

Introduction:

Our journey through this amazing book of the Bible begins. Many theologians consider Revelation the companion book of prophecy to the book of Daniel. It is said to be the unlocking of those things that the Old Testament prophet was told to seal up "for the time is not yet." With the passage of time and the fulfillment of much of what was revealed to Daniel, John, the disciple prophet of the Christian church, is now given the keys to know and understand what is yet to come. Replete with dramatic scenes of prophetic symbolism, Old Testament Sanctuary imagery, and the unveiling of what the "last days," or the "end of time," will bring, the purpose of its message is clearly stated in the opening verses. With prayer and the aid of the Holy Spirit, we open these pages to hear what God is saying to His people in our day. In this introduction to the study of this book, as with Daniel, we will consider the stage, the backdrop the historical context as we open this tremendous prophetic message.

Focus Text ~

¹ The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave Him to show His servants—things which must shortly take place. And He sent and signified *it* by His angel to His servant John, ² who bore witness to the word of God, and to the testimony of Jesus Christ, to all things that he saw. ³ Blessed *is* he who reads and those who hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written in it; for the time *is* near.

Revelation 1:1–3 (NKJV)

Terms Of Reference

There are a few terms of reference we must keep in mind!

- **Beasts** Daniel 7:23 _____
- **Water** Revelation 17:15 _____
- **Day** Ezekiel 4:6 _____
- **Stars** Revelation 1:20; Daniel 8:10 _____
- **Angels** Malachi 2:7 _____
- **Dragon** Revelation 20:2
- Lampstands Revelation 1:20 _____

The Message & Chain of Custody

Revelation 1:1-8

John's First Vision

What does John see and hear in this vision, and what message is he given?	Davidation 1.0 20
	Revelation 1:9-20
Conclusion:	
Considering what is revealed in these opening texts of Revelation, what central theme do you see?	