

The Revelation

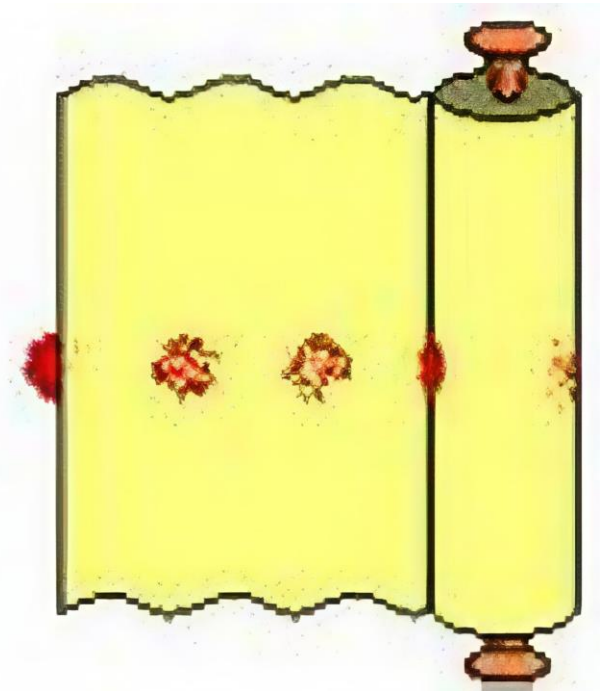
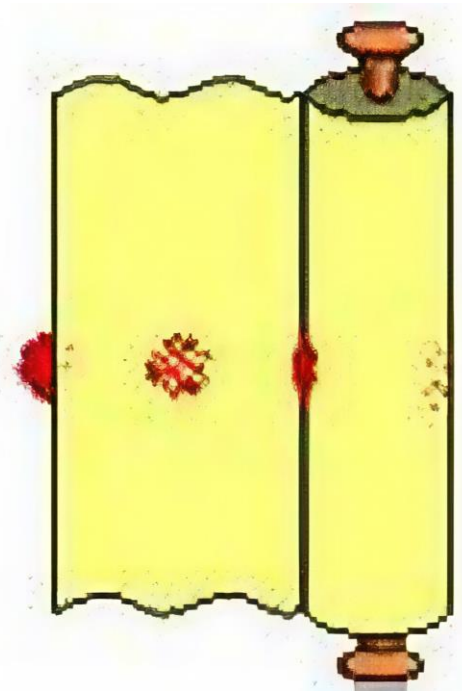
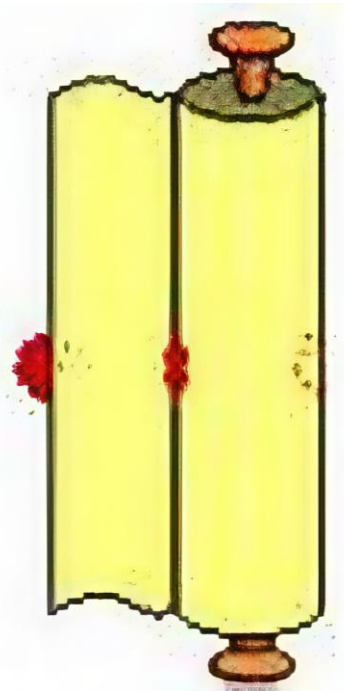
Chapter 1:9-20

Christ Church
Spring 2026

Layers of Revelation

- Apocalyptic
- Biblical
- **Covenantal**
- Ethical/Practical
- Historical
- Symbolical
- Liturgical





Hittite Treaty

Turkey, Hittite (1300 BC)

This Hittite treaty details the suzerain-vassal relationship between Muwattalli II of Hatti, king of the Hittites, and Alakshandu of Wilusa. Treaties like this one were extremely common in the ancient Near East and appear to have influenced the composition of the book of Deuteronomy— all the basic components of a vassal treaty are present and follow the basic structure of a treaties written during this time period.



The **treaties** follow a prescribed form

- ***Preamble*** – identifying the king; emphasizing his greatness and presence
- ***Historical prologue*** – surveys the previous relationship
- ***Ethical stipulations*** – establishes the vassals obligations
- ***Sanctions*** – a curse/blessing formulary
- ***Succession arrangements*** – deals with the future relationship of the covenant

- Transcendence
- Historical preamble
- Ethical stipulations
- Oaths
- Succession arrangements

- **T**ranscendence
- **H**istorical preamble
- **E**thical stipulations
- **O**aths
- **S**uccession arrangements

- **T**ranscendence – *“Who’s in charge here?”*
- **H**ierarchy – *“To Whom do I report?”*
- **E**thics – *“What are the rules?”*
- **O**aths – *“What will I get if I obey? And if I don’t?”*
- **S**uccession – *“Does this group have a future?”*

- Revelation 1:9

“I, John, your brother and companion in the suffering and kingdom and patient endurance that are ours in Jesus, was on the island of Patmos because of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus.”

- In v. 9 John calls us ‘**brother**’ and ‘**companion**’ in ‘**suffering**’ or the usual word is ‘**tribulation**’
 - I Thessalonians 1:6; 3:4; II Thessalonians 1:4-10; II Timothy 3:1-12; Acts 14:22;
 - Matthew 5:10-12; I Peter 4:12-19; 5:7; Romans 5:3; 8:17; James 1:2; Hebrews 2:10

•v. 10

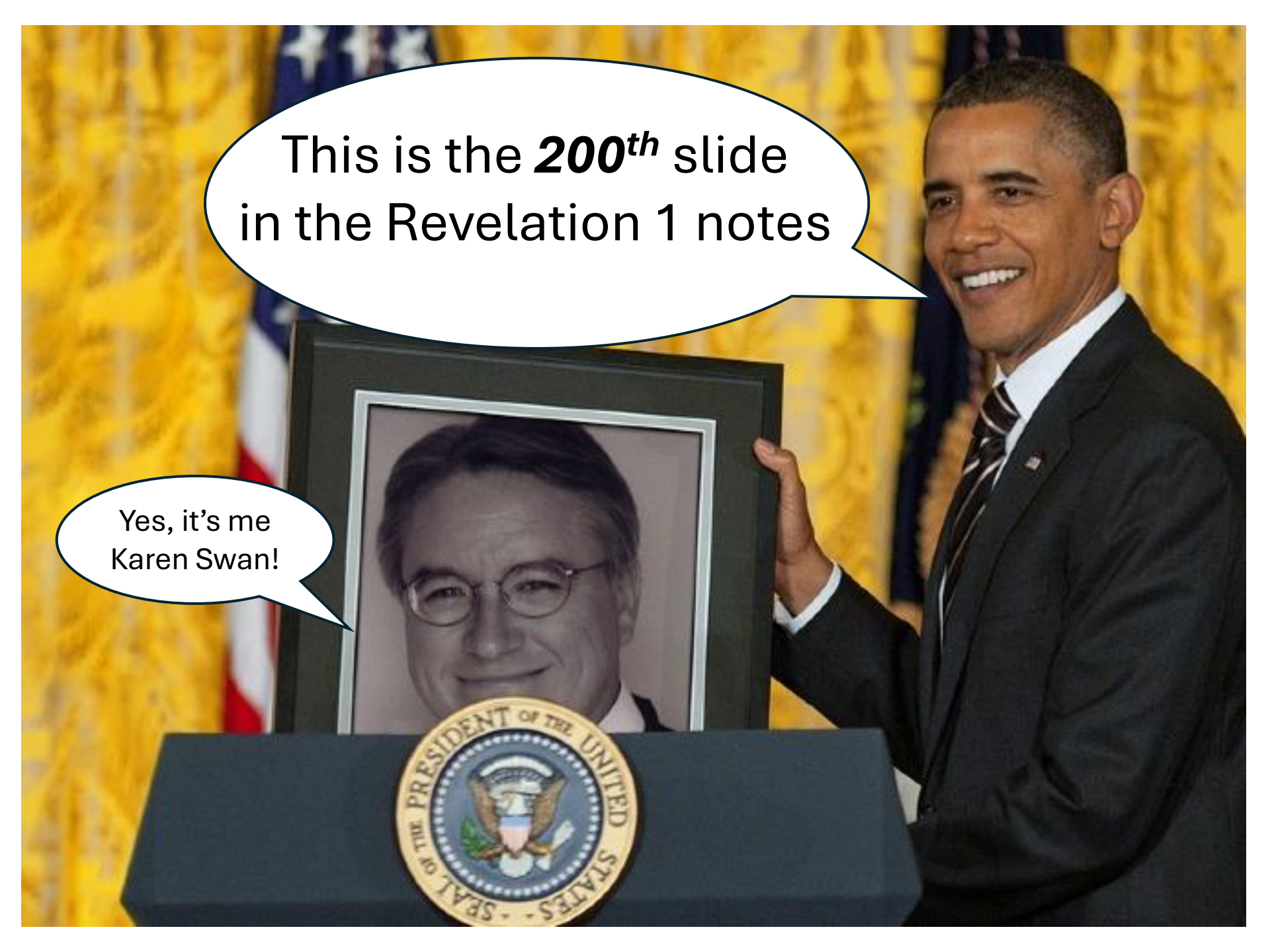


- Revelation 1:10

”On the Lord’s Day I was in the Spirit, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet,”

- **What day of the week was The Revelation given?**
- **Why is that significant?**
- **What is John's description of himself in v. 10?**
- **What does that mean?**
- **“in the Spirit”** is a technical/prophetic term
 - Numbers 11:25
 - Ezekiel 2:2
 - II Peter 1:21

- The expression “**in the Spirit**” is used four times in Revelation – notice the location in each case
 - Revelation 1:9, 10 – on an *island*, in exile (Goshen – Genesis 47:27)
 - Revelation 4:1, 2 – *heaven*, like Sinai (Exodus 25:40; Hebrews 8:1-7)
 - Revelation 17:3 – *wilderness* (Numbers 32:13)
 - Revelation 21:9 – *mountain* (Deuteronomy 32:49; 34:1)

A photograph of Barack Obama, President of the United States, smiling and holding a framed portrait of Karen Swan. He is standing behind a podium with the Presidential Seal. The background features a yellow patterned curtain and an American flag.

This is the **200th** slide
in the Revelation 1 notes

Yes, it's me
Karen Swan!

- **What does the ‘voice’ sound like? Why is that important?**
- **“voice” – *Read Psalm 29:3-9**

- Psalm 29:3-9

³The **voice** of the LORD is over the waters;
the God of glory thunders,
the LORD thunders over the mighty waters.

⁴The **voice** of the LORD is powerful;
the **voice** of the LORD is majestic.

⁵The **voice** of the LORD breaks the cedars;
the LORD breaks in pieces the cedars of Lebanon.

⁶He makes Lebanon leap like a calf,
Sirion like a young wild ox.

⁷The **voice** of the LORD strikes
with flashes of lightning.

⁸The **voice** of the LORD shakes the desert;
the LORD shakes the Desert of Kadesh.

⁹The **voice** of the LORD twists the oaks
and strips the forests bare.

And in his temple all cry, “Glory!”

- Read Genesis 3:8; Exodus 19:16 –
‘spirit’, ‘day’, and ‘voice’ is judgment language. Those elements signal -
‘here come da judge’



- Genesis 3:8

“Then the man and his wife heard the ***sound*** of the LORD God as he was walking in the garden in the ***cool*** of the ***day***, and they hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden.”





- Trumpets proclaimed a new king – I Kings 1:34, 39; Psalm 47:5; Revelation 11:15
- Trumpets warn of judgment – Isaiah 58:1; Jeremiah 4:5-8; Ezekiel 33:1-6; Joel 2:1-11; 15-17
- Trumpets summon the congregation – Numbers 10:1-9
- Trumpets announce feasts, new moon – Numbers 10:10
- Trumpets accompany the heavenly glory-cloud – Exodus 19:16; Revelation 8:6-11:19

- Revelation 1:11

“which said: “Write on a scroll what you see and send it to the seven churches: to Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia and Laodicea.”

- **‘Write on a scroll’** literally a **‘book’**



- Ezekiel 36:26

“I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh.”

- Jeremiah 31:33

“This is the covenant I will make with the people of Israel

after that time,” declares the LORD.

“I will put my law in their minds
and write it on their hearts.

I will be their God,
and they will be my people.

Old Testament Order



Continual Covenant



II Corinthians 3:1-3

- Revelation 1:12

“I turned around to see the *voice* that was speaking to me. And when I turned, I saw seven golden lampstands,”

- The order of ‘**heard**’ then ‘**see**’ establishes a pattern that is repeated in the Revelation
 - Note Revelation 22:8
- What John teaches us is verbal revelation is necessary in order to understand the visual revelation





- **Where does this imagery come from?**
- **What is different in this version?**



- **What does this mean?**
- “The one lampstand (a stylized tree) of the old Tabernacle is now Christ (the Tree of Life) with His seven lampstands. ...in the Old Testament, the Church had a centralized, national character; and the unity of...Israel was focused geographically, in Jerusalem. The...New Israel, has been geographically and nationally decentralized – or, better, *multicentralized*.”

- “The Church is no longer tied to one place, for it has been sent into all the world...There is no longer any special place on earth that is holy; rather, the whole world has become ‘holy space’ for Jesus Christ has redeemed it.”
David Chilton, Days of Vengeance, pp. 83,84



- Revelation 1:13

“and among the lampstands was someone like a son of man, dressed in a robe reaching down to his feet and with a golden sash around his chest.”

- **What else is added to our scene?**



- Exodus 28:4

”These are the garments they are to make: a breastpiece, an ephod, a robe, a woven tunic, a turban and a sash. They are to make these sacred garments for your brother Aaron and his sons, so they may serve me as priests.”

- See also Exodus 29:5; 39:27-29; Leviticus 16:4

- The clothing of the priest looked back to the glorious Adam (before the Fall) and forward to Jesus
- “Contributing to the impression of radiance was the flame-colored linen material prescribed for the ephod, with its band and breast-piece, and for the bottom of the robe of the ephod – a shimmering blend of bright reds and blues with the metallic glint of threads of gold. Highlighting the fiery effect were the rings and braided chains of gold, the radiant golden crown of the mitre, the gleam of precious stones set in gold on the shoulder straps of the ephod and the breast-piece.” Meredith Kline, Images of the Spirit, p. 43

- Exodus 39:1-3

“From the **blue, purple and scarlet** yarn they made woven garments for ministering in the sanctuary. They also made sacred garments for Aaron, as the LORD commanded Moses.

²They made the ephod of gold, and of blue, purple and scarlet yarn, and of finely twisted linen. ³They **hammered out thin sheets of gold and cut strands** to be worked into the blue, purple and scarlet yarn and fine linen—the work of skilled hands.”





“BLACK AND BLUE”

blue, purple, scarlet





- Revelation 1:14

¹⁴ "The hair on his head was white like wool, as white as snow, and his eyes were like blazing fire."

- **What developments on the Temple theme do you see?**

- Note the '**blazing fire**'
- Note the '**rushing waters**'

THE TABERNACLE OF MOSES (EXODUS 35-40)

