



Class 8, Wednesday, May 17, 2023

“Watch out that no one deceives you. For many will come in my name, claiming, ‘I am the messiah,’ and will deceive many. You will hear of wars and rumors of wars, but see to it that you are not alarmed. Such things must happen, but the end is still to come.” Matthew 24:4-6, NIV

We need to study the Bible diligently so we are not deceived and so we are not alarmed by bad news. Jesus is in control.

Matthew 24-25 Is the best timeline in the Bible!

1. **Destruction of Jerusalem.**
2. **Tough Times.**
3. **Tribulation.** A short, incredibly intense period of tough times.
4. **Second Coming.** *Glorious Appearing and Rapture.* (24:26-31)
5. **Final Judgment.** (25:31-45)
6. **Eternity.** (25:46)

Revelation!

Things To Know Before Reading!

The Name of the Book: We often say it wrong. It's *R* _____ and not *R* _____. More accurately, it is "The Revelation of J _____."

It's Author: John, the disciple of Jesus. This is his _____ New Testament book, and is significantly different than the others.

It's Style: It is an a _____ book, a Jewish and early Christian type of literature using imagery focusing on the end times. There are samples in Joel, Zechariah, Isaiah, and Daniel.

It's Promise: *“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.” (1:3)* Though it is extremely challenging, we are blessed if we study it!

A Simple Outline of Revelation

- A. Intro** to the book and **Revelation** of Jesus Himself. Chapter 1.
- B. L** _____ to 7 **c** _____. Chapters 2-3.
Challenge: Even though this is mostly literal and not symbolic language, there are still multiple ways of understanding the letters: Are these 7 literal churches (yes), 7 types of churches (yes), or 7 time periods of the church age. (Possibly.)
- C. God** on H _____ and at W _____. Chapters 4-18.
Challenge: There are 7 sets of judgment mentioned. 7 vials or bowls, 7 seals, and 7 trumpets. Are these consecutive or do they describe the same things?
- D. The End:** Judgment on Earth, the Return of Jesus, the Millennium, The End of Satan, and a New Heaven and Earth.

The Challenge

There are multiple challenges in understanding Revelation:

1. It is full of s _____ and f _____ imagery.
2. It's hard to distinguish l _____ and s _____.
3. There are at least four major ways of interpreting it, and there are good arguments for each of them.
 - a. The h _____ view.
 - b. The p _____ view.
 - c. The i _____ view.
 - d. The f _____ view.

Good and challenging reading!