

## SERMON OUTLINE

**SERMON TITLE:** Panorama of Prophecy

**SERMON REFERENCE:** Revelation 1:3

**LWF SERMON NUMBER:** #1991

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## 1) INTRODUCTION

- a) The word “revelation” means “an unveiling.”
- b) The book of the Revelation is the revelation of Jesus Christ.
  - i) Revelation 1:1
  - ii) It is the unveiling of Jesus Christ.
    - (1) The word “apocalypses” means “an unveiling.”
    - (2) It is a disclosure of the Lord Jesus Christ, His power, and His glory.
- c) Today’s message will present a panoramic view of the last days.
- d) God gives us a blessing by studying this book.
  - i) Revelation 1:3
  - ii) The book of the Revelation is a blessing book.
  - iii) If someone wants a blessing, then they need to study Bible prophecy.
- e) What God began in Genesis finds its climax in Revelation.
  - i) Revelation is the golden clasp that holds the Bible together.
  - ii) In the book of Genesis, we find the creation of the Heavens and the Earth.
    - (1) In the book of the Revelation, we find the creation of the new Heavens and a new Earth.
  - iii) In Genesis, we find paradise lost.
    - (1) In Revelation, paradise is regained.
  - iv) In Genesis, man is driven from the tree of life.
    - (1) In Revelation, man is invited back to the tree of life.
  - v) In the book of Genesis, we see the beginning of heartache, toil, sorrow, and pain.
    - (1) In the book of the Revelation, we come to a time where there is no more sickness, sorrow, pain, or dying; for the former things are passed away.
  - vi) In Genesis, there is the record of the first death.
    - (1) In Revelation, we read that there will be no more death.
  - vii) In Genesis, there is the first Adam and his bride Eve.
    - (1) In Revelation, there is the last Adam and His bride, the church.
- f) Revelation 1:19 is the key that unlocks the book of the Revelation.
  - i) The Apostle John was given a commission to write this book.
  - ii) This verse gives God’s outline for the book of the Revelation:
    - (1) Write the things which you have seen.
      - (a) This is the first division of the book and the shortest division.
    - (2) Write the things which are.
      - (a) This is the second division of the book.
    - (3) Write the things which shall be hereafter.
      - (a) This is the third division of the book.
- g) When we understand these three divisions (God’s outline), then the book of the Revelation will open up before us.

## 2) THE FIRST DIVISION: THE THINGS WHICH YOU HAVE SEEN

- a) The first division is the first chapter of the book of the Revelation.

- b) The Apostle John was in exile on the island of Patmos for preaching the Gospel.
  - i) When men shut him out, God lifted him up and gave him the vision of what we call the book of the Revelation.
- c) The Apostle John was in the Spirit on the Lord's Day and had a vision of the Lord Jesus Christ.
  - i) Revelation 1:10-11
    - (1) "Alpha" and "Omega" are the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet.
    - (2) Jesus is the "Alpha" and the "Omega."
      - (a) He is the beginning and the end.
      - (b) All of the wisdom of God is in the Lord Jesus Christ.
      - (c) He is the Word of God.
  - ii) Revelation 1:11-19
    - (1) John was told to write the things that he had seen.
    - (2) This passage of Scripture means that there is a Man in the Glory.
      - (a) The Lord Jesus, who is God, has taken His humanity to Heaven.
      - (b) He is forevermore a Son of Man.
        - (i) Jesus, who was the Son of God, spoke of Himself as the Son of Man.
          - 1. This was His favorite term for Himself.
      - (3) He had the garment of a priest and a judge.
      - (4) His voice was like the roaring of the ocean.
      - (5) John fell at His feet like a dead man.
      - (6) John had a vision of Jesus.
- d) There are two sides to the nature of Jesus.
  - i) He came the first time as the Lamb of God.
    - (1) He is coming the next time as the Lion of the tribe of Judah.
  - ii) He came the first time as a Savior.
    - (1) He is coming the second time as a Judge.
  - iii) He came the first time despised and rejected of men.
    - (1) He is coming the next time as the King of kings, Lord of lords, the Almighty, the Alpha, and the Omega.
- e) When Jesus was being crucified, the Bible tells of some women who were weeping.
  - i) Jesus said to them, "Don't weep for Me, but weep for yourselves."
    - (1) Luke 23:28
  - ii) He also said that it was their hour, and that His hour had not yet come.
    - (1) It is coming.
- f) When the Lord Jesus steps out of the Glory, He will not be displayed as the meek and mild Jesus but as He is pictured in the book of the Revelation:
  - i) His hair white like wool because of His holiness.
  - ii) His eyes like a flame of fire.
  - iii) His feet like burning brass.

- (1) Brass is an emblem and a symbol of judgment.
    - (a) He is going forth to judge.
  - iv) His voice like many waters.
    - (1) There will be no arguing and no talking back.
- 3) THE SECOND DIVISION: THE THINGS WHICH ARE
- a) Revelations 2-3
    - i) This is called the church age.
    - ii) This is a message to the seven churches.
      - (1) Seven is the perfect number.
      - (2) These were literal churches in Asia Minor.
        - (a) They speak of all of the churches of all of the age.
  - b) The church age began with Pentecost and goes to the present time.
  - c) We are living in the second division called “the things which are.”
  - d) The message to the church at Ephesus:
    - i) Revelation 2:4
    - ii) The church at Ephesus was a wonderful church, but their love had grown cold.
    - iii) Love is never static.
    - iv) Do you still love the Lord Jesus with that reckless abandonment that you had when you first were saved?
      - (1) Don't ever lose that.
    - v) They left their first love.
  - e) The message to the church at Smyrna:
    - i) Revelation 2:10
    - ii) This was a church that would know suffering.
      - (1) All true churches know suffering.
      - (2) It costs to serve Jesus.
      - (3) Don't get the idea that being saved is the way to success, ease, health, and wealth.
    - iii) The Lord is teaching in this chapter that we in the church age are in danger of losing our first love.
    - iv) We need to face the fact that we are going to suffer persecution.
  - f) The message to the church at Pergamos:
    - i) Revelation 2:14
      - (1) This verse epitomizes what was wrong with the church in Pergamus.
      - (2) Here was a New Testament church where ungodliness and worldliness were coming in.
        - (a) They were mixing the altar of Jehovah with the altar of Baal.
          - (i) Baal was a pagan god.
        - (b) This has happened in many churches today.
          - (i) There are churches today that are teaching that it is all right to murder little babies.
            - 1. The priests of Baal did exactly the same thing.

- (ii) There are preachers in churches today that advocate homosexuality.
    - 1. They say that it is unchristian if we do not say that this is all right and that God approves it.
    - 2. God does not approve it.
      - a. He calls it an abomination.
- g) The message to the church at Thyatira:
  - i) Revelation 2:20
    - (1) Here was the infiltration of feminism.
    - (2) God compared a teacher with the Old Testament Jezebel.
      - (a) She was bringing heresy into the church.
  - ii) Today, there is the idea that it is unchristian to take a stand against heresy.
    - (1) It is not unchristian.
    - (2) Jude 1:3
  - iii) Our Lord is warning that heresy will creep into the church.
- h) The message to the church at Sardis:
  - i) Revelation 3:1
  - ii) This church had a big program and a fever pitch of activity.
  - iii) They had a name that they were alive, but they were dead.
    - (1) They may have been organized, but so is a graveyard.
- i) The message to the church at Philadelphia:
  - i) This church was marked by love.
  - ii) Revelation 3:7-8
  - iii) The word “Philadelphia” means “brotherly love.”
  - iv) Here was a church where they loved one another.
    - (1) People have different likes and dislikes.
    - (2) What holds the church together is Jesus.
  - v) God wants us to love one another.
    - (1) We must have this brotherly love.
- j) The last of the seven churches is the church at Laodicea.
  - i) Revelation 3:15-16
    - (1) This church was a lukewarm church.
      - (a) They were too good to be bad and too bad to be good.
  - ii) Jesus would rather have us cold and out-and-out against Him than to be lukewarm and sitting on the fence.
  - iii) One of the hardest difficulties we have to overcome is lukewarm Christians.
    - (1) People who have their name on the church role and claim to love the Lord Jesus, but they are not excited about the Lord Jesus.
    - (2) If we had fewer Christians and all of them on fire for the Lord Jesus, then we would do more than we do with an army of lukewarm people.
  - iv) Revelation 3:16
    - (1) In plain English, this means that He will vomit them out.

- (2) Lukewarmness makes the Lord Jesus sick to His stomach.
  - v) It has been said that lukewarmness is the worst form of blasphemy.
    - (1) A lukewarm person says to the Lord Jesus, "I believe in You, but You don't impress me; You're not worthy of my devotion."
  - k) There is not a church problem that is not addressed in the messages to these seven churches.
  - l) These were literal churches in Asia Minor, but they go beyond that because they represent all churches of all time.
  - m) We are living in the period of time of things which are, which is the church age.
- 4) THE THIRD DIVISION: THE THINGS WHICH SHALL BE HEREAFTER
- a) Revelation 1:19
  - b) The things that shall be hereafter begins with Revelation 4:1 and goes to the end of the book of the Revelation.
  - c) Revelation 4:1
    - i) "After this" in the Greek language literally says, "After these things."
      - (1) This is after the church age.
        - (a) From Revelation 4:1 through the end of the book, the church is not mentioned anymore because the church age ends.
      - ii) The Bible says that it is the trumpet that will bring those who are saved up.
        - (1) 1 Corinthians 15:52
        - (2) 1 Thessalonians 4:16
        - (3) This is our gathering together unto the Lord.
          - (a) John, in the Spirit, experienced this.
            - (i) God gave John a glimpse into the future.
    - d) The coming of the Lord Jesus may happen at any moment.
      - i) Matthew 24:36-42, 44
        - (1) The church is not going to go through the Great Tribulation.
        - (2) It is going to be like it was in the days of Noah.
          - (a) They were experiencing the daily round of life.
          - (b) They had no idea until suddenly the flood came.
          - (c) If we knew that Jesus would be coming at the end of the Tribulation, then we would know exactly what hour He would be coming.
            - (i) The Tribulation is going to be seven years.
            - (ii) We would be looking for signs rather than the Savior.
        - ii) The Bible teaches that at the end of the church age, at any moment, the Lord Jesus is going to come.
          - (1) The trumpet will sound, and Jesus will call for His own.
      - e) A chronology of the last events that shall be hereafter:
        - i) The rapture
          - (1) Revelation 4:1

- (a) The rapture is the first event in the third division.
- (2) When the church is taken out, the salt and light are gone.
- ii) The Great Tribulation
  - (1) The Holy Spirit stands aside, and the Antichrist will come upon the Earth.
  - (2) Revelation 6:17
    - (a) That day is described as the great day of God's wrath.
  - (3) The Tribulation is the wrath of God poured out upon the Earth.
    - (a) 1 Thessalonians 5:9
      - (i) God never pours out His wrath upon His children.
        - 1. God will chastise His children, but they are never the objects of His wrath.
        - 2. God's wrath is only for the unsaved.
  - (4) Revelation 9:6
    - (a) This one verse epitomizes the time known as the Great Tribulation.
    - (b) What we call death today would be a welcome relief and release because of the horrors of the Tribulation period.
  - (5) It will last for seven years.
  - (6) If the Lord Jesus' first coming does not save us, then His last coming will certainly condemn us.
  - (7) Pestilence, famine, war, terror, and the reign of the Antichrist will all be in the Great Tribulation.
    - (a) Demons will come out of the bottomless pit and infest the Earth.
- iii) The Battle of Armageddon
  - (1) Revelation 16:16
    - (a) This speaks of the armies of this world who are demon possessed.
    - (b) "Armageddon" actually means "the Mount of Megiddo."
      - (i) It is located in the plains of Jezreel.
      - (ii) Some of the most decisive battles in history have been fought in this spot.
  - (2) At this place, the Antichrist will finally come one last time to gather all of the armies of the world in order to come against God's ancient people, the Jews, to take Jerusalem.
  - (3) Zechariah 12:3
  - (4) The Antichrist will be the supreme commander-in-chief of the global forces of all nations.
    - (a) The world will become a concentration camp.
  - (5) This is where the last battles will be fought.
    - (a) The Beast (the devil's messiah) will be there in his arrogance because he hates God, hates the Jewish people, and he will be there with his final surge against God's people.
  - (6) Revelation 19:19-20
    - (a) The Beast will come with his armies against the cities of God and the people of God.



- (b) The false prophet is the minister of propaganda who will be the mouthpiece for the Beast.
  - (i) He is to the Beast what the Holy Spirit is to the Lord Jesus.
  - (ii) He will glorify the Beast as the Holy Spirit glorifies the true Messiah.
- (7) How is this battle going to be fought?
  - (a) The Lord will destroy him with the spirit of His mouth.
  - (b) Revelation 19:11-12
    - (i) We will never fathom God.
      - 1. We could not have any confidence in a God that we could understand.
  - (c) Revelation 19:13-14
    - (i) The armies in Heaven are the saints that have been caught up and made like the Lord Jesus, clothed in white linen.
      - 1. He does not come for us; we come with Him.
  - (d) The Bible says that He will destroy the Beast with the sword that goes out of His mouth.
    - (i) Revelation 19:15
      - 1. This is His Word.
      - 2. The Lord Jesus who spoke them into existence will speak them into oblivion.
    - (ii) Hebrews 4:12
- iv) The Millennium
  - (1) “Millennium” means “a thousand years.”
  - (2) Revelation 20:6
  - (3) The Lord Jesus will reign upon the Earth.
    - (a) This is not symbolic but literal.
    - (b) What did Jesus teach us to pray?
      - (i) Luke 11:2
      - (ii) Jesus would not have taught us to pray something that would not be answered.
  - (4) Matthew 5:5
    - (a) They shall be priests of God and Christ.
    - (b) They shall reign with Him a thousand years.
      - (i) We are going to rule and reign.
  - (5) The lion and the lamb shall lie down together.
    - (a) Isaiah 11:6-7
  - (6) Habakkuk 2:14
  - (7) Isaiah 2:4
  - (8) There will be one thousand years of peace.
  - (9) 2 Peter 3:8
  - (10) Revelation 20:6
- v) The Final Judgment
  - (1) Revelation 20:11-15



- (2) God does not judge someone as soon as they die.
  - (a) God waits until after the Millennium because a person's deeds have not yet fully ripened.
    - (i) When someone sins, they corrupt others who corrupt others and so on and so on.
    - (ii) The crimes against humanity are collecting interest.
- (3) God cannot judge until He puts the final period upon the final sentence upon the final page upon the final chapter upon the final book of history.
  - (a) The books are still being written.
- (4) Every unsaved person will stand before God to be judged.
- vi) Eternal Heaven and Hell
  - (1) Revelation 21:7-8
  - (2) The Bible teaches that there is going to be a category of overcomers.
  - (3) There will also be a category of those who will suffer in a place the Bible calls Hell.

## 5) CONCLUSION

- a) Revelation 1:19
  - i) There are three divisions:
    - (1) Write the things which you have seen.
      - (a) The glorified Savior; the one who is coming.
    - (2) Write the things which are.
      - (a) The church age, beginning with Ephesus and ending with Laodicea.
    - (3) Write the things which shall be hereafter.
      - (a) The Rapture
      - (b) The Tribulation
      - (c) The Battle of Armageddon
      - (d) The Millennium
      - (e) The Final Judgment
      - (f) Eternal Heaven and eternal Hell
- b) Jesus Christ is coming back to this Earth.
  - i) He is going to rule and reign in His own way.
- c) Are you ready for His return?
- d) Do you know Jesus personally? If not, you can pray to Him today by asking Him to come into your life.
- e) Call upon Jesus today. Repent (turn) from your sins, and turn to Jesus. Ask Him to forgive you of your sins, and acknowledge Him as Lord of your life.
  - i) Romans 3:23
  - ii) Romans 10:9-10
  - iii) Romans 10:13
  - iv) Acts 16:31
  - v) John 3:16