

# “Should I Worry About the End Times?” Study Guide

## Lesson 10: Unlocking Revelation

### Outline

1. VIEWS OF REVELATION
  - a. Preterist: Most (if not all) of Revelation relates to events which took place in the first century shortly after it was written.
  - b. Historicist: Revelation tells events that began in the first century but continue through the next two millennium and end at the second coming of Christ, whenever that will be.
  - c. Futurist: Most (if not all) of Revelation relates to things that still have not happened. They will happen just before the end of human history.
  - d. Idealist: Revelation paints a picture of the struggle between good and evil that happens to be true at all times.
  - e. Eclectic: Some of all of the above!
2. GUIDELINES
  - a. The book of Revelation tells you when it would happen.
  - b. The book of Revelation tells you where some of it would happen.
  - c. The book of Revelation tells you that it is written using figurative language.
3. WHEN IT WOULD HAPPEN
  - a. REVELATION 1:1
  - b. REVELATION 1:3
  - c. REVELATION 22:10
  - d. REVELATION 22:20
4. WHERE (SOME OF) IT WOULD HAPPEN
  - a. REVELATION 11:8
  - b. “where also their Lord was crucified.”
  - c. Jerusalem, 70 AD
5. FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE
  - a. REVELATION 1:1
    - i. “made it known”
    - ii. “From σημεια a sign. Hence, literally, give a sign or token. ... The word is appropriate to the symbolic character of the revelation ... Compare sign, Rev. 12:1.” (Vincent’s Word Studies in the New Testament)
  - b. REVELATION 12:1
  - c. REVELATION 1:12-20
6. OUTLINE
  - a. 1-3: Prologue
  - b. 4-11: Visions of Victorious Christ
  - c. 12-21: Visions of Victorious Church
  - d. 22: Epilogue
7. THE CRISIS
  - a. The persecution from Jewish sources would diminish when Jerusalem fell in 70 AD.
  - b. The persecution from Roman sources would last longer but the church would survive it.
8. THEME: REVELATION 2:10
9. SUMMARY

- a. Christ wins.
- b. Pick a side.
- c. Don't be stupid.

### Discussion Questions

1. Think about how you have previously understood the book of Revelation. Does it fit into the guidelines discussed in this lesson?
2. Is it possible to get the "big idea" out of Revelation without understanding all of the details?