

# Revelation (Greek Word Study)

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## Introduction

Thomas defines [apokalupsis] as from apokaluptō [to uncover, reveal], meaning “an uncovering” [602].

BDAG say ἔλεος ἑλεος means “(1) making fully known, revelation, disclosure; (a) of the revelation of truth generally; (b) of revelations of a particular kind, through visions, etc.; (c) of the disclosure of secrets belonging to the last days; (2) as part of a book title Revelation.”

The word occurs 18x in the NT (Luke 2:32; Romans 2:5; 8:19; 16:25; 1 Corinthians 1:7; 14:6, 26; 2 Corinthians 12:1, 7; Galatians 1:12; 2:2; Ephesians 1:17; 3:3; 2 Thessalonians 1:7; 1 Peter 1:7, 13; 4:13; Revelation 1:1).

## The Divine Messengers

The word is descriptive of divine messengers: the Lord Jesus Christ (Luke 2:25-32; cf. Matthew 4:12-16), the inspired apostles (Galatians 1:11-12; 2:1-2; Ephesians 3:1-5; cf. also 2 Corinthians 12:1, 7), and also those empowered with spiritual gifts (1 Corinthians 14:6, 26).

*Luke 2:25-32 ... 25 And there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; and this man was righteous and devout, looking for the consolation of Israel; and the Holy Spirit was upon him. 26 And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. 27 And he came in the Spirit into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to carry out for Him the custom of the Law, 28 then he took Him into his arms, and blessed God, and said, 29 "Now Lord, You are releasing Your bond-servant to depart in peace, According to Your word; 30 For my eyes have seen Your salvation, 31 Which You have prepared in the presence of all peoples, 32 A Light of \*revelation to the Gentiles, And the glory of Your people Israel." (NASB95)*

*Matthew 4:12-16 ... 12 Now when Jesus heard that John had been taken into custody, He withdrew into Galilee; 13 and leaving Nazareth, He came and settled in Capernaum, which is by the sea, in the region of Zebulun and Naphtali. 14 This was to fulfill what was spoken through Isaiah the prophet: 15 "The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, By the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles— 16 "The people who were sitting in darkness saw a great Light, And those who were sitting in the land and shadow of death, Upon them a Light dawned." (NASB95)*

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*Galatians 1:11-12 ... 11 For I would have you know, brethren, that the gospel which was preached by me is not according to man. 12 For I neither received it from man, nor was I taught it, but I received it through a **\*revelation** of Jesus Christ. (NASB95)*

*Galatians 2:1-2 ... 1 Then after an interval of fourteen years I went up again to Jerusalem with Barnabas, taking Titus along also. 2 It was because of a **\*revelation** that I went up; and I submitted to them the gospel which I preach among the Gentiles, but I did so in private to those who were of reputation, for fear that I might be running, or had run, in vain. (NASB95)*

*Ephesians 3:1-5 ... 1 For this reason I, Paul, the prisoner of Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles— 2 if indeed you have heard of the stewardship of God’s grace which was given to me for you; 3 that by **\*revelation** there was made known to me the mystery, as I wrote before in brief. 4 By referring to this, when you read you can understand my insight into the mystery of Christ, 5 which in other generations was not made known to the sons of men, as it has now been revealed to His holy apostles and prophets in the Spirit; (NASB95)*

*2 Corinthians 12:1 ... 1 Boasting is necessary, though it is not profitable; but I will go on to visions and **\*revelations** of the Lord. (NASB95)*

*2 Corinthians 12:7 ... 7 Because of the surpassing greatness of the **\*revelations**, for this reason, to keep me from exalting myself, there was given me a thorn in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me—to keep me from exalting myself! (NASB95)*

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*1 Corinthians 14:6 ... 6 But now, brethren, if I come to you speaking in tongues, what will I profit you unless I speak to you either by way of **\*revelation** or of knowledge or of prophecy or of teaching? (NASB95)*

*1 Corinthians 14:26 ... 26 What is the outcome then, brethren? When you assemble, each one has a psalm, has a teaching, has a **\*revelation**, has a tongue, has an interpretation. Let all things be done for edification. (NASB95)*

## **The Divine Message**

The word is descriptive of the divine message (Romans 16:25-27; Ephesians 1:15-19; Revelation 1:1-3).

*Romans 16:25-27 ... 25 Now to Him who is able to establish you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the **\*revelation** of the mystery which has been kept secret for long ages past, 26 but now is manifested, and by the Scriptures of the prophets, according to the commandment of the eternal God, has been made known to all*

*the nations, leading to obedience of faith; 27 to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, be the glory forever. Amen. (NASB95)*

*Ephesians 1:15-19 ... 15 For this reason I too, having heard of the faith in the Lord Jesus which exists among you and your love for all the saints, 16 do not cease giving thanks for you, while making mention of you in my prayers; 17 that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you a spirit of wisdom and of **\*revelation** in the knowledge of Him. 18 I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, so that you will know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, 19 and what is the surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe. These are in accordance with the working of the strength of His might (NASB95)*

*Revelation 1:1-3 ... 1 The **\*Revelation** of Jesus Christ, which God gave Him to show to His bond-servants, the things which must soon take place; and He sent and communicated it by His angel to His bond-servant John, 2 who testified to the word of God and to the testimony of Jesus Christ, even to all that he saw. 3 Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of the prophecy, and heed the things which are written in it; for the time is near. (NASB95)*

## **The Divine Reckoning**

The word is descriptive of the final day of reckoning, which will be a day of judgment for sinners (Romans 2:5-11; 2 Thessalonians 1:6-10), and a day of reward for the faithful (Romans 8:18-19; 1 Corinthians 1:4-9; 1 Peter 1:6-9, 13-16; 4:12-13).

*Romans 2:5-11 ... 5 But because of your stubbornness and unrepentant heart you are storing up wrath for yourself in the day of wrath and **\*revelation** of the righteous judgment of God, 6 who will render to each person according to his deeds: 7 to those who by perseverance in doing good seek for glory and honor and immortality, eternal life; 8 but to those who are selfishly ambitious and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, wrath and indignation. 9 There will be tribulation and distress for every soul of man who does evil, of the Jew first and also of the Greek, 10 but glory and honor and peace to everyone who does good, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. 11 For there is no partiality with God. (NASB95)*

*2 Thessalonians 1:6-10 ... 6 For after all it is only just for God to repay with affliction those who afflict you, 7 and to give relief to you who are afflicted and to us as well when the Lord Jesus will be **\*revealed** from heaven with His mighty angels in flaming fire, 8 dealing out retribution to those who do not know God and to those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. 9 These will pay the penalty of eternal destruction, away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power, 10 when He comes to be glorified in His saints on that day, and to be marveled at among all who have believed—for our testimony to you was believed. (NASB95)*

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*Romans 8:18-19 ... 18 For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory that is to be revealed to us. 19 For the anxious longing of the creation waits eagerly for the **\*revealing** of the sons of God. (NASB95)*

*1 Corinthians 1:4-9 ... 4 I thank my God always concerning you for the grace of God which was given you in Christ Jesus, 5 that in everything you were enriched in Him, in all speech and all knowledge, 6 even as the testimony concerning Christ was confirmed in you, 7 so that you are not lacking in any gift, awaiting eagerly the **\*revelation** of our Lord Jesus Christ, 8 who will also confirm you to the end, blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 God is faithful, through whom you were called into fellowship with His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. (NASB95)*

*1 Peter 1:6-9 ... 6 In this you greatly rejoice, even though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been distressed by various trials, 7 so that the proof of your faith, being more precious than gold which is perishable, even though tested by fire, may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the **\*revelation** of Jesus Christ; 8 and though you have not seen Him, you love Him, and though you do not see Him now, but believe in Him, you greatly rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, 9 obtaining as the outcome of your faith the salvation of your souls. (NASB95)*

*1 Peter 1:13-16 ... 13 Therefore, prepare your minds for action, keep sober in spirit, fix your hope completely on the grace to be brought to you at the **\*revelation** of Jesus Christ. 14 As obedient children, do not be conformed to the former lusts which were yours in your ignorance, 15 but like the Holy One who called you, be holy yourselves also in all your behavior; 16 because it is written, "You shall be holy, for I am holy." (NASB95)*

*1 Peter 4:12-13 ... 12 Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal among you, which comes upon you for your testing, as though some strange thing were happening to you; 13 but to the degree that you share the sufferings of Christ, keep on rejoicing, so that also at the **\*revelation** of His glory you may rejoice with exultation. (NASB95)*