



Life More Abundant Bible Study

Bible Prophecy: Intro to *the Revelation*

The Revelation is the last book of the Bible and is the culmination of the **Great Controversy**, begun in heaven and completed here on earth. The central figure of the book of Revelation, as with the other books of the bible, is Jesus Christ, the Alpha and Omega, the Beginning and the End. Throughout the study of the Revelation the reader will be presented with glimpses of God's prophetic workings and control of human history, and the final events of world history that climax in the Second Coming of Christ and the eventual destruction of the wicked. The last great event to be revealed in this book is God's restoration of Paradise Lost, the recreation of the Earth for God and mankind to dwell together in peace and unity.

The term **Revelation** is the English translation of the Greek work *apokalypsis*, comprised of two words:

Apo = meaning: to remove

Kalyps = meaning: a veil.

Therefore, the Revelation is the removing of the veil of darkness that has obscured men's minds to truth, brought about by centuries and generations of men's traditions, teachings, and human misinterpretations of the Bible. Therefore, the Revelation chronicles Jesus' opening to all in these last days, those things that have been hidden, veiled, or concealed. The removing of the veil of darkness enables the diligent and pure in heart who hungers and thirsts for righteousness to:

- Enter into the veil of the Holiest of Holies in heaven, into the presence of God where an understanding of Christ's final works of redemption are portrayed through the Sanctuary Service
- Behold the exceeding glory of the Father and the Son, causing one's pride and selfishness to be cast to the ground, and thus preparing the one for the experience of *Righteousness by Faith*
- Behold the Lamb of God, the Lion of the Tribe of Judah, that has prevailed in unsealing the counsels and truths contained in God's word, the Bible
- Receive warning of the final crisis that will befall the inhabitants of the earth, encapsulated in the final testing message (present truth) given by the Three Angels' of Revelation 14 to the last generations on planet earth

The study of the Revelation involves an expounding of world history in condensed form, while yet still conveying profound spiritual depth to those same events of world history. The student of bible prophecy, when reading the Revelation must have a good understanding of basic prophetic principles (see the study [Principles for Studying Bible Prophecy](#)); a thorough knowledge of the companion book to the Revelation, the Old Testament book of Daniel; and a willingness to allow the Holy

Spirit to bring forth fundamental truths of the past, present, and future. Because of the pervasiveness of prophetic and spiritual language, the reader must become familiar with the Bible's application and use of specific literary techniques in order to accurately understand the messages conveyed. Further, the Holy Spirit, which directed the hands and minds of each bible author (2 Timothy 3:16, 17; 2 Peter 1:20, 21), brings forth texts, imagery, and themes in the Revelation, found throughout the bible. In short, the Revelation itself, is a fulfillment of Christ's statement regarding one having a knowledge of the Kingdom of Heaven:

"...Therefore every scribe which is instructed unto the kingdom of heaven is like unto a man that is an householder, which bringeth forth out of his treasure things new and old". (Matthew 13:52)

As previously stated, the Revelation is to be an unsealing of once hidden treasures for all, particularly the diligent reader who seeks to know and exercise God's will. Reverence must be observed in allowing the Holy Spirit to speak His truths through the Word of God, imparting spiritual discernment rather than again being influenced by the doctrine of men. Please prayerfully read and ask the Holy Spirit to impart a knowledge of this most climactic book of the bible, the Revelation.