

## Understanding the Book of Revelation in the light of other Scriptures

### I. God's Final Message to Man

Seeing it all come together

How does God's story begun in Genesis come to an end?

Satan doesn't want us to see how it ends

Even believers often tend to avoid this final book

#### 1. Lord's final message to His Church— Rev. 1, 2

Father gave this message to His Son, Jesus

Jesus revealed it to His servants— His Church 1:4

John testifies to what God and Christ said - 1:2

Lord wants us to know what will happen – 1:1

God's blessing for all who read this book – 1:3

Message is to impact our lives – it is practical

There is a sense of urgency – "time is at hand"

#### 2. Christ's Closing Challenge – Rev. 22:6-21

##### Integrity of this message – 6-9

"These words are faithful & true" – It will happen

"Blessed are those who live in the light of this book" – 6-7

John adds testimony to integrity of this – 8-9

##### Imminence of Christ's return – 10-16

Don't seal up the message of this book – it is for now – 10; Compare Daniel 12:8-9

When He returns, no time for adjustments – 11

Some eternally blessed, others left out – 14, 15

This is our Lord's message to His church – 16

##### Invitation is still open – 17-21

Holy Spirit & Christ's Bride extend invitation— 17

Christ warns any who alter His message—18-19

Final word; "Surely I come with suddenness"—20

### II. Theme of the Book

#### 1. Revelation of Jesus Christ – Revelation 1:1

**Veiled in human flesh, must be seen for who He is**

##### (1). Lord of the Church – Rev. 1-3

John sees Him in all of His glory – Rev. 1

Jesus evaluates His church – Rev. 2-3

##### (2). Lamb upon God's Throne – Rev. 4-5

Only man worthy to rule, fulfilling God's plan

One to whom every knee shall bow

##### (3). Judge over all the Earth – Rev. 6-19

He opens the seals & judges Man's Kingdom

He triumphs over Satan and all his forces

##### (4). King who rules in God's Eternal Kingdom – Rev. 20-22

God's New creation is ruled over by Jesus

Eternal Plan of God is fulfilled in Jesus Christ

### 2. Final chapter in "A Tale of Two Kingdoms"

#### Scripture records two Kingdoms in conflict

Man's Kingdom (world system) & God's Kingdom

Man's kingdom is impacted by Satan's kingdom

Satan is the "god of this world"— 2 Corinthians 4:4

Ephesians 6:10-18 warns of spiritual conflict in this world

#### Revelation uses 3 analogies for world system

Like a great city (Babylon) focus on possessions

Like a harlot woman focus on pleasure

Like a ravenous beast focus on power

#### Genesis 3:15 speaks of 2 kingdoms in conflict

Trace this conflict throughout the Old Testament

Sought to kill God's people & Messianic line

When he couldn't kill, sought to corrupt

Satan's attacks continued in the New Testament

Jesus warned followers of world's hatred -

John 15:18-21

Wheat & tares parable speaks of infiltration

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

Conflict implied for His church in Matthew 16:18

Church faces persecution & martyrdom in Acts

#### Greatest threat to come from within the church

Acts 20:28-31; 2 Peter 2:1-3; 1 John 2:18-19;

2 Corinthians 11:13-15

Consider infiltration seen in Revelation 2-3

Conflict ends with destruction of world's system

God's Kingdom is established as Christ reigns

### 2. The Ultimate victory of Christ & His Kingdom

Christ must avenge His people who have suffered

Romans 12:19; Rev. 6:9-11; 12:10-12; 18:20,

24; 19:1-2

Prayers of God's people will be answered –

Psalms 35; Rev. 5:8

Evil must be judged and Divine justice must prevail

Satan is cast out of heaven (Rev. 12)

Bound in the Pit (Rev. 20)

Cast into Lake of Fire (20:10)

Armies of Beast are destroyed (Rev. 19)

All human opposition is destroyed in Rev. 20

Christ's kingdom must be established – Psalm 2

This victory is predicted in Daniel 2:34-35, 44-45

God's eternal kingdom must be established in the

New Heaven & the New Earth