

Chapter 1 : Book of Revelation - Read, Study Bible Verses Online

Revelation is first and foremost a revelation about Jesus Christ (). The book depicts Him as the risen, glorified Son of God ministering among the churches (ff). As "The faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth" ();

Symbolic language, however, is one of the chief characteristics of apocalyptic literature, of which this book is an outstanding example. Such literature enjoyed wide popularity in both Jewish and Christian circles from ca. This book contains an account of visions in symbolic and allegorical language borrowed extensively from the Old Testament, especially Ezekiel, Zechariah, and Daniel. Whether or not these visions were real experiences of the author or simply literary conventions employed by him is an open question. This much, however, is certain: One would find it difficult and repulsive to visualize a lamb with seven horns and seven eyes; yet Jesus Christ is described in precisely such words Rev 5: A significant feature of apocalyptic writing is the use of symbolic colors, metals, garments Rev 1: Finally the vindictive language in the book Rev 6: The cries for vengeance on the lips of Christian martyrs that sound so harsh are in fact literary devices the author employed to evoke in the reader and hearer a feeling of horror for apostasy and rebellion that will be severely punished by God. The lurid descriptions of the punishment of Jezebel Rev 2: The metaphor of Babylon as harlot would be wrongly construed if interpreted literally. On the other hand, the stylized figure of the woman clothed with the sun Rev The Book of Revelation cannot be adequately understood except against the historical background that occasioned its writing. Like Daniel and other apocalypses, it was composed as resistance literature to meet a crisis. The book itself suggests that the crisis was ruthless persecution of the early church by the Roman authorities; the harlot Babylon symbolizes pagan Rome, the city on seven hills Rev The triumph of God in the world of men and women remains a mystery, to be accepted in faith and longed for in hope. Though the perspective is eschatologicalâ€”ultimate salvation and victory are said to take place at the end of the present age when Christ will come in glory at the parousiaâ€”the book presents the decisive struggle of Christ and his followers against Satan and his cohorts as already over. Even the forces of evil unwittingly carry out the divine plan Rev The Book of Revelation had its origin in a time of crisis, but it remains valid and meaningful for Christians of all time. Those who remain steadfast in their faith and confidence in the risen Lord need have no fear. Suffering, persecution, even death by martyrdom, though remaining impenetrable mysteries of evil, do not comprise an absurd dead end. No matter what adversity or sacrifice Christians may endure, they will in the end triumph over Satan and his forces because of their fidelity to Christ the victor. This is the enduring message of the book; it is a message of hope and consolation and challenge for all who dare to believe. The author of the book calls himself John Rev 1: Although he never claims to be John the apostle, whose name is attached to the fourth gospel, he was so identified by several of the early church Fathers, including Justin, Irenaeus, Clement of Alexandria, Tertullian, Cyprian, and Hippolytus. Indeed, vocabulary, grammar, and style make it doubtful that the book could have been put into its present form by the same person s responsible for the fourth gospel. Nevertheless, there are definite linguistic and theological affinities between the two books. The tone of the letters to the seven churches Rev 1: It is possible, therefore, that he was a disciple of John the apostle, who is traditionally associated with that part of the world. The date of the book in its present form is probably near the end of the reign of Domitian A. The principal divisions of the Book of Revelation are the following: Letters to the Churches of Asia 1:

Chapter 2 : Revelation with Book Summary - Verse-by-Verse Bible Commentary

The Book of Revelation in the Bible is one of the more difficult books of the Bible to understand. A Testimony of Jesus Christ is a commentary that explains some of the mysteries of Revelation.

How can I understand the Book of Revelation? The key to Bible interpretation, especially for the book of Revelation, is to have a consistent hermeneutic. Hermeneutics is the study of the principles of interpretation. In other words, it is the way you interpret Scripture. A normal hermeneutic or normal interpretation of Scripture means that unless the verse or passage clearly indicates the author was using figurative language, it should be understood in its normal sense. We are not to look for other meanings if the natural meaning of the sentence makes sense. Also, we are not to spiritualize Scripture by assigning meanings to words or phrases when it is clear the author, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, meant it to be understood as it is written. One example is Revelation. Many will assign various meanings to references to a thousand-year period. Yet, the language does not imply in any way that the references to the thousand years should be taken to mean anything other than a literal period of one thousand years. A simple outline for the book of Revelation is found in Revelation 1: In the first chapter, the risen and exalted Christ is speaking to John. These judgments are not for the church 1 Thessalonians 5: Before the judgments begin, the church will have been removed from the earth in an event called the rapture 1 Thessalonians 4: It is also a time when God will judge unbelievers for their rebellion against Him. He defeats the beast and the false prophet and casts them into the lake of fire. In Chapter 20, Christ has Satan bound and cast in the Abyss. Then Christ sets up His kingdom on earth that will last years. At the end of the years, Satan is released and he leads a rebellion against God. He is quickly defeated and also cast into the lake of fire. Then the final judgment occurs, the judgment for all unbelievers, when they too are cast into the lake of fire. Chapters 21 and 22 describe what is referred to as the eternal state. In these chapters God tells us what eternity with Him will be like. The book of Revelation is understandable. God would not have given it to us if its meaning were entirely a mystery. The key to understanding the book of Revelation is to interpret it as literally as possible—it says what it means and means what it says.

Chapter 3 : Book of Revelation - Wikipedia

The Book of Revelation, often called the Revelation to John, the Apocalypse of John, The Revelation, or simply Revelation, the Revelation of Jesus Christ (from its opening words) or the Apocalypse (and often misquoted as Revelations), is the final book of the New Testament, and therefore also the final book of the Christian Bible.

It is populated by winged and wild creatures, locust plagues, and seven-headed beasts. Revelation is filled with obscure and fantastic symbolism, and it teems with mystical references. However, it lacks any real internal structure. Unlike the other New Testament books, which tend to mix narrative with sermon-style preaching, Revelation is essentially a long, uninterrupted record of a mystical vision, offering little interpretation for its intricate symbols. Revelation has been read for thousands of years as a code that, properly interpreted, can reveal the secrets of history and the end of the world. The numbers and symbols in Revelation have been read into any number of traumatic events in ancient and modern history. Revelation was a product of this time of early growth and confusion, but also of a long Jewish tradition of apocalyptic literature. The Old Testament books of Ezekiel and Zechariah contain long apocalyptic segments. The most famous Old Testament apocalypse, the Book of Daniel, was written circa b. The apocalyptic genre became more popular after 70 a. There is enough apocalyptic literature that it can be classified as a genre of its own, with its own particular characteristics. Some of these common features are revelations made to a human emissary through a supernatural agency, heavy symbolism, numerology with obscure significance, extravagant imagery, and concern about a cataclysmic day of judgment or the end of the world. Apocalyptic literature tends to take a deterministic view of history—that is, apocalypses are generally driven by the belief that history inexorably follows a set path ordained by God. All of these characteristics of the apocalyptic genre are present in Revelation.

Summary The introduction of Revelation names the author, John, and explains the immediacy of the message: John extends a greeting to the Christian communities in seven major Near East cities in the name of the God of history. On the Sabbath, John falls into a prophetic ecstasy. He sees a vision of a shining Jesus, surrounded by seven stars and seven lamp-stands: Jesus reminds them that his coming is imminent. John sees God enthroned and surrounded by twenty-four elders. Lightning flashes and thunder sounds. Old Testament angels with six wings and many eyes sing praises to the Lord. God holds a scroll sealed with seven seals, and nobody is worthy of breaking the seals except Jesus, by virtue of his sacrifice. Breaking the first four seals, Jesus releases the Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse: When the fifth seal is broken, the souls of martyrs cry out for justice, but they are urged to have patience until the appointed number of people have been martyred. The breaking of the sixth seal unleashes a massive cosmic upheaval that devastates the world. Before the breaking of the seventh seal, an angel marks , people—12, from each of the tribes of Israel—with the seal of God to protect them from the coming devastation. Other righteous people, too, are to be saved: Finally, it is time to open the seventh seal 8: But the opening of the seal is anticlimactic; when it is opened, it is revealed that there are seven trumpets that need to be blown. Four of the trumpets blow, each bringing with it disaster and destruction, with fire falling from the sky 8: However, the survivors nevertheless refuse to stop worshipping idols and behaving immorally. The prophet is ordered to consume a scroll, which will taste sweet but be bitter in his stomach 8: God will revive these prophets, and will strike Jerusalem with a powerful earthquake. The moment for justice, punishment, and triumph has arrived, with lighting, thunder, earthquakes, and hail.

Chapter 4 : Revelation Commentary : Overview of the Book of Revelation

The literary genres of the book of Revelation are an Apocalypse, a Prophecy, and an Epistle (or Letter). The Disciple/Apostle John, who followed Jesus Christ and witnessed His crucifixion, authored it. John wrote Revelation while a prisoner on the Island of Patmos, approximately A.D. 1st.

Devotional Day 1 Revelation 1: Welcome to Through the Word, leading you on a journey through the entire Bible, one chapter at a time. Now to Pastor Kris. However you see him, get ready for it to change. The book of Revelation is a revealing of Jesus Christ in glory. I know, I know. You thought Revelation was about the end of the world. But the first time I read Revelation, I was lost. Dragons and demons, angels and plagues, mark of the beast, stars fall, heavens rolled up - cats and dogs living together, mass hysteria! And I may have confused it with Ghostbusters. Revelation is meant to bring understanding. The word revelation literally means unveiling - as in revealing a mystery. It pictures something mysterious, covered by a veil, and then the veil is taken away so you can see it, so you can understand. So if Revelation is for understanding, why is it so confusing? Why does reading it feel like I just walked into a class on advanced nuclear metaphysics? But think about it. Is the purpose of that class to confuse, or to bring understanding? So why am I confused? So if you understand the rest of the Bible first - and with a teacher to explain it - Revelation makes sense. As we go, I explain it so you understand it. You listen, then read for yourself. In other words, I help you see the forest so you can make better sense of the trees. And when it does make sense, Revelation explains a lot. There are a whole lot of loose pieces of the Bible puzzle that come together when you get this one placed properly. So if this book is revealing something, what exactly is being revealed? This book is an unveiling of who Jesus is. Now wait a second. I still thought Revelation was about the end of the world, right? Back in verse 1: Now Revelation was written by John the apostle. He introduces himself in verse 4. And there in verse 4, John wishes them: Jesus is introduced as the ruler of Kings. Ultimately, Revelation is the return of the King to establish His Kingdom. In Revelation, Jesus Christ returns as King. In the process, the world is judged. Mercy is delivered too, and the gospel of salvation will be proclaimed to every creature. Now I should point out that good, godly Bible scholars do not all agree on how to read Revelation, and I am not the final authority. But to be clear, I fully respect those who disagree with me, and I respect your right to disagree too. The end of the world as we know it is a heavy thing to contemplate. Who would want to end this? Then I open the news. So much anger, so much hate. When will it end? Then my day starts. When will we get through this? Then I open the Bible. The Lord has a plan. And at the end of the story, two things stand out to me: He will return, and we shall overcome. And remember, faith comes by hearing, and hearing Through the Word Romans Bible quotes in NIV unless otherwise stated.

Chapter 5 : Apocalypticism Explained | Apocalypse! FRONTLINE | PBS

Introduction. This commentary on Revelation will prove, contrary to what most people think, that the Revelation, the last book of the Bible, is not difficult to understand if we will take a simple, face-value, common-sense approach to interpreting it.

Revelation Chapter 1 Before we go into the first chapter and verse of Revelation chapter 1, I would like to acquaint you with the penman, John the Apostle. I believe that God Himself is the author of the Bible. That includes the book of Revelation as all writing in the bible was inspired by the Holy Spirit of God , but the penman was the apostle John. John was the beloved of Jesus. He and James were the sons of Zebedee, the sons of thunder. John was one of the younger of the disciples. He loved Jesus so much that John was known as the disciple of love. It seems that Jesus felt the very same way about John. It was John that Jesus entrusted his mother to. Whenever three disciples went aside with Jesus, as they did at the transfiguration, John was one of them. John was there at the Garden of Gethsemane, waiting while Jesus prayed. John loved Jesus so much, that he was never very far from Jesus. It seemed that this great love that John had for Jesus helped him to understand the person of Jesus more than any other disciple. In this book of John, it shows Jesus as God manifest in the flesh. The first few scriptures say: This gives no doubt that it was Jesus who made everything including the earth, heavens, sun, moon, oceans and He created man as seen in the first 3 scriptures of the Gospel of John. But verse 14 tells us that the Word Jesus , was made flesh and dwelt among us as the true Son of God. The Eagle is symbolic of God. This is the message that John brought in his gospel, that Jesus was in fact God who took on the form of flesh and dwelt among us. The apostle John knew Jesus better than any of the other disciples. He even knew Him better than Paul knew Him. Jesus answered her and said that these positions were not His to give. John penned several books in the Bible besides Revelation. Second John is even a mystery today. So much discussion surrounds this little book, because no one knows for sure who it was addressed to. Only John and God know. John knew Jesus personally. He walked and talked with Jesus as He ministered here on the earth. John saw the miracles. He was there when Jesus taught the Sermon on the Mount. He had first-hand knowledge. Paul had a brief encounter with Jesus on the road to Damascus, but his other knowledge was by revelation. He was carried into heaven for a brief encounter as well, but most of his knowledge of Jesus came when he was three years in the wilderness studying and communing with God in prayer. John knew that Jesus was God the Word. The Lord, in his three years of ministry here on the earth, seemed to be with Peter, James, and John even more than with any of the other disciples. The thing that really stands out is that John was so bold for Jesus that he was banished to the Isle of Patmos. Many writers think that John had been fasting for seven days when he received the information for Revelation. There is really no mention of this in the Bible, however. Just the name of the manuscript gets me excited. Given by John the Divine are just two names that this book took on in various Bibles. John was not just an ordinary man that walked the earth. He was one who had touched and felt physically and even emotionally, the Lord Jesus. One of the unusual things about the book of Revelation is that it is the only book in the Bible that contains a promise to everyone that reads it, and all that hear it will be abundantly blessed. The early church read the book of Revelation in its entirety every time they met. There is a curse spoken at the end of Revelation to anyone who tampers with the contents of the Bible. Most of the Scriptures in this book were for future events, especially the end of the Gentile age, the end of the world, and the year reign of Christ on the earth, then all of eternity in heaven. You will notice that the number seven, which means spiritually complete, is all through Revelation. We will also see in Revelation a restoration to man of the blessings of the Garden of Eden in heaven. We will see again the tree of life and the water present. We will see access to the tree of life, which was lost in Genesis, restored in Revelation. The book itself says that it is the Revelation of Jesus Christ. This book was probably penned around 96 A. There is no proof of an absolute date. We must remember, and I stress again, that John was banished to the Isle of Patmos, off the western coast of Asia Minor, because of his boldness in speaking of Jesus Christ. He loved Jesus more than he feared punishment from the authorities. Alone, with no other believers to share with, John had been left out there to die. The authorities assumed that

there was nothing he could do out there to promote this Jesus. How wrong they were. He wrote the book of Revelation which would witness for him until the Lord returns. His witness is even stronger today than when he walked upon the earth. We must look at and understand the symbols we see to truly understand this book. Revelation is easily understood if the Holy Spirit of God reveals to us the symbols within. Revelation is not a horror story as many believe. To the Christian there are wonderful promises of a fantastic future. It is only a horror for those who have decided for all of eternity to refuse the free gift of salvation that Jesus offers to whosoever will. In many of the books, it is undetermined who says some of the things Hebrews for example , but in Revelation it is Jesus speaking and He is the Truth. Jesus not only knows the end from the beginning, He is the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. There is nothing before Him and nothing after Him. Many people believe that the things in Revelation have already happened. Many others believe that the things in Revelation are not even real, that they are a vision and we are not supposed to take it literally. There are others and I am one of them , that believe it is current, happening now, and in the very near future. I really will not argue with anyone about any of this. All I can relate is what it means to me, and that is what I will attempt to do in this study with the guidance of the Holy Spirit of God. In Revelation, it appears to me, that our Lord is pulling the curtain aside and allowing us to see what He really is and what He expects from us. Many people call this the Apocalypse which means the revealing. Revelation is written in symbols so that people cannot understand with their mind but must have faith. So many things in the Bible are veiled to the nonbeliever. So many people look at the Bible literally, but to truly understand, we must understand it through the Spirit. The veil in the temple was torn from the top to the bottom when Jesus died on the cross. This signifies that Jesus has opened the way to the Father for us. God the Father is no longer unreachable. Jesus opened the way to Him for us. Now we pray to the Father in the name of Jesus. We need no other go between. The Holy Spirit of God reveals the Scriptures to the believer. He is our Teacher and Guide. There are so many ways to study the scriptures such as types and shadows. We will look at these scriptures a dozen different ways. I believe in this study God will reveal Himself to us. He was promised in Genesis and the fulfillment takes place in Revelation. We will see throughout this study as we will throughout the entire Bible that for every blessing God promises, there is a warning of curses, if we do not follow the Lord. We will touch on the , which some denominations base their entire belief upon see article " , ". This , are physical Israel, in my opinion, and we will see also the large number of people around the throne in heaven when this , are here upon the earth. Those in heaven are the believers beyond number , who have on white robes washed in the blood of the Lamb of God. Revelation, as well as the whole Bible, is of no private interpretation. Revelation is not a horror story for the Christians. Revelation tells us of the wonderful provisions made for the believers. We read about the tree of life, and the river of water which flows from the throne of God see Article " Tree of Life - River of Water of Life ". There is no question in my mind that this John is the very same who walked with Jesus.

Chapter 6 : Revelation: Bible Study Commentary

Resources» Commentaries» Revelation. for the book of Revelation. Revelation 1. The the NIV Cultural Backgrounds Study Bible and the New Bible Commentary.

What Is the Book of Revelation About? Frequently Asked Questions Does Revelation say only , people will go to heaven? Is the United States or Israel mentioned in Revelation? Does Revelation predict present and future events? What is the mark of the beast? What does the number mean? What do the four horsemen represent in Revelation? Were the seven churches actual places? The book of Revelation is difficult to understand and inspires a wide range of questions, especially since there are many competing interpretations. Author One day in about the year 95 A. John was a Christian leader of Jewish origin who was in exile on the Roman prison island of Patmos. Tradition says John the apostle Mark 3: The author does not identify himself as an apostle. John the Divine is an example of "apocalyptic" writing - a form that delivers a message using symbols, images and numbers. Parts of the Old Testament, particularly in the book of Daniel, are also written in the apocalyptic genre. Many of the symbols and images in Revelation have parallels in the Old Testament. Apocalyptic writing is characteristic of times of persecution. Some of the symbols and images in Revelation equate the Roman emperor with Satan and depict the ancient Roman Empire as the ultimate evil. But the Christians of Asia Minor were familiar with the Old Testament and the apocalyptic writings and would be able to understand it. Revelation is also a prophecy Revelation 1: We often think of prophecy as a prediction of the future, but the original Greek word, propheteia, means "speaking the mind of God. Revelation is also known as The Apocalypse from its original Greek title. The word "apocalypse" has come to be associated with cataclysmic disaster, judgment day or the end of the world. However, its true meaning is an unveiling or revelation of things known only to God. Purpose Revelation was written as a letter to be circulated among the Christian churches at seven important cities in Asia Minor: Asia Minor was a region of the Roman Empire that is now the western part of the country of Turkey. Patmos is a small, rocky island off its coast. The map at right shows these sites at the time Revelation was written. There had been several waves of persecutions of Christians by Roman authorities. The vision John received offered encouragement to persecuted Christians and assurance that God was still in control. The forces of evil, particularly the Roman Empire, would eventually be utterly destroyed by God. Revelation offers comfort and encouragement to Christians of all ages that God is firmly in control. God would surely triumph and destroy the evil Roman Empire that was the source of their persecution. Interpretation Revelation often seems bizarre and incomprehensible. But understanding the apocalyptic genre, the history of the early Christians, the persecutions they faced, their fears, and the issues they debated makes it much clearer. Many of the images and symbols parallel those in Old Testament books such as Daniel. Others allude to people, places and events that were very familiar to the first century Christians of Asia Minor. Even so, many different shades of interpretation are possible, and there is still considerable debate about the meaning of some of the symbols and images. Prediction of Current and Future Events Over the centuries, there have been countless fanciful interpretations of Revelation. Many fascinating books, essays, and sermons have tried to equate the cataclysmic images in Revelation to world events and to predict when or how the "end times" would come. But the fact that none of those countless predictions has come true demonstrates the futility of trying to predict things known only to God Matthew In recent years, some people have understood the allusions in Revelation as references to modern events and modern nations, particularly Israel and the United States. However, most Bible scholars say the symbols in Revelation refer to events and places familiar to its intended audience - the first century Christians in Asia Minor. The book, itself, states that its message is directed at the first century Christians in Asia Minor, and that the events it describes would happen "soon" Revelation 1: Revelation in Popular Culture The book of Revelation, the Rapture and related Bible prophecies have spawned a whole industry in recent years. Jenkins have been at the forefront. Besides the many books, there are websites, TV evangelists, lecture series, movies and videos. Some of these feature imaginative and vivid embellishments of Bible prophecies mingled with contemporary political and social theories. Most of these works go well beyond anything revealed in the Bible

and are properly classified as fiction - not as Bible prophecy. Revelation as Propaganda Some have tried to turn Revelation into propaganda by associating its evil symbols with various modern nations, churches, religious leaders, political leaders or other people. However, such interpretations seem to be based on little more than prejudice and hatred. The evil symbols in Revelation almost certainly referred to the ancient Roman Empire and its emperors.

Synopsis This section gives a brief synopsis of each section of Revelation and an interpretation based on the best mainstream reference materials available. He states that it is a revelation given to him by Jesus Christ through an angel. One day, John falls into a kind of ecstatic state and experiences the vision he records in Revelation. He hears a voice and turns to see a vision of seven golden lampstands. In the midst of the lampstands is "One like the Son of Man" with white hair, eyes like fire, and a voice like rushing water. A two-edged sword is coming out of his mouth. The seven gold lampstands are the seven churches of Asia Minor. The sharp, two-edged sword coming from His mouth is the word of God

Isaiah The Seven Letters 2: A letter of several paragraphs is addressed to each of the seven churches. Each message praises the church community for its strengths and urges community members to correct their weaknesses.

A Vision of Heaven 4: He sees the throne of God and the heavenly court. He sees a scroll with seven seals in the right hand of God, but no one is found worthy to open it except a lamb. The "lamb" is Jesus. Lambs were routinely sacrificed in the Jewish temple for atonement reconciliation with God. God accepted the death of the animal as a substitute for the death that a sinner actually deserved. Jesus was metaphorically called "Lamb of God" because he gave his life as a sacrifice for all sinners

John 1: Opening of the Seven Seals 6: The Lamb opens the seven seals of the scroll. As each is opened, it reveals one aspect of human suffering or human destiny: Its rider has a bow and a crown and comes to conquer. Its rider has a sword and takes peace away from the earth. Its rider holds scales to weigh out grain. A pale green horse. Its rider is Death, and Hades follows with him. These are known as "The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse. The red horse is the bloodshed of war. The black horse is famine, which often follows war. The pale green horse is death, which follows famine. This tragic cycle has plagued mankind throughout history. The souls of Christian martyrs crying out

Sixth seal 6: Destruction in the heavens and on earth

Interlude 7: There is a lot of uncertainty about the meaning of this. Most agree that , is symbolic for a "perfect" large number. The Bible mentions 12, sealed from each of the 12 tribes of Israel. However, one common opinion is that, taken in the context of the whole book, "Israel" is a symbol for the Church, and the , represent all the faithful Christians who will be martyred for their faith

Revelation The seal protects them from the tribulations that will beset nonbelievers, but not from death. Seven angels are given seven trumpets. The Seven Trumpets

8: Hail and fire mixed with blood burns a third of the land. A third of the sea is turned to blood and a third of sea life is killed. A third of all fresh water is poisoned. A third of the sun, moon and stars became dark. An eagle cries "Woe to the inhabitants of earth. Locusts that sting like scorpions invade the land. Four angels are released to kill a third of mankind.

Chapter 7 : Bible - Revelation chapter 1 explained in detail

REVELATIONS Explained THE BOOK OF REVELATION SIMPLIFIED The book of Revelation written by the apostle John - Revelation 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.

Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse Revelation 6. And I saw, and behold a white horse: Beatus Escorial , circa Apocalypse 12, the Woman and the Dragon. From this church, those "who overcome are granted to eat from the tree of life, which is in the midst of the Paradise of God. Admonished to "do the first works" and to repent for having left their "first love. From this church, those who are faithful until death, will be given "the crown of life. Admonished not to fear the "synagogue of Satan ", nor fear a ten-day tribulation of being thrown into prison. From this church, those who overcome will be given the hidden manna to eat and a white stone with a secret name on it. From this church, those who overcome until the end, will be given power over the nations in order to dash them to pieces with the rule of a rod of iron; they will also be given the "morning star. Admonished to repent for allowing a "prophetess" to promote sexual immorality and to eat things sacrificed to idols. From this church, those who overcome will be clothed in white garments, and their names will not be blotted out from the Book of Life ; their names will also be confessed before the Father and His angels. From this church, those who overcome will be granted the opportunity to sit with the Son of God on His throne. Before the Throne of God The Throne of God appears, surrounded by twenty four thrones with Twenty-four elders seated in them. A white horse appears, whose crowned rider has a bow with which to conquer. A red horse appears, whose rider is granted a "great sword" to take peace from the earth. A black horse appears, whose rider has "a pair of balances in his hand", where a voice then says, "A measure of wheat for a penny, and three measures of barley for a penny; and [see] thou hurt not the oil and the wine. A pale horse appears, whose rider is Death , and Hades follows him. Death is granted a fourth part of the earth, to kill with sword, with hunger, with death, and with the beasts of the earth. They are given white robes and told to rest until the martyrdom of their brothers is completed. The stars of heaven fall to the earth and the sky recedes like a scroll being rolled up 6: Every mountain and island is moved out of place 6: The people of earth retreat to caves in the mountains 6: The survivors call upon the mountains and the rocks to fall on them, so as to hide them from the "wrath of the Lamb" 6: The , Hebrews are sealed. Introduces the seven trumpets 8: Seven angels are each given trumpets 8: An eighth angel takes a "golden censer ", filled with fire from the heavenly altar, and throws it to the earth 8: What follows are "peals of thunder, rumblings, flashes of lightning, and an earthquake" 8: After the eighth angel has devastated the earth, the seven angels introduced in verse 2 prepare to sound their trumpets 8: Seven trumpets are sounded Seen in Chapters 8, 9, and Hail and fire, mingled with blood, are thrown to the earth burning up a third of the trees and green grass. Something that resembles a great mountain, burning with fire, falls from the sky and lands in the ocean. It kills a third of the sea creatures and destroys a third of the ships at sea. A great star, named Wormwood , falls from heaven and poisons a third of the rivers and springs of water. A third of the sun, the moon, and the stars are darkened creating complete darkness for a third of the day and the night. The First Woe 9: This "star" is given "the key to the bottomless pit" 9: The "star" then opens the bottomless pit. When this happens, "smoke [rises] from [the Abyss] like smoke from a gigantic furnace. The sun and sky [are] darkened by the smoke from the Abyss" 9: From out of the smoke, locusts who are "given power like that of scorpions of the earth" 9: The Second Woe 9: These armies kill a third of mankind by plagues of fire, smoke, and brimstone. Upon the cry of the angel, seven thunders utter mysteries and secrets that are not to be written down by John. John is instructed to eat the little scroll that happens to be sweet in his mouth, but bitter in his stomach, and to prophesy. John is given a measuring rod to measure the temple of God, the altar, and those who worship there. Two witnesses prophesy for 1, days, clothed in sackcloth. The Third Woe that leads into the seven bowls There are lightnings, noises, thunderings, an earthquake, and great hail. The Seven Spiritual Figures. Events leading into the Third Woe A Woman "clothed with a white robe, with the sun at her back, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars" is in pregnancy with a male child. The Dragon waits for the birth of the child so he can devour it.

War breaks out in heaven between Michael and the Dragon, identified as that old Serpent, the Devil, or Satan. The Dragon engages to persecute the Woman, but she is given aid to evade him. Her evasiveness enrages the Dragon, prompting him to wage war against the rest of her offspring, who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ. The people of the world wonder and follow the Beast. The Dragon grants him power and authority for forty-two months. He directs people to make an image of the Beast of the Sea who was wounded yet lives, breathing life into it, and forcing all people to bear "the mark of the Beast", ""'. Events leading into the Third Woe: The Lamb stands on Mount Zion with the , "first fruits" who are redeemed from Earth and victorious over the Beast and his mark and image. Seven angels are given a golden bowl, from the Four Living Creatures, that contains the seven last plagues bearing the wrath of God. A "foul and malignant sore" afflicts the followers of the Beast. The Sea turns to blood and everything within it dies. All fresh water turns to blood. The Sun scorches the Earth with intense heat and even burns some people with fire. The Great River Euphrates is dried up and preparations are made for the kings of the East and the final battle at Armageddon between the forces of good and evil. A great earthquake and heavy hailstorm: Vision of John given by "an angel who had the seven bowls" The great Harlot who sits on a scarlet Beast with seven heads and ten horns and names of blasphemy all over its body and by many waters: The angel showing John the vision of the Harlot and the scarlet Beast reveals their identities and fates. The Dragon makes war against the people of God, but is defeated. There is no more suffering or death. The curse of sin is ended.

Chapter 8 : What Is the Book of Revelation About?

The book of Revelation (also called The Revelation of John or The Revelation of St. John the Divine) is an example of "apocalyptic" writing - a form that delivers a message using symbols, images and numbers. Parts of the Old Testament, particularly in the book of Daniel, are also written in the apocalyptic genre.

The Holy Scriptures start with a revelation on the past Genesis 1 and they end with a revelation on the future. As with all prophecies the Revelation also is not easily understood. This is why it is sometimes called "the book with seven seals" and is much neglected by many Christians. The assembly or church is subject of a divine mystery revealed in the NT only compare Ephesians 3: The assembly also plays a subordinate part in the NT prophecies. It is much rather centred on the coming of the Lord Jesus to rapture the believers. And this rapture will happen anytime compare Revelation Most biblical prophecies including the ones in Revelation concern the time after the rapture. There have been many attempts up to the present day to interpret the Revelation in a different way. The historical interpretation sees in it a description of the whole time of Christendom. This way of interpretation was especially popular during the time of Reformation: Luther for example saw the Antichrist in the Pope. The spiritualizing method looks at the book as timeless symbolizing the fight between good and evil. The correct way however to consider the Revelation is to look at chapters 4 to 22 regarding the future see also paragraph 2 Purpose and Subject. This view has already been seen, in part, by the Church Fathers. The book of Revelation is the fulfilment of every biblical prophecy. It cannot be understood without knowing the OT prophets Ezekiel and Daniel especially , nor without knowing the words of the Lord Jesus in Matthew 24; Matthew 25; Matthew 1 and 2 Thessalonians. The language of Revelation is largely symbolical. One can only explain these symbols in connection with the Holy Scriptures as a whole and especially in connection with prophecy as a whole. For we learn from Peter, in 2 Peter 1: John mentions his name four times in the book Revelation 1: He is the author of the forth gospel and of three epistles. Domitian reigned from 81 to 95 AC. According to Revelation 1: However, doubts in relation to the authorship of Revelation have been raised from the time of Dionysius, Bishop of Alexandria and pupil of Origenes 2 nd part of 3 rd century onward. Addressee It is evident that the Revelation bears the style of an epistle at the beginning and at the end. Grace be unto you, and peace, from him which is, and which was, and which is to come. The final words of Revelation which are directed to all the saints contradict this thought. But the introductory words of the book also distinctly show that the Revelation is directed to all Christians. Blessed is he who reads and they who hear the words of this prophecy. The number seven of the churches in Asia Minor chap. The person of Jesus Christ, the Son of God and the Redeemer, is in the centre of these future events. We see the Lord Jesus as righteous judge in chapter 1 and as the one who will soon be coming in the last chapter. But also in the course of the entire book of Revelation we see, time and again, the Lord Jesus as the one who acts. There we see the Lord Jesus as judge of his church amidst the seven golden candlesticks. These churches symbolically present the whole of Christendom from the beginning to the end. Finally "the things which shall be hereafter" show us the events that will occur after the church has been raptured. They are described starting from chapter 4: The believers symbolized in the 24 elders of chapter 4: To start with we see God as creator and ruler, the Lord Jesus as the slain lamb and the believers gathered round the throne in heaven chapter 4 and 5. In the following paragraph chapters 6 to 11 the seven seals of the book are opened by the Lamb. Then seven blows of trumpets start two series of terrible plagues and judgments. Chapters 12 and 13 show the people of Israel during this time of tribulation, the casting of Satan to the earth and the most powerful men of that time, the head of the Roman Empire and finally the Antichrist. Chapters 14 and 15 show two kinds of martyrs of that time. Chapter 16 follows with a third series of judgments with seven vials of wrath. Chapter 17 and 18 show the judgment of Babylon which is Christendom departed from God. Finally chapter 19 brings in Christ appearing on earth. Chapters 20 to 22 show the Millennium and the eternal state with a new heaven and a new earth. The book of Revelation closes with solemn appeals of the Lord Jesus to men in general and to the believers especially. Peculiarities The expressions for Christ in the Revelation are as follows: The Lamb 28 x 5: Jesus 9 x 1:

Chapter 9 : Book of Revelation Explained Scripture by Scripture

THE BOOK OF REVELATION. The Apocalypse, or Revelation to John, the last book of the Bible, is one of the most difficult to understand because it abounds in unfamiliar and extravagant symbolism, which at best appears unusual to the modern reader.

Several hundred years before the Lord came to earth to die on the cross, He communicated through an angelic messenger to Daniel, the prophet, essential information about the end times. The Lord, Himself, as recorded in the Olivet Discourse in the New Testament, taught His disciples more truth about the sequence of events that would lead to the end times and His return. Fifty plus years after the teaching of the Olivet Discourse, Christ, through an angelic messenger, revealed yet more end-time truth to John, information vital for the understanding of the last days. Ultimately, the prophetic truths contained in the book of Daniel, the Olivet Discourse, and the Revelation can be traced to our Lord. In the first verse of Revelation, chapter one, we are told that the contents of the book are written for the bondservants of Christ, i. In addition, Christ tells John that it is imperative that believers read and heed the message of the book because what will occur in the future is critically important for every child of God going into the last days. John is also instructed to record warnings to seven local churches existing at the time the book of Revelation was written. Thus, in the last days described in the book of Revelation, Christ weaves together three different programs for three different groups of people representing the entirety of mankind in the last days. Obedient and disobedient members of the church, unbelieving Israel, and the world in general compose these three groups. Five of the warnings to the seven churches have direct, end-time consequences. It is possible that one of the questions on the mind of John, in light of these warnings, concerned what would happen in the last days to those who continued in disobedience or unbelief. Beginning in chapter four, John is taken up into heaven where we, the reader, as is John, are given a marvelous view of the throne of God and the activities that will occur in the last days of human history as we know it. Other than the incredible glory of heaven itself, the focal point is an unopened scroll in the hand of Him who sits on a throne, sealed with seven seals. The question then arises as to who is able to break the seals, and thus permit the conditions necessary to effect the contents of the scroll. Pointing to the Lamb of God, one of the twenty-four elders told John that only the "Lion that is from the tribe of Judah" is worthy to open the scroll. This fact is supported earlier in the New Testament cf. Only Christ has the right to judge the world in the last days because of His death and resurrection as the perfect Lamb of God at His first coming. Revelation then begins to chronicle the events that will occur, beginning with the breaking of the seven seals. The seals represent conditions that must first occur before God brings His final judgment upon the world. Christ had already taught His disciples and Daniel that this final time of judgment would transpire within the context of the Seventieth Week. When all the prior conditions are met, He will then remove His faithful saints before He pours out His wrath on those who remain during the most prophesied event in all Scripture, the Day of the Lord. This judgment is described by Christ Himself as a judgment that will parallel the judgment of God during the days of Noah, but this last time, as Peter teaches, it will be a judgment by fire, not water! The first six seals are opened by the Lion of Judah, setting the stage for the final judgment of Christ. The fourth seal is broken and the wrath of Satan, through Antichrist, tests mankind in a final attempt to control all that dwell on the earth. The sixth seal is opened and the sign of the Day of the Lord, foretold again and again in the Scriptures, is given. The sun, moon, and stars go dark, which is the sign warning the earth that the wrath of God is about to commence. The faithful within the church that have withstood the attack of Satan and his Antichrist are removed from earth to heaven. The seventh seal is opened initiating the Day of the Lord, the awesome and oft-predicted wrath of God. At the end of the sixth trumpet judgment, the final seven-year period of end-time events, prophesied by Christ in the book of Daniel, is brought to an end. Only seventy-five days remain before the actual rule of Christ begins on earth over the nation Israel, who, after the completion of the seven-year period, will soon come back into a proper relationship with their Messiah. Revelation now depicts a strong angel coming down out of heaven with a small scroll. The small scroll outlines the critical events that will occur during the final seventy-five day period at the end of the seven-year period after the

events of the large scroll have been completed. Exactly as prophesied in Daniel, after the completion of the final seven-year period, the entire nation of Israel is saved--all who survive the beginning wrath of God meted out during the first six trumpet judgments. Then, Revelation shows the authority to rule over the earth being taken back from Satan and returned to Almighty God who will then begin to rule, again, exactly as described in Daniel. Then, the seventh trumpet judgment releases the final seven bowl judgments of God, the final wrath of God. At the end of the first thirty days of the seventy-five days that follow the seven-year period, the final wrath of God will be completed and concluded with the battle of Armageddon. At this final battle, Antichrist and his armies will be quickly defeated by Christ and the angelic host of God. Antichrist and his false prophet are then thrown directly into the lake of fire. Revelation 19 ends with the assigning of Antichrist and the false prophet to the lake of fire. He will be rendered immobile and isolated in a bottomless pit for a thousand years Rev. Then the raptured saints of the ages are seen seated on thrones. Then the beheaded saints who refused to worship Antichrist or take his mark will be resurrected to reign with Christ for a thousand years Rev. Satan is released after the thousand years is completed to deceive the nations one last time to fight against Christ, but is again defeated as before the thousand years began Rev. The wicked dead and all of those who died during the thousand-year reign of Christ are resurrected and judged Rev. Revelation 21 opens with the creation of a new heaven and a new earth with the New Jerusalem coming down from heaven Rev. The New Jerusalem, described in some detail, is seen coming down to earth from heaven Rev. The book finishes with a call for all to obey the message of the book and a warning to those who reject what is taught. Three times, each at a critical break in the sequence of events described in the book of Revelation, Christ gives more detail to John for clarification. The second deals with an explanation of the actual work of Satan and his Antichrist during the great hour of testing where he will demand a choice of allegiance from mankind on earth before the wrath of God begins Rev. The third and final interlude describes the destruction, in some detail, of the false religious system and the city that supports it Rev. This is where the trouble begins with so many and why there is so much confusion concerning the last days. Many do not accept what the Scriptures clearly teach so they interpret prophetic Scripture according to some man-made system or preference and not as the scriptural authors intended. To help you, the reader, get a better understanding of what we call a "face-value" interpretation of Scripture, the next section that follows is a simple guideline that makes the word, "hermeneutic" how one studies Scripture easy to understand and use.