

Grant Street Baptist Church	Sermon Notes
Jeremy Beck	March 3, 2021

Illustration: We often times wonder why God seems such a mystery in our life, but could it be that we are not making an effort to listen?

Title: *"Obedient Hearing"*

Intro:

- The Revelation was written in Greek by John in 95 AD
- There are over 550 references to the OT in this one book
- The Revelation is difficult to understand, but was in no way to be hidden or sealed as the word itself means to be revealed. The angel of the Lord even told John not to seal the Revelation because the time is at hand.
- The Revelation is written in 3 parts: part 1 [chapter 1] = Things that are seen (John's vision of the resurrected Christ), part 2 [chapters 2 & 3] = Things that are (a brief overview of church history), part 3 [chapters 4-22] = Things that will be (what will take place in Heaven and Earth after the Rapture of the Church)
- The Revelation begins in Chapter 1 with John giving a dramatic vision of the resurrected Christ. It had been sixty years since John last saw his Lord and Savior taken up into Heaven...now John "the disciple who Jesus loved" comes face to face with his Master. He immediately recognizes Jesus, but notices something drastically different about Him.
- After John had this encounter with Christ, he recorded what he saw; The Revelation

Scripture: **Revelation 1:1-3** "1 The revelation from Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show his servants what must soon take place. He made it known by sending his angel to his servant John, <sup>2</sup> who testifies to everything he saw—that is, the word of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ. <sup>3</sup> Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear it and take to heart what is written in it, because the time is near.

Message: The revelation (**unveiling**) from Jesus Christ (**given to John 60 years after Jesus' ascension**), which God gave him to show his servants (**God the Father gave the revelation to Jesus to give John and us**) what must soon take place (**He is not saying that these things will happen within a matter of a few years, but it is certain that they are going to happen and when they start happening they will happen rapidly**). He made it known (**words change meanings much more rapidly than symbols do so the book of Revelation was written to describe events that would take place hundreds of years in the future, symbols were used. Revelation contains more symbols than any other book in the New Testament**) by sending his angel (**messenger**) to his servant John, <sup>2</sup> who testifies to everything he saw—that is, the word of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ (**John was a witness to this record**). <sup>3</sup> Blessed (**Revelation is the only book in the Bible that begins with and ends with a promise of blessing to those who read and obey its contents...there are a total of 7 guaranteed promises of blessings mentioned in the book of Revelation**) is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear it and take to heart what is written in it (**hearing with the intent of obeying**), because the time is near (**the time will certainly come and is rapidly approaching**).

Application:

- We often times wonder why God seems such a mystery in our life, but could it be that we are not making an effort to listen?
- Obedient Hearing...the trouble with us seems to be first if we are even listening for God trying to hear Him, but then if we do hear from Him we have trouble being obedient to Him
- The Revelation Intro...it's an overview to let us know that Jesus was given The Revelation from God the Father first for John's benefit and then John was to write it down (record it) for our benefit
- There are 7 guaranteed promises given to us in The Revelation, but we must hear them first to know them and we must obey what we hear in order to be blessed
- Could the take away tonight be that in just the intro of Revelation, God is trying to tell you that you are not listening for Him and that is why He seems as much of a mystery as the book of The Revelation?
- Could the take away tonight be that in just the intro of Revelation, God is trying to tell you that you are hearing, but not obeying what you hear from Him and His words and therefore cannot be blessed by Him for your disobedience?