

Revelation Chapter 1

Introduction and Starting Point

Green italicized are commentaries from Tony Fritz:

Black are “cut & pasted” verses from the NKJV Bible or from AMPC+ from eSword.com

Blue is “cut & pasted” notes from Strong’s concordance or commentaries from a multitude of scholars or other bibles.

Magenta italicized & underlined are highlighted reverence verses from scripture.

Example Amos 8:11-12

I want to thank the multitude of people that have influenced and inspired me to continue my studies of revelation since the 1990’s. The many discussions with preachers, teachers, students, friends, and knowledgeable Christians who have introduced me to different views. The many questions from y students inspired me to “dig deep” into areas that I may not have had full understanding. I constantly pray for understanding from God and I pray that the Holy Spirit would watch over my speech that I would not distort the word of God, in my teachings.

John Wesley’s comment about revelation:

“It behooves every Christian, at all opportunities, to read what is written in the oracles of God; and to read this precious book in particular, frequently, reverently, and attentively.”
Commentaries of John Wesley.

2Co 11:3 But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ. (KJV)

MY SERVICE TO THE LORD - that we should bear fruit to God:

Rev 1:3

Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of this prophecy and keep those things which are written in it; for the time is near. *(This was written almost 2,000 years ago 96AD)*

Dan 11:32 Those who do wickedly against the covenant he (*antichrist*) shall corrupt with flattery; but the people who know their God shall be strong, and carry out *great exploits*. Dan 11:33 And those of the people who understand shall instruct many; yet *for many days* they shall fall by sword and flame, by captivity and plundering. Dan 11:34 Now when they fall, they shall be aided with a little help; but many shall join with them by intrigue. Dan 11:35 And *some* of those of understanding shall fall, to refine them, purify *them*, and make *them* white, *until* the time of the end; because *it is still for the appointed time*.

Rom 7:4 Therefore, my brethren, you also have become dead to the law through the body of Christ, that you may be married to another—to Him who was raised from the dead, **that we should bear fruit to God.**

JESUS CHRIST IS THE WORD OF GOD:

St. John 1:1;

1:1 In the beginning was **the Word** *Jesus Christ*, and the Word *Jesus Christ* was with God, and the Word *Jesus Christ* was God.

Word = [G3056 logos](#) the Divine expression (that is Christ) Strong's Concordance

St. John 1:14

14 And **the Word** *Jesus Christ* became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

Rev 19:13

13 He is dressed in a robe dipped in blood, and his name is the **Word** of God. *Jesus Christ*

GREAT CARE IS TAKEN TO BE ACCURATE:

1 Cor 4:6

"Do not go beyond what is written." (from New International Version)

Rev 22:18-19

18 For I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: If anyone adds to these things, God will add to him the plagues that are written in this book; 19 and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part from the Book of Life, from the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book. NKJV

Prov 30:5-6

5 "Every word of God is flawless; he is a shield to those who take refuge in him.

6 Do not add to his words, or he will rebuke you and prove you a liar. (New International Version)

THE TIME FOR UNDERSTANDING IS NOW:

Dan 12:4 4 But thou, O Daniel, **shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end:** many shall run to and fro, **and knowledge shall be increased.** KJV

Matt 24:14 14 And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come. NKJV

Amos 8:11-12

11 "The days are coming," declares the Sovereign LORD,

"when I will send a famine through the land-

not a famine of food or a thirst for water,

but a famine of hearing the words of the LORD.

12 Men will stagger from sea to sea

and wander from north to east,

searching for the word of the LORD,

but they will not find it. (from New International Version)

WE SERVE A NATURAL GOD:
MIRACLES OF NATURE AND INTERPRETATIONS OF VISIONS

We serve a natural God. Miracles in the Bible are “of nature” such as healings or when God is persuading men to Repent and come to Him. Remember the 10 plagues sent upon the Pharaoh in Egypt are very similar to the plagues sent upon mankind during the Great Tribulation, yet to come. Infestation, water to blood, disease, earthquakes, hail, etc. References to unnatural things gives a good indication that these are figurative and require interpretation. Example: The beast of chapter 13 rising out of the sea with seven heads and ten horns and ten crowns, who was like a leopard, with feet like a bear and mouth of a lion. This creature would be an abomination and unnatural in every way. Thankfully, this beast is described in detail by an angel to John in Chapter 17. The army from the bottomless pit which are locusts, the shape of the locusts was like horses prepared for battle. On their heads were crowns of something like gold, and their faces were like the faces of men. This is as unnatural as could be. Again, we will look at these closely, read commentaries from a multitude of great scholars who have studied these things for almost 2,000 years and we will see what conclusions it leads us toward.

FIGURES OF SPEECH OR IDIOMS:

IT IS NECESSARY FOR TRUE INTERPRETATIONS.

“Word’s which the Holy Spirit teacheth” [1Cor2:13](#), [1Thes2:13](#), [2Tim3:16](#), [2Pet1:21](#)

Figures of speech are used to attract attention to an idea. They are a legitimate departure from laws of language. Thus, we have the Holy Spirit’s own markings, so to speak, in His own words. Written that way because there is an enemy of Christ and of Christians. *(study for later)* Although figures may not be entirely true to each word, the intent of the phrase is truer than the words in the phrase and is used entirely for emphasis and therefore cannot be ignored. Dr. E. W. Bullinger has produced more than 217 separate figures of speech from the Bible and showed more than 8,000 illustrations. From appendix 6 of the Companion Bible published in 1830.

[2Ti 3:16](#) All Scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness,

[2Ti 3:17](#) that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.

EXAMPLES OF FIGURES OF SPEECH:

Now Adam knew Eve his wife, and she conceived, The bridegroom, the bride of Christ. The narrow path, the crossroads, shake the dust off your heels, square meal, paint the town red, don’t let the cat out of the bag, bird in the hand, hold their feet to the fire, skeleton in the closet, don’t let the door hit you on your way out, walk a mile in his shoes, I’m going to veg., His elevator doesn’t go to the top floor, he’s not the sharpest knife in the drawer, drunk with the blood of the saints. The Lamb of God = Jesus (it’s not an actual lamb) This is the deception of art, Hollywood, and creative writers. We need to filter these visions out of our minds and understand figures of speech.

[Rev 5:8](#) Now when He had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each having a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints.

Hubert and Jan van Eyck painters
Saint Bavo Cathedral - Belgium



ENEMIES OF GOD AND OF CHRISTIANS

Jud 1:4 For certain men have crept in unnoticed, who long ago were marked out for this condemnation, ungodly men, who turn the grace of our God into lewdness and deny the only Lord God and our Lord Jesus Christ.

So, the time is at hand, now, for you to read or hear the great book of Revelation.

Revelation: Apocalypse

NT:602 apokalupsis (ap-ok-al'-oop-sis); from NT:601; **disclosure**: KJV - appearing, coming, lighten, manifestation, **be revealed**, revelation. NT:601 apokalupto (ap-ok-al'-oop'-to); from NT:575 and NT:2572; **to take off the cover, i.e. disclose**: KJV - reveal.

Revelation 1:1-3

1:1 The Revelation of Jesus Christ,

which God gave Him (*Jesus*)

to show His servants (*Church*)

things which must shortly take place.

And He (*Jesus*) sent and signified it by His (*Jesus'*) angel to His (*Jesus'*) servant John, 2

who (*John*) bore witness to the word of God, (*Jesus is the word of God*)

and to the testimony of Jesus Christ,

to all things that he (*John*) saw.

This is emphatic and shows the line of communication from God to His servants (the church):

From God to Jesus

From Jesus to His Angel

From His Angel to John

From John to the servants of God (the Church) that's us.

3 Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of this prophecy and keep those things which are written in it; for the time is near.

This is the only book with blessings if you read or hear it and keep those things written.

This verse mentions prophesy: What do we see today? The time is near.

[Prophecy & keep: Strong's Concordance v3](#)

Prophecy: G4394 prophecy: a foreteller: future events

Keep: G5083 to guard from loss or injury (properly to keep an eye upon)

1:4 John, to the seven churches which are in Asia:

The number Seven means spiritual perfection – Biblical numeric by E.W.

Bullinger appendix 10.

Asia in 96AD is current day western Turkey



ABOUT JOHN:

This took place when John was on the isle of Patmos, in the Aegean Sea, after much prosecution and torture from Rome including being poisoned and being cast into a vat of boiling oil, none which worked on him. Then, he was banished, according to the almost unanimous voice of antiquity, and by the order of the emperor Domitian. The emperor Domitian died in September, A. D. 96, when the exiles were liberated, and St. John was permitted to return to Ephesus

Grace to you and peace from Him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven Spirits who are before His throne, 5 and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler over the kings of the earth.

Notice this is the Trinity

1. **Him who is and who was and who is to come is the Lord, the Almighty as confirmed in [Rev 1:8](#)**
2. **and from the seven Spirits who are before His throne the seven spirits is the "Holy Spirit" we'll do a complete study later when we get to chapter [Rev 3:1](#), [Rev 4:5](#), [Rev 5:6](#); [Zech 4:1-6](#)**
3. **and from Jesus Christ the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler over the kings of the earth.**
 - a. *Witness; make a mental note (G3144 Strong's) this word witness will come up again in [Rev 2:13](#) when discussing the church of Pergamos.*

To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood, 6. and has made us kings and priests to His God and Father, to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen

*Don't miss this. Jesus **has made us** "the Church", "kings & priest" to His God and Father..... So, let's encourage each other to present ourselves as such. Notice past tense, He has already done the work, we simply repent and join with Him. Also, written in [Rev 5:10](#)*

7 Behold, He is coming with clouds

[Dan 7:13-14](#)

13 "In my vision at night I looked, and there before me was one like a son of man, coming with the clouds of heaven.

[Matt 24:29-31](#)

29 "Immediately after the distress of those days

"the sun will be darkened,

and the moon will not give its light;

the stars will fall from the sky,

and the heavenly bodies will be shaken.'

30 "At that time the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, and all the nations of the earth will mourn. They will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of the sky, with power and great glory. 31 And he will send his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of the heavens to the other.

(from New International Version)

[Matt 26:64](#)

64 "Yes, it is as you say," Jesus replied. "But I say to all of you: In the future you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Mighty One and coming on the clouds of heaven." (from New International Version)

[Mark 13:21-27](#)

21 At that time if anyone says to you, 'Look, here is the Christ!' or, 'Look, there he is!' do not believe it. 22 For false Christs and false prophets will appear and

perform signs and miracles to deceive the elect-if that were possible. 23 So be on your guard; I have told you everything ahead of time. 24 "But in those days, following that distress, "the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; 25 the stars will fall from the sky, and the heavenly bodies will be shaken.' 26 "At that time men will see the Son of Man coming in clouds with great power and glory. 27 And he will send his angels and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of the heavens. (from New International Version)

Mark 14:62

62 "I am," said Jesus. "And you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Mighty One and coming on the clouds of heaven." (from New International Version)

Luke 21:25-28

25 "There will be signs in the sun, moon and stars. On the earth, nations will be in anguish and perplexity at the roaring and tossing of the sea. 26 Men will faint from terror, apprehensive of what is coming on the world, for the heavenly bodies will be shaken. 27 At that time they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. 28 When these things begin to take place, stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near." (from New International Version)

Rev 14:14-16

14 Then I looked, and behold, a white cloud, and on the cloud sat One like the Son of Man, having on His head a golden crown, and in His hand a sharp sickle. 15 And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to Him who sat on the cloud, "Thrust in Your sickle and reap, for the time has come for You to reap, for the harvest of the earth is ripe." 16 So He who sat on the cloud thrust in His sickle on the earth, and the earth was reaped. NKJV

, and every eye will see Him, even they who pierced Him. *(big study for another time)*

Reference Verses:

Who are "they" that pierced Him? These are those who claim to be Jews and are not but lie. Rev2:9 & Rev3:9; John 8:44; Jude11 and, these are the enemies of God, and they will be the first to receive the mark of the beast and doing his work.

And all the tribes of the earth will mourn because of Him. Even so, Amen.

Reference Verses:

Tribes: *define who are Tribes (important note that all can be saved) not just Jews.*

Rev 13:7-9

7 It was granted to him (*the beast*) to make war with the saints and to overcome them. And authority was given him over every tribe, tongue, and nation. 8 All

who dwell on the earth will worship him, whose names have not been written in the Book of Life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world. NKJV

The word TRIBE is clearly defined in [Rev 13:7-9](#) and refers to a specific group which is everyone on earth that is NOT written in the Lambs Book of Life. (Except the Jews at this time)

So, that is why the TRIBES are mourning when He comes in clouds, they suddenly realize they made the wrong choice for their eternal soul, and all that "faith stuff" is real.

*Let's Jump ahead for a quick review of the tribes and how they are part of the "**first beast**" [Rev 13:1-10](#), now go to [Rev 17:12-18](#) this describes the beast as a one world political/religious government divided into 10 kingdoms with 10 kings who are given miraculous power for one hour, and all serve the antichrist. And, this is why they mourn! They made the wrong choice and rejected the truth of God, and they believed the lie. [2Thes 2:11-12](#) & [1Rom 1:18-32](#)*

*[Rev 13:7](#) It was granted to him "the first beast" to make war with the saints and to overcome them. And authority was given him "the first beast" over every **tribe**, tongue, and nation.*

[Rev 13:8](#) All who dwell on the earth will worship him "the first beast", whose names have not been written in the Book of Life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.

8 I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning, and the End," says the Lord, "who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty." NKJV

Revelation 1:9

1:9 I, John, both your brother and companion in the tribulation and kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ, was on the island that is called Patmos for the word of God and for the testimony of Jesus Christ.

Revelation 1:10-11

10 I was in the Spirit on the Lord's Day, and I heard behind me a loud voice, as of a trumpet, 11 saying, "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last," and, "What you see, write in a book and send it to the seven churches which are in Asia: to Ephesus, to Smyrna, to Pergamos, to Thyatira, to Sardis, to Philadelphia, and to Laodicea."

Revelation 1:12

12 Then I turned to see the voice that spoke with me. And having turned I saw seven golden lampstands

Revelation 1:13-17

13 and in the midst of the seven lampstands One like the Son of Man, clothed with a garment down to the feet and girded about the chest with a golden band. 14 His head and hair were white like wool [Isa 1:18-20](#), as white as snow [Dan7:9-10](#), and His eyes like a flame of fire; 15 His feet were like fine brass [Rev2:18-19](#), as if refined in a furnace, and His voice as the sound of many waters; 16 He had in His right hand seven stars [Rev1:19-20](#), out of His mouth went a sharp two-edged sword [Heb4:12-13; Rev2:16-17](#), and His countenance was like the sun shining in its strength. 17 And when I saw Him, I fell at His feet as dead. But He laid His right hand on me, saying to me, "**Do not be afraid; I am the First and the Last.** 18 I am He who lives, and was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore. Amen. And I have the keys of Hades and of Death. 19 Write the things which you have seen, and the things which are, and the things which will take place after this. 20 The mystery of the seven stars which you saw in My right hand, and the seven golden lampstands: The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands which you saw are the seven churches. NKJV

[Heb 4:12-13](#)

12 For the word of God is living and active. **Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.** 13 Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account. (from New International Version)

[Rev 2:16-17](#)

16 Repent therefore! Otherwise, **I will soon come to you and will fight against them with the sword of my mouth.** 17 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes, I will give some of the hidden manna. I will also give him a white stone with a new name written on it, known only to him who receives it. (from New International Version)

End of Chapter One Study

This study took about 1 hour to this point
