

**PARAPHRASE OF THE
REVELATION OF SAINT
JOHN. ACCORDING TO
THE HORÆ APOCALYPTICÆ**

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Paraphrase of the Revelation of Saint John. According to the *Horæ Apocalypticæ* by E. B. Elliott

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E. B. ELLIOTT

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REVELATION OF SAINT JOHN.

ACCORDING TO
THE MORE APOCALYPTICE OF THE REV. E. B. ELLIOTT, M.A.,

LATE FELLOW OF TRINITY COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE.

DRAWN UP BY ARCHDEACON PRATT.

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PREFACE.

THE page of Prophecy is invested with a more than ordinary degree of interest at the present time, in consequence of the political aspect of Europe. All who have been brought up in the old Protestant view of the Apocalypse are looking forward to the year 1866, as an epoch when some great events are to occur, which will materially affect the prospects and condition of the Papal Power. Many have but an imperfect knowledge of the evidence upon which this expectation is based; as there are but few who make the subject a matter of study. They gather their impressions from detached texts of Scripture and the comments they hear upon them; and some are as likely to be swayed by one system of interpretation as by another, since they have no comprehensive and intelligent view of Prophecy taken as a whole.

The following Paraphrase was drawn up a few years ago, soon after the first appearance of the Rev. E. B. Elliott's *Hora Apocalyptica*, and was published in a religious periodical in Calcutta. The object was to assist persons interested in the subject in forming a judgment concerning this scheme of interpretation, which many regard as the most complete which has been yet proposed. The compiler does not wish it to be understood, by his publishing this Paraphrase, that he necessarily adopts the interpretation here set forth. He considers it worthy of grave consideration, and thinks it desirable that the grounds on which it rests should be extensively known. The Paraphrase has been revised and corrected by the last edition of the *Hora* (the 4th), and is now published in England with Mr. Elliott's sanction.

Mr. Elliott is an expositor of the school of "the pious and profoundly learned" Joseph Mede, Sir Isaac Newton, Bishop Newton, the Rev. Messrs. Davison, Thomas Scott, Faber, and other writers still living, who consider the main topic of the Apocalypse, as far as it has hitherto been accomplished, to be the rise and development of **POPEERY**, with many attendant

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PARAPHRASE OF THE APOCALYPSE.

INTRODUCTION.

SAINT JOHN IN PATMOS.

It was in the year of CHRIST 98, or of ROME 849, that the visions of the Apocalypse were revealed to St. John.

These two eras in which we mark the date—eras perhaps the most famous in history—take their names from the kingdoms, between which from thenceforward was to lie the visible contest for the supremacy of the world. Of the one, the then living ruler and head was the Emperor Domitian, the last of the twelve Cæsars, engaged at the time of this revelation in bitter persecution of the Christians in his empire. Of the other, the most eminent member and director—for spiritual head it acknowledged none but the LORD JESUS HIMSELF—was the last and only survivor of Christ's twelve Apostles, who was also a sufferer in the persecution.

I John, who also am your brother, and companion in tribulation, and in the kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ, was in the isle that is called Patmos, for the word of God, and for the testimony of Jesus Christ (I. 9)—such is the account the banished and persecuted Apostle gives of himself. He was now far advanced in life, much beyond the three-score years and ten which have been noted as the age of man.

How peculiar, no doubt, were the thoughts and feelings, recollections and anticipations, joys and sorrows, which filled the mind of the aged saint in his exile!

Sixty years had now passed away since the Ascension of his blessed Lord—an event and scene which could never fade away from his memory; no less than the cheering words of the angels robed in heavenly white, “Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye so gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus shall come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.”