

Revelation Overview (1:1-8) (pg. 1235)

What is holding Jesus back?

Revelation: Revealing heaven's perspective on life today

“The revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show to his servants the things that must soon take place. He made it known by sending his angel to his servant John,” (Revelation 1:1)

1. The secret to understanding of Revelation

Read Revelation like _____

John as a Pastor

John as a Jew

The seven churches and the 1st Century

Quiz 1: John as a Pastor who helps us understand

Who are the two lampstands who appear to have to power of Elijah and Moses in Revelation 11? (Hint: Revelation 1:20 “.. And the seven lampstands are the seven churches)

1. The actual Elijah and Moses
2. Reincarnated Elijah and Moses
3. Symbolically referring to the church but emphasising that it has prophetic ability
4. My friend named Moses and my friend's son named Elijah.

Quiz 2: John as a Jew

What would John likely be referring to when he describes flying locusts (9:3)

1. Apache helicopters
2. The locust plague that happened in Xin Jiang, China in Feb 2020
3. An Old Testament allusion to the locust plague on Egypt in the Exodus
4. Elon musk' Space X spacecraft

Quiz 3: The 1st Century readers

How would someone from the seven churches interpret the city of Babylon?

1. North Korea
2. London
3. Ancient Rome
4. The European Union

2. The rhetorical strategy: A metanarrative

“The metanarrative in Revelation functions as an all-encompassing narrative that unfolds in a past, present, and future format, providing a framework through which readers can reinterpret their understanding of reality”

3. The structure of Revelation: Understanding the delay

Prologue (1:1-8)

The seven churches (1:9-3:21)

The heavenly throne room (4:1-5:14)

The **seven seals** with a **delay** and the sealing of the army (144,000) of God (6:1-8:5)

The **seven trumpets** with a **delay** and the people of God as prophets

(8:1-11:19)

The war between the Dragon, his beasts and the Lamb's army (12:1-15:4)

The **seven bowls** (15:1-16:21) (**no delay**)

The fall of Babylon (17:1-19:10)

The arrival of the throne, the millennium, and the final destruction of evil (19:11-21:8)

The bride as the new Jerusalem and the people of God as the temple (21:9-22:9)

Epilogue (22:6-21)

The beginning	The delay	The end
6:1-7	7:1-17	8:1-5
8:1-9:20	10:1-11:14	11:15-19
	12:1-14:13	14:14-16:21
19:17-21	20:1-6	20:7-15

4. The purpose of Revelation: A call to conquer

“And they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they loved not their lives even unto death.” (Revelation 12:11)