

## Semester 1 – Week 1 - Class 1

### UNLOCKING REVELATION'S MYSTERIES

1 Corinthians 2:13 – “Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual.”

Why the King James Version?

#### 7 Reasons Why the Bible is True:

**Reason 1:** The evidence of **Internal Consistency**.

The Bible contains **66 books; 1189 chapters; 31,101 verses, 791,328 words**. (King James Version). Written by some **forty different men** with different backgrounds, from different countries, different occupations, living at different times over a period of over **1500 + years**. Yet the words are unified in one personality: Jesus Christ!

**Reason 2:** The evidence of **History**.

All true and genuine history confirms and corroborates that the Bible record is true.

**Reason 3:** The testimony of **Archeology**.

A magazine article from U.S. News and World Report made it very clear that there has never been a single archeological discovery that has ever contradicted what the Bible says is true.

**Reason 4:** The testimony of **Science**. All TRUE science is in harmony with God's Word, no contradiction.

**Reason 5:** **The testimony of Relevancy**. The Scriptures were relevant back in the days of Moses, in the days of Jesus and Paul, and even 2,000 years later in our very time, still speaking to the exact needs of modern society

**Reason 6:** The testimony of a **Changed Life**.

It is the only book that can make a saint out of a sinner, can change the thief into an honest man, can change the adulterer into a faithful man, can change the drunkard into a sober man. Cannibals have become civilized by it.

**Reason 7:** The testimony of **Prophecy**. Prophecy has been fulfilled and continues to be fulfilled, even in our day. The prophesied last day events are being fulfilled before our eyes.

Two Important Questions must be asked:

**What is prophecy?** And where can you find **true and reliable prophecy?**

**Question #1 What is prophecy?**

New Oxford Dictionary definition: “A prediction of future events; a forecast;

That which has happened is called **History**. That which is happening is called **Current Events**. But to tell what will happen in the **Future**, is called Prophecy!

**Question #2** Where can you find **true and reliable prophecy?**

John 14:29, “**And now I have told you before it comes that when it does come to pass, you might believe.**”

The Bible is 30% prophecy.

The World has had numerous false prophets that are more wrong than right. God's prophets are never wrong.

There is no prophecy in the writings of Mohammad.

Neither is there any prophecy in the writings of Buddha.

Isaiah 46:9, 10, “**Remember the former things of old: for I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like me, Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done.**” In order to give reliable, accurate prophecy, 100% of the time, what must you **know?** **The future!!** “The Person who wrote this book, knew not only the past, like an historian, knew not only the present, like a news anchor person, but also knew the future, and I can trust my life, the life of my family and my eternal salvation to a God who knows and controls the future.

Many claim to know the future and some are guided by evil spirits.

But unlike the failed predictions of Psychics and false prophets, the Bible has been accurate for over 3500 years.

The Bible ... The Bible is a trustworthy book.

Amos 3:7 **“Surely the Lord GOD will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret unto his servants the prophets.”**

Its as if Jesus draws back the curtain so as to enable us to see the future.

### Two General Classes Of Prophecy.

1. **Classical prophecy** Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Zechariah, Amos, Obadiah and others.
2. **Apocalyptic prophecy** comes from a Latin word, “Apocalypsis.” The Revelation. What is the root word of Revelation? Reveal!

Daniel in the Old Testament and Revelation in the New Testament are the two books of Apocalyptic Prophecy.

Jesus Himself referred to the book of Daniel when instructing the Apostles.

Matthew 24:15 **“When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:)”**

Revelation 1:3 **“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.”**

Well why is there so much confusion about apocalyptic end-time prophecy? The answer is obvious as Satan does not want people to understand what God has given in His word.

Instead of getting their information from God’s word,

To the delight of Satan they turn to the uninspired writings of people who deal with speculation, conjecture and sensational fiction.

Or they listen to radio and TV programs to get more of the same error that are the guesswork of the uninspired agents of confusion.

**The sum total of the wisdom of the ages is to know which way God is going, and to go with Him.**

1 Corinthians 2:13 **“Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual.”**

2 Timothy 3:16, 17 **“All scripture is given by inspiration of God and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.”**

2 Timothy 2:15 **“Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth..”**

Isaiah 28:9, 10 **“Whom shall he teach knowledge? and whom shall he make to understand doctrine? [them that are] weaned from the milk, [and] drawn from the breasts. For precept [must be] upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, [and] there a little:”**

1 Thessalonians 5:21 **“Prove all things; hold fast that which is good.”**

1 Peter 3:15 **“But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear.”**

John 7:17 **“If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself.”**

WE HAVE TO HAVE TO MAINTAIN A WILLING AND OPEN MIND.

2 Peter 1:19, 20 **“We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts: Knowing this first, that no prophecy of scripture is of any private interpretation.”**

*“The teachings of men so often mislead us, so this my only question be: What says the Bible, the holy Bible to me.”* We can't rely on our own opinion.

Proverbs 14:12 **“There is a way which seemeth right unto a man but the end thereof are the ways of death.”**

BIBLICAL KEYS THAT ARE GOING TO UNLOCK THE BOOK OF REVELATION.

**Biblical Key Number 1:**

**The book of Revelation rests upon the foundation of Old Testament history, imagery, and prophecy.**

The book of Revelation has **404 verses, more than 270 are taken directly from the Old Testament.**

The New Testament is standing on the foundation of the Old Testament, and particularly the book of Revelation is resting upon the Old Testament.

To begin the study of the book of Revelation without a little understanding of Daniel is almost like trying to study college trigonometry without high-school math.

**Another important principle of studying the Bible is to let Scripture interpret Scripture.**

Find other places in the Bible that talk about the same thing, and compare and watch how they explain each other.

\*\*\*When the book of Revelation uses a phrase, the best thing to do is to go back to the Old Testament

Daniel 7:2, 3, **“Daniel spake and said, I saw in my night vision by night, and, behold, the four winds of the heaven strove upon the great sea. And four great beasts came up from the sea, diverse, one from another.”**

Revelation 13:1, 2 **“And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy. And the beast which I saw was like unto a leopard, and his feet were as the feet of a bear, and his mouth as the mouth of a lion...”**

Question: What do these beasts represent?

Daniel 7:17 **“These great beasts, which are four, are four kings, which shall arise out of the earth.”**

Daniel 7:23 **“... The fourth beast shall be the fourth kingdom upon earth.”**

**Biblical Key Number 2:**

**Jesus Christ** is the **foundation and focus** of apocalyptic prophecy and particularly in the book of Revelation.

John 1:29 **“Behold, the Lamb of God which takes away the sin of the world.”**

The book of Revelation refers to Jesus Christ as the Lamb 26 times, while He is mentioned as the Lamb 31 times in the entire New Testament.

When many people look at the book of Revelation, they're looking at beasts, they're looking at dragons, they're looking at incredible imagery, and symbols; but notice how Jesus Christ is the focus in Revelation.

Revelation 1:1 **“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.”**

Revelation 1:1-8 - **The preeminent Christ**

Revelation 1:9-11 - **The Lord's Day**

Revelation 1:12-20 - **Jesus among the seven churches**

Revelation Chapters 2 & 3 – **Christ's** messages go to the churches. **Ephesus**, then to **Smyrna**, and to **Pergamos**, and then to **Thyatira**, to **Sardis**, to **Philadelphia**, and **Laodicea**. Those were the 7 churches.

Revelation 4 - The throne of God

Revelation 5 - Seven seals and **Christ** as the **Lamb** is worthy **Lion** of the Tribe of Judah, the **Root** of David.”

Revelation 6 & 7 - A potent message from **Christ** Himself. Revelation 6 shows **Christ as the Lamb** opening the book that has the seals. The emphasis is not so much on the contents as it is on who is opening the book. So Christ is again preeminent in Revelation.

Revelation 7 - 144,000 before the throne

Revelation 8 & 9 - Seven trumpets blowing

Revelation 10 - Mighty and angelic being bears a striking resemblance to the picture of **Jesus** in Chapter 1.

Revelation 11 - Two witnesses witnessing about **Jesus**. .

Revelation 11:15 **“The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever.”**

Revelation 12 - Great battle or Controversy between **Christ** and Satan.

Revelation 13 - Two beasts which the devil is working through to try to usurp and dethrone **Christ**—to try to take away from His authority on the earth. The first beast we call the Antichrist Beast.

The second beast of Revelation 13 is called the False Prophet or the “Land Beast”.

Revelation 14 - **Jesus Christ** standing on the Sea of Glass with the 144,000.

Revelation 14:6-12 - Here we see **Christ’s** gospel in the form of three angel messengers streaking through the midnight heavens.

Revelation 14:13-20 - The beautiful depiction of the Second Coming of **Jesus**.

Revelation 15- 18 - Seven Last Plagues and **Christ** gets total victory over Babylon.

Revelation 19 – **Jesus** is **King** of kings and **Lord** of lords

Revelation 19:11-16 **“And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself. And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God. And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean. And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.”**

Revelation 20 - The 1000 years chapter or the millennium. **Jesus** goes directly to war with Satan and the climax is that **Christ** is once again victorious!

Revelation 21:10 **“And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God.”**

Revelation 22:7 **“Behold I come quickly: blessed is he that keepeth the sayings of the prophecy of this book.**

Revelation 22:12 **“And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give to every man according as his work shall be.”**

Revelation 22:20 **“He which testifieth these things saith, Surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus. So three times in Revelation 22, the last chapter in the Bible, the emphasis is on His coming quickly.**

And of that day, Jesus declared, **“Therefore be ye also ready, for in such an hour as ye think not the son of man (Jesus Christ) cometh.”** Matthew 24:44

Jesus remains the very center of the book of Revelation.

The enemies of the Bible have searched high and low, heaven and earth for every argument that might be used to refute its statements, destroy its teachings, deny its miracles. But the Bible stands tall, immovable, and unshaken. Fires have consumed it. The blood of martyrs has stained its pages. Critics condemn it. Skeptics deny it. But despite all the persecution, and suppression, and the destruction that the devil has been able to throw against it, through the centuries past, the Bible has triumphed. Why? The Book is God’s and He guards it jealously.

The Bible is like an anvil. Many hammers can beat on the old anvil but instead of the anvil being destroyed, it’s the hammers that become worn out!

Matthew 24:35 **“Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.”**

**Revelation gives us hope and courage to face tomorrow.**

Revelation 21:4, 5 **“And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away. And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful.”**

The Old Testament talks of a Saviour to come.  
The New Testament tells us to thank God for the Saviour has come!  
And both Testaments proclaim a Saviour that will come again.

**End Semester 1 – Week 1 - Class 1**