

How does America fit into the book of Revelation?

The bible was written for essentially one purpose: *to reveal God's plan of salvation through Jesus Christ's death and resurrection*. Many have torn Revelation out of the biblical context and waved it around as a science fiction short story revealing the end of the world.

A huge stumbling block to understanding the book has to do with our pop culture. Books and movies have been like the smoke belching out of the abyss in Revelation's ninth chapter, clouding truth to a point where understanding the bible is nearly impossible. People have come to "believe the lie" since they don't know the truth. (2 Thess 2:11)

Contrary to what some want to believe and teach, the USA is not integral to events in the book of Revelation. Many have saddled up their Red, White, and Blue, galloping off into error, trying to view this book from a Western perspective. In their arrogance, they believe that these panoramic events are tied to America. The only nation with which God ever made a covenant was Israel. The notion that the United States is a "Christian nation" is presumptive and patently false. The founding fathers of America seemed to have embraced the Bible's truths as legal justification for what they were trying to accomplish. However, as is the citizen, so goes the nation. And most of today's Americans are not interested in carrying out the Father's will. (Matt 7:21)

Revelation was written using *Jewish* symbolism. Jesus and His apostles spoke and wrote from a *Jewish* perspective. Ancient Middle-Eastern thinking had vastly different views from our modern-day Western viewpoint. We tend to think in linear terms, whereas they regarded issues more abstractly and unrelated to time. Jesus used parables to explain spiritual concepts, and those truths remain unchanged in nearly 2,000 years. Revelation points to Jesus Christ, the *Timeless* One, and in whom all truth abides. (1 John 5:7) The events within Revelation all pertain to God's plan of redemption for mankind. It has nothing to do with America's political and religious influence or agenda in current world affairs.

The Jew living in Christ's time and steeped in the OT scriptures would have had little trouble understanding Revelation's symbolism. After Jerusalem's destruction in 70 AD, the church swelled with Gentiles who knew little of the OT. Their lack of familiarity with the prophetic language and styles caused them to see Revelation as a strange book that was shoved to the back of the bible.