



† “And behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to give to every one according to his work. ¹³ I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End, the First and the Last.” Revelation 22:12 NKJV

Welcome to Revelation chapter one.

Revelation aka the Apocalypse with all of its symbolic imagery does have quite the reputation of being each frightful and almost impossible to comprehend.

The good news is with the proper interpretation of Scripture as the Apostle John intended for us to do Revelation then opens up and the best part is for the believer those found in Christ Jesus Revelation is nothing to fear at all.

This is because Revelation is a play on the Greek word Apocalypse that scary End Times Last Days word that means death and the destruction of everything right?

Well, not really.

What Revelation or Apocalypse in Greek really means is to “reveal” as in the revealing of Jesus Christ as the Messiah the Son of GOD the 2nd person of the Trinity the Living Word portion of GOD now and forever more Divine born human as in His Revelation His revealing unto those who believe in Him.

We shall see all the bizarre Figurative Symbolic Allegorical & Metaphorical images contained within Revelation are in fact literal fulfillments of prophecy for specific events people and places that those images represent.

First off Revelation is an outline of timelines plural.

Chapters 1-3 are the Church Age.

4-5 are from Heaven’s perspective.

6-19 is the Trib/Great Tribulation aka Daniels 70th week from Israel’s vantage point.

20 is “Thy” Kingdon Come. (Millennial Age)

21-22 is not the End but rather when Eternity begins. (including Judgement day)

So, just as all roads led to Rome all prophecy concludes in Revelation.

As in every promise and requirement GOD ever made to all peoples in all times.

1 Adamic Covenant: Genesis 1-6 GOD’S solemn formal Holy contract with Adam & Eve.

2 Noahic Covenant: Genesis 8-9 Post Flood additional instructions & promises to Noah’s family.

3 Abrahamic Covenant: Genesis 15 Abraham & Sarah given promises and assurances.

4 Mosaic Covenant: The Ten Commandments & other Laws of GOD unto each Israel & humanity.

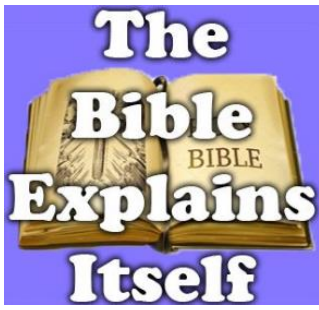
5 Davidic Covenant: 2 Samuel 7 GOD promises an eternal Divine human King Messiah High Priest.

6 Grace Covenant: The 4 Gospels detail a New Covenant/Testament of Grace by Faith in Jesus.

7 Kingdom Covenant: When all Covenants converge in Christ fulfilling Prophecy as a day of rest.

Within ancient languages numbers have meaning & the number of 7 in the Bible is GOD’S number.

1 As in perfect Spiritual completeness.



As we begin dear Bible studying friends. Remember the Bible always explains itself & a good concordance with a reputable study Bible are great helpers! Biblehub.com even has these for free.

Rev.1-3 NIV

✝ The revelation from Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show his servants what must soon take place. He made it known by sending his angel to his servant John, ² who testifies to everything he saw—that is, the word of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ. ³ Blessed is the one who reads aloud 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.

John said Blessed is the one who reads this book & double Blessed is the one who understands because John wrote Revelation in Christian code.

Say what?

John the Apostle Christ our Lord's cousin remember that fact now advancing in years was incarcerated as in prison & exiled to the isle of Patmos a Greek island in the Aegean Sea by the Roman Emperor Domitian where he felt John the last of the original 12 Apostles could be of no further influence.

This was approximately 91-96 AD/CE 60 years give or take after Jesus's ascension into Heaven and 20-25 years after Rome had destroyed and dispersed Israel for rebellion in 70 AD.

John now an expert in the scriptures was led by the Holy Spirit to compose and record Revelation in a manner that would not get his writings confiscated by Roman prison censors.

In fact; within the 22 chapters of Revelation there are 404 total verses having no less than 278 Old Testament scriptures directly quoted and over 500 references to other verses meaning you must read the whole Bible to understand Revelation making knowing the Bible a double Blessing.

Ok if John was such a problem for Domitian why did he not just execute him?

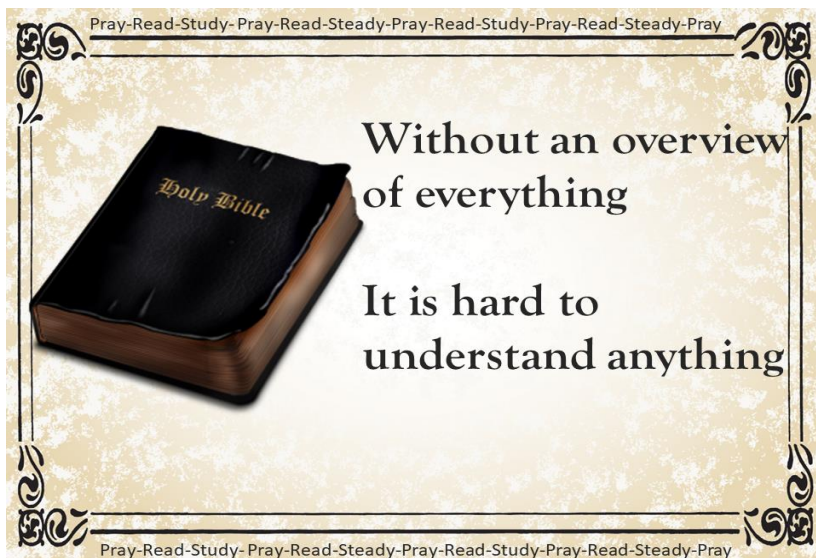
He tried and failed and the rumor that John would live until Jesus returned only grew stronger.

Tertullian & Jerome each do record that John was arrested & taken to Rome and at the Latin gate he was boiled alive in a cauldron of oil.

The source of the rumor that John would remain until Jesus returned

✝ So Peter, upon seeing him, (John) said to Jesus, "Lord, and what about this man?" ²² Jesus said to him, "If I want him to remain until I come, what is that to you? You follow Me!" ²³ Therefore this account went out among the brothers, that that disciple would not die; yet Jesus did not say to him that he would not die, but only, "If I want him to remain until I come, what is that to you?" John 21:21-23 NASB

Jesus did NOT say John would live until He returned but only that John would live to see His return. This study is witness that John lived and saw what will be the Revelation of Jesus our Christ.



It is Impossible to understand Revelation without reading and knowing the entire Bible.

So Blessed is the person who reads Revelation & double Blessed is the one who understands.

Because John knew this meant they had to read all of the Scriptures to get it.

Rev. 4-5a RSV

✠ John to the seven churches that are in Asia:
Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, ⁵and from Jesus Christ the faithful witness, the first-born of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth.

John just addressed this Letter- GOD'S Revelation to the 7 Churches.

Notice the number of 7 again the number of perfect Spiritual completeness.

But why these 7 out of hundreds of Churches in that area at that time? (Turkey today)

We shall see that this means in essence to all Christendom in the Age of Grace.

John also said this letter to the Church is from all 3 of the Trinity. Father ~ Son ~ Holy Spirit

Father "who was and is & is to come" the "7-fold Holy Spirit" and of course "Jesus."

As in all 3 are writing to the Churches.

Ok, the 7 events of Revelation are caused by & for the 7 characters of Revelation.

1. The Revealing of Jesus Christ
2. Revealed unto the world
3. So, unbelievers repent from
4. Satan
5. & his antichrist
6. With his false prophet
7. Before GOD ends this system of things

Isaiah chapter 11 details for us the 7-fold attributes of the HOLY Spirit.

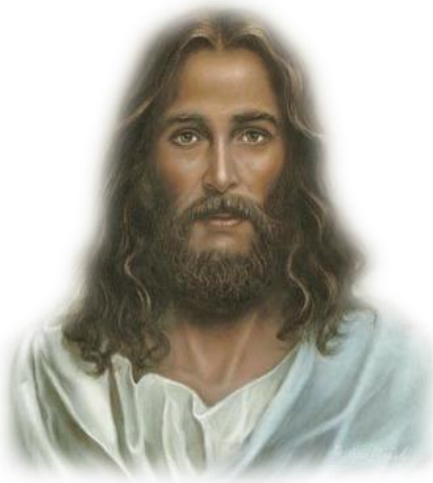
✠ And the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him,(Messiah/Christ) the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD;

Isaiah 11:2 KJV

His ever presence, wisdom, understanding, counsel or guidance, His strength to do or endure all things through the Lord. The Spirit gives His knowledge with His wisdom to know when and how to do things with a respectful fear or reverence for GOD.

✠ To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood, ⁶ and has made us kings and priests to His God and Father, to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

⁷ Behold, He is coming with clouds, and every eye will see Him, even they who pierced Him. And all the tribes of the earth will mourn because of Him. Even so, Amen.⁸ “I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End,” says the Lord, “who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.”



John just revealed Jesus is returning literally physically and all will see Him including especially Israel who rejected Christ. The details to follow in this Revelation are in fact the details of Christ's return.

The return of the one and only mighty Divine Savior King worthy of Worship & Praise who purchased and redeemed His Bride the Church with His very Life's innocent blood paying our Sin debt under GOD'S Law unto His Father.

GOD'S Law proves we are Sinners unable to be Holy & clean. Grace by Faith means Jesus our eternal High Priest cleans & redeems us as Jesus makes it plain; I AM the Alpha & Omega. The first and last letters of the Greek alphabet meaning I AM all I AM GOD.

✠ For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Romans 6:23KJV

Notice those seeing Jesus's return will weep either in joy or in fear because of their accountability. Now as for Jesus coming and going upon the clouds: The Apostles saw Jesus Ascend to Heaven on a cloud and the Prophet Daniel was given the vision of Jesus's arrival in Heaven after departing the Earth in a cloud.

Departure

✠ After he said this, he (Jesus) was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight. ¹⁰ They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. ¹¹ “Men of Galilee,” they said, “why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven.”

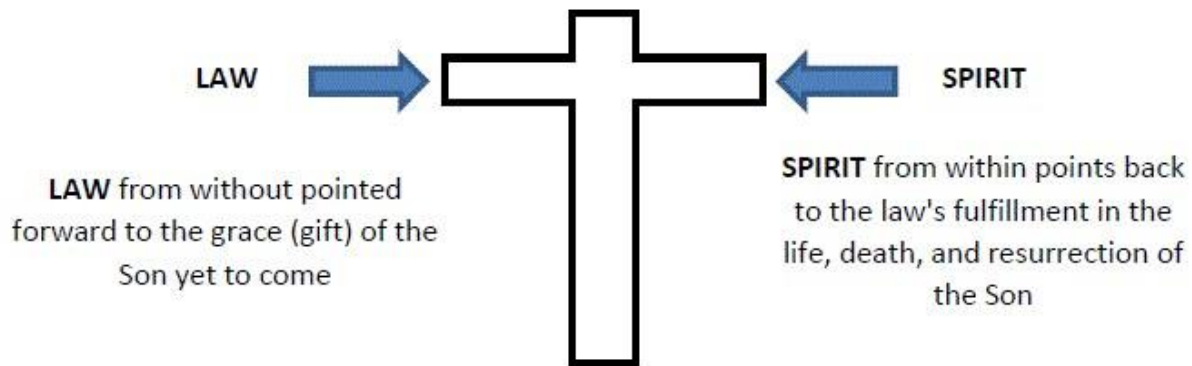
Acts 1:9-11 NIV

Arrival

✠ I kept looking in the night visions, And behold, with the clouds of heaven One like a son of man was coming, And He came up to the Ancient of Days And was presented before Him.¹⁴ And to Him was given dominion, Honor, and a kingdom, So that all the peoples, nations, and populations of all languages Might serve Him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion Which will not pass away; And His kingdom is one Which will not be destroyed. Daniel 7:13-14 NASB

4 Notice Daniel saw the yet to be Millennial Thy Kingdom Come given to Jesus by Heavenly Father.

The Old Testament looked forward to the cross while the New Testament looks back.



Rev. 9-11 ESV

✚ I, John, your brother and partner in the tribulation and the kingdom and the patient endurance that are in Jesus, was on the island called Patmos on account of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. ¹⁰I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet ¹¹saying, "Write what you see in a book and send it to the seven churches, to Ephesus and to Smyrna and to Pergamum and to Thyatira and to Sardis and to Philadelphia and to Laodicea."

The Revealing Apostle first identifies himself as the one seeing the coming Tribulation & Millennial Thy Kingdom to Come as John then reminds everyone of his imprisonment on the Greek isle of Patmos. Patmos is approximately 13 miles square & about 40 miles off the western coast of modern-day Turkey. In John's day Patmos was a Roman prison stone quarry primarily for quartz. Today Patmos is a tourist spot famous for the grotto cave where John lived while given Revelation.

When John 85 plus years old says he was in the Spirit on the Lord's day this remains as one of the hot topic issues of Revelation. As in was John saying a Sunday because by now Christians had already begun worshiping on Sunday the Lord's Resurrection day as this also avoided the Saturday Sabbath confrontations with traditional Jews.

Or was he saying he was taken by the Holy Spirit to THE "Lord's Day" which in scripture is always in reference to the Second Coming of Messiah Christ.

As for the voice like a Trumpet; Silver Trumpets were used in the Temple as well as previously by Moses for Israel in the Wilderness. When the Trumpet sounds it was meant for attention not unlike a police or fire siren meaning a voice of authority to pay attention.

John was instructed to write Revelation to THE as in 7 specific Churches out of hundreds as in our first clue Jesus was selecting specific Churches because they represent something He wants to convey. (We will detail this out further for each Church in Revelation 2 & 3.)

Rev. 12-16 NASB

✚ Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking with me. And after turning I saw seven golden lampstands; ¹³and in the middle of the lampstands I saw one like a son of man, clothed in a robe reaching to the feet, and wrapped around the chest with a golden sash. ¹⁴His head and His hair were white like white wool, like snow; and His eyes were like a flame of fire. ¹⁵His feet were like burnished bronze when it has been heated to a glow in a furnace, and His voice was like the sound of many waters. ¹⁶In His right hand He held seven stars, and out of His mouth came a sharp two-edged sword; and His face was like the sun shining in its strength.

The 10 reasons for Prophecy

- 1.Proves GOD’S Word True
 - 2.Proves the Bible is GOD’S Word
 - 3.Shows GOD is in control
 - 4.Shows GOD is Love
 - 5.Details Redemption plan
 - 6.Proves GOD’S Power & Authority
 - 7.Proves GOD Holy & to worship only
 - 8.Promises to punish evil
 - 9.Persuading repentance & Salvation
 - 10.Giving proof our trust in GOD is real
-

The next few verses of Revelation will explain the 7 lampstands & stars so let’s move on to the description of our Glorified Christ Jesus who is the one speaking like a trumpet to John.

As for Jesus’s white hair being eternal our Lord’s Age is incomprehensible to us.

Here is a strange but true fact; this description of Jesus the Savior or Judge of humanity:

✝ For the Father judgeth no man, but hath committed all judgment unto the Son: John 5:22 KJV

Jesus being the Judge & His appearance in Revelation combined with this Proverb IS the reason Why? Courts and Tribunals Judges and Magistrates in ole times wore white wigs while on the legal bench.

✝ Gray hair is a crown of splendor; it is attained in the way of righteousness. Proverbs 16:31 NIV

Our Lord having Feet like Bronze/Brass is because the sacrificial for Sin Altar in the Temple was Bronze meaning Jesus is now personally Himself the eternal Altar of Sacrifice.

The long Robe and Sash are the Garments of the High Priest.

The sharp two-edged sword out of His mouth: (Remember Jesus IS the Living Word portion of Triune GOD)

✝ For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and spirit, of joints and marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. Hebrews 4:12-13 RSV

Last but not least is how the sheer brightness of the Glorified Christ is beyond any shining of the sun amazing radiating light.

Jesus also appeared in His eternal state before being born human to the Major Prophet Daniel:

✝ I (Daniel) raised my eyes and looked, and behold, there was a man dressed in linen, whose waist had a belt of pure gold of Uphaz. ⁶ His body also was like topaz, his face had the appearance of lightning, his eyes were like flaming torches, his arms and feet like the gleam of polished bronze, and the sound of his words like the sound of a multitude. Daniel 10: 5-6 NASB

Rev. 17-18 RSV

✝ When I (John) saw him, (Jesus) I fell at his feet as though dead. But he laid his right hand upon me, saying, “Fear not, I AM the first and the last, ¹⁸ and the living one; I died, and behold I AM alive for evermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades.

Ok, remember when at the beginning of this lesson it was stated to please remember the Apostle John was actually a cousin to Jesus our Christ? Meaning even after having family familiarity and having been with Jesus for the entirety of His first coming Advent of Ministry, then including John having seen Jesus personally Transfigure into Divine Holy Light but now-

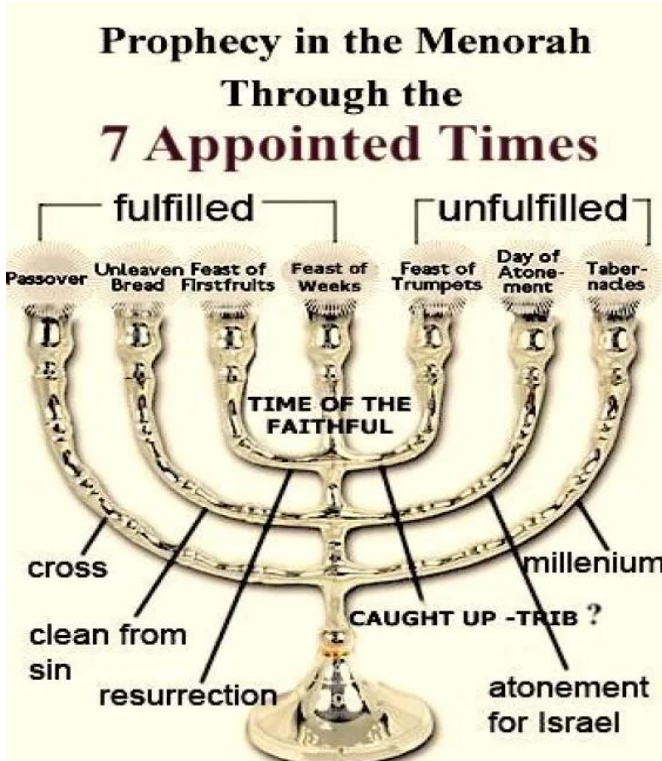
This same John the same man who had seen and been with Jesus literally for years, perhaps as a youth at family and Temple proceedings, certainly John witnessed Christ's miracles and had heard Him teach & Preach even seeing Jesus confront the Pharisee's but now John see's the Risen Glorified Christ in each His humanity meaning that John recognized Jesus as the Son of Man.

However, for the very first time our Revelating Apostle now see's Jesus with His full eternal Divine Holiness & even with John knowing Jesus as well as anyone could was in his own words TERRIFIED.

There is zero mystery in the words here that Jesus spoke to John. Yes, Christ confirmed He is the same man who was crucified, died, then arose and ascended into Heaven.

While our Lord in His Glory now displays His Deity and His Words proclaim I AM. (2nd of the Trinity)

As for Jesus having the keys to death & Hell, Jesus is confirming what He informed the Apostles after His Resurrection after having lived Faithfully as human Father Jehovah GOD then entrusts Christ our Lord having human experience with all Judgement. (John 5:22)



Christ our Lord seen standing in the center as in the focus of the 7 Lampstands He will soon explain their meaning.

Because these 7 Lampstands are something new.

In the Old Testament the original Menorah found in Exodus 25:31-37 represented the 7-fold perfection pattern of GOD giving His light to Israel & the nations.

Likewise, the 7 light Menorah each light matched a specific GOD given Jewish feast/holiday.

Yes, today modern Menorah have 9 lights with the addition of 2 more by Sages (Rabbi/Scholar)

As in intended for good but not directed to do so by GOD.

As in adding in Superstition & Tradition.

Israel is infamous for mixing in paganism & astrology

☆ You also carried along Sikkuth your king and Kiyyun, your images, the star of your gods which you made for yourselves.

Amos 5:26 NASB

Rev. 19-20 NIV

✝ Write, therefore, what you have seen, what is now and what will take place later. ²⁰ The mystery of the seven stars that you saw in my right hand and of the seven golden lampstands is this: The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands are the seven churches.

Jesus has just instructed John to write what was past,(Jesus Ministry) present,(Church Age) & future.(Tribulation)

More and more Theologians and Bible scholars are coming to this same conclusion that John a first century fisherman turned Preacher felt that he had nothing more to offer than the Gospels of Matthew,(detailed Taxman) Mark,(educated & with Apostles in Jerusalem) & Dr. Luke had already recorded.

So, he as of yet had not & until instructed by Christ Himself composed His Gospel.

Perhaps this is the reason Why? the Gospel of John is wonderfully unique.

The other three Gospels have a common viewpoint called “Synoptic” as in how a man Jesus was GOD. Whereas the Gospel of John takes the direction of How? GOD became a man.

You know; because no one on Earth was qualified to present that viewpoint until John saw Jesus in His Glorified form in Heaven.

For the record; the Roman Emperor Domitian the one who exiled John to Patmos was killed on September 18, 96 AD at 44 years of age. This was the exact timing as for the completion of the Book of Revelation by the Apostle John who had lived long enough to see Christ & His GOD given Coming Kingdom.(John lived until he saw Christ’s Second Coming Advent as Jesus said he would. John 21:22-23)

Eusebius the early Church historian records upon Domitian’s death John was released from Patmos and returned to Ephesus where he once served as Bishop.

The Apostle Paul founded Ephesus and established it as the very first Christian Seminary.

Later Bishoped by John and now by one of John’s previous students.

The story goes John returned to Ephesus with Revelation in hand where it was reproduced and distributed as John spent his last years doing as Jesus had instructed him to do composing the Gospel of John oft criticized for its non scholarly fisherman turned preacher simple language.

However, after serving a lifetime for Christ and then having a vision of Jesus as well as being Raptured to see the Tribulation from Heavens perspective-

Point being John may have used simple words but his Doctrine, Theology, & teachings are beyond master level making the Gospel of John one of the most beloved books in the Holy Bible.

The 7 Lampstands with their 7 Angels are the 7 Churches selected for their characteristics to be representative of all 7 Church eras in the Age of Grace. As in from the time of the Apostles until Rapture. This because there were hundreds of Churches in the Asia region alone and thousands elsewhere. Revelation chapters 2-3 detail the entirety of the Bride of Christ the Church Age.

John’s Christian Code:

Old Testament references in chapter 1.

1:1 Dan . 2:28, 29, 45

1:4 Exod . 3:14; Isa . 41:4

1:5 Pss . 89:27; 130:8; Isa . 40:2

1:6 Exod . 19:6; Isa . 61:6

1:7 Dan . 7:13; Zech . 12:10, 12, 14

1:8 Exod . 3:14; Isa . 41:4; Amos 3:13 LXX; 4:13 LXX

1:13 Ezek . 9:2, 11 LXX; Dan . 7:13; 10:5

1:14 Dan . 7:9

1:14–15 Dan . 10:6

1:15 Ezek . 1:24; 43:2

1:16 Isa . 49:2 1:17 Isa . 44:6; 48:12

1:19 Isa . 48:6 LXX; Dan . 2:28, 29, 45

(LXX = Septuagint)

For those who contend Revelation was fulfilled in 70 AD:

Revelation was composed 25 years after the Roman destruction of Jerusalem making that assumption an impossibility.

For those who say Revelation is allegorical:

The Epistle to Barnabas

Justin Martyr

Irenaeus

Tertullian

Hippolytus

The Didache (Recordings of Apostles teachings)

& more all call Revelation literal.

Predating
all Church
Denominations

The 3 Keys For unlocking Bible prophecy

1. Time
No conflicts
are allowed

2. Context
Must be
kept in place

3. Content
All passages
to be used

You must :
Pray for
Discernment
& be
Patient



JESUS



Isaiah



Revelation



Daniel



Jeremiah



Ezekiel

You must :
Be prepared
To be
Surprised &
Stupefied



**Psalms &
Scripture**



**Paul &
Peter**



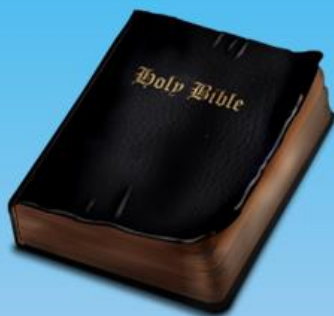
**Not so Minor
Prophets**

You must :
Persistently
& Faithfully
Study Study
& Study

You must :
Be prepared
To Surrender
Preconceived
Notions

Recently i was asked a very good question one that made me think of how could i share: why sometimes i

Use the original Greek or Hebrew & likewise the customs, culture, & traditions of 1st century Israel



The short answer is this; English is a very lazy language. It has not the fine detail or sophistication of the ancient languages of Hebrew,(Old Testament) Greek,(New Testament) or even Latin.(Roman)

So at times we loose the flavor or intricate details that a refined language brings to us just by the use of particular words or phrases or even inferences or references that are completely lost in English.

As far as historical or social statements quite often information will be mentioned in passages that a person of the 1st century would automatically just understand. We have to look back to get that.

So,... Sometimes scriptural verses in English are like watching a color movie on an old black and white TV set.

We get the plain meaning but the intricate beauty or assumed detail can be lacking.

Our example of why:

Love is 1 word in English, there are 7 words for Love in Greek each with a different meaning.

I Love GOD, my mother, my wife, my child, my dog, or even chocolate each "Love" is a different word in Greek.