① 4 MAIN VIEWS REVIEWED

- Fulfillment
1. Preterist... PAST (partial Preterist)
2. Historicist... sequential
3. Spiritualist... symbolic – PAST, PRESENT, FUTURE
4. Futurist... Future

- APOCALYPTIC
1. Preterist... END of the Nation
2. Historicist... end of the world
3. Spiritualist... BOTH
4. Futurist... End of the world

- TRIBULATION
1. Preterist... occured under Rom. Emp.
2. Historicist... sequence of epochs
3. Spiritualist... now for each Nation one day for the world
4. Futurist... Specific 7 yr time under Neo-Rom. Emp (HAS to BE Rome to fulfill Dan. 2 and 7)

The RAPTURE
1. Preterist... w/ 2nd coming (70 AD)
2. Historicist... w/ 2nd coming
3. Spiritualist... w/ 2nd coming
4. Futurist... pre, mid, or post Trib

The Messianic Kingdom
1. Preterist... 30 AD to 70 AD
2. Historicist... would have a specific DATE as all Events would be concurrent w/ the Tribul.)
3. Spiritualist... Now (concurrent w/ the Tribul.)
4. Futurist... literal 1,000 years after the Trib.

2nd COMING of CHRIST
1. Preterist... spiritual coming of Jude vs. 14-15
2. Historicist...
3. Spiritualist... BOTH < spiritual Nation / Physical world
4. Futurist... Physical before or after the Kingdom

★ Pre-millenial – before Kingdom
★ Post-millenial – after Kingdom

- THE RESURRECTION
1. Preterist... 2... 1) General Res. of all Believers – Spiritual 2) individual at Death – Spiritual
2. Historicist...
3. Spiritualist... 2... 1) Regeneration at death of the Believer – Spiritual 2) All at 2nd COMING – Physical
4. Futurist... 2... 1) Believers before 1,000 – Phys. 2) unbelievers after 1,000 – Phys.

- The JUDGMENT
1. Preterist... 1 at 70 AD – Spiritual judgment on Israel as a NATION
2. Historicist... 1 at the END – of the world
3. Spiritualist... Spiritual Judgment on a NATION – which would seem like the end of the world FOR them / at the END – of the world – Believers and unbelievers together – ch. 20
4. Futurist... 2... 1) Believers before 1,000 2) unbelievers after 1,000

-THE NEW HEAVEN & EARTH
1. Preterist... occured @ 70 AD, ≠ the N.C.
2. Historicist... the Church Glorified, NOT Literal
3. Spiritualist... is the new Jerusalem, the Church (perfected)
4. Futurist... Literal after the 1,000 yrs and after Both Judgments (NO more sea, 144 cubits square, 12 gates, 12 levels, etc.)

② PURPOSE OF THE LETTER

v.1 The revelation of Jesus Christ
ἀποκάλυψις Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ
unveiling/revealing by Jesus ← Genetive
Genetive – from or by (shows possession)
- Jesus is revealing to the believer a soon coming prophecy (ἐγγύς ch. 1, v. 3, 5, 10) – NOT so much OF Jesus BUT from Jesus
Blessed is he who reads, hears, and Keeps the words of this prophecy... 1:3
★ Repeated at end of letter (inclusio)
"Blessed is he who Keeps the words of the prophecy of this book" 22:7

προφητεία "prophecy", declaration from God

- These two words (ἀποκάλυψις and προφητεία) along with two other key words in Rev. 1:1

τάχος γίνομαι – shortly, come to exist/take place
- σημαίνω – signs, symbolized indicate

★ These words follow the same structure & pattern of Dan. 2:28-30, 45-47
- IN Dan. 2...
ἀποκάλυψις appears 5x
γενέσθαι appears 3x
σημαίνω appears 2x

Daniel 2:28 says... what must come to pass in the latter days

is NOW Replaced by Rev. 1:1 what must come to pass shortly τάχος

★ This deliberate substitution seems to indicate that the vision/prophecy revealed to Daniel...
- which was a defeat of evil and the establishment of the Kingdom (which Daniel was told would happen in the "latter Days")

★ IS NOW unfolding shortly, in fact, has already begun
- and just as Daniel was given his prophecy through symbols σημαίνω Dan. 2:45
- John, as well, is given this soon τάχος unfolding prophecy through symbols Rev. 1:1 "σημαίνω"

★ Daniel had to understand the prophecy revealed by symbols προφητεία ἀποκάλυψις σημαίνω
- through a huge statue of man (Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, Rome, Messiah) w/ different metals & rock crushing the man – 4 Kingdoms – 1 everlasting Kingdom

★ So too, John, the reader, & the hearer must understand this particular prophecy revealed by symbols προφητεία ἀποκάλυψις σημαίνω Rev. 1:1

- Case in point: Rev. 1:1 marks the soon fulfillment of the long awaited 600 yr prophecy of Daniel 2... THE KINGDOM Begins

★ NO more waiting

★ The Tribulation & Kingdom of Dan 2 have begun (Futurist would probably argue "already – NOT yet" theory) (AND Dan 7 "parallel accounts")
- This is the main purpose and title of the BOOK/Letter

③ RECIPIENT OF THE REVELATION

v.1 which God gave Him to show His servants – things which must shortly take place. And He sent and signified it through His angel to His servant John
- so, the chain of communication is: God → Jesus → Angel → John → heaven/ servants

servants = δοῦλος
– refers to the community of believers
- sometimes John will fall down to worship the angel who shows him these visions...

★ But John is told to worship God and that the angel is a fellow servant δοῦλος Rev. 22:8-9

"I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things in the churches..." 22:16
- Jesus is NOT an angel...
– NO angel has an Angel as "His"
– angels do not "possess" other angels

- The reason for the chain of communication is deliberate
– God is the source of all Revelation Dan. 2:28, 29, 45, Amos 3:7
– Jesus is the Revealer
– Jesus' servants δοῦλος are His angels and people
- one of the main messages of this prophetic Revelation is:

v.1 These things must shortly take place
τάχος γίνομαι
↳ shortly OR Quickly
– Futurist argue when it happens...

it will happen "Quickly"... these things will happen in Quick sequence (all w/in a 7 yr span... although is that "Quickly"?)
- The problem, though, is that v.3 repeats the claim w/ another word "... The time (Καιρὸς "season") is near (ἐγγύς "imminent", soon at hand, close)

"You who were afar off have been brought near by the blood of Christ" Eph. 2:13

"The Teacher says My time is near, I will keep the Passover at your house..." Matt 26:18

- Also, this revelation is said to be v.1 signified by His angel
σημαίνω δία αὐτοῦ ὁ ἄγγελος
↳ semaino
↳ symbolize, figurative language
★ Evidence to NOT take the visions literal
- Examples of σημαίνω (signifies something deeper)
- Jesus gave a proverb to Peter... "This He spoke, signifying by what death he would glorify God..." John 21:19
- Jesus spoke of His own death, "When I am lifted up... this He said signifying by what death He would die" John 12:33
- Ezekiel in Ezek. 9 was told to write a mark (Tav) on the foreheads to signify those who weep over Jerusalem
– The mark was a σημαίνω of Good
★ σημαίνω are figurative indicators – sometimes ευτυχία
Examples today: red flag, checkered flag, skull and cross bone flag, white flag, etc.
smoke signs, Trumpet songs: Reveille (assemble, wake up), Drum Roll, Taps (death)

④ THOSE WHO SAW, READ, HEARD & KEPT

v.2 (John) who bore witness to the word of God
- John is "testifying"... 2x in v.2
μαρτυρεω – witness
μαρτυρία – Testimony (martyr-)
- This entire prophecy/Letter will have several allusions to a court case
ch. 2-3 churches swiftly be innocent
ch. 4-5 Throne
ch. 6-7 Sealed judgments
ch. 8-9 Trumpet JUDGMENTS
ch. 11 Two witnesses
ch. 15-16 Bowl Judgments
ch. 20 Great white throne Judgment
- notice also that John is bearing witness to the λογος/Word of God
– This is another term specific to the Apostle John (John 1:1, 1 Jhn 5:7)

v.2 and to the testimony of Jesus Christ
– the word (λογος, message) of God is the testimony of Jesus Christ
★ Jesus is the λογος

v.2 and to all things that he saw
– presumably all the visions/σημαίνω
– These visions/prophecies were so amazing that John is saying he stands before God as saying the TRUTH

v.3 Blessed is he...
μακάριος: blessed, well off
- There are 7 Beatitudes in Rev.
1. Blessed are those who Read and hear and Keep/obey these words – 1:2
2. Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on... – 14:13
3. Blessed is he who watches and Keeps his garments... lest he walk naked & they see his shame. 16:15
4. Blessed are those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb. 19:9
5. Blessed and holy is he who has part in the first resurrection, for over such the second death has no power... 20:6
6. I am coming quickly, blessed is he who Keeps the words of this prophecy 22:7
7. Blessed are those who do His commandments, for they may have the right to the tree of Life and may enter through the gates to the city. 22:14
- The blessing goes to those who hear and Do (Rom 2, Jam. 2)
- This is a theme through Scripture

v.3 Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of this prophecy and Keep (take to heart) those things which are written...
- Read/hear AND Keep/OBEY/TRUST

v.3 For the Time/season is near
Καιρὸς ἐγγύς
– imminent Tribulation
– unseen comings of Judgment throughout the age
– The Rise of the True Kingdom

"The time is fulfilled and the Kingdom of God is at hand (ἐγγύς). Repent and Believe in the Gospel" MK. 1:15