



**Sermon Series: Revelation - Jesus Revealed**  
**Sermon Title: Revelation, Preparing for the Journey**  
**Scripture: Revelation 1:1-3**  
Pastor Chris Fritz  
Sunday, July 2, 2023

## INTRODUCTION

*"If I SPEAK in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have PROPHETIC POWERS, and UNDERSTAND ALL MYSTERIES and ALL KNOWLEDGE, and if I HAVE ALL FAITH, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. If I GIVE AWAY all I have, and if I DELIVER UP MY BODY to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing." (1 Corinthians 13:1-3)*

Note: The Book of Revelation is meant to inspire worship, wonder, love, and praise!

## I. THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST

### Revelation 1:1a -

**1) Verse 1 provides not only the purpose of this book but the essential interpretive principle!**

"John's prophecy is primarily the revelation of Jesus Christ, not the revelation of future events. You must not divorce the Person from the prophecy, for without the Person there could be no fulfillment of the prophecy." (Warren Wiersbe)

*"You must not do that! I am a fellow servant with you and your brothers who hold to the testimony of Jesus. Worship God.' For the testimony of Jesus IS the spirit of prophecy." (Revelation 19:10)*

### Revelation 1:1b -

**2) This revelation comes FROM the Father, TO the Son, TO believers, which means that this is one more way that the Father both fulfills His will and expresses His pleasure in His Son!**

*"No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; BUT I have called you friends, for ALL that I have heard from My Father I have made known to you." (John 15:15)*

## Revelation 1:1c-2 -

**3) Jesus utilized angels to communicate and show this glorious revelation to John, the Apostle (John, the disciple whom Jesus loved).**

Revelation 1:9 and Matthew 20:22-23

Note: John received this revelation, late in life, most likely around the year 95 AD, while wicked, cruel, paranoid Domitian was Emperor over Rome.

## Revelation 1:3 -

**4) We are a BLESSED people to read, hear, understand, and obey this revelation of Jesus!**

### Four Ways that Believers have Sought to Understand & Interpret this Book:

**The HISTORICISM Method of Interpretation:** Revelation is a timeline of church history.

**The PRETERIST Method of Interpretation:** Revelation is mostly a historical record of events that took place (past tense!) in the first-century Roman Empire.

**The IDEALIST Method of Interpretation:** Revelation is mostly not tied to specific historical events at all but is rather a book of principles, images, and scenes that contrast the battle between good and evil and the ultimate victory of Jesus.

**The FUTURIST Method of Interpretation:** Revelation is mostly prophecy that looks forward to and predicts real future events.

Revelation 1:3 and Revelation 22:7

Note: In the Book of Revelation, bringing things full circle, we will see God's plan, which began in Genesis, is brought to completion IN Jesus Christ.

### Questions for Further Study, Reflection, and Application...

1. How is 1st Corinthians 13:1-3 helpful in our approach to studying the Book of Revelation?
2. Why are the first five words of Revelation chapter 1, verse 1, so important? What do they teach us about how we ought to interpret this entire book?
3. How is the Book of Revelation unique? What does it reveal about Jesus that other books do not?
4. Are you excited to study the Book of Revelation? Why or why not?
5. Why do you think the Book of Revelation begins (1:3) and ends (22:7) with "blessing"?