

Topic 1.2.1

# Revelation

# Revelation

## What did it mean?

### Ancient Understandings

*Religion 492* New Testament Seminar

Topic 1.2.1

**Revelation**

**Ancient Understandings**

**Terms**

# Revelation

## Ancient Understandings

# Terms – φαν-stem

φανερῶω – I make known

ἡ φανέρωσις, -εως

ἐμφανίζω – I make plain

disclosure, announcement

φαίνω – I make clear

ὁ φωτισμός

φωτίζω – I bring to the light

illumination, enlightenment,  
revealing

## Ancient Understandings

# Terms – αποκαλυπ-stem

ἀποκαλύπτω – I reveal, make known

ἡ ἀποκάλυψις, -εως - revelation, disclosure

# Revelation

## Ancient Understandings

# Terms – χρηματ-stem

χρηματίζω – I reveal, make a divine message known

ὁ χρηματισμός -- divine revelation, revelation from God

# Revelation

## What did it mean?

### Ancient Jewish Understandings

God spoke to His spokesmen

They spoke to His people

Written records of their speaking were compiled

Resulting eventually in the Old Testament

# Revelation

## What did it mean?

### Ancient Christian Understandings

God spoke to His Son, Jesus

He spoke the Word of God to the apostles and the people

The Apostles spoke the Gospel to the people

----- wrote the Gospel to the people

These documents became the NT



# Revelation

## What did it mean?

### Church Fathers Understandings

God spoke to His Son, Jesus

He spoke the Word of God to the apostles

The apostles passed the Word in written documents

----- orally to the leaders

via apostolic succession as the regula fidei

Church leaders must interpret the written  
Word by the Oral Word (regula fidei).

# Revelation

## What does it mean?

Modern Depictions

# Revelation

## What does it mean?

### Modern Depictions

**How does Gerald Bray describe the idea of ‘revelation’?**

**Source:**

*Biblical Interpretation: Past & Present*, pp. 14-19

# Revelation

## What does it mean?

### Modern Depictions

How does Nigel M. de S. Cameron describe the idea of ‘revelation’?

Source:

“Revelation, Idea of,” [\*Baker’s Evangelical Dictionary of Biblical Theology\*](#),  
online

# Revelation

## What does it mean?

### Modern Depictions

How does G.H. Joycy describe the idea of ‘revelation’?

Source:

“Revelation,” [Catholic Encyclopedia](#), online

# Revelation

## What does it mean?

Parameters

Oral Revelation

Written Revelation

Central Focus of Revelation