

Revelation

A special unveiling

With a special blessing

Given to a special group

Revelation – we need clarity

Chapters 6-19 deal with events outside the church age. Regathered Israel is at the center – the church doesn't even appear.

Revelation – clarity

Words and phrases which appear to be symbols will be identified for us in the Old Testament. (verse 4=Jehovah)

Revelation – clarity

Verse 5 - a grammatical error?

Past and present tense are linked

“To Him who: **loves us** (present),
freed us (past), **made us** (future)

Revelation

Chapter 1:9-20

Vss. 4-8

Message to the Seven Churches (expanded
in chapters 2-3) (Father, Spirit, Son)

O.T.- Israel God's witnesses to the world

Transition – Jesus the 'Faithful witness'

Church Age – We are His witnesses

End of the Age – (vs. 7) He is coming again

Vss. 9-20

Vision of Christ in His glory

(He is Holy – do we treat Him as such)

The Chief Shepherd (1 Peter 5:3) is addressing
His churches

He is pictured as the High Priest

The churches are the lampstand

(light-bearers – not the light itself)

Titles of Christ in chapter One

Verse 5

1. “THE FAITHFUL WITNESS” (martyr)
2. “THE FIRSTBORN FROM THE DEAD”
3. “THE RULER OF THE KINGS OF THE EARTH”

Titles of Christ in chapter One

Verse 8

4. “THE ALPHA AND THE OMEGA”
5. the one “WHO WAS, AND IS, AND IS TO COME”
6. “THE ALMIGHTY”

Titles of Christ in chapter One

Verse 13 - 7. "THE SON OF MAN"

Verse 17 - 8. "I AM THE FIRST AND
THE LAST"

Verse 19 – 9 . "The Living One"

Verse 9

I, **John**, your brother and fellow partaker in the tribulation and kingdom and **perseverance** *which are* in Jesus, was on the island called Patmos **because of** the **word** of God and **the testimony** of Jesus.

“partaker in tribulation”

1 Peter 4:12-13 -- Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal among you, which comes upon you for your testing, as though some strange thing were happening to you; ¹³ but to the degree that *you share the sufferings of Christ*, keep on rejoicing, so that also at *the revelation of His glory* you may rejoice with exultation.

Verse 9 = verse 2

60 years after Christ's death

Roman Emperor Domitian

“because of” – John not banished
because he was preacher. He was exiled
to receive this exact Revelation from
Jesus (like Paul in Galatia [1:17]).

Verse 10

I was **in the Spirit** on **the Lord's day**, and I heard behind me a loud voice **like** the sound of a **trumpet**,

“in the Spirit”

“in the spirit”

Patmos

Rev. 1:10

Before the throne in heaven

Rev. 4:2

Carried into the wilderness

Rev. 17:3

Carried to a mountain

Rev. 21:10

“in the Spirit”

In Revelation 4:2; 17:3; and 21:10 this phrase clearly implies he was translated into a **future state or dimension of time** to be personally shown what is going to take place in **the later days**.

“in the Spirit”

Like **Isaiah** or **Paul** or **Ezekiel** being caught up into the throne room of God or **Phillip** when he was “caught up” by the Spirit and translated to Azotus after baptizing the Ethiopian Eunuch.

“the Lord’s Day”

“the **day of the LORD** [Yahweh]” refers to the time when Yahweh will punish and restore the whole world through Christ’s first and second comings. Unrepentant sinners should fear the day of the Lord, but those forgiven and redeemed can anticipate it with hope.

“the Lord’s Day”

Zephaniah 1:14-16 “The **great day of the LORD** is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter; the mighty man cries aloud there. A day of **wrath** is that day, a day of **distress** and **anguish**, a day of **ruin** and **devastation**, a day of **darkness** and **gloom**, a day of **clouds** and thick **darkness**, a day of **trumpet blast** and **battle cry** against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements.

“the Lord’s Day”

Acts 2:19-21 – “and I will show wonders in the heavens above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and vapor of smoke; the sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before **the day of the Lord** comes, the great and magnificent day. And it shall come to pass that everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.’ (context – King reoffered)

“Trumpet”

Not a “still, small voice” we tend to associate with God as He speaks into our hearts today but a “loud” voice like a trumpet. Judgment is coming and there will be no mistaking it.

O.T. = trumpet was call to worship or war

Verse 11

saying, “**Write**” in a **book** what you **see**,
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.”

“Write”

first of 12 commands John is going to receive throughout Revelation to write what he specifically “saw” in these visions

Book of “the generations of Adam”

Genesis 5

Likewise a book of the “last” generation

Revelation

“Book of Remembrance” (Malachi)

“Book of Life” “The books”

Send it – to be read and observed in all
the churches

Seven churches all in Southwest Asia
Minor, clockwise position facing the Isle
of Patmos

Verse 12

Then I turned to see the voice that
was speaking with me. And having
turned I saw **seven golden
lampstands;**

Seven = completeness

Golden = value, purity, strength

Lampstands = churches (vs. 20)

Not one lampstand (Menorah) with seven branches but seven individual 'luchnos'.

“Candlesticks” used 7 times in Revelation

John 8:12; 9:5 – “I am the light of the world” (but only while in the world).

Now,

Matthew 5:14 – “you are the light of the world ... “

Philippians 2:15 –

so that you will prove yourselves to be blameless and innocent, children of God above reproach in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you appear as lights in the world,

Verse 13

and in **the middle** of the
lampstands I saw one like **a son of
man**, clothed in **a robe** reaching to
the feet, and girded across His chest
with a **golden sash**.

the **Son of Man** was the most common title used of Himself in the gospel record and it originates in Daniel 7. The perfect man, the last Adam who would not only redeem mankind but also come to rule and reign over all humanity one day.

Robe (garment) = character

Isaiah 64:6 – filthy rags (us)

Psalms 104:2 – garments of light (Jesus)

Rev. 19:13 – vesture dipped in blood

The New Testament record tells us . . .

Jesus Christ was “made” in the likeness of man (Phil. 2:7)

He was “made like unto His brethren (Hebrews 2:17)

He was made “in the likeness of sinful flesh” (Romans 8:3)

Verse 14

His head and His hair were white like white wool, like snow; and His eyes were like a flame of fire.

Hab. 1:13 – cannot look upon evil

Verse 15

His feet were like **burnished bronze**,
when it has been made to glow in a
furnace, and His voice was like the
sound of **many waters**.

Verse 16

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.

Seven (7) Physical descriptions of Jesus

1. Hair, head: (Daniel 7:9; Isaiah 1:18)
2. Eyes ('flame of fire'): I Cor. 3:13; Mal. 3:2; 2
Chronicles 16:9; Heb. 4:13)
3. Feet (brass: judgment) Brazen serpent (Num. 21)
4. Voice: (many waters): Ez. 1:24; 43:2; Dan. 10:6

Seven (7) Physical descriptions of Jesus

5. Right hand (authority, seven stars, yet walks in midst)
6. Mouth (two-edged sword): Heb. 4:12, Eph.6:17, Is.49:2

Judges by His mouth

- 1.unbelievers (John 12:48)
 - 2.Earth (Isaiah 11:4)
 - 3.Antichrist (2 Thess. 2:8)
7. Countenance (as the sun): (Matthew 17, Mal. 4:2)

Verse 17

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,

Verse 18

and the living One; and I was dead,
and behold, I am alive forevermore,
and I have the keys of death and of
Hades.

Verse 19

Therefore write the things which you
have seen, and the things which are,
and the things which will take
place after these things.

Verse 20

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.

