

The Revelation of Jesus Christ

Lesson 1

John's Epiphany of the Glorified Christ

The Apostle John was a historical person. John wrote this letter to seven literal churches in literal Asia Minor. This was confirmed as such by all the next generation theologians like Justin Martyr, Tertullian, Clement and Irenaeus. It was written during the time of Roman Emperor Domitian (90-95 A.D.) who intensely persecuted the church. It would seem reasonable that in the midst of persecution the church should be given a book of such assurance, which gives them an explanation of God's purposes and also a promise of ultimate triumph and reward. Read Revelation Chapter 1.

1. Who is this revelation from? Who gave it to him? How was it communicated to John? (Rev 1:1). Would you say this claims to be divinely inspired? Is it an eyewitness account?
2. Who did John write this epistle to (1:4)? What is promised to "he who reads, hears and heeds the prophecy" (1:3)?
3. Revelation 1:5-6 gives 3 titles that describe Jesus' person and 3 statements about his work; what are they? Would these provide comfort to a suffering church?
4. What promise for the future is given in Rev 1:7? Does this correspond to Daniel 7:13-14, Zech 12:10, Math 16:27, 24:30 and Acts 1:11? Therefore, is Scripture consistent in spite of being written at different times and by different men?
5. In Rev 1:9-11 John sets the scene of the times and his circumstances. Do you think Patmos was a vacation spot on a pleasure cruise? Why was John there? What did he hear? Did the other Apostles who wrote the Bible have similar experiences (Acts 22:17-18)?

