

PCF-LA Sermon Slides - Sunday October 27, 2024

PART  
22

# VISIONS OF THE PROPHETS

A SERMON SERIES FOR  
*2024: THE YEAR OF  
VISION & PROVISION*

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VOL. II

UNVEILED  
*REVELATION 12-22*

THE  
VISIONS OF  
**JOHN**  
ON PATMOS

REVIEW

Perhaps no other book of the Bible compels more interest, stirs more controversy, or raises more questions among readers than its last book, **Revelation**. Yet for all its prophetic mystique and apocalyptic fervor on a truly cosmic scale, Revelation also relates the **intensely personal experience of John**.

REVIEW

As a key leader in the Early Church, John had been exiled to Patmos, a prison island in the Aegean Sea, by the Roman Empire, as punishment for his Christian evangelism (1:9). This imposed exile was meant as a direct hedge on John's ecclesiastical authority & capacity, no doubt aiming to quash the entire nascent Christian movement.

## REVIEW

Yet even on this barren little island of Patmos, **John** *continued* to worship God faithfully. In doing so, **he** *encountered the glorified Christ (ch. 1)*, who came to reveal powerful messages of patient perseverance for churches around the ancient world that still resonate today (*ch. 2-3*). John also was given a **vision of heavenly scenes (ch. 4-5)** and **forthcoming global & cosmic events (ch. 6-22)**.

REVIEW

Attending to the **VISION** given to John of "what must take place" (4:1; 22:6) brings **PROVISION** to the people of God. Revelation equips us to stand firm in the face of hardship & to overcome "by the blood of the Lamb & by the word of [our] testimony" (12:11).

R E V I E W

✦ “We ought to read [Revelation] with careful prayer & thought, being ready for God to lift the curtain so that we, too, can glimpse more than we had imagined” (NT Wright, 2011, p. 4).

NT Wright (2011), *Revelation for Everyone*. Louisville, KY: John Knox Press

**R E V I E W**

1. **See...the Son Shine**

*(Chapters 1-3)*

**SEVEN CHURCHES**

2. **See...the Lamb Lead**

*(Chapters 4-7)*

**SEVEN SEALS**

3. **See...What Must Take Place**

*(Chapters 8-11)*

**SEVEN TRUMPETS**



Letters to SEVEN CHURCHES – Revelation Ch. 2-3

1. **Ephesus** (2:1-7) – Return to your first love & works
2. **Smyrna** (2:8-11) – Grace in suffering / Be faithful unto death
3. **Pergamos** (2:12-17) – Keep the faith / Be repentant
4. **Thyatira** (2:18-29) – Patience increases / Be ready
5. **Sardis** (3:1-6) – Despite reputation, a **dead church** / Repent
6. **Philadelphia** (3:7-13) – Perseverant in honoring Christ
7. **Laodicea** (3:14-22) – **A lukewarm church** / Be zealous & repent

REVIEW

The Announcement of  
REVELATION TO THE CHURCH

*The Appearance of Jesus in Rev Chapter 1*

The Church

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*A Called Community*

**REVIEW**

## The Announcement of REVELATION TO THE CHURCH

*The Letters from Jesus in Rev Chapters 2-3*

- A Call to Repent & Return
- A Charge to Sustain Seeking  
While Suffering
- A Covenant of Love & Life

# REVELATION

CHAPTERS ONE — THREE

**REVIEW**

## Love Letters to the Church

The whole book is a “letter” to the entire church, meant to be read & heard.

Each church would hear the encouragement, corrections, admonishments & promises made to all the churches.

1. **Hear...the Song of the Lamb** *(Chapters 12-14)*

## **SEVEN SIGNS & SEVEN ANGELS**

2. **Bear Witness...to the Struggle** *(Chapters 15-20)*

## **SEVEN BOWLS & SEVEN SPECTACLES**

3. **Behold...the Everlasting Victory** *(Chapters 20-22)*

## **SEVEN SIGHTS & SEVEN WITNESSES**

# 1. Hear the Song of the Lamb: 7 SIGNS & 7 ANGELS

REV CH. 12-14



## 1. Hear the Song of the Lamb: 7 SIGNS & 7 ANGELS

REV CH. 12-14

### **CHAPTER 12**

John sees great signs in the heavens: a woman clothed in the sun & moon and crowned with 12 stars giving birth in pain; an enormous red dragon with 7 heads & crowns and 10 horns, whose tail sweeps a third of the stars from the sky to the earth. The dragon tries to devour the woman's son at birth but her Child is destined to *"rule all nations with an iron scepter"* (v.5; Ps 2:9) & so God snatches the Child up to His Throne. The woman flees to a place in the wilderness, prepared by God, for 1,260 days. War breaks out in Heaven between Michael & his angels and the dragon & his angels. The dragon, called the accuser & the devil, is cast down to the earth with his angels. The devil, enraged at the woman under God's protection, goes off to wage war against her offspring—*"those who keep God's commands & hold fast their testimony about Jesus"* (v.17).

## 1. Hear the Song of the Lamb: 7 SIGNS & 7 ANGELS

REV CH. 12-14

### **CHAPTER 13**

A blasphemous seven-headed beast arises from the sea, receiving power, authority, & a throne from the dragon. One of the heads appears fatally wounded but the wound was healed. People worship the dragon & the beast. The beast blasphemes for 42 months, slandering God. All on earth worship the beast except those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life. *"Whoever has ears, let them hear. 'If anyone is to go into captivity, into captivity they will go. If anyone is to be killed with the sword, with the sword they will be killed' [Jer 15:2]. This calls for patient endurance and faithfulness on the part of God's people" (vv.9-10).* A second beast rises from the earth, with two horns like a lamb but speaking like a dragon, performing miracles, compelling worship of the first beast, & giving everyone a mark of its name, the number of which is coded 666.



## 1. Hear the Song of the Lamb: 7 SIGNS & 7 ANGELS

REV CH. 12-14

### **CHAPTER 14**

The Lamb stands on Mt. Zion while 144,000 thousand bearing His Name & His Father's Name on their heads worship Him, singing a New Song only they know. They are virgins, purchased from among mankind as firstfruits to God from the Lamb and they are totally honest & blameless. Three angels flying through heaven proclaim various messages: Fear & worship God! Babylon the Great *[Is 21:9]* is fallen! Those who worship the beast & receive his number will receive God's fury & punishment. This calls for patient endurance. Blessed are those who die in the Lord. The one like a Son of Man oversees the harvesting of all life on the earth, bringing forth a great flow of blood like wine from a winepress.

## 2. Bear Witness: 7 BOWLS & 7 SPECTACLES

REVELATION CH. 15-20



## 2. Bear Witness: 7 BOWLS & 7 SPECTACLES

REVELATION CH. 15-20

### **CHAPTER 15**

Angels unleash seven plagues. Those who were conquered sing, "Just are your ways, Lord!" The angels were given seven bowls of wrath.

### **CHAPTER 16**

The bowls of wrath were poured out. The seas turned to blood, darkness fell, the kings gathered for battle at a place called Armageddon & the earth quaked.

### **CHAPTER 17**

John sees a prostitute on a beast with seven heads & ten horns. An angel says, "The heads & horns are kings. The Lamb will conquer."

## 2. Bear Witness: 7 BOWLS & 7 SPECTACLES

REVELATION CH. 15-20

### **CHAPTER 18**

An angel cries, "Fallen, fallen is Babylon!" The kings & merchants will weep. An angel says, "The great city will be thrown down."

### **CHAPTER 19**

A multitude cries, "Hallelujah! The Lord reigns." The Word of God leads the armies of heaven. The beast is cast into the lake of fire.

### **CHAPTER 20**

Satan is bound & the martyrs reign with Christ for 1,000 years. Then Satan is cast into the lake of fire. All the dead are judged.

### 3. Behold the Victory: 7 SIGHTS & 7 WITNESSES

REV CH. 21-22



### 3. Behold the Victory: 7 SIGHTS & 7 WITNESSES

REV 21:1-27

<sup>1</sup> Then I saw *"a new heaven & a new earth" [Is 65:17]*, for the first heaven & the first earth had passed away, & there was no longer any sea. <sup>2</sup> I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. <sup>3</sup> And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Look! God's dwelling place is now among the people, & He will dwell with them. They will be His people, & God Himself will be with them & be their God. <sup>4</sup> *'He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death' [Is 25:8]* or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away." <sup>5</sup> He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!" Then He said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy & true." <sup>6</sup> He said to me: "It is done. I am the Alpha & the Omega, the Beginning & the End. To the thirsty I will give

### 3. Behold the Victory: 7 SIGHTS & 7 WITNESSES

REV 21:1-27

water without cost from the spring of the water of life. <sup>7</sup> Those who are victorious will inherit all this, & I will be their God & they will be my children. <sup>8</sup> But the cowardly, the unbelieving, the vile, the murderers, the sexually immoral, those who practice magic arts, the idolaters & all liars—they will be consigned to the fiery lake of burning sulfur. This is the second death." <sup>9</sup> One of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues came & said to me, "Come, I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb." <sup>10</sup> And he carried me away in the Spirit to a mountain great & high, & showed me the Holy City, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God. <sup>11</sup> It shone with the glory of God, & its brilliance was like that of a very precious jewel, like a jasper, clear as crystal. <sup>12</sup> It had a great, high wall with twelve gates, & with twelve angels at the gates. On the gates were written the names of the twelve tribes of Israel. tribes of Israel....

### 3. Behold the Victory: 7 SIGHTS & 7 WITNESSES

REV 21:1-27

<sup>14</sup> The wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb. <sup>15</sup> The angel who talked with me had a measuring rod of gold to measure the city.... <sup>16</sup> [which] was laid out like a square.... <sup>19</sup> The foundations of the city walls were decorated with every kind of precious stone.... <sup>21</sup> The twelve gates were twelve pearls.... The great street of the city was of gold, as pure as transparent glass. <sup>22</sup> I did not see a temple in the city, because... God Almighty & the Lamb are its temple. <sup>23</sup> The city does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, & the Lamb is its lamp. <sup>24</sup> The nations will walk by its light, & the kings of the earth will bring their splendor into it. <sup>25</sup> On no day will its gates ever be shut, for there will be no night there. <sup>26</sup> The glory & honor of the nations will be brought into it. <sup>27</sup> Nothing impure will ever enter it... only those whose names... in the Lamb's book of life.



### 3. Behold the Victory: 7 SIGHTS & 7 WITNESSES

REV 22:1-21

<sup>1</sup> Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, as clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God & of the Lamb <sup>2</sup> down the middle of the great street of the city. On each side of the river stood the tree of life, bearing twelve crops of fruit, yielding its fruit every month. And the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. <sup>3</sup> No longer will there be any curse. The throne of God & of the Lamb will be in the city, & His servants will serve Him. <sup>4</sup> They will see His face, & His Name will be on their foreheads. <sup>5</sup> There will be no more night. They will not need the light of a lamp or the light of the sun, for the Lord God will give them light. And they will reign for ever & ever. <sup>6</sup> The angel said to me, "These words are trustworthy & true. The Lord, the God who inspires the prophets, sent His angel to show His servants the things that must soon take place." <sup>7</sup> "Look, I am coming soon! Blessed is the one who keeps

### 3. Behold the Victory: 7 SIGHTS & 7 WITNESSES

REV 22:1-21

the words of the prophecy written in this scroll." <sup>8</sup> I, John, am the one who heard & saw these things. And when I had heard & seen them, I fell down to worship at the feet of the angel who had been showing them to me. <sup>9</sup> But he said to me, "Don't do that! I am a fellow servant with you & with your fellow prophets & with all who keep the words of this scroll. Worship God!" <sup>10</sup> Then he told me, "Do not seal up the words of the prophecy of this scroll, because the time is near. <sup>11</sup> Let the one who does wrong continue to do wrong; let the vile person continue to be vile; let the one who does right continue to do right; & let the holy person continue to be holy." <sup>12</sup> "Look, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, & I will give to each person according to what they have done. <sup>13</sup> I am the Alpha & the Omega, the First & the Last, the Beginning & the End. <sup>14</sup> Blessed are those who wash their robes, that they may have the

### 3. Behold the Victory: 7 SIGHTS & 7 WITNESSES

REV 22:1-21

right to the tree of life & may go through the gates into the city. <sup>15</sup> Outside are the dogs, those who practice magic arts, the sexually immoral, the murderers, the idolaters & everyone who loves & practices falsehood. <sup>16</sup> "I, Jesus, have sent My angel to give you this testimony for the churches. I am the Root & the Offspring of David, & the bright Morning Star." <sup>17</sup> The Spirit & the bride say, "Come!" And let the one who hears say, "Come!" Let the one who is thirsty come; & let the one who wishes take the free gift of the water of life. <sup>18</sup> I warn everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this scroll: If anyone adds anything to them, God will add to that person the plagues described in this scroll. <sup>19</sup> And if anyone takes words away from this scroll of prophecy, God will take away from that person any share in the tree of life & in the Holy City, which are described in this scroll. <sup>20</sup> He who testifies to these things

### 3. Behold the Victory: 7 SIGHTS & 7 WITNESSES

REV 22:1-21

says, "Yes, I am coming soon." Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.<sup>21</sup> The grace of the Lord Jesus be with God's people. Amen.