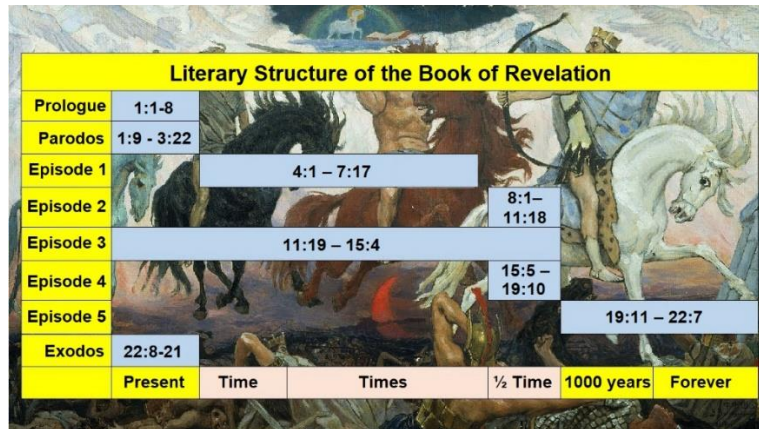


## OVERVIEW OF THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Powellhurst Men's Bible Study

Parodos 1:9 – 3:22

March 2023



Literary Structure of the Book of Revelation						
Prologue	1:1-8					
Parodos	1:9 - 3:22					
Episode 1		4:1 – 7:17				
Episode 2				8:1– 11:18		
Episode 3		11:19 – 15:4				
Episode 4				15:5 – 19:10		
Episode 5					19:11 – 22:7	
Exodos	22:8-21					
	Present	Time	Times	½ Time	1000 years	Forever

### Learning objectives

- Identify Jesus' angel.
- Locate the seven churches of Asia Minor.
- Analyze Jesus' approvals, warnings, promises and predictions.

### Apocalypse 1:9-11

- Persecution: Nero (54-68)? Domitian (81-96)?
- In Jesus: Modifies 'your brother', or 'persecution and kingdom and endurance'.
- Patmos: Exile, not a prison.
- Word: OT Scripture? Testimony: NT Gospels?
- In the Spirit: or 'spiritually' ('in spirit').
- Lord's Day: or 'in the [future] Day of the Lord', that is, the events described in the rest of this book.

### Apocalypse 1:12-13

- Lamp stands: churches (1:20).
- Son of Man: Dan. 7:13; Rev. 14:14 = a human being who would rule forever.
- Robe, sash: High priest? Exo. 28:4-5; Book of Hebrews, 15 times.

### Apocalypse 1:14-16

- Compare Daniel 10:5, "5 I looked up and saw a man clothed in linen, with a belt of gold from Uphaz around his waist. 6 His body was like beryl, his face like lightning, his eyes like flaming torches, his arms and legs like the gleam of burnished bronze, and the sound of his words like the roar of a multitude. ... 8 So I was left alone to see this great vision.
- A man: Angels appear as humans in the Bible and Jewish literature.

### Who is this glorious being?

- Rev. 1:1 The revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show his servants what must soon take place, and he made it known by sending his angel to his servant John...
- Exo. 23 20 "I am going to send an angel in front of you, to guard you on the way and to bring you to the place that I have prepared. 21 Be attentive to him and listen to his voice; do not rebel against him, for he will not pardon your transgression, for my name is in him."

### Hypothesis

- Yahweh God remains forever the invisible Spirit.
- In the OT, the Angel of the LORD (Yahweh) sometimes appeared to humans in human form.
- Yahweh came into the world as the human Jesus.
- Risen from death, Jesus appeared to hundreds of human witnesses as a human having wounds.
- Jesus remains in heaven as our 'high priest'.
- Jesus sent this Revelation through his angel, who had appeared to Daniel, now to John.

### Apocalypse 1:17-19

#### What do we learn about Jesus from this passage?

- First and the Last. Isa. 41:4.
- The Living One. ὁ ζῶν, *ho Zōn*, John 6:51.
- I was dead, and see, I am alive forever.
- I have the keys of Death and of Hades.

### Apocalypse 1:20

#### Theories about these seven angels:

- Seven archangels. Named in the Book of Enoch.
- Bishops of the seven churches.
- Personification of the churches.
- Messengers from those churches (2:1).



**Small study group discovery**

1. Choose a reading partner or two.
2. Let one read your assigned passage.
3. Let the other write notes.
4. Stop at any moment and write a verse number and a word or two under each topic.
5. After seven minutes, be ready to report on what you found in the passage.

**Report on**

1. Jesus' title:
2. Compliment:
3. Complaint:
4. Warning:
5. Command:
6. Promise:
7. Future reward:

**Did John foresee seven phases of future church history?**

Seven Phases of Church History?		
Ephesus	Apostolic age	33—100
Smyrna	Persecutions	100—200
Pergamum	Dark ages	300—600
Thyatira	Catholicism	600—1563
Sardis	Denominations	1563...
Philadelphia	Missionary age	1850...
Laodicea	Apostacy	Today

**Not likely phases of church history**

- All those churches existed in John's day, and they all read the Apocalypse.
- Those churches began to disappear in the 1500s, after they were conquered by the Ottomans.
- There were churches with similar strengths and weaknesses in every century.
- If those were future churches, then readers never knew who, where or when they were.
- Preachers who do not study history often make up ideas for which there is no evidence.

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