#### **Introduction**

Revelation! The only book in the scriptures which promises a blessing to those who read, hear, and "keep those things which are written therein" (ch. 1:3). Yet, there is a noticeable difference between the beginning of the book and its ending. At the end of the book there is emphasis on the "keeping", the sayings of the prophecy (Rev. 22:7), indicating that it is not sufficient to read or hear but to keep the truths presented. To keep them there must be an understanding, not merely of the information in the book, but it's truths are to be lived out. This indicates that we cannot block out certain parts to a different time as



having no relevance to us. The scriptures state in truth: "All scripture . . . is profitable" (2 Tim. 3:16), therefore, the book is not just for the intellect. It has practical truths presented on every page. Two of the major truths we are to keep is the same as that which the ancient Israelites were to keep.

- a) They were to function for God as the executors of divine judgment on the Canaanites. This does not mean killing abortionists or marching with placards, but as Enoch and Noah did, they stood in judgment on the world by how they lived.
- b) A second lesson they had to learn was if we commit the same sins as the Canaanites, the judgment of God will also come on us. It was a lesson they learnt throughout their history.

In Revelation the same truth is presented, for if believers act in the same way as the unsaved, then the judgment of God will come upon them. Albeit not to the same level, for a believer will never come under the wrath of God since they are in Christ, but they will know the discipling hand of God (Heb. 12:6). Peter speaks about "Judgment must begin at the house of God" (1 Pet. 4:17), consequently, the evaluation of the churches (Rev. chs. 2-3) comes before that of the world (Rev. chs. 6-19).

Revelation is not a book for superficial consideration for its truths are too deep for human language to convey. Thankfully God is gracious and uses "signs", just as He used "types" in the Old Testament, or "parables" spoken by the Lord to teach deeper truths. Paul had a magnificent experience when caught up to Paradise after which he wrote: "Eye hath not seen". Note he is speaking about the "intellectual" eyes of the unsaved, thus I paraphrase: "The eyes of the unsaved have not seen, neither have their ears heard, nor has it entered into their hearts the things which God has prepared for them that love him BUT God hath revealed them unto us" (1 Cor. 2:9-10) . . . "That we might know the things that are freely given to us" (1 Cor. 2:12). This is not the things of heaven, but the stupendous truths we can enter into now.

The focus of the book will be found when there is observed the difference between the first and last verses of the book. At the beginning the book states: "The Revelation of Jesus Christ" (Rev. 1:1) and it ends up with twice repeated: "Lord Jesus Christ" (Rev. 22:20-21), showing that the focus of the book is NOT primarily the showing of things to come, but the manifestation of Christ as Lord throughout the things to come.

We must also observe that Revelation is not a comprehensive outline of prophecy for there is no direct specific reference to the rapture, the Judgment Seat, the regathering and restoration of Israel, or the judgment of the living nations. Besides, we are not told what the thunders indicate (ch. 10:4) or who the two witnesses are (ch. 11:3). Neither is it written in chronological order for it is evident from ch. 11:17-18 that the time for the coming of the Lord to put down all authorities and the kingdoms of the earth become the kingdoms of our Lord. There is no indication of a further time period for the vials, etc., yet we read the same concepts in ch. 14:7 and how many times Babylon falls (ch. 14:8; 18:2, 21).

## **Revelation - What Is Meant By A Prophecy?**

In the Old and New Testament a prophet was not only a man who God used at times to foretell the future but at other times act as God's spokesman to the people. The question then is: "Is Revelation a prophecy as a foretelling of the future, a forth-telling of divine truth for practical living in view of the future, or a combination of both?

# Books of Clie Bible ASurbey of Revelation

- a) If one argues that it is a foretelling and strictly prophetical then the interpretation of the man-child (ch. 12:2, 5) being Christ is wrong, for when it was written that was a historical event! Is this not part of the "things which must be hereafter" (ch. 1:19)? Does it not seem strange that there is no reference to the death, or resurrection of the Lord?
- b) If one argues that it is a forth-telling, declaring the mind and purposes of God, then since most of the book has to do with Israel and God's judgment on the world, then what does it have to do with the churches? Obviously there are truths in it for the churches for it was written to them and does not say only chapters 2-3 are for the churches. The whole book is for the churches for they are mentioned at the beginning and the end of the book (Rev. 1:11; 22:16).
- c) Is it a combination of both so that it foretells things to come, and in forth-telling, the entire book has lessons for us today in the churches?

#### The Background of The Revelation

It would seem that the Holy Spirit based His communications to John from three scriptures. In the gospel which bears his name, John spoke about the Lord as Judge and executor of judgment (Jn. 5:22, 27). The Lord as the executor of judgment is clearly manifested in Revelation (chs. 2-19). Again Paul wrote about the coming of the Lord as Judge and this is evidently presented in John's writing to the church at Ephesus (ch. 2:5, 16, 25; 3:20), and concerning the world (ch. 19:11-21). THIS IS NOT SAYING THEY ARE THE SAME COMING, BUT SIMPLY THE MANIFESTATION THAT THE LORD AS JUDGE. Peter will write concerning the high exaltation of the Lord, the removal of the earth and heavens, and the new heaven and earth, again a triple theme John expands (Rev. 20:11-21:1).

#### The Terms God Uses To Describe It

As far as I am aware it is the only Biblical book called a "prophecy" (ch. 1:3; 22:7, 10, 18, 19). This is important because prophecy is always given against the background of departure from God. For instance, man sinned and it is against that background there is the promise of the seed (Gen. 3:15). When God promised Abraham that He would bring his seed out of Egypt, the background was the departure and rebellion against God, both by the Egyptians (Ex. 7:22; 8:15, 19, 32) and the Amorites (Gen. 15:16). This being so, Revelation must be read against the background of departure and rebellion against God. However, it is not rebellion in general but rebellion against the government of God as seen by the throne and rejection of the sacrifice of Christ as seen by the altars (ch. 8:2-4). Revelation deals with the execution of judgment along two avenues. The first is the injustices and cruelty of man to the saints, and second because of insubordination against God. It is also called: "The Revelation of Jesus Christ" (ch. 1:1); "The Word of God" (ch. 1:2); "This prophecy" (ch. 1:3), and "The testimony of Jesus Christ" (ch. 1:2, 9).

The singularity of the title. It is the "Revelation" not "Revelations" of Jesus Christ. That is, by manifesting God's unveiling His purposes for His Son, such as the committing into His hands all judgment and its execution (Jn. 5:22, 27). Second, it is the revealing of how God will bring everything in this world (hence it ends with millennial glory on earth (Rev. 21:9-22:5) and the heavens under the control of Christ despite every satanic opposition. Our Lord has all legal authority and all moral right to take the reins of government. He alone has all ability to suppress and defeat every aspect of opposition to the throne of God, of spurning the gospel, of the fact and judgment of God.

#### **The Use of The Old Testament In Revelation**

According to Dr. Scroggie there are about 550 references to Old Testament passages (Know your Bible). Whatever the exact number is, a careful reading will show that of the 404 verses, 265 do contain the language of the Old Testament.

#### **Matters To Be Considered**

There is always the danger of accepting carte blanche, that which a teacher or writer says. It is a very dangerous thing to do for, "The best of men are but men at the best!" I have never met a Bible teacher who could say they never made a mistake, or had a misunderstanding of a text. I have yet to meet a gospel preacher who could say they have never used a verse out of context. In matters of prophecy, we cannot afford to be utterly dogmatic, but to consider other viewpoints and be as the saints from Berea who were said to be more noble because: "they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so" (Acts 17:11).

I was saved in September 1957 and just a matter of months after that the assembly I went to had a series of meetings on prophecy. That was some 51 years ago. Since that time I have attended many prophetic meetings, had series of meetings on prophecy, and I am still learning. However, when reflecting over the years, I have been at times confused and other times left trying to understand why preachers said certain things. Some are as follows:

- a) Why is it taught that the book is prophetic (which it is), but then mainly interpret chapters two and three as symbolic, representing the church in seven distinct eras of its existence. It is this seven distinct eras that I have a problem with. Let it be clear, I believe that these seven churches are prophetical in character in manifesting the characteristics of the church throughout its entire duration on earth, that is, from Pentecost to the rapture. I believe there are churches in the first century, fifth, eighth, tenth, fourteenth, seventeenth, and twentieth century; and if the Lord does not come in this generation or for one thousand years in the twenty-third century, or the twenty-ninth century, that will have these feature. I do not believe we can sectionalize them to distinct eras. My reasons for such are as follows:
  - i) From my research I discovered this teaching originated from Victorinus, the Bishop of Pettau, who was a Catholic church writer and theologian. He gave no Biblical supporting references and neither do modern writers. One is expected to accept what they say. As a young preacher I was taught always be able to give scripture in context for what you teach or preach. With that in mind, I have asked men through the ages: "Where is the Biblical evidence for sectionalizing the churches to certain eras?" The answer is always the same: "Well it is what we believe", or "The Bible informs us that the book is prophetic so these must also be". I am in full agreement that the book is Biblical, but where is the scripture for the distortion of the meanings of the names of the churches or the dates? Do please understand my perplexity. I have read and heard that Ephesus represents the church from its conception to the year 100 A.D. during which time it lost its first love.
  - ii) Smyrna is said to represent the years of 100 A.D. to 313 A.D. when the church was in deep suffering. I do not understand this, since the days of the apostles the saints had been suffering, and have been suffering ever since. I suggest it does not refer to a specific time period, but an affliction which affects any given church at any given time. The saints today, in Muslim countries etc., are all suffering and there is evidence of suffering in the USA. I find the church at Smyrna is told they would have tribulation 10 days. Historically there is no documentation of such a persecution. Therefore, it is said that it must indicate the ten great persecutions of the church under Nero, Domitian, Trajan, Marcus Aurelius, Septimus Serverus, Decius, Valerian, Maximus the Thracian Aurelian, Diocletian and Galerius. However, there is a major problem with this for:
    - 1. Apparently the Smyrna period did not start until 100. A.D., that is the times of persecution!
    - 2. The problem is that Nero ruled from 64-68 A.D., so he could not be included in the "Smyrna" period if it began in 100 A.D.
    - 3. The next emperor was Domitian who ruled from 81-96 A.D., so he was still too early for the "Smyrna" period!

Therefore, if we look at the Emperors under whom there was persecution to some extent, there were only eight, for the last two were as one! Is this an unconscious missing the scripture to conform to that which is normally taught?

- iii) I have heard it taught that only the last 3 or 4 churches continue until the Lord comes. Are there no suffering localized gatherings of the saints today? Are there no churches now which have left their first love as Ephesus did? Were there no Laodicean churches in the last centuries? Were there no churches of brotherly love in the first 1500 years of Church history?
- b) Perhaps one has heard that the 24 elders (Rev. 4:4) are:
  - i) The combination of the church and Israel
  - ii) They represent angels
  - iii) They are elders of the chief men of the church era!

Is this a biblical truth or that which has been handed down to us and have been accepted without questioning? Since the Lord has not specified who they are, I suggest it is presumptuous for us to try to determine who they are, instead of focusing on the truth being taught by them around the throne and their character. They were not a group of "yes" men but those who had in a time past made decisions which manifested their fellowship with God against the enemy. Again, they manifest the graciousness of God in bringing created beings into His inner circle, or counsel in governmental administration.

- c) That only the last three or four churches go on to the rapture (depending on who the speaker is) for the Lord's coming is spoken of in them. Is this a biblical truth or that which has been handed down to us and have been accepted without questioning? If we look at the Revelation, the entire book hinges on the Lord coming. It is at the beginning (ch. 1:7) and the end (ch. 19:11-21; 22:12, 17, 20) and the truth of His comings, and I say "comings", is found throughout the book. Perhaps we fail to distinguish the different contexts and to which time is it used.
  - i) To the church at Ephesus the Lord is coming in judgment (ch. 2:5), as also to the church at Sardis (ch. 3:3).
  - ii) To the church at Philadelphia it is His coming to deliver them, and as an encouragement to be faithful to the end (ch. 3:11).
  - iii) To Laodicea it is to encourage in the knowledge that they have the fellowship of the Lord (ch. 3:20).
  - iv) This, when considered, the last three churches are Sardis, Philadelphia, and Laodicea, and to make the coming of the Lord in each case refer to the rapture is without biblical foundation.
- d) Who are the "angels"? Are they pastors in a local church; or the elders of a local church? Since the word "angel" is the word "messenger", is there not the possibility that this is the man who comes to the local assembly with a message from the Lord, perfectly suited to the condition of that assembly?
  - i) In 1 John 2:28, we are "not to be ashamed before Him at His coming". Thus, as those who teach divine truth, it is not just a matter of passing on knowledge, it is a matter of working with God in giving information for spiritual deliverance from the grave clothes, and the developing of spiritual maturity. It seems to me that this is illustrated for us in Ex. 16:28 where Moses was God's messenger to the people. Just as Moses represented the people and what they were, while he himself was not part to it, so the angel is the same. This is the same word as is used for the priests in Mal. 2:7, the man whose lips were to keep knowledge, and from whom the people should seek the law at his mouth. He is the messenger, angel of the Lord.
  - ii) I do not see this as a group of men, for he speaks of himself in the singular and one of them: "I am a fellow servant with you"; "And with your brethren the prophets"; "And with those who keep the words of this book" (Rev. 22:8-9). As an individual he is seen in two ways:
    - 1. As the angel who communicates divine truth
    - 2. And as a Star who gives guidance in the things of God in the darkness

- iii) I do not see the angel as the Holy Spirit, for God has not committed the communication of the glories of His Son to an angel, that is the work of the Holy Spirit. The Lord said: "He shall take of mine, and shall shew it unto you" (Jn. 16:15), and "He will shew you things to come" (Jn. 16:13).
- e) It is commonly taught that the Nicolaitanes are the clergy. Is this a biblical truth or that which has been handed down to us and has been accepted without questioning? The word Nicolaitanes means to overcome. This was not written to or about Christendom, but to New Testament churches. It indicates those men, who instead of being shepherds, Lord it over the church, modern day "Diothrephes" (3 Jn. 1:9), who hold the office of an overseer but fail to do the work, and who seek to curtail the activities of the servants of the Lord, either for reception, or where the Lord opens the door for them to minister.

#### **Author**

The penman for this book was John. (ch. 1:1, 4, 9; 21:2; 22:8)

### **Key Verses**

There are several key verses in Revelation, depending on what aspect an individual is considering.

### **Key Words**

In any book it is not only important to look at the repeated words, but also where they come in the book. By viewing the chart "Survey of Revelation - Part 2 - Key Words", one can see the emphasis on the words occur in certain sections of the book. This raises the question: "Why are these truths indicated in this section?"

#### **Key Concepts**

Man never seems to learn the lessons of the past and foolishly thinks and boasts that He can overcome God. The reality is that despite every superhero that man can produce (Rev. 13:4), in spite of the bravado of his proclamations (2 Thess. 2:4) and the despicable character he manifests (Rev. 13:6-7), the decrees of God will be brought to fruition (Psa. 2:6-9; 110:1-2), and the work of the Lord will be victorious (Psa. 2:9; 108:13; 2 Thess. 2:8).

#### **The Use of The Old Testament in Revelation**

According to Dr. Scroggie there are "about 550 references to Old Testament passages" (Know your Bible). Whatever the exact number is, a careful reading will show that of the 404 at least 265 do contain the language of the Old Testament. Interestingly, does not contain a single direct quotation. The following table gives some of these but note that these <u>ARE NOT</u> meant to be the interpretation or fulfillment of all the passages in the Old Testament. They are showing the ways in which the Holy Spirit took His word from the Old Testament and used them to convey similar concepts in Revelation.

Concepts	Reference in Revelation	Old Testament Reference
Seven golden candlesticks	Ch. 1:12	Ex. 25:31-40; Zech. 4:2
The conveyance of divine truth	Ch. 1:1	Dan. 2:28
I am the First and the Last	Ch. 1:17	Isa. 41:4; 44:6; 48:12

Concepts	Reference in Revelation	Old Testament Reference
The girdle about the breasts	Ch. 1:13	Ex. 28:4
The Lord walking	Ch. 2:1	Gen. 3:8
Knows our works	Ch. 2:2, 9, 13, 19; 3:1, 8, 15	Isa. 66:18
Left first love	Ch. 2:4	Jer. 2:2
Balaam and Balac	Ch. 2:14	Num. 22:8-34; Mic. 6:5
Jezebel	Ch. 2:20	1 Kgs. 18:4
White garments	Ch. 3:4	Eccl. 9:8
Walk with me	Ch. 3:4	Gen. 5:22; 6:9
Shut and open doors	Ch. 3:7	Isa. 22:22; Job 12:14
The discipline of the Lord	Ch. 3:19	Prov. 3:12
The four faced living creatures	Ch. 4:6-7	Ezek 1:5-10
The Lord on the throne	Ch. 4:10-11	Dan. 7:9-10
The cries of the angelic beings	Ch. 4:8	Isa 6:2-3
The sealed book	Ch. 5:1	Dan. 12:4; Isa. 29:11
Root of David	Ch. 5:5	Isa. 11:10
And He came and took	Ch. 5:7	Dan. 7:13-14
Man calling on the hills with the stars falling and heaven like a scroll	Ch. 6:12-17	Isa. 2:19; 34:4; Joel 2:30-31; Hos. 10:8
The four judgments	Ch 6:2, 4, 5, 7-8	Ezek. 14:21
Who shall stand	Ch. 6:17	Nah. 1:6; Mal. 3:2
Men marked by God on their foreheads	Ch. 7:1-3	Ezek. 9:1-6
The four winds	Ch. 7:1	Dan. 7:2; Zech. 6:5
No more smiting by the sun	Ch. 7:16	Psa. 121:6
No more thirsting or hunger	Ch. 7:16	Isa. 49:10
The incense altar and prayers as incense	Ch. 8:3	Ex. 30:1; Psa. 141:2
The falling star	Ch. 8:10-11	Isa. 14:12

Concepts	Reference in Revelation	Old Testament Reference
Wormwood and bitter waters because of sin	Ch. 8:11	Jer. 9:15; 23:15
Locusts in judgment	Ch. 9:3	Ex. 10:4
Discrimination in judgment	Ch. 9:4	Ex. 12:23; Ezek. 9:4
The great River Euphrates	Ch. 9:14	Gen. 2:14; Jer. 51:63
Clothed with a cloud	Ch. 10:1	Lam. 3:44
A man is told to eat the scroll	Ch. 10:8-11	Ezek. 2:8-3:3
Measure that which belongs to God	Ch. 11:1	Ezek. 40:3; Zech. 2:1-2
Two witnesses	Ch. 11:3	Psa. 52:8; Zech. 4:3-14
The travailing and man child	Ch. 12:2	Isa. 66:7; Mic. 5:3
The Lord's sustaining as an eagle	Ch. 12:14	Ex. 19:4; Deut. 32:11
The four beasts likeness	Ch. 13:1-2	Dan. 7:1-7
The wicked counsellor	Ch. 13:6, 15-17	Nah. 1:11
A man speaking blasphemies against God	Ch. 13:5-6	Dan. 7:8; 11:36
The Lord on Mt. Zion	Ch. 14:1	Psa. 2:6; Mic. 4:7
Babylon is fallen	Ch. 14:8	Isa. 21:9; Jer. 51:7-8
The reaping of the harvest	Ch. 14:14-18	Joel 3:12-14; Isa. 63:1-6
Song of Moses	Ch. 15:3	Ex. 15:1-18: Deut. 32:1-43
All worship God	Ch. 15:4	Isa. 66:23
Worshipping an image	Ch. 16:2	Dan. 3:5
Waters become blood	Ch. 16:3	Ex. 7:20
The river dried up	Ch. 16:12	Nah. 1:4
The great whore	Ch. 17:1	Nah. 3:4
Golden cup	Ch. 17:4	Jer. 51:7
Reward according to deeds	Ch. 16:6; 19:2	Jer. 50:15; 51:49
Earth lit with His glory	Ch. 18:1	Ezek. 43:2
Separation from ungodliness	Ch. 18:4	Isa. 48:20; 51:6

Concepts	Reference in Revelation	Old Testament Reference
God avenging the blood of His own	Ch. 19:2	Deut. 32:43
Christ with a rod of iron	Ch. 19:15	Psa. 2:9
Eat flesh	Ch. 19:18	Ezek. 39:17
Not acquit the wicked	Ch. 20:11-15	Nah. 1:3
Gog and Magog	Ch. 20:8	Ezek. 38:2
New heaven and earth	Ch. 21:1	Isa. 65:17; 66:22
Tears, sorrow	Ch. 21:4	Isa. 25:8; 35:10; 65:19
The river	Ch. 22:1	Zech. 14:8
The reward is with Him	Ch. 22:12	Isa. 40:10; 62:11

## **Aspect Of God**

Because man cannot see God, he dares to declare that God does not exist, and therefore of no consequence. They argue that if He was there He would prove himself by that which they determine, all the while failing to see His evidences (Psa. 8:3; 19:1-3; Rom. 1:20). For centuries man has blasphemously voiced his opinion of God and Christ, but God's gracious patience will not endure forever. Revelation tells of that time when He will bring to bear on man the "in time" punishments of their sins. It must be recognized that Revelation is a book of love and gracious mercy, for in it God is seeking to awaken man of the seriousness of rebellion against Him. The Holy Spirit is striving to bring man to repentance and the gospel is still being presented (Rev. 14:6; Acts 2:21 'note the prophetic context'). In contrast to man's opinion of the Lord, of the cross, and rejection man gave to Him, God is going to manifest His thoughts about and for Christ. This is the manifestation of what is going to be done to the man whom the Great God and King is delighted to honour (Est. 6:6). God is spoken of 90 times in Revelation with references signifying His purposes (ch. 4:11), glory (ch. 15:8); holiness (ch. 4:8); ability (ch. 4:11); justice (ch. 6:10); eternality (ch. 1:8); omnipotence (ch. 11:17); and His grace (ch. 1:4).

#### **The Principle Ways of Interpreting Revelation**

When it comes to interpretation, Revelation is one of the most controversial of the books of the Scriptures, for there are four different perspectives on it. They are the preterist, the historical, the allegorical viewpoint, and the prophetical or futuristic viewpoint. Since there is ample material written on the variations of these perspectives, a scant survey of them would do none of them justice. For myself, I am contented that the book has truths for all peoples for all ages. For instance, the beast is a man who has no regard for God and stands in opposition to Him. We see this today in many people though not to the full extent as the Beast will be. Saints also, when they deliberately sin, manifest the attitude of the Beast. Again, chapter nine is a very real picture of "hell on earth" when men suffer, want to die and cannot, and are in a world of "spiritual darkness". Therefore, even though it is the unveiling of things to come, it has a gospel application for todays humanity. Therefore, while the book is prophetical, it does contain major truths for both saint and sinner.

## Why Read The Revelation?

1) Because it is part of God's inspired Word (2 Tim. 3:16)

- 2) Because it is the only book of the Scriptures completely given to prophecy (ch. 1:1-3; 19:18-19)
- 3) Because it is the only book which begins and ends with a blessing (ch. 1:3; 22:7)
- 4) Because it is the Revelation of Jesus Christ (ch.1:1-2)
- 5) Because it is the counter balancing truth of Genesis. Only some are given in the table:

Genesis	Reference	Revelation	Reference
Earth created	Ch. 1:1	Earth passes away	Ch. 21:1
Satan's first manifested rebellion on earth	Ch. 3:1-6	Satan's last rebellion	Ch. 20:7-10
The tree of life is guarded	Ch. 3:24	Man is given the right to the tree of life	Ch. 22:14
A flood from God to destroy ungodly people	Ch. 6:17	A flood from Satan to destroy an elect people	Ch.12:15-16
Two angels acting for God on behalf of His people	Ch.19:1	Two witnesses acting for God on behalf of His people	Ch.11:3
The doom of the serpent is pronounced	Ch. 3:15	The doom of the serpent executed	Ch. 20:10

## **Titles of Christ in Revelation**

Titles	Reference	Titles	Reference
The Faithful witness	Ch. 1:5	A Lamb	Ch. 5:6
The First-begotten from the dead	Ch. 1:5	The man child?	Ch. 12:5
The Prince of the kings of the earth	Ch. 1:5	The Faithful and True	Ch. 19:11
Son of Man	Ch. 1:13	The Word of God	Ch. 19:13
The First and the Last	Ch. 1:17	The King of Kings and Lord of Lords (The order is reversed in ch. 17:14)	Ch. 19:16
The Son of God	Ch. 2:18	God	Ch. 20:12
The Amen	Ch. 3:14	The Alpha and the Omega	Ch. 22:13
The Faithful and True Witness	Ch. 3:14	The Beginning and the End	Ch. 22:13
The Beginning of the creation of God	Ch. 3:14	The Bright and Morning Star	Ch. 22:16
The Lion of the tribe of Judah	Ch. 5:5	The Root and the Offspring of David	Ch. 22:16
The Root of David	Ch. 5:5	The Lord Jesus Christ	Ch. 22:21

He is also seen as

- a) The living One (ch. 1:18)
- b) The Leader (ch. 7:17)
- c) He who is holy, who is true (ch. 3:7)

## **Outlines**

The positions of John in the Revelation:

- a) John is at the Lord's feet, to learn the principles of testimony (Rev. 1:17)
- b) John is spiritually transported to heaven to see the Throne, and to learn the principles and the purposes of sovereignty (Rev. 4:1)
- c) John is in the wilderness, to see the power of apostasy (Rev. 17:3)
- d) John is on the mountain, to see the glory of the coming ages (Rev. 21:10)

## **Schematic Outlines**

1) Between the beginning and ending

	Revelation 1:1-1: 8	Revelation 22:6-21	
Theme	Jesus Christ (v.1)	Lord Jesus Christ (v.21)	
Agency	God to Christ, to angel, to John, to the servants (v.1)	The Lord God of the Holy Prophets, sent his angel to show unto his servants (v.6) I John saw these things and heard them (v. 8) I Jesus have sent my angel (v.16)	
Finality	Must come to pass (v.1)	Must shortly be done (v.6)	
Characteristic	A prophecy (v.3)	The prophecy of this book (v.18) The words of the book of this prophecy (v. 19)	
Seriousness	Blessed is he that readeth, hears and keeps (v.3)	If any man will add, take away, God will add the plagues or take away his name (v.18-19)	
Urgency	The time is at hand (v.3)	The time is at hand (v.10)	
Recipients	The seven churches (v.4-7)	In the churches (v.16)	
Description	Of the persons of the Godhead (v.4-5)	I am the Root and Offspring of David, the Bright and Morning Star. (v.16)	
Our Place	Made us kings and priests (v.6)	The Bride (v.17)	
The Titled Name of the Lord	Faithful and True (v.5)	Faithful and True (v.6)	
Purpose for writing	To show unto His servants (v.1)	To show unto His servants (v.6)	

	Revelation 1:1-1: 8	Revelation 22:6-21
Christ's coming	Behold He cometh with clouds and every eye shall see him. (v.7)	Behold I come quickly (v.7) Behold I come quickly (v.12) I come quickly (v.20)
Eternality	I am Alpha and Omega, the Beginning and the Ending, Which was, and Which is and Which is to come. (v.8)	I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end the First and the Last. (v.13)

## Schematic No. 1.

The references to John and the Spirit:

Expression	Position	Reference
In the Spirit	On Patmos	Ch. 1:9-10
In the spirit	Heaven	Ch 4:2
Carried me away in the Spirit	Wilderness	Ch. 17:3
Carried me away in the Spirit	Mountain	Ch. 21:10

## Some Comparisons between the sections leading to the literary apex of the book

1) Some comparisons between chapters 1-3 and 21-22.

	Chapters 1-3		Chapters 21-22
Ch. 1:1	Angel	Ch. 22:6	Angels
Ch. 1:3	Words of this prophecy	Ch. 22:7	Prophecy of this book
Ch. 1:7	Fell at His feet	Ch. 22:8	Fell down
Ch. 1:4	John	Ch. 21:2	John
Ch. 1:8	Alpha and Omega	Ch. 21:6	Alpha and Omega
Ch. 1:11	The churches	Ch. 22:16	The churches
Ch. 2:7	Tree of Life	Ch. 22:2	Tree of Life
Ch. 2:7	He that overcometh	Ch. 21:7	He that overcometh
Ch. 3:5	Lamb's Book of Life	Ch. 21:27	Lamb's Book of Life

2) Some comparisons between chapters 4-7 and 19-20

	Chapters 4-7		Chapters 19-20
Ch. 4:2	One sat on the Throne	Ch. 20:11	Him that sat on the Throne
Ch. 4:3	Description of the Throne	Ch. 20:11	Description of the Throne
Ch. 4:10	They fell before the Throne	Ch. 19:4	They fell before the Throne
Ch. 5:10	Priests unto God	Ch. 20:6	Priests unto God
Ch. 6:8	Death and Hell	Ch. 20:14	Death and Hell

3) Some comparisons between chapters 8-11 and 15-18

	Chapters 8-11		Chapters 15-18
Ch. 9:21	No repentance	Ch. 16:9	No repentance
Ch. 11:7	Beast out of the abyss	Ch. 17:8	Beast out of the abyss
Ch. 11:18	Those who destroy the earth	Ch. 17:16	Those who destroy the woman

- 4) Chapters 12-14 stand alone, an apex the leading truth of the book in this structure.
  - a) The true King and Kingdom

#### **The Book Divided Into Two Sections**

The book is divided into two sections

- a) In chapters one to eleven it is manly figures throughout, yet a single woman is mentioned in chapter 2:20.
- b) In chapters twelve to twenty-two it is womanly figures throughout, yet men are mentioned in ch. 13:1, 3, 5, 11, 13 and ch. 19:11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16 (note the pronouns) but the man of chapter 19 is set in contrast to those of chapter 13.

The Book Divided Into Three Sections

The things seen	Chapter 1
The things which are	Chapters 2-3
The things which shall be hereafter	Chapters 4-22

May God grant us good understanding as He, by His Holy Spirit, deigns to guide us into all truth. John 16:13

Rowan Jennings, Abbotsford, British Columbia