

1. Whose Revelation is this? _____ Why was it to be a blessing to those who read and took it to heart? _____

2. To whom was the letter written? _____ How does the one being revealed describe himself in 1:4-8? _____

3. When John turned to see the one who spoke to him what did he see? _____

4. Find the positives and or negatives about each of the 7 churches:

a. Ephesus

b. Smyrna

c. Pergamum

d. Thyatira

e. Sardis

f. Philadelphia

g. Laodicea

Memory Verse

“Blessed is the one who reads the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear it and take to heart what is written in it, because the time is near” Revelation 1:3

Keys to Understanding Revelation (on back)

Keys to Understanding Revelation

1. Historical background

Written AD 96; Domitian was Caesar. Previous Caesars were deified upon their deaths. Domitian claimed to be “Dominus et Deus” (Lord & God). He demanded to be worshiped by all conquered peoples. Emperor cult worship was to be expressed throughout the empire. Failure to worship him brought, economic hardship, imprisonment, torture or death. Christians would not bow to any god beside Jehovah and were being severely tested.

Revelation was written to reveal (not hide or confuse) God’s care and comfort for Christians under that circumstance. It exhorts faithfulness despite trial and promises victory!

This book is not sealed, it is intended for immediate consumption.

2. Apocalyptic literature

Written in times of great duress, with messages of God’s sovereignty over history. It personifies the struggle between good and evil (ie lamb vs. dragon), and predicts the triumph of good!

Numbers: 2 - strength; 3 - divine; 4 - the world men inhabit; 6 - man’s number; 7 - perfection; 10 and its multiples - human completeness; 12 - organized religion.

Colors: white - purity; red - blood; black - death

Animals: domestic - good; wild - evil