

**RELIABLE**  
**REVELATION**





‘Look, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and I will give to each person according to what they have done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End.’

-Revelation 22:12-13-



# **RELIABLE REVELATION**

## **A BOOK WITH A BLESSING**

Revelation is one of the most misunderstood books of the Bible. For many it's a no-go zone. Too much blood and guts; too many vivid visions and terrifying prophecies; too strange to open and read on a Sunday afternoon. For others, Revelation is the book that tells the future. Armed with charts, maps, and proof texts, they can accurately give you a blow-by-blow account of what's about to happen in our world and why you should be afraid!

Sadly, Revelation was written to be read, rather than avoided. It was also written to comfort and bless its readers, rather than terrify them!

The vision we have in Revelation was given to a man named John, who was on the prison Island of Patmos. His crime? Being a Christian. He wrote it to the seven churches of Asia Minor, who were enduring intense persecution, to encourage them to persevere in their faith and not give up on following Jesus. Revelation is a vision, a revealing, of the spiritual realities underpinning our world and a reminder that Christ has won!

Revelation 1:3 says: 'Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy'. While there are many vivid and terrifying things described in this book, it is ultimately a description of how Christ will conquer evil and redeem all of creation. At no point in reading this book should we get ahead of ourselves or panic. For thousands of years, Christians have found Revelation a reliable source of comfort and hope. It is a sure reminder that Satan, sin, and death will not triumph, and that in Jesus the best is yet to come!

We hope and pray you find this study a blessing, a sure ground for faith, and an anchor for your soul.

Rev'd David Browne  
Dalby Anglican



**Warming up:** What are your thoughts and feelings as we start this new series in the book of Revelation?

**Read: Revelation 1:1-8**

1. Revelation (Greek apokalupsis) means to 'unveil or uncover' something that was once hidden. In what ways did Jesus reveal himself to you over Lent and Easter?
2. In vv.1-2, John tells us where this revelation (unveiling) came from (v.1) and what it's testifying to (v.2). What does he say about these?
3. What instruction does John give us in v.3? Why is this important?
4. Who are the seven churches in the province of Asia? (See ch.2-3)
5. When referring to God, John uses a slightly different progression than what we might be used to: 'from him who is, and who was and who is to come'. What might John be trying to emphasise here?
6. The number seven (7) is used throughout Revelation to signify wholeness and perfection. What is John suggesting in v.4 when he talks of the seven spirits?
7. What stands out to you about Jesus in vv.5-6?
8. In v.7, John quotes directly from Daniel 7:13 and Zechariah 12:10. Why might John use these OT passages before he mentions the second coming of Jesus?
9. In v.8, God tells us about himself. What does he say? What does this mean?

**Rubber hits the road:**

Take some time this week to re-read vv.7-8 and ask Jesus to begin unveiling and revealing himself to you through his perfect Spirit.





**Warming up:** What's your most valuable possession? How do you treat this thing?

**Read: Revelation 5:6-14**

1. Of all the fantastic aspects of this vision, what sticks out to you the most?
2. Who is the Lamb and what are they doing in this vision?
3. What do the living creatures and the elders sing to the Lamb? What does this mean for us?
4. What do we learn about Jesus' divine identity in this passage?
5. We worship what we value most in life. Who is being worshipped in this passage and why?
6. What does a life of worship look like in heaven? What does a life of worship look like for us on this side of heaven?
7. Are there things in your life that compete with Jesus for your ultimate allegiance or focus? What are they and are they more important to you than Jesus?

**Rubber hits the road:**

Think about the week ahead. Write down some questions that you can ask yourself each day to remind yourself that Jesus is worthy of your worship every day.



# NOTES / PRAYER POINTS / ETC.

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## Prayer

Lord Jesus, you are the most important reality in my life. We give you thanks that one day, every eye will see you for your true value, the Lamb of God, who is worthy to receive honour and praise. We hold fast to the day when every tongue will confess that you are Lord. Until that day, help us to live lives that reflect your mercy and worthiness to the world around us. Amen.



**Warming up:** Think of a time when you were excluded from something, only to find out you were included. How did you feel?

**Read: Revelation 7:9-17**

1. What sticks out to you in this passage?
2. Who are the great multitude?
3. Knowing that He desires people from every nation and tribe, what should you do?
4. How does it make you feel that there is no separation of ethnicity in Christ, but in heaven we will all be one in Christ, glorifying Christ?
5. What can your church do to be more open and accepting of people who are different than them? How would that better reflect the church that Christ called?
6. What do the 'white robes' represent, and why are they so important in this passage? Why was the blood of the Lamb required to make these robes white?
7. What do we learn in this passage about God's end vision?
8. How would this vision encourage the people of God?
9. At the end of time, God will unite heaven and earth together and we will be with Him forever. How is this eternal state described in vv.15-17?

**Rubber hits the road:**

In this passage, we can see God's plan for salvation to spread to all nations. What is one practical way that you can be a part of this mission?

# NOTES / PRAYER POINTS / ETC.

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## Prayer

Dear Lord, Your Word reveals to us that in Your kingdom there is an immeasurable number of people from every nation, from all tribes and people. This multitude are all worshipers of You who stand before the throne and before the Lamb. In heaven, there is diversity and inclusion, so let this be our mind-set here on earth too. Amen



**Warming up:** What gives you hope for the future?

**Read: Revelation 21:1-6**

1. What happened before this chapter begins? Why is this important?
2. The promise of 'a new heaven and a new earth' was given back in Isaiah 67:17-25. What are the similarities between these passages? What about with Genesis 1?
3. In what ways does this passage speak of the New Jerusalem as being both a place and a people? Why is this important?
4. The 1st century readers of this letter were persecuted Christians. How would they feel in reading vv.3-4?
5. What does 'being seated on the throne' suggest about God's authority?
6. Rather than saying 'I'm destroying everything' or 'I'm throwing it out and starting again', God says 'I'm making all things new'. What does this tell us about God?
7. Where else does God say, 'it is done'? Why might this be important?
8. Alpha and Omega are the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet - the beginning and the end. How is this different to other human kings and rulers?
9. Living water has been promised by God before (cf. Ezekiel 47:1-12; Isaiah 55:1-13; John 4:1-26). What is God trying to tell us with this promise of living water?

**Rubber hits the road:**

Take some time to think about the world we are currently living in and all its troubles. Spend time with God in prayer, thank him for his promise of a new Jerusalem, and ask that it would come down and make its dwelling among us.

# NOTES / PRAYER POINTS / ETC.

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## Prayer

Generous God, we thank and praise you for making all things new. You take our brokenness, and the brokenness of the world, and bring forth the most beautiful of mosaics. Renew us by your Spirit until the day your kingdom comes. Amen.



**Warming up:** What do you think of when you think about heaven?

**Read:** Revelation 21:10-14; 21:22-22:5

1. What picture is painted for us in vv.10-14? How does this vision make you feel?
2. What does the high wall and number of gates tell us about entry into the New Jerusalem?
3. What image is portrayed in vv.22-27? How does this passage make you feel?
4. Why is there no temple in the Holy City? What is its light source? What does this mean for us?
5. What do vv.26-27 tell us about the New Jerusalem?
6. How does someone have their name written in the Lamb's book of life? See Revelation 20:11-15.
7. What do we learn about the Holy City in 22:1-5? How does this vision make you feel?
8. Who is central to this whole vision? What does this mean for our relationship with Jesus?

**Rubber hits the road:**

How does this vision challenge the priorities in your life? What might need to change to help you put Jesus at the centre of your identity?

# NOTES / PRAYER POINTS / ETC.

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## Prayer

Lord Jesus, the Lion and the Lamb, be the centre of our lives. We praise you that through your Holy Spirit, you are making all things new. Help us to trust the future to God, that we might be guided in paths of righteousness. Inscribe your name, Lord God, on our foreheads and our hearts, that our names may be written in your book of life. Strengthen us to persevere in faith until the day we meet in the New Jerusalem. Amen.



**Warming up:** Think about a time when you were away from home and preparing to return. What did you do to get ready? Who or what did you put your trust in to get you home?

**Read: Revelation 22:12-21**

1. What sticks out to you in this passage?
2. What are we told about Jesus in v.12?
3. When Jesus comes, what will He bring with Him (v.12)?
4. What do we learn about Jesus' divine identity in this passage?
5. According to v.7 and v.14, how are we, as Christians, to prepare for the Lord's return?
6. In v.17, what invitation is given by the Spirit and the bride?
7. What do we know for sure about Christ's return (v.20)?

**Rubber hits the road:**

Every week in church we say, 'Christ will come again'. How does this statement make you feel? How ready in your mind, body and soul do you think you are for Christ's return?



# NOTES / PRAYER POINTS / ETC.

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## Prayer

Dear Lord, when we truly reflect on Who You are, our Lord and our God, we remember that You left Your heavenly throne of splendour and came to earth to suffer a life of humiliation and death - all for love of us. Thank You, our Father, for sending Jesus to be our Saviour. Thank You, Jesus, for dying for our sins and for the gift of eternal life. Keep us by your Spirit until the day you come again.

Thank You Jesus, our Saviour and Lord, Amen.



“He who testifies to these things  
says, “Yes, I am coming soon.”  
Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.”  
- Revelation 22:20 -



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