

December 4–10

Revelation 1–5

“Glory, and Power, Be unto ... the Lamb for Ever”



# Overview

Bruce R. McConkie

"The issue... is to learn what God has revealed and unfolded in these apocalyptic writings and to lay the remainder aside, knowing that in our present state of understanding any speculation is worse than useless; such speculation not only leads to misunderstanding but so often becomes the basis of gospel hobbies which lead away from that sound view and perspective of all eternal truths... But let us remember that the book of Revelation was written to be understood.... Its true and full meaning will someday be revealed to the faithful and obedient saints; and the more we can learn now, with the interpretive insight already available to us, the better off we are." (DNTC 3:430-432)



# Overview

D&C 29

D&C 45

D&C 77

D&C 88

D&C 101

D&C 133

1 Nephi 11-14

JS – Matthew (JST Matthew 24)

# Overview

## Nephi

1 Nephi 14:25-27

[25] But the things which thou shalt see hereafter thou shalt not write; for the Lord God hath ordained the apostle of the Lamb of God that he should write them.

[26] And also others who have been, to them hath he shown all things, and the have written them...

[27] And I, Nephi, heard and bear record, that the name of the apostle of the Lamb was John...

## Moses

Moses 1:36,40

[36] And it came to pass that Moses spake unto the Lord, saying: Be merciful unto thy servant, O God, and tell me concerning this earth, and the inhabitants thereof...

[40] And now, Moses, my son, I will speak unto thee concerning this earth upon which thou standest; and thou shalt write the things which I shall speak.



# Overview

## Enoch

Moses 7:4

And I saw the Lord; and he stood before my face... and he said unto me: Look, and I will show unto thee the world for the space of many generations.

## Brother of Jared

Ether 3:25-27

[25] And when the Lord had said these words, he showed unto the brother of Jared all the inhabitants of the earth which had been, and also all that would be; and he withheld them not from his sight, even unto the ends of the earth

[27] And the Lord said unto him: Write these things and seal them up; and I will show them in mine own due time unto the children of men.

# To the Seven Churches

Rev 1:11-13,20

JST Rev 1:20 ...The seven stars are the *servants* of the seven churches...



The first three chapters of the book of Revelation were specifically addressed to seven branches of the Church in Asia Minor. It is unclear why these particular churches were singled out. While other branches of the Church had been established in Asia, these seven may represent the Church as a whole (the number seven being symbolic of completeness). (New Testament Student Manual, Religion 211–212, pg. 532)

Bruce R. McConkie

“Candlesticks carry light; they do not create it. Their function is to make it available, not to bring it into being.... The Lord is showing that his congregations on earth are to carry his light to the world. Christ is the Light of the world. ‘Hold up your light that it may shine unto the world. Behold I am the light which ye shall hold up—that which ye have seen me do’ (3 Ne 18:24).”  
(DNTC, 3:442)



# To the Seven Churches

Rev 1:5-8

# To the Seven Churches

Rev 2:2-3, 13, 19, 3:8, 10

What are some of the ways that they demonstrated their righteousness and faithfulness?



# To the Seven Churches

Rev 2:4-5, 14-15, 20, 3:15-17

What are some of the commandments that they are struggling with and need to repent?

# To the Seven Churches

Rev 2:7, 11, 17, 26-28, 3:12, 3:21

JST Rev 2:27 And he shall rule them with *the word of God*; and they shall be in his hands as the vessels of clay in the hands of a potter; and he shall govern them by faith, with equity and justice, even as I received of my Father.

In what way do you think that these 7 promises are similar?

In what way do you think that these 7 promises are different?



## Robert J. Matthews

"The temple ceremony pertains to exaltation and eternal life, and references in the New Testament show that the members of the Church at that time knew that. For example, Peter reminded the Saints that they had been given 'all things that pertain unto life and godliness,... that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature' (2 Pet 1:3-4). Paul spoke of obtaining a 'crown of righteousness' (2 Tim 4:8), and of the saints becoming 'heirs of God and joint-heirs with Christ' (Rom 8:17). And John wrote of the faithful becoming 'kings and priests unto God' (Rev 1:6) to 'reign on the earth' (Rev 5:10). In the Church we recognize these as matters pertaining to the higher ordinances of the gospel that are administered in the temple....

"The persons to whom the epistles were written were already familiar with the doctrines. Consequently, those in the Church today who are familiar with temple ordinances can understand from these epistles that the saints in the New Testament times had the same temple blessings and ordinances." ("I Have a Question," Ensign, Sept. 1974)

# The Throne of God

Rev 4:1-5

What are we to understand by the 24 elders?



D&C 77:5

Q. What are we to understand by the four and twenty elders, spoken of by John?

A. We are to understand that these elders whom John saw, were elders who had been faithful in the work of the ministry and were dead; who belonged to the seven churches, and were then in the paradise of God.

# The Throne of God

Rev 4:6-11

What are we to understand by the four beasts?

What are we to understand by the eyes and wings of the beasts?



D&C 77:2

Q. What are we to understand by the four beasts, spoken of in the same verse?

A. They are figurative expressions, used by the Revelator, John, in describing heaven, the paradise of God, the happiness of man, and of beasts, and of creeping things, and of the fowls of the air; that which is spiritual being in the likeness of that which is temporal; and that which is temporal in the likeness of that which is spiritual; the spirit of man in the likeness of his person, as also the spirit of the beasts, and every other creature which God has created.

D&C 77:4

Q. What are we to understand by the eyes and wings, which the beasts had?

A. Their eyes are a representation of light and knowledge, that is, they are full of knowledge; and their wings are a representation of power, to move, to act, etc.



# Book With Seven Seals

Rev 5:1-5

Who is the Lion of Judah, the root of David?

What are we to understand by the sealed book?

What are we to understand by the seven seals?

D&C 77:6

Q. What are we to understand by the book which John saw, which was sealed on the back with seven seals?

A. We are to understand that it contains the revealed will, mysteries, and the works of God; the hidden things of his economy concerning this earth during the seven thousand years of its continuance, or its temporal existence.



D&C 77:7

Q. What are we to understand by the seven seals with which it was sealed?

A. We are to understand that the first seal contains the things of the first thousand years, and the second also of the second thousand years, and so on until the seventh.

Next Week:

December 11–17

Revelation 6–14

“They Overcame ... by the Blood of the Lamb”

