

# **REVELATION: YEAR ONE OF THE FINAL 7 YEARS**

## **JAMIE MCNAB**

**3.8.24**

We began looking at the Book of Revelation last week.

**WE WILL BE BLESSED IF WE READ IT — AND KEEP IT!**

Chapter 1 is an introduction. **Jesus appears to John — to show “things that must shortly come to pass”**. But if it was written 1900 years ago ... how can that be?

**Then we saw that the whole book of Revelation is WRITTEN TO 7 SPECIFIC CHURCHES — for the end-times. THIS IS A KEY.**

**Revelation 1:10-11**

10 **I was in the Spirit on the Lord’s Day, (in vision)** and I heard behind me a loud voice, as of a trumpet,  
11 saying, **“I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last,”** and, **“What you see, write in a book and send it to the seven churches which are in Asia: to Ephesus, to Smyrna, to Pergamos, to Thyatira, to Sardis, to Philadelphia, and to Laodicea.”**

**THE PROPHECY — THE WHOLE BOOK — IS WRITTEN TO 7 SPECIFIC CHURCHES — and just these 7 — not to the other churches.**

**Revelation 22:7, 16**

7 **“Behold, I am coming quickly! Blessed is he who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book.” (WE ARE BLESSED JUST FOR READING THIS BOOK!)**

16 **“I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things in/for/about the churches. (In the 7 specific Churches of Asia Minor) I am the Root and the Offspring of David, the Bright and Morning Star.”**

**Blessed is the person who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book.**

**Jesus sent His angel to TESTIFY OF THESE THINGS ABOUT OR CONCERNING THE 7 CHURCHES.**

**Revelation 1:19**

**19 Write the things which you have seen, and the things which are, and the things which will take place after this.**

**HENRY ALFORD GREEK COMMENTARY: “Write the things which you saw and what things they signify and the things which will take place after this”.**

- 1. Write about Jesus — His appearance and His angel (the things you saw) and what they signify**
- 2. Things in the future (which starts with the letters to the 7 churches in chapter 2 — future!)**

**Revelation 1:19 (AMP)**

**19 Write therefore the things you see, what they are and signify and what is to take place hereafter.**

**There are only 2 categories. So the prophecies begin with Chapter 2 — the letters to the 7 Churches.**

**USUALLY THOUGHT TO REPRESENT:**

- (i) HISTORIC (in which case it will be of little relevance to us?)**
- (ii) TYPES OF CHURCH which can be found anywhere**
- (iii) 7 ERAS**

**Superficially the “7 Era” view seems prophetic. But — in reality ... most of the eras are said to have existed centuries ago. (Ephesus 1900 years ago ... Smyrna 1700 years ago). So most letters would be history — and of little relevance.**

**FOURTH OPTION: The entire book is for the end-time — including all 7 letters. When Jesus said the things would**

**shortly come to pass — He meant exactly that!** When He said the time is near — He meant it! **When He said he's coming quickly — He meant it!**

**MY SUGGESTION:** The 7 letters are to the saints in the final 7 years leading to Jesus standing on the Mount of Olives as the kingdom of God starts. One letter for each year ... probably linking in to each of the 7 Seals.

The letters are to instruct us ... advise and warn us the saints how to prepare and deal with the events of those final 7 years. (Daniel's 70<sup>th</sup> "Week")

These final 7 years will be very difficult. They will include the Antichrist and the Great Tribulation.

Hence the letters of Revelation 2 and 3!

I'm not going to go through the 7 Letters (check previous videos if you are interested 😊). But let's look at Letters 1 and 7 — Ephesus and Laodicea — and see how they illustrate this possible option (i.e. end-time letters).

Let's provisionally assume Year 1 coincides with Seal 1.

### **Revelation 6:1-2**

1 Now I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seals; and I heard one of the four living creatures saying with a voice like thunder, "Come and see."

2 **And I looked, and behold, a white horse. He who sat on it had a bow; and a crown was given to him, and he went out conquering and to conquer.**

- WHITE HORSE = DECEPTION
- TO CONQUER in GREEK= NIKAO = **USUALLY** TRANSLATED TO OVERCOME — THE TRUTH — THOSE WHO BELIEVE THE TRUTH

**In Year 1 serious worldwide deception begins.** An attempt to overcome truth. **Possible that the greatest deception will be Islamic? Mahdi?** (What the Muslims are waiting for)

Let's look at The First Warning that Jesus gave!

### **Matthew 24:3-5**

3 Now as He sat on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him privately, saying, **"Tell us, when will these things be? And what will be the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?"**

4 And Jesus answered and said to them: **"Take heed that no one deceives you.**

5 **For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and will deceive many.**

**TAKE HEED that no one deceives you!! A WARNING!**

### **Matthew 24:23-25**

23 *"Then (talking of the Great Tribulation period) if anyone says to you, 'Look, here is the Christ!' or 'There!' do not believe it.*

24 **For false christs and false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect.**

25 See, I have told you beforehand.

**FALSE CHRISTS (ANOINTED ONES) AND PROPHETS!**

Deception must be very powerful?

So — what does the first letter say?

### **Revelation 2:1-3**

1 **"To the angel of the church of Ephesus write,** 'These things says He who holds the seven stars in His right hand, who walks in the midst of the seven golden lampstands:

2 **"I know your works, your labor, your patience, and that you cannot bear those who are evil. And you have tested those who say they are apostles and are not, and have found them liars;**

3 **and you have persevered and have patience, and have laboured for My name's sake and have not become weary.**

You have tested — critically examined — those who claim to be specially sent by God. They're liars (Greek: PSEUDES = FALSE).

**Many will be overcome by deception** — but the saints seem able to see through it. At least ... early on. **If you know the Word well enough — you won't be easily deceived!!**

**Jesus reminds us that He's with the Church all the way (in the midst of the 7 lampstands).**

BUT:

**Revelation 2:4-5**

4 **Nevertheless I have this against you, that you have left your first love.**

5 **Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent and do the first works, or else I will come to you quickly and remove your lampstand from its place — unless you repent.**

They had **LEFT THEIR FIRST LOVE!**

**The Church** may be doctrinally accurate ("pure") — doing "works" ... but it has **left its first love. That's fatal!**

Jesus said **the FIRST AND GREATEST COMMANDMENT IS TO LOVE GOD — with all of your heart ... soul ... mind ... and strength** (and to love your neighbour as yourself). All prophecy hangs on these.

It seems that the saints have a good appearance (the externals) — but their heart is in the wrong place,

**LOVE — A FRUIT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT — will be key to making it through the following years!**

## Love won't be a "luxury"!

There are probably scores of verses we can all look at — but I'll look at just a couple:

### Galatians 5:6

6 For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, **but faith working through love.**

### Galatians 5:22-23

22 **But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,**  
23 **gentleness, self-control.** Against such there is no law.

## LOVE is the "first" fruit.

In Revelation 2:5 Jesus warns believers to **repent! Re-ignite love!** They'll need it.

**Or else ... Jesus will come quickly!** End-time scenario — not 100 AD.

### Revelation 2:6

6 **But this you have, that you hate the deeds of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate.**

They hate the deeds of the Nicolaitans — so does Jesus!

There is no benefit in looking for who these might have been back in "John's day"? **End-time.** But what about today?

**Nicolaitans comes from NIKAO + LAOS — Overcomers of the people (laity).** A probable reference to the huge number of deceivers at work — who will be leading many to their destruction.

They appear again in the Letter to Pergamos.

**SPECULATION!** 🤔 **There may be indirect links between Ephesus and Islam?** A recurring theme?

(You can't expect scripture to directly refer to Islam — since Mohammed came along circa 600 AD!)

For example: Ephesus was the location of the Great Temple to Diana (Greek: Artemis). One of the 7 Wonders of the Ancient World.

**Artemis was the Goddess of Hunting and the Goddess of the Moon — a “Moon God”.**

(You will see in the photo below that she has what looks like 2 small horns but is actually a crescent moon.)

**Allah is also believed to be a Moon God — a possible explanation of all of the moon crescents in Islam?**

(You can see in the photo below — there are lots of crescent moons in Islam.)

Another strong link (SPECULATION 🤔).

#### **Acts 19:1**

1 And it happened, while Apollos was at Corinth, that **Paul, having passed through the upper regions, came to Ephesus.**

#### **Acts 19:23-30**

23 **And about that time there arose a great commotion about the Way.**

24 **For a certain man named Demetrius, a silversmith, who made silver shrines of Diana, brought no small profit to the craftsmen.**

25 He called them together with the workers of similar occupation, and said: “**Men, you know that we have our prosperity by this trade.**

26 **Moreover you see and hear that not only at Ephesus, but throughout almost all Asia, this Paul has persuaded and turned away many people, saying that they are not gods which are made with hands.**

27 **So not only is this trade of ours in danger of falling into disrepute, but also the temple of the great goddess Diana may be**

**despised and her magnificence destroyed, whom all Asia and the world worship.”**

28 Now when they heard this, they were full of wrath and cried out, saying, **“Great is Diana of the Ephesians!”**

29 So the whole city was filled with confusion, and rushed into the theatre with one accord, **having seized Gaius and Aristarchus, Macedonians, Paul’s travel companions.**

30 **And when Paul wanted to go in to the people, the disciples would not allow him.**

There was a riot in defence of Diana (and the wealth of the craftsmen). They don’t want their money-making ruined.

#### **Acts 19:33-34**

33 And they drew Alexander out of the multitude, the Jews putting him forward. **And Alexander motioned with his hand, and wanted to make his defense to the people.**

34 **But when they found out that he was a Jew, all with one voice cried out for about two hours, “Great is Diana of the Ephesians!”**

**The same religious spirit and hostility might come across in future with “ALLAHU AKBAR” — Great is the God (of Mohammed) — mob mentality!**

#### **Acts 19:35**

35 **And when the city clerk had quieted the crowd, he said: “Men of Ephesus, what man is there who does not know that the city of the Ephesians is temple guardian of the great goddess Diana, and of the image which fell down from Zeus?”**

Along with the worship of Diana was the worship of an “image” — sacred stone — which fell down from Zeus.

#### **Acts 19:35 (ESV)**

35 ... **the sacred stone that fell from the sky?**

Very possible a special meteorite ... incorporated into the worship of Diana and kept in her shrine?



**Today — a black meteorite is the centre of worship for ALL MUSLIMS!**

**It is kept in the Kaaba in Mecca. MUSLIMS pray towards it 5 times per day.** At the annual pilgrimage — the Hajj — Muslims circle the Kaaba and — if possible — reach out to touch or even kiss — the black stone.

Perhaps not conclusive ... but the saints living in ancient Ephesus were opposed and persecuted by worshippers of the Moon Goddess whose worship included a meteorite — a sacred stone from heaven.

**In the end-time ... believers are likely to face great opposition and persecution from worshippers of the Moon God (Allah) whose worship includes a sacred black meteorite from heaven.** (See the photo below)

There are more indirect references to Islam in some of the other letters.

## **SUMMARY OF THE LETTER TO EPHEBUS**

### **In Year 1 of the final year:**

The believers will have to watch out for **widespread and major deception** (as the rider on the white horse goes forth). **That includes the Nicolaitans — “overcomers” of the people.**

**Keep the fruit of love alive.** Doctrine alone won't be enough!

### **Revelation 2:7**

7 “He who has an ear, **let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.** **To him who overcomes (NIKAO) I will give to eat from the tree of life, which is in the midst of the Paradise of God.” ’**

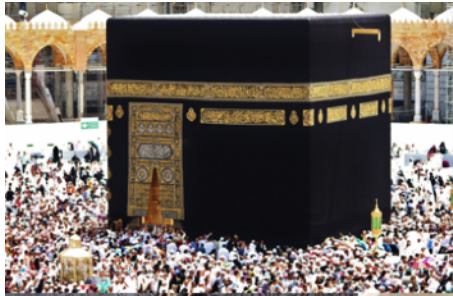
**IF WE OVERCOME ... OUR REWARD IS THE TREE OF LIFE IN PARADISE. IMMORTALITY. EVERLASTING LIFE.**

**LOVE THE TRUTH – OUR ANTIDOTE TO DECEPTION.**



I FIND THE MAHDI RECORDED IN THE BOOKS OF THE PROPHETS... FOR INSTANCE, THE BOOK OF REVELATION SAYS: "AND I SAW AND BEHELD A WHITE HORSE. HE THAT SAT ON HIM...WENT FORTH CONQUERING AND TO CONQUER."





**THE HAJAR AL  
ASWAD  
(BLACK STONE)**

