

## REVELATION 1

Rev. 1:1	<b>The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him, to shew unto his servants things which must shortly come to pass; and he sent and signified it by his angel unto his servant John:</b>
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**The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him, to shew** - Jesus Christ reveals truth in the book of Revelation to us. The book of Revelation is about Jesus Christ being revealed to us. Many people believe that Revelation is an outdated book or a book that is not to be read in our time, but our Lord is revealing Himself in order that we may know more about Him and the time of His return. Don't you want to know more about the Savior? I know I do.

**God gave** - (God); gave everything to Him; (Jesus Christ). Matthew 11:27 - *All things are delivered unto me of my Father: and no man knoweth the Son, but the Father; neither knoweth any man the Father, save the Son, and he to whomsoever the Son will reveal him.* (Hebrews 2:10-14).

God gave to Jesus Christ the Revelation written in this book, to (*shew*) [show] John (a servant of God) things that will happen soon. We don't have to speculate about the end times. Revelation makes it plain what is going to happen at the time of the end. He sent this message and made it known through his angel, and the angel gave it to John.

**Things which must shortly come to pass** - The Holy Spirit revealed to John (through His angels) things that will happen shortly. The Lord is coming soon and this message that was given to John will also be for the "*unprepared*" (Revelation 22:20). Don't you want to be ready when He comes? Ask the Holy Spirit to help you read and understand what is written in the book of Revelation.

**Surely I come quickly** – Jesus will return just as He promised. It will be speedily and soon. Soon represents many who will not be prepared for His return. Are you ready?

Rev. 1:2	<b>Who bare record of the word of God, and of the testimony of Jesus Christ, and of all things that he saw.</b>
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**Who bare record of the word of God, and of the testimony of Jesus Christ** – The two ways in which to apply the truth of Revelation through Jesus Christ is: 1) **The Word of God** and 2) **Testimony of Jesus Christ**. He has communicated many warnings to us in His word through Old Testament saints. Jeremiah warned the people to get right with God before disaster came upon Israel. Amos 3:7 – *Surely the Lord God will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret unto his servants the prophets.* Noah preached to the people before the flood destroyed them all. And now there are many of God's preachers and teachers who are warning others that now is the time to receive Jesus Christ. Will it be like it was in those days as well? Business as usual when destruction came upon the earth? You can be prepared today by accepting Jesus as your Lord and Savior today. Don't put it off, tomorrow may be too late. *2 Corinthians 6: 2 - (For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.)*

Rev. 1:3	Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand.
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What a beautiful promise of blessings. There are three things in order for this promise to be ours. We have to *read, hear* and *keep* what is written in this book. We may feel that we have reached the requirements necessary to receive this blessing, but be sure that you are doing the most important and the most difficult of the task and that is to *keep His commandments and the things written in this book*. Through Christ we can find the right path to freedom by using the grace of God to help us be what He has called us to be. In this verse God shows His love, yet again. How? The answer is found at the end of the verse which says: *“The time is at hand.”* Remember when you see a warning, you see His love. He letting us know that if you are alive and well on planet earth get your heart right with Him now, for the time is at hand.

Rev. 1:4	John to the seven churches which are in Asia: Grace be unto you, and peace, from him which is, and which was, and which is to come; and from the seven Spirits which are before his throne;
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**John to the seven churches who are in Asia** - Who is the message for? It is for *the seven churches in Western Asia Minor* east of Greece. Does that mean we are not to read, hear and keep these things as well? It will take the grace of God to help us through each chapter. Many do not read the book of Revelation because they don't understand it or they are afraid too. There are many things that God will show us in this book that may be horrifying and devastating, but as the Holy Spirit guide you and help you with each word it will prepare you more and more for His return and that is nothing to fear.

Revelation 3:13 - **He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.** This takes care of the thought or idea that this message is for the churches, only. It is indeed for anyone who will *listen* and *obey*. Remember, faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God (Romans 10:17).

**Grace unto you** - Grace is a gift from God. Ephesians 4:7 – *But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ.* Here John is presenting it to the reader as a greeting. We do not earn it neither can it be obtained through works. But there is also a deeper meaning in the Greek concerning grace. Grace points us to Christ; it *keeps, [strengthens] and increases your* Christian faith and knowledge. It causes one to exercise Christian virtues. Grace is the spiritual condition of one governed by the power of divine grace. In summary, grace is a gift from God that cannot be earned or obtained through works, but it points us to Christ and it gives you strength, increases your faith; it increases your knowledge and it is power that allows you to exercise Christian virtues. This power will help you do what you could never do on your own.

**Seven** - Greek meaning of the word *seven is completeness* and perfection.

**Spirits** – Spirits in this verse is represented by *the Holy Spirit, the third person of the triune God*. Without the Holy Spirit you will not be able to follow the leadership of our Lord. It is an important factor in deciding who is in right standing before God. Many may believe that they know God but the Holy Spirit knows for sure who belong to Christ. How? He looks directly at your heart. This is a good tool to use for us as well. When we see what the Spirit sees and reveals to us, about us, we can go to our Father in

heaven to clean us immediately. Un-confessed sin can cause a derailment of our Christian faith. If you know that there is known sin in your life, God can fix that for you right now. Confess it, ask for forgiveness for it and not so fast, don't forget to ask Him to clean your heart of it. It is a three step process. Confess it by name, ask for forgiveness and then ask Him to clean your heart. It is done in the name of Jesus.

Proverbs 16:2 - *All the ways of a man are clean in his own eyes; but the LORD weigheth the spirits [motives].* The word *weigheth* means (to be adjusted to the standard, to measure). Spirits here means motive. The Lord will check your motive and weigh it according to the standards He has set in His word. Pray that your reasons for what you do are pure and clean by the word of God and not by your own standards.

<b>Rev. 1:5</b>	<b>And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood</b>
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**And "From" Jesus Christ** – Can you imagine getting a letter from Jesus Christ addressed to you? I would think that it would be an honor and an extreme thought to hang on to every word. Well, in a way that is exactly what is being portrayed in His revelation to John. It is a letter addressed to anyone that will read it; hath an ear to hear it and will do the things that is written in this book. Jesus loves us and sometimes we forget that when allowed situations happen to us that are not so pleasant. Here He is reminding you that He loves you and that He washed us from sin with His own blood. Now that is true love. What have you done with your letter from your faithful witness and friend?

<b>Rev. 1:6</b>	<b>And hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.</b>
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**And hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father** – Revelation 20:6 - *Blessed and holy [is] he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.* Those who are dead in the grave in Christ will rise to reign with Him forever. Those who have died without the saving power of grace will be under judgment and punishment and will later rise after the thousand years [the second resurrection] to eternal destruction and to a *permanent* death and forever separated from God. Revelation will point to more in later chapters about the resurrection of the dead.

<b>Rev. 1:7</b>	<b>Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen.</b>
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**Behold he cometh with clouds** – This is a description of how He [Jesus] will return. He will be in the clouds just like He left. Many believe that His return will be a secret, but this verse says He will come in the clouds, not in any other way. And the verse says [He cometh], it hasn't happened yet, but it will and we can be sure that there will be a return visit. Acts 1:9-11 - *And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight. And while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel; Which also*

said, *Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, **shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.*** He is coming back the same way He left.

**“And every eye shall see him,”** – Everyone will see Him. No one will escape His coming. For the Saints, what a joyous day this will be, to see the long awaited and anticipating return of our Savior. Does this passage make you question the [secret rapture]? It should because this verse says “every eye” shall see Him. How can it be a secret? As you read ask the Holy Spirit for guidance and truth of the reading of God’s word.

**Even those who pierced him** - Zachariah 12:10 - *And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications: and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for his only son, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for his firstborn.* The scriptures said this would happen.

**And all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him** – Who are the kindreds of the earth? They are the ones who have followed the false church at the end of time. This is not the believers who are crying. We are happy to see our Savior at last. But those out of fear or just plain choice to follow the *false church* will be the ones who are wailing. There is no other opportunity for them to come to Jesus. Now is the time for salvation before it is too late. Won’t you receive Him now as you read this passage of scripture? Beyond popular belief the life you have now is the only chance you will get. Isaiah 55:6,7 - *Seek ye the LORD **while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near:** Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.* Those who have already died have already made their decision, it is final.

<b>Rev. 1:8</b>	<b>I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.</b>
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This is an introduction to who the Lord is. He is the First and the Last, the beginning and the end. He is and will always be. He is now and He is to come, He is forever. What does this scripture mean? Let’s take it word for word to find out.

I am Alpha – Alpha is from the Greek word meaning BEGINNING [Alpha is the first letter of the Greek alphabet].

I am Omega – Omega is from the Greek word meaning END. [Omega is the last letter of the alphabet. So God is showing us that He is the beginning of everything and the ending of everything. In other words no one created Him. He has always been and will always be.

Which is – Meaning [in the present] I am right now in this world right beside you, your friend.

Which was – Meaning [in the past] I am your past, I created you and made you and everything surrounding you.

Which is to come – Meaning [I am the future] I am coming again and I know everything that is going to happen to you up ahead. May we praise and worship Him.

Rev. 1:9	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.
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**I John, who also am your brother, and companion in tribulation** - Make no mistake about who is writing this through the Holy Spirit, it is being written by “John, one of his faithful servant and disciple.”

John is letting us know who he is by saying that he is also a fellow brother in Jesus and a companion in trials and tribulation. We notice that other Christians suffer in this world and we are to pray for them for strength as they battle the evil forces that work against them. John knew what that was like and though he had this awesome task of writing down what he saw and heard from Jesus Christ it lets us know that he was human just like we are and not exempted from tribulation. But in our trouble know that God is your friend and He is right beside you in times of trouble and hardships.

**Was in the isle that is called Patmos, for the word of God, and for the testimony of Jesus Christ** – The Isle of Patmos was located 55 miles southwest of Ephesus. He was not writing truth based on what he knew and had learned, he wrote it based on the Word of God and the Testimony of Jesus Christ. This information would compile from the Old Testament [the prophets] and the New Testament [testimony of Jesus Christ], two types of truth that will stand forever.

What is the Word of God? – The voice of God found in what we call the “scriptures.” What is the “testimony of Jesus?” – What God showed Christ and He testified it unto men during His ministry and then later through the Holy Spirit, which came after His death and resurrection.

Rev. 1:10	I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet,
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**“I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day”** – What day is the *Lord's day*? What does the bible say about this day that John was speaking of? ” Mark 2:27-28 - *And he said unto them, The sabbath was made for man, and not man for the sabbath: Therefore the Son of man is Lord also of the sabbath.* The Lord says in this passage that the Sabbath was made for man. What did He mean? Is the Lord's Day the Sabbath day? In the early days the Jews worshipped God on the Sabbath. Many may say that the Sabbath is for the Jews only. But the scripture here says that the Sabbath was made for man. Man would include all of man-kind not just the Jews, therefore the Sabbath was made for all man-kind. How is it the Lord's day? Therefore the Son of man is Lord also of the Sabbath. In this passage Jesus referred to it as His day, [the Lord's day]. John was referring to the Sabbath when he wrote this verse.

“Therefore the Son of man is **Lord of**.....What does “Lord of” mean in the Greek translation? He to whom a person or **thing belongs**, about which he **has power of deciding; master, lord.** What Day is He Lord over? The Sabbath. Exodus 20:10 - *But the seventh day is the sabbath of the LORD thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates.* The seventh day is Saturday.

There is also a day of the Lord, but John vision was not on that day because the bible describes that day as a horrible day. Joel 2:1 - *Blow ye the trumpet in Zion, and sound an alarm in my holy mountain: let all the inhabitants of the land tremble: for **the day of the LORD** cometh, for it is nigh at hand.* Malachi 4:1 - *For, behold, **the day cometh**, that shall burn as an oven; and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly,*

shall be stubble: and the day that cometh shall burn them up, saith the LORD of hosts, that it shall leave them neither root nor branch.

**Heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet** – Where else in the word of God do we hear a voice that sound as if it were a trumpet blowing? Exodus 19:13 - *There shall not an hand touch it, but he shall surely be stoned, or shot through; whether it be beast or man, it shall not live: when the trumpet soundeth long, they shall come up to the mount. Exodus 19:19 - And when the voice of the trumpet sounded long, and waxed louder and louder, Moses spake, and God answered him by a voice.*

The trumpet would blow and the people were told to come up to the mountain. The sound of the trumpet was a means of an announcement. Something was going to be said and it must be heard. John referred to the sound of the trumpet as a great announcement that was about to be given. What was about to be said? In Exodus 19 the great news was the Ten Commandments and the people were to stop whatever they were doing and head for the mountain to listen. Today God's word through His people is repeating that same message. Read, listen, and obey what God is saying in this book of Revelation. Now as John hears a great voice, what is the message that is so important?

<b>Rev. 1:11</b>	<b>Saying, I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last: and, What thou seest, write in a book, and send it unto the seven churches which are in Asia; unto Ephesus, and unto Smyrna, and unto Pergamos, and unto Thyatira, and unto Sardis, and unto Philadelphia, and unto Laodicea.</b>
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**"I am the Alpha and Omega,"** – The Greek meaning of the word Alpha is [first]. The Greek meaning for the word Omega is [last]. Jesus is the first and the last. There is none other before Him and none other after Him. He is worthy to be praised. He is starting the message out strong by announcing who He is.

**What thou seest, write in a book** – John was told to write what He saw in a book and send it to the seven churches. Was this message only for the churches? No because at the end of the verse for each church it says: **He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.** (Revelation 2:7) If you can hear then listen to the message that He gave the churches, it is for you and me as well.

<b>Rev. 1:12</b>	<b>And I turned to see the voice that spake with me. And being turned, I saw seven golden candlesticks;</b>
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**I saw seven golden candlesticks** – John turned to see the voice that was speaking to Him. The seven golden candlesticks is the same meaning as the Greek word "lampstand." He saw seven lampstands. It takes oil to burn the lamps; the oil in the lamps represents the Holy Spirit. The seven golden candlesticks/lampstands represents the seven churches John was to write too. Leviticus 24:2 - *And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, Command the children of Israel, that they bring unto thee pure oil olive beaten for the light, to cause the lamps to burn continually.*

**Rev. 1:13**

**And in the midst of the seven candlesticks one like unto the Son of man, clothed with a garment down to the foot, and girt about the paps with a golden girdle.**

**And in the midst of the seven candlesticks one like unto the Son of man** – The candlesticks means lampstands in the Greek language. We now know that the lampstands are representatives of the seven golden candlesticks and the seven golden candlesticks represents the seven churches which John was writing too, but now He sees one like unto the Son of man [Jesus] standing among the candlesticks. We can say that Jesus Christ is standing among the churches. Today, if we want a successful ministry in any church, we want the presence of the Lord to be among us.

God always want to have fellowship with His people. He loves us and wants to hear from us. Make time for Him today, He longs to be with you. In the Old Testament He said these words in Exodus 25:8 - *And let them make me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them.*

Exodus 25: 21 - *And thou shalt put the mercy seat above upon the ark; and in the ark thou shalt put the testimony that I shall give thee. And there I will meet with thee, and I will commune with thee from above the mercy seat, from between the two cherubims which are upon the ark of the testimony.*

**Clothed with a garment down to the foot, and girt about the paps with a golden girdle** – *Paps* is a word for breast. He wore a golden girdle that went across his chest.

You have just read the first chapter of the book of Revelation. God promised a blessing to the one who would hear, read and do what this book says. Now that was not so bad was it? It is a good idea to pray, let it set in your heart and read it again. As you read the Holy Spirit will reveal even more to you than what is written in my comment sections. God bless you as you learn more and more about the events leading up to the return of Christ.