

The Revelation

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Revelation 1:1-6

Vss 1-3

- The Greek word for “revelation” is “apokalupsis” from which we get the word “apocalypse”. It comes from two words: “apo” meaning “away from” and “kalupsis” meaning “hiding” or “veiling”. So apokalupsis means “unhiding” or “removing the veil” or “revealing”. The Greek philosopher Plutarch used it to mean “disclosure”.
- New Testament uses “apokalupsis”:
 - Galatians 2:2 to reveal God’s will for our actions
 - Galatians 1:12; 1 Cor. 14:6 to reveal God’s truth
 - Romans 16:25; Eph. 3:3 to reveal God’s mysteries through Christ (John 14:9)
 - Romans 2:5; 1 Peter to reveal God’s power and holiness in the last days
 - Eph. 1:17 to reveal the Holy Spirit as a spirit of revelation
- All revelation begins with God. He reveals to us. We do not discover on our own. We never create Truth. We receive Truth from God. We petition God to reveal Himself through **active** prayer and **aggressive** listening.
- God gives this revelation to Jesus Christ (John 12:49).
- Jesus send it by His messenger, His angel.
- Jesus sends it to John, His bond-servant/slave: one who is His total possession, who has totally surrendered himself to the Master.

- Blessed is the one who reads, those who hear, and those who embrace the message.

Vss 4-6

- Asia: a Roman province in what is now western Turkey



- There were more than just seven churches in Asia
 - Colossae, Hierapolis (Col. 4:13), Troas (2 Cor. 2:12; Acts 20:5), Miletus (Acts 20:17). And Ignatius of Antioch (50 AD – 108 AD) mentions in letters churches in the Asian towns of Magnesia and Tralles.
- Why these seven? Location? Seven equals completeness, so does seven signal that its meant for all churches? Were these seven John's churches as the Galatian churches were Paul's churches?