

1. Introduction



Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written in it; for the time is near.

(Revelation 1:3)

What will influence our understanding of Revelation?

- **→** How we view the Scriptures
 - 2 Timothy 3:16-17 "All Scripture in given by inspiration of God..."
- > Our view of Israel's place in God's purposes
 - Romans 11:11 "Have they stumbled that they should fall?"
- > A prior commitment to a fixed interpretation
 - Proverbs 3:7 "Do not be wise in your own eyes..."

Asking the right questions...

Tell us, when will these things be?
And what will be the sign of Your coming,
and of the end of the age?

(Matthew 24:3)

Take heed that no one deceives you.
(Matthew 24:4)

Therefore you also be ready... (Matthew 24:44)

Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?
(Acts 1:6)

It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has put in His own authority.

(Acts 1:7)

Asking the right questions...

Lord, what do You want me to do?
(Acts 9:6)

He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.

(Revelation 2:7)

"Behold, I am coming soon!

Blessed is the one who keeps
the words of the prophecy of this book.

(Revelation 22:7)

Overview of the first section

Chapter 1

- Introduction
- The first vision Christ in the midst of the lampstands

Chapters 2 & 3

• The Lord's messages to the seven churches

Chapters 4 & 5

- All heaven worships God upon His throne
- The Lamb takes the sealed scroll and is worshipped

Chapters 6 & 7 and 8:1

• The scroll's seven seals are opened



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Chapter 1

- Introduction (Revelation 1:1-8)
- The first vision Christ in the midst of the lampstands

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- All heaven worships God upon His throne
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Chapters 6 & 7 and 8:1

The scroll's seven seals are opened



The revelation of Jesus Christ,

which God gave Him to show to His servants the things that must soon take place.

(Revelation1:1)

The revelation of Jesus Christ,

which God gave Him to show to His servants the things that must soon take place.

(Revelation1:1)

Greek: *apokalypsis* an uncovering or unveiling

The revelation of Jesus Christ

The revelation **from** Jesus Christ but also the revelation **about** Jesus Christ

The revelation of Jesus Christ,

which God gave Him to show to His servants the things that must soon take place.

(Revelation1:1)

Truly, truly, I say to you,
we speak of what we know, and
bear witness to what we have seen....
(John 3:11)

... which God gave Him
to show to His servants
the things that must soon take place.

The revelation of Jesus Christ which God gave Him...



Jesus Christ



His angel



John



Seven churches in Asia

The revelation of Jesus Christ

which God gave Him...



Jesus Christ



His angel



John



Seven churches in Asia



The revelation of Jesus Christ which God gave Him...



Jesus Christ



His angel



John



Seven churches in Asia

He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.
(Revelation 2:7)

[John] bore witness to

- > to the word of God and
- > to the testimony of Jesus Christ, even to all that he saw.

(Revelation 1:2)

John, to the seven churches which 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, and
- from Jesus Christ
 - the faithful witness,
 - the firstborn from the dead,
 - and the ruler over the kings of the earth.

(Revelation 1:4-5)

John, to the seven churches which are in Asia...

Grace to you and peace from

Jesus Christ

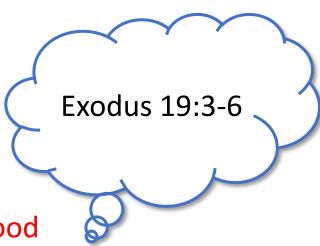
- the faithful witness,
- the firstborn from the dead, and
- the ruler over the kings of the earth.

To Him who

- > loves us
- and has freed us from our sins by His blood
- and made us a kingdom, priests to His God and Father,

to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

(Revelation 1:5-6)



He is coming...

And behold, One like a son of man, Coming with the clouds of heaven! (Daniel 7:13)

Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.

(Matthew 24:30)

Behold,

He is coming with the clouds,

and every eye will see Him,

even those who pierced Him,

and all tribes of the earth will mourn because of Him.

Even so. Amen.

(Revelation 1:7)

...then they will look on Me whom they pierced.

(Zechariah 12:10)

The Almighty...

Holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, Who was and is and is to come! (Revelation 4:8)

"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God,

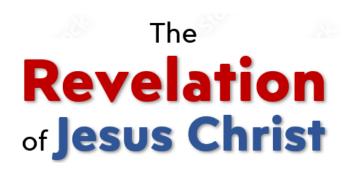
"who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty."

(Revelation 1:8)

"Behold, I am coming quickly...
I am the Alpha and the Omega,
the Beginning and the End,
the First and the Last."
(Revelation 22:13)

The journey begins...

- **✓** This revelation is for us...
- **✓** Jesus Christ is further revealed...
- √ "Come up here"



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(Revelation 1:3)