

Revelation

The significance of this book is made clear and should be taken very serious

▼ 1.

The book **Begins** with a promise of blessing:

Revelation 1:1–3 (KJV 1900)

1 The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him, to shew unto his servants things which must shortly come to pass; and he sent and signified it by his angel unto his servant John:
2 Who bare record of the word of God, and of the testimony of Jesus Christ, and of all things that he saw.

3 Blessed is he that readeth, and **they that hear the words of this prophecy**, and keep those things which are written therein: **for the time is at hand.**

The doctrine of imminency

The entire book is sandwiched between these thoughts:

1. How we handle its teachings will result in Blessing or Cursing
2. Its teachings are critical for us to be adequately equipped, for Christ's second return.

- ▼ a. It's not just reading and hearing; but the clear implication is, study for an understanding of the details, so they can be applied now.

- i. **And applied in preparation for the sudden return of Christ**

2.

The book **Ends** with a caution against cursing:

Revelation 22:18–21 (NKJV)

18 For I testify to everyone who **hears the words of the prophecy of this book**: If anyone adds to these things, God will add to him the plagues that are written in this book;
19 and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part from the Book of Life, from the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.
20 He who testifies to these things says, **"Surely I am coming quickly."** Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus!
21 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.

▼ 3. The book of Revelation: it's arrangement

▼ a. **Revelation 1:19 (NKJV)**

19 Write the things which you have seen, and the things which are, and the things which will take place after this.

- i. **Past tense**: chapter 1, those things that he saw before verse 19
 - ii. **Present tense**: chapters 2 and 3
 - iii. **Future tense**: chapters 4 through 22

7 letters to the 7 churches

▼ 4. The church is addressed 19 times in chapters 1, 2 and 3. The church is not referred to again until chapter 22:16

- a. The events (**The Great Tribulation**) taking place in chapters 4 through 22 are not church age occurrences!
 - b.

▼ 5. **Preterist view:**

- ▼ a. The preterist movement essentially teaches that all the end-times prophecies of the New Testament were fulfilled in A.D. 70 when the Romans attacked and destroyed Jerusalem and Israel.
 - i. **However the book of Revelation was not written until A.D. 95**
 - ii. **Not to mention the coherency of Scripture is destroyed with the Preterist view**

▼ 6. **Historicist view:**

- ▼ a. Those who teach this view believe that God revealed the entire church age in advance through the symbolic visions of the Apocalypse.
 - i. For example, the breaking of the seven seals (chs. 6–7) is often said to be the barbarian invasions that sacked the western Roman Empire.

The scorpion/locusts that come out of the bottomless pit (ch. 9) are the Arab hordes attacking the eastern Roman Empire, followed by the Turks, represented as the horses with serpents for tails and flame-throwers for mouths.

"The beast" (ch. 13) represents the Roman papacy.
- b. **luminaries of the past who took this view would include:**

John Wycliffe, John Knox, William Tyndale, Martin Luther, John Calvin, Ulrich Zwingli, Philip Melancthon, Sir Isaac Newton, Jan Huss, John Foxe, John Wesley, Jonathan Edwards, George Whitefield, Charles Finney, C. H. Spurgeon, Matthew Henry, Adam Clarke, Albert Barnes, E. B. Elliott, H. Grattan Guinness, and Bishop Thomas Newton.

7. **Futurist view:**

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