

THE REVELATION



QUICK OVERVIEW:

Chapters 2-3: Addressing the 7 churches

Chapter 4: A Vision of God

Chapter 5: The book with 7 seals

Chapter 6: The first 6 seals opened

Chapter 7: An Interlude

Chapters 12-13: The Enemies Introduced

Chapters 14-20: Judgment on the enemies

Chapters 21-22: The final outcome for the saints



7 GUIDEPOSTS FOR REVELATION:



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- **The Name - Revelation**
(Revelation 1:1)



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“a declaration of the mind
and counsel of God”



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- **The Name - Revelation**
(Revelation 1:1)
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(Revelation 1:3)
- **The Style - Signified**
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“to express in signs and symbols” (Apocalyptic)



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- **The Name - Revelation**
(Revelation 1:1)
- **The Content - Prophecy**
(Revelation 1:3)
- **The Style - Signified**
(Revelation 1:1)
- **The Audience –**
Seven Churches of Asia
(Revelation 1:4,11)





- **The seven churches of Asia were in Asia Minor (Modern Turkey).**
- **Revelation is primarily directed at these churches because they were faced some very specific situations and problems.**
- **They were in the hot zone of Roman persecution.**
- **A failure to understand this has led to misunderstandings and error being taught.**



ADVANCE OF ROME UNDER THE CAESARS

7 GUIDEPOSTS FOR REVELATION:



- **The Background – Tribulation**
(Revelation 1:9)



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- **The Background – Tribulation**
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Terrible things were happening in the lives of Christians during this time. They were being persecuted by the Roman Empire for their faith in Jesus. Not even the Apostle John could escape it.



7 GUIDEPOSTS FOR REVELATION:



- **The Background – Tribulation**
(Revelation 1:9)

The Roman emperor at this time was likely a man named Domitian. He reigned from 81-96 A.D.



7 GUIDEPOSTS FOR REVELATION:



- **The Background – Tribulation**
(Revelation 1:9)

Domitian was a wicked ruler who was only concerned with his own pleasure. He demanded that others address him as “Master and god.” He also required that Roman citizen’s burn incense to him and confess “Caesar is Lord.”



7 GUIDEPOSTS FOR REVELATION:



- **The Background – Tribulation
(Revelation 1:9)**

Obviously, this would be a problem for Christians. Since they would not bow to the emperor as god, they would either have their property seized, be arrested, or even be tortured and killed.



7 GUIDEPOSTS FOR REVELATION:



- **The Background – Tribulation**
(Revelation 1:9)

Revelation was written to give them hope and encouragement. It was designed to motivate them to hang on to their faith and remain loyal to Jesus no matter what.



7 GUIDEPOSTS FOR REVELATION:



- **The Background – Tribulation**
(Revelation 1:9)
- **The Theme – Christ Rules**
(Revelation 1:5; 17:14)



7 GUIDEPOSTS FOR REVELATION:



- **The Background – Tribulation
(Revelation 1:9)**
- **The Theme – Christ Rules
(Revelation 1:5; 17:14)**

Revelation is ultimately about Christ and Him being victorious over anyone who opposes Him and His church.



7 GUIDEPOSTS FOR REVELATION:



- **The Background – Tribulation**
(Revelation 1:9)
- **The Theme – Christ Rules**
(Revelation 1:5; 17:14)

Throughout Revelation Jesus is portrayed as the great Conqueror over His enemies! This would give Christians the motivation they needed to remain faithful.



7 GUIDEPOSTS FOR REVELATION:



- **The Background – Tribulation**
(Revelation 1:9)
- **The Theme – Christ Rules**
(Revelation 1:5; 17:14)
- **The Time Frame -**
“Shortly Take Place”
(Revelation 1:1, 3)



“Shortly Take Place”

- This language should be interpreted from the perspective of the early Christians.
- Those who fail to understand this has led to misapplications and abuses.
- If Revelation was written about things to take place in 21st century (like many suggest) in what ways would that encourage the Christians being persecuted severely for their faith in the 1st century?



7 GUIDEPOSTS FOR REVELATION:



- **The Name - Revelation**
- **The Content - Prophecy**
- **The Style - Signified**
- **The Audience – Seven Churches of Asia**
- **The Background – Tribulation**
- **The Theme – Christ Rules**
- **The Time Frame – “Shortly Take Place”**