



The Book of Revelation- Bible Study Session 3: Continue-Chapter 1 and Chapter 2 Advanced Teaching – February 21, 2023

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Welcome to a walk through the Book of Revelation Bible study. This is session #3 we will continue chapter #1-2.

In our last session we finished the introduction, and we started walking through Chapter 1. So, if you missed the last two sessions, you should be able to go out on JLAL church next week and therefore you can catch up and watch those teachings.

This will be a walkthrough the Book of Revelation. Chapter by chapter, verse by verse, and sometimes we will break down certain words and phrases to give us a clear understanding of the revelation of Jesus Christ and what is soon to come.

Key things to keep in mind, the bible is an intentional written book from God Himself.

2 Timothy 3:16 All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, 17 that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work. This includes the book of revelation!

Every chapter, sentence, word and jot or tittle is there by design. There is no happenstance books, chapters, or words in the bible.

Therefore, there is no mistakes in the Bible as it was originally written in the Greek, Hebrew, and Aramaic.

Most mistakes come from the translating of these three languages into other languages, and translations.

Revelation 1:1 The Revelation of Jesus Christ

The Revelation of Jesus Christ. Notice it is singular not plural.

It means the Unveiling of Jesus Christ and of the things which are to take place.

As time goes forward in this study, we will get more revelation of who Jesus is.

A Unique Promise

Revelation 1:3 tells us to “Read... Hear... understand and Keep”: This is the only book with a special promise if you do these three things.

*We pick up our study in **Revelation 1:10 I was in the Spirit**, in the spirit means that John was in the eternal realm, the heavenlies, a place outside of time and space.*

If you are going to understand the bible properly you must think outside the box and realize there are more realities, with more dimension than just this one we live in.

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From mathematical equations, science have discovered at least 11 dimensions. And in order for Jesus to operate like He did after resurrecting from the dead, scientist say He was operating in at least the 5th to 7th dimension.

I said that to say all of this John was in a realm of reality where Father God, Jesus, His other Spiritual Sons the host of God and Angels live.

In this realm John can see past, present, and future all at the same moment.

He could travel at extraordinary speed and never seen to have to catch his breath or experience fatigue.

on the Lord's Day. I believe that John was taken away in the spirit to “the Day of the Lord”. A time right before the 7-year tribulation starts and seems to run throughout the tribulation period.

Don't look at it as a 24hr day. If you read these scriptures about the day of the Lord, I think you will start to see what I mean. **Isaiah 2:12, Isaiah 13:6, Isaiah 13:9, Isaiah 34:8, Isaiah 58:13, Jeremiah 46:10, Lamentations 2:22, Ezekiel 13:5, Ezekiel 30:3, Joel 1:15, Joel chapter 2, Amos 5:18, 20, Zephaniah 1:7,8,14,18, Acts 2:20, 1 Corinthians 5:5, 2 Corinthians 1:14, 1 Thessalonians 5:2, 2 Peter 3:10.**

10...and I heard behind me a loud voice, as of a trumpet, 11 saying "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last..." we see here another revelation of Jesus Christ alpha and Omega the beginning and the end.

This means that he was before anything and everything.

He was before time and He will be after time.

He was before eternity, and He will be after eternity.

You can't explain Him, neither can you measure who He is and understand how He exists.

...and, "What you see, write in a book and send it to the seven churches which are in Asia: to Ephesus, to Smyrna, to Pergamos, to Thyatira, to Sardis, to Philadelphia, and to Laodicea."

John is told to write letters to the seven churches. Each of the messages were sent to every church.

And remember this message is not to be concealed, but it is a message about the Revelation of Jesus Christ and what is shortly to come.

God says that this is a book that reveals, so satan does his job to deceive people to stay away from it. God says open and read this book, Satan gives you many reasons to keep it closed and stay away from it.

So, at the time of John's writings of these letters, these churches would have been able to understand what was written in this book. If they could not understand it, then how could they keep what is written in the book as they are instructed in Chapter 1 verse 3.



If they couldn't understand it, then they wouldn't be able to keep it, and if they couldn't keep what was written in the book, then they wouldn't be able to receive the blessing that the book promises.

This is a major note of knowledge: this lets us know we can understand what is in this book and receive this special blessing.

Let's pick up where we left off last time at revelation chapter one verse 12 **Revelation 1:12-20**

12 Then I turned to see the voice that spoke with me. And having turned I saw seven golden lampstands, 13 and in the midst of the seven lampstands One like the Son of Man, clothed with a garment down to the feet and girded about the chest with a golden band. 14 His head and hair were white like wool, as white as snow, and His eyes like a flame of fire; 15 His feet were like fine brass, as if refined in a furnace, and His voice as the sound of many waters; 16 He had in His right hand seven stars, out of His mouth went a sharp two-edged sword, and His countenance was like the sun shining in its strength.

Where is Jesus Christ right now? Jesus the Son of Man is at the right hand of the Father interceding for us, and the Spirit of Christ is in us and in the mist of where we reside.

Remember Jesus Christ does not have to necessarily leave one place in heaven to be in another place here on the earth.

Hebrews 13:5... For He Himself has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you."

I won't go over them tonight, but it would be well worth your time to research each one of the items that describes Jesus Christ in **Revelation 1:13-19**. Each one reveals something unique about who Jesus is and the work He does. We will see these items mention to describe Jesus throughout this book.

This text of scripture gives imagery and interprets the images.

Like I said as we go through the Book of Revelation, we're going to allow the Bible to interpret the signs, symbols, and most of the meaning of this book.

Notice there are seven lampstands. There is the numerical theme of this book again, 7.

Lampstands (not "candlesticks or candlestick holders) these are stands, designed to hold lamps.

It's important that we visualize this properly because it will help with us defining what it symbolizes.





The lamps are Vessels that were made to illuminate, give off light.

These lampstands are interpreted to be the seven churches John is instructed to send these letters to. **Revelation 1:20**

These lamp stands are churches, seven assembles that are made up of born-again believers who are the light bearers. Not sinners. So, this book is written to born-again believers.

Every local church that God has established (the organization) is made up of believers who are bearer of God's light in this dark world.

Matthew 5:14, 16 "You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden...16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

One of the jobs of the local church as an organization is to educate, equip, train, and help give opportunity for the organism (the people) to have a high level of illumination.

If you are not in or connected to a local church, God is probably not getting everything that He wants to get to you, and you are probably not being used to your optimal potential.

Ephesians 4:11-14 And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, 12 for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, 13 till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ;

The work of the born-again believer is not complete until the total body of Christ, the church is totally edified, unified in faith and in the knowledge of Christ, and is perfected or matured. Your work is not finished until you transition to heaven, or the perfection of the church takes place.

This is why you don't see the word retirement in the word of God as it relates to us doing His work.

One may retire from their secular job. But one will never retire from the work of the Lord until they transition to be with the Lord or is caught up in the rapture.

The stars:

They are the seven Angels assigned one to each of the churches.

What are their assignments? **Hebrews 1:14 Are they not all ministering spirits sent forth to minister for those who will inherit salvation?**

The Seven Churches: "The Things that are"

This is what God's *report card* looks like for these seven churches.

Not only does God have a report card on them, but God also has a report card on us. Think about it!



These seven churches should be view from three perspectives. From a historical view, from a homiletical view or life application view, and from a prophetic view.

- 1) **Historical view:** these were actual churches in Asia Minor or what we call turkey today. Research by archaeologist Sir William Ramsey proves that these churches actually existed years ago. This is the historical view, these letters actually address the condition of these churches.
- 2) **Life application:** “He that has an ear...” Applies to us.
- 3) **Prophetic:** In their *particular order*, they lay out the history of the church. They fill the gap implied in Daniel 9:26, and between Revelation 12:5 - 6,

Seven Design Elements or features In Each of the Letters

- **Name of the Church-** if you research the name of these churches it coincides with the condition of the church at the time of this writing.
- **Title Chosen of Jesus Christ** - The chosen title for Christ fits the condition of the Church. Who He would have to manifest as to take the church to the level where it should be.
- **Commendation-** most of the churches Jesus had something good to say about them.
- **Concern-** Jesus lays out the concern that He has about most of the churches.
- **Exhortation-** He encourages them to keep doing good, and in some cases to do better.
- **Promise to the Overcomer-** There is a promise attached to most of the letters if they overcome or hold fast.
- **The emphasis that the letters were written to everyone.** *“He that hath an ear, hear what the Spirit says to the churches.”*

So, as we take a look at these churches let's look at these design elements.

The Book of Revelation The Letter to the Church at Ephesus Revelation 2:1-7

Ephesus, The Loveless Church: The people in Ephesus were hard-working people who endured and hated evil. From the outside, they may have looked like they had it together, but their hearts were not in sync with the Heart of God.

The 2 greatest commandments are to love God and love people (**Mark 12:30-31**) and Ephesus was missing this single greatest component for all born-again believers to Love God, not just the work of God.



Let's look at the **Seven Design Elements in the Letter to this church. Ephesus report card.**

Title of Christ

Revelation 2:1-3 To the angel of the church of Ephesus write,

These things say He who holds the seven stars in His right hand, who walks in the midst of the seven golden lampstands:

A lampstand is a bearer, not a source, of light, the vessels.

Vessels are filled with oil, which is symbolic of the Holy Spirit.

Notice Jesus has the Stars in His right hand (The favored position), and He is walking in the mist of the churches.

Remember the stars are the angels that are assigned to each church. Understanding that the angels are in the right hand of God, lets us know that nothing goes on that are assigned for the angels to minister to the church that doesn't have the favor and permission of God on it.

Not only is this true for the church but is true for individuals as well. For we all have ministering angels assigned to us, and we have Christ in us.

*Remember in **Job** Chapter 1 that the angelic host comes before the throne of God to give reports on what is going on in the church. It would be the same in the New Testament except it is Jesus's responsibility to make sure the church is taken care of in the church era.*

Christ is in us, by way of the Holy Spirit to Lead, empower, and witness Jesus to us!

Christ is in the mist of us, establishing and regulating our surroundings.

Christ is holding us, protecting us, carefully orchestrating every element of our lives, so that all things work for our good.

Not only to us, but to every God ordained assembly of believers.

Commendation

2 "I know your works, your labor, your patience, and that you cannot bear those who are evil. And you have tested those who say they are apostles and are not and have found them liars; 3 and you have persevered and have patience and have labored for My name's sake and have not become weary.

a. ***I know your works***, this lets us know that God knows what we do as a collective Group as well as individuals. They had good works. Heaven was recording their works. This lets us know that in these last days Christ is paying attention to our works.

Hebrews 6:10 For God is not unjust. He will not forget how hard you have worked for him and how you have shown your love to him by caring for other believers, as you still do.

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b. *and your labor*, **1 Corinthians 15:58** Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.

c. *and your patience*, they knew how to wait on the Lord and see the development from it.

Patience does a work inside of us. **James 1:4** **4 But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.**

Patience does a perfect work in us so that we can retain and maintain the increase that God provides.