



# **Introduction and Rev 1-3**

**The Practicality of Studying Revelation**



# Introduction

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- **I don't want to be a weirdo...**
  - **Two reactions about Revelation**

**Scared**

**Skeptical**

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## **Goals for the entire conference**

- **First steps in reading the book properly**
- **Foundation to grow upon**

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## **Specific goals**

- **Tackling scared**
- **Tackling skepticism**



# Method and Context

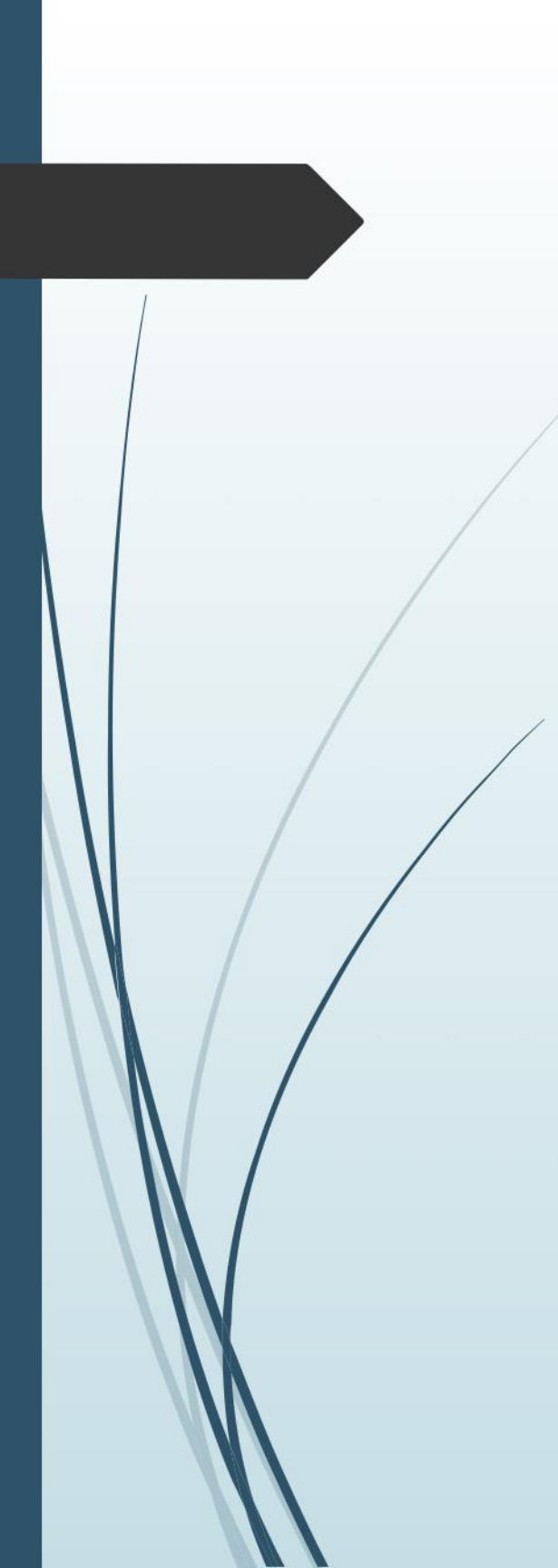
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## Views of Revelation

- Pre-mil
- Post-mil
- Amil
- Mil? 😊

Response to these issues



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## **Method – how should we read? (and how do we know?)**


- **Key principle:**

**literal-grammatical-historical**

- **Key idea:**

**“Confusing because it is precise”**



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- **Proof of Literal = authorial intent**
  - **Discussing grammatical and symbols/  
metaphor**
  - **Discussing history and theology**
  - **Conclusions**

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- **Historical Background**
  - **The nature of Rev 1-3**



# Revelation 1

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**Rev 1:1-3**

## **The Nature of the Book of Revelation**

- **Certainty and Climax**
- **Key Application**
- **Blessing**

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**Rev 1:4-8**

**The Themes of the Book**

- **The Fullness of God**
- **The Fullness of God's Work**
- **The Focal Point**
- **The Foundation of this Reality**

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**Rev 1:9-20**

**John's Calling and the Purpose of the Book**

- **Hope in Suffering**
- **Overcoming in Christ**



# Rev 2-3

Church	Christological Background	Issue	Eschatological motivators
Ephesus	Jesus holds the stars and lampstands (authority)	First love	Come and remove (v. 5)  Tree of Life - paradise of God (Eden)
Smyrna	First and life/Resurrection	Persecution	Crown of Life  No second death
Pergamum	Sword from the mouth (judgment - act)	False teaching (dealing with the beginning/foundation of perseverance)	Come and wake war with sword (Rev 19)  Manna and Stone (overcoming unbelief)
Thyatira	Eyes (presence) - burnished bronze - accountability to His character - holiness (judgment/power)	Evil living (immersion in that false teaching)	Great tribulation (2:22)  2:25 - come - hold fast  Authority to rule





Sardis	Spirit (life, wisdom, rule) - the ministry of the Spirit fulfilled (who gives life!)	Spiritual death	I will come like a thief - (Rev 3 but ηκω is used)  Life (book of life) and cleansing (clothed in white)  Father and angels
Philadelphia	True and Keys of David - allusion to complete honesty and Davidic promise access	Endurance	Come and bow down - esch victory (v. 9)  No tribulation (rev 3:10) - rapture  I am coming quickly (v. 11)  Crown  Place in God's temple  New Jerusalem  Written on with God's name and Jesus' new name
Laodecia	Faithful witness, preeminence	Ineffective life or hypocritical life (contrasts with Christ's faithfulness for us!)	Victory on the throne (just as Christ received as a faithful witness)



# Conclusion

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- **Scared and Skepticism**

**But...**

- **A Clear Method**

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- **A Clear Book**
  - **A Clear Message, Purpose, and Impact**
  - **Truly a blessing**