



TRINITY AME CHURCH

"God Our Father, Christ Our Redeemer, Holy Spirit
Our Comforter, and Humankind Our Family"

Bible Study Notes

Series: *Revelation*

Lesson Scripture: Revelation 1

Date: Wednesday, February 12, 2020

Teacher: Pastor Grate

Revelation 1:1-3 – An Introduction

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, ² who testifies to everything he saw—that is, the word of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ. 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. (Revelation 1:1-3)

- The title of the book **IS NOT** *Revelations* **BUT** *Revelation*. **THERE IS NO** “s.”
- Sometimes Revelation is referred to more formally as the *Revelation of John* or *The Apocalypse of John*
- The identified author of the book is a person by the name of John. **THIS IS NOT** the John of the gospel (*Gospel of St. John*) or the John of the epistles (*1 John, 2 John, 3 John*). Recalls the seventh plague on the Egyptians from Exodus 9:23-25.
- The English word translated “revelation” is a translation of the Greek work *apokalypsis*.
 - A direct translation of *apokalypsis* is apocalypse.
- The apocalyptic genre of biblical literature conveys an unveiling of things not previously known and/or could not be known apart from the unveiling. **IT IS NOT** a reference to the end of the world though the events revealed may speak about events that come at the end of time.

A Comparison Doxological Greetings

*John,
To the seven churches in the province of
Asia:
Grace and peace to you from him who is,
and who was, and who is to come, and from
the seven spirits before his throne, ⁵ and
from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful
witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the
ruler of the kings of the earth.
To him who loves us and has freed us from
our sins by his blood, ⁶ and has made us to
be a kingdom and priests to serve his God
and Father—to him be glory and power for
ever and ever! Amen.*

(Revelation 1:4-8 NIV)

*Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be
an apostle and set apart for the gospel of
God— ² the gospel he promised
beforehand through his prophets in the Holy
Scriptures ³ regarding his Son, who as to his
earthly life was a descendant of David, ⁴ and
who through the Spirit of holiness was
appointed the Son of God in power by his
resurrection from the dead: Jesus Christ our
Lord. ⁵ Through him we received grace and
apostleship to call all the Gentiles to the
obedience that comes from faith for his
name’s sake. ⁶ And you also are among
those Gentiles who are called to belong to
Jesus Christ.*

(Romans 1:1-6 NIV)

Revelation 1:12-16 – Imagery Explanations

	Metaphorical Meaning	Old Testament Reference
Lampstand	Temple	<p><i>¹⁷ Join them together into one stick so that they will become one in your hand.</i></p> <p><i>¹⁸ “When your people ask you, ‘Won’t you tell us what you mean by this?’ ¹⁹ say to them, ‘This is what the Sovereign LORD says: I am going to take the stick of Joseph—which is in Ephraim’s hand—and of the Israelite tribes associated with him, and join it to Judah’s stick. I will make them into a single stick of wood, and they will become one in my hand.’ ²⁰ Hold before their eyes the sticks you have written on...</i></p> <p>(Ezekiel 37:17-21, [22-24])</p>
Son of Man	Attributes of Christ	<p><i>In my vision at night I looked, and there before me was one like a son of man, coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient of Days and was led into his presence. ¹⁴ He was given authority, glory and sovereign power; all nations and peoples of every language worshiped him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and his kingdom is one that will never be destroyed. (Daniel 7:13-14)</i></p>
Golden Sash	Symbols of Rank & Honor	<p><i>I looked up and there before me was a man dressed in linen, with a belt of fine gold from Uphaz around his waist. (Daniel 10:5)</i></p>
White	Purity & Righteousness	<p><i>thrones were set in place, and the Ancient of Days took his seat. His clothing was as white as snow; the hair of his head was white like wool. His throne was flaming with fire, and its wheels were all ablaze. (Daniel 7:9)</i></p>

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