

## REVELATION: THE BOOK OF GLORY

Revelation  
By Raymond White

The Book of Revelation is difficult — there's no denying that. Anyone who says differently is kidding themselves. But God gave it to us for a reason and though we have to struggle with it, we should at least understand its core message.

After Jesus ascended to heaven, the church needed to understand what his life meant. That knowledge is recorded for us in the epistles of the New Testament: Acts through Revelation. In Acts, for instance, the opening message is:

*Acts 8:33 In his humiliation judgment was taken.*

*Acts 17:3 Christ must needs have suffered.*

*Acts 20:28 Feed the church of God which he hath purchased with his own blood.*

But that's a sad message: humiliation, suffering, "his own blood." And all that trouble just because of us. Yes, we need to understand the atonement and accept our dying savior who paid so high a price to purchase our souls.

But isn't there a brighter side to all this? Well, there is.

*Acts 2:24 Whom God hath raised up.*

*Acts 15:11 Through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ we shall be saved.*

Well that's part of the answer. Jesus rose from the dead and we will be saved. But still, you have to wonder, is there anything else? He did all that for us, what's in it for him? When does he get the glory he deserves that we are quit happy to give him?

After all, he did pray: **John 17:5** *O Father, glorify thou me.* When does that happen? And Paul did write: **Philippians 2:10** *Every knee should bow :11 And...every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*

When does all of that happen?

It all happens in the Book of Revelation. So let's take a whirlwind tour of this marvelous book at the end of the Bible.

**Revelation 1:1** *The Revelation of Jesus Christ.*

The very first thing to notice is that this book is not the revelation of John as the title says, it is the revelation of Jesus Christ.

**Revelation 1:7** *Behold he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen. :8 I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.*

Now that's glory. When he returns, everyone will know it, everyone will see it. And he identifies himself as the almighty.

**Revelation 5:2** *And I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, Who is worthy to open the book, and to loose the seals thereof? :3 And no man in heaven, nor in earth, neither under the earth, was able to open the book, neither to look thereon.*

Fair question. Who indeed is worthy to hold the fate of the world in his hands? Not me. Not anyone I know. No politician, no general, no celebrity, nobody has the right to take title to the earth — except one person.

**Revelation 5:9** *And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou was slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation.*

**Revelation 5:13** *And every creature which is in heaven, and on the earth, and under the earth, and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, heard I saying, Blessing, and honour, and glory, and power, be unto him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb for ever and ever.*

Jesus Christ is that one person who is worthy to hold the world's fate in his hands. He earned that right by being slain to redeem us. And our response to that? Finally, we acknowledge that he is who he has always claimed to be.

**Revelation 19:16** *And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, King of kings, and Lord of lords.*

As he deserves.

**Revelation 22:20** *...Even so, come, Lord Jesus.*

And the author, John, is anxious, as are we, to get on with it. Yes indeed, Jesus, come. The sooner the better. And claim the glory you deserve.

Without the Book of Revelation, all the rest of the Bible works to no purpose and arrives at no end. Without it, history has no conclusion. The Book of Revelation show us the judgment, the death, and the rebirth of the world, and man finally at peace with God. But most of all, it shows us Jesus Christ, finally in the glory he deserves.