

# Prologue: 1:1-3



The word “revelation” is from the Greek *apokalypsis*, which means a “disclosure of truth concerning things before unknown.”

In Revelation, God is pulling back the veil that separates our physical reality from the spiritual realm that surrounds us.

Revelation is classified as apocalyptic literature, which is unique in that it reveals secret things of God inaccessible to normal human knowledge.

Characteristics of apocalyptic literature include visions, symbolism, numerology, angelology, demonology and predicted woes.

Because Revelation is highly symbolic, we shouldn't interpret it too literally.

To understand the symbolism of Revelation, we must understand the Old Testament, because Revelation contains over 500 allusions to the Old Testament.

God gave the revelation to Jesus, who then sent it through an angel to make it known to John. So, the ultimate source is God. This is significant because it gives authority to the words.

Revelation was given by God to “show his servants something,” which means that it's intended to reveal God's plan and purposes for the world. However, God uses visions that are intended to *reveal* information to God's servants but *conceal* it from those who have not been given ears to hear.

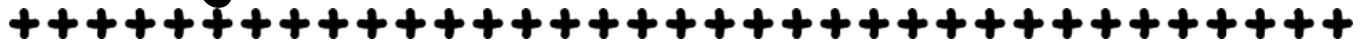
Revelation was written to show “what must soon take place.” The kingdom of God prophesied about in the Old Testament was inaugurated by the death and resurrection of Christ, which means we are now living in the latter days. So, the “last days” are actually the entire time from the resurrection of Christ to His second coming.

The author of the book is identified as John. It's commonly believed that this is Jesus' beloved disciple. He most likely wrote while exiled on the island of Patmos during the reign of emperor Domitian, somewhere between 81 and 96 AD.

## Our motivation for studying Revelation:

“Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear, and who keep what is written in it, for the time is near.”

# Prologue: 1:1-3



- \* The word “revelation” is from the Greek *apokalypsis*, which means...
  
- \* In Revelation, God is pulling back the \_\_\_\_\_ that separates our physical reality from the spiritual realm that surrounds us.
  
- \* Revelation is classified as apocalyptic literature, which is unique in that it reveals...
  
  
- \* Characteristics of apocalyptic literature include:
  
  
- \* Because Revelation is highly symbolic, we shouldn't interpret it too \_\_\_\_\_.
  
- \* To understand the symbolism of Revelation, we must understand the Old Testament, because Revelation contains over \_\_\_\_\_ allusions to the Old Testament.
  
- \* God gave the revelation to \_\_\_\_\_, who then sent it through an \_\_\_\_\_ to make it known to \_\_\_\_\_. So, the ultimate source is God. This is significant because it gives \_\_\_\_\_ to the words.

- \* Revelation was given by God to “ \_\_\_\_\_ ”  
 \_\_\_\_\_,” which means that it’s intended to reveal God’s plan and purposes for  
 the world. However, God uses visions that are intended to \_\_\_\_\_ information to  
 God’s servants but \_\_\_\_\_ it from those who have not been given ears to hear.
  
- \* Revelation was written to show “what must soon take place.” The kingdom of God  
 prophesied about in the Old Testament was inaugurated by the \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_, which means we are now living in the  
 latter days. So, the “ \_\_\_\_\_ ” are actually the entire time from the  
 resurrection of Christ to His second coming.
  
- \* The author of the book is identified as \_\_\_\_\_. It’s commonly believed that this is  
 Jesus’ beloved disciple. He most likely wrote while \_\_\_\_\_ on the island of Patmos  
 during the reign of emperor Domitian, somewhere between \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ AD.

**Our motivation for studying Revelation:**

**“Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear, and who keep what is written in it, for the time is near.”**