

“Blessed *is* he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for the time *is* at hand. Rev 1.3

Revelation of
Jesus Christ

- The ancient Greek word translated **Revelation** is *apokalupsis* (apocalypse). The word simply means “a revealing, an unveiling.” The Book of Revelation is the **Revelation of Jesus Christ** in the sense that *it belongs to Him*, He is the one doing the revealing. It is also Jesus’ **Revelation** in the sense that *He is the object* revealed; Jesus is the person revealed by the book.

Predictive
Prophecy

- **Things which must shortly take place:** This describes *when* the events of this book will **take place** — they will happen **shortly**, and they **must** happen **shortly**. This means that the Book of Revelation is a book of *predictive* prophecy. It speaks of things that will happen in the future — at least future from the time of its writing

Promised
Blessings

- **Reading....The prophecy**
- **Hearing...The Prophecy**
- **Keeping.. The Prophecy**

The four basic approaches people have used through the centuries to understand Revelation

a. **The Preterist View:** This approach believes that Revelation dealt only with the church in John’s day. In the *Preterist* approach,

b. **The Historicist View:** In the *Historicist* approach, Revelation predicts the future, but the future of the “church age” — not the future of end-time events. In the *Historicist* view, Revelation is full of symbols that describe *now*.

ic. **The Poetic View:** This approach believes that Revelation is a book full of pictures and symbols intended to encourage and comfort persecuted Christians in John’s day.

d. **The Futurist View:** This approach believes that beginning with [chapter four](#), Revelation deals with the end times, the period directly preceding Jesus’ return. In the *Futurist* view, Revelation is a book that mainly describes the *end* times.