

Mike Hogue
Aug 16, 2026

Our Returning King

A King Worth Falling For

Revelation 1:9-19





Congrats Craig and Ben!

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Revelation 1:9-19



^{17a}When I saw Him, I fell at His feet
like a dead man.

Revelation 1:17a (NASB 2020)

²³Lying back on Jesus' chest was one of His disciples, **whom Jesus loved.**

John 13:23 (NASB 2020)

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Revelation 1:9-19



Revelation 1:9-19

A King Worth Falling For

1. Present in our suffering (1:9-11, 13a)
2. Peerless in His significance (1:12-16)
3. Personal in His sovereignty (1:17-18)
4. Purposeful in His sending (1:19)

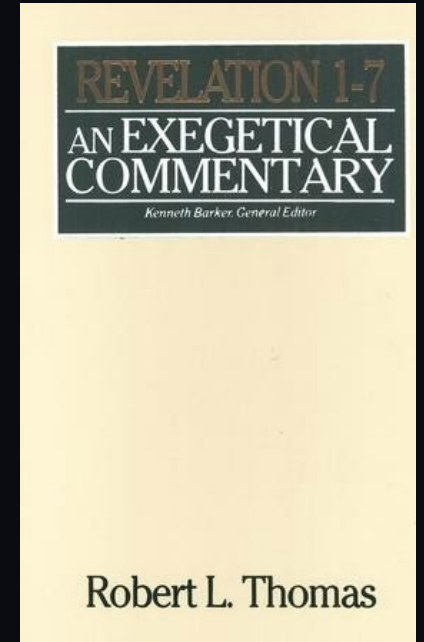
A King Worth Falling For

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⁹I, John, your brother and fellow
participant in the tribulation and kingdom
and perseverance in Jesus, was on the
island called Patmos because of the
word of God and the testimony of Jesus.

Revelation 1:9 (NASB 2020)

He could have claimed the official status of an apostle or elder, an authoritative posture that would serve an important function in his conflicts with some elements in the seven churches (e.g., 2:20–22), but he claims no official status. He is satisfied to use a title that the apostles and elders shared with all Christians (cf. Acts 15:23; 2 Pet. 3:12).

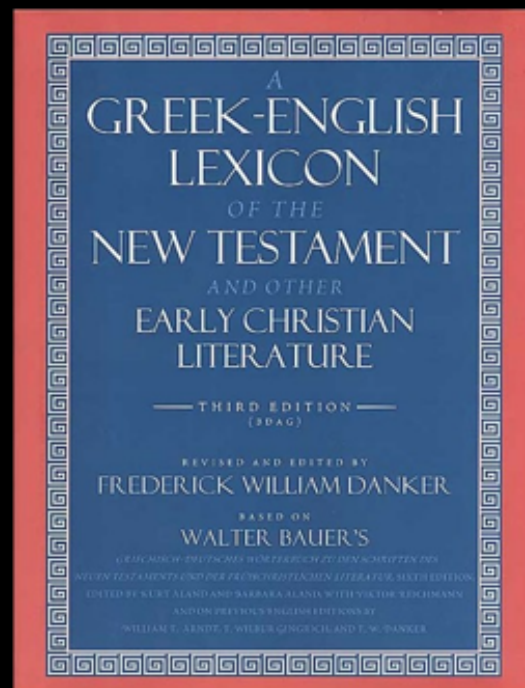


συγκοινωνός (*synkoinōnos*)

participant, partner

▼ Translation NASB 2020

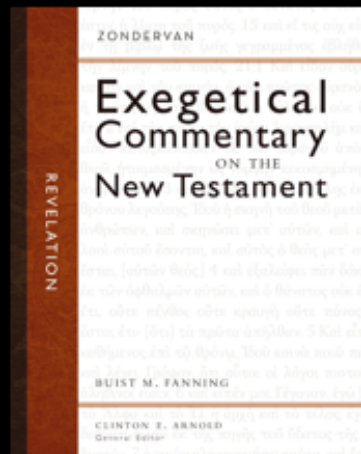
4 ———— ||| ————



⁹I, John, your brother and fellow participant in the tribulation and kingdom and perseverance in Jesus, was on the island called Patmos because of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus.

Revelation 1:9 (NASB 2020)

This is expressed by a prepositional phrase (introduced by “in,” ἐν) with three closely connected objects (“the tribulation and kingdom and perseverance”) modified at the end by another prepositional phrase (“in Jesus,” ἐν Ἰησοῦ). The three objects are joined closely—more closely than by the simple conjunction “and”—by the presence of a single definite article “the” that governs all three (τῇ θλίψει καὶ βασιλείᾳ καὶ ὑπομονῇ). A single article like this denotes a greater unity or cohesiveness among the items it governs.

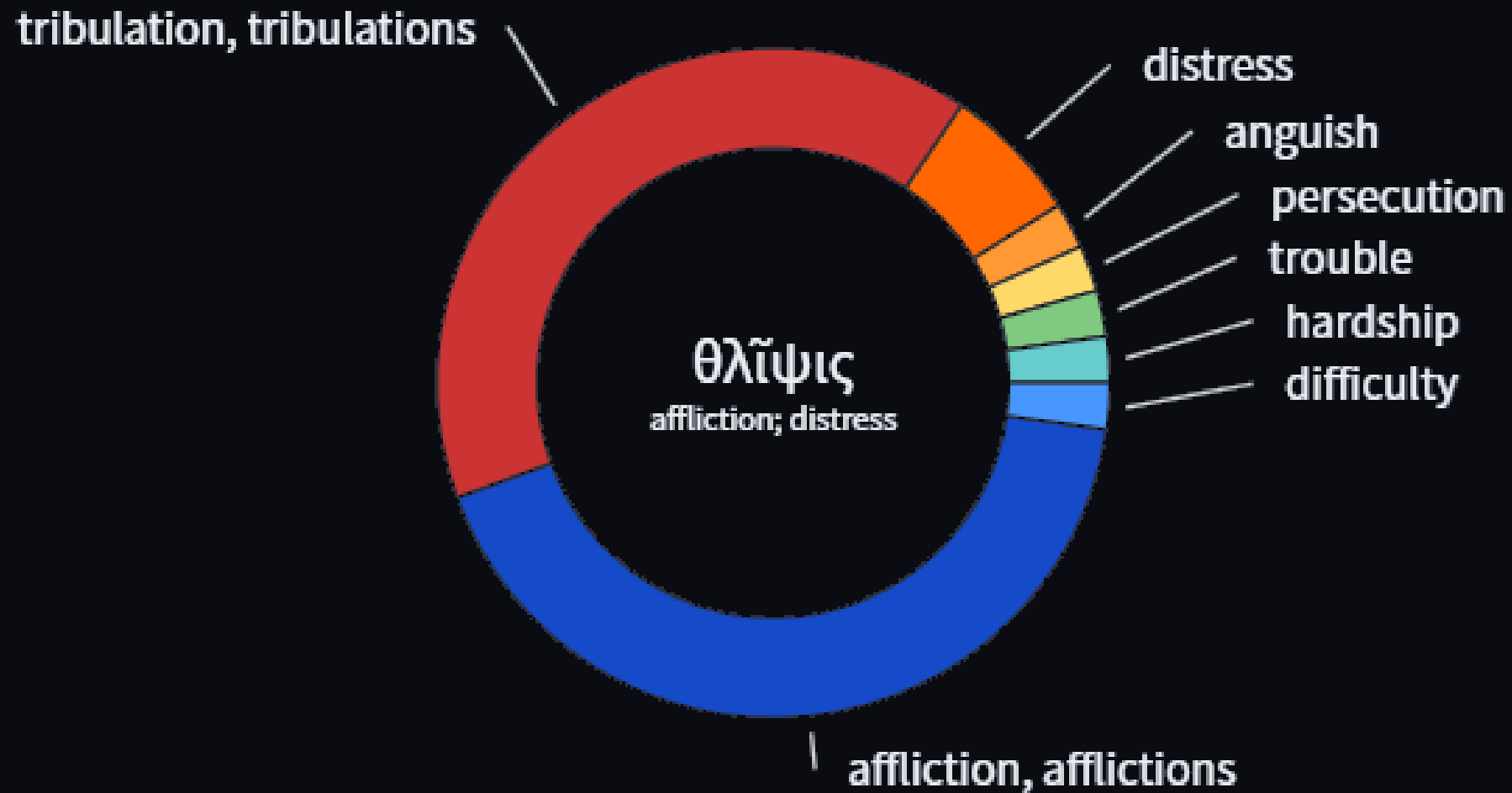


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Revelation 1:9 (NASB 2020)

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Revelation 1:9 (NASB 2020)



⁸For we do not want you to be unaware,
brothers *and sisters*, of our affliction
which occurred in Asia, that we were
burdened excessively, beyond our
strength, so that we despaired even of
life.

2 Corinthians 1:8 (NASB 2020)

¹²Indeed, all who want to live in a
godly way in Christ Jesus **will be
persecuted.**

2 Timothy 3:12 (NASB 2020)

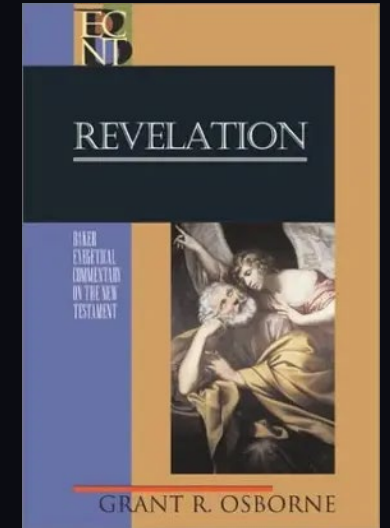
⁹I, John, your brother and fellow participant in **the** tribulation and **kingdom** and perseverance in Jesus, was on the island called Patmos because of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus.

Revelation 1:9 (NASB 2020)

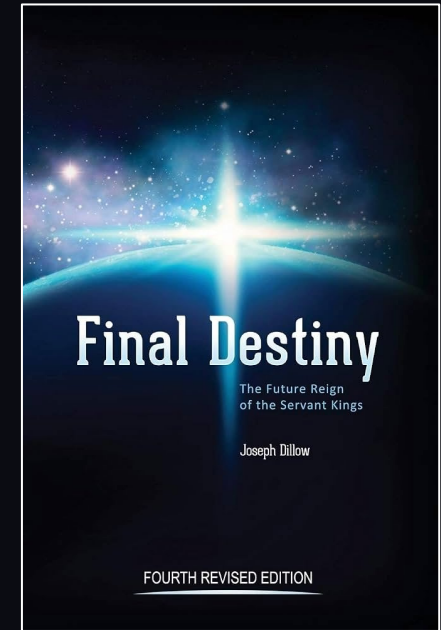
⁶and He made us *into a kingdom*,
priests to His God and Father—to
Him *be the glory and the dominion*
forever and ever. Amen.

Revelation 1:6 (NASB 2020)

In Jesus' teaching "kingdom" referred to **the inbreaking rule of God** that began with his first advent but would not be consummated until his second coming.



To “enter the kingdom” in this sense is to **enter into the kingdom’s rule over one’s life**, which leads to ruling with Christ in the future, or to put it in contemporary terms, to make a “lordship decision,” or as Jesus taught, to pursue a life that will lead to the salvation of your soul.



⁹I, John, your brother and fellow participant in **the** tribulation and kingdom and **perseverance** in Jesus, was on the island called Patmos because of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus.

Revelation 1:9 (NASB 2020)

²‘I know your deeds and your labor **and perseverance**, and that you cannot tolerate evil people, and you have put those who call themselves apostles to the test, and they are not, and you found them *to be* false; ³and **you have perseverance and have endured on account of My name**, and have not become weary.

Revelation 2:2–3 (NASB 2020)

¹⁹‘I know your deeds, and your love
and faith, and service **and**
perseverance, and that your deeds of
late are greater than at first.

Revelation 2:19 (NASB 2020)

¹⁰Because you have kept My word of **perseverance**, I also will keep you from the hour of the testing, that *hour* which is about to come upon the whole world, to test those who live on the earth.

Revelation 3:10 (NASB 2020)

Romans 5:1-5

¹Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,

²through whom we also have
obtained our introduction by faith into
this grace in which we stand; and we
celebrate in hope of the glory of God.

³And not only *this*, but **we also**
celebrate in our tribulations, knowing
that tribulation brings about
perseverance;

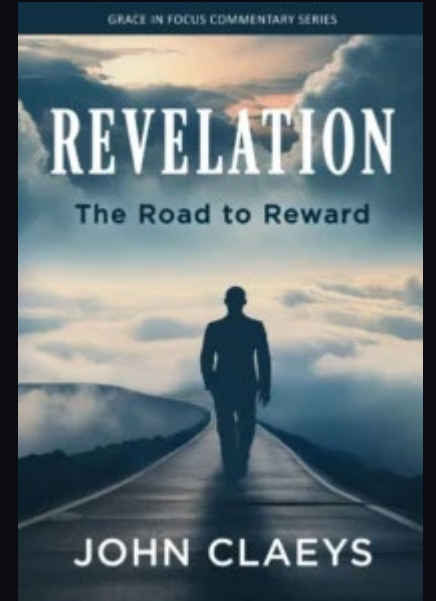
⁴and perseverance, proven character;
and proven character, hope;

⁵and hope does not disappoint,
because the love of God has been
poured out within our hearts through
the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

Romans 5:1–5 (NASB 2020)

The message of Revelation is:

*Believers who faithfully
endure will experience
glorious, eternal
reward.*



⁹I, John, your brother and fellow participant in the tribulation and kingdom and perseverance in Jesus, **was on the island called Patmos because of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus.**

Revelation 1:9 (NASB 2020)

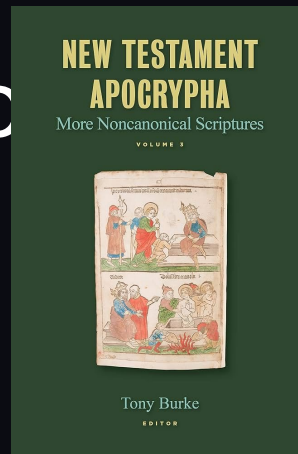


How happy is its church, on which
apostles poured forth all their
doctrine along with their blood!
where Peter endures a passion like
his Lord's! where Paul wins his
crown in a death like John's, **where**
the Apostle John was first plunged,
unhurt, into boiling oil, and thence
remitted to his island-exile!



Tertullian, circa AD 200
The Prescription Against Heretics

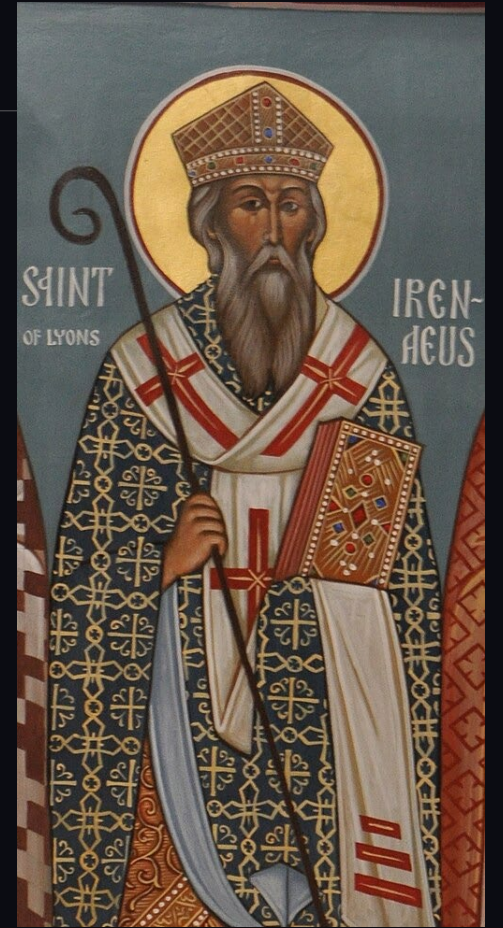
The *Virtutes Iohannis* begins with a short narrative of John's arrest in Ephesus by the proconsul **during the reign of Domitian**: when John refuses to cease his Christian preaching, he is sentenced to be boiled in oil—an ordeal that he emerges from unscathed...the proconsul at Ephesus is so impressed by John's miraculous survival (he emerges from the boil like an athlete greased up for contest) that he would like to set John free; for fear of Domitian, however, he sends the apostle into exile on Patmos. The



Why a late date (~AD 95) for Revelation?

1. *Multiple* early Church Fathers
2. Maturity of the seven churches
3. Domitian's Reign and Persecution
4. John's exile

“We will not, however, incur the risk of pronouncing positively as to the name of Antichrist; for if it were necessary that his name should be distinctly revealed in this present time, it would have been announced by him who beheld the apocalyptic vision. For that was seen no very long time since, but almost in our day, **towards the end of Domitian’s reign.**”



Irenaeus, AD 180
Against Heretics

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¹⁹Therefore write the things which
you have seen, and the things which
are, and the things which will take
place after these things.

Revelation 1:19 (NASB 2020)

¹⁰I was in *the* Spirit on the Lord's day, **and I heard behind me a loud voice like *the sound of a trumpet***, ¹¹saying, "Write on a scroll what you see, and send *it* to the seven churches: to Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia, and Laodicea."

Revelation 1:10–11 (NASB 2020)

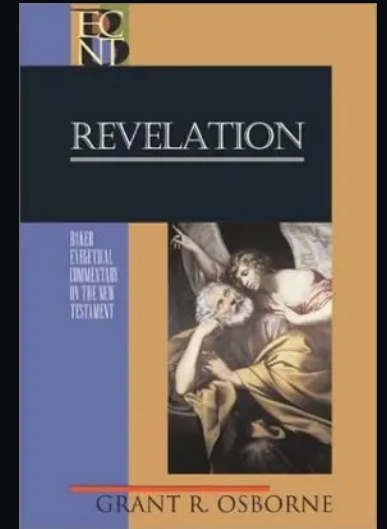
¹²Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking with me. And after turning I saw seven golden lampstands; ¹³and in the middle of the lampstands / saw one like a son of man, clothed in a robe reaching to the feet, and wrapped around the chest with a golden sash.

Revelation 1:12–13 (NASB 2020)

⁴and he fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, “Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?” ⁵And he said, “Who are You, Lord?” And He *said*, “**I am Jesus whom you are persecuting,**

Acts 9:4–5 (NASB 2020)

“When John says he saw Christ in the midst of the lampstands, he wants to let us know that Christ is not an absentee landlord. On the contrary, **he is in the midst of his churches supporting them during trials and persecutions.**”



A King Worth Falling For

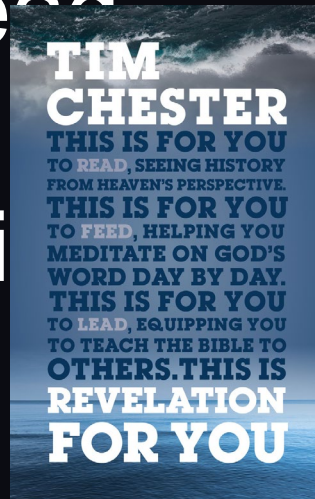
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¹²Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking with me. And after turning I saw seven golden lampstands; ¹³and in the middle of the lampstands / saw one **like** a son of man, clothed in a robe reaching to the feet, and wrapped around the chest with a golden sash. ¹⁴His head and His hair were white **like** white wool, **like** snow; and His eyes were **like** a flame of fire. ¹⁵His feet were **like** burnished bronze when it has been heated to a glow in a furnace, and His voice was **like** the sound of many waters. ¹⁶In His right hand He held seven stars, and out of His mouth came a sharp two-edged sword; and His face was **like** the sun shining in its strength.

The repeated use of the words “like” and “as” alert us to the fact that we’re not meant to take this vision **literally**. Pictures attempting to depict John’s description always look grotesque or weird. Instead John presents a sequence of richly resonant images to convey the overwhelming glory of Christ. Perhaps the Christians of Asia Minor felt abandoned. They would certainly have felt powerless and marginal. But John gives them a vision of Jesus standing among them. They are not alone.



2. Peerless in His significance (1:12-16)

A. He is our go-between (1:12-13)

B. He is our God (1:14a, 15b)

C. He purifies our grime (1:14b, 15a, 16b)

D. He is glorious (1:16a, 16c)

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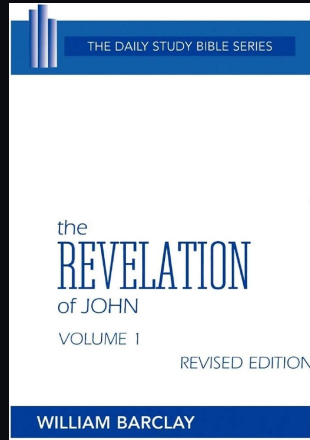
Revelation 1:12–13 (NASB 2020)

⁴And these are the garments which they shall make: a breastpiece, an ephod, **a robe**, a tunic of checkered work, a turban, and **a sash**. They shall make holy garments for your brother Aaron and his sons, so that he may serve as priest to Me.

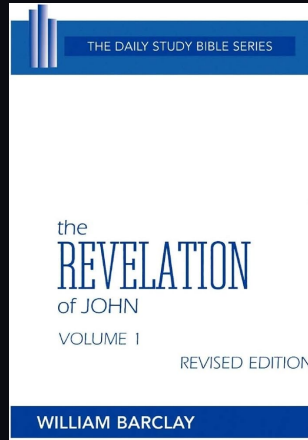
⁵They shall take the gold, the violet, the purple, the scarlet *material*, and the fine linen.

Exodus 28:4–5 (NASB 2020)

The word which describes the robe is *podērēs*, reaching down to the feet. This is the word which the Greek Old Testament uses to describe the robe of the High Priest (Exodus 28:4; 29:5; Leviticus 16:4). Josephus also describes carefully the garments which the priests and the High Priest wore when they were serving in the Temple. They wore “a long robe reaching to the feet,” and around the breast, “higher than the elbows,” they wore a girdle which was loosely wound round and round the body. The girdle was embroidered with colours and flowers, with a mixture of gold interwoven.



Here, then, is the symbol of the high priestly character of the work of the Risen Lord. **A priest, as the Jews saw it, was a man who himself has access to God and who opens the way for others to come to him;** even in the heavenly places Jesus, the great High Priest, is still carrying on his priestly work, opening the way for all men to the presence of God.



¹⁴Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let's hold firmly to our confession. ¹⁵For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things just as *we are*, yet without sin. ¹⁶Therefore let's approach the throne of grace with confidence, **so that we may receive mercy and find grace for help at the time of *our* need.**

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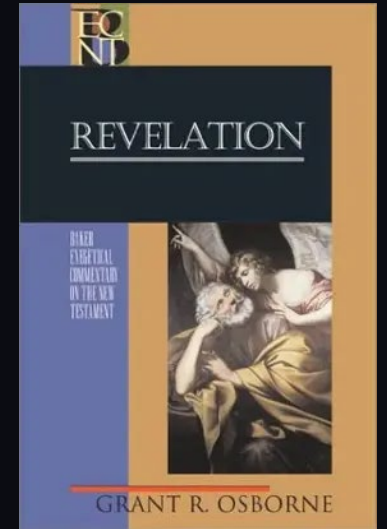
¹⁴His head and His hair were white like white wool, like snow; and His eyes were like a flame of fire.

Revelation 1:14 (NASB 2020)

⁹“I kept looking Until thrones were set up, And the Ancient of Days took *His* seat; His garment *was* white as snow, And the hair of His head like pure wool. His throne *was* ablaze with flames, Its wheels *were* a burning fire.

Daniel 7:9 (NASB 2020)

Another characteristic of the Apocalypse is seen here in 1:14, the tendency to utilize OT descriptions of God for Jesus, thereby **stressing further the unity between the Father and the Son.**



¹⁵His feet were like burnished bronze when it has been heated to a glow in a furnace, and His voice was like the sound of many waters.

Revelation 1:15 (NASB 2020)

³The voice of the LORD is on the waters; The God of glory thunders, The LORD is over many waters. ⁴The voice of the LORD is powerful, The voice of the LORD is majestic.

Psalms 29:3–4 (NASB 2020)

¹Then he led me to the gate, the gate facing east; ²and behold, the glory of the God of Israel was coming from the way of the east. And His voice was like the sound of many waters; and the earth shone from His glory.

Ezekiel 43:1–2 (NASB 2020)

²⁹My Father, who has given *them* to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch *them* out of the Father's hand. ³⁰I and the Father are one.” ³¹The Jews picked up stones again to stone Him.

John 10:29–31 (NASB 2020)

³³The Jews answered Him, “We are not stoning You for a good work, but for blasphemy; and because You, being a man, make Yourself *out to be* God.”

John 10:33 (NASB 2020)

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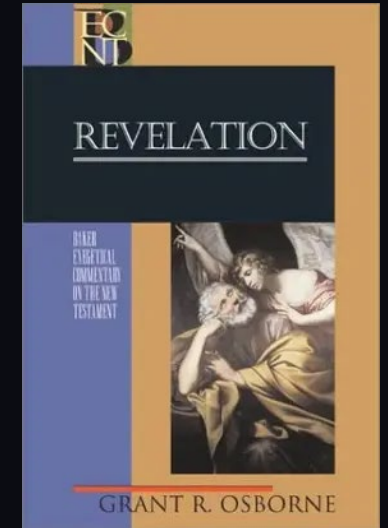
¹⁴His head and His hair were white like white wool, like snow; and His eyes were like a flame of fire.

Revelation 1:14 (NASB 2020)

⁵I raised my eyes and looked, and behold, there was a man dressed in linen, whose waist had a belt of pure gold of Uphaz. ⁶His body also *was* like topaz, his face had the appearance of lightning, **his eyes were like flaming torches, his arms and feet like the gleam of polished bronze, and the sound of his words like the sound of a multitude.**

Daniel 10:5–6 (NASB 2020)

Most scholars note the extent to which this pictures the **divine insight that penetrates to the core of the human situation**. As in Daniel, however, this goes beyond that to include also the **fierce judgment** of the God who knows and acts against those who disobey him.



¹⁶In His right hand He held seven stars, and out of His mouth came a sharp two-edged sword; and His face was like the sun shining in its strength.

Revelation 1:16 (NASB 2020)

⁴But with righteousness He will judge the poor, And decide with fairness for the humble of the earth; And **He will strike the earth with the rod of His mouth**, And with the breath of His lips He will slay the wicked.

Isaiah 11:4 (NASB 2020)

¹²For the word of God is living and active, and sharper than any two-edged sword, even penetrating as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

¹³And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are open and laid bare to the eyes of Him to whom we must answer.

Hebrews 4:12–13 (NASB 2020)

¹I solemnly exhort *you* in the
presence of God and of Christ Jesus,
who is to judge the living and the
dead, and by His appearing and His
kingdom:

2 Timothy 4:1 (NASB 2020)

²²For not even the Father judges anyone, but **He has given all judgment to the Son**, ²³so that all will honor the Son just as they honor the Father. The one who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent Him.

John 5:22–23 (NASB 2020)

²⁴“Truly, truly, I say to you, the one who hears My word, and believes Him who sent Me, has eternal life, and does not come into judgment, but has passed out of death into life.

John 5:24 (NASB 2020)

¹⁵His feet were like burnished bronze
when it has been heated to a glow in
a furnace, and His voice was like the
sound of many waters.

Revelation 1:15 (NASB 2020)

²“But who can endure the day of His coming?

And who can stand when He appears? For **He is like a refiner's fire**, and like launderer's soap.

³And He will sit as a smelter and purifier of silver, and **He will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver**, so that they may present to the LORD offerings in righteousness.

Malachi 3:2–3 (NASB 2020)

¹⁰For it was fitting for Him, for whom are all things, and through whom are all things, in bringing many sons to glory, **to perfect the originator of their salvation through sufferings.**

¹¹For both He who sanctifies and those who are sanctified are all from one *Father*; for this reason He is not ashamed to call them brothers *and sisters*,

Hebrews 2:10–11 (NASB 2020)

¹⁵For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things just as *we are*, yet without sin.

Hebrews 4:15 (NASB 2020)

¹⁴who gave Himself for us to redeem us from every lawless deed, and to purify for Himself a people for His own possession, eager for good deeds.

Titus 2:14 (NASB 2020)

²¹For you have been called for this purpose,
because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you
an example, **so that you would follow in His
steps**, ²²*HE* WHO COMMITTED NO SIN, NOR WAS ANY
DECEIT found IN HIS MOUTH; ²³and while being
abusively insulted, He did not insult in return;
while suffering, He did not threaten, but kept
entrusting *Himself* to Him who judges righteously;
1 Peter 2:21–23 (NASB 2020)



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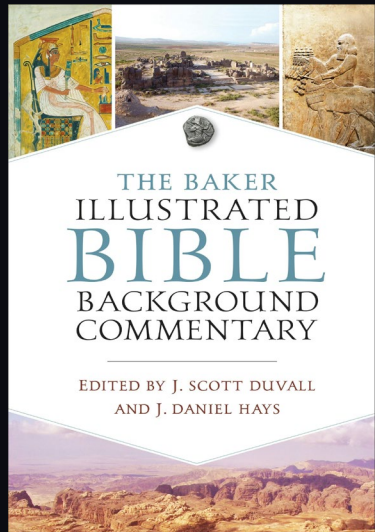
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¹⁶In His right hand He held seven stars, and out of His mouth came a sharp two-edged sword; and His face was like the sun shining in its strength.

Revelation 1:16 (NASB 2020)

Holds the seven stars in his right hand (2:1). The depiction of the seven stars of Ursa Major on Roman coins began in the period of the Roman Republic. To celebrate the deification of Domitian's infant son after his death, coins were issued in AD 83 that show the child seated on a globe holding him.



Roman coin depicting the seven stars of Ursa Major.

Isaiah 40:10-12

¹⁰Behold, the Lord God will come with
might, With His arm ruling for Him.
Behold, His compensation is with
Him, And His reward before Him.

¹¹Like a shepherd He will tend His flock, In His arm He will gather the lambs And carry *them* in the fold of His robe; He will gently lead the nursing ewes.

¹²Who has measured the waters in
the hollow of His hand, **And**
measured the heavens with a span,
And calculated the dust of the earth
with a measure, And weighed the
mountains in a balance And the hills
in a pair of scales?

Isaiah 40:10–12 (NASB 2020)

¹⁶In His right hand He held seven stars, and out of His mouth came a sharp two-edged sword; and His face was like the sun shining in its strength.

Revelation 1:16 (NASB 2020)

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¹⁷When I saw Him, I fell at His feet like a dead man. And He placed His right hand on me, saying, “Do not be afraid; I am the first and the last, ¹⁸and the living One; and I was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of death and of Hades.

Revelation 1:17–18 (NASB 2020)

⁴⁰And a man with leprosy came to Jesus, imploring Him and kneeling down, and saying to Him, “If You are willing, You can make me clean.” ⁴¹Moved with compassion, *Jesus* reached out with His hand and touched him, and said to him, “I am willing; be cleansed.”

Mark 1:40–41 (NASB 2020)

¹⁵For this is what the high and exalted
One Who lives forever, whose name is
Holy, says: “I dwell *in* a high and holy
place, And *also* with the contrite and
lowly of spirit In order to revive the spirit
of the lowly And to revive the heart of
the contrite.

Isaiah 57:15 (NASB 2020)

¹⁷When I saw Him, I fell at His feet like a dead man. And He placed His right hand on me, saying, “Do not be afraid; I am the first and the last, ¹⁸and the living One; and I was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of death and of Hades.

Revelation 1:17–18 (NASB 2020)

¹⁰Then I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, “Now the salvation, and the power, and the kingdom of our God and the authority of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brothers *and* sisters has been thrown down, the one who accuses them before our God day and night. ¹¹And they overcame him because of the blood of the Lamb and because of the word of their testimony, **and they did not love their life *even when faced with* death**. ¹²For this reason, rejoice, you heavens and you who dwell in them. Woe to the earth and the sea, because the devil has come down to you with great wrath, knowing that he has *only* a short time.”

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A King Worth Falling For

1. Present in our suffering (1:9-11, 13a)
2. Peerless in His significance (1:12-16)
3. Personal in His sovereignty (1:17-18)
4. Purposeful in His sending (1:19)

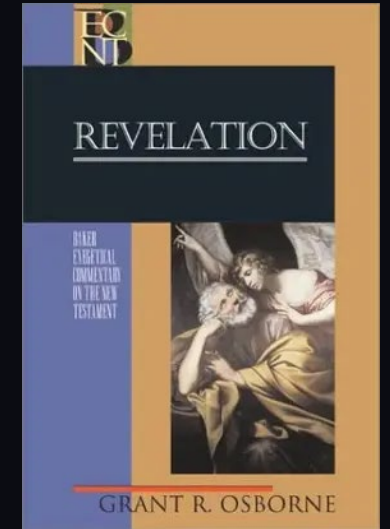
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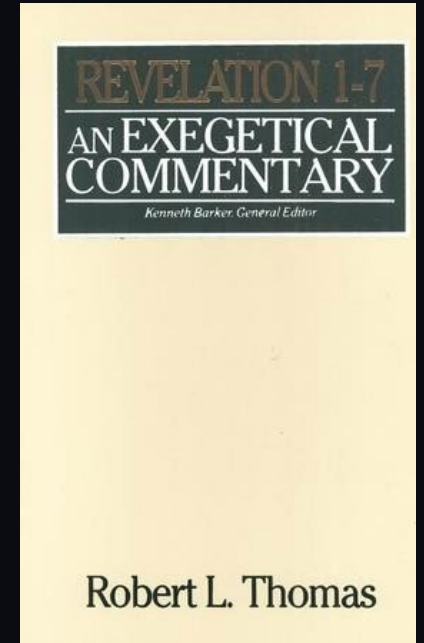
¹⁹**Therefore** write the things which
you have seen, and the things which
are, and the things which will take
place after these things.

Revelation 1:19 (NASB 2020)

Here the commission relates the contents of the visions. The οὖν (oun, therefore) draws a conclusion from the preceding statement. In light of Jesus' cosmic victory over death and the forces of evil, John must "write" (γράφον, grapson, repeats the command of 1:11) down what God is telling him.



This idea is, “Since I am the eternal one and the Lord of life and death, I send to my churches the commands and promises of this book”



¹⁸Just as You sent Me into the world, I
also sent them into the world.

John 17:18 (NASB 2020)

¹⁸And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, “**All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me.** ¹⁹Go, therefore, and **make disciples** of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, ²⁰teaching them to follow all that I commanded you; and behold, **I am with you always, to the end of the age.**”

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Application

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The glorious King who is near enough to steady you is strong enough to send you!
Fall at His feet this week in worship, and
rise to go wherever He might send you