

**“A MYSTERIOUS VISION”
Revelation 1:1-20**

WHY STUDY THE BOOK OF REVELATION (Revelation 1:1-8)?

- A. God reveals His message to _____ (Rev. 1:1-3).
- B. It _____ our view of Jesus Christ (Rev. 1:4-8).

WHY IS REVELATION A MYSTERIOUS VISION (Revelation 1:9-20)?

- *It comes in a mysterious way (Rev. 1:9-11)*
- *It provides stunning images and symbols (Rev. 1:12-16)*
- *It prepares us for the future by _____ (Rev. 1:17-20).*

HOW TO GET THE MOST OUT OF THIS STUDY...

February 13-14

“Don’t Give Up on Love”

Revelation 2:1-7

Further study:

Reversed Thunder: The Revelation of John and the Praying Imagination by Eugene Peterson

The Returning King: A Guide to the Book of Revelation by Vern S. Poythress

Be Victorious by Warren Wiersbe

Main Idea: In Revelation God reveals life's battles overcome by His plans and purposes in Christ.

CONNECTING

Have you ever read the book of Revelation? Why or why not? Why do you think people tend to shy away from a study of this book? What questions do you have as we begin our exploration of this apocalyptic literature?

What does the word "revelation" mean? How did Randy describe the "unveiling" of God's plans through symbols and images? Look up these verses and make a list of the symbols used (1:16; 2:28; 5:8; 9:17; 12:14; 13:1-10; 19:11-16). Why do you think John used so much symbolism in this book?

UNDERSTANDING

Read Revelation 1:1-20 aloud. What was John instructed to do in verses 1:9-11? Who gave him these instructions? To whom was he to send his book? Where is the modern location for the seven churches listed here?

Read 1:1-8 again. What two reasons did Randy give us for studying this book? Why do you think John asked us to read the book aloud at church meetings? What is the promise expressed in verse 1:3? In order to obey, what must the one reading or hearing this book be able to do?

LIVING

Revelation is a mysterious vision. Though Bible students may disagree on the details of the book, they agree John presents Jesus as the Victorious Lamb of God, a theme which arises often in this work. Look through Revelation 1 and list the things it says about Jesus (example: He is alpha and omega). What do these things say about Jesus? How does this vision of Jesus change the way you look at Him? How might a fresh view of Jesus impact the way you face your problems and challenges?

Assignment: This is a good time to consider your spiritual standing with God. Do you know the Christ of Revelation 1 personally? Does knowing Jesus make you joyfully expectant, looking forward to the day Christ returns to take us to heaven with Him? Are you connected to the source of life, Jesus Christ? If you are not sure, talk with your leader or a pastor and take your next step with Jesus.