

Revelation Study
The Revelation of Jesus Christ
Revelation 1:1-3

- I. The Revelation
 - A. Revelation – Greek word that gives us the term “apocalypse”
 - B. Difficult to define
 - 1. It is a kind of literature using significant amounts of symbolism to portray extreme and intense prophetic events
 - 2. The word itself strictly means, “To reveal, to disclose, to make fully known” – which is our word for “revelation”
 - C. Though this is a kind of “apocalyptic prophecy,” it should also be understood also as the unveiled message about Jesus Christ
- II. Of Jesus Christ
 - A. This unveiled message is about Jesus Christ
 - B. This unveiled message belongs to Jesus Christ
 - C. The significance of Jesus as both content and owner of the message
 - 1. He is the present fulfillment of all the covenantal promises made by God to His people
 - 2. He is the focal point of the historical redemptive narrative
 - 3. He is the sovereign king over the outworking of history to the end which is glorious reconciliation of all things to Himself
- III. Which Must Soon Take Place
 - A. This language is borrowed from Daniel 2 and other Old Testament apocalyptic writings

- B. This does not necessarily require an immediate event-conclusion cycle
 - 1. This is likely not a reference to proximity of time
 - 2. This is likely a reference to the swiftness and on-going sustainability of the inaugurated kingdom – not the consummated one
 - C. Another good translation – “which must happen swiftly/quickly”
- IV. The Current Message and Its Blessing Are The Focus
 - A. The message has come:
 - 1. From God the Father
 - 2. To Jesus Christ
 - 3. To an angel
 - 4. To John
 - 5. To Jesus’ “bond-servants” (the church)
 - B. The Message is
 - 1. The Word of God
 - 2. The Testimony of Jesus Christ
 - C. It is important to that John continues to fulfill the role of “first-hand” witness
 - V. The Time Is Near
 - A. “The occasion is at hand/the season is upon us”
 - B. This is the language used frequently by Jesus to speak about the kingdom being “near” or “at hand”
 - C. John is focusing on the current, blessed, life-giving unveiling of Jesus as key and savior – that those who have and heed will receive the blessing of life in his name