

Theology (Doctrine of God)

Revelation emphasizes the absolute sovereignty, holiness, justice, and eternal nature of God. God is the supreme ruler whose justice, mercy, and holiness bring history to its intended fulfillment. The **doctrine of God (theology proper) in the Book of Revelation** presents God as the **eternal, sovereign Creator, righteous Judge, and Redeemer** who reigns over all creation and brings history to its appointed fulfillment. While Revelation gives a highly exalted portrait of Jesus Christ, it also consistently portrays God the Father as the one seated on the heavenly throne, the source of creation, salvation, and final judgment.

1. God the Eternal One: God is described as eternal and unchanging.

- "The One who is and who was and who is to come" (Rev. 1:4; 4:8)
- "Alpha and Omega" (Rev. 1:8; 21:6; 22:13)
- "The Almighty" (παντοκράτωρ)

2. God the Sovereign King: The throne is the dominant symbol of God's sovereignty (Rev. 4).

3. God the Creator: Creation belongs to God because he made it. Rev 4:11 declares: "You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created."

4. God the Holy One: God is worshiped continually by the heavenly beings:

"Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come." (Rev. 4:8)

5. God the Righteous Judge: Judgment is a central theme in Revelation.

God judges Babylon, the Beast, the False Prophet, Satan, the nations, and the dead. His judgments are portrayed as righteous, true, just and necessary. The heavenly multitude proclaims: "True and just are his judgments." (Rev. 19:2). Judgment is presented as God's response to evil, oppression, and injustice.

6. God the Redeemer: Although redemption is accomplished through the Lamb, it originates in God's saving purpose. Revelation 21:3–4 describes God's final restoration:

"Behold, the dwelling place of God is with humanity... He will wipe away every tear from their eyes. "The climax of Revelation is not only the defeat of evil but also restored fellowship between God and his people.

7. God Receives Universal Worship. See the worship scenes (especially chapters 4–5).

8. God the Covenant Lord: "They will be my people, and I will be their God" (Rev. 21:3), echoes covenant language found throughout the Old Testament.

9. God Brings the New Creation

Major Attributes of God in Revelation

Eternal, almighty, sovereign, holy, creator, judge, redeemer, faithful, just, present.

Relationship Between God and the Lamb : One of Revelation's distinctive theological emphases is the close relationship between God and Jesus Christ. (Rev. 5; 21:23; 22:1).

Conclusion

The Book of Revelation presents God as the **eternal, holy, sovereign Creator and righteous Judge** who rules from heaven, directs the course of history, defeats evil, and fulfills his covenant promises. Despite the turmoil described throughout the book, its central message is that God remains on the throne. His ultimate purpose is to bring justice, redeem his people through the Lamb, and establish a renewed creation where he dwells with humanity forever.

2. Christology (Doctrine of Christ)

Jesus Christ is the central figure of Revelation. The book is explicitly introduced as "the revelation of Jesus Christ" (Revelation 1:1). The **Christology of the Book of Revelation** is one of the New Testament's highest and most richly symbolic portrayals of Jesus Christ. Rather than focusing primarily on Jesus' earthly ministry, Revelation emphasizes his **exalted, divine, victorious, and eschatological identity**. It presents Jesus as both the slain Lamb and the reigning King, combining themes of sacrifice, judgment, worship, and the fulfillment of God's redemptive plan.

Titles of Christ

- The Faithful Witness, The Firstborn from the Dead, The Ruler of the Kings of the Earth, The Son of Man: One Like a Son of Man (Rev 1:9-2:1), The Lion of the Tribe of Judah, The Lamb: The adoration of the Lamb (Rev 5), The Word of God: Christ, the Word of God, King of Kings and Lord of Lords, Alpha and Omega, The Bright Morning Star

Christ's Roles: Redeemer (5:9), High Priest (**Revelation 1:12–20**), Judge, Warrior King (**Revelation 19**), Bridegroom (**Revelation 19:7–9**).

1. Jesus as the Divine Son

- **"The First and the Last"** (Rev. 1:17; 2:8; 22:13; cf. Isa. 44:6; 48:12).
- **Alpha and Omega** Rev. 1:8; 21:6; 22:13
- **The One Who Lives Forever** (1:18).

2. **The Slain Lamb** (ἀρνίον), appearing nearly thirty times, see Rev.

3. **Jesus as the Messianic King**

4. **The Faithful Witness** (1:5)

5. **The Judge** (Rev. 2–3)

6. **Worthy of Worship** (Rev 5)

7. **The Bridegroom** (19:6–9)

8. **The Shepherd** 7:17

9. **The Cosmic Victor**

10. **The Coming One**

Major Christological Titles in Revelation: Faithful witness, firstborn from the dead, ruler of the kings of the earth, Son of Man, Lion of Judah, Root of David, King of kings, Word of God, bright morning star, Alpha and Omega, First and Last.

Major Theological Themes

- Christ's divinity, The paradox of victory, Universal kingship, Judgment and salvation; Faithful witness, Eschatological hope.

Conclusion

Revelation presents one of the New Testament's most exalted portraits of Jesus. Its Christology holds together themes that might otherwise seem paradoxical: Jesus is both **Lamb and Lion, sacrificed and victorious, Shepherd and Judge, servant and King**. He shares in the identity and worship of God while fulfilling Israel's messianic hopes. Through his death, resurrection, and promised return, Revelation portrays Christ as the center of God's purposes for history and the one through whom evil is ultimately defeated and creation is made new.