

“The Blessing of Studying Revelation”

Revelation 1: 1-3

February 9, 2020

Why do people, today, ignore the Book of Revelation?

- 1) Our culture has been desensitized to the phenomenal
- 2) The symbolism can't be understood (*allow the Bible to interpret itself*)
- 3) It's too controversial, it's too scary - the "*bury your head in the sand*" crowd



EVERYTHING'S
JUUUUUUST FINE.

Those who study the Book of Revelation are promised a ***BLESSING!!***

blessing = “*markarios*” = to be fully satisfied, not because of favorable circumstances, but that the believer is indwelt by Christ

The Book of Revelation has its own outline (verse 19):

- 1) The things which you have seen - Chapter 1
- 2) The things which are - Chapters 2 - 3
- 3) The things which will take place - Chapters 4 - 22

Verse 1

The Method of Communication

Revelation = “*apocalipsis*” = to uncover, to unveil; ***God wants His people to know!***

From the Father, to the Son, to an angel, to John, to a book, to you, His **servants**

Servant = “*doulos*” = a slave in permanent servitude to his Master; his will consumed with the will of his Master

Jesus’ words to His servants:

WATCH AND BE READY! (**Matthew 25: 13**)

**What does Jesus mean when He says,
“ . . . things which must shortly
take place?”**

**Once the fulfillment starts, there
will be no delay in its execution,
i.e., birth pangs - Matthew 24: 8**

**Birth pangs start slow and speed up
as the delivery becomes imminent!**

**Once the prophetic clock starts,
things will progress rapidly!**

R.C. Sproul, The Last Days According to Jesus, p.139

SHORTLY, QUICKLY “*Tacos*”

1:1	...Things which must shortly take place
2:16	Repent, or else I will come to you quickly.
3:11	Behold, I come quickly!
22:6	...Which must shortly take place.
22:7	Behold, I come quickly!
22:12	Behold, I am coming quickly!
22:20	Surely, I am coming quickly!

NEAR, AT HAND “*Engys*”

1:3	The time is near.
22:10	The time is at hand.

ABOUT TO, ON THE POINT OF “*Mellō*”

1:19	Write...the things that are about to take place.
3:10	...the hour of trial...is about to come upon the whole world.

Verse 2

**Be a witness - join God where
He is working**

John the Baptist bore witness to the Light - John 1: 6-8; John 1: 9; John 8-12

witness = “*martureo*” = to bear witness, to testify; to declare the facts of an event

Root word = “*martus*” (we get our word martyr) = to suffer and even die for the faith

Nothing will stop the spread of the Gospel; ***God will always have a faithful few who will stand!!***

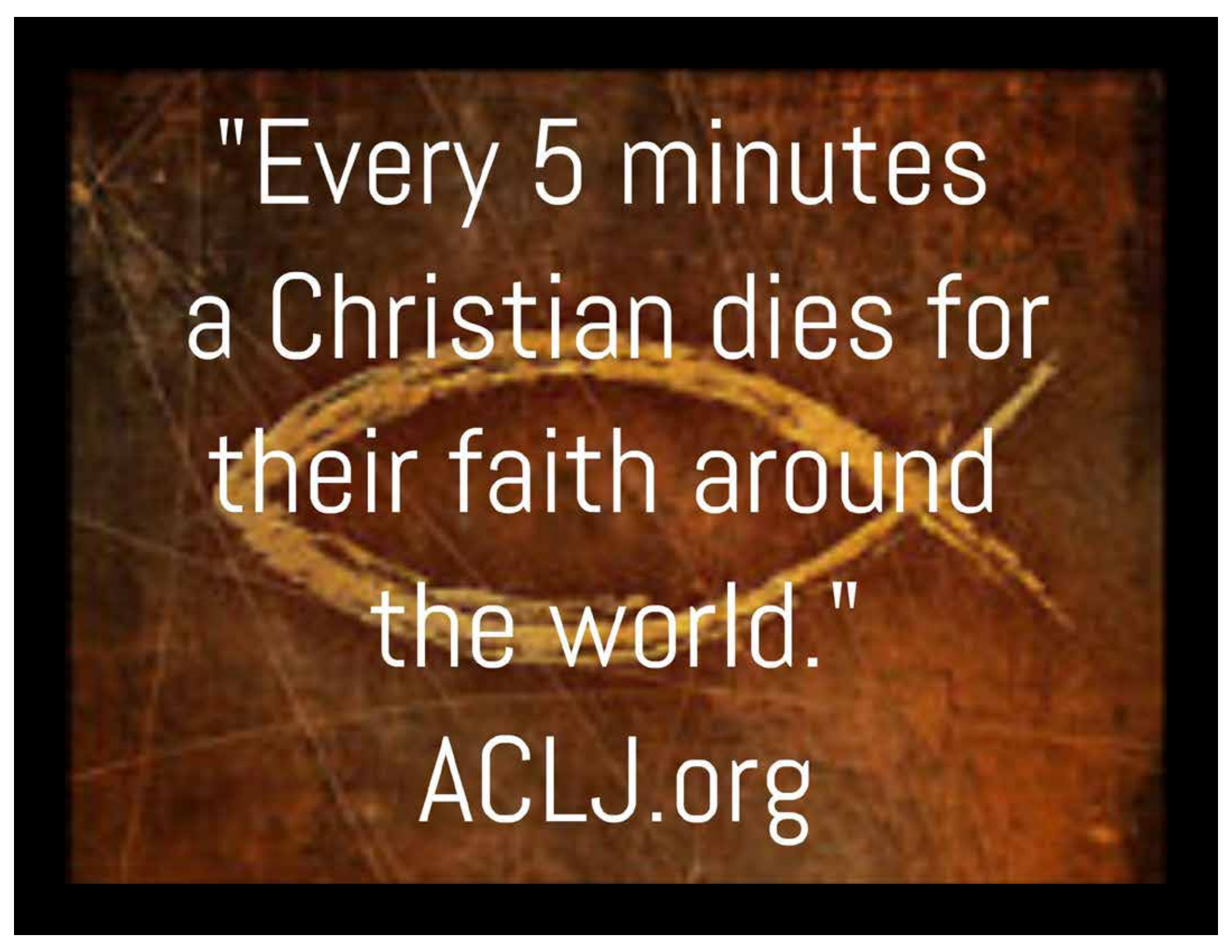
War on Christians

Last April militant Muslims declared holy war on Christians in the Muslim lands of Indonesia. This was the most bloody chapter in the 100-year war there to date.



WHOLE VILLAGES in Indonesia are being converted to Islam. Those that resist are killed. Those that submit embrace Islam at gunpoint or are forced to do so.

One woman and chopped it in pieces. After war rages questioned a 14-year-old boy, threw out of north his arms, and then started open his back. Many people are being killed.



"Every 5 minutes
a Christian dies for
their faith around
the world."

ACLJ.org

What does being a witness mean to me?

Our job is to join God where He is working and be a witness -

2 Corinthians 5: 20-21

Verse 3

God's Promise to You - *BLESSING*

The Book begins with a blessing to those who **read, hear and keep what is written** - *all three are necessary!!*

The Book ends with a curse on those who **add or take away from it!** - **Revelation 22: 19**

This is a conditional blessing:

- 1) Who read - this is the base level of learning; learning does start with reading
- 2) Who hear - to hearken; to listen with the intent of obeying what is said
- 3) Who keep - means to watch

The believer is to *keep reading, keep hearing and to keep watching!*

This is not a one and done thing, but a *continual lifestyle of learning!*

The pressure to compromise, to be moved, to consider other worldviews is enormous!

STAND FAST!! DON'T MOVE!!

Hear the words of **Psalm 16: 8**

Like a steer in a blizzard -

DON'T BE MOVED!!



Those who trust God and His Word
until they die is the attitude that
can expect a blessing!!

KEEP WATCH!!

The main thing to keep watch
for is deception -

Matthew 24: 4, 5, 11, 24

CLOSING: ***THE BLESSING OF
STUDYING REVELATION***

The blessing is conditional on you doing your part. ***We know God will do His part!***

The blessing is unspecified, **but** when the God of heaven blesses, ***it is amazing!!***

Don't underestimate what this means:

When God blessed Abraham, *it exceeded all expectations!*

There is a blessing coming on the horizon!

The Lord Jesus is coming to take us to Father's house - **THE RAPTURE!**

John 14: 1-3

MARANATHA

*The Lord is Coming Soon
He really is!*

WATCH AND BE READY!!

**IT IS A BLESSING TO
KNOW THIS!!**