

# REVELATION PART 1

## Revelation 1:1-3

*1The revelation 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, 2who testifies to everything he saw—that is, the word of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ. 3Blessed is the one who reads 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.*

God sent an angel to John when he was in exile on the Island Pathmos. He was the only of the original Apostles still alive, all the others had been martyred for the faith. He opens the book by telling us why it was written...

## Why This Book of Revelation

**First**, it is the revelation of Jesus Christ...it reveals many things about him.

**Second**, to show those who are servants of God (His Church) what would **SOON** take place.

## IT IS A PROPHETIC BOOK

The Prophetic is not just about the future

- 1 What was happening at the time of it's writing**  
*to show his servants what must soon take place*
- 2 What will happen in the future**  
He will come
- 3 What it speaks into our lives now**

## IT IS A BOOK THAT BLESSES

*v3 Blessed is the one who reads the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear it and take to heart what is written in it John ends this introduction by saying that those who read, hear and take to heart this prophecy will be blessed.*

This is true about the whole of the Word of God

### 1 We are Blessed in Reading it

Jesus told us to ask God for our daily bread

Satan offered Jesus bread in the wilderness, but Jesus told the devil that 'Man does not live on bread alone.' but on every word that proceeds from the mouth of God" Luke 4

Man needs bread to live...but also the Word of God.

Without taking it in, our spirit's are malnourished and will be weak  
But our spirits are strengthened and nourished as we read the  
word

## **2 We are Blessed in Hearing the Word of God**

We hear a lot of stuff with our ears, and most of it isn't good  
The recent news has been awful  
TV shows are filled with sexual innuendo and underlying  
philosophies that are in opposition to God's Word

Hearing the Word combats above these other sources combats this  
It is the battle weapon of the Armor of God  
Read it out loud so your ears take it in and receive cleansing and  
instruction  
Listen to it online – Daily Office ESV  
<http://www.gnpcb.org/esv/devotions/bcp/>

## **3 We are Blessed if We Take it to Heart**

I can read it.... I can hear it... But I don't have to take it to heart.

How often is that true?

I hear it say that I should forgive and I still hold grudges  
I hear it say I should love others as myself and I just go on being  
selfish  
I hear it say I should love God with everything and I withhold so  
much

Francis Chan, in his book "Crazy Love" says that , "We've  
conditioned ourselves to hear messages without responding. We go to  
Church and hear a well developed sermon and a convicting thought.  
We've trained ourselves to believe that if we're convicted our job is  
done. If you're just hearing the Word and not actually doing something  
with it, you're deceiving yourself."

## **RESPONSE**

Let's see if we have deceived ourselves  
Ask yourself these questions...

Did I hear the Word of God today?

What was it saying to me?

Am I going to leave here and take it to heart

find time to daily read, hear and take in the Word of God?

Let's say the answer is yes... or, I already am.  
Good. Recommit to it today in response to His Word.

Now, let's just say the answer is no!  
That's OK. You've been honest.

**Now tell God your decision...** Be honest with Him  
“Father, I know what is right, that I should read, hear and apply your  
Word,  
but I really don't want to it.”

**Then tell him why?**

“Father, I'm too busy to do it. It takes too much time. I've already read  
that.”

I'M NOT TRYING TO MAKE YOU FEEL GUILTY  
JUST TRYING TO MAKE YOU HONEST

It is the truth that will challenge you  
And, it is the truth that will liberate you.

And so we see that...

*3Blessed is the one who reads the words of **this prophecy**, and  
blessed are those who hear it and take to heart what is written in it...*

Did you notice that It doesn't end there, the last line part of verse 3  
says....

***because the time is near.***

