

Revelation
A Letter of Blessing

Revelation 1:1-20

Going



BE READY

Looking to the Future

REVELATION

**COVID-19
PANDEMIC**

Revelation

- **A letter of blessing**
- **A letter of encouragement**
- **A letter of exhortation**



Difficulty
Mystery?

Revelation 1:1-8

The revelation from Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show his servants what must soon take place. He made it known by sending his angel to his servant John, ² who testifies to everything he saw – that is, the word of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ. ³ Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear it and take to heart what is written in it, because the time is near.

***⁴ John, To the seven churches in the province of Asia:
Grace and peace to you from him who is, and who was,
and who is to come, and from the seven spirits before his
throne, ⁵ and from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful
witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler of the
kings of the earth. To him who loves us and has freed us
from our sins by his blood, ⁶ and has made us to be a
kingdom and priests to serve his God and Father – to him
be glory and power for ever and ever! Amen.***

***⁷ ‘Look, he is coming with the clouds,’ and ‘every eye will
see him, even those who pierced him’; and all peoples on
earth ‘will mourn because of him.’ So shall it be! Amen.***

***⁸ ‘I am the Alpha and the Omega,’ says the Lord God,
‘who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty.’***



Revelation 1:1-20

A Revelation of JC

A Letter of Blessing

A Personal Letter of JC

Primarily A Revelation of Jesus

¹ The revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show his servants what must soon take place. He made it known by sending his angel to his servant John, ² who testifies to everything he saw—that is, the word of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ.



*'revelation' in
Greek 'apokalupsis',
English 'apocalypse',
'to uncover, display.'*

Jesus Triumphs!



A Letter of Blessing

³ Blessed is the one who reads the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear it and take to heart what is written in it, because the time is near.

**Don't put off, read it, hear it,
and take it to heart now!**



Revelations 22:7

***Blessed is he who keeps
the words of the prophecy
in this book.***

Seven “Beatitudes” of Hope

- **14:13** Eternal Rest for Christians
- **16:15** Christians who persevere to the end
 - **19:9** The church at the Great Wedding
- **20:6** Reign with Christ on earth for 1000 yrs.
- **22:14** Live with God in the New Jerusalem

Revelation
the hope of glory

A personal letter of Jesus

To the seven churches in the province of Asia:

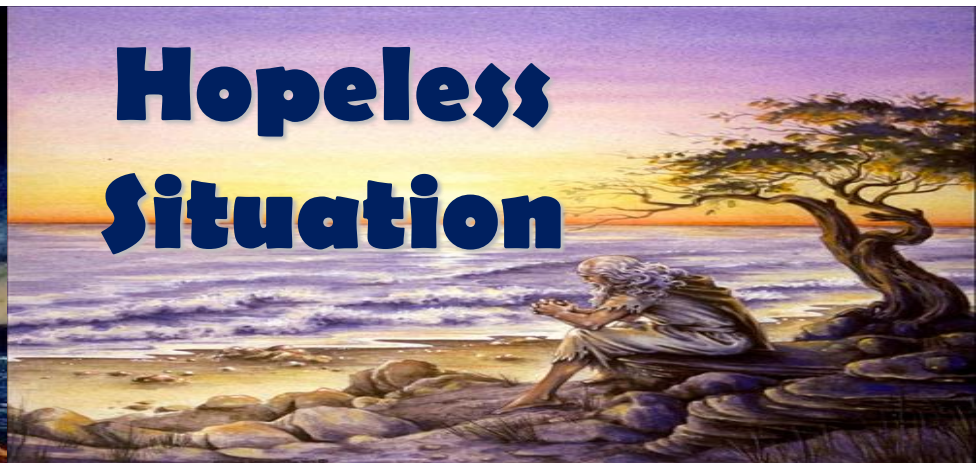
Grace and peace to you from him who is, and who was, and who is to come, and from the seven spirits before his throne, ⁵ and from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth...

Look, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and all peoples on earth 'will mourn because of him.' So shall it be! Amen.

**To prepare the saints for
his coming again**

Jesus spoke to John in times of discouragement

I, John, your brother and companion in the suffering and Kingdom and patient endurance that are ours in Jesus, was on the island of Patmos because of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. ¹⁰ On the Lord's Day I was in the Spirit, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet, ¹¹ which said: 'Write on a scroll what you see and send it to the seven churches:



A Vision of Jesus

12 I turned around to see the voice that was speaking to me. And when I turned, I saw seven golden lampstands, ¹³ and among the lampstands was someone “like a son of man,” dressed in a robe reaching down to his feet and with a golden sash around his chest.



A Majestic Picture of Holiness, Wisdom, Radiance, Power.

14 His head and hair were white like wool, as white as snow, and his eyes were like blazing fire.

15 His feet were like bronze glowing in a furnace, and his voice was like the sound of rushing waters.

16 In his right hand he held seven stars, and out of his mouth came a sharp double-edged sword. His face was like the sun shining in all its brilliance.

The Glorified Lord





**John was
frightened
and fell**

***When I saw
him, I fell at
his feet as
though dead.***

Why?

The Conquering Ruling King and Righteous Judge

*His blazing eyes of fire. His bronze glowing feet,
his voice of rushing water...and out of his mouth
came a sharp double-edged sword.
His brilliant shining face like the sun.*

Priest-King to Judge-King
Not Thorn but Crown



Our Visions of Jesus

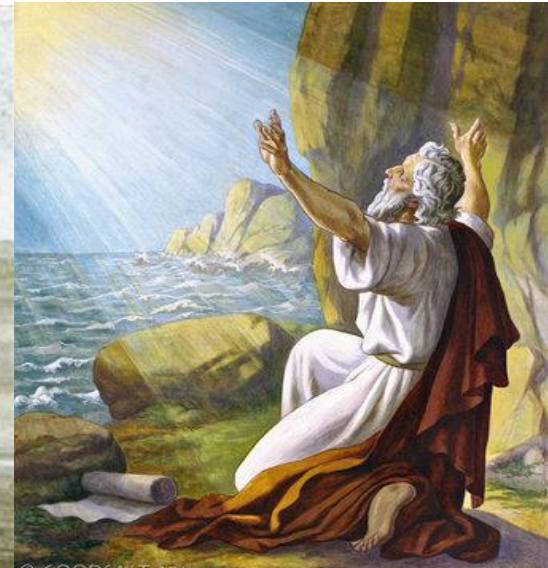
The magnificent, kind, and compassionate Jesus who healed the leper, welcomed children and tax collectors, forgave the adulteress, and fed the five thousands...

Saviour and Lord; His mercy and judgment; compassion and wrath



Jesus comforted and encouraged John

*Then he placed his right hand on me and said:
“Do not be afraid. I am the First and the Last.
¹⁸ I am the Living One; I was dead, and
behold I am alive for ever and ever!
And I hold the keys of death and Hades.*



A task for John from his heart

*“Write, therefore, what you have seen,
what is now and what will take place later.*”

Chap 1-3 Present

“what you have seen”

Vision revealed (1:9-20).

“what is now”

Message to the 7 churches (2-3).

Chap 4-22 Future

“what will take place later”

Before the Second Coming



Jesus' heart for His church

²⁰ The mystery of the seven stars and of the seven golden lampstands is this: The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands are the seven churches.

Be Overcomers



His Assurance for us

**Jesus is present among the church
and knows their situations**

*Among the lampstands was someone
“like a son of man”*

He is fully in control

the seven stars that you saw in my right hand



The Great Wedding of the Lamb

