

THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST

If you will notice the great big word at the top, it says the Revelation; it's singular isn't it? "One", not pleural. If we can put our mind on to one singular thing "The Revelation of Jesus Christ". Everyone reads over the first few words of this book, but I want you to grasp them and how important they are. They are a key. To assist you in understand this writing I have included the first chapter of this book in its entirety.

Revelation Chapter One

1. *The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him, to show unto his servants things which must shortly come to pass; and he sent and signified it by his angel unto his servant John.*
2. *Who bare record of the word of God, and the testimony of Jesus Christ, and of all things that he saw.*
3. *Blessed is he that reads, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein; for the time is at hand.*
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;*
5. *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,*
6. *And hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father: to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.*
7. *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.*
8. *I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, says the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.*
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.*
10. *I was in the Spirit on the Lord's Day, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet.*
11. *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.*
12. *And I turned to see the voice that spoke with me. And being turned, I saw seven golden candlesticks,*
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.*

14. *His head and his hairs were white like wool, as white as snow; and his eyes were as a flame of fire;*
15. *And his feet like unto fine brass, as if they burned in a furnace; and his voice as the sound of many waters*
16. *And he had in his right hand seven stars: and out of his mouth went a sharp two-edged sword; and his countenance was as the sun shines in his strength.*
17. *And when I saw him, I fell at his feet as dead. And he laid his right hand upon me, saying unto me. Fear not: I am the first and the last.*
18. *I am he that lives, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.*
19. *Write the things which thou hast seen, and the things which are, and the things which shall be hereafter;*
20. *The mystery of the seven stars which thou saw in my right hand and the seven golden candlesticks. The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches: and the seven candlesticks which thou saw are the seven churches.*

In any kind of a building process, what is the first thing you do? You lay a foundation. This first chapter is laying a foundation for the rest of this book. That is what we have to understand. The foundation is the most costly and time-consuming process in your building. “It should be”. Because that is what holds up everything in the structure. The whole structure of this building I am in, if it was not sitting on a good foundation right now would have been warped, buckled all out of position and messed up. So the reason it is still standing is that it is on a good foundation. So we have to pay attention to the foundation that is laid within us. We can read in I Corinthians there is only one foundation that can be laid, that is Christ Jesus, which is already laid. So now that we know the foundation is Christ, and that’s what is being laid in us, this foundation. If we know the foundation is Christ and we know the Revelation is about Christ then this should be pretty simple. The door is open we need to deal with something now.

The first five words are the **KEY** to this book. The first verse unlocks the knowledge to this book. The knowledge of this book is unlocked by a key, and this is the key. He says in one verse that He has the keys of everything. The first five words “***The Revelation, or literally the disclosure of truth concerning things before known***, that’s what it really means. Notice what it said, “disclosure of things before known”. They’re disclosed, they were written down before they were before known. This book was written down before anyone understood it. It was available, but you see God wrote this book in our heart a long time ago. The reason we can’t understand it is because it wasn’t time yet. Everybody has his own time to understand what God is saying in their lives. So when God brings an understanding to us does that mean we run out and tell everybody and they agree with us? They are not going to understand what God is doing in your life if they’re not where you’re at. I’m not just speaking about in this building or in this fellowship. I’m saying if they’re not where you are at in the Spirit. If they were in the first feast of

the Lord, in the Passover Feast, they are surely not going to understand Pentecost are they? And they are surely not going to understand if you are in the Feast of Tabernacles and they are in Pentecost or Passover. It's not a bad thing. Let me use an example: If a child is four years old, is that a bad thing? Or a teenager is younger than I am, would that be bad? The bad thing is that they never grew beyond that point. The bad thing is staying there. This is the progression in God that we grow in this thing from the time we are conceived. We are continually growing and we are remembering things that were written beforehand about God in our lives. You see we knew Him before. We just don't know what we knew. But literally that is one of the meanings in verse one there where the "disclosure of truth concerning the things before known". The other meaning is "things withdrawn from the view are made visible to all". God gave this Revelation, but it was concealed in the language. It was concealed in our minds. Our minds were veiled at some time weren't they? Not now. There was a time when God had our minds veiled to the truth. In Hebrews it says the veil has been rent and now we can boldly enter into the throne room. That's the Holy of Holies. Why can we boldly enter into the throne room now? Or the Holy of Holies? God has opened it. Where is it located? **It's in you!** The Holy of Holies is your inner most being, your Spirit. The deep calls unto the deep. That's Spirit communing with Spirit. So now I can fellowship with the Father because my Spirit has been given access to Him. Christ has opened everything up. Now I can enter boldly into the throne room through His blood. Through His sacrifice, I can now enter in. It says in verse five of this chapter that He has washed us with His blood. He's washed us with His blood. **Now** I can walk in.

I knew a guy when I was first got in church, and when God was first beginning to deal with me, and I knew that there was much, much more than what I was receiving, and he made this statement, "I'll stand on this and I'll die on this", He said, "the only thing I want to know is that I have the blood of Christ dripping from me." Now you see, that is the beginning. That's not where I want to stay. You see that blood was applied to my life a long time ago and yours too. I don't want to stay there I want to continue to follow the cloud. I don't want to sit under the tree of knowledge any longer. I never did, so I don't have a problem with that. But this (in verse one) is a "***revelation or an unveiling to a disclosure of the truth of Jesus Christ which God gave to Him***" Who is Him? Jesus. Jesus was given the burden of the message wasn't He? He was given a message to bring to us, was He not? Okay. So He was given this. So "***this Revelation (or unveiling) of Jesus Christ, which God gave to Him to show unto his servants and the word shew (or show) things which must shortly or in a brief space of time come to pass; and He sent and signified it*** (the Greek word for signified is *semaino* and it means make known by signs and symbols). Now you will never know that if you don't look into the language. If you look into the Greek language in the Strong's concordance you will find this word. You can look through the other writings and you will find these understandings, that it is

to be made known by signs and symbols. *“by His angel”* The word by is not by it’s the Greek word “dia”, it means through. *“Through His angel, or literally His messenger unto His servant John”*. So here’s the key, this is the unveiling of Jesus Christ which God gave unto Him, (Jesus) to show to His servants which must shortly come to pass, and it didn’t say two-thousand years. Jesus was a part of the Christ; He wasn’t the total Christ, was He? His body has to be involved in this. I’m not being sacrilegious here I’m telling you that Jesus was given the message to reveal the Christ. It’s more than just one body, or one person. He was not the total Christ. He was the head, but He was the pattern that was sent to show us what the Christ was supposed to look like, and when we all get finished into that pattern, when we come into the understanding of what we are supposed to be. Because we are not going to be made into the image of Christ are we? If you read Romans 8:29 it says, *“them He did foreknow He predestined conformed”*, the “to be” verb is not there. I’m not going to be conformed and neither are you, but I’m going to remember who I am from before the foundation of the world. So when I remember from before the foundation that I was the Son of God, and that in the book of Job when God said *“where were you when the morning stars sang together”* **WHERE WERE YOU?** You were right there with Him!! We just don’t remember it. God’s going to bring it to your remembrance that we were with Him, literally **in** Him, before the foundation of the world.

This first verse I can’t get off of it, I’ve got to stay here a second. *“The Revelation of Jesus Christ which God gave to him, to show unto his servants things which must shortly come to pass; and he sent and signified it by his messenger, not angel.* It wasn’t a little fat naked baby with wings. This was Jesus and He was the messenger of the Father that brought the truth unto us. This word ‘messenger’ is the Greek word ‘*aggelos*’, which has actually three meanings written in the language. It can be messenger, angel is one they have kind of added into it in later writing, and pastor (shepherds). You’ll see this throughout the writing the word angel, and it’s in a couple of different context that it is used in. Here it is messenger. Do you know what the word *John* means? John is the one who wrote this book. The meaning of John is; God is a gracious giver, or Yahweh is a gracious giver.

Vs 2: Now Jesus who came, He said, *who bare record of the word of God*, or to His servant John who bare record or literally was a witness of the word of Christ or He was a witness of the word of God or the Christ. So Jesus was actually a witness of who? The Father. Jesus was the express image of who? God the Father. So if we realize that Jesus was coming to show us what the Father looked like. Do you know why? **We had forgot!** You see we had that veil put on our minds so we could not know what our Father was like. There are people running all over the world saying “I’m just like God” and they haven’t got a clue what God is like. So guess what, do you think they are in the image of

their Father? Are they acting like the Father would act? The only way I can act like the Father is when I act like Christ did. When He was reviled what did He do? Nothing. He said, "Father forgive them, they don't even know what they're doing". They have no clue. But John who bare record or was a witness of the Christ of God and of the testimony (or the evidence given) of Jesus Christ, and of all things. Literally it's as much as he saw or knew. So the only thing that John could give you a witness of or to write down was the things he saw or he knew. He didn't write down something that Paul told him or Peter told him, did he? He said I only wrote down, and was a witness of the things I saw and I heard. And if we would just go right there we could sure change the world around in the church realm. If we would quit saying what everybody says. We have ministry that come to this fellowship or send us writings that I appreciate tremendously in my life and in everyone else's lives. But when we read their writings, quoting it grieves these men, because I've talked to them, and it grieves them what people say. They only thing they say is, "Preston said, Gary said, Elwin said, blah, blah, blah, Stacy said, someone said." That is not important what they said. If you are sharing something with someone about what these writings has done for you in your life that is okay. These writings should be a supplement.

There are so many people who are not hearing what GOD is saying. The important thing that you should know about this is; what is God saying in YOUR LIFE? It shouldn't be what someone is telling you. And John is saying I'm just telling you what I saw and what I heard. If I tell you anything else I'm telling you hearsay. Sometimes I've seen things in scripture that I thought that I had something. I really thought I had something. Early in my walk, I saw things that I really thought I had something and then when I went back and compared it to the scripture, I found out, whoops, I was wrong, because it contradicted the word. The word is our guideline. We have to go to the foundation of the word of God. It's the plumb bob, it's the level, it's the square that makes sure that we can't run off in our soulish realms and start getting a hold of things. We are all susceptible to that. We've got to have something to stand on. That is why there are so many different problems in the churches today because everyone runs on what they think and not on what God says. God is going to take us right back to what we see and hear and it has to go with the word of God. So, in verse two, *John who was a witness of the Christ and of the testimony or the evidence given of Jesus Christ*" so he was a witness of what Jesus said and that was the word of God "*and of all things that he saw and knew*".

Vs 3: Now this is the only book in the bible that gives you this, and for years I was told, "don't read the Book of Revelation stay away from that thing". That was religious minds that had no clue what was going on. Turn to the last chapter of Revelation, I want to show you something. Revelation chapter twenty-two verse ten. Here was the problem that I saw. I couldn't figure out for a while why they told me "do not read this book",

because in the very first chapter it tells me I'm blessed if I read it. I asked the people, "why?" When I was sitting in church as a very young, immature Christian, and saying "why can't I read this it's right there?" There was nothing that said, "don't read it", except THEY were telling me not to. Someday I'll preach about THEY. They, covers a lot of people. He said in verse ten, "*seal not the sayings of the prophecy of this book: for the time is at hand*". Well they told me I couldn't read it because it was sealed up, and he just said at the end of this book he wrote "don't seal it because the time is now" literally it's now. They told me, "well Daniel says, seal up the book". Well that's Daniel's book that's not this book.

So there's a lot of confusion about things like that in religion. DON'T BELIEVE EVERYTHING YOU HEAR! If you are hearing me, or reading this writing, make sure what I say is true. Be a good Berean, search the scriptures, make sure what I say is true. Make sure it's in context, because there are a lot of people that can talk a lot of fancy words and they can (I like to say they are like politicians) twist the words around and make it say all kinds of things, but they can take it out of context. II Peter 3: 15,16 says, "Paul writes many things that are hard to be understood". There are a lot of words that they take and twist to their own destruction as they do the rest of the scriptures. They don't understand the foundation of it, so what are they going to do with the rest of the house. You set a house on a crooked foundation; you've got a crooked house. I'll promise you that. It can't be square and true if the foundation is wrong. It's got to have the right foundation, and that's why there are 22,000 denominations in the world today, because everyone says, "I believe". Ask the question, "What does the book say?" Don't try and twist the scriptures to make it say what you want it to say. I hear people say, "I'm going to this church because they believe like I do". Nowhere in the book does it tell you to find a church that will agree with you. You are supposed to be changed into the image of God. That means you are the one being changed and you are not going to be agreeing with what the word says are you? It is going to change you with what the word says. I always thought it was so foolish in denominationalism when they hired a preacher and had him say what they believed. Well you could have got a trained seal to do that or a parrot, if you are just going to say what we believe. How about stretching your mind beyond where you've normally been sitting. I want a teacher that takes me beyond where I'm sitting. I want to know more about God than I've ever known before. Every day I want to learn something else about Him, and if someone is telling me what I already believe why don't I just keep my money. Why pay someone to tell me what I already know? Does that do you any good? Doesn't do me any good to pay somebody to tell me what I already know.

Let's go back to verse 3: "*blessed is he that reads*" the words "he that" should literally read "*blessed is the ones that read, and the ones that hear the words of this prophecy*"

and keep those things which are written in it, because the set time is near (or now)”. You are blessed when you read this book. You are blessed when you keep (or hear) the words of this prophecy. Why would people tell you to stay out of it? Don’t you want blessed? Do you see a conflict in what the church teaches? There is a problem. We’ve got to know what God says. This is a great foundation to know that we are blessed. It is fear, they are afraid of going against “set authority”. There is no authority except for what God sets. There’s no authority, that means anything. Only what God sets, is there authority in. So we know we are blessed when we read these things. “the ones that read it and hear the words of the prophecy” Now do you think when He says “hear the words” don’t you think He means, maybe by the Spirit? Hear what the Spirit is saying to us, not what my carnal mind wants to tell me, because when we get into the latter parts of this book, we start hearing about these ten headed things with seven horns and seven crowns and all this wild stuff. You know what, that sounds spooky doesn’t it? But it’s not when you understand what He’s talking about. We’ll know it by the Spirit.

Okay so I laid that foundation and if you notice this foundation this is like a forward to this chapter. Look at verse four doesn’t it show it like the chapter is starting all over again? That’s because it is. He laid a foundation for you, now you can build on it. This is the Revelation of Jesus Christ in you. It was passed from Jesus to John. John wrote it down so that we could hear the same thing Jesus spoke to him. So when you read this you should not hear Dave, who should you hear? You should hear God’s voice, or Christ’s voice, or Jesus’ voice speaking inside of you. You should hear Him telling you yeah and amen or forget don’t buy this thing. It’s one way or the other, either you are going to buy it or you’re going to kick it out.

Vs 4. ***“John to the seven churches which are in Asia: (or the orient) Grace be unto you,”*** what is grace? It’s the divine influence in your heart and the reflection of that in your life. So he said, you need God’s divine influence. Can I get an amen on that? We need God’s divine influence in our life. When we get that, it should reflect out into what we are doing and how we are living. Shouldn’t it? Whatever God speaks into our life **it should come out into our lifestyle (or the way we walk).** *“He said grace be to you, and peace”* boy now that can shake out a lot of people. How many people have peace? Now He just said peace to you. Well then why don’t we have it? There’s something going on in our heads that is not of God. We need to get rid of that stuff and come to peace. This isn’t condemnation, it is a revealing. Isn’t that what the book says? It’s a revealing. Jesus is what? PEACE. He’s the truth, He’s life, He’s light, but He is also peace, and if Christ is in us then we should live the way He lives and that is in total peace. It’s not in condemnation, it’s a revealing so you can see; this is what I am in my mind, but God says I am this over here. Which one should I be? I should be what God says. So if I see a lack from what I view myself as being, and what God says I am, then I need a change

don't I? That's not condemnation, IT'S A REVEALING, AN UNVEILING OF THE TRUTH. GOD SAYS I AM; THAT'S THE TRUTH.

What I think I am that's the lie. So I have to come from the lie to the truth. Paul said in Romans ***"they've exchanged the truth for a lie"***. That is what people have done, we've exchanged the truth for a lie. We need to go on and believe what God says to us, and we need that peace in our life. God didn't give anything just to fill a gap. He gave us something we need. I need peace in my life, with all the chaos in the world, I need peace, and you do too. All you can get; you need all you can get not just a little bit of it. Don't come and sip from the cup drink it, all the way. We've got to get it all. ***"from Him which is"***, literally the presence, which was and which is to come, ***"and from the seven spirits which are before the throne"***. Seven is a symbolic number. Do you understand that? We can't read the bible intellectually, because John said "I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day", so I better get in the Spirit if I'm going to read this book. Right? I need to know this is Spiritual things. So he says, ***"from the seven spirits which are (literally in the presence)of the throne."*** Now those seven spirits, and like I said it is symbolism, the number seven doesn't mean literally the number seven. It could be ten million or it could be one. It's just whatever God needs it for. It's a spiritual number, not a literal number. I think seven is as much complete as the number four or the number one. It's a complete number. It's the seven spirits that make up the completeness of Christ. Those seven spirits are the Spirit of God. So it's the fullness of God. So these are the full Spirits of God standing before God, the full Spirit of Christ. ***"Which was before or in the place of the throne"***. What does the throne mean? The throne is a place (in the world) where a king sits. So the king, and isn't He king? So it would say that ***"he was about the seven spirits, before him or in his presence, before his throne"***, so these are before his ruler ship. Sitting before his presence of ruler ship. So these spirits are his ministering spirits that rule everything that He is doing. It is said many different ways in this book where God speaks about the seven spirits of God, the twenty four elders, it's speaking of the Christ standing before Him, the fullness, the mature Christ.

Vs 5 ***"And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten or the first born of the dead"***, now you can look at the bible and say; "that isn't true, because before Jesus was crucified didn't He resurrect Lazarus?" Now the natural mind would argue the point; there are several people that were raised from the dead. Even Elijah brought a boy back to life in the book of Kings. You see our carnal mind wants to argue those things. But Jesus was the lamb that was slain when? Before the foundation of the world. So He had to be resurrected back then too didn't He? It's a spiritual thing. We don't want to get into carnality and try to argue those letter of the word discrepancies that they think they see because they are not hearing by the Spirit. Back to the verse: ***"the first born of the dead and the prince of kings"*** or the ruler of kings, the word prince

should be ruler. He is the ruler of kings, and doesn't it say that Jesus is the King of kings, Lord of lords. That means He's the one in control. Rev. 14 says ***“there was 144,000 upon the Mt. Zion and they followed the lamb”***; where? ***“WHEREVER HE WENT”***, not where I want to go. So it's not about what I want to do, but what's it about? It's about what He wants to do. Now Jesus had the mind of who? The Father. Now if He has the mind of the Father, and He said in the garden, ***“not my will, but thy will be done”*** then it wasn't about what Jesus wanted to do was it? It was about what His Father wanted. So if I have the mind of Christ, which is literally the mind of the Father, what am I going to do? I'm going to do exactly what the Father wants and it hasn't got anything to do with what I want, does it? The only way I can say it's what I want is when I have the mind of the Father and I'm going to think the same way. So it is going to be what I want, isn't it? That's what He wants you to do. That's why He can turn over His ruler ship to this Universe, to His first fruit, because they have the mind of the Father. Now, if I had your mind wouldn't I do everything you wanted? Because I would think exactly like you. That's why He doesn't worry about it. When He has His full growth of His mind in us we are not going to do anything contrary to what He wants would we? That is what it is all about putting on the mind of Christ, which is the mind of the Father. In the verse: ***“prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us (or the one that loved us), and washed us”*** the word washed is not really washed, it is loosed. He loosed us from our sins in His blood. It's not like He got us down with a scrub brush and scrubbed us and cleaned us up, but He loosed us from the responsibility of that messianic penalty of death through our sins, because He died for me. He really didn't die for me, He died as me. When He was on that cross He was Dave, to me I see Him as Dave. That was Dave dying. You have to see Him in your own stead. I know that when He died, He loosed me because the penalty was paid at that point. So if Dave died on the cross, then why does Dave have to worry about any penalty for anything. So if you're dead on the cross, what do you have to worry about? Each one of us has to see it that same way. You see it was you, you were on that cross! So my penalty has been paid I have no debts, I'm free, and that's why He loosed us from our sins. We have to watch these words sometimes we can take them so complacently and think that they really don't mean much; “well it's close”, but know there is a meaning to these words and it changes the whole thought process and that's what He wants us to see.

In Proverbs 25:2 it reads; ***“it was the glory of God to conceal a matter, but the honor of kings is to search it out”*** actually it says, ***“It was the glory of God to conceal a matter*** the word in the Hebrew is dabar (daw-baw') WORD. It's the glory of God to conceal the word, but the honor of kings is to search out a matter (same word – dabar), it's the glory of God to conceal the word, but the honor of kings is to search out the word. You want to be a king, what are you going to do? Search out the word. Study to show yourself

approved. Okay, ***“unto the ones that loved us and loosed us from our sins in His own blood”*** Look at the next verse.

Vs 6 *“And has made us”* that is past tense. HELLO KINGS! YOU ARE KINGS! *“ He has made us kings and priests”* literally He has made us kingly priests or priestly kings, say it any way you want to. Now we are not talking about the kings that are sitting on thrones like the King of England or a King of another country like Africa or someplace that is in the natural. We’re talking Spiritual things here. *“He has made us kings and priests to God and his Father: the word “and” is not supposed to be there, it should be to God his Father, “ to him be glory and dominion forever and ever.* Literally, power into the age of ages. Its aion of aion, ages of ages.

Vs 7 *“Behold he cometh”* the word cometh is appears, *“He appears with”* the word with literally should be amid or in the midst of, or in the middle of clouds. He comes in the midst of clouds. We are talking symbolic language here. Clouds represent over comers. Paul says in the book of Hebrews *“that we are encompassed about by so great a cloud of witnesses”*. Clouds represent over comers. So he’s saying in essence *“behold he appears in the midst, or in the middle, or in the Spirit of the over comer”*. Hello, who is that? It’s YOU. So God appears in your Spirit. I was walking down the road one day and God popped up in my Spirit. I had no clue He was there. That’s how it happened to me. I didn’t know what was going on. He just showed up. He appeared in me. When this happens you can start recognizing Him in us, and when you can see Him in you. Then you’ll start seeing Him in someone else. That is Grace. The grace that God gives you in your life will start to show in your life and you should be able to see it first. You’ll see it first. Nobody else will. We will get there in the next chapter. *“And every eye shall see Him and they (the word also should not be here) which pierced Him and all kindred of the earth shall wail,”* literally the word wail is to beat their chest in grief *“because of Him. Even so. Amen.”* The words even so, should be; Yes. Amen. Yes they are going to beat their chest in grief when they see Him. You know why? Because He’s going to be in you. The church is all looking up in the sky looking for some Jesus to pop out of the clouds in the sky and they don’t know this is symbolic language. He’s coming out of His people right here on this earth. Rev. 20 says: *“they are tormented in the presence of the lamb and his holy messengers”*. Do you know when you are one of His messengers that people can be tormented in your presence? You don’t have to say anything. You can just be around someone and they just have fits. The so-called Christian people will do this to you. Don’t worry about it that is just the way it is. But he says, *“Every eye shall see Him”*. There is another passage of scripture that just came to me and I need to deal with it. It came up in my Spirit. The one that says; *“He shall come as a thief in the night”* everyone thinks that Jesus is going to sneak in like a cat burglar and no one is going to know He’s here. Well you see in their culture whenever a

thief was a thief they rode in big bands and they didn't ask anyone for permission. They didn't sneak around they just came and took what they wanted. That's how He is going to see it, because He's just going to come in. Jesus isn't going to ask anyone. He's going to come just like their thief did. Come in the night. In their ignorance (darkness). In their darkness is when He is going to show up. In my ignorance and my darkness is when the Christ showed up to me. And do you know what? My eye beheld Him. Your eye will behold Him when He comes in your life. Won't you behold Christ in your life? He's going to show up in your ignorance. How could you be anything but ignorant when He's not there in your life yet? So when He shows up, every eye will behold Him, but see we are looking at this one big cataclysmic event. The sky is going to bust open and He's going to jump out, this great big giant Jesus. He's so big He can put one foot on Mt Ararat and one on Mt. Zion. SORRY, IT'S NOT GOING TO BE THAT! Everyone is going to see Him individually in their life first. Every eye will behold Him. Who does that leave out? People preach that everyone is going to behold Him and all those people in hell are going to be screaming and wailing. NO IT AIN'T! NO IT AIN'T! Everyone is going to see Him as the Christ He is, as the Lord He is, as God. Everyone is going to see Him and that is not in the negative context. Their flesh is going to see Him that way, because the flesh is going to be done in with His appearing. But all the Spirit is going to be rejoicing. "*Even so, Amen*" May it be true.

Vs 8 "*I am Alpha and Omega*, Alpha is the first letter of the alphabet of the Greek language and Omega is the last one. Alpha and Omega, the first and the last, "*the beginning and the ending says the Lord which is the one being, the one that was and the one appearing*" it's what the language literally says. He's the one being, the one that was, and the one appearing. Then He says; "*the Almighty*". That clarifies it doesn't it? Now you see a lot of people never thought that Jesus was God. What did that verse say? It says He's the Almighty. Who is the Almighty? If that's not God we are all in trouble. Then there is more than one God isn't there, but there is only one God, and it says that Jesus, I AM, the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the ending says the Lord, which is, which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.

Vs 9 "*I John, who also am your brother, and companion in tribulation,*" John is saying I'm not going through anything you are not going through, and you're not going through anything that I'm not going through. He's saying I'm your companion in this tribulation, the Greek word is *thlipsis* (thlip'sis). He says I'm "*your brother and companion in tribulation and in the kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ*" so he's also got the patience of who? Jesus Christ. That kind of sounds like peace doesn't it? When you've got patience you've probably got a little bit of peace haven't you? It's the peace of God that brings the patience to your life. Let's go back to the verse; "*and patience of Jesus Christ*" and he was saying I was in what? The isle. Literally the word was in the

language says, “*I was caused to be* “, that means he didn’t go there on his own. John didn’t go to this isle of Patmos on his own. He was caused to be there. God wanted him there, and used the vessel of the Romans to put him there. John didn’t say, “I think I’ll go over to the isle of Patmos, and neither will you in your life. This isle of Patmos is very important to understand what it means. He says, “*I was in (or literally) on the isle that is called Patmos*” the word Patmos means, my killing. You are not going to volunteer to die in the flesh, but God is going to cause you to be in a place that will bring about your dying in the flesh. It’s not going to be volunteered, I promise you that. You can take the ones that think they are the most holy and most righteous on the face of the earth and they’re not going to Patmos. God is going to cause you to be in Patmos. The place of your killing. It’s a dying of flesh, a dying of self. My killing – my is me, and me is self. It’s kind of like the “I” in ego, they’re going to die in Patmos. So when John came off of Patmos where do you think he was? I’d say he was in the Spirit and lived there for the remainder of his days, because when I is gone there is nothing left but Spirit. So his place of killing was on the isle of Patmos. That doesn’t mean God is going to take us off somewhere and set us on an island out in the sea someplace. Your place of killing could be anywhere God chooses to take you. It’s going to be a place of discomfort, this isle of Patmos was a very, very rugged place. It’s where they threw prisoners that they wanted to just go out there and die. They hoped they would die out there so they wouldn’t have to take care of them. They didn’t put them in a prison, they put them on this island that they could not get off of. I’m sure that the people that were alive on this island were very vicious people. That didn’t bother John one bit. You see he was there to die. If you knew what preceded him going to this island it really didn’t bother him, because he was boiled in oil. Did you ever burn your finger with a little oil? He was put in a vat of oil and boiled for a long period of time and after this long period of time there was no hurt to his body so they removed him. He was so spiritual they couldn’t boil him. Oh my! So they put him out there to die on the island. So he “*was in the isle that is called Patmos, for the word of God*, the word “for” it’s the Greek word “dia” (through the word of God). So how did he get there? God sent him there, through the word of God. It was God’s word that sent him there. In Roman’s it says, “*Let every soul be subject to the higher powers for every power that be is ordained of God*”. God set these Roman people up that they would send him to the isle of Patmos to set everything in order. “*for (through) the word of God, and for the testimony (or evidence given) of Jesus Christ.*”

Vs 10 “*I was in the Spirit on the Lord’s day,*” literally it says,” I was caused to be in the Spirit on the Lord’s Day”. So God caused him to be in the Spirit in the Lord’s Day. “*And heard behind me a great voice, as a trumpet.*” Anytime you hear a trumpet? Do you know what it is? It’s the word of God. It just like a big megaphone. It’s the word of God.

Vs 11 *"Saying, I am"* or literally "I exist", *"Alpha and Omega, the first and the last; (or the first and finality)"* and *what you see, write in a book, and send it unto the seven churches (the ones in the Orient)"* unto *Ephesus*, (the word Ephesus means "permitted") and unto *Smyrna*, (its meaning is myrrh, which is suffering) unto *Pergamos* (its meaning is fortified, kind of in yourself, "pride") and to *Thyatira* (meaning, odor of affliction). There are a whole bunch of people running around with the "odor of affliction on them". Odor, what does that mean? Smell. It's their nose; their nose isn't working properly, but the only thing you can smell on them is affliction instead of being where it should be. *"Unto Sardis"* (its meaning is a sardine stone that Jesus spoke of in Revelation. It is red. It is speaking about a church that is very red, or very adamic. Adam, the word means "red". *"And unto the church of Philadelphia"*, (its meaning is brotherly love) *"and unto the church of Laodicea"*, (its meaning is justice of the people). Do you know what that sounds like? It sounds like our Constitution of the United States. It's of the people for the people, and all that people stuff. It sounds democratic to me. You know a church isn't supposed to be Democratic. What is it supposed to be? Theocratic. It's theocratic, that means God runs the church. The way He sees it, it is not something we vote on. It's something that God runs. THEOCRATIC.

Vs 12 *"And I turned to see the voice that spoke with me (or to me). And being turned, I saw seven golden candlesticks."*

Vs 13 *"And in the midst of the seven candlesticks one like unto the Son of man,"* here we have a description of Christ. He said he saw the seven golden candlesticks and in the midst of the candlesticks one like unto the Son of man. Now the seven golden candlesticks; go to the 20th verse of this chapter; it says *"the seven stars which you saw in my right hand, and the seven golden candlesticks, The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches: and the seven candlesticks which you saw are the seven churches"*. So he is saying, seven churches; do you think for any minute that there were seven churches in the continent of Asia at this time? There were many, many, many home churches, not seven, it is a spiritual number. It is a symbolic number not a literal number. So he is just saying to the "churches". He said, "I turned to see the voice that spoke with me. And being turned, I saw seven golden candlesticks (seven churches). In the midst of the seven candlesticks one like the Son of man." So what he is saying is that "I saw the churches" and who was the center of these churches? CHRIST, he was in the midst of them, or the center of them. So the center of these churches is Christ. That is the problem we have with today's religion. God is not the center of the church. It is man that is the center of the church. That is why we can't receive the nourishment and the nutrients we need from the spirit to make our lives right because we are hearing too much about what MAN THINKS. It is a man-oriented religion.

So we see this man standing in the midst of these seven churches. *“Like unto the Son of man”*, that’s Jesus, *“clothed with a garment down to his foot”*. What do you think He had on? The righteousness, the righteousness of God. *“And gird about the paps”* or literally the breast, *“with a golden girdle”*. Now the word “paps” what is it? Literally it is breast, there is the female side of the Christ. People don’t believe God is male and female, here is the female side of God because this says it is a female word, it is the female breast. So, He is gird about the paps with a golden girdle. Now what he was speaking about was in their day they wore these big loose robes and they pulled a belt around their waist and it created pockets to carry things in. I can’t say it any other way but, it was like a brassiere. It created pockets for their breasts to lie in rather than just lying open. Women didn’t dress exactly like men. But it says that it is a belt put around their waist to create pockets. Men carried all kind of things, but women of course had something else in their pockets. Excuse me that’s the only way I can say it. That is just the way it is. I am not getting in the gutter here, I’m just telling the truth. It was a golden girdle. Gold always refers to the nature of God. So we are speaking of something Godly here. Breasts are created for what reason? For nursing. So who is our mother and our father taking care of us? GOD. God is going to supply all our needs isn’t that true? Doesn’t God supply every need you have in life? So He is our mother, He is that supply of milk to us isn’t it? So God is our mother and He has the fullness of everything we need.

Vs 14 *“His head and his hairs were white like wool,”* what is the white on His head about? Your hair is on your head. At least some people, mine is not so much there, but what I’ve got is white. So, what is the white on His head? It’s speaking about the purity of His thought process and His mind. He has the righteous mind. He says, *“as white as snow; and his eyes were as a flame of fire;”* You know in the Old Testament it says in Psalms, *“he made his ministers a flaming fire”*. So his eyes is the vision. He puts His vision in His ministries. The ones who truly have the ministry of God have the eyes as fire. Now this fire is not to consume you and burn you up, but it is a refining fire. Do you understand that? There is a difference. God can be a consuming fire or He can be a refining fire. He changes your form. He is refining you. So His eyes or His vision was like a flame of fire. It burns up the things that are not supposed to be there. I think Peter said, *“The earth would be burned up with a fervent heat”*. Well this fervent heat is the word of God. It’s this fire that His ministry brings and it’s not burning up the earth you are standing on. It’s burning up the earth in you and me. The earthly thinking. The earthly way of doing things, it is going to be changed.

Vs 15 *“And his feet like unto fine brass,”* literally they were burned. His lifestyle had been refined at this point had it not? Jesus had already walked His life out and had been refined. We have to do the same thing. Paul said it this way, *“learned He obedience*

through the things that He suffered". The feet represents lifestyle, or the way you walk out your life. So His lifestyle had been refined in the fires, pressures and the tribulation that He walked through in life. We are going to be refined the same way. "And His voice as the sound of many waters," in Rev. 17:15 it says, "and he said unto me the waters which you saw, where the whore sits, are peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues." Now in verse 15 of chapter one it says, "and His voice as the sound of many waters". Many what? Many people. This is a many membered body of Christ. So it's not speaking about water talking to you. He says here that the waters are the multitudes of peoples, nations and tongues. So when He heard something speaking He didn't hear 22,000 denominations all speaking a different word. It wouldn't have been intelligible to where He could have understood it. Would it? But He heard a multitude of different people, nations and tongues speaking the same word. They were in agreement. They were speaking the word of God and there were not discrepancies in what they spoke. It couldn't have been understood any other way could it? You go to a stadium and put 5,000 people in it, and if they are all speaking the same thing you can understand that; but let half of them say something else and see if you can understand it. He heard a multitude of people speaking. They were all speaking the same thing. The word of God. "And He had in His right hand seven stars." What are the seven stars? Vs 20 tells you it is the angels of the church. The word angel is *aggelos* (ang`el os), it means messenger. It means pastor. So it's whoever is running that church. We want to take this and say, "well we want to make the Pastor to be this real spiritual guy, and he's the only one that hears." Well who is the great shepherd, the great pastor? JESUS. So the Christ in me is the Shepherd. He is the messenger bringing me that message. Is He not? We've got to take this on an individual basis before we ever take it corporate to any place else. The Christ in me is my Pastor, He's my messenger, and He's my Shepherd. It's the same for you. So the Christ in you has to get this message doesn't He? He has to get it to you, He has already got it, He just has to get it to you. But in His right hand he held the seven stars. What does the right hand speak of? His full power and authority. Where does Jesus set concern of the Father? The right hand side. He has full power and authority. So we see that these stars are people that God has full power and control over. These are Pastors that God is in control of. Not man's religious system. These are not men that are prostitutes that are selling themselves out to whatever the salary is. It is people, men and women, who stand in God's power and authority because He chose them. They are in His hand. If they are in His hand no one else can control them can they? They are in HIS power and control. "And out of his mouth went a two edged sword:" Now I know everyone of you have seen that silly picture on television that they sold with Jesus on a white horse and a big sword sticking out of His mouth. CARNALITY. Heb. 4:12 says, "the word of God is sharper than a two edged sword." So what comes out of His mouth? HIS WORDS!!! It is not a sword sticking out of His forehead or His face. You see that is carnality. We have got to come beyond this carnality and see the

truth. The words that He speaks are coming out of His mouth. This is all symbolism. *“And His countenance was as the sun shines in His strength.”* The strongest sun you ever seen that’s what His presence would feel like. Go down around the equator if you want to feel some sun. You want to feel some sun; it feels like you are in a microwave. You get to the southern tip of Florida it will feel like that. It feels like a microwave beating down on you. So out of His mouth went this sharp two-edged sword. It’s the Spiritual ministry. It’s word that goes out of the mouth of humanity from the Christ within humanity and it is a very Spiritual powerful ministry that goes forth from their mouth. It has nothing to do with the person. It is about the Christ that is speaking within the person, because it is not “man centered” it is “Christ centered.”

Vs 17 *“And when I saw him, I fell at his feet as dead. And he laid his right hand upon me,”* Now what does that mean, “he laid his right hand upon me”? Jesus is who he was talking about. And He laid his right hand upon him and gave him full power and authority. He gave John full power and authority. But do you know what? He did it to you too. He gave it to you too. He gave you full power and authority by placing His right hand upon you. Your hand speaks of your works, but when you see it in this context he is speaking of His full power and authority. He laid he right hand upon him. Whenever they blessed in culture they laid their right hand upon them. Whomever the son was that got full power and authority, the first-born son, got the right hand laid on them. Example; Jacob and Esau, the left hand went on Esau. Remember the hands got crossed. They changed what they were doing. They knew what was going on. The full power and authority was in the right hand. *“And he laid his right hand upon me, saying unto me. Fear not;”* If you have received the full power and authority of God, what would you fear anything for? Didn’t Paul say unto Timothy, *“God has not given us a spirit of fear, but power, love, and a sound mind.”* He said, *“fear not; I am the first and the last.”* I am the first and the last, or literally I am the first and the finality.

Vs 18 *“I am he that lives, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore (into the ages), Amen (Into the ages is what it really says.); and have (or hold) the keys of hell and of death.”* Do you know what the keys of death and hell are? It is the power and authority He has. If you have enough power you can open any door there is with or without a key. That power and authority opens everything there is. The power of God and the authority of God gives you the power to do all things. Does it not? If you have a key can you open the door? If you want to you can, or you can lock it if you want to. So he gave him the power and he’s the one that has the keys of hell. What is the word hell? Hades, the grave. It is not really hell. Hell as we have heard it in the church does not exist. Hell is between your ears. It’s the thinking. Hell is where you live right now. You can live in heaven or hell right now. No place in scripture does it say you have to die to go to hell or die to go to heaven. That is something that someone has made up. If

someone can prove it to me that there is a place in scripture, show it to me, but no one has been able to yet. I've offered people lots of money; show it to me. I'll give you crisp one hundred dollar bills if you can just show it to me and they still can't do it. We all live in a lot of hell in this life. It is what we think in our minds. Yes we are all going to go to the grave. So He has the key to the grave. What's He speaking about? What is the grave? The grave is death. He has the key that unlocks death. He says, "*I'm alive for evermore.*" So that life of Him; where is it at right now? It's in us. That's the key of life and He has already given that to you. He's already given you the life. You will never die. We are talking Spiritually, not naturally!! Heb. 9:27 says, "*it is appointed to man once to die.*" The flesh is going to die, but the Spirit is within us, it will never die because He has already taken care of that. We died with Him on the cross and we have already resurrected with Him. So we don't have to worry about that anymore. You see He's already given us that authority. That life in Him. That authority is in us to live for evermore, along with everything else. He has given us full power and authority. We just don't believe it! What's so hard to believe when God says, "*I give unto you full power and authority. I pour out my Spirit without measure upon my sons.*" In Luke He said, "*I give unto power over all the power of the enemy. You shall tread on serpents and scorpions and nothing by any means shall hurt you.*" You see I don't have to worry about it. HE HAS GIVEN US FULL POWER AND AUTHORITY, but I have to believe it. In my heart I have to know. It is something that resides within us, but we have to be made aware. What is this book about? The what? The unveiling of Jesus in you. Jesus walks in full power and authority does He not? It's the unveiling of that Christ in you that walks in full power and authority in you in the earth. This earth (pointing to self). Your earth. That's the unveiling of the Christ WITHIN YOU!! God is not part of death. He says He has the keys of hell, or the grave and death. Death is not talking about this body dying. If you look in Romans 8: 6 it says, "*To be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.*" So it's the carnal mind. He has the keys to the grave and the carnal mind. He knows how to open it all up. He has that power and authority to do every bit of that. And then He tells John.

Vs 19 "*Write these things that thou has seen, and the things which are, and the things which shall be hereafter;*" the word hereafter, isn't hereafter. It literally says in the language it is (meta-tauta) and it means in the midst of these things. The things, which shall be in the midst of all of this. So in the midst of all this stuff in our life he said you write things that are going to happen, right in the midst of all these things that are going on. King James always wants to put things in the future somewhere, but it is in the midst of your life that things are going on. Isn't it? If you don't have an answer to things in your life right now, what good is it to tell me an answer two hundred years from now? I'm not living two hundred years from now. I am living right now I've got to have an

answer in my life now. That's what God wants us to know. It's in the midst of our life right now, or in the midst of everything going on.

Vs 20 *“The mystery(or the mysterion)of the seven stars which you saw in my right hand, and the seven golden candlesticks,”* literally it is lamp stand. What is a lamp stand? It holds light. Guess what? Guess what His ministers should be holding? They should be holding the light of God in their lives and it's a shame to say that most of the ministry today aren't hold the light of God in their life. We all hear about it and see things going on today. When you walk in the place of God, whether you are man or woman, it doesn't make any difference; but I should be holding the light of God in my life. And if the light is on top of the lamp stand, well honey everybody should see it. There shouldn't be anyone saying, “well I wonder what they are. I wonder what they do.” It's not in what clothes that I wear. It's not the way I cut my hair, but it's in the lifestyle I live. Jesus never wore a shirt that said; WHAT WOULD JESUS DO? He never wore a bracelet that said; WHAT WOULD JESUS DO? He never wore what they call, Christian T-shirts. He just did what He was supposed to do. It was what the Father told Him to do. That's how we should live our life. We shouldn't have to tell someone “ I'm a Christian”. They should see it in your nature, in the way you react to situations in life. Do you know what is sad? I see people that doesn't even go to church react better than a lot of church people. That grieves me, because we know better. These people who supposedly don't even know God have a better nature than a lot of them that go to church. Now I said, supposed to be. Notice these candlesticks are gold. That is the nature of God. The light they are holding is in a vessel that is golden. That means this thing is wrapped in God. Now this lamp stand was man made. It was gold shaped by man, but it still carried the light of God. *“The seven stars are the angels (they are the messengers, or the pastors) of the seven churches: and the seven candlesticks (or lamp stands) which you saw are the seven churches.”* We have got to get out of this thinking process that there were only seven churches. There are many, many churches of God throughout Asia that expressed the word of God. We are not speaking of churches that had signs out there with stained glass windows and little pointy things on top. Churches, the Greek word “*ekklesia*” (ek-klay-see`-ah) is the called out people. You are the church. Not a building. You are the church. He was speaking to the called out ones in Asia. There were many meeting places. That is not what it is about. **It is about this people that are called out to know His name, His nature, and His character.**

May Father give you the Spirit of Revelation, wisdom and understanding in His word, and may the Spirit of Love fill your heart.

David L. Fields

