

#1 "King of Glory" [Revelation 1:1-18]

Revelation = Greek [apoka-loops-is] ἀποκάλυψις = Το Reveal, Το Uncover, Το Unveil

The Author: John the Apostle [Circa 95AD]

The revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show to his servants the things that must soon take place. He made it known by sending his angel to his servant John, who bore witness to the word of God and to the testimony of Jesus Christ, even to all that he saw. Rev 1:1-2

• An <u>EYEWITNESS</u> To The Life, Death & Resurrection Of Jesus.

The Source:

from him who is and who was and who is to come and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, from Jesus Christ ⁵ the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth Rev 1:4

- God The FATHER
- God the <u>HOLY SPIRIT</u>
- God the <u>SON</u>

I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, "who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty" Rev 1:8

• Jesus <u>DIRECTS</u> All of Human History, Including Your Life

The Persecution - Emperor Nero [54-67AD]; Emperor Domitian [81-96AD]

I, John, your brother and partner in the tribulation and the kingdom and the patient endurance that are in Jesus, was on the island called Patmos on account of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. Rev 1:9

The Seven Churches

"Write what you see in a book and send it to the seven churches, to Ephesus and to Smyrna and to Pergamum and to Thyatira and to Sardis and to Philadelphia and to Laodicea." Rev 1:11

• The Message Jesus Gives To These Seven Churches Is Intended For <u>ALL</u> Churches, In <u>ALL</u> Times.

The Vision of The King of Glory

Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking to me, and on turning I saw seven golden lampstands, and in the midst of the lampstands one like a son of man, clothed with a long robe and with a golden sash around his chest. The hairs of his head were white, like white wool, like snow. His eyes were like a flame of fire, his feet were like burnished bronze, refined in a furnace, and his voice was like the roar of many waters. In his right hand he held seven stars, from his mouth came a sharp two-edged sword, and his face was like the sun shining in full strength. Rev 1:12- 16

• This Is A Vision Of The REAL Jesus, Our Resurrected King

When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. But he laid his right hand on me, saying, "Fear not, I am the first and the last, and the living one. I died, and behold I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades. Write therefore the things that you have seen, those that are and those that are to take place after this. As for the mystery of the seven stars that 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. Rev 1:17-20

Life Group Questions

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Ice breaker: Describe your perfect church.

Read Revelation 1:1-20.

- What political turmoil and oppression led to John being on the island of Patmos, and how did that turmoil relate to the messages to the seven churches?
- Notice John's posture as he encounters Jesus in vs 17. What does this tell you about Jesus? What does it tell you about John? What inspires you about the way John lived out his faith?
- What does Jesus say about himself in chapter 1? Why do you think he uses such descriptive imagery and how does each description impact how you will think of Jesus (and what you will say about him) from this point onward?
- The seven churches are symbolical described as lampstands. (vs 20) Why do you think this is significant?
- John sees Jesus standing "in the midst of the lampstands" (vs 12) What does this tell us about Jesus' relationship with His church?
- Consider the symbolism of the "seven star" Jesus says they represent the angles/messengers/pastors of the churches. (vs 20) What is the significance of the fact that he holds them in his right hand?

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