
Notes, Questions & Prayer Requests



LESSON ONE

REVELATION — THE OPEN BOOK

RS-001

Teaching code - in “teacher notes”.

1. **Underlining** - designed to get class participation.
2. **Bold items** - messages to instructor.
3. **All other copy** — information designed to go directly to class.

Place materials for tonight and Lesson 2 with its Exhibits #1 & #2 where students will sit.

Lesson 1 and its Exhibits were given out last class.

WARM WELCOME — BRIEF REVIEW OF PAGE I

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WARM WELCOME – BRIEF REVIEW OF PAGE 1

Let's move right into lesson.

**Have someone read paragraph at bottom of page 1.
"Revelation is really a summary . . ."**

Notes, Questions & Prayer Requests

[illegible]

QUIZ QUESTIONS

(True or False)

1. The Revelation of Jesus Christ came from God the Father, who gave it to His son Jesus, who delivered it to an angel, who passed it on to John, who wrote it down for us. True
2. One principle of Bible study is to let the Bible explain itself. True
3. Those who read, hear, and practice in their life the words and thoughts of the REVELATION of Jesus Christ are promised a special blessing. True
4. The Revelation of Jesus has been unveiled in our day to prepare a people for Christ's soon return. True
5. Those who are willing to do God's will will understand the REVELATION as they study it (John 7:17). True

TEACHER ASKS FOR AND VERIFIES ANSWERS

OFFERING APPEAL*

With or without transparencies, tell class the amount of offerings thus far and invite liberal offerings for this Seminar and to help conduct others. Thank class for their generosity.

Now, just before our closing prayer, let me say, every drama has a hero and a villain.

The book of Revelation is the drama of the ages.

Our next lesson deals with "The Star of the drama of Revelation".

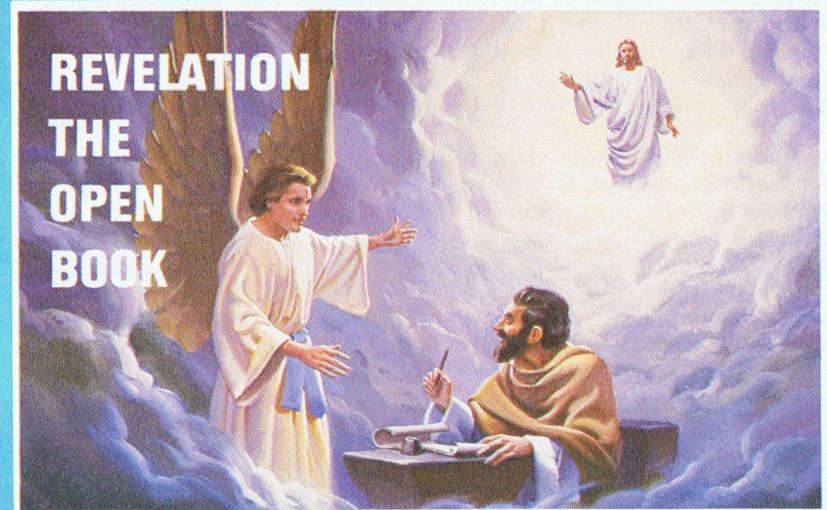
Be sure to prepare our next lesson before class!

CLOSING REMARKS

PRAYER

A BIBLE PROPHECY ADVENTURE

REVELATION SEMINARS



Most people revere the Bible. In fact, recent polls indicate that men and women everywhere wish to understand the Bible better. However, for a majority, the book of Revelation is a major problem. Its prophetic language and mysterious symbols seem to defy comprehension, so millions have given up ever understanding it.

Many feel that the book applies largely to either the past or the future, and that, furthermore, it is a closed, or sealed, book and not meant to be understood by people today.

But the truth is that the book of Revelation is not closed or sealed. God's angel commanded that it not be sealed, (Revelation 22:10) (1825). Some of the most important messages that God has ever given are found in the book.

Revelation is an open book. It was written especially for our times — the last days of earth's history (Revelation 22:10-12) (1825), and a very special blessing is pronounced upon all who understand and heed the counsel of the book, (Revelation 1:3) (1800); 22:7 (1825).

Revelation is really a summary of the entire Bible, in which the main themes of Holy Scripture are reviewed in order to stress their importance. As an acorn embodies the mighty oak, so Revelation embodies the great key points of the entire Bible.

Seminars are very popular, today. They are being conducted all over the world on virtually every subject. But this Seminar is far more than the average seminar which is planned to impart information, or to satisfy curiosity.

**Read or Summarize
eleven points
as you deem appropriate.**

**Caution: Do not spend
more than 3-4 minutes
on this page!**

**Briefly mention the Bible's
"Great Controversy Theme",
as it appears throughout the lessons
and is a key to understand Scripture.**

Ans: 4. Revelation 1:3 (1800) and John 7:17 (1560) "If any man
will DO HIS WILL
he shall KNOW of the DOCTRINE
whether it be of GOD."

NOTE: I must be willing to do God's will as it becomes clear to me. Christ dedicated Revelation to "His servants" or followers. He gives no indication that others will understand it. The secret of understanding Spiritual matters is found in Daniel 12:10 (1320): "None of the wicked shall understand; but the wise shall understand". To really understand prophecy, I must have spiritual illumination which is given only to those who love and serve God.

14. What promises does Jesus give to those who obey His word?

Ans: a. Revelation 3:10 (1803) He will keep them from
the HOUR of TEMPTATION.

Ans: b. Revelation 22:14 (1825) They will have right to the
TREE of LIFE and may enter in
through the GATES of the CITY.

15. As the Holy Spirit of God shows you great truths about Jesus from the book of Revelation, are you willing to obey these truths?

Ans: _____



Will you accept the GIFT of Eternal Life?

- 14. AFTER** class responses to #14, ask:
“Which is more important:
to believe God’s Word or
to obey God’s Word?”

ANSWER – Both are IMPERATIVE.

- 15. BEFORE** discussion of #15

Three points to jot down and remember!

- A. Revelation can be understood!
- B. The Bible interpretes itself!
- C. God has a life and death message
to transmit to His last day church
through this important book!

CLASS APPEAL: How many of you want
me to pray that God will help us
apply His Word in our daily lives
so we can:

- feel His presence
- see His truth
- hear His voice through book of Revelation.

If you do, say “yes” to God as we pray.

APPEAL PRAYER

Suggested class appeals are important!
These are tried and proven and will
lead to lasting decisions.

ELEVEN GREAT SEMINAR BENEFITS FOR YOU

1. This Seminar will bring you face to face with Jesus Christ in a most startling manner. It will stop you right in your tracks. Suddenly, you will see Him in a new and wonderful light.
2. It will have a tremendous impact upon your life.
3. It will provide a new understanding of the history of this world since the cross. It is, in fact, the story of the centuries-long warfare between Christ and Satan.
4. It will give unbelievable meaning to conditions in our world today.
5. It will unveil for you the meaning of grand, climactic, shocking events about to take place upon the earth — events that will have a profound effect upon you and your loved ones.
6. It will reveal to you the devil’s plans to ensnare people. This infuriates him. So, he will do everything possible to prevent your attendance at this Seminar. The night you miss could be the one you need the most.
7. It will lead you to the most momentous decisions of your life.
8. You will be astounded as the great God of Heaven and His Son, Jesus Christ, speak to you through the Holy Spirit. You will often be surprised at what you hear. But keep your mind open. God’s surprises are always for our good. You may not always agree with what is presented. But this need not prevent the Seminar from being a great spiritual high point of your life.
9. The Bible is not like any other book. It was written by God, and can only be understood as He helps us. Thus, it is absolutely imperative to spend time in prayer, asking God for His help. Unless we do this, the devil will see to it that we end up with erroneous conclusions.
10. This REVELATION SEMINAR will bring into sharp focus the fact that both the Lord and the devil are asking for your worship. The tragedy is that millions are honoring Satan, and do not even know it. Revelation sounds an awesome warning against this, and shows you how to avoid it.
11. It is not possible to cover every detail of Revelation in a short seminar like this: but the broad, basic, main points will be explained, so, when the seminar ends, you will understand the book of Revelation.

NOTE: In light of the preceding eleven points, it is crucial that we stress again the importance of uniting our study of Revelation with much prayer. We should humbly ask the Lord to clearly reveal to us His important truths, and give us the faith and courage to follow where He leads.

**Stress importance of overall view of Revelation.
Encourage frequent review of this page.**

**How many have read this outline?
(show of hands)**

Ans: Satan's strategy is to claim that Revelation cannot be understood because "It is SEALED" or because we are not LEARNED

NOTE: Satan does not want people to understand Revelation because it clearly exposes his snares, so he does everything possible to discredit it. Satan used this strategy in Old Testament days. He is doing it again very effectively, today.

11. How much of the Scripture is inspired? II Timothy 3:16 (1750)

Ans: ALL

12. If we twist the Scripture to fit our own opinions and preferences, what can be the result? II Peter 3:15,16 (1789)

Ans: OUR OWN DESTRUCTION

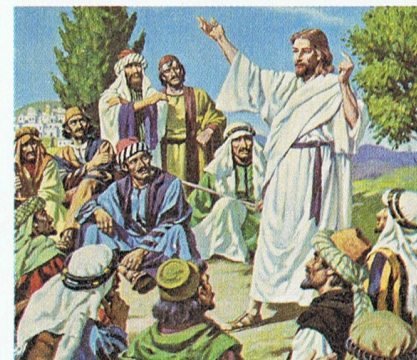
FOUR IMPORTANT KEYS

13. Four things are essential, if I am to truly understand the Bible, including Revelation. What are they?

Ans: 1. I Corinthians 2:14 (1671) Spiritual things are SPIRITUALLY discerned.

Ans: 2. Revelation 21:6 (1823) I must "THIRST" for truth.

Ans: 3. II Timothy 2:15 (1748) and Acts 17:11 (1623) I must STUDY the Bible and TEST all BELIEFS by its teachings.



Jesus spoke in signs and parables, so the Spiritual Ones could understand.

10. Revelation exposes schemes of Satan.
"He is a smoke-screen artist!"

11-12 After class answers these questions, ask:

"How many of you agree with
Paul and Peter regarding scripture?"

- All scripture inspired!
(Paul)
- Twisting scripture leads
to destruction.
(Peter)

Both Old and New Testament
are the Word of God.

13. AFTER responding to #13:

What are the four keys?

According to the note,

which is the most important key?

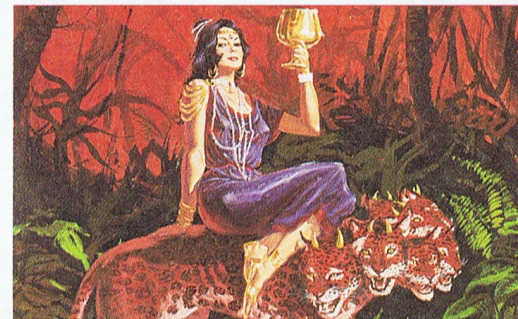
ANSWER — A willingness to do God's will.

ENCOURAGE DISCUSSION

NOW LET'S TAKE A QUICK PREVIEW OF THE BOOK:

Chapter 1	The hero of the book is introduced.
Chapters 2/3	Christ's message to the seven churches.
Chapters 4/5	Opening a mysterious sealed book
Chapters 6/7	The four horsemen of the apocalypse and the sealing of God's people
Chapters 8/9	The seven trumpets
Chapter 10	Eating the bittersweet book.
Chapter 11	The two witnesses in sackcloth
Chapter 12	The mysterious woman standing on the moon
Chapter 13	The mark of the Beast.
Chapter 14	The puzzling message of the three great angels.
Chapters 15/16	The grapes of God's wrath.
Chapters 17/18	Mystic Babylon, the great harlot.
Chapter 19	The Rider on the white horse defeats the beast.
Chapter 20	The dragon bound in the bottomless pit for 1000 years
Chapters 21/22	The city of God — The new heaven and new earth.

In eight short, action-packed weeks, the book of Revelation will come alive for you. When the Seminar ends, you will understand the book well enough to give a brief explanation of its contents, yourself. So, let's begin.



YOU WILL IDENTIFY THE SCARLET WOMAN

1. Class read text in unison.

Class answer each question orally.

CLASS PARTICIPATION DRAWS GROUP TOGETHER

4. Re-emphasize – Scripture explains itself.

After question 4 ask:

What Bible did Jesus use?

ANSWER – Old Testament.

Why did Jesus Teach from the Old Testament?

ANSWER – No New Testament then.

Holy Spirit inspired Old Testament.

Jesus knew it was God's Word.

NOTE: Jesus spoke in parables so that only the Spiritually oriented could understand. He clothed Revelation in symbols for the same reasons: Only those sincerely seeking truth and guided by the Holy Spirit can comprehend it.

Further, the enemies of God are unmasked, and God's people are revealed in Revelation. Centuries ago, God's enemies would have destroyed the book if it had been written in literal language. For this reason, it was necessary to present the messages of the book in language only God's people can understand.

But the symbols need not hinder understanding. The Bible tells us what they mean in literal language. Listed below are three prophetic symbols with the Bible explanation of their literal meaning. Write your understanding of the literal meaning of these symbols in the blanks provided:

1. Beast Daniel 7:23 (1310) KINGDOM
2. Water Rev. 17:15 (1819) PEOPLE
3. Day Ezekiel 4:6 (1213) YEAR

NOTE: The Seminar provides a list of literal meanings for 88 of Revelation's symbols to aid you in your study. Ask for a copy if you have not already received one.

AUTHORITY OF BIBLE PROPHECY

8. How reliable are the words of prophecy? II Peter 1:16,19 (1787)

Ans: "Were EYEWITNESSES of His majesty . . . We have also a more SURE word of PROPHECY".

NOTE: Prophecy is more reliable than an eyewitness account.

9. God gives two warnings in regards to interpreting prophecy. What are they?

Ans: 1. II Peter 1:20 (1787) "No PROPHECY is of any PRIVATE interpretation"

Ans: 2. Revelation 22:18,19 (1826) We are not to ADD to or TAKE away from the words of this prophecy.

10. Since God says that Revelation is not now, and never has been, sealed, why is it that so many feel it is closed, sealed or impossible to understand? Isaiah 29:10-14 (1057)

7. Have volunteer give meaning of symbols:

- Beast
- Water
- Day

Draw attention to Exhibit #1.
Explain briefly.

NOTE: Many Exhibits will accompany lessons.
Insert them in your binder
with the lesson they go with.

9. Have class read II Peter 1:20.

Explain!

Any interpretation that does not agree
with all other Bible teaching on the subject
is a "private interpretation",
regardless who be the interpreter –

- Church or
- Individual.

We must compare scripture with scripture.

Prophet – English word from Greek – "Prophētes".

"Pro" – "in the place of," "for another".

"phētes" – from "Phīēmi" – (Phí-ē-mi) = to speak

Prophet then means "speaking for another".

(One speaking for God. His "mouth-piece".)

HOW TO UNDERSTAND THE BOOK OF REVELATION

1. The book of Revelation passed through five steps to reach us. What are they? Revelation 1:1-5,11,19 (1800)

Ans: a. God gave it to JESUS

Ans: b. Jesus gave it to THE ANGEL

Ans: c. The angel gave it to JOHN

Ans: d. John WROTE it down. (v. 19)

Ans: e. John* sent the book to the CHURCHES

*John wrote the book of Revelation on the small rocky island of Patmos (Revelation 1:9) in the Aegean Sea, where he had been banished by the Emperor Domitian because of his faith and forced to work in the mines as punishment. Patmos was an island prison, the "Alcatraz" of its day. John wrote Revelation under the most forbidding and discouraging circumstances.

2. God promises a special blessing to those who:

Ans: HEAR, READ and
KEEP the things written in Revelation.

Revelation 1:3 (1800)

NOTE: To read and study Revelation is not enough. To be blessed, one must follow its counsel.

3. Whom did Jesus say the Scriptures reveal? John 5:39 (1556)

Ans: JESUS, HIMSELF

4. When explaining prophecy, what approach did Jesus use? Luke 24:25-27, 32 (1544)

Ans: "He EXPOUNDED unto them in ALL the
SCRIPTURES the things concerning HIMSELF."

NOTE: Jesus pointed out what other writers of the Bible said on the subject. His method is, of course, the correct one: Let the Bible explain itself. Only as we study Revelation in light of what other Bible writers say on the same subject can we ever hope to understand it. Our personal opinions regarding prophecy do not count.

The amazing **key** to understanding Revelation is the study of other Bible writers, especially those of the Old Testament. Revelation is a mosaic of Old Testament imagery. Taylor G. Bunch, a renowned author says, "Twenty-six of the thirty-nine

6. God used pictures
long before television.

Focus on or read and amplify
note under #6.

7. Revelation is for those
sincerely seeking truth.

Comments from notes — p. 6:

Jesus used parables.

Jesus unmasked God's enemies.

Jesus chose symbols to aid understanding.

(notes on 7 continued next page)

Old Testament books are quoted from in Revelation, and of the 404 verses in the book, 276 are borrowed or copied from other Bible authors". The first five chapters of Revelation, for example, contain 27, 15, 13, 16 and 14 references respectively to the Old Testament. So keep in mind that we unlock Revelation's prophecies and symbols by finding out what other Bible writers say on the same theme.



What Jesus revealed to John . . . He invites us to understand

COMMUNICATION BY SYMBOLS

5. What does Revelation 1:1 (1800) say the angel did to the message of Revelation as he gave it to John?

Ans: "And SIGNIFIED it by His angel unto His servant John."

NOTE: "signify" means to "communicate by signs, tokens or symbols". So, Revelation prophecies are symbolic.

6. How does Revelation 1:1 (1800) say that God presented the message of Revelation to His servant?

Ans: To "SHEW" unto His servants things which must shortly come to pass.

NOTE: The word "shew" (show) in the context of Revelation indicates a panoramic view. As you read Revelation, it is easy to see that God was showing views to His servant with sound effects. In reporting on the visions, John says "I saw" or "behold", or something similar, 73 times. In Revelation, God is presenting events, nations, religious movements and organizations in word pictures or cartoons. Revelation is God's word-picture book or a vast word-picture gallery.

7. Why did Jesus speak in parables and clothe the book of Revelation in symbols? Luke 8:10 (1505)

Ans: "That SEEING they might not SEE, and HEARING they might not UNDERSTAND."