Lion and Lamb Apologetics

REVELATION

AN OVERVIEW

Purpose

To reveal the full identity of Jesus and to give warning and hope to all believers of a new Heaven and a new Earth.

Author

John, the son of Zebedee

Date

Written from Patmos about AD 95

Audience

To the seven churches in Asia

Setting

John, who has been exiled to Patmos, writes to the seven churches of Asia who were experiencing severe persecution that took place under Emperor Domitian (AD 90-95). In a vision of the glorified Christ, God revealed to John what would take place in the future.

Special Features

Revelation is written in "apocalyptic" form—a type of Jewish literature that uses symbolic imagery to communicate hope (in the ultimate triumph of God) to those in the midst of persecution. The events are ordered according to literary, rather than strictly chronological, patterns.



Key Verses

"'I am the Alpha and the Omega,' says the Lord God, 'who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.'" (1:8 ESV)

"To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!" (5:13b ESV)

"Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth ... He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away." (21:1a, 4 ESV)

"He who testifies to these things says, 'Surely I am coming soon.' Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!" (22:20 ESV)

Key People

John, Jesus

Key Places

Patmos, the seven churches, the new Jerusalem