

WHY REVELATION

A New Approach to Revelation through the Lens of the teachings of Jesus

Luke 4.43—But he said, “I must proclaim the good news [euangelion] of the kingdom of God to the other towns also, because that is why I was sent.”

Mark 1.14-15—After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. “The time has come,” he said. “The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news [euangelion - gospel]!”

Matthew 10.7-8—As you go, proclaim this message: ‘The **KINGDOM OF HEAVEN** has come near.’ Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those who have leprosy, drive out demons. Freely you have received, freely give.

Luke 10.9—Heal the sick who are there and tell them, ‘The kingdom of God has come near to you.’

Luke 9.6—So they set out and went from village to village, proclaiming the good news [euangelion] and healing people everywhere.

NOT JUST PASSING THROUGH

Matthew 13.31-32—He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his field. Though it is the smallest of all seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds come and perch in its branches.”

Acts 8.12—But when they believed Philip as he proclaimed the good news of **THE KINGDOM OF GOD** and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women.

Acts 19.8—Paul entered the synagogue and spoke boldly there for three months, arguing persuasively about **THE KINGDOM OF GOD**.

Acts 20.25— Now I know that none of you

Revelation 1.1-4—The revelation from Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show his servants what must soon take place. He made it known by sending his angel to his servant John, who testifies to everything he saw . . . John, To the seven churches in the province of Asia:

Matthew 4.23—Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news [euangelion] of the kingdom, and healing every disease and sickness among the people.

Luke 6.20-26—Looking at his disciples, he said: “Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. Blessed are you who hunger now, for you will be satisfied. Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh. Blessed are you when people hate you, when they exclude you and insult you and reject your name as evil, because of the Son of Man. Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, because great is your reward in heaven. For that is how their ancestors treated the prophets. But woe to you who are rich, for you have already received your comfort. Woe to you who are well fed now, for you will go hungry. Woe to you who laugh now, for you will mourn and weep. Woe to you when everyone speaks well of you, for that is how their ancestors treated the false prophets.

Luke 6.27-36—But to you who are listening I say: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you. If someone slaps you on one cheek, turn the other also. If someone takes your coat, do not withhold your shirt. Give to everyone who asks you, and if anyone takes what belongs to you, do not demand it back. Do to others as you would have them do to you. If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who are good to you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners do that. And if you lend to those from whom you expect repayment, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, expecting to be repaid in full. But love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back. Then your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High, because he is kind to the ungrateful and wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

Prologue and Epilogue

Revelation 1.1-8—The revelation from Jesus Christ, which God gave him

“They follow the Lamb wherever he goes . . .” Revelation 14.4

*All texts quoted from the TNIV unless otherwise noted.

among whom I have gone about preaching **THE KINGDOM** will ever see me again.

Acts 28.23—They arranged to meet Paul on a certain day, and came in even larger numbers to the place where he was staying. He witnessed to them from morning till evening, explaining about **THE KINGDOM OF GOD**, and from the Law of Moses and from the Prophets he tried to persuade them about Jesus.

Acts 28.30-31—For two whole years Paul stayed there in his own rented house and welcomed all who came to see him. He proclaimed **THE KINGDOM OF GOD** and taught about the Lord Jesus Christ—with all boldness and without hindrance!

The whole book between the prologue and the epilogue is recounted as a single visionary experience. (Revelation 1.9)

Revelation 1.9-10-3.22—John’s inaugural vision of the Risen Christ who gives the seven messages to the seven churches.

Revelation 4.1-16.21—Series of sequences as they pertain to the War of the Lamb and His Kingdom and the ruler of this world and his kingdoms.

Revelation 17.1-19.10—The Harlot and her defeat

Revelation 21.9-22.9—The Bride and her victory.

(Revelation 19.11-21.8—Transition from fall of Harlot to the victory of the Bride)

to show his servants what must soon take place. He made it known by sending his angel to his servant John, who testifies to everything he saw—that is, the word of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ. Blessed is the one who **READS ALOUD** the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who **HEAR IT** and take to heart what is written in it, because the time is near . . .

Revelation 22.6-21—The angel said to me, “These words are trustworthy and true. The Lord, the God who inspires the prophets, sent his angel to show his servants the things that must soon take place.” “Look, I am coming soon! Blessed are those who keep the words of the prophecy in this scroll.” I, John, am the one who heard and saw these things . . .

Three Transitions

Revelation 1.9-11—I, John, your brother and companion in the **SUFFERING** and **KINGDOM** and **PATIENT ENDURANCE** that are ours in Jesus, was on the island of Patmos because of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. On the Lord’s Day I was **IN THE SPIRIT**, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet, which said: “Write on a scroll what you see and send it to the seven churches: to Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia and Laodicea.”

Revelation 4.2—At once I was **IN THE SPIRIT**, and there before me was a throne in heaven with someone sitting on it.

Revelation 17.3—Then the angel carried me away **IN THE SPIRIT** into a wilderness . . .

Revelation 21.10—And he carried me away **IN THE SPIRIT** to a mountain great and high . . .

Revelation 17.1-3—One of the seven angels who had the seven bowls came and said to me, “Come, I will show you the punishment of the great prostitute, who sits by many waters. With her the kings of the earth committed adultery, and the inhabitants of the earth were intoxicated with the wine of her adulteries.” Then the angel carried me away in the Spirit into a wilderness. There I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast that was covered with blasphemous names and had seven heads and ten horns.

Revelation 21.9-10—One of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues came and said to me, “Come, I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb.” And he carried me away in the Spirit to a mountain great and high, and showed me the Holy City, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God.

