

Revelation 1:1-3 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, 2 who bore witness to the word of God, and to the testimony of Jesus Christ, to all things that he saw. 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.

How many doctrines do you see here in these first three verses?

JOHN'S CONCEPT OF THE WORD OF GOD

Revelation 1:1-3 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, 2 who bore witness to the word of God, and to the testimony of Jesus Christ, to all things that he saw. 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.

Revelation 1:9 I, John, both your brother and companion in the tribulation and kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ, was on the island that is called Patmos for the word of God and for the testimony of Jesus Christ.

Revelation 3:8, 10 8 "I know your works. See, I have set before you an open door, and no one can shut it; for you have a little strength, **have kept My Word**, and have not denied My name. 9 Indeed I will make those of the synagogue of Satan, who say they are Jews and are not, but lie—indeed I will make them come and worship before your feet, and to know that I have loved you. 10 **Because you have kept My command** to persevere, I also will keep you from the hour of trial which shall come upon the whole world, to test those who dwell on the earth.

Revelation 6:9 When He opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar **the souls of those who had been slain for the word of God** and for the testimony which they held.

Revelation 12:11 And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and **by the word of their testimony**, and they did not love their lives to the death.

Revelation 17:17 For God has put it into their hearts to fulfill His purpose, to be of one mind, and to give their kingdom to the beast, **until the words of God are fulfilled**.

Revelation 19:9 Then he said to me, "Write: 'Blessed *are* those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb!'" And he said to me, "**These are the true sayings of God**."

Revelation 20:4 And I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was committed to them. Then *I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded* for their witness to Jesus and **for the word of God**, who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received *his* mark on their foreheads or on their hands. And they lived and reigned with Christ for a thousand years.

Doctrine of The Bible	BIBLIOLOGY
Doctrine of God	THEOLOGY
Doctrine of Jesus & Christ	CHRISTOLOGY
Doctrine of the Holy Spirit	PNEUMATOLOGY
Doctrine of Angels	ANGELOLOGY
Doctrine of Man	ANTHROPOLOGY
Doctrine of Salvation	SOTERIOLOGY
Doctrine of The Church	ECCLISIOLOGY
Doctrine of End Times	ESCATOLOGY

Revelation 1:1-3 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 *σημαίνει* - = to indicate or **communicate** = by means of **signs** or **symbolic** language - Noun form = sign by His angel to His servant John, **2** who bore witness to the word of God, and to the testimony of Jesus Christ, to all things that he saw. **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.

SYMBOLISM - in the Book of Revelation

Symbols used in Revelation fall into **FOUR** categories:

1. Some of the symbols = **INTERPRETED BY THE BOOK ITSELF**

- Revelation 1:20 interprets seven lampstands in v. 12 and seven stars in v. 16
- Revelation 4:5 seven lamps of fire = The Seven Spirits of God
- Revelation 5:8 golden bowls full of incense = the prayers of the saints
- Revelation 7:13-14 - ones clothed in white robes = those who have come out of the Great Tribulation
- Revelation 12:9 The great dragon, the Serpent of old = The Devil - Satan
- Revelation 17:9 Seven heads = seven mountains
- Revelation 17:12 Ten horns = ten kings
- Revelation 17:15 The waters = the gentile nations
- Revelation 17:18 The woman = the great city which reigns over the kings of the earth

2. Symbols = **EXPLAINED BY THE OLD TESTAMENT**

- 348 quotations and allusions from the O.T. in Book of Revelation
- 250 verses in the OT referred to - come from Ezekiel, Daniel, Isaiah, Zechariah
- 45 quotations or allusions alone from the Book of Daniel

Obvious conclusion = ? Need to understand the OT in order to understand the Book of Revelation

Examples: Revelation 2:7 - "I will grant to eat from the Tree of Life" = Garden of Eden, Genesis 2 and 3

Revelation 2:17 - "I will give some of the hidden manna to eat" = Exodus 16:32ff

Revelation 2:14 "you have there those who hold the doctrine of Balaam" = Numbers 22-24, 31:16

3. Some symbols used = **EXPLAINED BY THE LIFE, TIMES AND CULTURE OF THE FIRST CENTURY**

Examples: "white stones" - Revelation 2:17

those in Sardis "who have not defiled their garments and they shall walk with me in white..." - Rev. 2:4

"I will not blot out his name from the Book of Life..." - Rev. 2:5

4. In a few cases = **THE CONTEXT** of the passage will be the only clue to our interpretation.

2 Peter 1:16 For we did not follow cunningly devised fables when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of His majesty. **17** For He received from God the Father honor and glory when such a voice came to Him from the Excellent Glory: "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." **18** And we heard this voice which came from heaven when we were with Him on the holy mountain.

19 And so we have the prophetic word confirmed, which you do well to heed as a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts; **20** knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, **21** for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke *as they were* moved by the Holy Spirit.

And He sent and signified *it* by His **ANGEL** - *αγγελος* to His servant John,
 Just as Daniel and just as Zechariah had an "**assigned angel**" - to teach them
 so too - John has an assigned angel to teach him -
 the one appointed to show and teach John the content of the revelation and its meaning

ANGELOLOGY

The **CREATION** of angels

The **REALITY** of angels

The **PERSONALITY** of angels

The **ABODE** of angels

The **NUMBER** of angels

The **POWER** of angels

The **CLASSIFICATION** of angels

The **MINISTRY** of angels

The **SPECTATORSHIP** of angels

- 1. Governmental Rulers
- 2. Elect Angels
- 3. Types of angels
 - a. Cherubim
 - b. Seraphim
 - c. Living Creatures
- 4. Individual Angels
 - a. Lucifer - "Son of the Morning" - Isaiah 14:12
 - b. Michael - Daniel 12:1
 - c. Gabriel - Daniel 9:21
- 5. Angels especially designated

SATANOLOGY

- 1. Satan's Creation
- 2. Satan's Sin
- 3. Satan's Career
- 4. Old Testament view of Satan
- 5. New Testament view of Satan
- 6. Names for Satan
- 7. Satan's Judgments
 - a. Cast out of Heaven
 - b. At Christ's Second Coming
 - c. Final Judgment
- 8. Demonology

SEVEN HAPPINESS PASSAGES OF REVELATION

- 1. **Revelation 1:3**
- 2. **Revelation. 14:13**
- 3. **Revelation 16:15**
- 4. **Revelation. 19:9**
- 5. **Revelation. 20:6**
- 6. **Revelation 22:7**
- 7. **Revelation 22:7, 14**

Book of Revelation begins with a blessing and ends with a blessing

THE DEITY OF JESUS CHRIST

1. The **TRINITY** is in view - Christ = a member of the **TRINITY** - 1 Peter 1:2; 2 Corinthians 13:14; Matthew 28:19.
2. **SCRIPTURE** verifies the deity of Christ in many ways - John 1:1-3; 8:58; Micah 5:2; Romans 9:5; Titus 2:13; Hebrews 1:8-10; 1 John 5:20.
3. Deity of Christ also demonstrated through the **PRE-INCARNATE WORK OF CHRIST**.
Example - Christ created the universe - John 1:3; Colossians 1:16; Hebrews 1:10
4. Doctrine of **DIVINE DECREES** proves the deity of Christ - Psalm 2:7-9; Psalm 22:1-6; Psalm 40; Psalm 110
5. The **CHRISTOPHANIES** of Christ also indicate deity
6. The **TETRAGRAMMATON** - title in Old Testament also reveals His deity - KJV = translated LORD. Isaiah 9:6-7; Isaiah 40:3; Jeremiah 23:5-6; Zechariah 12:10
7. The **DIVINE ATTRIBUTES** of God (Essence) are attributed to Jesus -
Sovereignty - absolute Righteousness - Justice - Love - Eternal Life - Omnipotence - Omnipresence - Omniscience - Immutability - Veracity.

Examples:

Sovereign - God has a will. By Himself and with assistance from no one He makes decisions and policies and sets up principles. He has the right to do as He pleases but at the same time always acts in accordance with all His other attributes - He will never express one attribute at the expense of another attribute - i.e. The love of God cannot embrace what His holiness condemns. Rev. 4:11

Holiness = a characteristic of righteousness and justice and is ascribed to Jesus Christ in Luke 1:35; John 6:69; Hebrews 7:26.

Love as a characteristic of God is attributed to Christ in John 13:1, 34; 1 John 3:16.

Eternal life - Isaiah 9:6; Micah 5:2; John 1:1; 8:58; Revelation 1:11.

Omniscience is ascribed to Christ - Matthew 9:4; John 2:25; 1 Corinthians 4:5; Colossians 2:3; Revelation 2:23.

Omnipotence - Matthew 24:30; 28:13; 1 Corinthians 15:28; Philippians 3:21; Hebrews 1:3; Revelation 1:8.

Omnipresence - Matthew 28:20; Ephesians 1:23; Colossians 1:27

Immutability is ascribed to Christ in Hebrews 13:8.

Veracity - John 14:6

God is one in essence but three in Person



MORE PRECIOUS THAN GOLD THAT PERISHES