



THE 5 W'S (AND 1 H) OF THE BOOK OF
REVELATION

Dr. Luther Ray Smith Jr.

Who?

THE AUTHOR OF THE BOOK OF REVELATION IS JOHN

The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave Him to show to His bond-servants, the things which must soon take place; and He sent and communicated it by His angel to **His bond-servant John** (Rev. 1:1 NASB)

Who?

He was one of the first disciples that was called by Jesus to be a disciple.

Now as Jesus was walking by the Sea of Galilee, He saw two brothers, Simon who was called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen. And He said* to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men." Immediately they left their nets and followed Him. Going on from there He saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee, and **John his brother**, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets; and He called them. Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed Him. (Matt. 4:18-22 NASB)

Who?

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AS A MATTER OF FACT, WE SEE THAT JOHN IN THE SCRIPTURES IS SEEN WITH HIS BROTHER JAMES (I.E., JACOB)

Mk. 1:29-And immediately after they came out of the synagogue, they came into the house of Simon and Andrew, with **James and John** (NASB).

Mk. 10:35-**James and John**, the two sons of Zebedee, came up to Jesus, saying, “Teacher, we want You to do for us whatever we ask of You.” (NASB)

Who?

JOHN WAS INVOLVED WITH THE MINISTRY OF CHRIST

Mk. 5:37-(Concerning Jairus daughter)And He allowed no one to accompany Him, except Peter and James and **John the brother of James.** (NASB)

Mk. 9:2-Six days later, Jesus took with Him Peter and James and **John**, and brought them up on a high mountain by themselves. And He was transfigured before them; (NASB)

Who?

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JOHN WAS DETAILED ALONG WITH ALL OF THE OTHER APOSTLES

Mk. 9:13-16: He called His disciples to Him and chose twelve of them, whom He also named as **apostles**: Simon, whom He also named Peter, and Andrew his brother; and **James and John**; and Philip and Bartholomew; and Matthew and Thomas; James the son of Alphaeus, and Simon who was called the Zealot; Judas the son of James, and Judas Iscariot, who became a traitor. (NASB)

Who Is John Cont?

JOHN WAS DETAILED ALONG WITH ALL OF THE OTHER
APOSTLES

Acts 1:13-14-Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey away. When they had entered the city, they went up to the upper room where they were staying; that is, Peter and **John and James** and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas the son of James (NASB).

Who Is John Cont?

JOHN WAS DETAILED BY PAUL TO BE AT THE COUNCIL OF JERUSALEM.

Gal. 2:9-and recognizing the grace that had been given to me, James and Cephas and **John**, who were reputed to be pillars, gave to me and Barnabas the right hand of fellowship, so that we might go to the Gentiles and they to the circumcised (NASB).

What (Is the Book of Revelation)?

IT IS THE UNVEILING OF FUTURE EVENTS BY CHRIST

The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave Him to show to His bond-servants, the things which must soon take place; and He sent and communicated it by His angel to His bond-servant John (Rev. 1:1 NASB)

Revelation Defined

The word **Revelation** comes from the Greek word ἀποκάλυψις (pronounced *apokalupsis*) meaning “to reveal, or uncover.” This word is used 18x in the New Testament.

Lk 2:32-A LIGHT OF **REVELATION** TO THE GENTILES, And the glory of Your people Israel.” (NASB)

Rom. 2:5-But because of your stubbornness and unrepentant heart you are storing up wrath for yourself in the day of wrath and **revelation** of the righteous judgment of God...(NASB)

Revelation Cont.

Rom 8:19-For the anxious longing of the creation waits eagerly for the **revealing** of the sons of God (NASB).

Rom 16:25-Now to Him who is able to establish you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the **revelation** of the mystery which has been kept secret for long ages past (NASB)

1Co 1:7-so that you are not lacking in any gift, awaiting eagerly the **revelation** of our Lord Jesus Christ (NASB)

Revelation Defined

1Co 14:26-What is the outcome then, brethren? When you assemble, each one has a psalm, has a teaching, has a **revelation**, has a tongue, has an interpretation. Let all things be done for edification.(NASB)

Usage of The Word “Revelation”

As a Light to the Gentiles (i.e. the Nations).

Concerning the message of the Gospel of Christ.

Concerning the appearing of Christ.

Concerning Paul (c.f., 2 Cor. 12:1-8).

Concerning “spirituals” among the saints.

Concerning John’s letter (Rev. 1:1).

What (Is The Book of Revelation)?

THE BOOK OF REVELATION IS *PROPHECY* (6X)

Rev. 1:3- Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of the **prophecy**, and heed the things which are written in it; for the time is near (NASB).

Rev. 19:10- Then I fell at his feet to worship him. But he ^{*}said to me, “Do not do that; I am a fellow servant of yours and your brethren who hold the testimony of Jesus; worship God. For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of **prophecy**.” (NASB)

What (Is The Book of Revelation)?

THE BOOK OF REVELATION IS *PROPHECY* (6X)

Rev. 22:7-“And behold, I am coming quickly. Blessed is he who heeds the words of the **prophecy** of this book.” (NASB)

Rev 22:10-And he *said to me, “Do not seal up the words of the **prophecy** of this book, for the time is near (NASB).

Rev 22:18-I testify to everyone who hears the words of the **prophecy** of this book: if anyone adds to them, God will add to him the plagues which are written in this book (NASB).

What (Is The Book of Revelation)?

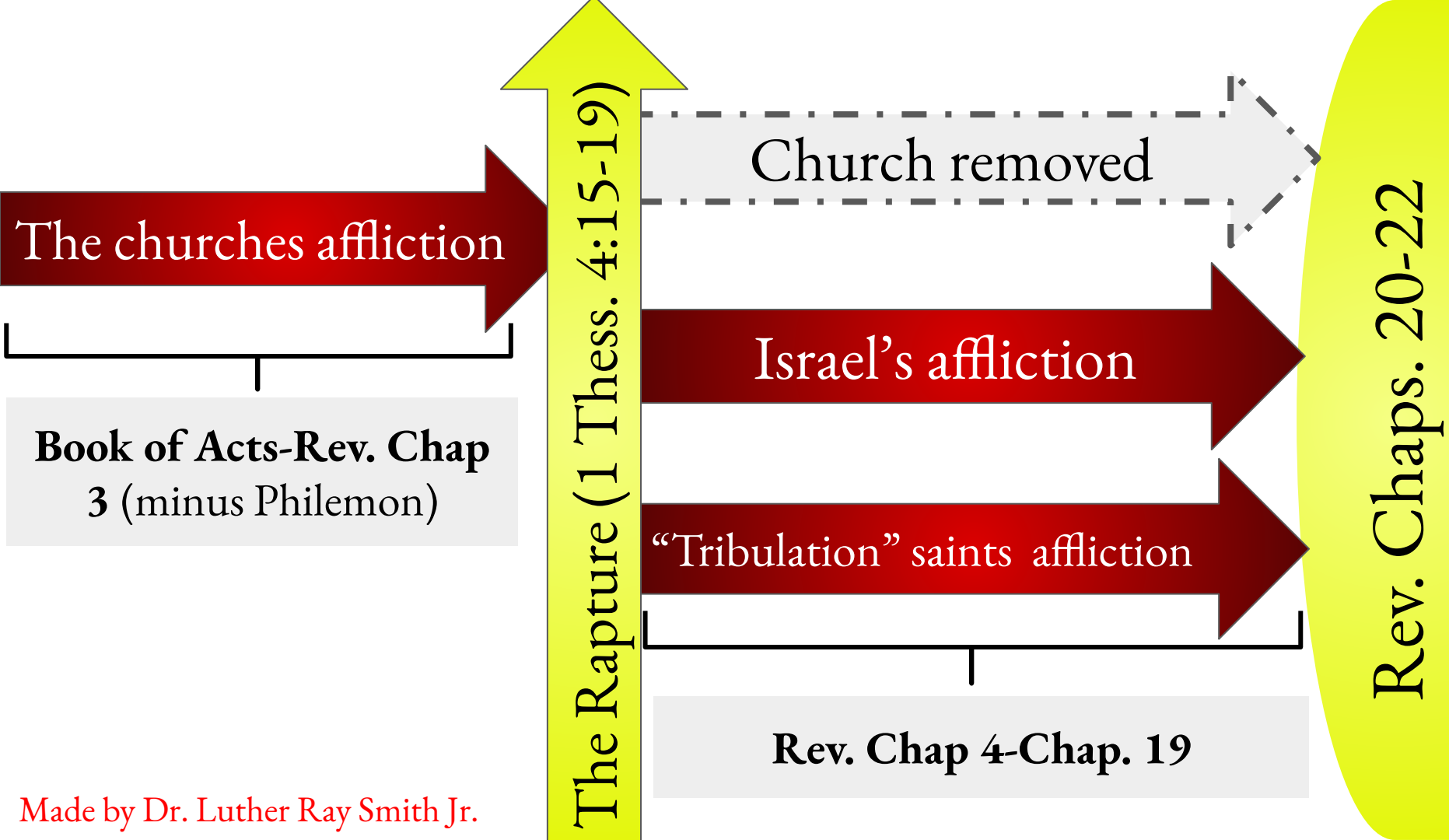
THE BOOK OF REVELATION IS *PROPHECY* (6X)

Rev 22:19-and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this **prophecy**, God will take away his part from the tree of life and from the holy city, which are written in this book (NASB).

What (Is The Book of Revelation)?

SINCE THIS IS A **PROPHECY** TO THE SAINTS OVERALL IT IS MEANT TO COMMUNICATE TO HIS SAINTS FUTURE EVENTS FOR THE PURPOSE OF **CORRECTION, ENCOURAGEMENT, CONSOLATION, AND COMFORT** (FUTURE DELIVERANCE) (C.F., 1 COR. 14:3).

Something to note: The word **perseverance** is found in this book seven times.



When?

THERE ARE PREVAILING THOUGHTS CONCERNING THE DATE OF THE BOOK OF REVELATION.

Around (or after) 90 A.D.

Before 90 A.D. (Before 70 A.D. Specifically)

An Explanation

“The time statements refer to soon events of cataclysmic Jewish importance. If it was written in 96 AD, there are no events soon from that time that could even remotely fit. If, however, it was before 70 AD, then the destruction of Jerusalem rises to the occasion as both Jewish and cataclysmic. The time statements demand we look here.”

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Five Evidences

John in the first chapter **NEVER** mentioned the destruction of the Temple.

John's ministry would overlap with Paul and Timothy's ministry (2 Tim. 4:9-22). Does not mention Paul or Timothy.

The church of Smyrna (Rev. 2:8-11) was **NEVER** mentioned by Paul (which was mostly Gentile).

Paul does mention the church in Laodicea in the book of Colossae (c.f., 2:1; 4:13) (61 A.D.)

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THE SEVEN CHURCHES



ABOUT 800 MILES AWAY

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Five Evidences

The language of the church of Laodicea (“Rich and in need of nothing”)

The mention of the Temple in Rev. Chapter 11. This chapter is written in such a way that this Temple exists (comp. with chap. 12).

Historical Account Concerning The Temple

Most of them were spurred on, moreover, by the expectation of loot, convinced that the interior was full of money and dazzled by observing that everything around them was made of gold. But they were forestalled by one of those who had entered into the building, and who, when Caesar dashed out to restrain the troops, pushed a firebrand, in the darkness, into the hinges of the gate. Then, when the flames suddenly shot up from the interior, Caesar and his generals withdrew, and no one was left to prevent those outside from kindling the blaze. Thus, in defiance of Caesar's wishes, the Temple was set on fire...

Historical Account Concerning The Temple Cont

While the Temple was ablaze, the attackers plundered it, and countless people who were caught by them were slaughtered. There was no pity for age and no regard was accorded rank; children and old men, laymen and priests, alike were butchered; every class was pursued and crushed in the grip of war, whether they cried out for mercy or offered resistance.

Historical Account Concerning The Temple Cont

The Temple Mount, everywhere enveloped in flames, seemed to be boiling over from its base; yet the blood seemed more abundant than the flames and the numbers of the slain greater than those of the slayers. The soldiers climbed over heaps of bodies as they chased the fugitives."

Josephus' account appears in: Cornfield, Gaalya ed., Josephus, The Jewish War (1982); Duruy, Victor, History of Rome vol. V (1883).

Major World Events At This Time Period

| | | |
|----|---------|---|
| 01 | 70 A.D | The fall of Jerusalem and the destruction of the Temple |
| 02 | 73 A.D. | The fall of Masada |
| 03 | 79 A.D. | Mount Vesuvius Erupts |
| 04 | 80 A.D. | The Roman Colosseum dedicated |
| 05 | 89 A.D. | “Domitian’s Reign of Terror” |

Where?

JOHN PENNED THIS ON THE ISLAND OF PATMOS

I, John, your brother and fellow partaker in the tribulation and kingdom and perseverance which are in Jesus, **was on the island called Patmos** because of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. (Rev. 1:9 NASB)

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Facts About Patmos

The island of Patmos is about 7.5 miles long from north to south

Patmos at its widest is 6 miles from east to west

It is, for the most part rocky terrain, where the highest mountain is 800 ft. high

Patmos was one of many places where the emperor would exile those who were criminals.

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Why?

THE BOOK IS WRITTEN SO ONE WOULD BE BLESSED

Blessed is he who **reads** and those who **hear the words of the prophecy**, and **heed** the things which are written in it; for the time is near. (Rev. 1:1 NASB)

Why?

One is blessed when they **read** “the words of the prophecy”

One is blessed when they **hear** “the words of the prophecy”

One is also blessed when they ***heed** “the words of the prophecy”

The reason: The time “for the words of the prophecy” is near.

How?

THE BOOK OF REVELATION DETAILS THREE ASPECTS

Therefore write the things which **you have seen**, and the things **which are**, and the things which **will take place after these things**. (Rev. 1:1 NASB)

THE LAYOUT OF THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Rev. 1:11-18

the things which **you have seen**

Rev. Chaps. 2-4

the things which **are**

Rev. Chaps. 5-22

the things which **will take
place after these things.**

Our Mission...Should We Choose To Accept It

The book of Revelation is full of imagery and word pictures. These pictures in some way shape or form are connected with Old Testament prophecy and prophetic passages. There are over **500 parallels or allusions to the Old Testament text** (and we will try our best to go through every single one of them)!

By The End of This Study

It is my hope that you stand amazed at God's word.

You observe prophecy is EASY to understand (when given proper information).

We will have covered most of the Old Testament prophecies concerning "end times" events.

To have a proper apologetic concerning eschatology.

The road goes ever on and on,
down from the door where
it began...



Circle of Life 10-11

Now far ahead the road has gone,
and I must follow, if I can.
~ J. R. R. Tolkien

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