

GOD'S MASTERWORK, VOLUME SEVEN
THE FINAL WORD—A SURVEY OF HEBREWS—REVELATION
REVELATION: GOD'S FINAL WORDS
A SURVEY OF REVELATION



The Heart of the Matter

Somewhere between frightening and mysterious—that's the book of Revelation. It is notoriously considered the most difficult of all the Bible books . . . completely unique, full of symbols, and awesome in scope. Regrettably, Revelation has occasionally become the playground of religious eccentrics, fodder for prophecy "fanatics" who seem compelled to find in Revelation a detailed end-times timetable—right down to the very *day* of the Lord's return. While the book is certainly a powerful declaration concerning God's plan for the future, in no way was it designed to predict each and every event of tomorrow. In this message we'll guard against reading into the pages of Revelation our own opinions and forcing the text to say what it's *not* saying. Instead, we'll examine what it does say and, at the same time, admit our human inability to grasp the whole scene.



Discovering the Way

1. Introducing the Book of Revelation

The writer was John, who was banished to the island of Patmos. Writing to seven churches in Asia Minor, the theme of the book is the unveiling of Jesus Christ (Revelation 1:1). Many misunderstand the book, leading to four primary views of interpretation.

2. Getting a Grasp of Revelation

The key verse is Revelation 1:19, which provides an outline for the whole book: the things seen (chapter 1), the things which are (chapters 2–3), and the things to be (chapters 4–22).



Starting Your Journey

At the conclusion not only of our study of Revelation but also of our study of God's Masterwork, we learn that God's Word is a reliable map to take us through the storms of life, that God's plan is a sovereign arrangement that replaces fear with hope, and that God's Son is the glorious Lord who deserves our allegiance and seeks our worship.



Tools for Digging Deeper



God's Masterwork, Volume Seven: The Final Word—A Survey of Hebrews—Revelation
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REVELATION

	"The things which you have seen ..." Personal and biographical <i>CHAPTER</i> 1	"The things which are ..." Christ's letters to the seven churches <i>CHAPTERS</i> 2–3	"The things which will take place." (Revelation 1:19) Christ as Judge (chapters 4–5) The tribulation (chapters 6–18) The coming of Christ (chapter 19) The millennium (chapter 20) The eternal state (chapters 21–22) <i>CHAPTERS</i> 4–22
Scope	History: looking back		Prophecy: looking ahead
Style	Dialogue		Observations and questions
Scene	On earth		Shifts between earth and heaven
Theme	Christ's future triumph over the forces of evil and His re-creation of the world for the redeemed		
Key Verses	1:7, 19; 22:12–13		
Christ in Revelation	Jesus is the coming King of Kings and Lord of Lords, who will return as Judge and King to usher in the kingdom of God on earth (19:11–20:6).		

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