# A Study Of The Book Of Revelation

May 17, 2020

# Resources used:

- A Study Of The Book Of Revelation by Bob Dodson
- More Than Conquerors by William Hendriksen
- Overcoming With The Lamb, Florida College Annual Lectures, February 7-10, 1994
- Revelation: An Introduction and Commentary by Homer Hailey
- Revelation (Truth Commentaries) by Robert Harkrider
- Revelation (A Study Workbook) by Robert Harkrider
- Revelation by Donnie Rader
- Studies In The Book Of Revelation by Ferrell Jenkins
- The Old Testament In The Book Of Revelation by Ferrell Jenkins
- The Revelation Of Saint John The Divine by G.B. Caird
- The Book of Revelation by Foy E. Wallace
- The Avenging of the Apostles and Prophets by Arthur M. Ogden
- Worthy Is The Lamb by Ray Summers
- Written exchange on "The Domitian Persecution" between Arthur M. Ogden and Ferrell Jenkins presented in Searching The Scriptures, June 12, 1989, pages 7-12

### Revelation 1

"John's Vision of Christ Commissioning Him to Write"

John's Vision of Christ Among the Churches (verses 9-20)

Response of John to the vision. (verses 17-18)

- Typical of man in the presence of deity. Genesis 3:8; 17:3; Exodus 3:6; Numbers 22:31; Joshua 5:14; Isaiah 6:5
- Note: Ezekiel 1:28; 3:23; 43:3

#### Revelation 1

"John's Vision of Christ Commissioning Him to Write"

John's Vision of Christ Among the Churches (verses 9-20)

Revelation 1:17, "And he laid his right hand upon me, saying, <u>Fear not</u>..."

Note: The same hand that held the stars could reach in tenderness to tell John to not be afraid. cf. Daniel 10:10-12

## Revelation 1

"John's Vision of Christ Commissioning Him to Write"

John's Vision of Christ Among the Churches (verses 9-20)

Revelation 1:17-18, "I am the first and the last, and the Living one; and I was dead, and behold, I am alive for evermore, and I have the keys of death and of Hades." (cf. 1:8)

Reason for boldness. Matthew 10:28; 1 Corinthians 15:54-55; Isaiah 53

- Clearly a reference to Christ as eternal. John 1:1-2; Colossians 1:16-18
- Found 3 times in Revelation: 1:17; 2:8; 22:13

## Revelation 1

"John's Vision of Christ Commissioning Him to Write"

John's Vision of Christ Among the Churches (verses 9-20)

Commission to write (verses 11, 19)

- To seven churches of Asia Minor.
- Explanation of vision (verse 20)

"the mystery of the seven stars which thou sawest in my right hand, and the seven golden candlesticks. The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches: and the seven candlesticks are seven churches."

### Revelation 1

# What Is The Point?

"A living, holy, majestic, omniscient, authoritative, powerful Christ stands in the midst of the churches, holds their destiny in his hand and says: 'Stop fearing, I was dead. I am alive forever. More than that, I hold in my hand the keys of death and the grave. You should not fear to go any place to which I hold the key."

- Ray Summers, Worthy is the Lamb, 105

# Revelation 2:1-7 Letter to the church at Ephesus

# **Letters To The Seven Churches**

- •Pattern:
  - Salutation.
  - Christ's self-designation.
  - Commendation of good.
  - Condemnation of evil.
  - Warning and threat.
  - Exhortation to repent and do the first works.
  - Promise of reward if they follow.

# Letters To Seven Church of Asia (Revelation 2-3)

- Some were **good** (Smyrna, Philadelphia)
- Some were <u>good / bad</u> (Ephesus, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis)
- One was **bad** (Laodicea)

# **Letters To Seven Church of Asia**

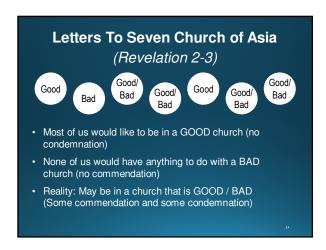
(Revelation 2-3)

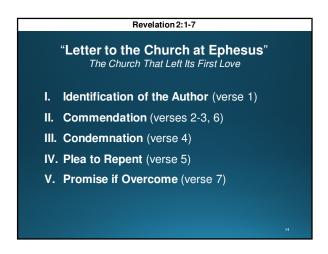
- "I KNOW THY WORKS." Revelation 2:2, 9, 13, 19, 3:1, 8, 15
  - God is not mocked. Galatians 6:7-8, Judgment is coming. cf. Romans 2:5-11, 16; 2 Corinthians 5:10
  - On the other hand ... Revelation 14:13; Hebrews 4:14-16
- "TO HIM THAT OVERCOMETH." (Revelation 2:7, 11, 17, 26; 3:5, 12, 21)
- "Overcome" used 14 times in Revelation, means "victory."
- Written to encourage. (cf. Matthew 10:28; 16:26)
  - Continue steadfastly. (Hebrews 12:1-4; 1 Corinthians 15:58; cf. 1 Corinthians 9:27; 10:12; 2 Peter 2:20-22)
- NOTE: These letters would have no meaning if it were not possible to fall. (Revelation 2:5, 16, 22-23; 3:3, 18-19; cf. Hebrews 3:12-14)

# **Letters To Seven Church of Asia**

(Revelation 2-3)

- "HE THAT HATH AN EAR, LET HIM HEAR WHAT THE SPIRIT SAITH ..." Revelation 2:7, 11, 17, 29; 3:6, 13, 22
  - The Lord does not force anyone. Revelation 22:17; cf. Romans 6:16
  - Though written to "churches," these instructions are individual in application. cf. Romans 14:12
- Note: Sardis was a "dead" church, "... But thou hast a few names in Sardis that did not defile their garments: and they shall walk with me in white; for they are worthy." Revelation 3:4













# Revelation 2:1-7

# Its History

- 1. Paul Visited Ephesus Briefly on 2<sup>nd</sup> Journey (Acts 18:18-21)
- 2. Aquila and Priscilla Corrected Apollos (Acts 18:24-28)
- 3. Conversion of 12 Previously Baptized (Acts 19:1-7)
- 4. Many Converted on 3<sup>rd</sup> Journey (Acts 19:8-20)
  - a. In midst of controversy (verses 8-16)
  - b. Burned their books (verses 18-19)
  - c. Stayed three years (Acts 20:31)

Revelation 2:1-7

# Its History

- 5. Idol Craftsmen Caused a Riot. (Acts 19:21-41)
- 6. Paul Met with Elders at Miletus. (Acts 20:13-38)
- 7. May have Visited Again after Prison. (1 Timothy 1:3)
- 8. Paul Wrote a Letter to Church at Ephesus. (Ephesians)
- 9. Timothy Worked with the Church. (1 Timothy 1:3)

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