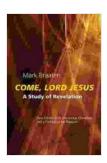
## **Come Lord Jesus: A Study of Revelation**

The Book of Revelation, the final book of the Bible, is a complex and enigmatic text that has captivated and perplexed readers for centuries. Its vivid imagery, apocalyptic visions, and cryptic prophecies have inspired both awe and fear, leading to countless interpretations and theological debates. This comprehensive study of Revelation seeks to unlock the secrets of this enigmatic book, unraveling its symbolism, prophecies, and message of hope for the end times.



## Come, Lord Jesus: A Study of Revelation by John Piper

**★** ★ ★ ★ 4.6 out of 5 : English Language : 727 KB File size Text-to-Speech : Enabled Screen Reader : Supported Enhanced typesetting: Enabled Word Wise : Enabled Print length : 194 pages : Enabled Lending



### The Author: John the Evangelist

The Book of Revelation was written by John the Evangelist, a disciple of Jesus Christ and one of the twelve apostles. Tradition holds that John was exiled to the island of Patmos during the reign of Emperor Domitian around 95 AD. It was during this time that John received a series of visions that form the basis of the Book of Revelation.

#### The Genre: Apocalyptic Literature

Revelation belongs to the genre of apocalyptic literature, a literary form that flourished in the ancient Near East and Second Temple Judaism.

Apocalyptic literature typically deals with the end times, divine judgment, and the ultimate triumph of good over evil. Revelation combines elements of prophecy, symbolism, and visionary experiences to convey its message.

#### **Structure and Content**

The Book of Revelation is divided into 22 chapters and can be divided into several distinct sections:

- Prologue (1:1-8): The to the book, containing the author's greeting, audience, and purpose for writing.
- The Seven Churches (2:1-3:22): Letters to seven churches in Asia Minor, each with a unique message and prophetic significance.
- The Throne Room Vision (4:1-5:14): A depiction of the heavenly throne room and the worship of God by the heavenly beings.
- The Seven Seals (6:1-8:1): The opening of seven seals, revealing a series of events leading to the end times.
- The Seven Trumpets (8:2-11:19): The sounding of seven trumpets, each heralding a different judgment or catastrophe.
- The Two Beasts (12:1-13:18): The vision of two beasts, one from the sea and one from the land, representing opposing forces of evil.
- The Seven Bowls (15:1-16:21): The pouring out of seven bowls of wrath, causing widespread devastation and judgment.

- The Fall of Babylon (17:1-19:21): The depiction of the fall of a symbolic city called Babylon, representing worldly corruption and oppression.
- The Second Coming of Christ (19:11-21): The return of Jesus Christ to earth, establishing His victorious kingdom.
- The Millennium and New Jerusalem (20:1-21:27): The
   establishment of a 1,000-year reign of Christ on earth and the vision of
   the New Jerusalem, the eternal dwelling place of God's people.
- **Epilogue (22:1-21):** The of the book, summarizing its message and providing a final exhortation to the readers.

#### **Symbolism and Imagery**

Revelation is replete with vivid symbolism and imagery, drawing heavily from ancient Near Eastern traditions and biblical sources. Some of the prominent symbols in Revelation include:

- The Lamb: A symbol of Jesus Christ as the sacrificial Lamb who redeems humanity from sin.
- The Dragon: A symbol of Satan, the serpent who tempts and opposes
   God.
- The Beast: A symbolic figure representing evil, persecution, and false religion.
- The Harlot: A symbol of a corrupt religious or political system.
- Babylon: A symbolic city representing worldly corruption, idolatry, and oppression.

• The New Jerusalem: A symbol of the eternal dwelling place of God's people, where they will live in peace and fellowship with Him.

#### **Prophetic Interpretations**

The prophecies in Revelation have been the subject of intense debate and speculation throughout history. Various interpretations exist, including:

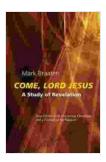
- Preterist View: Interprets the prophecies as having been fulfilled in the past, primarily during the Roman Empire.
- Historicist View: Sees the prophecies as fulfilled throughout history,
   with specific events corresponding to different historical periods.
- **Futurist View:** Believes that the prophecies will be fulfilled in the future, particularly during the end times.
- Idealist View: Interprets the prophecies as representing timeless spiritual principles and truths rather than specific historical events.

## **Message of Hope**

Despite its apocalyptic imagery and prophecies of judgment, Revelation ultimately conveys a message of hope. The book assures believers that God is sovereign over all things and that the forces of evil will ultimately be defeated. It encourages faithfulness and perseverance, promising that those who remain true to Christ will inherit eternal life and dwell in the New Jerusalem.

The Book of Revelation is a challenging and profound text that invites us to explore the mysteries of the end times and to embrace the hope that God offers. Through its vivid symbolism, prophecies, and message of hope, Revelation provides insights into the nature of God, the battle between

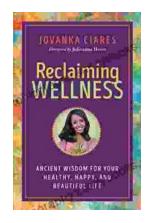
good and evil, and the ultimate destiny of humanity. Whether interpreted literally or symbolically, the Book of Revelation remains a source of fascination and inspiration, reminding us that the victory ultimately belongs to God and that those who trust in Him will inherit the eternal kingdom.



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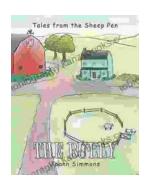
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