

# Revelation Bible Study

## An Introduction

- *Revelation* means unveiling or a disclosure. The noun is singular, describing the entire Book as a unified revelation from and about Jesus. (TLSB)
- The Apostle John, one of the twelve apostles of Jesus, is the author of this book. He also authored the gospel and epistles named after him. He was the only apostle who did not suffer martyrdom.
- The setting was during a time of Caesar worship. Caesar worship was the one religion which covered the whole Roman Empire. Once a year everyone in the Empire had to appear before the magistrates in order to burn a pinch of incense to the godhead of Caesar and say "Caesar is Lord." After that they could worship any god they liked as long as the worship was decent and orderly. Some within the church were advocating a policy of compromise. It would have been the politically correct thing to do.
- John's purpose was to encourage the faithful to resist staunchly the demands of emperor worship. The central theme is Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you the crown of life. (Revelation 2:10)
- Revelation cannot be read and interpreted like most of the other books of the Bible. It is a kind of writing that is highly symbolic. It uses codes such as: numbers are symbolic, colors have meaning, and powerful visions of very strange creatures abound. Many parts of the code come from the OT and were understood by the people to whom John was writing. – Of 404 verses, 278 are from OT.
- For better understanding of Revelation it's a good idea to keep Matthew 24-25 in our mind's eye.

***Remember, Revelation is a book of comfort to the Christian!!***