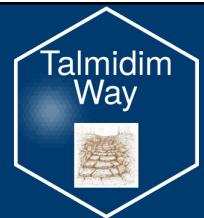


Cultural, Historic, and Geographic Context



Revelation Backgrounds

Introduction

Revelation 1:1



1

Acts 17:11 (KJV)

These (Bereans) were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so.



2

Topics

- “Revelationnnnnn”
- What is an "apocalypse"?
- Seven Keys to interpretation
- The "Metadata:" who wrote it; where, when, how, to whom, and why was it written



3

“REVELATIONNNNN”



4

2

What is an "apocalypse"?

A biblical apocalypse communicates to the faithful, that although things on earth seem terribly unjust, a day is coming where God will pour out his wrath upon the wicked and reward the righteous.

 19:11

5

Seven Keys to Interpretation

- 1. Follow the Talmidim Way!**
- 2. Be open to the Spirit**
- 3. Be a Berean**
- 4. The original intended audience had a Jewish context**
- 5. Revelation is a Jewish book**
- 6. Make sure interpretations fit the context**
- 7. No fear allowed!**



6

Keys to interpretation

Revelation is perhaps the most studied but least understood book in the new testament



7

Key #1 Follow the Talmidim Way



8

4

Key #2: Be open to the Spirit's leading



Doves at the traditional baptism site of Jesus

19:11

9

Key #3: Be a Berean!

Acts 17:11 (KJV)

These (Bereans) were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so.



10

Key #4: Understand the Intended Audience

The Bible, including the Book of Revelation, was written FOR us but not TO us

2 Timothy 3:16-17 All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: 17. That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.



11

Key #5: Understand Revelation is a Jewish Book



"Revelation is a Jewish book. In fact, it's *really* Jewish. In fact, it's the most Jewish book in our New Testament."

Daniel Lancaster



12

Key #5: Revelation is a Jewish book



Man with four species of Sukkot



13

Key #6: Remember the Original Audience

If an interpretation would not or could not have occurred to John or his audience, we should treat it with a degree of healthy suspicion.



14

Key #7: No Fear Allowed!



15

Avoid "Frontpage Exegesis"



16

"Revelation Metadata:" Who wrote Revelation? John the Apostle.

Revelation 1:1-2 This is the revelation which God gave to Yeshua the Messiah, so that he could show his servants what must happen very soon. He communicated it by sending his angel to his servant **Yochanan**, 2. who **bore witness** to the Word of God and to the testimony of Yeshua the Messiah, as much as he saw.



Apostle John painting, in Duc In Altum chapel in Magdala



17

When and where was Revelation written? Patmos, early 90s CE



Revelation 1:9 I, Yochanan, am a brother of yours and a fellow-sharer in the suffering, kingship and perseverance that come from being united with Yeshua. I had been exiled to the island called **Patmos** for **having proclaimed the message of God and borne witness** to Yeshua.

John's Exile



18

How was Revelation written? Signs!

Revelation 1:1b: He communicated it (*σημαίνω* signified, made known, lit. rendered into signs) by sending His angel to His servant Yochanan



Priestly blessing during Sukkot at Western Wall



19

To whom was Revelation written? The seven messianic congregations in Asia Minor



20

10

To whom was Revelation written? The seven messianic congregations in Asia Minor



21

Why? The Hope of His return and the Restoration of Eden

Revelation 1:7 Look! He is coming with the clouds! Every eye will see him, including those who pierced Him; and all the tribes of the Land will mourn Him. Yes! Amen!



- Revelation reminds us, "victory depends on Christ's finished work, not on human circumstances (and) that the imminent hope of His return is worth more than all the world's goods." -- Craig Keener

Mount of Olives from Golden Gate



22



23



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Talmidim Way

