How far from home? I asked, as on I bent my steps the watchman spake: "The long, dark night is almost gone, The morning soon will break. Then weep no more but speed thy flight, With Hope's bright star thy guiding ray, Till thou shalt reach the realms of light, In everlasting days."

I asked the warrior on the field; This was his soul-inspiring song: "With courage, bold the sword I'll wield The battle is not long. Then weep no more, but well endure The conflict, till thy work is done; For this we know, the prize is sure, When victory is won."

I asked again; earth, sea, and sun Seemed, with one voice, to make reply: "Time's wasting sands are nearly run, **Eternity** is nigh. Then weep no more-with warning tones, Portentous signs are thickening round, The whole creation, waiting, groans, To hear the trumpet sound."

Not far from home! O blessed thought! The traveler's lonely heart to cheer; Which oft a healing balm has brought, And dried the mourner's tear. Then weep no more, since we shall meet Where weary footsteps never roam-Our trials past, our joys complete, Safe in our Father's home.

Opening Scripture

Revelation 1: 10,11:

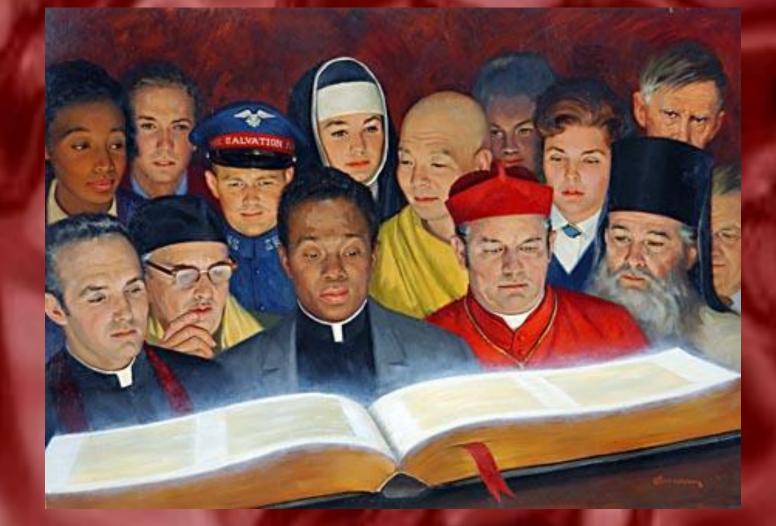
10) I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet, 11) Saying, I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last: and, What thou seest, write in a book, and send it unto the seven churches which are in Asia; unto Ephesus, and unto Smyrna, and unto Pergamos, and unto Thyatira, and unto Sardis, and unto Philadelphia, and unto Laodicea.

Study of Prophecy: "The Seven Churches"

Presenter:Bro. Samuel LeeVenue:Crane SDA ChurchService:Evangelistic MeetingDate:Sunday, January 10 2016

SESSION 1: AN OVERVIEW OF THE BOOK OF

REVELATION



The Holy Bible – A Book for all races.

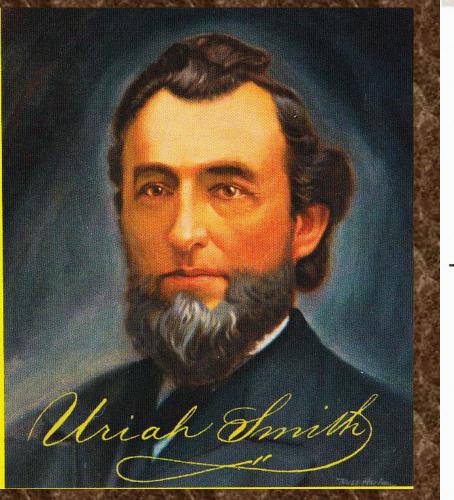
An Overview of the Book of Revelation <u>The Book of Revelation</u>

The term "*Revelation*" is derived from the Greek word – "*Apokalupsis*", meaning "*a disclosure, a revelation*", hence the use or the name "*The Revelation*" or "*The Apocalypse*".

Daniel and The Revelation by Uriah Smith (pg 339) Introduction

The Revelation... has been described to be "a panorama of the glory of Christ." In the Evangelists we have the record of His humiliation, His condescension, His toil and sufferings, His patience, His mockings by those who should have done Him reverence, and finally His death upon the shameful cross--a death esteemed in that age to be the most ignominious that men could inflict. In the Revelation we have the gospel of His enthronement in glory, His association with the Father upon the throne of universal dominion, His overruling providence among the nations of the earth, and His coming again, not a homeless stranger, but in power and great glory, to punish His enemies and reward His followers.

An Overview of the Book of Revelation Uriah Smith



Born:	May 2, 1832
	West Wilton, NH, USA
Died:	Mar. 6, 1903
	Battle Creek, MI, USA
Wife:	Harriet Stevens
Children:	Uriah Wilton, Leon, Annie,
	Samuel, Charles, and an
	adopted daughter Alma
	Wolcott

Uriah Smith, a talented artist, poet, editor, inventor and preacher, was the editor of the *Review and Herald* for nearly fifty years. He also wrote many books about Bible topics. His most famous book is *Thoughts on Daniel and the Revelation*. He and John Andrews married sisters, and were close friends.

www.adventistheritage.org

Taken from Adventist Heritage Ministry.

OLD TESTAMENT

OLD TESTAMENT PROPHETS WITNESS TO CHRIST . .

Christ's Humiliation.



Christ's Glorification.

An Overview of the Book of Revelation <u>The Book of Revelation</u>

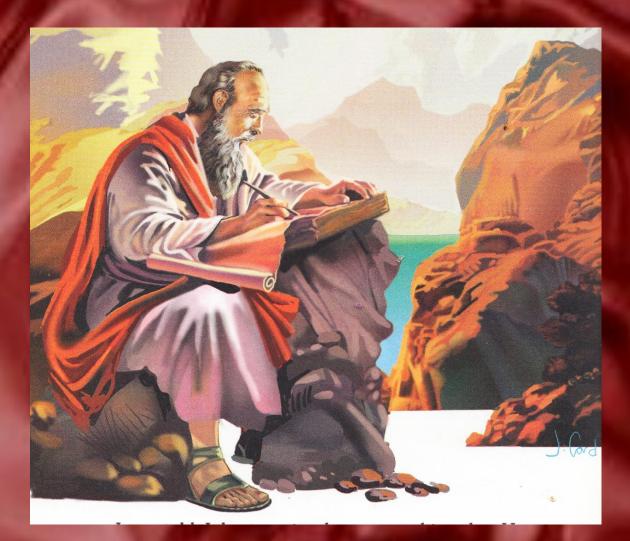
Revelation 1:1-3.

1) The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him, to shew unto his servants things which must shortly come to pass; and he sent and signified it by his angel unto his servant John: 2) Who bare record of the word of God, and of the testimony of Jesus Christ, and of all things that he saw. 3) Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand.

An Overview of the Book of Revelation <u>The Book of Revelation</u>

In these verses are outlined:
The *Title* of the Book.
The *Character* of the Book.
The *Object* of the Book.
The *Blessing* to the Reader.

Daniel and The Revelation by Uriah Smith (pg 339) Chap. 1 – The Divine Method of Prophetic Revelation The Title.--The translators of the King James Version of the Bible have given this book the title, "The Revelation of St. John the Divine." In this they contradict the very first words of the book itself, which declare it to be "The Revelation of Jesus Christ."Jesus Christ is the Revelator, not John. John is but the penman employed by Christ to write out this Revelation for the benefit of His church....It is not only the Revelation of Jesus Christ, but it is the Revelation which God gave unto Him. It comes first from the great Fountain of all wisdom and truth, God the Father, by Him it was communicated to Jesus Christ, the Son; and Christ sent and signified it by His angel to His servant John. 16



Apostle John - the Scribe and Prophet.

Daniel and The Revelation by Uriah Smith (pg 339-41) Chap. 1 – The Divine Method of Prophetic Revelation The Character of the Book.--This is expressed in one word, "Revelation." A Revelation is something revealed or made known, not something hidden and concealed. His Angel.--Christ sent and made known the Revelation to John by "His angel." A particular angel seems to be brought to view here. What angel could appropriately be called Christ's angel? We find an answer to this question in Daniel 8:16. From that study we concluded that the truths to be revealed to Daniel were committed exclusively to Christ, and to an angel whose name was Gabriel.

Daniel and The Revelation by Uriah Smith (pg 341) Chap. 1 – The Divine Method of Prophetic Revelation Blessing on the Reader. - God has pronounced His blessing upon the reader of this prophecy, and has set the seal of His approbation to an earnest study of its marvelous pages. The Object of the Revelation .-- "To show unto His servants things which must shortly come to pass." His servants--who are they? For whose benefit was the Revelation given? Was it to be for any specified persons, for any particular churches, for any special period of time? No, it is for all the church in all time, as long as any of the events predicted within the book remain to be accomplished.

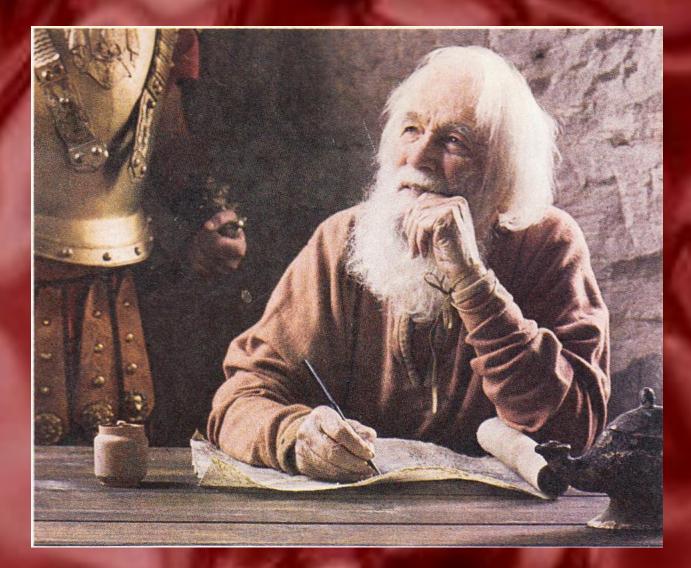
An Overview of the Book of Revelation <u>The Book of Revelation</u>

Revelation 1:4-6.

✤John to the seven churches which are in Asia: Grace be unto you, and peace, from him which is, and which was, and which is to come; and from the seven Spirits which are before his throne; 5) And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood, 6) And hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

Daniel and The Revelation by Uriah Smith (pg 344) Chap. 1 – The Divine Method of Prophetic Revelation The Churches in Asia. – "The seven churches," therefore, are easily understood to mean not merely the seven literal churches of Asia which went by the names mentioned, but seven periods of the Christian church, from the days of the apostles to the close of probation.

Why, then, were the seven particular churches chosen that are mentioned? For the reason, doubtless, that in the names of these churches, according to the definitions of the words, are brought out the religious features of those periods of the gospel age which they respectively were to represent. For example, "The first church named is Ephesus... The definition of the word "Ephesus" is "desirable," which may well be taken as a good descriptive term of the character and condition of the church in its first state."



Letter to the Ephesians - The Apostle Paul

An Overview of the Book of Revelation **The Book of Revelation The Blessing of Grace and Peace** The source of this blessing is three fold. 1. God – the Father, Him which is, and which was and which is to come. 2. God – the Holy Spirit, the seven Spirits which are before the throne. 3. God – the Son, Jesus Christ who is the Faithful witness; First begotten of the dead meaning He is the Resurrection and the Life; the Prince of the kings of the Earth. 23

The Book of Revelation

*****Revelation 1:7.

- 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.
 - Verse 7 highlights three important points about the Second Coming of Jesus:
- 1. Every eye shall see Him.
- 2. They also which pierced Him. (Daniel 12:1,2; John 19:34,37)
- 3. All kindreds of earth shall wail because of Him. 24



Jesus' 2nd Coming.

An Overview of the Book of Revelation <u>The Book of Revelation</u>

*****Revelation 1:8.

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.

It is Jesus who is speaking. Compare with:

Revelation 22:12,13,16.

12) And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be. 13) I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last. 16) I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and morning star.

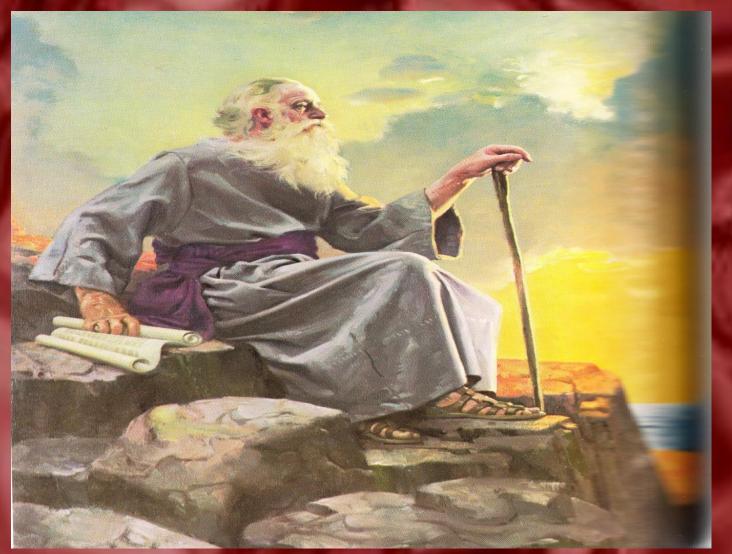
An Overview of the Book of Revelation Introduction to the Churches

Revelation 1:9.

9) I John, who also am your brother, and companion in tribulation, and in the kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ, was in the isle that is called Patmos, for the word of God, and for the testimony of Jesus Christ.

Daniel and The Revelation by Uriah Smith (pg 351) Chap. 1 – The Divine Method of Prophetic Revelation The Place of the Writing .-- Patmos is a small, barren island off the west coast of Asia Minor, between the island of Icaria and the promontory of Miletus, where in John's day was located the nearest Christian church. It is about ten miles long, six miles wide at its greatest breadth... On account of the stern and desolate character of this island, it was used under the Roman Empire as a place of banishment. This accounts for the exile of John there. The banishment of the apostle took place under the emperor Domitian about the year A.D. 94; and from this supposition the date assigned to the writing of the Revelation is A.D. 95 or 96.





Apostle John on the Isle of Patmos.

REPERSONNESS

YOU.