

Why so challenging?

1. The *sending* of the revelation. (1-2)

“The revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave Him to show to His servants the things that must soon take place. He made it known by sending His angel to His servant John, who bore witness to the word of God and to the testimony of Jesus Christ, even to all that he saw.” (1-2)

Genre

- *apocalypse* (1:1) -
- *prophecy* (1:3) -
- *letter* (1:4, 2:1) -

2. The *blessing* of the revelation. (3)

“blessed” - *fortunate, happy*

3. The *greeting* of the revelation. (4-8)

“grace and peace from” -

- Him who is and who was and who is to come -
- The seven spirits who are before His throne -
- Jesus Christ -

4. The *receiving* of the revelation. (9-11)

- exiled on Patmos -
- in the Spirit on the Lord's Day -

5. The seeing of the revelation. (12-16)

“Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking to me, and on turning I saw seven golden lampstands, and in the midst of the lampstands One like a son of man, clothed with a long robe and with a golden sash around His chest. The hairs of His head were white, like white wool, like snow. His eyes were like a flame of fire, His feet were like burnished bronze, refined in a furnace, and His voice was like the roar of many waters. In His right hand He held seven stars, from His mouth came a sharp two-edged sword, and His face was like the sun shining in full strength.”

Revelation 1:12-16

6. The falling before the revelation. (17-20)

“When I saw Him, I fell at His feet as though dead...”

- fear not -
- write -

Will we?

- Reject a cozy, user-friendly vision of Jesus?
- Rest in His sovereign rule in times of suffering?
- Rejoice that He uses us, even in exile?

3/10/19