

Book of Revelation

Part 1

Jesus is the book of Revelation's central figure. The very first chapter (verse 5) points to the Cross where he died for our sins.

Using graphic imagery, Revelation describes God's defeat of the powers of darkness, his judgement of evil, the rescue of his people, and the climax of Earth's current history.

Chapter 1 depicts the glorified and resurrected Christ and verses 12-13 reveal his great concern – the Christian churches (*lampstands*).

Do we criticise Christ's churches? So does he! He expects them to be his light to the world. Matthew 5.14. In chapters 2 and 3, seven of them probably symbolise his worldwide Church. In describing how he will discipline local churches he says “I will” twenty-two times!

Through his plan to fix our broken world, Jesus will ultimately rid our universe of every trace of evil.

Satan therefore hates Revelation more than any other Bible book because it describes his final downfall and defeat – chapter 20.10. He can't erase that prophecy. Instead he tries to convince us that Revelation is entirely too confusing, hard to understand, therefore not worth reading.

But if we ignore Revelation, we miss God's end-time triumph, humanity's mighty climax, and the glories that await believers.

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A special promise to readers: “*Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of the prophecy, and heed the things which are written in it.*” Revelation 1.3 (NASB).

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