

Chapter(s)

The Preeminence of Jesus Christ

- _____ The risen and glorified High Priest that appears to John
- _____ The tender Shepherd sending letters to His needy churches
- _____ The risen Lamb who takes the scroll then sits on the throne
- _____ The One found worthy to open the seals of the great scroll
- _____ The One who sounds the powerful trumpets of judgment
- _____ The Mighty Messenger that stands on both earth and sea
- _____ The One who sends forth the two faithful witnesses
- _____ The Great Commander in Chief of Heaven's vast armies
- _____ The Great Messenger that comes to Earth to reap and reign
- _____ The Mighty Warrior who is victorious over Babylon
- _____ The Mighty Warrior who is victorious over Satan
- _____ The Life-giver who dwells with His people in New Jerusalem

What a clear picture! Jesus really is the center of Revelation! With a *sure foundation* (key #1) and a *sharp focus* (key #2) we are now responsibly and powerfully equipped to begin unlocking and discovering the apocalyptic prophecies of the books of Revelation and Daniel! What an amazing and enlightening adventure it will prove to be. Won't you come along as we Discover Prophecy? You won't regret it. Great and grand things are waiting for us in the Bible's thrilling and enlightening pages!

Our Next Topic Will Be:

Discover: How Ancient Babylon Foretold the End of the World

Don't miss a single session! May God richly bless you!

—Discover Prophecy—

with David Asscherick, DP Speaker

No. 01

Discover that *You* Can Understand Bible Prophecy

The Book of Revelation, contained in the Holy Bible, is a remarkable book indeed. Its fantastic imagery and poetic language have fascinated people for generations. Even today, nearly 2000 years after it was written, it inspires and intrigues the mind. The root word of Revelation is *reveal*. To reveal is *to uncover, to disclose, or to make plain*. This title is consistent with the Greek title of the book, *apokalupsis*, which also means to *unveil* or *uncover*. The very title of the book suggests that it can be understood! How very unusual, then, that many Christians today, both laity and clergy alike, suggest that it is "a closed book" which cannot be understood or comprehended! Strange indeed!

The Book of Revelation is a *prophetic book*, meaning that its primary content is *prophecy*. Nevertheless, it must be noted at the outset, that according to the first three verses of Revelation, the primary purpose of the book is to reveal Jesus Christ! It is a revelation of *Him!*

But what is *prophecy* anyway? _____

Give two Biblical texts, one from the OT, and one from the NT, that define the essence of *prophecy* _____ & _____

In short, history addresses the _____; current events address the _____; and prophecy addresses the _____. Simple!

As we survey the many "holy books" in existence today, we notice that they are all, with just one exception, utterly lacking in prophecy. Why might this be?

By contrast, approximately what percentage of the Bible is prophecy? _____%

Remarkable indeed! In order for God to *declare* the future, he must first *know* the future. You can trust your future to a God who *knows perfectly* and *declares perfectly* the future. That God is the God of the Bible!

What are the two *kinds* of Biblical prophecy?

1. _____ prophecy, examples: _____
2. _____ prophecy, examples: _____

What are the two books that Jesus specifically mentioned, by name, that we should read and understand? _____ & _____

In the DP seminar, we will concentrate on apocalyptic prophecy, as it specifically addresses the times in which we are living. Classical prophecy was directed primarily at ancient Israel, as the OT clearly reveals. It is, of course, still highly instructive for us today, as the seminar will also bear out.

Key Point: did you notice that the two books that Jesus specifically counseled us to read and understand are the same two books that consist primarily of apocalyptic prophecy? This is no coincidence.

Correct Interpretation

This brings us to the question of interpretation. How can we correctly interpret apocalyptic (end-time) prophecy? As we'll discover, the Bible itself holds the keys to unlock the message of its own prophetic books, especially Revelation. It is simply a matter of discovering the keys, then using them.

- **Key #1:** The book of Revelation rests upon the broad foundation of _____ history, imagery, and prophecy.
- **Key #2:** _____ is the focus of apocalyptic prophecy, especially the book of Revelation.

Key #1: The Old Testament Foundation

How many verses are contained in the book of Revelation? _____
Approximately how many are taken directly from the OT? _____

Wow! Trying to understand Revelation without the OT is like trying to read a book while ignoring the foundation of the alphabet. It is impossible! Now, let's

note 5 powerful and simple examples of how the book of Revelation rests on the foundation of the OT.

Example #1 _____

Example #2 _____

Example #3 _____

Example #4 _____

Example #5 _____

Clearly, the foundation of Revelation is the history, imagery, and prophecy of the OT. Trying to understand and interpret Revelation apart from the OT is a venture doomed to failure; like trying to read without first knowing the foundation of the alphabet and the rules of grammar. Nearly all of the imagery, context and symbols of Revelation come directly from the OT. This point simply cannot be overstated. Many today try and understand Revelation, not with their Bible in hand, but with their newspaper in hand. We must be responsible in our interpretation. We don't want to encourage sensationalism or fanaticism, so we must use correct interpretive principles in seeking to understand the great prophecies of the Bible.

Key #2: Jesus Christ, the Focus

This second key, like the first, is absolutely essential. The focus of the book of Revelation is Jesus Christ. In fact, the book begins and ends with Him. Just read the first two verses and the last two verses. Sure Revelation contains imagery of beasts, angels, great battles and even a dragon, but these are not the *focus* of Revelation. Jesus Christ is! In fact, a brief survey of the book of Revelation will quickly reveal how completely prominent and central Jesus is to this important and powerful prophetic book. In each of the 22 chapters, Jesus Christ emerges as the preeminent figure. Fill in the appropriate chapter(s):