

**"THROUGH THE BIBLE"**

Union Chapel M. B. Church

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**THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST**

**"God Is in Control!"**

February 11, 2026

*Selected Scriptures*

*"All Scripture is given by the inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work." (2 Tim. 3:16 NKJV).*

*"I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last,"*

*"What you see, write in a book and send it to the seven churches which are in Asia: to Ephesus, to Smyrna, to Pergamos, to Thyatira, to Sardis, to Philadelphia, and to Laodicea." (Rev. 1:11 NKJV).*

*"The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh comes; and to Him shall be the obedience of the people." (Gen. 49:10 NKJV).*

*"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." (Joh. 1:1 NKJV).*

**INTRODUCTION**

**REVELATION: THE SOURCE AND SETTING OVERVIEW**

- **AUTHOR:** Former Pastor of the Ephesus Church, John the Apostle (Rev. 1:1, 4, 9; 22:8), received the "Revelation" while isolated and exiled on the Island of Patmos, in the Aegean Sea, A.D. 95, during the reign of Emperor Domitian. His assignment: "What you see, write...send it to the churches."
- **PURPOSE OF THE BOOK:** To give hope and encouragement to the persecuted Christians, and provide a vision of Christ's "Return" - "Behold, He is coming with clouds..." (Rev. 1:7). To inspire the Church to expect, serve, watch, and be ready when He returns (Mt. 24:44). To understand human affairs, variety of challenges, problems, and solutions are in His victorious hands.
- **THE REVELATION:** Unveiling God's program for human history with Christ-centered truth, blessings, and prophecy. This is the "book of blessing." To focus attention on the "Lamb of God" and His complete and final Kingdom victory. He is the Risen "Priest-King." Note: The word "revelation" literally means "unveiling." The Book is considered "Open" ...continuing...moving towards the end (Rev. 22:10). We must keep in mind the timing of the Lord's return, and the end of the world is God's business and not ours. Jesus Christ WILL return to earth with His church to set up His Kingdom. He will return as "King of kings..." (Rev. 19:16). This event is for future fulfillment.

- **RECIPIENTS of the LETTERS: The Seven Churches of Asia Minor (Modern-Day Turkey) 1<sup>st</sup> Century.** Note: They are representative of the entire Christian era. The God-given instructions, principles, messages, counsel, and warnings are definitely for all churches, and 21<sup>st</sup> Century Christians today.
- **CRISIS: Persecution of Christians began in the Roman Empire under the Emperor Nero. Domitian became Emperor (A.D. 81-96) and his “fiery” persecution and treatment of both Jews and Christians was bitter. Many were killed, and some like John were exiled to a prison camp. However, he still believed the Lord was with him, focused all of his attention on Jesus, and remembered “grace and peace...” (Rev. 1:4-7) ...then, the “Alpha and the Omega” showed up (Rev. 1:8-11).**
- **For a lot of people today, the Book of Revelation is literally a closed Book- It’s not read! However, the Book is special, it is prophecy (Rev. 1:3), and full of symbolism. The Author will reveal that the “Truth” will certainly play out. The signs, visions, and symbols are used to reveal the spiritual truths (mysteries) of God’s divine plan - “things which must shortly take place (be fulfilled)” (Rev. 1:1).**
- **The Steps of the Revelation- (Rev. 1:1-2): Note: John is writing about the reveal of future “things.” God gives it to His Son (Jesus), He gives it to His angel, His angel gives it to John, and from John it goes to His servants. This way the servants might know what is coming to pass. For sure, the Word of God (reality) and the strength/wisdom of the Holy Spirit, we will have the primary source for interpretation. God promises “special blessings” for obedience to commit to a “Revelation Book Bible Study.” (Rev. 1:3). Take it to heart! He did say, “for the time is near.”**
- **The PERSON of Jesus Christ-The “Son of Man” in Heaven (Glorified body) (Rev. 1:12). The description of Him dressed as the Great High Priest in the Holy of Holies-judging/examining His Church-He sees everything that is going on, and He judges. “What you see, write in a book and send it to the seven churches...” (Rev. 1:11-15).**

**NOTE:** Revelation chapter one identifies seven leading territorial cities of Asia (Roman Empire). These cities were connected by a road on which a traveler could complete a tour from Ephesus to Laodicea. On this route John identifies the seven churches: EPHESUS, SMYRNA, PERGAMOS, THYATIRA, SARDIS, PHILADELPHIA, LAODICEA (Rev.1:11). These churches are the first to receive “Messages from the Glorified Christ.”

## **OUTLINE**

### **REVELATION (Chapter 1-John’s 1<sup>st</sup> Vision)**

- I. **The Person of Jesus Christ-Christ in Glory (Rev. 1:8-20)**
  - A. **The Christ John Heard-In the Spirit (Rev. 1:9-11)**
  - B. **The Christ John Saw-Risen, Glorified, Exalted (Rev.1:12-18)**
  - C. **The Time-Line-The Things You Have Seen (Rev. 1:19)**
  - D. **Interpretation of the Seven Stars and Seven Lampstands (Rev. 1:20)**