

THE MYSTERY OF HISTORY

Revelation 3:1-3

January 6, 2019

The book of Revelation begins by rebuking our complacency and challenging us to see life from God's perspective in 5 ways:

1. Your life should be a PARTNERSHIP ... with the PERSON of Revelation! (Rev. 1:1)

...Jesus is the PERSON unveiled for us by the book of Revelation so that we can LIVE in PARTNERSHIP with Him.

2. Your life has a PLAN ... shaped by the PLAN of Revelation! (Rev. 1:1b)

- The symbolism of NUMBERS is important in understanding Revelation!
- #2 symbolizes a WITNESS, VALIDATION and CONFIRMATION of the truth.

...God ordered 2 STRUCTURES for the book of Revelation to VALIDATE the truth of His plan for HISTORY and your LIFE :

A. Structure 1 ... has 3 parts:

1. Chapter 1: The GLORY of Jesus "...things that you have seen..." Rev. 1:19
2. Chapter 2-3: The GRACE of Jesus "...those that are..." Rev. 1:19b
3. Chapter 4-22: The GREATNESS of Jesus "...those that are to take place after this." Rev. 1:19c

- #3 symbolizes GOD : The FATHER, the SON and the HOLY SPIRIT.

...The 1st structure of Revelation demonstrates that God is in CONTROL of all CREATION and HISTORY and that it is His PLAN for CREATION, HISTORY and your LIFE that matters.

B. Structure 2 has 7 parts:

- #7 is the combination of 2 numbers:
 - #3 which symbolizes GOD!
 - #4 which symbolizes EARTH !
- #7 symbolizes EARTH crowned with HEAVEN which is PERFECTION !
- #7 is the symbol for PERFECTION !

THE MYSTERY OF HISTORY

Page 2

...The 2nd structure of Revelation consists of 7 divisions with each division having 7 parts revealing JESUS as the PERFECTER of CREATION and HISTORY :

1. Chapters 1-3 ... The 7 CHURCHES!

...Who Jesus is – Where to SEE HIM !

2. Chapters 4-7 ... The 7 SEALS !

...Where JESUS moves – Reclaiming CREATION !

3. Chapters 8-11 ... The 7 TRUMPETS !

...What JESUS does – sets things RIGHT !

4. Chapters 12-14 ... The 7 PERSONS !

...Who JESUS deals with – SATAN and his followers!

5. Chapters 5–16 ... The 7 BOWLS !

...When JESUS finishes – He wipes EVERYTHING CLEAN !

6. Chapters 17-20 ... The 7 JUDGEMENTS !

...Why JESUS moves – Why He must set things RIGHT !

7. Chapters 21-22 ... The 7 NEW THINGS !

...What JESUS establishes – He launches the NEW BEGINNING .

...If God can so meticulously PLAN the completion of HISTORY and CREATION , don't you think He can also PLAN the completion of your LIFE ?

3. Your life has a PURPOSE ... Determined by the PURPOSE of Revelation. (Rev. 1:1c-2)

...God sent an encoded message of HOPE to His servants so that, like John, we would live out our PURPOSE to bear witness to 3 things:

A. The WORD of God "...the word of God..." Rev. 1:2a

B. Our ENCOUNTER with Jesus "...the testimony of Jesus Christ..." Rev. 1:2b

C. Our EXPERIENCE with Jesus "...even to all that he saw..." Rev. 1:2c

