

August 13, 2017

Encountering God Through Revelation

Intro

Seeing

Genre

- *Apocalyptic literature (v. 1)*
 - A disclosure / unveiling / revealing
 - Communicates through symbols, signs, & visions
 - Books like **Daniel, Ezekiel, & Zechariah**

- *Prophecy (22:7, 10, 18)*
 - Foretelling & forthtelling

- *Epistle (v. 11)*
 - Revelation is a letter to seven churches in Asia Minor

Date

- Revelation was probably written during the late 90's A.D., during the reign of the Roman Emperor Domitian (a time of great persecution).

Author

- From Jesus Christ to John (v. 1).

Message

- "...to show to His servants the things that must soon take place..." (v. 1)
- Revelation is the message of God's triumph through the Lord Jesus over the forces of evil on the earth and in the heavenlies that will take place during the closing of the age, as communicated through visions and symbols.

Rev 22:20 I am coming soon...

Purpose

- To assure and protect the faith of the church in extreme circumstances by reminding them of the control of the Lord Jesus.

Structure

- "Write therefore the things that you have seen [ch. 1] those that are [ch. 2-3] and those that are to take place after this [ch. 4-22]" (v. 19).

Visions & Symbols

- Most of the visions and symbols are taken from the Old testament.

- The number *seven* (**Gen. 2:2**) occurs 55 times.
 - Seven churches, seven candle sticks, seven spirits, seven stars (**ch. 1**)
 - Seven golden lampstands (**1:12**) is taken from **Ex. 25:31-40** which describes the Menorah. From **v. 20**, we see that these lampstands represent the church.

- Four living creatures (**4:6; Ez. 1:5-11**).

- The Lamb (27x) is the central Figure of Revelation.

Savoring & Encountering from Revelation 1