

SUMMARY

REVELATION

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REVELATION 1:1-3	
Revelation 1:1-3:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In these verses John explains the origin and purpose of the Revelation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Origin: from God, through his angel ◦ About: Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour ◦ To show: the things which will happen soon ◦ Command: to read and to listen
Special Question:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What does the word “soon” mean? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Does it mean: The Things which are prophesied are confined to the life time of the first century Christians? ◦ Does it mean: The things which are prophesied will start soon, but extend to the end of times?

REVELATION 1:4-8	
Revelation 1:4-8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The apostolic greeting • A Trinitarian greeting • Following the pattern of the ancient tabernacle < IMPORTANT • About Jesus Christ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ He is faithful witness – the crucified one ◦ He is first born of the dead – the resurrected one ◦ He received all power – the glorified one
Special feature:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responsive reading
	Reader: 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, and from Jesus Christ the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth.
	Hearer: To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.
	Reader: Behold, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him, and all tribes of the earth will wail on account of him.
	Hearer: Even so. Amen.
	Reader: "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, "who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty."
Old Testament:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • made us a kingdom, priests to his God = Exodus 19:5,6

	REVELATION 1:4-8
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him = Zachariah 12:2

	REVELATION 1:9-22:21	
Structure:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The main body of the Revelation is divided in two main chapters John uses the following words: 	
	Words	Place
	I was in the Spirit (1:10)	Patmos
	I was in the Spirit (4:2)	Heaven
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are therefore two chapters: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Revelation 1:9-3:22 2. Revelation 4:1-22:20 And the end of the second chapter we find again two times “in the Spirit” 	
	Words	Place
	He carried me away in the Spirit (17:3)	Wilderness (Babylon)
	He carried me away in the Spirit (21:10)	High mountain (New Jerusalem)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The angel of the Lord is showing John the fate of the city of Babylon and the promised New Jerusalem 	

	CHAPTER 1.: REVELATION 1:9-3:22	
Contents:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This first chapter consists of two parts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The vision of the glorified Christ 2. The seven messages to the seven churches 	
Revelation 1:9-20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The vision of the glorified Christ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Old Testament background: Daniel 7:13-14 Be aware of the many similes, some are explained, others not Christ commands John to write of the things of <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the past = past of the time writing, the first century the present = present at the time of writing the future 	
Revelation 2-3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The seven messages to the seven churches Overview: each message contains the following aspects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Command to write Presentation of the risen Christ – referring to Revelation 1:9-20 Compliment and Encouragement (not all the churches!) 	

	CHAPTER 1.: REVELATION 1:9-3:22
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Criticism and call to repentance ○ Promise and Threat – all promises refer to Revelation 21:9-22:21 ○ Summons to listen to the Spirit
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The problems the churches are facing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The first love, the most important in faith (Ephesus; 2:4) ○ Threats from the government and the Jewish synagogue (Smyrna; 2:9-10) ○ Persecution by the government and instigated by Greek religion, Asklepios, the god of healing (Pergamum; 2:13) ○ False teaching, trying to avert persecution by adaptation to the culture (Balaam, Nikolaitans; Pergamum; 2:14) ○ False prophecy, by claiming special experiences and revelations – Jezebel (Thyatira; 2:19-23) ○ Lack of obediency towards Christ, a death faith (Sardes; 3:1-2) ○ Threats by the Jewish synagoge (Philadelphia; 3:8-9) ○ Lukewarm faith (Laodicea; 3:15-18)
Application	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All these problems are found in the churches today
Background	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Throne of Satan (2:12): this is a reference to the government (throne) who sentenced Antipas to death, instigated by Greek religion (Asklepios, who has as sign the serpent; Satan) • Lukewarm (3:16): Jesus compares the faith of this church with the believers of Hierapolis, where hot water springs are found (hot) and with the believers of Colosse, where cold water springs were found. Laodicea received water from Hierapolis. This water was lukewarm when it arrived in the city Laodicea was a rich city, because of the banks (money), wool-industry, and eye-salve industry. Jesus refers to these industries