



Understanding the Book of Revelation

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I. News of the Week :

- a. **Understanding the Times:** "Covid Chaos: Conspiracy or Reality ... Part 2"
(Twila Brase, Marjorie Holsten & Jan Markell)
 - i. Today at 1:00 on 88.1 FM or anytime at <https://www.OliveTreeViews.org>
 - ii. On Rumble this week due to YouTube feeling Covid discussions are controversial
 - iii. Rumble link: <https://bit.ly/3nIBAgf>
 - iv. Link to CCHF Covid-19 Guide: <https://bit.ly/3GNGqAh>
- b. **Will the US follow Canada's Bill 'C4'? Will the 'woke' church object?**
 - i. <https://bit.ly/3AxG26R>
- c. **YouTube continues to try to play the role of 'arbiter of truth'**
 - i. <https://bit.ly/3tMS7Uk>
- d. **Pandemic church shift - Is this a test of Ephesians 4:4-6**
 - i. <https://bit.ly/3qNC7zp>
- e. **Finally a sign of sanity in Loudoun County?**
 - i. <https://bit.ly/3KydqyL>
- f. **ABC News: Most enthusiastic Right To Life March in 49 Years**
 - i. <https://abcn.ws/3GSJafS>
- g. **Encouragement of the week: Living out Psalm 71:18**
"And even when I am old and gray, God, do not abandon me, Until I declare Your strength to this generation, Your power to all who are to come.
 - i. <https://bit.ly/3rHn9Kr>
 - ii. <https://www.Retirementreformation.org>

II. Revelation, Chapter 2

- i. Review from last week
 - a. Notice, it is the **BOOK OF REVELATION ... not REVELATIONS**
 - b. Who was the revelation given to? Jesus
 - c. The word "revelation" in Greek is **APOKALUPSIS**
(ap-ok-al'-oop-sis) and means "The Unveiling".
 - d. What is "unveiled"?
JESUS CHRIST & His relationship to the Church, to His judgment of the world, and to events of what He will do in the future.
 - e. Revelation is the only book in the Bible to bless the reader who hears the words of the prophecy, keeps (integrates & understands) the things "for the time is at hand" (the time is near) **Note:** The word "near" used here - ἐγγύς eng-goos - has the same signification substantially as the word "shortly" used in Revelation 1:1. It would apply to any event whose beginning was soon to occur, though the end might be remote, for the series of events might stretch far into the future.
- ii. Notes to catch this week in Chapter 2
 - a. The 7 churches of 'biblical' Asia (not the region we call Asia today), but they were REAL Churches not figurative, though they represented traits to be aware of ... both good and bad.
 - b. Note that the Churches that thought they were doing great were really doing quite poorly & the Churches that thought they were doing terrible were in reality doing great
 - c. There are two Churches that Jesus did **NOT** say "But I have this against you...". Notice their names reflect their ministry

Revelation 2

New American Standard Bible 1995

Message to Ephesus

2 “To the angel of the church in Ephesus write:

The One who holds the seven stars in His right hand, the One who walks ^[a]among the seven golden lampstands, says this:

² ‘I know your deeds and your toil and ^[b]perseverance, and that you cannot tolerate evil men, and you put to the test those who call themselves apostles, and they are not, and you found them to be false; ³and you have ^[c]perseverance and have endured for My name’s sake, and have not grown weary. ⁴But I have *this* against you, that you have left your first love. ⁵Therefore remember from where you have fallen, and repent and do the ^[d]deeds you did at first; or else I am coming to you and will remove your lampstand out of its place—unless you repent. ⁶Yet this you do have, that you hate the deeds of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate. ⁷He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes, I will grant to eat of the tree of life which is in the Paradise of God.’

Message to Smyrna

8 “And to the angel of the church in Smyrna write:

The first and the last, who ^[e]was dead, and has come to life, says this:

⁹ ‘I know your tribulation and your poverty (but you are rich), and the blasphemy by those who say they are Jews and are not, but are a synagogue of Satan. ¹⁰Do not fear what you are about to suffer. Behold, the devil is about to cast some of you into prison, so that you will be tested, and you will have tribulation for ten days. ^[f]Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life. ¹¹He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. He who overcomes will not be hurt by the second death.’

Message to Pergamum

12 “And to the angel of the church in Pergamum write:

The One who has the sharp two-edged sword says this:

¹³ ‘I know where you dwell, where Satan’s throne is; and you hold fast My name, and did not deny My faith even in the days of Antipas, My witness, My faithful one, who was killed among you, where Satan dwells. ¹⁴But I have a few things against you, because you have there some who hold the teaching of Balaam, who kept teaching Balak to put a stumbling block before the sons of Israel, to eat things sacrificed to idols and to commit *acts of immorality*. ¹⁵So you also have some who in the same way hold the teaching of the Nicolaitans. ¹⁶Therefore repent; or else I am coming to you quickly, and I will make war against them with the sword of My mouth. ¹⁷He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes, to him I will give *some* of the hidden manna, and I will give him a white stone, and a new name written on the stone which no one knows but he who receives it.’

Message to Thyatira

18 “And to the angel of the church in Thyatira write:

The Son of God, who has ^[g]eyes like a flame of fire, and His feet are like burnished bronze, says this:

¹⁹ ‘I know your deeds, and your love and faith and service and ^[h]perseverance, and that your ^[i]deeds of late are greater than ^[j]at first. ²⁰But I have *this* against you, that you tolerate the woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess, and she teaches and leads My bond-servants astray so that they commit *acts of immorality* and eat things sacrificed to idols. ²¹I gave her time to repent, and she does not want to repent of her immorality. ²²Behold, I will throw her ^[k]on a bed of *sickness*, and those who commit adultery with her into great tribulation, unless they repent of ^[l]her deeds. ²³And I will kill her children with ^[m]pestilence, and all the churches will know that I am He who searches the ^[n]minds and hearts; and I will give to each one of you according to your deeds. ²⁴But I say to you, the rest who are in Thyatira, who do not hold this teaching, who have not known the deep things of

Satan, as they call them—I place no other burden on you. ²⁵ Nevertheless what you have, hold fast until I come. ²⁶ He who overcomes, and he who keeps My deeds until the end, TO HIM I WILL GIVE AUTHORITY OVER THE ^[a]NATIONS; ²⁷ AND HE SHALL ^[b]RULE THEM WITH A ROD OF IRON, AS THE VESSELS OF THE POTTER ARE BROKEN TO PIECES, as I also have received *authority* from My Father; ²⁸ and I will give him the morning star. ²⁹ He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.'

Footnotes

- a. Revelation 2:1 Lit *in the middle of*
- b. Revelation 2:2 Or *steadfastness*
- c. Revelation 2:3 V 2, note 1
- d. Revelation 2:5 Lit *first deeds*
- e. Revelation 2:8 Lit *became*
- f. Revelation 2:10 Or *Prove yourself faithful*
- g. Revelation 2:18 Lit *His eyes*
- h. Revelation 2:19 Or *steadfastness*
- i. Revelation 2:19 Lit *last deeds*
- j. Revelation 2:19 Lit *the first*
- k. Revelation 2:22 Lit *into*
- l. Revelation 2:22 One early ms reads *their*
- m. Revelation 2:23 Lit *death*
- n. Revelation 2:23 Lit *kidneys, i.e. inner man*
- o. Revelation 2:26 Or *Gentiles*
- p. Revelation 2:27 Lit *shepherd*