

Mount Up
The Wednesday Night Bible Study Ministry of
East Mount Zion Baptist Church
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Narration on the History and Introduction of the Book of Revelation

The book of Genesis displays a loving Father who desired to have a world of people who looked like Him, behaved like Him and loved Him above everything else. The world was supposed to be an extension of His Kingdom, The Kingdom of God. The Father gave the wonderful world that He created to His children, who in turn listened to the enemy and sinned against the Father.

The enemy ruled another kingdom, the Kingdom of Darkness. In His permissive will, the Father then allowed the enemy to rule the world He had created. Why? Because His children had listened to the enemy instead of obeying Him. The moment they listened to the enemy, another kingdom was formed, The Kingdom of the World. The Kingdom of the World is forever influenced by the Kingdom of Darkness because it exists in the place where darkness has permission to reign.

The Kingdom of Darkness has destroyed the beautiful world that The Father had created. So now in place of the “good” that was created, evil abounds. The Book of Revelation is about The Father taking back what rightfully belongs to Him. The Father IS the true Landlord of the Earth. Just as when you rent an apartment and you sign a lease, you become a tenant, and you have the legal right to occupy the dwelling until the lease is up. Once the lease is up, it is the tenant’s responsibility to restore the place back to its original condition. However, if you are evicted for violating the lease, (which is what will happen to the enemy), then the Landlord will restore/cleanse the property. Throughout the Book of Revelation, you will see the Father’s use of strong forces to cleanse the earth of evil. Additionally, you will observe His Agape Love as He extends many opportunities for the people left behind, to come into a relationship with Him, even after He takes His church home. These are the very same people who had rejected Him many times before.

When reading the book of The Revelation, it’s best to start with the reason for the book in the first place. Revelation chapter 12:1-5 gives the history of the Jewish people and most significantly, the fact that it was through Israel that obedience to the Father began again. The righteous lineage of Adam and Eve were Abel and Seth. Through Seth’s line eventually came Abraham, and through Abraham came Isreal. As a result of Abraham’s obedience to God, a pathway was provided for the prophecy of Gen. 3:15:

“And I will put enmity
Between you and the woman,
And between your seed and her seed.
He shall bruise you on the head,
And you shall bruise him on the heel.”

From the moment He (Jesus, the seed of the Woman) was born, the enemy, (Satan) tried to kill Him. At His death, Jesus crushed/bruised the head of Satan. Headship speaks of authority. When Jesus died on the cross, He took back the authority that the devil once possessed.

“O DEATH, WHERE IS YOUR VICTORY? O DEATH, WHERE IS YOUR STING?” The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law;” I Cor. 15:55, 56

“*I am* the living One; and I was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of death and of Hades.” Rev. 1:18

“When He had disarmed the rulers and authorities, He made a public display of them, having triumphed over them through Him.” Col. 2:15

Note: the significance of this is that everyone who died before Jesus died, went to Hades/Sheol/Hell. There were two sides to Hell, one for the righteous and one for the unrighteous. Jesus, taking possession of the keys from God the Father, (because Satan never had possession of the keys), at His death, the righteous captives in Hell were released. It is believed that they are now with the Father and Jesus, in the 3rd Heaven.

“And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice and yielded up His spirit. And behold, the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom; and the earth shook, and the rocks were split. The tombs were opened, and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised; and coming out of the tombs after His resurrection they entered the holy city and appeared to many.” Matt 27:50-53

“For we know that if the earthly tent which is our house is torn down, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. For indeed in this house we groan, longing to be clothed with our dwelling from heaven, inasmuch as we, having put it on, will not be found naked. For indeed while we are in this tent, we groan, being burdened, because we do not want to be unclothed but to be clothed, so that what is mortal will be swallowed up by life. Now He who prepared us for this very purpose is God, who gave to us the Spirit as a pledge.

Therefore, being always of good courage, and knowing that while we are at home in the body we are absent from the Lord—for we walk by faith, not by sight—we are of good courage, I say, and prefer rather to be absent from the body and to be at home with the Lord.” II Cor. 5:1-8

SYMBOLS IN REVELATION CHAPTER ONE

Symbol	Meaning	Reference
Revelation	The revealing; making known	Matt. 16:17
God gave	Only the Father can reveal the Son	Matt. 11:27 Matt. 16:17
Angel	Messenger/Ministering Spirits/Stars	Heb. 1:13, 14 Rev. 1:20
John	The Apostle	Rev. 1:9
Seven churches in Asia	Turkey	
Him who is, was & is to come		
Seven Spirits	Aspects of the Holy Spirit	Isa. 11:1-3
The Faithful Witness		
The 1 st Born of the dead		
Ruler of the kings of the earth		
We are a kingdom		
We are priests		
Those who pierced Him		
Alpha and Omega		
Patmos		

tribulation		
In the Spirit		
On the Lord's Day		
Loud voice like a trumpet		
Seven Golden Lampstands		
A son of man		
Golden Sash		
Head & Hair white like wool		
Eyes like flames of fire		
Feet like burnished bronze		
Voice like sounds of many waters		
Seven stars		
Sharp two-edged sword		
Face shining like the sun		
Fell at His feet like a dead man		
First and the Last		
The Living One		
Was dead; now alive forever		

Have keys of death & Hades		
write		
Things seen		
Things which are		
Things which will take place		

Why was John on the island of Patmos?

Which Heaven was John in as we read Revelation chapter one?