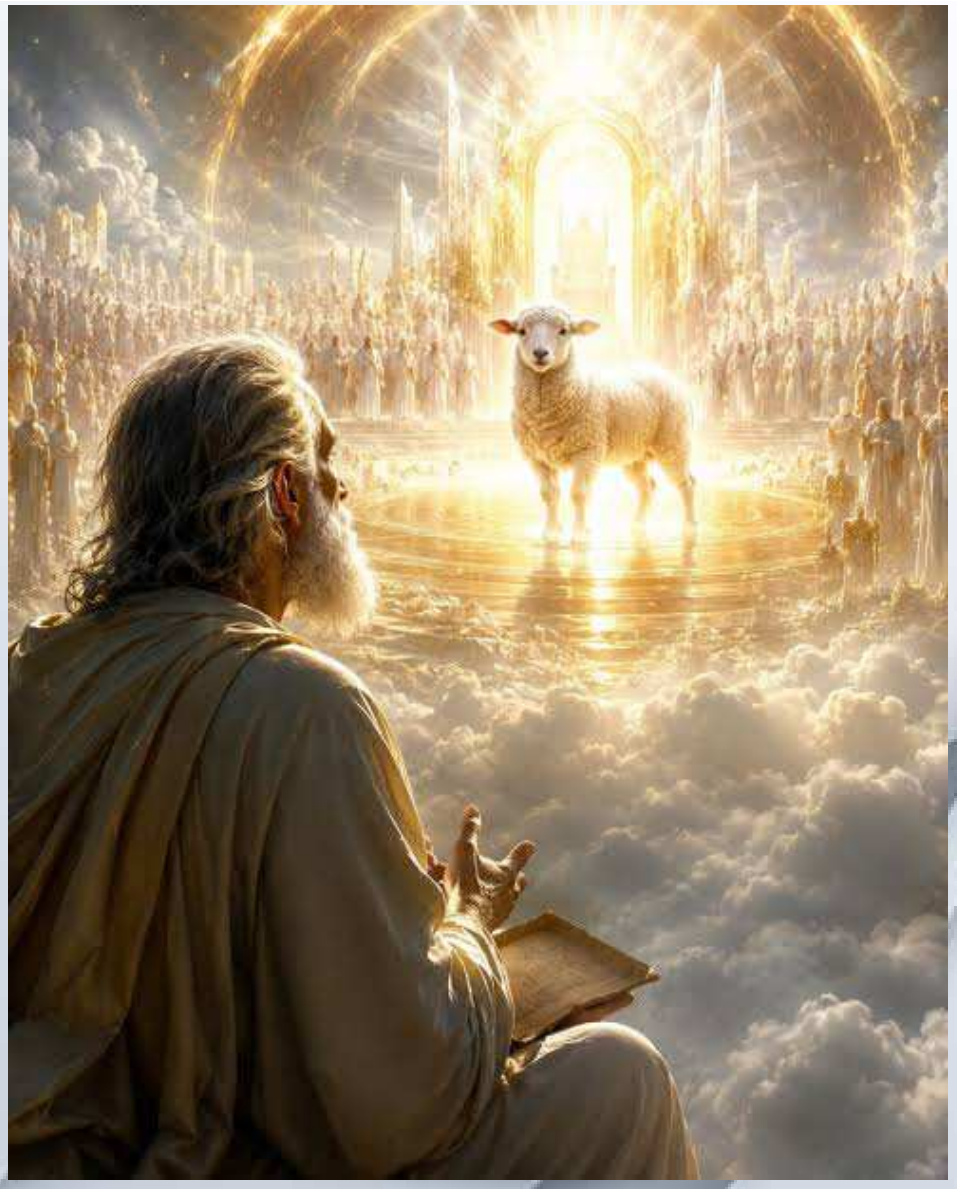
# All About Jesus



# Revelation 1:1-3

## All About Jesus

- 2nd Timothy 3:16-17 NIV, 16 All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, 17 so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.
  - Useful – biblical Greek - to assist, grow, or advance
    - Scripture is not merely interesting or theoretical; it actively works to advantage, help, and spiritually advance the believer
  - Teaching – means instruction, revealing truths that form the foundation of your beliefs

## All About Jesus

- 2nd Timothy 3:16-17 NIV, 16 All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, 17 so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.
  - Rebuking or Reproof - exposing error, bringing things to light, and showing someone their fault to prompt change
  - Correcting - literally means a *"straightening up again"* or restoring something to its proper, upright state after a fall or error

## All About Jesus

- 2nd Timothy 3:16-17 NIV, 16 All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, 17 so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.
  - Training - refers to the holistic discipline, nurturing, and moral education of a child or disciple to bring them to maturity
  - Purpose – To equip God's servants for everything He asks of us

## All About Jesus

- 2nd Timothy 3:16-17 NIV, 16 All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, 17 so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for <u>every good work</u>.
  - Are you called to bear a certain hardship for His glory?
  - Are you called to step out in faith for His glory?
  - Are you called to release something you've held for so long so you can grab onto Jesus for His glory?

## All About Jesus

- 2nd Timothy 3:16-17 NIV, 16 All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, 17 so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.
  - So, knowing all of this, what is the purpose of the book of Revelation?
    - To teach, rebuke, correct, and train so we will be equipped
    - To show us Jesus Christ

## All About Jesus

- So, knowing all of this, what is the purpose of the book of Revelation - To show us Jesus Christ
  - Think for just a moment with me
    - It's been about 50-60 years since Christ ascended
    - The Apostle John, I believe, is the last remaining eyewitness of Jesus and even he is now secluded on an island reserved for prisoners
    - Jesus said He would return and they thought soon

## All About Jesus

- So, knowing all of this, what is the purpose of the book of Revelation - To show us Jesus Christ
  - Think for just a moment with me
    - The early Christian life was hard for the Gentile churches - persecution, false teachers, pressures and enticements not experienced in the church of Jerusalem

## All About Jesus

- Knowing all of this God in His love addresses specific churches individually and every other church throughout the ages
  - His first words are something like – “I know you”
    - “I know your deeds, your hard work and your perseverance”
    - “I know your afflictions and your poverty”
    - “I know your deeds, your love and faith, your service and perseverance”
    - “I know your works: you are neither cold nor hot”

## All About Jesus

- Knowing all of this God in His love addresses specific churches and every other church throughout the ages
  - And then God encourages, rebukes, corrects, and trains
  - And the rest of the book God tells them why – there is a glorious end coming for God's children and Jesus will be revealed as never before

**Scripture**

- Revelation 1:1-3 NIV, 1 The revelation from *(of)* Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show his servants what must soon take place. He made it known by sending his angel to his servant John, 2 who testifies to everything he saw—that is, the word of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ. 3 Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear it and take to heart what is written in it, because the time is near.

**Scripture**

- Revelation 1:1-3 NIV, 1 The revelation from *(of)* Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show his servants what must soon take place. He made it known by sending his angel to his servant John, 2 who testifies to everything he saw—that is, the word of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ. 3 Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear it and take to heart what is written in it, because the time is near.
  - What does the Apostle John want us to know about Revelation right at the start?
  - How should I approach this book?

**The first thing John wants us to know about Revelation, it is all about Jesus Christ**

- "The revelation from *(of or about)* Jesus Christ
  - The focus of the book is Jesus
    - Not the Antichrist, the mark of the beast, the judgments, or the angels
    - Not the how nor even the timeline

**The first thing John wants us to know about Revelation, it is all about Jesus Christ**

- "The revelation from *(of or about)* Jesus Christ
  - Revelation – literally meaning *"to take the cover off",* uncover, or reveal what was hidden, to show it off
  - Matthew 17:1-3 NIV, 1 After six days Jesus took with him Peter, James and John the brother of James, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. 2 There he was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as the light. 3 Just then there appeared before them Moses and Elijah, talking with Jesus.

**The first thing John wants us to know about Revelation, it is all about Jesus Christ**

- "The revelation from *(of or about)* Jesus Christ
  - He will be revealed for all to see clearly, with understanding
  - The revelation of Jesus began in the Old Testament
  - Jesus was made visible in part at His first coming
  - At His second coming, We will see Him as He really
  - And every single person in the world will see Him in His power and glory as He truly is and has been throughout eternity

**The first thing John wants us to know about Revelation, it is all about Jesus Christ**

- "The revelation from *(of or about)* Jesus Christ
  - Philippians 2:10-11 NIV, 10 at the name of Jesus every knee will bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.
  - Believers bow in love, gratitude, and joyful worship
  - Those who rejected the faith will bow in final submission, awe, or trembling realization of His truth

**The first thing John wants us to know about Revelation, it is all about Jesus Christ**

- "The revelation from *(of or about)* Jesus Christ
  - That is an exciting thing because now we have faith in Jesus
  - Hebrews 11:1 NIV, "Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see."
    - NCV, "Faith means being sure of the things we hope for and knowing that something is real even if we do not see it."
    - TLB, "It is the confident assurance that something we want is going to happen. It is the certainty that what we hope for is waiting for us, even though we cannot see it up ahead."

**The first thing John wants us to know about Revelation, it is all about Jesus Christ**

- "The revelation from *(of or about)* Jesus Christ
  - We believe in Him to be the King of Kings and Lord of Lords
  - 1st Corinthians 13:12 NIV, 12 For now we see only a reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known

**The second thing John wants us to know, this message came straight from God**

- Vs. 1, "which God gave him *(Jesus)* to show his servants what must soon take place"
  - Notice the word, "servants", plural
  - Soon in biblical Greek - primarily means swiftness, speed, or suddenness when it happens or begins
    - Divine timing is unbound by human clock or human calendar
    - Once God initiates the prophesied events, they will unfold rapidly and in rapid succession without delay

**The second thing John wants us to know, this message came straight from God**

- Soon in biblical Greek - primarily means swiftness, speed, or suddenness when it happens
  - 2nd Peter 3:8-9 NIV, 8 But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day. 9 The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

**The second thing John wants us to know, this message came straight from God**

- God wants us to know there is a consistency from God the Father, through God the Son being powered by God the Spirit
  - This isn't Jesus going rogue
    - John 14:29-31 NIV, 29 I have told you now before it happens, so that when it does happen you will believe. 30 I will not say much more to you, for the prince of this world is coming. He has no hold over me, 31 but he comes so that the world may learn that I love the Father and do exactly what my Father has commanded me.

**The second thing John wants us to know, this message came straight from God**

- God wants us to know there is a consistency from God the Father, through God the Son being powered by God the Spirit
  - This was God's plan from before creation
    - Revelation 13:8 NIV, "the Lamb who was slain *(in the Father's plan/mind)* from the creation of the world"
    - Psalm 2:4-6 NIV, 4 The One enthroned in heaven laughs; the Lord scoffs at them. 5 He rebukes them in his anger and terrifies them in his wrath, saying, 6 "I have installed my king on Zion, my holy mountain."

**The third thing John wants us to know is you will be blessed if you read and believe**

- Vs. 3 "Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear it and take to heart what is written in it, because the time is near."
  - Aren't you glad God didn't add the words, *"who understands it"* to His blessing
  - This is the only book in the Bible that is accompanied by a blessing for those who read and follow it

**The third thing John wants us to know is you will be blessed if you read and believe**

- Vs. 3 "Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy"
  - Why "reads aloud"?
    - Because the book was originally written as a circular letter intended for communal worship and public proclamation in first-century churches
    - In the ancient world, most people could not read, and personal copies of scrolls were rare and expensive

**The third thing John wants us to know is you will be blessed if you read and believe**

- Vs. 3 "Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy"
  - Why "reads aloud"?
    - Letters like Revelation were delivered to a congregation, assigned to a public reader, and read aloud so the entire community could receive the message together

**The third thing John wants us to know is you will be blessed if you read and believe**

- Vs. 3 "Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy"
  - God attaches a direct promise of spiritual favor and happiness to both the speaker and the listeners who engage with this prophecy
  - If you hear it and take it to heart, apply it to your daily lives

**The third thing John wants us to know is you will be blessed if you read and believe**

- Vs. 3 “Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy”
  - Wait a second Randy, are you telling me those early Christians understood clearly what John wrote?
    - Once again “No” because it’s not about reading and understanding every detail
    - By hearing the text read out loud during times of severe Roman persecution, early believers were reminded of Christ's ultimate victory and encouraged to endure

## All About Jesus

- John is testifying to everything he heard and saw whether he understood it or not
  - Vs. 2, “who testifies to everything he saw—that is, the word of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ.”
  - John is testifying to the accuracy and authenticity of the word of God spoken to him and the visions He allowed John to see

## All About Jesus

- John is testifying to everything he heard and saw whether he understood it or not
  - John, nor his readers, had no concept of modern warfare
  - Or the current national and political landscape
  - How do you describe a world that does not yet exist or weapons outside of its ability to even imagine
  - He described it so the readers of his day could imagine what God was going to do

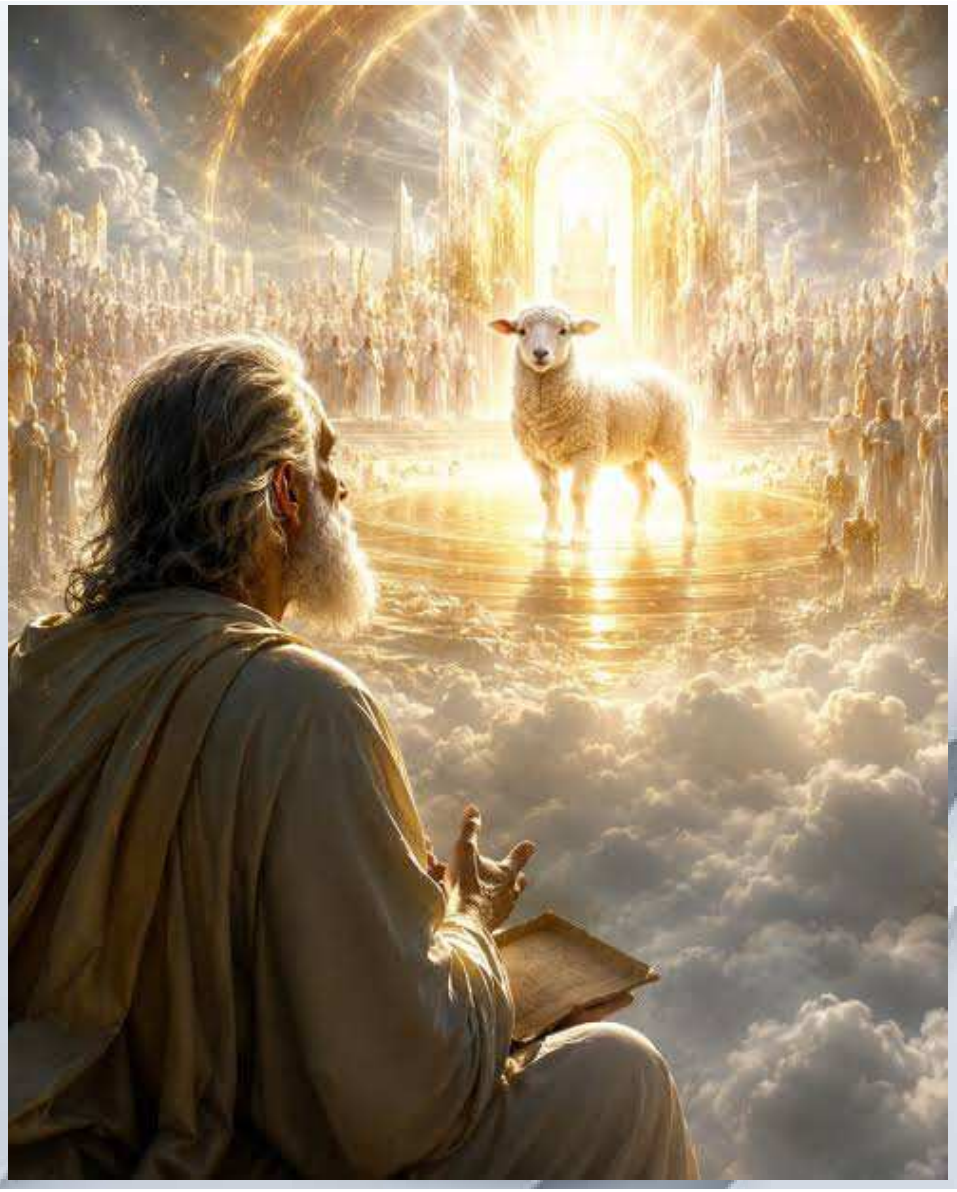
## All About Jesus

- Can we trust the Apostle John?
  - If not, you have to throughout verses like John 3:16, 1st-3rd John
- As you go through this book, let your focus be on Jesus
  - Let us fix our eyes on Him
  - Do not be distracted by debates of what it means
  - Yes, study and seek to understand how these things fit together for the glorify Jesus
  - Our hope should be to have a deeper understanding of our Lord and Savior and a closer walk with Him

## All About Jesus

- Revelation questions?
  - What is it revealing about Jesus?
  - What is it revealing about what God is going to do, not necessarily the how?
  - What does it reveal about evil?
  - Where will I wind up?

# All About Jesus



# Revelation 1:1-3