



REVELATION:
THE FINAL ANSWER

REVELATION

The Final Answer - Picture Perfect - Part 3

Revelation 1:8

INTRODUCTION

In today's key verse of Revelation 1:8, we see something that is very powerful. I would call it the perfect picture of the Messiah. And as we look over the next few weeks at how the perfect picture of Jesus is described, we will start with one thing, and that is that Jesus the Messiah is a picture of authority. There is so much we can learn about Jesus from this one verse, but all of that learning starts with understanding His authority in our lives and in our world.

KEY POINTS

1. A Picture of Authority

There are four characteristics or descriptors of Jesus we need to focus on in today's key verse:

Alpha and Omega

In verse eight, the Lord describes Himself as the "Alpha and the Omega." That is a picture of authority. You need to understand that Alpha and Omega are the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet. In essence, He is saying, "I am the beginning. I am the end. I hold the bookends. I am the authority."

Who is, Who was, and Who is to come

The second way Jesus describes Himself is the one, "Who is, who was, and who is to come." In other words, He is describing every aspect of any dimension you have ever lived in, or will ever live in, during the past, present, or future. He is the authority. No government is the authority, no political power or country is the authority. It is Jesus and Jesus alone! When we choose to align ourselves with Him, we are saying, "Lord, I don't want to live separate from your authority. I want to live underneath your authority."

The Almighty

Unless you are familiar with the Greek language, you will miss this next descriptor. There is a small article that is used three different times in the first chapter of Revelation. It is rarely used like this, but in this passage, it is used with great emphasis three times.

NOTES

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QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

1. How do you typically handle/relate to authority? Is it easy for you to submit or do you struggle with wanting to be in charge?
2. Are you living your life in alignment with God's authority right now? If not, what is keeping you from surrendering to Him?
3. What is one area of your life that feels out of control? Be encouraged today that God is in control of your circumstances and He is Lord over all.
