

The Book of Revelation
Unveiling The Victorious Christ
Revelation 1:1-20

I. God's Final Message to Man

1. God's story begins in Genesis, How does it end?
Satan doesn't want us to see how it ends
2. Our Lord's final message to His Church – 1:1, 2
Father gave this message to His Son, Jesus
Jesus revealed it to His servants – Church (1:4)
Lord wants us to know what will happen – 1:1
John testifies to what God and Christ said - 1:1, 2
3. God's blessing for all who read this book – 1:3
This Book is not to be avoided, it brings blessing
We are urged to pay attention to this message
God wants us to know what is in His plan
This message is to impact our lives, it is practical
The blessing is for those who "keep" these words
We need to develop an eternal value system
We need to let this Book effect our lives
"The time is at hand"
The things in this Book have significance for us
Sense of urgency – "The time is at hand"

II. Recipients of the Message – 1:1,4

1. Jesus gave the message to John – 1:1-2
2. John wrote it down & sent it to 7 churches – 4
7 churches located in Roman province of Asia
This province is now in western Turkey
These churches existed in times of persecution
This message is to comfort and encourage them
Actual churches but also representative
What Christ says He says to all churches – 2:7
John directs attention to the Lord upon the throne
Grace and peace comes from Him
Spirit enables us to face whatever situation

III. Doxology of Praise – 1:5-8

Revelation is filled with worship from the outset

1. Jesus Christ is central focus of worship – 5, 6
He is Faithful witness, Victor over death
Prince who is worthy to rule over kings of earth
Loves us & loosed us from our sins by His blood
Made us a kingdom of priests unto God, Father
He is worthy of all glory & to rule with all dominion
2. Glorious triumph of Christ is also central – 7, 8
Assures churches of ultimate victory in Christ.
Christ is coming back, world will see Him in glory
He will judge them and rule over this creation
He started it all and will bring it all to conclusion
He is Eternal Almighty God and He will triumph

IV. Introduction to the Vision – 1:9-11

1. John on the Isle of Patmos – 1:9
He is their brother & companion in tribulation

- Patmos was a Roman penal colony
Also companion in Kingdom & patience of Christ
His crime – For God's Word & witness of Christ
2. John is in the Spirit on the Lord's Day – 1:10
It is Sunday and He is worshipping "in the Spirit"
 3. He hears a voice & sees a vision of Christ – 11
Trumpet like voice gets attention – Ex. 19:16,19
Speaker identifies Himself as Alpha and Omega
John is to write message & send to 7 churches

V. Illumination of the Vision – 1:12-16

1. Son of Man in midst of 7 Lamp-stands – 12, 13
7 Golden Lamp-stands explained in 1:20
7 churches commissioned to shine for Christ
In midst of lamp-stands is the Son of Man – 13
Term in Daniel 7:13,14 speaks of Messiah
Jesus often used this term to refer to Himself
He is central, has authority over each church– 13
He is Lord of the church, Head of the church
2. John tries to describe the glory of Christ – 13-16
His garment – long flowing robe of dignity, honor
There is a golden sash around His waist
His Hair – White, like wool or like snow – 1:14
Picture of mature wisdom – cp. Dan. 7:9; 10:5
His Eyes – As a flame of fire – 1:14; Rev. 19:12
Eyes penetrate, burn with perfect discernment
With full insight he evaluates, judges churches
His Feet – Like fine brass, burning in furnace - 15
Brass speaks of judgment & justice - Dan. 10:6
His Voice – Like sound of cascading waters – 15
Awesome with great power, majesty, authority
He holds 7 stars in His right hand – 1:16
1:20 identifies stars as church messengers
Right hand, one of power, in complete control
Sharp two-edged sword comes out of His mouth
His word is authoritative & piercing – Heb. 4:12;
Rev. 2:12
His Countenance – As sun in full strength – 16

VI. Impact of the Vision – 1:17-19

1. John fell at His feet as dead – 1:17
He is in awe before glory of the Exalted Christ
Compare Matthew 17:6; Acts 9:3, 4; Isaiah 6:5
2. Jesus graciously ministered to him – 1:17-18
Put His right hand on him, reassuring him, fear not
He is the first and the last
He is risen from the dead, is alive forever more
He has the keys of hell & death – has conquered
3. John is to record what he saw, things that are,
things which shall be afterward – 1:19