

## **You Got Mail: Rev 1**

The Revelation of St. John the Divine  
it should read....

The Revelation of Jesus Christ

2 books Satan Especially Hates: Genesis & Revelation

He discredits Genesis & Revelation, because everything that has its fulfillment in Jesus Christ as a person & His work has its beginning in Genesis and its consummation in Revelation.

Just as Satan attacks Genesis with Evolution and Philosophy, He attacks Revelation by saying, *“It’s too Complicated for us to understand”* or he creates movies that make the book too scary.

God wrote all 66 books, John was just the Stenographer.

The entire book, all 22 chapters will portray Jesus Christ and His dealings with His people, the nation of Israel.

Ultimately, He will bring His people back to himself,  
Plant them in the land,  
Setup His earthly Kingdom on the Throne of David.

**Revelation is a book of Prophecy:** Not a week goes by that all eyes of the world are focussed on the MiddleEast.

**Revelation is a book of Symbolism:** Vs 1  
*“he sent and signified”* - **“Sign - If - Fied”**

God uses Signs and Symbols to teach about the last days and coming events.

**Revelation is a profound Book:**

*“Blessed is he that readiest, and ...hear...and keep.*

The book of the Revelation cannot be understood by the Carnal Mind.

(1 Cor 2:14) *But the NATURAL MAN receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.*

**Revelation is a book of Consummation:**

Everything that has its beginning in Genesis has its ending in Revelation.

The creation that had its beginning in Genesis, will be destroyed in Revelation.

Man fell in Genesis, Man is redeemed & transformed in Revelation.

Satan’s 1st rebellion is in Genesis, his last and final defeat is in Revelation.

**The Key Verse is Ch 1:19** It is the outline of Revelation  
*Write the things which thou hast seen, and the things which are, and the things which shall be hereafter;*

***Thou hast seen,***

- Chapter 1

The incredible sight of Jesus Christ, face to face with the one who made redemption possible.

***Things which are***

- Chapter 2-3

These 2 chapters are the messages written to the 7 churches in Asia Minor.

These were not the only churches in Asia Minor, but God chose these.

Colosse, Hierapolis, & Troas were in that region also.

Some commentators have hypothesized that these seven churches are given on Chronological order to symbolize the Church Age.

To symbolize what the churches would be like?

Others speak of it as to what Christianity as a whole would be like throughout the 2000 years leading up to Christ's return.

There has always been true churches that have stayed true to God's word throughout the last 20 centuries.

***Things which shall be hereafter*** - Chapter 4-22

Future Tense.

Starting with Chapter 4:1 signifying the Rapture of the Saints.

Chapter 6-19 - The Great Tribulation

Chapter 20-22 - Eternity, where God will be worshipped & wipe away all tears from our eyes.

**Time Written: ~96 AD.**

Jerusalem was Sacked 26yrs ago under General Titus.

The temple was completely Demolished.

1 Million Jews died.

John the "beloved disciple," was brother to James the Great. John was the last living Apostle.

The churches of Smyrna, Pergamos, Sardis, Philadelphia, Laodicea, and Thyatira, were founded by John.

Emperor Dominican insisted that everyone swear loyalty to him with a pinch of salt. "*Caesar is Lord*".

John would never agree to this, continued to preach the gospel.

John was ordered to be sent from Ephesus to Rome, where it is affirmed he was cast into a cauldron of boiling oil.

He escaped by miracle, without injury.

Domitian afterwards banished him to the Isle of Patmos, where he wrote the Book of Revelation.

This was a time of intense persecution.

Emperor Nerva, the successor of Domitian, recalled him.

John died & was buried in Ephesus.

He was the only apostle who escaped a violent death.

***(Vs 1) The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him, to shew unto his servants things which must***

*shortly come to pass; and he sent and signified it by his angel unto his servant John:*

*The Revelation* (Apokalypsis) = Revealing

*of Jesus Christ,*

This book was written to REVEAL Jesus, Not Conceal Him!

*which God* (God the Father)  
*gave unto him* (*Jesus Christ*),

this is the Father's Revealing of Jesus Christ.

*to shew* (God, Actively Revealing it, or making it visible to the mind and heart of man)

*unto his* (*Jesus's*) *servants*

*things* Stuff you could not have know otherwise)

### WHY?

This was a time of intense persecution.

People are dying and Jesus has not returned.

John is the last living apostle, the rest are died violently.

They are under the Threat of a violent death.

*People are starting ask...*

(Matt 24:3)... *when shall these things be? and what shall be the SIGN OF thy coming, and of the end of the world?*

The Reason God revealed this to man kind is...

*which must shortly come to pass;*

This is most assuredly going to happen!

*and he sent and signified it by his angel unto his servant John:*

Divine Telephone Game: Father, Jesus Christ, Angel, John, to YOU!

Man cannot know God unless God revealed Himself to us.

(Rom 1:19-20)

(Heb 1:1-3)

(Jn 6:44) God draws men to Christ.

Man must intern accept Gods revelation of Himself by Faith.

(Heb 11:6)

God has to reveal Himself in a way man can receive it.

God uses Signs and Symbols: (Vs 1) "**Sign - if - ied**"

(Vs 2) *Who bare record of the word of God, and of the testimony of Jesus Christ, and of all things that he saw.*

John kept nothing back!

*Who bare record of the word of God*

John told us what the Father said.

*and of the testimony of Jesus Christ*

John told us what Jesus said.

*and of all things that he saw.*

John told us what he saw.

John saw things that he did not have words to convey it in.

(Vs 3) *Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand.*

*Blessed*=Happy, Full, Satisfied, Contented  
*Read, Hear, Keep*

READ: Intentionally engage with the word of God.  
HEAR: Let it have authority, ability, reception in your heart.  
You have to personalize the Word of God.  
Don't classify it for other people.  
Read it for You!  
KEEP: Submit to It and Live it!

***Time is at hand*** - Do all these with a sense of Urgency.  
(Rev 22:7) *Behold, I come quickly: blessed is he that keepeth the sayings of the prophecy of this book.*

The saint, though out the ages have lived with expectancy as they were commanded. Even Paul

But now, we see prophecy being fulfilled on a global scale.

**There is a divine promise tied to this command!**  
Blessed!

(Rev 1:4-6) *John to the seven churches which are in Asia:*

**John Addresses these Churches that He knew so well:**  
He help found several of them  
He knew the People, Places, Problems.

Roman province of that name  
The region along the southwestern coast of Asia Minor.

***Grace be unto you, and peace,***  
Typical greeting for much of the NT.

***from him which is, and which was, and which is to come;***  
The Ultimate author of the this book is God the Father.

John is just the scribe, or secretary taking dictation.

***and from the seven Spirits which are before his throne;***  
God the Holy Spirit  
(IS 11:1) the 7 fold ministry of the Spirit of God.  
7 is the number of perfection, completion, fulness.  
Fulness of the Holy Spirit here.

***5 And from Jesus Christ,***  
The Trinity is involved in this.

**John gives a Beautiful Description of Jesus:**  
***who is the faithful witness,*** (Faithful unto Death)  
***and the first begotten of the dead,*** (Resurrection)  
***and the prince of the kings of the earth.*** (Glorification)  
He is the chief ruler over all the earth.

**John Dedicates this book to Jesus!**  
***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;*** (Speaking prophetically)

***to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever.***  
***Amen.*** (So Be IT) Come On Jesus, Come On!  
I am ready!

***7 Behold, he cometh!!!!***  
He is Coming!!!!  
(Jn 14:3)  
(Acts 1:11) *this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.*

## **The Return of Jesus os 2 fold:**

**1. Rapture:** Jesus Comes for His Saints: (1 Thes 4:16-17)

**2. Revelation:** Jesus Comes with His Saints!!!!

*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.*

All nations of the earth in that day will mourn as they realize He who they had heretofore opposed and rejected has now returned in power.

They are on the losing side with all that implies, and they are brought forcibly to that realization.

They can only wail before Him. (Rom 14:12)

*Even so, Amen.*

Can I get an AMEN!

EVEN SO!!! Come On Jesus! Come ON!

*8 I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord,*

God the Father Speaks with Authority!

Alpha & Omega: 1st & Last letter of Greek Alphabet. A-Z

*which is, and which was, and which is to come, the*

*Almighty.* Speaks of the Eternality of God.

God is Timeless.

God created Time.

God is not bound by time.

God is outside of Time.

God is above Time.

That's How God knows the end from he beginning.

(Vs 9) *I John*, (Hey guys, its me again)

*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.*

## **4 Characteristics of John shares with the readers:**

**1. Brother:** (1 Jn 3:14; 1 Jn 5:1)

John is affirming his salvation.

**2. Companion in God's Service:**

**A. Companion in Tribulation:** A Joint Participant.

John knows what its like to be persecuted for the his faith. Tortured, but not killed.

Dropped in a vat of boiling oil,

Miraculously not killed or harmed.

Romans freaked out and exiled him to Patmos

(Getting dumped on Facebook, Twitter feeds, unfriended, unfollowed, called names.

**B. Companion...in the kingdom... of Jesus Christ:**

John is their partner in the kingdom though the new birth

(Jn 3:5) John is Born Again

Kingdom of God is all the saved on the earth at any live moment.

**C. Companion... in the patience... of Jesus Christ:**

The ability to remain under a lot.

To persevere under Trials and Misfortunes.

(2 Tim 2:10) *Therefore I endure all things for the elect's sakes, that they may also obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory.*

Patience is evidence that God is working in you through the Tribulations: (Rom 5:3) *we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience;*

**3. He was Persecuted for the Truth**  
*was in the isle that is called Patmos,*

Not on Vacation, but Exile

Rocky island in the Agean Sea: 10 miles x 6 miles.

NO Club Med or Sandals resorts their.

Exiled by Emperor Dominion for not honoring the State Religion of Emperor Worship.

It is when John was separated from the world at large, He heard from God in a big way.

How long has it been since you UNPLUGGED?

John was Separated from the World's Influence.

*Illus: This is why we send our kids to camp.*

When we are separated from the World's sin & influences, you will hear from God in a big way.

**John was in Exile for the Crimes of... (Rev 1:2)**  
*for the word of God,*

John wrote the Gospel of John, 3 epistles & distributed them  
John preached the Word to people.

***and for the testimony of Jesus Christ***

John told the Story of Christ: (Acts 1:8)

***and of all things that he saw.***

John was an eye witnesses to the manner of life, teachings, & miracles of Jesus.

John was a brother.

John was a companion in Tribulation, Kingdom, & Patience  
John was Persecuted for the Truth.

**4. John was Faithful: (Rev 1:10) I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day,**

John was not at the beach sunning himself.

John was not at the Lake fishing.

John consecrated Sunday for him to be alone with God!

**I can worship God at the Lake. WRONG**

you are not in the spirit.

You are fussing about the moss you real in.

you fuss about tangling the line in the tree.

You are focussing on not falling in. etc.

7 sins of Unfaithfulness:

1. Fail to Bring God Glory - (Eph 3:21)
2. Fail to Give God Praise - (Heb 2:12)
3. Fail to Bring God His Tithes, is robbery (1 Cor 16:2)
4. Fail to Worship God by Obeying the command to Assemble
5. Fail to Encourage, exhort others to love & good works.
6. Fail to raise our children in the nurture & admonition.
7. Grieve the Holy Spirit.

John was faithful to dedicate his only day off from breaking Rocks, to spend it with the Lord!

**(Rev 1:10b) and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet,**

It had been 50 years since John had heard that voice audibly.

**(Rev 1:11) *Saying, I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last: and,***

The Deity of Christ is seen here as Jesus refers to Himself in the same way as the Father did.

**John relates the Command he was given as the reason he wrote the book.**

***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.***

John wanted them to know WHO and WHY they were getting this book!

**(Rev 1:19) *Write the things which thou hast seen, and the things which are, and the things which shall be hereafter;***

The Outline of the Book of the Revelation.

***Seen:*** (Rev 1)

***Things which are:*** (Rev 2-3)

***Things which shall be hereafter;*** (Rev 4:1-22:21)

This book is not meant to scare us.

This book is not meant to intimidate us.

This book is meant to instruct us, comfort us, & Give Hope!

**(Rev 1:12) *And I turned to see the voice that spake with me.*** Could you not look?

John wanted a peek!

***And being turned, I saw seven golden candlesticks;*** Lamp Stands, Light Bearers

(Rev 1:20) explains what the Candlesticks are!

***20 The mystery of the seven stars which thou sawest 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 sawest are the seven churches.***

They are the Churches!

The church does not generate Light!

The Church is what Holds the light up for all to see it!

(1 Tim 3:15b) *the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.*

The Church holds forth the Truth!

The Candlestick holds up the light bearer for all to see it and be drawn to it.

A Church has to receive the light of God's Gospel.

A Church is the Local, visible Called out assembly of Baptized believers.

The church is not the building.

The church is the people.

God doesn't fill buildings, He fills His people.

If this church is to be filled with the Holy Spirit, we each have to be filled.

This Church is only as holy as you are!

This Church is only as bright with the light of God as we are

How holy is this church? As holy as you are,

How active in soul winning is this church.

As active as you are.

We are not the light provider, Jesus is.

We are only as ..... as you are!

**13 And in the midst of the seven candlesticks one like unto the Son of man,**

Midst: Jesus is in His Churches.

Jesus has always chosen to work in and through His local church.

**clothed with a garment down to the foot, and girt about the paps with a golden girdle.**

These are Jesus' Priestly Garments.

He is now Our Great High Priest: (Heb 4:14) (Heb 7:24-25)

**14 His head and his hairs were white like wool, as white as snow;** (He is Holy)

**and his eyes were as a flame of fire;** (His Piercing Gaze discerns truth from error)

(2 Chron 16:9) *For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to shew himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him.*

**15 And his feet like unto fine brass, as if they burned in a furnace;** (Speaks of Judgement)

(Rev 19:15) *he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.*

**and his voice as the sound of many waters.**

Lou, powerful, like waves crashing against the rocks.

**16 And he had in his right hand seven stars:**

(Rev 1:20) He explains they are the Messengers / Pastors  
(Prov 21:1) *The king's heart is in the hand of the LORD, as the rivers of water: he turneth it whithersoever he will.*

God has His men in his hand to Lead, Guide, Correct, Punish, and Protect.

**Pray for ME!**

Pray for my health

Pray for my Heart

Pray for my Head.

Pray for my Helpmeet

God has me in His hand and will do as He needs to with me.

**and out of his mouth went a sharp twoedged sword:**

(Heb 4:12) *the word of God is quick & powerful, sharper...*

**and his countenance was as the sun shineth in his strength.**

It has been 50 years since John saw Jesus.

John got a glimpse of this on the Mount of Transfiguration.

**(Rev 1:17-20) And when I saw him, I fell at his feet as dead.**

John Fainted!

What do you think you will do?

**And he laid his right hand upon me, saying unto me, Fear not; I am the first and the last:**

It had been 50 years since John had felt the comforting hand of his Savior.

Oh to feel the touch of our Master's hand to comfort us.

**18 I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen;**



Its Me, Its going to be OK, Its Me.

***and have the keys of hell and of death.***

I have all authority.

Jesus has the Key to your dead Relationships.

Jesus has the Key to your dead career.

Jesus has the Key to your dying body.

Jesus as All power and Authority. (Matt 28:19) *All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth*

God has a message for us in the letters to the 7 churches.

Each church is typical of churches everywhere, & all times.