OVERVIEW OF REVELATION –
WORTHY IS THE LAMB TO EXECUTE GOD'S END TIMES AGENDA

INTRODUCTION:

We have finally moved the red box to highlight the last of the 66 books of the bible. Here we have a glorified vision of the Lamb of God **who alone is worthy to execute God's end times agenda.** This book reveals Jesus Christ in glory. We have come to the end of our hopefully exciting and profitable journey through God's progressive revelation. This was the final bible book that I studied in detail – publishing a commentary of over 800 pages on my website in 2024. I saved it for last because I find it to be the most difficult. So my confidence level is not as high as for other books I have taught. This morning as we study Revelation, I hope God has a **blessing** for you – at least that is what God promises to those who study and obey its teachings. Read **Rev. 1:1-3**. -- Written by the Apostle John (the last remaining apostle) from his exile on the small, barren island of Patmos near the close of the first century (94-96 AD) near the end of Emperor Domitian's reign.

So we will begin with a consideration of the Value of Studying Revelation.

Why Study This Book?

Some would skip over this book and minimize its importance – arguing that it is too difficult to understand, it is filled with symbolism where we can only guess at the meaning, it has little relevance for us today. But apparently God thinks otherwise.

- To gain an understanding of the future events that will take place in the end times so that we will be prepared and not caught by surprise
- To view the consummation and capstone of all of the threads of biblical prophecy that have been introduced in earlier books as we marvel at God's faithfulness to His Word
- To gain strength and encouragement to remain faithful in the midst of whatever future persecution and tribulation we may face
- To enhance our worship of the glorified and exalted King Jesus
- To vindicate the justice and righteousness of God in His defeat and judgment of all of the forces of evil
- To help believers focus on the future blessings of the millennial kingdom and victorious eternity with Christ
- To respond in repentance to the warnings which Christ issued to the various churches for areas of weakness and compromise
- To appreciate the sovereignty of God over our difficult circumstances and rejoice in His majestic reign and wise plan for all of history

BIG IDEA:

In the End Times King Jesus Will Return in Victory to Rescue Believers, Judge the Wicked and Establish His Kingdom on Earth — So Remain Faithful and Worship Him

> **Revelation 11:15** — "*The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ; and He will reign forever and ever.*"

Ken Baugh: Here is the **big idea** of the book of Revelation: Jesus Christ is the Victor, Jesus Christ is the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords, and we as His followers will reign with Him forever in the New Heaven and the New Earth. I say, Maranatha! Come, Lord Jesus, come—and come soon! Come and take your bride, the church, to be with you forever!

First, we should consider the **Four Major Interpretative Approaches** to Understanding the book:

1) Preterist – David Chilton, Kenneth Gentry, R.C. Sproul
Preterist (from Latin *praeter* meaning "*past*") emphasizes the use of symbols and allegory, to interpret the recorded events as having already taken place in the context of the first century (so they are now "**past**" – they are now **history**). The key event would be the destruction of Jerusalem and the temple in **70 AD** which marks the decisive removal of the old covenant order. The new heavens and earth represent the new covenant community established through Christ. But preterism has different forms. While most adherents locate much of Revelation's fulfillment around the destruction of Jerusalem in AD 70; others emphasize events associated with the Roman Empire in the first several centuries. So they would reject a literal interpretation of the book and would be in the same hermeneutical camp as those who advocate for **replacement theology** – for the OT covenant promises now being fulfilled in the church rather than by the elect nation of Israel. They believe Revelation was written primarily to provide hope and comfort to the first century church being persecuted by Rome. But this view denies the **prophetic nature** of the book. Many preterist interpretations depend upon an **early date** for Revelation's composition, before AD 70. Kenneth Gentry argues for a date around AD 65–66. This allows him to understand the book as anticipating Jerusalem's imminent destruction. The traditional late-date position, around AD 95–96, creates a significant chronological challenge for this particular interpretation.

2) Historicist – Joseph Mede, Sir Isaac Newton, Albert Barnes
The historicist approach views Revelation as a symbolic or allegorical **panoramic prophetic survey of church history** from the first century up to the Second Coming of Christ. This was the view held by most of the "reformers" and thus dominated Protestant eschatological teaching for centuries. Many of the older classical commentaries hold this view; Martin Luther, John Calvin, Jonathan Edwards, Matthew Henry, etc. They would interpret the various symbols in the book as pointing to **actual historical events** such as the barbarian invasions of Rome, the rise of the Roman Catholic Church and the papacy, the French Revolution, etc. An example of a historicist interpretation is the belief that the strong angel of **Revelation 10** symbolizes the Reformation and that the harlot in **Revelation 17** represents the Roman Catholic church. But the book would not have been possible to interpret from this perspective by those living in John's day and in fact there are many conflicting interpretations of the symbolism within this camp.

3) Idealist – William Hendriksen, G.K. Beale, Robert Mounce
This approach argues that the symbols in the Revelation do not relate to historical events but rather to **timeless spiritual truths**. They would interpret the book within the framework of the cosmic ongoing struggle between the **forces of good and evil** during the time period between

the first and second coming of Christ. The seals, trumpets, and bowls are thought to depict God's judgments on sinners at all times, and the beast refers to all the anti-Christian empires and rulers in history. Thus the Revelation is viewed as describing the victory of Christ and His people down through history. The Millennium in this approach is not a future event but the final cycle of the book describing the church age.

4) Futurist – John Walvoord, John MacArthur, George Eldon Ladd
A **literal** reading of prophecy will generally lead to a "futurist" interpretation. Thus futurists interpret **Revelation 4-22** as predictive of future end time historical events. You have devastating judgments poured out in the final seven years preceding the return of Christ. Some of these reflecting persecutions unleashed by Satan and his forces and then the final judgments in the trumpets and bowls reflective of the outpouring of God's wrath just before the triumphant return of Christ. These events are presented largely in **chronological sequence** as we see in the final chapters: the imprisonment of Satan in the abyss followed by the establishment of Christ's literal 1000 year millennial kingdom on earth, the final Great White Throne Judgment, and then the creation of a new heaven and new earth going on into the eternal state.

Now that we understand the 4 different approaches to interpreting the book, let's apply that to both the **beginning** and **ending** of the book.

In the first 3 chapters, the main focus is on the warnings that Christ gave to 7 different churches. Let's consider the **Historicist view** which would see a prophetic and chronological survey of 7 distinct periods of church history:

Here is a representative historicist timeline:
1) **Ephesus — The Apostolic Church** -- Approximately AD 30–100
The early church, characterized by doctrinal purity, missionary zeal, and eventual decline in its first love.

2) Smyrna — The Persecuted Church -- Approximately AD 100–313
The era of Roman persecution, martyrdom, and suffering.

3) **Pergamum — The Compromising or Imperial Church** -- Approximately AD 313–590
The church increasingly accommodated political power and worldly influence following Constantine.

4) **Thyatira — The Papal Church** -- Approximately AD 590–1517
The period associated with the ascendancy of the medieval papacy and the institutional corruption of Christianity.

5) **Sardis — The Reformation Church** -- Approximately AD 1517–1700
The Reformation restored important biblical doctrines, but many churches subsequently became spiritually complacent.

6) **Philadelphia — The Missionary Church** -- Approximately AD 1700–1900 or later
The era of evangelical revival, missionary expansion, and widespread gospel proclamation.

7) **Laodicea — The Lukewarm Church** -- Approximately AD 1900–present
The period characterized by materialism, self-satisfaction, spiritual indifference, and apostasy.

The **Futurist camp** would view these as seven actual churches that existed in the first century. The messages describe their spiritual conditions, commend their faithfulness, and warn them of impending judgment if they fail to repent. However, in addition to this being the main thread of interpretation, some would add a representative element – e.g. these same conditions could exist down thru church history in any given church; as well as a prophetic element – that Christ could also have been previewing different periods in church history to some degree.

Here would be a quick labeling of the conditions in each of these 7 first century churches:

- Ephesus: A doctrinally discerning church that has lost its first love.
- Smyrna: A persecuted church called to remain faithful even unto death.
- Pergamum: A church compromising with the surrounding pagan culture.
- Thyatira: A church tolerating false teaching and immorality.
- Sardis: A church possessing a reputation for spiritual vitality but actually dead.
- Philadelphia: A faithful church with little strength but great perseverance.
- Laodicea: A self-satisfied, materially prosperous, spiritually impoverished church.

The **preterist view** would emphasize the historical aspects of each church in the first century and the **idealist view** would take a very symbolic non-chronological approach.

How about when we come to the **final chapters** of Revelation? Once again the differences are illuminating: One's view of the **millennial kingdom** is where these 4 approaches show their true colors the best.

Subject	Futurist	Preterist	Historicist	Idealist
Satan bound (20:1–3)	Future event after Christ's return	Christ's victory, new covenant era	Historical or future restraint of evil	Christ's victory at first coming
Thousand years (20:2–6)	Future earthly reign	Church age or future golden age	Often future golden age	Entire church age

Satan's final rebellion	After future millennium	Final or covenantal opposition, depending on school	Final historical opposition	Final assault before Christ returns
Great White Throne	After millennium	Future for partial preterists; fulfilled covenantally for full preterists	Final judgment at consummation	Final judgment at second coming
New heavens and earth	Future renewed creation	New covenant order, with variations	Eternal consummation	Eternal renewed creation
New Jerusalem	Actual eternal city	Church/new covenant community	Glorified church	Symbol of perfected people of God

It must be noted that these 4 approaches represent a different perspective than trying to apply the views of the 3 major eschatological camps – Premil / Amil / Post mil

Premillennialism – Christ returns before the millennium –

- look at the chronological relationship between Rev 19 and 20 – Satan's binding comes after Christ's return
- Does Rev 20 speak of a future earthly reign of Christ or is it a symbolic description of the present church age?
- How did the OT promises portray the coming millennial kingdom?

Within the Premil camp you have different views regarding the timing of the Rapture event. We have traditionally been taught the Pre-Trib Rapture position – Here you would have the rapture occurring after Rev. 3 with the church being removed from the scene
4:1 – *I will show you what must take place after these things* – reference to events occurring in the last 7 weeks of the Daniel prophecy after the church has been removed in the Rapture
As I have explained earlier, I have come to adopt a position called the Pre-Wrath Rapture



Amillennialism – The millennium represents the present church age

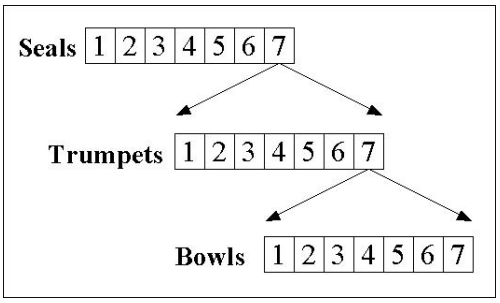
Understands Rev 20:1-6 as returning to the beginning of the church age rather than continuing chronologically from Rev 19. This is called recapitulation – revisiting the period between Christ's first and second comings from a different perspective.
Satan is bound in the sense that he cannot prevent the gospel from reaching the nations.

Postmillennialism – Christ returns after a period of millennial gospel prosperity
- The gospel progressively transforms the world, producing an extended era of unprecedented Christian influence and righteousness before Christ returns

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Some Principles of Interpretation:

1) Understand the use of **figurative speech and symbolism** – although we are taking a literal interpretation, that does not deny the normal use of figures of speech and symbolism
2) Prefer the **simplest meaning** of the text wherever possible rather than a more complex understanding
3) Understand the **telescoping of time** – a biblical prophecy may refer to both a near and remote event -- this is especially true when you see how the seals and bowls jump forward in time to include later events that reach all the way to the end



Some Key Concepts or Words in the book:

1) The concept of "*overcoming*" is prevalent and consistent throughout the evaluation of all of these 7 churches – **2:7, 11, 17, 26; 3:5, 12, 21**
These are not temporal awards but the realization of the final goal of being authenticated as a true believer (not a false professor of faith) – one who has **persevered** and entered into future glory. Again, not salvation by works, but persevering in the faith as the demonstration of real faith – a perseverance that depends on the grace of God. We are to have **victory** in our struggle against evil.

2) A couple of other words that are key to the understanding of the book:
"*world*" --- distinguished from *earth* in the Bible; earth is the physical planet on which we live; *cosmos* refers to a political and cultural system that is under the control of Satan of which we are all a part; used 3 times in Rev:

Rev. 11:15 – *The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord, and of His Christ; and He will reign forever and ever*.

Speaks to the struggle for dominion and power;
contrasting Satan's dominion with the Lord's

3) "*tribulation*" – *thlipsis* – used 45 times in NT; refers mainly to the ongoing process of unbelievers doing bad things to believers; emphasis on suffering and hardship and persecution during this present church age

4) Another feature to discuss in these messages to the 7 churches would be the **identity of the angel** who is addressed in each case. The Greek word can also be translated *messenger* and the meaning must be assigned by context. My view of church government by plurality of elders rules out any possibility of this being the Senior Pastor or sole bishop of each church.

Other people have suggested some type of human church messenger or some type of public reader in the congregation

I prefer the simplest and most obvious interpretation: **A heavenly angel:**

- angels are prominent throughout the book -- The book is filled with angelic beings who carry messages, execute divine judgments, and participate in God's administration of His purposes.
- perhaps each church has some type of guardian angel assigned
- **1 Cor. 11:10** – angels are watching how believers behave in the local church
- Parallel with Dan. 10 – describes angelic princes associated with the kingdoms of Persia and Greece

Whether the angels are heavenly representatives or human messengers, the churches themselves are being held accountable to the Lord Jesus Christ for their spiritual condition.

OUTLINE

(1:1-8) PROLOGUE – INTRODUCING THE RETURN OF THE SOVEREIGN AND MAJESTIC GOD

A. (:**1-3**) The Revelation of Jesus Christ – The Divine Unveiling of End Time Events Calls us to Readiness and Promises a Blessing

B. (:**4-7**) Salutation and Introduction – The Preeminent Jesus Christ – Who Loves Us and Redeemed Us and Elevated Us – Is Coming Back in Dramatic Fashion to Exercise Sovereign Dominion

C. **(:8)** Climax – 3 Self-Titles of the Lord God – You Can Count on the Promise of Christ's Return Because the Eternal God Is the Self-Existent, All-Powerful Sovereign Controlling the Universe

1. Omniscient — The Eternal God Knows All
2. Self-Existent — The Ever-Present God Transcends All
3. Omnipotent — The All-Powerful God Controls All

Four Visions – each introduced by the phrase "*in the Spirit*" **1:10; 4:2; 17:3; 21:10**

I. (1:9 – 3:22) – VISION #1 – KING JESUS SOVEREIGN OVER HIS CHURCH
A. (**1:9-20**) Commission to Record the Vision of the Glorified Christ – The Vision of the Glorified Reigning Christ and Recorded Insight Into End Time Events Fuel the Perseverance of Suffering Saints

B. (**2:1 – 3:22**) Letters to the Seven Churches

II. (4:1 – 16:21) – VISION #2 – HEAVENLY THRONE ROOM AND 3 JUDGMENT CYCLES — SEAL, TRUMPET AND BOWL JUDGMENTS
A. (**4:1 – 5:14**) Vision of the Heavenly Temple

B. (**6:1 – 8:1**) The Seven Seal Judgments and Interlude of the Two Multitudes

C. (**8:2 – 11:19**) The Seven Trumpet Judgments

D. (**12:1 – 14:20**) Interlude – Anticipating Babylon's Fall

E. (**15:1 – 16:21**) The Seven Bowl Judgments – Pouring Out of God's Wrath

III. (17:1 – 21:8) — VISION #3 – COLLAPSE OF SATAN'S EMPIRE AND MILLENNIAL REIGN OF KING JESUS
A. (**17:1 – 19:5**) Destruction of Babylon the Great

B. (**19:6-21**) Final Victory: The End of the Evil Empire at the Parousia

C. (**20:1-10**) Thousand-Year Reign of Christ and Judgment of Satan

D. (**20:11 – 21:8**) Final Judgment and Recreation

IV. (21:9 – 22:5) — VISION #4 – KING JESUS WITH HIS BRIDE IN THE NEW JERUSALEM
A. (**21:9-21**) Description of New Jerusalem

B. (**21:22-27**) The Shekinah Glory of New Jerusalem

C. (**22:1-5**) Restoration of Enhanced Edenic Paradise

(22:6-21) EPILOGUE – JESUS IS COMING SOON — 12 FINAL EXPRESSIONS = PRACTICAL APPLICATION OF OUR LONGING FOR JESUS TO RETURN SOON

Analyze the book from the perspective of showing the culmination of all of the great threads of God's Kingdom Agenda that were introduced in the Book of Genesis and now come to completion here in Revelation.

J. Vernon McGee: This book is like a great union station where the great trunk lines of prophecy come in from other portions of scripture. Revelation does not **originate**, but **consummates**. It is imperative to a right understanding of the book to be able to trace each great subject of prophecy from the first reference to the terminal (*Reveling Through Revelation*, p. 4).

Genesis introduces the great themes of God's redemptive program; Revelation brings those themes to their appointed conclusion.

1. Creation: From the original creation to the new creation
[Including the creation of man]
Gen. 1:1 -- *In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.*

Rev. 21:1 -- *And I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth passed away, and there is no longer any sea.*

2. Satan: From the serpent's deception to the dragon's destruction
Gen. 3:1-5 -- *Now the serpent was more crafty than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said to the woman, "Indeed, has God said, 'You shall not eat from any tree of the garden '?" 2 And the woman said to the serpent, "From the fruit of the trees of the garden we may eat; 3 but from the fruit of the tree which is in the middle of the garden, God has said, 'You shall not eat from it or touch it, lest you die.'" 4 And the serpent said to the woman, "You surely shall not die! 5 "For God knows that in the day you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."*

Rev. 20:10 -- *And the devil who deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are also; and they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.*

3. The Seed of the woman: From the promised Redeemer to the victorious Messiah
Gen. 3:15 -- *And I will put enmity Between you and the woman, And between your seed and her seed; He shall bruise you on the head, And you shall bruise him on the heel."*

Rev. 19:11-16 -- *And I saw heaven opened; and behold, a white horse, and He who sat upon it is called Faithful and True; and in righteousness He judges and wages war. 12 And His eyes are a flame of fire, and upon His head are many diadems; and He has a name written upon Him which no one knows except Himself. 13 And He is clothed with a robe dipped in blood; and His name is called The Word of God. 14 And the armies which are in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, were following Him on white horses. 15 And from His mouth comes a sharp sword, so that with it He may smite the nations; and He will rule them with a rod of iron; and He treads the wine press of the fierce wrath of God, the Almighty. 16 And on His robe and on His thigh He has a name written, "KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS."*

4. The Curse and Death: From the entrance of death to its final removal in Redemption
Gen. 3:16-19 -- *To the woman He said, "I will greatly multiply Your pain in childbirth, In pain you shall bring forth children; Yet your desire shall be for your husband, And he shall rule over you." 17 Then to Adam He said, "Because you have listened to the voice of your wife, and have eaten from the tree about which I commanded you, saying, 'You shall not eat from it'; Cursed is the ground because of you; In toil you shall eat of it All the days of your life. 18 "Both thorns and thistles it shall grow for you; And you shall eat the plants of the field; 19 By the sweat of your face You shall eat bread, Till you return to the ground, Because from it you were taken; For you are dust, And to dust you shall return."*

Rev. 20:14 -- *And death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire.*

5. Sacrifice and the Lamb: From the first covering to the final redemption
Gen. 3:21; 4:4; 22:7-14 -- *And the LORD God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife, and clothed them. . . And Abel, on his part also brought of the firstlings of his flock and of their fat portions. And the LORD had regard for Abel and for his offering;*

Rev. 5:6 -- *And I saw between the throne (with the four living creatures) and the elders a Lamb standing, as if slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God, sent out into all the earth.*

6. The Abrahamic Covenant: From the promise of a nation to the redeemed from every nation
Gen. 12:1-3; 15:18-21 -- *Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go forth from your country, And from your relatives And from your father's house, To the land which I will show you; 2 And I will make you a great nation, And I will bless you, And make your name great; And so you shall be a blessing; 3 And I will bless those who bless you, And the one who curses you I will curse. And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."*

Rev. 7:9 -- *After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude, which no one could count, from every nation and all tribes and peoples and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, and palm branches were in their hands;*

7. The Nations: From Babel's rebellion to international worship
Gen. 10-12 -- *Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go forth from your country, And from your relatives And from your father's house, To the land which I will show you; 2 And I will make you a great nation, And I will bless you, And make your name great; And so you shall be a blessing; 3 And I will bless those who bless you, And the one who curses you I will curse. And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."*

Rev. 7:9; 21:24-26 -- *After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude, which no one could count, from every nation and all tribes and peoples and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, and palm branches were in their hands;*

8. Babylon: From the city of human pride to the final destruction of the world system
Gen. 10:10; 11:1-9 -- *So the LORD scattered them abroad from there over the face of the whole earth; and they stopped building the city. 9 Therefore its name was called Babel, because there the LORD confused the language of the whole earth; and from there the LORD scattered them abroad over the face of the whole earth.*

Rev. 18:21 -- *And a strong angel took up a stone like a great millstone and threw it into the sea, saying, "Thus will Babylon, the great city, be thrown down with violence, and will not be found any longer.*

9. God's Dwelling -- The Temple and God's Presence: From Eden to the New Jerusalem
Gen. 2:8 -- *And the LORD God planted a garden toward the east, in Eden; and there He placed the man whom He had formed.*

Rev. 21:3, 22 -- *And I heard a loud voice from the throne, saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is among men, and He shall dwell among them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself shall be among them. . . And I saw no temple in it, for the Lord God, the Almighty, and the Lamb, are its temple.*

10. Marriage: From the first marriage to the marriage of the Lamb
Gen. 2:24 -- *For this cause a man shall leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave to his wife; and they shall become one flesh.*

Rev. 19:7-9; 21:2 -- *"Let us rejoice and be glad and give the glory to Him, for the marriage of the Lamb has come and His bride has made herself ready." 8 And it was given to her to clothe herself in fine linen, bright and clean; for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints. 9 And he said to me, "Write, 'Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.'" And he said to me, "These are true words of God."*

11. The Kingdom: From dominion lost to dominion restored
Gen. 1:26-28 -- *Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." 27 And God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. 28 And God blessed them; and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it; and rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky, and over every living thing that moves on the earth."*

Rev. 20:6 -- *Blessed and holy is the one who has a part in the first resurrection; over these the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with Him for a thousand years.*

12. The Tree of Life and the River of Life: From restricted access to eternal enjoyment
Gen. 2:9-10; 3:22-24 -- *And out of the ground the LORD God caused to grow every tree that is pleasing to the sight and good for food; the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. 10 Now a river flowed out of Eden to water the garden;*

and from there it divided and became four rivers. . . Then the LORD God said, "Behold, the man has become like one of Us, knowing good and evil; and now, lest he stretch out his hand, and take also from the tree of life, and eat, and live forever "-- 23 therefore the LORD God sent him out from the garden of Eden, to cultivate the ground from which he was taken. 24 So He drove the man out; and at the east of the garden of Eden He stationed the cherubim, and the flaming sword which turned every direction, to guard the way to the tree of life.

Rev. 22:1-2, 14 -- *And he showed me a river of the water of life, clear as crystal, coming from the throne of God and of the Lamb, 2 in the middle of its street. And on either side of the river was the tree of life, bearing twelve kinds of fruit, yielding its fruit every month; and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. . . Blessed are those who wash their robes, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter by the gates into the city.*

Ultimately the book is all about the **Revelation of the Person of Jesus Christ**

H.H. Snell: **Revelation is about a Lamb**! John the apostle presents Him in a ten-fold light:
1) A Sin Cleansing Lamb "*And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb*" (**Rev. 7:14**).

2) A Slain Lamb "*And I beheld, and, lo, in the midst of the throne and of the four beasts, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent forth into all the earth*" (**Rev. 5:6**).

3) A Redeeming Lamb "*And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation*" (**Rev. 5:9**).

4) A Worthy Lamb "*Saying with a loud voice, Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing*" (**Rev. 5:12**).

5) An Overcoming Lamb "*And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death*" (**Rev. 12:11**). "*These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with him are called, and chosen, and faithful*" (**Rev. 17:14**).

6) A Life-Giving and Protecting Lamb "*And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world*" **Rev. 13:8**).

7) A Comforting Lamb "*For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes*" (**Rev. 7:17**).

8) An Eternal Lamb "*And every creature which is in heaven, and on the earth, and under the earth, and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, heard I saying, Blessing, and honour, and glory, and power, be unto him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb for ever and ever*" (**Rev. 5:13**).

9) An Angry Lamb "*And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb*" (**Rev. 6:16**).

10) A Shining Lamb "*And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof*" (**Rev. 21:23**).

You could look at the book as well as a revelation of **Jesus as the Lion of the Tribe of Judah**:

Section	Passage	Emphasis
1. The Promised Lion	**Revelation 1–3**	Christ's royal identity and authority over His churches
2. The Preeminent Lion	**Revelation 4–5 5:5**	Christ's worthiness to receive the kingdom and open the scroll
3. The Punitive Lion	**Revelation 6–18**	Christ's judgment of rebellious humanity and Satan's kingdom
4. The Parousia of the Lion	**Revelation 19**	Christ's glorious return as King of kings
5. The Political Reign of the Lion	**Revelation 20:1–10**	Christ's millennial kingdom and dominion over the nations
6. The Permanent Kingdom of the Lion	**Revelation 20:11–22:21**	Christ's eternal reign in the new creation

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Jesus is also:

The Son of David – **Rev. 22:16**
The King of Kings – **Rev. 19:16**
The Alpha and Omega – **Rev. 22:13**

GENESIS → REVELATION -- From Creation to Consummation

Genesis -- The Beginning of God's Redemptive Program

Creation • Covenant • Curse • Conflict • Promise

The Entire Bible -- The Progressive Revelation of God's Purposes

Promise • Prophecy • Redemption • Kingdom

Revelation -- The Consummation of God's Redemptive Program

Victory • Judgment • Kingdom • New Creation • Eternal Glory

JESUS CHRIST — THE CENTRAL FIGURE OF ALL SCRIPTURE

"*I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end*." **Rev. 22:13**

Our Response: **Rev. 22:20-21**

He who testifies to these things says, "Yes, I am coming quickly." Amen. Come, Lord Jesus. [21] *The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all. Amen.*