

## Revelation 1

### The Revelation of Jesus Christ

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,<sup>2</sup> who testified to the word of God and to the testimony of Jesus Christ, everything that he saw.<sup>3</sup> Blessed is the one who reads, and those who hear the words of the prophecy and keep the things which are written in it; for the time is near.

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### Message to the Seven Churches

<sup>4</sup> John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from Him who is, and who was, and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before His throne,<sup>5</sup> and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To Him who loves us and released us from our sins by His blood<sup>6</sup> and He made us into a kingdom, priests to His God and Father—to Him be the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

<sup>7</sup> Behold, He is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see Him, even those who pierced Him; and all the tribes of the earth will mourn over Him. So it is to be. Amen.<sup>8</sup> “I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, “who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.”

### The Patmos Vision

<sup>9</sup> I, John, your brother and fellow participant in the tribulation and kingdom and perseverance in Jesus, was on the island called Patmos because of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus.<sup>10</sup> I was in the Spirit on the Lord’s day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like the sound of a trumpet,<sup>11</sup> saying, “Write on a scroll what you see, and send it to the seven churches: to Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia, and Laodicea.”

<sup>12</sup> Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking with me. And after turning I saw seven golden lampstands;<sup>13</sup> and in the middle of the lampstands I saw one like a son of man, clothed in a robe reaching to the feet, and wrapped around the chest with a golden sash.<sup>14</sup> His head and His hair were white like white wool, like snow; and His eyes were like a flame of fire.<sup>15</sup> His feet were like burnished bronze when it has been heated to a glow in a furnace, and His voice was like the sound of many waters.<sup>16</sup> In His right hand He held seven stars, and out of His mouth came a sharp two-edged sword; and His face was like the sun shining in its strength.

<sup>17</sup> When I saw Him, I fell at His feet like a dead man. And He placed His right hand on me, saying, “Do not be afraid; I am the first and the last,<sup>18</sup> and the living One; and I was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of death and of Hades.<sup>19</sup> Therefore write the things which you have seen, and the things which are, and the things which will take place after these things.<sup>20</sup> As for the mystery of the seven stars which you saw in My right hand, and the seven golden lampstands: the seven stars are the angels of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands are the seven churches.

### **We will use five tools on our expedition that are built around five questions**

What questions were provoked within you?

Did anything confuse you?

Did anything move you emotionally?

Did God instruct you to do something?

Did you gain any insight into God's character?

### **Pauls helpful insights**

1. The word came to John the apostle.
2. What is the revelation of Jesus Christ?
3. Who are His bond servants?
4. How do you become a bond servant?
5. God showed to Jesus for Him to make known to bond servants.
6. God sent His word, revelation, to communicate that word by one of His angel messengers.
7. It is His bond servant, John, who His word came to by the angel.
8. John bore a testimony of Jesus Christ the saviour and His word became flesh.
9. John was in agreement with what God showed and said about Jesus, the son of God, the son of man.
10. John wants all who read this letter to be blessed by its content.
11. John wants the reader to get the insight regarding the prophecy and the message it contained.
12. To heed what is written, is to see and understand and apply.
13. The time is near, means it won't be long.
14. John addresses his letter to seven churches in Asia.
15. To offer grace and peace is to operate with favour, even if it is not deserved or welcome.
16. The spirit of grace and peace is to operate in the nature of God.
17. John wants his readers to understand and be in no doubt where this message has come from.
18. To be an 'is' and a 'was' and an 'is to come' is to present the uniqueness of God, not only from God but the seven spirits before His throne and Jesus Christ the faithful witness.
19. The first born of the dead is His resurrection because death could not keep Jesus dead.
20. Jesus is the ruler of the kings of the earth, He who loves us, the one who rescued us from sin through His blood shed.
21. John communicates all that Jesus Christ did for us in His coming and dying.
22. John breaks out into an exultation when he talks about the things Jesus Christ did. We call this spontaneous praise.
23. John's word is 'Jesus Christ is coming and all will see His coming'.
24. His killers will see His coming and will mourn.
25. Amen is to agree with God.
26. God says of Himself 'I am the first and the last, I was there, I am here and I will be then'.

27. John identifies with those imprisoned for their faith in Jesus Christ.
28. What is it to be in the spirit on the Lord's day?
29. How do we know the voice of God?
30. Why does God instruct John to write to seven churches?
31. Having turned John saw a vision of seven gold lampstands.
32. He saw God in all His glory, everything about Him said almighty.
33. God's voice brings refreshment to the hearer.
34. The vision depicts God holding seven stars with words like, the cut of a sword.
35. John's response to the vision was to fall like he was dead. What is he saying?
36. In this vision he put his right hand upon John and spoke with reassurance not to be afraid.
37. In the vision God introduces Himself as Jesus Christ.
38. In the vision God, Jesus Christ, declares who has been given authority over death and hell.
39. In the vision John is instructed to write his testimony of his experiences both now and in the tomorrows.
40. In the vision God, Jesus Christ, explains the seven stars to John are the angels of the seven churches and the seven lampstands are the seven churches.