

Revelation  
Lesson 1  
Revelation 1:1-8

Memory Verse for the Next Lesson – Revelation 22:1 – *“And he shewed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb.”*

Passage to Read for the Next Lesson – Revelation 1:9-20

Revelation 1:1-3 – Prologue

These verses reveal the source of the book of Revelation (apokalypsis – unveiling) - God to Jesus to an angel to John to us. The things revealed will unfold quickly once they start (shortly come to pass)? It's interesting that John, near the end of his life, mentions himself by name for the first time in his writings.

John had walked with Jesus in His earthly ministry. John had written a record of that time in the Gospel of John. That Gospel is a historical record, a record of past events. Now John has been chosen to write about Jesus Christ in the context of future events.

Happy is the one who reads this aloud. Happy are the ones who listen to it being read aloud. Happy are the ones who lay its words to heart. Notice the ultimate effect of this book is to bring a blessing to believers, not fear, not confusion, not despair.

Revelation 1:4-6 – The Salutation

The first recipients of the book of Revelation were the seven churches of western Asia Minor mentioned in 1:11. Grace is God's attitude of kindness that characterizes the Age of the Church. Peace is the result of the reconciliation made possible by God's grace. The book (or the peace?) is made possible by the three Persons of the Trinity – The Father (“him which is, and which was, and which is to come”), the Spirit (“the seven Spirits which are before his throne”), and the Son - Jesus Christ.

Jesus is ...

1. The faithful witness – John 1:18
2. The first-born from the dead.
3. The ruler of the kings of the earth.
4. Our loving Savior who washed away our sins with His blood and has exalted us in Himself.

Revelation 1:7-8

Daniel 7:13-14 and Zachariah 12:10 will be fulfilled in the return of Jesus. John calls us to “behold” this event – to see it in our hearts for now, but one day with our eyes.

Jesus is now described in Revelation 1:8 in the same way God was in Revelation 1:4.