

Seven Keys to Unlocking Revelation

We have almost reached the end of 2020. This means that we have also almost concluded our Bible reading schedule. The last book in our reading is Revelation.

Many consider the book of Revelation to be the most challenging book to understand in the Bible. Since it does not read like other books in the New Testament, many avoid reading and studying it. We would be wise to remember that Revelation is also part of the inspired word of God (2 Timothy 3:16-17). It has been revealed and preserved by God for a reason.

Here are seven keys to unlocking the mysteries of Revelation.

- The name of the book (Revelation 1:1). The title comes from the Greek word “apokalupsis.” The word means “to uncover, disclose, or reveal.” This book is a revelation of Jesus Christ!
- The content of Revelation is prophecy (Revelation 1:3; 22:7, 10, 18-19). Prophecy is a declaration of the mind or counsel of God (whether past, present, or future). These prophecies were “to be read, heard, and heeded.” These prophecies had an immediate application to the early Christians.
- The book is loaded with symbolism (Revelation 1:1). The figures revealed are not meant to be taken literally (Revelation 1:12-20). Revelation is written in an apocalyptic style.
- The original intended audience were the seven churches of Asia (Revelation 1:4, 11). These churches were located in Asia Minor (Turkey).
- The churches in Asia were experiencing tribulation (Revelation 1:9; 2:9-10, 13). They were likely being persecuted by the wicked Roman Empire.
- The message of Revelation was “soon to take place” (Revelation 1:1, 3; 22:6-7, 10). The prophecies of this book had an immediate application to the original audience.
- “Christ Rules” is the theme of the book. Revelation portrays Jesus as a conquering King who leads His people to victory over their persecutors (Revelation 1:5-6; 17:14). The Lord’s army would ultimately win the spiritual war!

The Lessons

- We have an enemy. Satan is the main enemy of God’s people (1 Peter 5:8; Revelation 12:9).
- We have an advocate. Jesus continues to be the king of God’s people (Revelation 17:14). We must make sure that we stay in the right spiritual army (Revelation 2:10).

Conclusion:

Whose army are you enlisted in right now?

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