

The Year of the Revelation

~ An Introduction ~

I. A Faithful Apostle - A Difficult Situation - A Glorious Revelation

A. John – The Beloved Apostle

- (1) Bond Servant of Jesus
- (2) Faithful Witness to the Word of God and Jesus
- (3) Pastor of the Ephesus Church
- (4) An Old Man – in his 90s
- (5) A Participant in the Tribulations

B. Time of the reign of Domitian as Rome's Caesar

- (1) blood thirsty and cruel
- (2) first emperor who demanded all subjects address him as “our lord and god.”
- (3) first to make images of himself and place them in all places of worship and demand people to bow down
- (4) Christians were treated cruelly because they refused to worship any god except Jehovah or bow to a graven image.
- (5) Since John was pastor of the church in the capital city of the Roman province of Asia, he was the person the person that Domitian wanted to break and cause to recant his faith.
- (6) Instead of making him a martyr, Domitian exiled John to a little rocky island about 24 miles off the coast of Asia Minor.
- (7) Domitian believed that John, at his age, would die of exposure or would break.

C. In This Unlikely Place – Patmos

- (1) Jesus comes to reveal Himself and the details of future events which will bring to an end the world and life as it has been known.
“And I heard behind me a loud voice like the sound of a trumpet saying, ‘Write in a book what you see, and send it to the seven churches. . .’” Revelation 1:10-11
- (2) Domitian dies in 96 A.D. and his successor, Nerva, let John return to Ephesus where eventually he would die. (Domitian faced his judgement before the old man of Patmos died.)

II. About the Authors

A. The three persons of the Godhead

- (1) God the Father – Eternal (a) Who is and (b) Who was and (c) Who is to come
- (2) Holy Spirit -
 - (a) Seven
 - (b) Spirits
 - (c) Before the Throne
- (3) Jesus Christ –
 - (a) Faithful Witness
 - (b) The First Born of the Dead
 - (c) The ruler of kings of the earth

III. The Dedication of the Book - The only person of the Godhead that this book is dedicated to is Jesus Christ.

Why this dedication?

- (1) Jesus is the One who loves us.
- (2) Jesus released us from our sins by His blood.
- (3) Jesus made us to be a kingdom (kings.)
- (4) Jesus made us to be priests to His God.

To Him be the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen