Revelation Notes:

1. Not an ordinary book, but an *Apocalypse*= un-covering, or unveiling
2. Highly symbolic and visual—yet un-covering what is really going on in history and unveiling the reality of God’s presence in the midst of history: *the Risen Christ is present with power and wisdom and might in the struggles of the people of God!*
3. A book of stark contrasts:
   1. Beasts and humans showing the bestiality of history and the possibility of humane behavior;
   2. City of God (New Jerusalem) and City of Satan (Babylon, Rome)
   3. Evil is evil and good is good—no shades of gray;
4. Heaven is not a future place after this life only, but the invisible or hidden, yet very present and powerful reality of God’s way on earth: “*On earth as it is in heaven”;*
5. Earth is the stage on which the drama of good and evil is played out;
6. The primary message of the book is hope and encouragement to struggling communities in the midst of trials and tribulation because the Risen One has been raised from the dead and has already defeated all the powers of evil, death and destruction.
7. Do you believe it?