

## Study of Revelation Chapter 1:

**introduction:** There are 2 reason God gave us this book of Revelation: 1. To show Christ as He is, was and shall be... 2. To remind us of who we are and our part in the coming Kingdom of God.

**proposition:** For the introduction and the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter is to understand who we are in relation to this book; its purpose and our role in the Kingdom of God. We are also going to look at the significance of numbers to help us understand the meaning of some of the statements in Revelation.

**proposition 2:** This 1<sup>st</sup> chapter is to show us the vision that God gave John summarized as the Revelation of Who Jesus Christ is: **GLORIFIED!**

**text:** Revelation 1:

**outline:**

1<sup>st</sup> of all we are God's *servants*: bond-slaves or love-slaves by choice. Exodus 21:1-2; 5-6 (NLT) So it is with the Christian. We serve God because we love Him. Galatians 6:17b

2<sup>nd</sup> There is a blessing for those that read, hear, but more importantly keep these things that are written.

3<sup>rd</sup> These "seven churches" represent a completeness of all the churches and assemblies during the New Testament age. The message is for these churches. The message is from He who is, who was and who is to come, Jesus Christ our Lord. → This Book pulls together, centered around the person of Christ, the purpose for all things that happen presently, that happened in the past and all the things that shall happen in the Future. This book shows us that all of history is pulled together and united unto this one purpose: Yeshua (Aramaic), Salvation, the One who saves. "Yahweh is our Salvation". Jesus (Hebrew) comes from Joshua meaning Yahweh/Jehovah Saves. → Jesus Saves conclusively and completely! He Saves us, not time, instead He saves us from time. Time brings the end: For the World the end is rapidly coming like a carriage out of control heading toward a cliff leading to the bottomless pit, but Jesus is the one who goes beyond time and saves us for eternal life with God!

Praise the Lord!

## I. **Numbers:**

### A. **Significance:**

**One-** Means Unity and the parent of all numbers. It stands for God! 3 in one! He is 1<sup>st</sup>, He is # 1 He is. The One by which all things exist. One stands for absolute being.

**Two** – Stand for Jesus, the second of the Trinity.

**Three** – Stand for the Holy Spirit. The Trinity and the Holy and heavenly number that God works through every dimension. Father, Son, Holy Spirit. Body, Soul, Spirit. Faith, Hope, Love.

**Four** – The Worldly Number: There are four primary directions North, South, East, and West. 4 Primary elements: Earth, Fire, Water, Air. 4 Winds, and 4 Season. 4 is dependant upon 1, 2, and 3 to exist.

**Five** – is the Number of incompleteness. 5 is a part but never the whole. There are 5 fingers but really 10... There are 5 weekdays but really 7 days etc...

**Six** – Is the satanic number: The Six seal bring destruction and death. The sixth trumpet destroys a third part of men; the sixth vial brings the unclean spirits who gather the whole world to battle in the great day of the Almighty. Antichrist's number for man is 666: (made up of 6, 6 10s and 6 100s.)

**Seven** – is the number of dispensational fullness. It is the fullness of the heavenly number three and the earthly number four. It is always connected with whatever touches the covenant between God and man. It is the coming together of the Creator and the creation.

a. There are Seven Covenants with man:

→ The Edenic → the Adamic → the Noahic → the Abrahamic  
→ The Mosaic → The Davidic → And the New Covenant of Grace through Jesus.

b. Seven plays a hug role in this book:

→ Seven churches, seven stars, seven lamps , seven seals, seven horns, seven eyes of the lamb, seven angels, seven trumpets, seven thunders, seven heads of the beast, seven crowns upon those heads, seven plagues, seven vials, seven mountains, seven regencies.

→ Whatever bears this number is full, complete, nothing left out, and nothing can be added.

### B. **The Seven Spirit's of vs. 4:**

→ Portrays the fullness of the power, wisdom, justice, mercies, grace, love, forgiveness and every other great and grand attribute of God.

→ God, being so complete with love sent the very best of heaven to make atonement. He sent the commander of all the rulers of

the world. The Unifier! The Three: The one who is (will live forever after resurrecting from the dead) the one who was (referring to His earthly ministry) and is to come (to fulfill and complete all things). The Four: Creation brought together with the creator through Jesus number 2.

**C. The Message:**

→ The Message of the Book of Revelation is simply this: The One who loved so completely that He sent Jesus Himself to make atonement for our Sin completely and freed us from death completely, with His complete covenant between man and God.  
→ If man goes to hell he will have to step over Jesus Christ in order to get there. The way has been made plain and complete. Even we, who read, hear and keep this message transform from love slaves to kings and priest of the Kingdom that is, was revealed to us and is coming to completion! All glory and dominion to Him forever and ever A-men!

**II. Verse 7-8 The Church Taken: Paradox.**

**A.** There is a Second coming of Jesus Christ, but it comes in two stages: This refers to the second stage.

**B.** Lets look at the 1<sup>st</sup> stage: **Matthew 24:4-14; 23-31; 36-44**  
**I Thessalonians 5:2; 4:16-17** In Revelation 1:7 it is speaking of the second stage. Between these two stages the tribulation period must take place.

→ Before this 1<sup>st</sup> stage comes changes in the church that are outlined in this book, let's explain one facet of change that is already occurring:

**C. The church taken before it's Taken.**

**1.** The invisible Church (read article page 7 **The End Time**)

**2. verse 8 Jesus** declares Himself as who He is and will remain the Almighty! End Time evangelists will focus more and more on "Financial gain". The emphasis shifts to partner with them instead of partner with HIM, the Almighty. If you do not they say you have lack of faith and that is the reason you are sick and poor. Very little will be said of Salvation of the Soul, (which is the core message of Revelation) while much emphasis will be placed upon healing and the welfare of the body and materialistic things. Talk of speaking in tongues will take precedence over everything else while little is said of right living!

→ Be cautious! God's promise of providing for His children are real. His statements of by faith you are made whole are rock solid. God's grace to hear and answer our prayers are real! But if we reduce the Beginning and Ending of all things here on earth to a performer, we will have been taken and

deceived. He does not come down to perform, He has already performed the ultimate and complete act of love, Now He desires us to perform the Word of God in our lives and let Righteousness, Freedom, Healing, and Hope spread to the World so that they are without excuse! This is the Mission of the Kingdom!

### **III. John's Vision: verse 9-20**

**God Gave us (the love slaves) this book because He loves us so much! (verse 5) John 13:1b and Ephesians 3:18-19.**

**A.** John had broken Roman Law by preaching and teaching of Jesus Christ. John had escaped death time and time again as the message of Jesus being crucified, dead, buried, arisen, and ascended into heaven was illegal for the first 300 years of the New Testament Age. Since they were unable to kill John (due to divine protection upon his life) they exiled him to the Isle of Patmos. God gives John a vision of Hope on an Island of discouragement.

**B.** John was in the Spirit on the Lord's day *vs10*: This refers to the literal Lord's Day, the great Day of the Lord as Judge of all men to pour His judgment on the earth. Man is having their day now, but soon God will have His Day.

**C.** *vs 11* John will be commanded 11 times to record what he has heard and or saw. One time he is specifically instructed not to write down what he hears in Chapter 10. The 7 Churches are listed here (*vs 11*) and John is to send what he sees and hears to each of them. Again, these 7 churches are actual churches of that day and symbolically represent the 7 church ages that unfolded since this book (Revelation) was given.

**D.** *vs 12-16* The Ancient of Days and the Son description similarities: Dressed in the garments of the Royal Priesthood! He is seen in the midst of the 7 candle stands because He is always in the midst of His people and He continually intercedes for them as their High Priest!

→ "Like the Son of Man" Daniel 7:13

→ Clothes and White Hair like The Ancient of Days Daniel 7:13, 9

→ The eyes like blazing fire represents His piercing judgment of sin. (The Greek word emphasis eyes shooting out fire.)

→ Feet like bronze burned in fire and voice like the roar of the ocean continues to depict judgment.

→ Seven stars in His right hand = the 7 messengers of the churches. (Most translations use the word angels here, but the most accurate translations is messengers.)

→ Sharp two edge sword came from His mouth Hebrews 4:12  
This is the Word of God.

→ Face (countenance) shined like the sun in all it's brilliance = Again showing Jesus and the Father as One, perfect, Holy, and the undeniable Authority He has to be Judge.

## Picture of Christ

**E.** vs 17-18 The Glory Change: The same John (disciple) who reclined upon Jesus' chest during the last super, was so astounded by the Glorified Christ, that like Saul on the Road to Damascus, was brought to his face like a dead man!

- But Jesus lovingly declares: Do Not be afraid! I AM (again linking Him ONE with the FATHER) The 1<sup>st</sup> and the last!
- The Living One (Resurrection)
- "Who died" (Crucifixion)
- "Look, I AM alive forever and ever" (Ascension)
- Of all to fear, I'm the least you should fear, for because of ME, when you die you need not fear the one who *had* the power of death (Satan), for now when you die, because of My death, his hold on you is broken! You will be with ME! I Hold the Power of Death, Hell, and the Grave! I Am the JUDGE and I AM the LIFE!

**F.** Now It begins: The Outline of Revelation. Verse 19:

- 1. The things which you have seen:** Rev. 1:1-20
- 2. The things that have happened:** Rev. 2:-3: the seven church ages and their letters.
- 3. The things that shall happen latter (after the Rapture).** Rev. 4:-21: After the Laodicean church age.

**G. The Seven Stars? Vs.20**

- The First Vision is called a "mystery" because it is something that was formerly a secret, but is not revealed by the Holy Spirit.
- Read page 13 of *The End Time* book \*
- The Seven Stars are the ministers of the churches of today: The Preachers/Messengers. These are to be God's right Hand, helping to lead the Body of Christ as God sees fit!