chapters of Revelation, you will see that you must not follow the teachings from the false prophet Mohammad, read his book the Qur'an, pray to the Blackstone image he set up in the Kaaba, recite and take his Shahada mark, nor travel in the Hajj to his Great City of Mecca. Jesus warns about all this in Revelation.
3. Do observe that the symbol of Baal (the crescent moon) is the universal symbol of Islam.
4. Do observe that the colors of dozens of Middle Eastern Islamic county national flags are always the colors of the Four Horsemen (Chapter 6), always white, red, black, and pale green.
5. Many prophetic events in Revelation are crystal clear. It should be without debate the beast of Revelation is a spirit. The Bible says clearly in Revelation 17:8 it is from the Abyss.

Revelation 17:8 (NIV)

The beast, which you saw, once was, now is not, and yet will come up out of the Abyss and go to its destruction. The inhabitants of the earth whose names have not been written in the book of life from the creation of the world will be astonished when they see the beast, because it once was, now is not, and yet will come.

6. Understand that some prophecy is on earth, BUT at least half of the Revelation prophecy is in the spiritual realm. In the Book of Revelation, every reference to the "sea" is figurative language, always meaning the spiritual realm. An example is in Revelation 13:1, the beast from the "sea."

Revelation 13:1 (NIV)

The dragon stood on the shore of the sea. And I saw a beast coming out of the sea. It had ten horns and seven heads, with ten crowns on its horns, and on each head a blasphemous name.

Remember the author is Jesus Christ, and the Apostle John merely wrote down what he heard and saw. The Book has been a mystery to humans for 19 centuries. The word Revelation is from a Greek word "apocalypse" meaning "to uncover", "to reveal", or "to unveil." But it is only unveiled when God selects the time. Without God's permission, no one can unveil it. Some portions of Revelation are still not unveiled. Until God wills, they will remain impenetrable.

Revelation is for today. Today we can identify the words "added", the words "taken away", the false prophet, his false holy book, is "mark" or statement of faith, his great city, and his worship "image" that the entire world must pray to five times a day.