

A Study of the General Epistles **(NT Survey Lesson 214--Introduction to the Revelation)**

Introduction: In this lesson we begin the challenging study of the revelation of Jesus to John. We shall be looking for clues from the book that might help us understand the meaning and message of its varying symbolic pictures. It would be very helpful if you would read this book in its entirety several times during the course of our study.

Lesson aim: To take an overview of some of the evidences that will help us to approach the book properly.

This book is a revelation of things that were to shortly transpire from the time of writing.

1. What is Christ showing to John in the Revelation? (1:1) In what time frame are they to occur? (cf. 1:1, 1:4; 22:10).
2. John is instructed to write down what? (1:19) At what point in the book does Christ actually begin to reveal the things that shall take place after these things? (4:1) (Understanding this connection eliminates the futurist view of interpretation).

This book is a revelation of a coming of the Lord in judgment against his enemies and the salvation of his people.

1. In the greeting from the Godhead, what is Christ said to be about to do? (v. 7)
2. In what time frame is Jesus said to be coming? (2:16; 3:11; 22:12, 20) For what purpose is Jesus said to be coming?

This book is a revelation of the fulfillment of what had been spoken by God's servants, the prophets.

1. The sounding of the seventh trumpet marks the finishing of the mystery revealed to whom? (10:5-7)

2. Clearly, the prophets revealed the coming, crucifixion and resurrection of the Christ. Let's examine some passages that reveal other events that the prophets predicted were to transpire after Jesus' coming.
 - A. Dan. 9:24-27 records a period of seventy prophetic weeks to accomplish what events? (9:24).
 - B. What did God reveal to Daniel that the people of the Prince to come will do? (v. 26) The Jewish people would "finish transgression" resulting in "abominations" that would lead to "desolation". When did this event occur? (Mt. 24:15).
 - C. In Daniel 7 Daniel predicted the rise of four kingdoms. What did God reveal about this fourth kingdom that was to come? (7:23-28)
 - D. In Daniel 2 Daniel also predicted the rise of four world kingdoms. What did God reveal about this fourth kingdom? (2:40-44)