



TOUGH QUESTIONS:
THE BOOK OF REVELATION

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

- The Call to be Faithful
 - Chapters 1-3
- What's with Signs?
 - Chapters 4-11
- Tying it all Together
 - Chapters 12-20
- The Hope of Heaven
 - Chapters 21-22

QUESTIONS ABOUT END TIMES

- What's happening in the Middle East?
- What about the rapture?
- What signs have already happened, what are yet to come?

SOME THOUGHTS FOR OUR NEXT WEEKS

- This will not be an exhaustive study of Revelation but rather an overview to help you get started on your own study.
 - See the study on RightNow Media (questions at eyewhitnessbible.org)
- We are going to read Revelation as it is!
- Let the bible change you, not you change the bible!
 - The bible is to say what it wants, not what we want!

THE BOOK OF REVELATION IS

- Apocalyptic (1:1)
 - Uses vision, symbols, and allegories
 - Reveals a heavenly perspective
 - Describes past, current and future events
- Prophetic (1:3)
 - Who God is (God's Covenant/Commandments)
 - What God Desires (Our Sin/need for repentance)
 - What God Demands of His People (Consequences/what will happen)
- An Epistle (1:4)
 - Written to a specific people
 - Written for specific situations
 - Applicable for future individuals

REVELATION

THE CALL TO BE FAITHFUL

REVELATION CHAPTERS 1-4

BLESSED ARE YOU!

God blesses the one who reads the words of this prophecy to the church, and he blesses all who listen to its message and obey what it says, for the time is near. – Revelation 1:3

- Blessed are those who
 - Read/Hear
 - Take to heart (heed/obey)

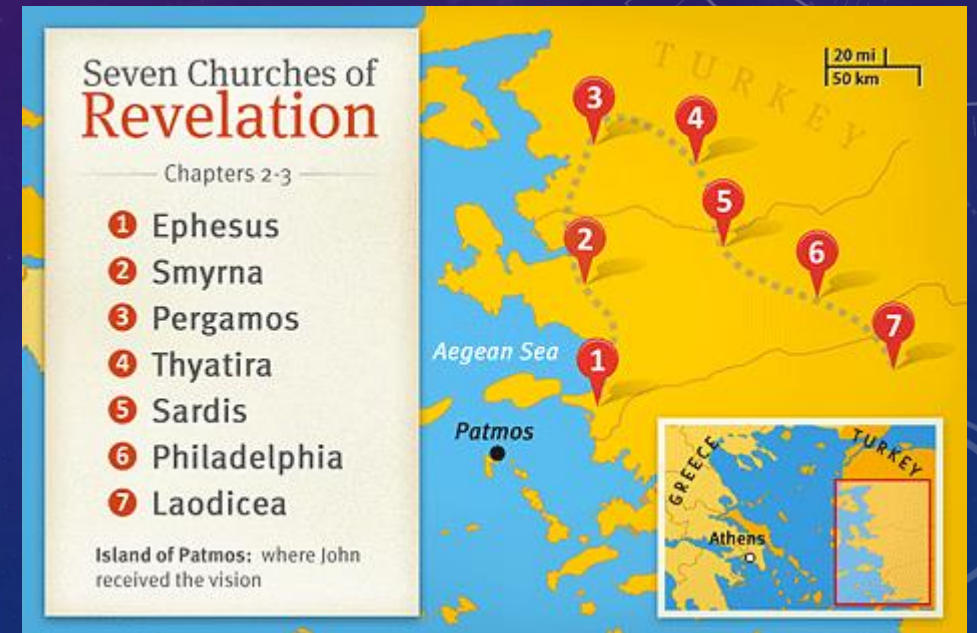
BLESSED ARE YOU!

God blesses the one who reads the words of this prophecy to the church, and he blesses all who listen to its message and obey what it says, for the time is near. – Revelation 1:3

- The time is near
 - What does this say?
 - How do we take this?

REVELATION 1:4-8

- Written to the seven churches
- Who is and who was and who is to come



REVELATION 1:9-20

WHY THE BOOK IS WRITTEN

“Write in a book everything you see and send it to the seven churches in the cities of Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia, and Laodicea.” – Revelation 1:11

WHO THE BOOK IS WRITTEN ABOUT

When I saw Him, I fell at His feet as if I were dead. But He laid His right hand on me and said, “Don’t be afraid! I am the First and the Last. I am the living one. I died, but look—I am alive forever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and the grave. – Revelation 1:17-18

THE MESSAGE TO THE CHURCHES...

EPHESUS: THE ONE WHO HOLDS THE SEVEN STARS IN HIS RIGHT HAND, THE ONE WHO WALKS AMONG THE SEVEN GOLDEN LAMPSTANDS

Deeds	I Hold Against You	Repent	Warning	Overcome
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Toil and Perseverance • Cannot tolerate evil • Test apostles • Endured for Christ's name's sake • Not wearied • Hate the deeds of the Nicolaitans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Left your first love 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remember from where you have fallen • Do the deeds you did at first 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lampstand Removed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Granted to eat from the tree of life in Paradise

SMYRNA: THE FIRST AND LAST, WHO WAS DEAD, AND HAS COME TO LIFE

Deeds	I Hold Against You	Repent	Warning	Overcome
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tribulation• Poverty (by the world's standard)• Blasphemed against			<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Do not fear suffering• Be faithful until death	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Will not be hurt by the second death

PERGAMUM: THE ONE WHO HAS THE SHARP TWO-EDGED SWORD

Deeds	I Hold Against You	Repent	Warning	Overcome
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hold fast to Jesus' name	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tolerate those who hold to Balaam's teachings• Tolerate those who hold to the teachings of the Nicolaitains	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Turn away from these teachings</i>• <i>Hold everyone accountable</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Jesus will make war against them with 'the sword of My mouth.'	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Give hidden manna• Give a new name

THYATIRA: THE SON OF GOD, WHO HAS EYES LIKE A FLAME OF FIRE, AND HIS FEET ARE LIKE BURNISHED BRONZE

Deeds	I Hold Against You	Repent	Warning	Overcome
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Deeds• Love• Faith• Service• Perseverance• Increasing deeds	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tolerate Jezebel• Led astray to immorality	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Called Jezebel to repent• (Other's no burdens)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• She and her followers will experience tribulation• Her progeny will be cut off	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Authority over nations• The morning star

SARDIS: HE WHO HAS THE SEVEN SPIRITS OF GOD AND THE SEVEN STARS

Deeds	I Hold Against You	Repent	Warning	Overcome
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Appear alive but are dead	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Deeds not complete in the sight of 'My God'	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Admit you are not alive</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wake up (come back to life)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Clothed in white• Name will remain in the book of life• Jesus will confess them before God

PHILADELPHIA: HE WHO IS HOLY, WHO IS TRUE, WHO HAS THE KEY OF DAVID, WHO OPENS, AND NO ONE WILL SHUT AND WHO SHUTS, AND NO ONE OPENS

Deeds	I Hold Against You	Repent	Warning	Overcome
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Little power • Kept Jesus' word • Not denied Jesus' name 				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will keep them from the hour of testing • Make a pillar in the temple of God • Write on them the name of God and the name of the City of God

LAODICEA: THE AMEN, THE FAITHFUL AND TRUE WITNESS, THE BEGINNING OF THE CREATION OF GOD

Deeds	I Hold Against You	Repent	Warning	Overcome
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Neither hot nor cold	<ul style="list-style-type: none">I am richI need nothing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Buy from Jesus gold, white garments, eye salve	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Listen for Jesus, open the door	<ul style="list-style-type: none">To sit with Jesus on His throne

THE CHURCHES, THE PEOPLE... THEN AND NOW

Church	Appearance	Response
Ephesus	Programs	May remove the lampstand
Smyrna	Poverty	Crown of life
Pergamum	Peacemakers	Will make war against you
Thyatira	Allowing immorality	Will search minds and hearts
Sardis	Alive	Will come like a thief
Philadelphia	Powerless	Kept from the hour of testing
Laodicea	Self-sufficient	Spit them out

Those whom I love, I reprove and discipline; therefore be zealous and repent. – Revelation 3:19