Subject: The Revelation
Posted by Gary on Sat, 19 Oct 2013 05:51:21 GMT
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I would just like to say one thing on this book called, "The Revelation".

The book is call, "The Revelation" not revelations as everybody makes reference to. This word means:

rev·e·la·tion
noun \ËŒre-vÉ™-ËˆlÄ•-shÉ™n\

: a usually secret or surprising fact that is made known

: an act of making something known : an act of revealing something in usually a surprising way

: something that surprises you

Full Definition of REVELATION
a : an act of revealing or communicating divine truth

b : something that is revealed by God to humans

c : an act of revealing to view or making known

Why would God give us a book in the Bible unless He wanted us to know what it means?

We see in the first chapter:

1 The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave Him to show His servantsâ€”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.

If we don't understand all the book says; Do we just rip it out of the Bible and say its more important to walk with Jesus we don't need to hear this or try to understand it? Do we just act like everybody believes something different on this so let's not listen to what God is trying to show here?

God gave this Revelation so we can see what must take place shortly. It also says Blessed is the one who reads and hears the words of this prophesy. Then he keeps the things that are written for

the time is near.

The time is nearer now then it ever was before. I just tend to believe the Lord gave it to us for His purpose in these end times. Its just a part of the whole picture and its not wrong to want to understand what God is saying here. We have the Holy Spirit and He will lead and guide us into "all truth".

I have been reading in the gospels of late and I see the phrase over and over, that seeing they see but cannot see and hearing they hear but cannot see. This is mentioned quite often by the Lord and His apostles in different contexts.

Then I noticed it says "blessed" is the one who reads and "hears" the words of this prophecy.

I believe the time is getting so close and its not just with this book but we all have to listen and hear, and see what God is saying in His Word to us. Are we really hearing the Lord?, At least that is the question I have been presenting to myself as I read the whole Bible.

Since so much is being shared on this I thought it was good to look at the whole picture and as we all know the Word of God always prevails in its own interpretation. But I believe God put this in His word for a purpose along with all the words of the Prophets that pertain to the end of time.

I hope this came out the right way to be a blessing to all.

Gary

Subject: Re: The Revelation
Posted by Marilyn Crow on Sat, 19 Oct 2013 07:01:20 GMT
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Hi Gary,

This is the overview in my notes on the book of Revelation. I would be interested in your thoughts.

REVELATION - OVERVIEW

The predominant aim of Revelation is the setting forth the splendours of the Son of Man, & to reveal His glorious person. There are four visions of the Son of Man as He is known in the heavenly realm & each vision in turn carries through to completion one aspect of the fourfold ministry of Christ which He exercised when on earth. His Kinship was expressed in Matthew, His Heirship in Mark, His Mediatorship in Luke, & His Judgeship in John.

Vision 1. CHRIST - Head of the Body. (Rev. 1 â€“ 3)

This reveals the empowered Son of Man as the Sovereign Administrator.
`in His right hand He held 7 stars.`

Vision 2. CHRIST - HEIR (Rev. 4 â€“ 7)

This reveals the enthroned Son of Man as the Supreme Executor.

`in His right hand He held the 7 sealed book.`

Vision 3. CHRIST - MEDIATOR (Rev. 8 â€“ 13)

This reveals the exalted Son of Man as the Stately Mediator.

`in His hand is a sacred censor.`

Vision 4. CHRIST - JUDGE (Rev. 14 â€“ 22)

This reveals the entitled Son of Man as the Sublime Adjudicator.

`in His hand is a sharp sickle.`

To reveal Christ to us in Revelation, there are three hundred & thirty references to the figures, shadows, symbols, types, patterns, persons, & buildings of the Old Testament.

This unveiling is the culmination of all the truths expressed from Genesis to Revelation, for all scripture is centred on one purpose and that is to reveal Christ to us in all His Glory.

Subject: Re: The Revelation
Posted by james on Sat, 19 Oct 2013 12:57:25 GMT
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Gary wrote on Sat, 19 October 2013 00:51

IF(Opps,sorry.)we don't understand all the book says; Do we just rip it out of the Bible and say its more important to walk with Jesus we don't need to hear this or try to understand it? Do we just act like everybody believes something different on this so let's not listen to what God is trying to show here?.

I'm assuming you're speaking of "we" as in Christians in general...

So you saying I need to get some tape and glue and try to 'put it back in my Bible'? Good thing I didn't put it through the shredder<grin>

I think the warning found in Revelation 22:18-19 causes some to be hesitant in commenting or giving opinions and concrete answers concerning times, dates and the symbols, figures, and types used by John in describing what he saw.

Like I tried to explain to Marilyn earlier, just because everyone isn't jumping in on the threads to comment doesn't mean they aren't reading and it doesn't mean that they are in disagreement with what's being presented. Remember there are hundreds of views and 'interpretations' given by Christians throughout the last few decades in books and messages...they ain't all right...and just because 'we' believe the man that taught us was right, doesn't necessarily make him or us right.

For me it's a little like waiting for Tom to get to his point on what he wanted to say about faith...a watching and waiting to discover the purpose and ultimate 'revealation' the person is wanting to present. Then each can decide if they agree or disagree, and why...as with the deal with Tom, it causes a person to examine what and why we believe what we do...and what it's based upon...which is a good thing.

Subject: Re: The Revelation
Posted by Gary on Sat, 19 Oct 2013 13:34:15 GMT
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[quote title=james wrote on Sat, 19 October 2013 07:57]Gary wrote on Sat, 19 October 2013 00:51

we don't understand all the book says; Do we just rip it out of the Bible and say its more important to walk with Jesus we don't need to hear this or try to understand it? Do we just act like everybody believes something different on this so let's not listen to what God is trying to show here?.

I'm assuming you're speaking of "we" as in Christians in general...

You forgot to put the "If" that is If we don't understand. Of course I don't know if anybody has the complete interpretation as many things are yet to be revealed.

So you saying I need to get some tape and glue and try to 'put it back in my Bible'? Good thing I didn't put it through the shredder<grin>

I'm glad as well many have ran the book of Acts through the shredder and now they deny the power, but mostly this is the denominations.

I think the warning found in Revelation 22:18-19 causes some to be hesitant in commenting or giving opinions and concrete answers concerning times, dates and the symbols, figures, and types used by John in describing what he saw.

Very good scripture shared here. But I don't think this is the main reason no one is sharing on the subject. We have not even got to that part yet so we don't know what to quote or agree on.

Like I tried to explain to Marilyn earlier, just because everyone isn't jumping in on the threads to comment doesn't mean they aren't reading and it doesn't mean that they are in disagreement with what's being presented. Remember there are hundreds of views and 'interpretations' given by Christians throughout the last few decades in books and messages...they ain't all right...and just because 'we' believe the man that taught us was right, doesn't necessarily make him or us right.

Very true. There is dozens of views on the Baptism in water and the Baptism of the Holy Spirit but there is only one correct interpretation given in the Bible. I am only trying to share that the Revelation is there for a reason. There was several comments that I won't highlight that came across as it was not really important or did not matter. At least that is the way they sounded.

For me it's a little like waiting for Tom to get to his point on what he wanted to say about faith...a watching and waiting to discover the purpose and ultimate 'revealation' the person is wanting to present. Then each can decide if they agree or disagree, and why...as with the deal with Tom, it

causes a person to examine what and why we believe what we do...and what it's based upon...which is a good thing.

Tom was a whole different ball game He did not share what he really wanted us to know or to discuss it to see if what we said was true. He wrote a ten page dissertation denouncing many things found in the Bible in principle. Plus he would not answer any ones questions. He wrote: this is it, and your all wrong. Not much for us to deal with we could not reason with the man.

While HEF was a blessing he was just a man like all men. There is a whole body of Christ across the world, who I believe God can speak to each group as He sees fit. Its till we all come to the unity of the faith.

One more thing, we believe the man child is 144,000, where is that many people that are part of this end time army? We maybe have ten here. I just think God is going to do a work that will one day bring His Word to past.

I am not trying to say what you shared is wrong but only trying to make a point about "The Revelation". Our God is bigger then what we even realize.

Gary

Subject: Re: The Revelation
Posted by Gary on Sun, 20 Oct 2013 08:28:36 GMT
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Quote: This is the overview in my notes on the book of Revelation. I would be interested in your thoughts.

I can see each of these situations. It reminds me of the seven redemptive names of God. The Lord is revealing He is in sovereign control of His creation.

I tend to agree with James though in what he says here:

Quote: James Wrote; I think the warning found in Revelation 22:18-19 causes some to be hesitant

in commenting or giving opinions and concrete answers concerning times, dates and the symbols, figures, and types used by John in describing what he saw.

We as Christians can never "add to or take away" from God's word. It's not good when people try to make God's Word say something is does not say as this is the road to deception.

I am thinking in the garden of Eden at the beginning of man's history, the devil comes and twists what God said. I do think the scripture speaks for itself.

With all of this in mind I think we were taught a rough overdraft but I don't think knowing every little jot and tittle of every symbol is a requirement for salvation.

There are many opinions on much of the book which later prove to be wrong. History has taught us that and it has been proven.

Gary

Hey Marilyn if your wondering about the bold letters and underlining things, along with the color changes, the bar above your reply shows where to get these. You have to highlight the quote with your mouse and then hit the button in the bar above. Or I think you can push the button and then type in between the caption on the reply. If you go to preview message down in the right hand corner it will show you how it turned out.

It took me a while to figure this out, James or others may know of a better way on some of this.

Subject: Re: The Revelation
Posted by Marilyn Crow on Sun, 20 Oct 2013 08:58:04 GMT
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So true Gary, concerning so many opinions that have proved to be wrong. But as we know, & you have said before, the Holy Spirit is guiding us into all truth. And as the Body of Christ that amount of truth is growing as we know more of our precious Lord & His purposes.

You are right about not having to know `every little jot & tittle of every symbol` as `a requirement

for salvation.` I so totally agree, that is why I teach mainly on the character of Christ. However saying that it is still important to know the purposes of God through Christ as God gave it for us to know. Knowing Christ`s purposes enables us not to be deceived & to know His heart in a greater way - His motivation, His plans & purposes. This He so desires for us to know.

Subject: Re: The Revelation
Posted by Marilyn Crow on Sun, 20 Oct 2013 09:28:30 GMT
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Hi Gary,

Here is my next page on Revelation. I so love God`s Word & am attempting with God`s help to work through the book of Revelation. I realise all you said, & am going carefully with others input. Any thought & corrections would be appreciated.

The Unveiling of Jesus Christ. (Rev. 1: 1 â€“

`The Revelation of Jesus Christ which God gave to Him...` (Rev. 1:1)
Revelation â€“ from the Greek Word `apocalypse,` meaning `to unveil.`

There has never been any monuments erected in honor of great personalities throughout the centuries that is comparable to the magnificence of this unveiling of Jesus Christ & the magnitude of His triumph.

What inexpressible pleasure God the Father enjoyed when unveiling His Son`s true character & credentials, for the purpose of showing to His bond servants the regal nature of His Well Beloved.

This unveiling of Christ`s Deity was given to John, the Apostle. He was to write it down for the Body of Christ down through the centuries. (Rev. 1:1- 2)

`Blessed is he that reads...` this prophecy as it shows the full manifestation of Christ enthroned & empowered on high. It is the Lord Jesus Christ, not only the Son of Man, but the Son of God.
(Rev. 1: 3)

We then read that the whole Godhead is involved in bringing forth this wonderful unveiling

- The Father, delighting in fully presenting His Son, (Matt. 3: 17 Rev.1:1, & 4)
- The Holy Spirit, who teaches & brings these truths to remembrance, (John 16:13)
- The Lord Jesus Himself who desires us to behold His glory. (John 17: 24)

The Lord Jesus then presents us with the first of His Triune titles. (Rev. 1: 5)

- `His Faithful Witness.` The integrity of His ministry.
- `The Firstborn from the Dead.` His conquering victory over the enemy.
- `The Ruler over the kings of the earth.` His ultimate authority over all Rulers.

We then read of the 3 groups of people that God has purposes for through Jesus Christ.

1. The Body of Christ. 2. Israel. 3. The Nations. (Rev. 1: 6 & 7)

Finally, summing up this introductory section the Lord gives His triune `signature` as the Omniscient, Omnipresent, & Omnipotent One. (Rev. 1:

Subject: Re: The Revelation
Posted by Marilyn Crow on Mon, 21 Oct 2013 00:01:48 GMT
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JESUS CHRIST (Rev. 1: 5 â€“ 7)

Let us now look in detail at these descriptions of the Lord which also give an overview of God`s purpose -

`... that in all things He (Christ) nay have the pre-eminence.` (Col. 1: 18)

The Faithful Witness. (Rev. 1: 5)

As a witness Christ far exceeds all others because of the greatness of the witness He bears. He

did not trifle over transient things but testified to eternal truth. In His message to mankind He unveiled the mysteries of God, foretold the future of nations & disclosed the issues of life. (John 18: 37, 17: 25 â€“ 26, 3: 11)

The words He spoke have not diminished in authority or authenticity. And no one else has had their words come through the centuries in absolute truth & faithfulness.

The Firstborn from the dead. (Rev. 1: 5)

This title shows Christ`s victory over Satan, sin & death. Christ battled against the enemy & conquered victoriously. He died, rose again & ascended to sit at the Father`s right hand on high. This certifies His authority forever as the One who can never know defeat. He is preeminent even of the dead, as the first manifested alive from the dead.

Christ `...the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the pre-eminence.` (Col.1:18)

The Ruler over the kings of the earth. (Rev. 1: 5)

Christ is ruler, king of the regency of truth in the heavenly realms. (John 18: 36 & 37) And finally He will bring this rule to bear over the nations of this world.

`The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord & His Christ, & He shall reign forever & ever!` (Rev. 11:15)

The 3 groups of people that God has purposes for â€“ (1 Cor. 10: 32)

1. The Body of Christ - `...has made us kings & priests...` (Rev.1: 6)
2. Israel - `..even they who pierced Him.` (Rev. 1: 7 Zech. 12: 10)
3. The Nations - `& all the tribes of the earth...` (Rev. 1: 7)

Christ`s Signature. (Rev. 1:

Christ would now have us to see His eternal attributes. This is His Deity that was hidden behind the `veil` of His flesh while on earth. He is the all- knowing, all powerful One throughout time & eternity. The `I am.`

â€œI am the Alpha & Omega,â€• - His Omniscience.

Christ is the whole alphabet, from whom the entire vocabulary for expressing revealed truth is derived. All the treasures of wisdom & knowledge are in Him. (Col.2:3) There is no such thing as knowledge before Him & there cannot be any beyond Him.

Christ, as the Alpha & Omega, is the only way to spiritual secrets, (Rev.2:17) He is the key to unlock the treasures of truth, Himself the interpreter of the invisible, (Rev. 3: 7) & the Door of entrance to eternal enjoyment. (Ps. 16:11 John 10:9)

â€œThe Beginning & the End.â€• - His Omnipresence.

Christ commenced & will conclude all time periods. He conceived the duration of the ages & will yet crown & consummate the ages to come. Everything is under His control. And no event came before the exercise of His will & none will come after His counsel. (1 Cor. 15: 28)

In Him dwelleth all the fullness of the Godhead bodily; therefore outside of Christ there is no wider, broader, deeper, higher, greater or vaster measure or authority known. (Col. 2: 9 & 10)

He is well able to save to the uttermost all them that come to God by Him. (Heb. 7: 25)

â€œwhich is, was & is to come.â€• â€œThe Almighty,â€• - His Omnipotence.

The strength of Christ`s might & majesty transcend all others in ability & authority. He is the competent & self-sufficient One in His almightiness.

When we pause to ponder His enormous energy, His great power, His awesome strength & might, these qualities with their tremendous potential causes us to tremble . But, when we turn & learn of the blended qualities of goodness, gracious care, glorious love which are lavished so freely, our fears depart for we view His heart. (Eph. 2: 4 â€“

Subject: Re: The Revelation

I thought I would post the next few pages that I have done concerning the unveiling of the Lord Jesus Christ by the Father.

Christ the Head of the Body. (Rev. 1: 12 - 17)

This wonderful revelation of the Lord was given to the Apostle John. He was a prisoner on the island of Patmos for his belief in the Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As he was waiting on the Lord, He hears a loud voice behind him, as of a trumpet, telling him to write what he sees & hears in a book.

John then turns & sees a vision of the one who spoke to him. It is the glorified Lord Jesus Christ. His appearance is like the sun shining in full strength. How awesome that would be to behold!

`Then I turned to see the voice that spoke to me....One like the Son of Man, His countenance was like the sun shining in its strength.`

The glory of Christ shone forth like the colours of light, revealing His character & abilities in a resplendent aura. John was overcome & fell at Christ`s feet as dead. But the Lord laid His hand on John & reassured him that He was `alive forevermore,` & now overseeing the Body of Christ.

The Lord then explains that the `golden lampstands` John sees, are the `called out ones,` the Body of Christ. He is shown in their midst, the preeminent position, as their Head. It is God the Father who called Christ to this position.

God `gave Him (Christ) to be Head over all things to the (Ekklesia) called out ones, which is His Body,....` (Eph. 1: 22 -23)
Ekklesia, Gk. Word meaning `called out ones.` (not organisations or meetings)

The imagery of the temple is used to reveal Christ`s character & work. Although we associate this with Israel & the Old Testament, it actually was set up by God to enable us to understand the awesome work that the Lord has done, & is doing for us.

`We have such a High Priest,.... a Minister of the sanctuary & of the true tabernacle which the Lord erected, & not ma(Heb. 6: 1 & 2)

The wonderful description of the Lord Jesus Christ, is divided into three groups of 3. These represent Christ`s Character, His Counsel & His Authority. As we meditate on their meaning, as revealed in scripture, the Holy Spirit enlightens the eyes of our understanding & we grow to appreciate & honour our Lord more & more.

Christ`s Character (Rev.1: 13 - 15)

The first 3 picture symbols of the Lord show Him dressed in High Priestly garments & called the `Son of Man.` To interpret this we need to look at what God has revealed throughout His Word.

Human & Divine - (`One like the Son of Man.` Rev. 1: 13)

When Jesus was on earth He called Himself `the Son of Man,` (Luke 19: 10). One of His many titles. This refers to the close kindred relationship that He holds with humanity that was necessary to redeem land & life, under the divine law. (Lev. 25: 25)

Christ became human but He is also divine. (John 1: 14) He had a human body however His nature, His eternal essence was & is always Divine. Now that Christ is glorified on high He is shown as `like the Son of Man,` yet changed. His body is not mortal but immortal, glorified.

Christ`s humanity - flesh & blood.

`Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh & blood, He (Christ) Himself likewise shared in the same.` (Heb. 2: 14)

Christ`s divinity. His divine nature consists of many spiritual constituents. He is.....

`righteous, good, kind, gracious, perfect, holy, pure, just, wise, meek, humble, lowly, gentle, precious, blessed, tender, merciful, gracious, friendly, comely, winsome, helpful,cheerful, joyful, faithful, truthful, peaceful, restful ,changeless,great, mighty, powerful, bold, regal, royal, brightness, resolute, bountiful, whole, fullness, wholesome, glorious.`

(1 Cor. 1: 30 Luke 18: 18 Eph. 2: 7 Col. 3: 12 Heb. 3 : 1 & 2 .....)

Man`s nature -

`lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good, traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure....having a form of godliness....`(2 Tim. 3: 2 - 5)

Christ is now the life giving Spirit. (1 Cor. 15: 45) Not only are we to be changed & given new life, but it is the very divine nature of Christ that we are to share. This is truly amazing & humbling.

`Through Him (Christ) God has bestowed on us high & treasured promises; you are to share the divine nature ....`(2 Peter 1: 4 Knox)

Holy - (`clothed with a garment down to the feet` Rev. 1: 13)

This is the garment worn by the priests for their duties in the temple. But this picture is just a shadow of the reality. Christ is our priest appointed by God. (Heb. 7: 21)

Christ`s priesthood is different from the earthly priests. Their office continually changed as one priest died & another took his place. The offerings also, were continually being offered as they were only a cover till the complete sacrifice was made.

Jesus `has an unchangeable priesthood.``who does not need daily, as those high priests, to offer up sacrifices, first for His own sins & then for the people`s for this He did once for all when He offered up Himself.`(Heb. 7: 24 & 27)

Christ also did not have to put on a garment to be holy & consecrated as a priest. He is holy by virtue of His intrinsic divine character & thus He did not have to offer sacrifices for Himself.

`For such a High Priest was fitting for us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners..`(Heb. 7: 26)

Holy â€“ Gk. Word `hosios` meaning right by intrinsic or divine character.

High Priest - (`girded about the chest with a golden band` Rev. 1: 13)

This part of the garment, the `band` around the chest was the symbol of the office and authority of the High Priest. Once a year the High Priest would put on the consecrated garments with the golden band & enter into the holy of holies to come before the Lord.

`...into the second part (of Temple) the high priest went alone once a year, not without blood, which he offered for himself & for the people`s sins...` (Heb. 9: 7)

This picture refers to our High Priest, Jesus Christ who having entered into the heavens has obtained eternal redemption with His own blood.

` Christ came as High Priest .....He entered the Most Holy Place once for all,.....with His own blood.....having obtained eternal redemption .`(Heb. 9: 11 & 12)

Thus John sees Christ as Head of the `called out ones,` the preeminent one in their midst, who is qualified to be their High Priest, being kin but with a divine holy nature.

Subject: Re: The Revelation
Posted by Marilyn Crow on Thu, 31 Oct 2013 07:07:41 GMT
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CHRIST THE SOVEREIGN ADMINISTRATOR. (Rev. 1: 14 & 15)

Christ the King Priest

The Lord Jesus Christ has been unveiled to us as Head of the Body, our Great High Priest. He brought an offering of His own shed blood into the Holy of Holies, God`s presence, & continues there interceding for us.

`Christ came as High Priest.... with His own blood He entered the Most Holy Place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption.`(Heb. 9: 11 & 12)

But the Lord is not just our High Priest, He is our Head, He rules & reigns as a King. In Israel these two offices were separate to show the distinctive work of both. Plus no one had the character or capabilities to carry out such important work.

Yet God did give a man these two positions as an example of the combined office. His name was Melchizedek & he was a king & a priest of the most high. This example was before the `law` was given to Israel, to show that this combined position is for all mankind & not just for Israel.

`For this Melchizedek, king ....priest of the Most High... King of righteousness,... King of Peace,....but made like the Son of God, remains a priest continually.`(Heb.7: 1 - 3)

Christ`s Priesthood, therefore, is of a special order that brings with it great authority â€“ Kingship. And it is Father God who has appointed Christ to this exalted position.

`The Lord (God) has sworn & will not relent, â€œYou are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedekâ€•`(Heb. 7: 21)

Priesthood - To come to God for mankind as our sacrifice & intercessor.

Kingship - To come to mankind for God to counsel & rule in wisdom with authority & power.

As we look further at the glorious vision in Revelation 1 we are shown how Christ`s counsel and authority operates in relation to the Body of Christ. It is Christ in His administrative authority building the Body, the `called out ones,` and making them like unto Himself to rule & reign as King Priests with Him. (Rev. 1: 6)

Even now as we learn to rule over our own spirit, we enter into Kingship. Then when we mentor, pray & intercede for others we are learning our Priestly role unto God.
(Prov. 16: 32 2 Cor. 5:18 & 19)

Christ`s Counsel (Rev. 1: 14 & 15)

Let us now look at & meditate on Christ abilities as He counsels in wisdom, discernment & justice.

Wisdom - (`His head & hair were white like wool, as white as snow` Rev. 1: 14)

The head is that which denotes authority & controls the whole of the body. Christ as the Head of the Body, the KingPriest, oversees to its growth & function. This He does with wisdom and knowledge symbolised by the `white hair,` `a crown of glory.`

`The hoary (white) head is a crown of glory, if it is fund in the way of righteousness.` (Prov. 16: 31 KJ)

`Christ; in whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom & knowledge.` (Col. 2: 3)

In Revelation 2 & 3 we are given specific details of Christ`s wise handling of the Body as He counsels, encourages & warns. Now let us look at this wisdom from above & then see how Christ operates.

`The wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy & good fruits, without partiality & without hypocrisy.`(James 3: 17)

Wisdom is Pure.

Christ`s pure motive is that the overcomers will sit with Him as King Priests, on His throne in heaven. (Rev. 3: 21) To be an overcomer Christ knows that we must look to Him as our source & support. Thus Christ encourages where He sees believers trusting Him & also clearly warns where He sees error .

`I know your works, your patience....Nevertheless  I have this against you....`(Rev. 2: 2 â€“ 4)

Wisdom is full of Mercy.

Here we see Christ not `lording it over ` believers but offering mercy & forgiveness.

`Remember....repent....hold fast,.....he that has an ear....` (Rev. 2: 5 & 7)

Wisdom is peaceable, gentle, willing to yield.

`Behold, I stand at the door & knock. If anyone hears My voice & opens the door,I will come in to him & dine with him & he with Me.`(Rev. 3: 20)

What a singular touching picture this is of the Lord of the Universe with all under His command, thousands upon thousands at His bidding, yet He graciously `knocks` upon the door of our hearts. Christ does not assume control but respects each person`s choice. How wise He is for this is the only true basis of relationship â€“ freely giving & freely receiving.

Subject: Re: The Revelation
Posted by Marilyn Crow on Tue, 05 Nov 2013 21:24:14 GMT
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Discernment - (`His eyes like a flame of fire; ` Rev. 1: 14)

The eyes are often referred to as the `windows of the soul.` But Christ however can see way beyond our personalities to our very core, revealing the motives of our hearts. Something even we are not always aware of or can discern, for often we have mixed motives. The Lord`s `sight` is very clear though, & He brings to our understanding our impure motives & intents.

The Lord says, `I am He who searches the minds & hearts.`(Rev. 2: 23)

The Apostle Paul speaks of this process referring to it as a renewing of the mind. As we listen & obey the Lord, He shows us our wrong motives. Then looking to Him to change us we are continually being transformed.

`do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind,`(Rom. 12: 2)

The Apostle Peter speaks of stirring up the believer`s pure minds so they will be found by the Lord in peace, without spot & blameless. (2 Peter 3: 1 & 14)

Pure â€“ Gk. Word ` eilikrines` meaning genuine, sincere, pure.

This Greek word also has the thought of something being proven by the sunlight. What an accurate picture this is of `His eyes like a flame of fire,` like sunlight, for it is Christ Himself who is bringing to light -

`... the hidden things of darkness, & will make manifest the counsels of the hearts;`(1 Cor. 4: 5)

Justice - (`His feet were like fine brass, as refined in a furnace,` Rev. 1: 15)

Brass â€“ Gk. Word `chalkolibanon` meaning whiteness or brilliance.
Feet â€“ suggests our walk or way of life.

This symbolic picture then refers to the uprightness of all Christ`s dealings. He is perfectly just, & never misjudges, miscalculates or misunderstands any case in question.

This can be seen quite clearly when Christ is dealing with the `called out ones` of Thyatira. Christ declares to them that He is the Son of God. He is Divine and as such He will search their motives & judge those who are worshipping Satan. Many have not repented but have gone off into idolatry & the `deep things of Satan.` (Rev. 2: 18 â€“ 24)

On the other hand Christ is always just in His recognition of virtue, in His remembrance of trials endured & troubles encountered. He rewards every worthy achievement & recognises the sacrificial suffering of His people. To the `called out ones` of Smyna He says -

`Be faithful unto death, & I will give you the crown of life.`

Subject: Re: The Revelation
Posted by Marilyn Crow on Thu, 07 Nov 2013 00:24:45 GMT

Christ`s Authority (Rev. 1: 15 â€“ 18)

Let us now look at the last part of the vision in Revelation 1. Here we are shown the great & awesome authority & power of the `One like the Son of Man.`

His Commands - (His voice as the sound of many waters; Rev.1: 15)

The Lord`s voice is likened to the `sound of many waters.` Here, is not the roar of `thunder & lightning,` of God`s wrath, or the `voice like a trumpet` calling us, but the `sound of many waters.` These `waters` refer to many peoples & nations.

`Many waters` is a figurative language encompassing `lakes, rivers, streams, waterfalls, seas & oceans.` All representing the Lord speaking to many peoples on many different matters. In the context of Vision 1, with Christ as the Head, He is speaking to the peoples of the Body of Christ from all over the world. He is encouraging, exhorting, reminding, warning & chastising them.

`He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the `called out ones.`(Rev. 2: 7, 11, 17, 29. 3: 6, 13, 22)

We need to listen to the one whose voice is as the `sound of many waters.` What particularly is the Lord`s Spirit saying to us about our walk with Him, our character, our obedience & our relationships with others.

His Administration - (He had in His right hand 7 stars, Rev.1: 16)

What an amazing sight to behold as the Lord Jesus Christ stands holding as it were the stars of heaven. This is a symbolic picture of Christ the King with His royal sceptre to use as He wills. We are then told that the 7 stars are the angels of the called out ones.

`the 7 stars are the angels of the 7 churches.` (groups of called out ones) (Rev. 1: 20)

These are the ministering angels of the Body of Christ under His authority. These He directs to do His bidding. Christ is the one who planned the Body of Christ, & will carry it through to

completion. He is the Head of the Body & has complete administrative authority over it.(Eph.1: 20 â€“ 23, 4: 11 â€“ 13)

The symbolic picture of the 7 stars is also interesting & informative. In the book of Job we are told of the 7 stars, the Pleiades. (Job 38: 31) They are a magnificent constellation of millions of stars but only seven are visible to the naked eye. This group are more than three thousand billion miles away, yet Christ has decreed that they control our planetary system, drawing it on a vast orbit that takes a thousand years to complete one circuit.

What an amazing picture to show that the magnitude of Christ`s authority is beyond our human reckoning. It reveals that Christ, not only has the Administrative Authority over all creation, but He is supervising the Body of Christ over the centuries & throughout the world.

`upholding all things by the word of His power,...`(Heb. 1: 3)

His Word - (Out of His mouth went a sharp two-edged sword, Rev. 1: 16)

The sight of a sharp sword protruding from the mouth of the Son of Man graphically depicts the effectiveness of His Word. The first impression of this part of the vision is startling, & overwhelms the soul with awe. A concentrated gaze causes the heart to tremble & become terror stricken. Such an unrelenting figure seems altogether repellent & unapproachable.

The Apostle Paul gives us the meaning of the `sword.`

`The sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God.`(Eph. 6: 17)

Then in Hebrews we are told His Word is sharper than any two-edged sword.

`For the word of God is living & powerful, & sharper than any two-edged sword,` (Heb. 4: 12)

It may devour or deliver, prosecute or protect, smite or save, for it accomplishes that for which He sends it.

`Repent, or else I will come to you quickly & will fight against them with the sword of My mouth.`

(Rev. 2: 16)

`Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations.`(Rev. 19: 15)

Although frightful & final in judgement, His words are also filled with consolation.

`only speak a word, & my servant shall be healed.` (Matt. 8:8)

`Come to Me, all you who labour & are heavy laden, & I will give you rest.` (Matt. 11: 28)

`I have loved you. ... I also will keep you from the hour of trial which shall come upon the whole earth..` (Rev. 3: 9 â€“ 10)

Finally, the abiding authority of His Word is the absolute assurance of His complete victory over the enemy even of Hades & Death.

`Do not be afraid; I am the First & the Last.I am He who lives, & was dead, & behold I am alive forevermore. Amen. And I have the keys of Hades & of Death.`(Rev. 1: 17 â€“ 18)

Subject: Re: The Revelation
Posted by Gary on Thu, 07 Nov 2013 12:02:17 GMT
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Quote: Marilyn wrote: The symbolic picture of the 7 stars is also interesting & informative. In the book of Job we are told of the 7 stars, the Pleiades. (Job 38: 31) They are a magnificent constellation of millions of stars but only seven are visible to the naked eye. This group are more than three thousand billion miles away, yet Christ has decreed that they control our planetary system, drawing it on a vast orbit that takes a thousand years to complete one circuit.

Hi Marilyn,

I was wondering were you got this information. I highlighted it in bolder letters.

Jesus decreed it would control our planetary system? And it takes a thousand years to complete a circuit?

Finally three thousand billion miles away?

It only says in Job 38:31 Can you bind the cluster of the Pleiades,
Or loose the belt of Orion?

Gary

Subject: Re: The Revelation
Posted by Marilyn Crow on Thu, 07 Nov 2013 21:36:55 GMT
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Hi Gary,

Yes, I`m sorry I did not put references etc regarding that information. I have to go out now but will answer your good questions later.

Subject: Re: The Revelation
Posted by Marilyn Crow on Fri, 08 Nov 2013 06:00:54 GMT
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Hi Gary,

Thank you for drawing my attention by your questions that I stated this information as fact. And I can hear William saying it would be better to say, `It is thought that ....` & I would agree. Perhaps I could say, `it is plausible to think that.....`

And James, how great that you were reading of our Saviour`s awesome ability & authority in regard to the stars. Yes I too do not know who the `they,` are either.

Quote:`A Psalm speaking of the wonder of God:
"He telleth the number of the stars; He calleth them ALL by [their] names." Psalms 147:4
'They' say, whoever 'they' are, that there are millions, billions, of stars...however many there are;

God made them, He knows their exact location, He has them named, and He knows those names.
"Who is like unto Thee O LORD, who is like unto Thee..."`

Now to the Pleiades, the 7 stars.

`Who ...sets a seal upon the stars;.....Who makes the Bear, Orion & the Pleiades,...` (Job 9: 7 â€“ 9)
`Can you bind the chains of the Pleiades, or loose the cords of Orion? Can you lead forth a constellation in its season, & guide the Bear with her satellites? Do you know the ordinances of the heavens, or fix their rule over the earth? (Job 38: 31 - 33) `He who made the Pleiades & Orion...` (Amos 5:8)

Pleiades - `kiymah,` Hebrew word meaning a cluster of stars, seven stars.

Gillyann & Sage would find this interesting that the word comes from a root word `kuwmaz,` meaning a jewel. The Lord says to Israel -`And they will be Mine, says the Lord of Hosts, in that day when I make up my jewels:....` (Mal.3: 17 KJ)

This quote is from `Star Date.`

Quote:`Like veiled brides, the stars of the Pleiades -- the seven sisters -- hide behind diaphonous curtains of interstellar dust, which shine by reflecting sunlight from the bright stars. These bright stars, plus hundreds of fainter ones that belong to the same cluster, are about 400 light-years away. [NOAO/AURA/NSF]

Gary said -
Quote:`I was wondering where you got this information.`

My reference to this material was Dr. Charles J.Rolls from his book `His Glorious Name.` (1 of 5 books on the names & titles of Jesus Christ.) He was renowned on several continents for his encyclopaedic knowledge of Scripture & his radiant devotion to the Lord Jesus Christ. Educated at the University of Cambridge, Dr. Rolls has been a missionary in India, founder or dean of Bible schools NZ, Australia & USA. He mentions the German astronomer Madler, so I think this is where he read this information.

Gary questioning my statements.

Quote:`Jesus decreed it would control our planetary system?` `And it takes a thousand years to complete a circuit?` `Finally three thousand billion miles away?`

As I said with William in my ear, I should have said,` Some astronomers have thought.....`

Interesting that God has put it in His word for a reason.

`According to the purpose of Him who worketh all things after the counsel of His own will.` (Eph. 1: 11

Subject: Re: The Revelation
Posted by GWB on Fri, 08 Nov 2013 07:41:30 GMT
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If I understand you right, I will take the jewels. That is if it is myself or the gems some get from the rocks of this earth.

I will also cast them and me at His feet.

I can't do or endure anything without Jesus. Life is futile without Him. I think that is why I am believing for Revival. I see the walking dead when I drive down the street. I pray for their Salvation.

Without Him, I am nothing.

Subject: Re: The Revelation
Posted by GWB on Fri, 08 Nov 2013 10:49:27 GMT
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I am thankful for all of the info and input everyone has contributed to this thread and topic. It is all valuable and important.

In the end, in the VERY end, it does not matter how it all happens or pans out.

In the very, very end, we will all have to walk in the Spirit and do what He wants us to do everyday. That includes today, as I speak.

I hope this makes sense, but it starts NOW, regardless of what is happening in the world.

Jesus has a unique plan and purpose for all of us. He loves and cherishes all of us.

We are His kids. Abba, He is our Dad. I won't use Daddy because some have a problem with that term. I don't.

When I was a little girl, and I was Daddy's little girl, I used to crawl up into the lap of my Dad when he was reading the Sunday paper after church and dinner was cooking.

He used to read the comics to me when I was in his lap as I smelled the chicken and white milk gravy cooking for five hungry kids.

When I read the Word, I always crawl up into His lap and read it with Him. I do that today with my Heavenly Father.

I know it is important to be up on the headlines. I love prophecy and lining up it up with what is going on in the world.

I just want to gently remind all of us to keep our ears sharp and to be before Him in these perilous times.

Things are happening quickly. God is good and faithful. I am looking forward to His return. I, and my household, have a ticket on the first load going up!

Subject: Re: The Revelation
Posted by Marilyn Crow on Sat, 09 Nov 2013 22:05:25 GMT
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We have been looking at the great unveiling of the Lord Jesus Christ by the Father who desires us to know His Son`s true character & credentials. We have looked at Ch. 1 where Christ is revealed in detail as Head of the Body - His character & then His Sovereign Administration in counsel & authority. The next 2 chapters (2 & 3) reveal to us Christ building His Body.

As I post my notes I do appreciate comments, corrections & questions. Our purpose is as the Apostle Paul says, `To know Him....` (Phil. 3: 10) & that `we all attain ....the knowledge of the Son of God....`(Eph. 4: 13) So it is we now move on to know Him more through the written word by His Holy Spirit & experientially in our daily lives.

The 7 Stages of the Body of Christ. (Rev. 2 & 3)

The Lord Jesus Christ, the Head, has planned & is now building together the Body. The 7 cities, Ephesus, Symrna - Laodicea, represent this Body at different stages throughout the past two centuries. It is a complete overview, beginning at Pentecost & finally culminating when the Body will be `caught away,` to its eternal setting in glory. (Eph.4: 13 â€“ 16 1 Thess.4: 13 â€“ 18)

The Lord addresses each group particularly, giving words of commendation & encouragement or chastisement & warnings. We also are called upon to take heed as these trials & deceptions can come to all of us.

Today in the 21st century especially, each of the errors & difficulties are still evident, making discernment of truth & error so important. Christ then counsels each group presenting Himself in clarity & truth. The response is but to repent & obey His Holy Spirit.

`He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit is saying to the called out ones.` (Rev.2: 7)

Stage 1 & 2 â€“ The Beginning

From the very beginning of the Body of Christ we read that the Holy Spirit through the Apostle Paul, warned the believers of the difficulties ahead.

`Therefore take heed to yourselves & to all the flock,.....For I know this, that after my departure savage wolves will come in among you,....` (Acts 20: 29)

This is a vivid picture of the persecution many early believers faced. And this has continued right down through the centuries.

Stage 3, 4 & 5 - Deception

Then Christ the Head of the Body (through Paul) warns of false teachers with impure motives & wrong doctrines.

`Also from among yourselves men will rise up,speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after themselves.`(Acts 20: 30)

Perverse, Gk. Word `diastrepho` meaning to distort, misinterpret & corrupt.

Here we see that certain people from amongst the believers are not looking to the Lord as the Head, but desire to `rise up` & `lord it over ` others. They teach wrong doctrine, `perverse things.` How true that is even today.

Stage 6 & 7 â€“ Culmination

These two groups are in complete contrast to each other. One seeks Christ`s riches of His wisdom & knowledge, while the other group connects with the world`s system & seeks its riches & favours.

Subject: Re: The Revelation
Posted by Marilyn Crow on Sat, 09 Nov 2013 22:55:07 GMT
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Christ`s Counsel to the Body of Christ. (Rev. 2 & 3)

We will now look at the Lord dealing with each of the 7 groups. He encourages & comforts, or warns & exposes error, while revealing Himself afresh to each group as the answer to their problem. If we are a part of the Body of Christ then even today we are to heed what the Spirit is saying.

1.Ephesus - Division. (Rev. 2: 1 â€“ 7)

Christ reveals Himself to these believers as the preeminent one who has all power & authority walking in their midst.

`He who holds the 7 stars (angels), who walks in the midst of the 7 golden lampstands. (the Body of Christ)` (Rev. 2: 1)

7 in Heb. Means `to be complete.` Thus the complete Body of Christ.

He encourages & commends them for their patience, perseverance & testing of false apostles, & then points out a severe error â€“

â€œ...you have left your first love. Remember therefore from where you have fallen;â€• (Rev. 2: 4 & 5)

The believers had lost their `first love.` Their affection & allegiance was not on Christ, but on earthly support, so they had `fallen.` They looked more to their leaders rather than listening to the Lord. Divisions & factions had formed.

`I am of Paul,... I am of Apollos,` (1 Cor. 3: 4)
`I hear that there are divisions among you,...` (1 Cor.11: 18 & 19)

To be overcomers they need to `hold fast to the Head,` Christ, & not look to men as their Head.

(Col.2:18 & 19)

2. Smyrna - Persecution. (Rev. 2: 8 â€“ 11)

Christ comes to this group revealing Himself as the one with ultimate authority even over death.

Christ, `the First & Last, who was dead, & came to life.` (Rev. 2:8 & 10)

He tells the believers not to fear & that they will be tested for `10 days.`

10 â€“ Gk. Word `deka` - fig. for law, testing.
Day â€“ Gk. Word `hemera` - fig. meaning a period of time, judgement.

Thus the `10 days` is symbolic of a period of testing time that the believers through the centuries will have to undergo until God brings judgement. To be an overcomer we are not to fear suffering but be faithful even unto death. Man may take our physical life, but it is the Lord who gives eternal life.

Subject: Re: The Revelation
Posted by Marilyn Crow on Tue, 12 Nov 2013 00:11:00 GMT
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3. Pergamos â€“ False Doctrines. (Rev. 2: 12 â€“ 17)

Christ is revealed to these believers, as their judge, with the authority of His Word.

`He who has the sharp two-edged sword.` (Rev. 2: 12)

He commends them for professing His name & not denying their faith in Him. However, in their midst are those teaching wrong doctrine.

The Doctrine of Balaam â€“ Worldly (2 Peter 12 â€“ 22)

`who taught Balak to put a stumbling block before the children of Israel, to eat things sacrificed to idols, & to commit sexual immorality.` (Rev. 2: 14)

Balaam was teaching Balak to corrupt God`s people by tempting them to defile their separation from the world & abandon their pilgrim character. Similarly certain people were teaching believers to behave like the world bringing them back into bondage. This is spiritual adultery. The Lord points out to the believers that they are `dwelling` in the world, `where Satan`s throne is.`

â€œI know ....where you dwell, where Satan`s throne is.â€• (Rev. 2: 13)
`the whole world lies under the sway of the wicked one.` (1 John 5: 19)

World â€“ Gk. Word `kosmos,` meaning the moral system, order of the world.

The Doctrine of the Nicolaitans â€“ Hierarchical Control (`lording it over,` 1 Peter 5:2 & 3)

What were `deeds of the Nicolaitans` in Ephesus, now became a doctrine in Pergamos. The Doctrine of the Nicolaitans.

Nikolaos â€“ Gk. Words, `nikao` to conquer, & `laos` the people. To conquer the people.

Instead of local groups in homes ministering to one another, certain elders began `lording it over` many of the believers. This eventually developed into a hierarchical system of control, which we can still see today. This is the way the world operates & the Lord told his disciples they must not behave so.

`You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them,....yet it shall not be so among you.` (Matt. 20: 25 & 26)

The Apostle Paul also saw this wrong behaviour of leaders & chastises the people for coming under such bondage.

`For you put up with it if one brings you into bondage,..` (2 Cor. 11: 20)

The solution is to repent & know Christ`s Character as exemplified by Paul who was -

`gentle among you, just as a nursing mother....` & `we exhorted & comforted,...as a father..` (1 Thess. 2: 7 & 11)

Subject: Re: The Revelation
Posted by Marilyn Crow on Mon, 18 Nov 2013 05:22:58 GMT
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4. Thyatira â€“ Idolatry & Witchcraft. (Rev. 2: 18 â€“ 29)

Christ highlights His deity to these believers. He tells them that He is searching their motives & will judge those who are worshipping Satan.

`These things says the Son of God, who has eyes like a flame of fire, & His feet like fine brass;`(Rev. 2: 18)

The Lord encourages & commends them for their works, love,
service, faith & patience, but warns of the false prophets teaching heresy. The Apostle Peter also warned the early believers that there would be false teachers & false prophets rise up from among them who would bring in destructive heresies. These are works of the flesh â€“
idolatry sorcery, ...dissensions, heresies â€“ (Gal. 5: 19 & 20)

` `false prophets.....false teachers....who will secretly bring in

destructive heresies..... & many will follow their destructive ways...` (2 Peter 2: 1 & 2)

The Lord then addresses this (spiritual) harlotry, sexual immorality, where people bow down & venerate other so-called gods, or in their hearts follow false doctrines. (Num. 25: 1 & 2)

â€œbecause you allow that woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess, to teach & seduce My servants to commit sexual immorality ....I will cast her ...& those who commit adultery with her into great tribulation unless they repent of their deeds.â€• (Rev.2: 20 â€“ 22)

Queen Jezebel, of the Old Testament is often used as an illustration of someone bringing in heresies of witchcraft & idolatry to the people. (2 Kings 9: 22) One of the main heresies was imagining there was a `Queen of Heaven.` (Jer. 44: 17) Israel burned incense to this so-called deity, & venerated her image in the hope of protection. Even today this is a common practice keeping many in bondage.

The Apostle Paul also warns Timothy of these errors & gives some details of the false doctrines.

`in the latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits & doctrines of demons....forbidding to marry,....profane & old wives` fables,` (1 Tim. 4: 1 â€“ 7)

& `gullible women....always learning & never coming to the knowledge of the truth.`(2 Tim. 3: 6 & 7)

These people are continually looking for `secret knowledge` & teaching, beyond what God says in His Word. They do not have a firm foundation of the truth in Jesus Christ but are led on by their own fleshly desires.

There needs to be repentance, acknowledging Christ as the ONLY Son of God, not one among other Deities. It is He who `searches the mind & hearts,` His `eyes like a flame of fire`(2 Tim.2:15)

5. Sardis - Denominations. (Rev. 3: 1 â€“ 6)

Christ comes to this group of believers telling them He is the one with the Spirit of God & the administrative power over the Body of Christ.

â€œThese things says He who has the 7 (fold) Spirits of God & the 7 stars.` (Rev. 3: 1)

He exposes their trust in man-made denominations, a `name` they have made for themselves.

`I know your works, that you have a name,...` (Rev. 3: 1)
Name â€“ Gk. Word `onoma,` authority. & `onomai,` renown, to derive advantage from.

Denomination â€“ the act of naming. (The Concise English Dictionary)

Many in this group have prided themselves on their denomination rather than honouring the Lord Jesus Christ. They gain prestige from their allegiance to the organisation which has a standing in the world. They think that they are `alive,` but Christ says, they are `dead.`

The Apostle Paul speaks of such people who preserve all the outward form of religion, but don`t believe its true meaning

For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud...having a form of godliness, but denying its power..` (2 Tim. 3: 5)

Paul speaks of this `power.` It is Christ Himself whom we humbly believe died for our sins & is now risen, giving us His new life by His Holy Spirit.

`we preach Christ crucified....Christ the power of God...` (1 Cor. 1: 23 & 24)

The Lord then counsels these people to receive of the Holy Spirit, remembering how they first received life in Christ.

`Be watchful & strengthen the things that remain.....Remember therefore how you have received & heard; hold fast & repent.` (Rev. 3: 2 & 3)

Finally the Lord commends the few believers who have not put their trust in man`s denominations, but have looked to Him for their righteousness.

`You have a few names even in Sardis who have not defiled their garments, & they shall walk with Me in white, for they are worthy.`(Rev. 3: 4)

Subject: Re: The Revelation
Posted by Gary on Tue, 19 Nov 2013 10:28:23 GMT
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I just have to say one thing here, this is getting very interesting.

Gary

Subject: Re: The Revelation
Posted by GWB on Tue, 19 Nov 2013 10:58:13 GMT
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Agree.

Subject: Re: The Revelation
Posted by Marilyn Crow on Wed, 20 Nov 2013 00:30:55 GMT
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It`s wonderful to meditate on our precious Lord. Thank you for your encouragement, Gary & Gillyann.

6. Philadelphia â€“ Christ`s Purposes. (Rev. 3: 7 â€“ 13)

Christ reveals His Character (Holy) & His Purposes (True) to this group of believers, and then He opens up to them His riches of wisdom & knowledge.

`These things says He who is Holy, He who is true, .....See I have set before you an open door...`(Rev. 3: 7 &

Christ`s Character.

`He who is holy .....` (Rev. 3: 7)

Holy â€“ Gk. Word `hosios,` meaning right by intrinsic or divine character.

As Christ reveals His divine character to these believers they are changed into His likeness.(2 Peter 1: 4) They are not partial or sectarian but have a love for all the brethren, the Body of Christ. This is shown by their name which reveals their character..

Philadelphia - `Philos` - fond, & `adelphos` - brother, meaning - love of the brethren.

They have a desire to see the Body of Christ come to full maturity.

`...speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head â€“ Christ - `(Eph. 4: 15)

Christ`s Purposes

These believers are given the true riches in Christ, a full understanding of Him, His character & His purposes so they can help the Body of Christ come to full maturity. This is symbolised by `the key of David.

`He who has the key of David, He who opens & no one shuts, & shuts & no one opens.` (Rev. 3: 7)

The key of David unlocked Israel`s national treasures, but Christ unlocks His treasures, the true riches of wisdom & knowledge of Himself. An `open door` means access to this true wisdom & knowledge of Christ. (Phil.3: 8 â€“ 10)

`Christ,..... in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom & knowledge.`(Col. 2: 3)

The wisdom & knowledge of Christ`s purposes involves an understanding of the 3 groups - The Body of Christ, Israel & the Nations. ( 1 Cor.10: 32) Knowing Christ`s purposes for each group brings a clarity to God`s word. Christ & His purposes are the centre, not us.

Believers then can clearly see what is happening on the world scene & speak confidently but humbly to others of what God is doing & why. This brings encouragement & growth in others. Then many who were in error will gain understanding, acknowledging that God says of the Philadelphia ones -

`I have loved you.` (Rev. 3: 9)

Subject: Re: The Revelation
Posted by Marilyn Crow on Wed, 20 Nov 2013 20:39:49 GMT
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7. Laodicea - Man`s Purposes. (Rev. 3: 14 â€“ 19)

Christ reveals Himself to this group as the Originator (Beginning) & the one who will Terminate all things, (Amen) plus the one who oversees all in between. It is His purposes that will prevail, not man`s.

`These things says the Amen, .....the Beginning of the creation of God.` (Rev. 3: 14)

This group believe that by partnering with the world system they can transform & change the world bringing peace, hope & justice, through man`s efforts. This is shown by their name, which reveals their character & motives.

Laodicea - `Laos` - people, & `dike` - justice, meaning â€“ the people`s justice.

This is spiritual adultery, joining with the world & not relying on the Lord.

`..friendship with the world is enmity with God.` (James 4: 4)

Friendship â€“ from the Gk word, `philia` friendship & `philos` friend, associate, partner.

This group also look to the world for leadership techniques & business strategies, measuring their success by worldly standards.

`I am rich, have become wealthy, & have need of nothing.` (Rev. 3: 17)

The Lord however chastises them quite severely saying that He sees them as -

`wretched, miserable, poor, blind & naked -`(Rev. 3: 17)

This group should have been a `Witness` to the world of the power of God to change people.

They should have been `faithful` to show that it is by His Spirit people are changed, & not by man`s efforts â€“ promotions of organisations, entertainment, or big events etc.

They should have been `true` to God`s word declaring that He will judge the world, instead of saying that He is transforming it for the better.

The Lord `the faithful & True Witness` then addresses their watered down witness or `lukewarmness.` He tells them quite strongly, that unless they repent He will `vomit ` them out of His mouth.(Rev. 3: 16) He then counsels them to know Him as their source -

`buy from Me gold....white garments...& anoint your eyes...`(Rev. 3: 18)

Gold - Faith in Christ & not in man. (1 Peter 1: 7)

White Garments - Christ`s righteousness not man`s efforts. (Titus 3: 5 & 6)

Anoint your eyes - Insight by the Holy Spirit into Christ`s purposes, & not man`s purposes. (John 16: 13)

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Subject: Re: The Revelation
Posted by Marilyn Crow on Fri, 22 Nov 2013 04:32:25 GMT
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OVERCOMERS REWARD (Rev. 2 & 3)

When Christ promised the overcomers a reward it was not a new earthly body to live on the earth, as wonderful as that would be, but it was an incorruptible body like His that can dwell in the realms of the third heaven. And still more amazing is that the overcomers are sons of the most high, adopted into His family & given positions of authority & service as King Priests. What an inheritance! What a joy & a wonder for it is

- secured for us through Christ`s sacrifice,

`this Man, after He (Jesus) had offered one sacrifice for sins forever,..... has perfected forever, those who are being sanctified.` (Heb. 10: 12 & 14)

- shaped in us through His Spirit`s indwelling,

`We also who have the first fruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, eagerly awaiting for the adoption, the redemption of our body,....to be conformed to the image of His Son, `(Rom.8: 29)

- & kept for us by His continual intercession on high.

`He (Jesus) is able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him since He always lives to make intercession for them.` (Heb. 7: 25)

Although the overcomer`s reward is written in parts throughout Revelation 2 & 3, it comprises our full inheritance. Each part identifies â€“

The Reward - Eternal life in Christ Jesus, ruling as a King Priest.

The Tree of Life. (Rev.2: 7)
The Crown of Life. (Rev.2: 10)
The Hidden Manna. (Rev. 2: 17)
The White Stone. (Rev.2: 17)

When we shall rule - In time & eternity.

The Morning Star. (Rev.2: 28)
Power over the Nations. (Rev.2: 26 & 27)
Name in the Book of Life. (Rev.3: 5)

Where we shall rule - Through Christ, in all realms of God`s great kingdom.

Pillar in Temple. (Rev.3:12)
Name of God, New Jerusalem & Christ`s New name. (Rev.3:12)
Sit on Christ`s New Throne. (Rev.3: 21)

The REWARD

Christ`s Life. (The Tree of Life. Rev. 2: 7)

`God has given us eternal life & this life is in His Son.`(1 John 5:11)

Christ is the source of eternal life. He continually sustains & nourishes us in our life now & throughout eternity. The proof of this `life` is seen in our service & relationships with others. As we cooperate with the Holy Spirit we will experience the fruitfulness of a Christ led life.

Thus the picture of Christ as the `Tree of Life,` shows this fruitful life through us by the Holy Spirit. Here are 12 aspects of service & relationships by the Holy Spirit, in which we operate

Now .....

`son, (Gal. 3: 26) heir, (Gal. 4: 7) steward, (1 Peter 4: 10) servant, (Eph. 6: 6) king, (Prov.25: 28) judge, (1 Cor. 6: 2 & 13) priest, (1 Peter 2: 5) holy one,(1 Cor. 1: 2) teacher, (Heb. 5: 12) citizen, (Eph. 2: 19) brother, (Heb. 2: 11) friend, (3 John 14).`

& in Eternity

We are sons of God, & an heir over His estate, functioning as stewards of possessions & servants of people.
We rule as Kings, making decisions, judging in righteousness.
We are also holy ones, priests giving praise to God & teaching others of His ways.
Finally in God`s great kingdom we have the privileges of citizenship in the third heaven with the fellowship of the brethren & friendship of others in different realms.

Christ`s Authority. (The Crown of Life. Rev. 2: 10)

This crown represents the authority to rule & reign with Christ. We are called of Christ to be King Priests, & then empowered with His authority â€“ the Crown of Life.

Crowns â€“ Gk. `stepho,` Victor`s Crowns - a badge of royalty.

`Blessed is the man who endures temptation; for when he has been approved, he will receive the Crown of life (royal life) which the Lord has promised to those who love Him.`(James 1: 12)

Other Crowns â€“ (Rev.4: 10)

Each overcomer will also be given specific authority & responsibility for specific areas of service in eternity. These are represented by other `Crowns,` which we will receive in relation to our obedience to the Holy Spirit.

(1 Thess. 2: 19, 1 Peter 5: 2 â€“ 4, 1 Cor. 9: 24 â€“ 27, 2 Tim.4:

Subject: Re: The Revelation
Posted by Gary on Fri, 22 Nov 2013 10:16:01 GMT
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Hi Marilyn,

I guess you realize that there is a distinction in overcoming in all things in this life. This may seem like an apparent contradiction but while we are not saved by works there is a price to pay for them who have the title "overcomers".

I am talking about what the scriptures reveal concerning this subject. It's to them that "overcome" in all things.

When a man becomes born again and is later Spirit filled, they are standing at the threshold of all that God has for them. Not everyone who comes to this threshold ends up "Overcoming in all things".

Quote:23 So He said to them, â€œYou will indeed drink My cup, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with; but to sit on My right hand and on My left is not Mine to give, but it is for those for whom it is prepared by My Father.â€•

Jesus said, to sit on his right hand and His left its not His to "give", but for those to whom it is "prepared" by the Father.

Christians are called to come to this overcoming place in Christ while on this earth but many fall short of pressing deeper in the Lord.

Do you understand what I am sharing here?

One more thing, just because this board has a title of overcomers, and just because any of us have set under any certain ministry does not make us a overcomer. We here have to pay the price and choose to go deeper in the Lord like everyone else in this life.

Lord Bless,
Gary

Subject: Re: The Revelation
Posted by Marilyn Crow on Fri, 22 Nov 2013 20:18:23 GMT
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Amen Gary, I agree.

It is not a light thing to be made like Jesus, & as He gave His all, we do also. It is a journey of `letting go,` of all that comes between Christ & ourselves & a receiving His life fashioned in us.

So wonderful it really defies explanation.

Marilyn.

Also, the prophecies I was talking to Gillyann about, from my grandmother show a lot of what we are saying. I`ll post some as I`m able & we can compare.

Subject: Re: The Revelation
Posted by Gary on Fri, 22 Nov 2013 22:05:28 GMT
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Marilyn Crow wrote on Fri, 22 November 2013 14:18Amen Gary, I agree.

It is not a light thing to be made like Jesus, & as He gave His all, we do also. It is a journey of `letting go,` of all that comes between Christ & ourselves & a receiving His life fashioned in us.

So wonderful it really defies explanation.

Marilyn.

Also, the prophecies I was talking to Gillyann about, from my grandmother show a lot of what we are saying. I`ll post some as I`m able & we can compare.

Your Grandparents sound like a real blessing from the Lord. I have read some on the Welsh revival but don't remember the history of what happened.

Was there not a revival that the whole country was saved then the minister stepped down from the ministry so as not to receive any glory? Or am I thinking of something else here.

Anyway would love to read some of your grandmothers prophecies. I assume you have heard of Anna Schrader (sp*), I have a number of her prophecies as well. Most of them apply to the time the outpouring was going on in America at local congregations.

Gary

* sp stands for not spelled right, I'm too tired tonight to check the spelling so I'll use Gillyans method.

Subject: Re: The Revelation
Posted by Marilyn Crow on Sat, 23 Nov 2013 00:05:46 GMT
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Hi Gary,

No I had not heard of Anna Schrader. Would be interested to read of what the Lord gave through her to the Body. I have just asked William if we can have a new category for the prophecies.

I think what you have said about the Welsh revival was right. I heard from my mother that the Welsh ponies down in the pits didn`t respond to the miners directions straight away, (after conversion)because the ponies were used to the men swearing at them!!!! And then of course the men were then praising the Lord for their new life.

Also the pubs in many villages closed because the people turned from drink to the Lord. Wonderful.

Subject: Re: The Revelation
Posted by Mark L on Sat, 23 Nov 2013 01:37:37 GMT
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Was your mother welsh?

My mother was as well. Born in the Rondda valley raised in Swansea. I'm probably going there next year

---

Subject: Re: The Revelation
Posted by Marilyn Crow on Sat, 23 Nov 2013 03:27:00 GMT
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Hi Mark,

Welsh. Do you sing? I so remember the men`s voices as they praised the Lord, so deep, so full of emotion, just awesome.

But no I am not Welsh, but Australian from English & Scottish parents. Can you read Welsh? I have some prophecies in Welsh.

A lot of the prophecies (I have) came from Penygroes in Wales, at the yearly convention. Truly, wonderful words from the Lord that still speak to us today. I am writing some out to post on OO.

Hope you are able to go to Wales. Have you been before?

Blessings, Marilyn.

Subject: Re: The Revelation
Posted by Marilyn Crow on Sat, 23 Nov 2013 06:10:19 GMT
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Christ`s Character. (The Hidden Manna. Rev.2: 17)

`Jesus said, â€œ I am the bread of life. Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, & are dead.... I am the living bread,..... It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing. (John 6: 48 -50, & 63)

Bread is bought to nourish those who are alive; but Christ, the Bread of God imparts life eternal. The physical bread we eat is from wheat or other grains, grown in the ground from whence our bodies are derived. The calcium, silicon, iodine, iron, phosphates etc in an organic form are packed into the wheat in order to build up our strength.

In like manner, if we are to become partakers of spiritual life & immortality we must eat the Bread of God, which is made up of righteousness, goodness, lovingkindness, graciousness, perfectness, holiness & such like which result in Christ likeness.

To believe Christ & receive Him is to appropriate & partake of the Bread of God , (Christ`s character) which came down from Heaven. In doing so the result is life everlasting, because these divine virtues are imperishable. Therefore the gift (reward) of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Our Christ Likeness & Function. (The White Stone with our New Name. Rev.2: 17)

`Coming to Him as to a living stone,....precious...you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood,...` (1 Peter 2: 4 & 5)

This shows that the living likeness of Christ, the precious Stone, is imprinted on every redeemed soul. And every living stone built in the spiritual structure of this celestial house, has become a partaker of the divine nature.

To have our own new name written on that `white stone,` is to have our specific character & function identified. We are individually set in the Body of Christ with a specific purpose & function.

`...now God has set the members, each one of them, in the body just as He pleased.`(1 Cor. 12: 18)

Subject: Re: The Revelation

Posted by Mark L on Sat, 23 Nov 2013 14:48:00 GMT
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Hi Marilyn

Do I like to sing? Is the pope Catholic? ha ha. My mother loved singing. Me too. It is an undisputed fact that no one can sing like the welsh can.I have some music on cassette given in the Wales and Dales conference in the early 90's that my parents attended. A mans voice raised in praise to God. Deep deep and inspiring. I was going to try and copy it to the computer and post it here but the tapes are not good quality. Maybe I'll try anyway.

My mum spoke welsh. Because of the influence of her sister she never taught me. I can however count to 5 in welsh. One of the great regrets of my life.

Be very interesting to read those prophesies. Please do post what you can. We were in England last year. I wanted to go "home" to Wales but we were with other people who set the agenda.

I've heard all my life about this exotic place called Wales. I think we are going next year.

I think part of the reason salvation came to my house is because of the prayers of some deeply godly people in my family history saved in the welsh revival.

Subject: Re: The Revelation
Posted by Marilyn Crow on Sat, 23 Nov 2013 22:49:32 GMT
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How wonderful Mark. yes we thank the Lord for people praying for us. Here now are the final 2 pages of Vision 1 in the book of Revelation. I have also done Vision 2 & am finishing Vision 3. Hopefully next year I will be able to complete the whole of Revelation.

Subject: Re: The Revelation
Posted by Marilyn Crow on Sat, 23 Nov 2013 22:58:02 GMT
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When we shall Rule. In Time â€“ when Christ Appears. (The Morning Star. Rev. 2: 28)

The morning star is the herald of the coming day. It is seen only by the `watchers,` or the early risers. In the spiritual heavens, Christ is also the Bright & Morning Star. (Rev. 22: 16) He is the One whom we eagerly await. We look to His `appearing.` (2 Tim.4:8)

Appearing â€“ Gk. `epiphaneia,` meaning â€“ manifestation, brightness, to become visible, conspicuous.

And when Christ `appears,` we shall become like Him, changed & taken to glory.

`When Christ, who is our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory.`(Col. 3: 4)

In Time â€“ during the Tribulation & the Millennium.(Power over the Nations. Rev.2: 26 & 27)

The appearance of the morning star only intensifies the darkness of the night. So between the appearing of Christ as the Morning Star (for the Body of Christ) and His coming as the Sun of Righteousness (for Israel & the Nations. Mal. 4:2) there will be a period of great darkness, known as the Tribulation. (Matt. 24: 21)

`Immediately after the tribulation of those days.... all the tribes of the earth will mourn, & they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds with power & great glory.` (Matt. 24: 29 & 30)

The tribes & nations of the world that go through into the Millennium are then ruled with a `rod of iron.` This designates that there will be immediate consequences for wrong actions. (Zech. 14: 16 â€“ 19)

The overcomers however, seated with Christ in glory, will have `power over these nations,` ruling with Him as King Priests. (1 Cor. 6: 2 & 3, Rev. 3: 21)

In Eternity. (Name in Book of Life. Rev.3: 5)

Finally when the thousand years are completed & Satan is dealt with, then comes the time of the great Judgement. This is at the great white throne where all the books are opened. The overcomers seated with Christ in glory are not judged at this throne having been `washed in the blood of the Lamb.` Their names are written in the Book of Life which leads into an eternal reward

in God`s great kingdom. Eternal life, Christ`s life forever manifested in them.(Rev. 20: 7, 11 â€“ 15)

Subject: Re: The Revelation
Posted by Gary on Sun, 24 Nov 2013 12:37:59 GMT
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Quote: But no I am not Welsh, but Australian from English & Scottish parents.

Marilyn,

I was wondering how you Grandparents were involved in the Welsh revival. Did it spill over into your country? It would be interesting if you have time to share their testimony.

This is exciting to know someone who was there and seen what took place, or were influenced by its effect on Wales.

My Grandparents who moved here from Ireland were Christians. All of my Aunts and Uncles on my Mom's side are Christians today as well. My Uncles who I never met were Ministers, both died early on in life when I was young. I don't know if Ireland was influenced by the Welsh revival as I do not know much on this history of what took place.

Gary

Subject: Re: The Revelation
Posted by Marilyn Crow on Mon, 25 Nov 2013 08:38:04 GMT
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Gary,

I will certainly prepare some notes on the Welsh Revival & also some notes I have in relation to Ireland.

Blessings.

Subject: Re: The Revelation
Posted by Marilyn Crow on Mon, 25 Nov 2013 08:48:11 GMT
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Where we shall Rule.

In Christ â€“ A Holy Priesthood. (Pillar in God`s Temple. Rev.3: 12)

The Temple was Israel`s storehouse of national treasures. This is symbolic of Christ, the true temple in whom are all the treasures of wisdom & knowledge. (Col.2: 3)

As a `pillar in the temple,` we are part of God`s spiritual house, we are in Christ. We are the `holy priesthood,` that speaks forth the wisdom, knowledge, & counsel of Christ.

`you are..... a Royal Priesthood,.... that you may proclaim the praises (virtues, excellencies) of Him who called you...`(1 Peter 2: 9)

Ruling in 3 Realms. (Name of God, Name of the City of God, the New Jerusalem & Christ`s New Name. Rev.3: 12)

A `Name` is used to give the character, function & authority of a place or person.

The New Name of Christ. This is His New position as King Priest over the New order of King Priests in the third heaven. (Rev. 3: 21)

The Name of the city of God, the New Jerusalem that comes down out of the third heaven to the Universal area over the earth. (Rev. 21: 2)

The Name of God is His authority over all His vast kingdom. This includes the new earth peopled by Israel & the nations. (Isa. 66: 22 Rev. 21: 24)

The overcomers are given authority in Christ in all these realms.

With Christ â€“ King Priests.(Sit on Christ`s New Throne. Rev.3: 21)

These are the overcomers whom Christ has matured & brought to the 3rd heaven where they will rule & reign with Him as King Priests on His throne. To `sit on the throne,` doesn`t mean inactivity in one place but rather refers to having authority and responsibility from the 3rd heaven. This is the `high calling`in Christ which Paul encourages us to aim for.

`I press toward the goal of the upward (on top / high) call of God in Christ Jesus.` (Phil. 3: 14)

`To him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My throne...`(Rev. 3: 21)

Subject: Re: The Revelation
Posted by Gary on Mon, 25 Nov 2013 08:53:22 GMT
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Marilyn Crow wrote on Mon, 25 November 2013 02:38Gary,

I will certainly prepare some notes on the Welsh Revival & also some notes I have in relation to Ireland.

Blessings.

Thanks Marilyn it will be interesting to hear what happened. I was blessed to hear of the ponies not responding to the men's new language. LOL

I can see where the animals did not understand them.

I heard a true story once on the nightly news. A man in France bought some cattle from a man in Spain. When evening came the man went out and called the cattle to come in for the night as he kept them in a corral for protection. The cattle just stood and looked at the man and did nothing. He thought something was wrong with the cattle. He called the other farmer from Spain who came over to see what the problem was. So he called the cattle and they came right up to the corral.

The problem was the one man was speaking to them in French while the man from Spain spoke to them in Spanish. The cattle literally did not understand French.

What a change for the ponies to only hear cursing and swearing and then later to hear praises and hallelujahs.

Good story from the revival days.

Gary

Subject: Re: The Revelation
Posted by Marilyn Crow on Mon, 25 Nov 2013 09:01:18 GMT
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Gary,

You`ll be interested to read the connection between the Welsh revival & Ireland. I just found the notes today while looking through some old Christian booklets from early last century.

Subject: Re: The Revelation
Posted by GWB on Mon, 25 Nov 2013 15:40:15 GMT
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This is getting good! I love hearing about this time of revival.

To have someone who has notes connected to all of that is a blessing!!!
