

**Persecuted Yet Vibrant With Life:
Some Insights from the Book of Revelation**

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Abstract

This article aims to decode the symbolic language, images, numbers, and colors in the book of Revelation to unearth its message of hope and the role of prayers in the life of the early Christians. The author exhorts the early Christians to persevere in their faith in spite of tribulations and persecution through prayers and constant praise to God. It is through their prayers that their hope in the living God was concretely expressed. Hopefully, the early Christians' example can serve as a model for us who are facing the present pandemic in addition to natural calamities which have hit our country in the past months.

Preliminaries

My survey has shown that the book of Revelation is one of the least read book in the Bible. Some of the reasons are: the fearful symbols which are difficult to decipher as well as its literary genre. Thus, this presentation has three parts and a conclusion: the first part is a short introduction on the book's historical setting, date and place of composition, some literary features, general outline of the book, author and audience; the second part gives short explanations on the meaning of the different symbolic language, numbers, colors, and images; and the third part examines some significant verses from the book and draws some insights which could serve as a light for our life during this pandemic and series of natural calamities.