

PREPAREDNESS

Revelation 1:1-3
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We prepare our children for life ahead and our loving God provides the book of Revelation to prepare us.

God Gives His Church Arrangement (v. 1)

1. The key to tremendous blessing in the book of Revelation is at the beginning (v.1).
2. The blessing begins as soon as the message of God is made known. No long wait-period.
3. "The revelation" is God's plan to provide a clear presentation of his love and what we need to know.
4. I crave knowledge of arrangements. God provides! It brings clarity and certainty.
5. What "must soon take place" (**Rev.1:1,7**) proclaimed by John and other NT writers:
 - Matt. 24:30, 34; 16:28 – the son of man is coming within a generation, before people known to John die
 - Rom. 13:11, 12; 16:20 – a crushing of Satan is "soon"
 - 1 Cor. 7:26, 29, 31 – an appointed time of distress had grown "very short"
 - Heb. 10:25, 37 – "the Day is drawing near," "yet a little while"
 - James 5:8, 9 – "the coming of the Lord is at hand . . . at the door"
 - 1 Pet. 4:7 – "end of all things is at hand"
 - Rev. 22:20 – "I am coming soon"
6. God's first-generation plan gives us confidence he is working his plans today.
7. Objections:
 - Revelation events are primarily in the future because of God's timing (see 2Pet.3:8).
 - First-generation Revelation events are repeated again and again until the final coming of Christ.

God Gives His Church Aim (v.2)

1. The Revelation is not the words of man. Why does he tell us this?
2. Read **Proverbs 4:1-13**.
3. Revelation is not speculations about end-times but treasure from God for now (Rom.15:4).
4. We are obligated to learn from Revelation (2Tim.3:16).

God Gives His Church Assurance (v. 3)

1. Describe who gets God's promised blessing in v.3? God can bless who he wants!
2. The blessing referred to is like Luke 11:28; James 1:25; and Psalm 1:1-3.
3. There is no waiting for thousands of years in frustration and confusion before God blesses his church.
4. The word "near" in v.3 is also in Matt. 24:32 and brought great blessing to hurting saints.