



REVELATION:  
THE FINAL ANSWER

# REVELATION

## The Final Answer - Part 1

*Revelation 1:1-6*

### INTRODUCTION

### NOTES

Today, we are beginning a brand-new sermon series through the book of Revelation! In this verse-by-verse study, we are going to dive deep into this book that cause so many of us to be confused, lost, and frustrated as we try to understand it. But the Lord has packed so much information into this book that is pertinent for us to learn. So the goal for this series is to help guide you as you study the book of Revelation and aid you in your search for clarity in this amazing book of Scripture.

#### **Four Things To Note Before We Jump In:**

1. Don't focus on what others have written; focus on the Word of God.
2. Don't focus on what you have heard people say about the Book of Revelation; focus on the Word of God and what He says Himself.
3. Don't focus on the end; rather, focus on the now.
4. Don't focus on the differences; focus on the commonalities.

#### **KEY POINTS**

##### **1. There is an order, a plan God is following.**

The Scripture tells us that one day, every knee will bow, and every tongue confess that Jesus is Lord to the glory of God the Father. Either you will do it now, before it's too late, or you will do it later, and it will be too late. All things will come underneath His authority, every nation will bow, every power will bow, and every person will bow before Christ. Every religious person in the world, regardless of what they have believed, will bow to Christ. And that is God's plan. You need to realize it is Jesus first and He will be first. Right now, He is not first; and that is why there is so much tension in our culture today. This is why the Book of Revelation is exciting for us.

##### **2. There is a timeline.**

I want to give you a very general overview of time as we know it based upon history and Scripture.

- Pre-Abraham – Approximately 2,000 years
- Abraham - Jesus – Approximately 2,000 years
- Jesus - Now – Approximately 2,000 years
- Millennial Reign of Christ – 1,000 years

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# REVELATION

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Revelation 1:1-6

What is two plus two, plus two, plus one? ( $2 + 2 + 1 = 7$ ) Say it with me, "Seven." Seven is the number of perfection. Order. God has a perfect plan. I believe with all of my heart that it is ready to happen. You might be asking, "Is that literal?" I believe with all of my heart, "Yes, it is!" I believe what the Scripture says. If one day I find out I am wrong, I will change my mind; and I hope you will, too. Until that time, I will take the Word of God literally.

### 3. There is a division.

The book of Revelation is divided into several sections, and it's important to understand its division as you read through this book.

Chapter 1: The Lamb of God

Chapters 2-3: The Lamb of God over the Churches

Chapters 4-20: The Lamb of God over the Nations in Judgment

Chapters 21-23: The Lamb of God in Glory

### 4. There is confusion among some people.

When it comes to reading the book of Revelation, a lot of people are confused about a lot of things. Some have said, "The Second Coming is only an allegory, to give us hope. It's not a reality." Others have said that Jesus doesn't have to come back because He never went away. Some people say there is no millennial reign, that it's only figurative. And others say that none of it really makes any difference. But this is where it's so important to really study and dive into the Word of God and take it for what it is: God's inspired, divine Word that has not a single error. If the Lord included it in Scripture, it's important, and therefore we must seek to understand that importance as best we can so that we can be prepared for what we are going to face down the road.

### 5. There are special principles to understand.

Let me share with you some of these special principles so you can keep them in mind over the next several weeks as we go through this series.

- This is the revelation of Jesus, not John.
- This was a reward for John because of his faithfulness.
- This is a recipe for believers.
- This is for its recipients.

## NOTES

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# REVELATION

## **The Final Answer - Part 1**

*Revelation 1:1-6*

### **QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER**

1. Have you ever read through the entire book of Revelation before? If not, why not?
2. What have you been told about the book of Revelation up until this point?
3. What intimidates you the most about studying Revelation? What excites you the most about studying it?

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# REVELATION

## The Final Answer - Pitch Perfect - Part 1

Revelation 1:4-7

### INTRODUCTION

As we continue in our study of the book of Revelation, we are going to see the perfect picture of God's messenger that is described for us in verses four through seven. You see, the Book of Revelation was a letter. It was intended to be read as a letter, a letter that John intended for all Christians to read, then and now. More than likely, the book was written around 95 to 96 A.D. John describes that God gave him this book on the Island of Patmos. As the messenger, he was responsible for simply penning what he was seeing. He wants everyone to see what he was seeing. And so as we look at this picture from John, we are going to learn not only about the message he was giving us, but about the messenger himself.

### KEY POINTS

#### 1. Remember who he was.

John was the youngest of all disciples. He was a fisherman; when he began to follow Christ, his life would never again be the same. The Bible tells us that John was the only apostle to make it all the way to the cross. You are talking about extreme faithfulness, extreme faithfulness to Christ all the way to death.

But the most important thing we should understand that John was fearless. Some would say that because he was the youngest, he didn't know any better. That is why he went all the way to the cross. The other disciples were afraid they would get arrested. Like Jesus, they would be taken through a kangaroo court, and they would face the same fate as Jesus: crucifixion. That is why they ran for the hills. But John went all the way to the cross. Even though his exile on the Island of Patmos separated him from support, encouragement, and other believers, he remained faithful. It's important that we remember these characteristics of John as we continue our study of the book of Revelation.

#### 2. Remember how he saw himself.

John was a very humble man. Do you realize that in his Gospel, he rarely refers to himself by name? He refers to himself as "the one whom Jesus loved." That is why he had the moniker, "John, the beloved." He wrote that. He described himself as "the one whom Jesus loved."

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# REVELATION

## The Final Answer - Pitch Perfect - Part 1

*Revelation 1:4-7*

However, in the Book of Revelation, in verse four, it's just "John." He is describing himself as the messenger, but it's just "John." He didn't say, "John, the only one of the apostles who made it all the way to the cross." He didn't say, "John who made it all the way to the cross and has been faithful more than anyone else. He has received a word that nobody else has ever had." He was not embellishing anything. He was not giving the background of what gave him the right to share this. It is just "John." Remember that about him.

### 3. Remember his audience.

John wrote the book of Revelation to the local church, because he loved the local church. Do you know why? Because Jesus loves the local church, even with all of its warts. I pray that you have a commitment to a local church. If you don't have a church home, you need to have a church home, a local church where you are connected and involved in doing ministry. At the same time, you are connecting with people who have skin on, just like you. Even though the church and the churches specifically that we will read about had problems, Jesus still loved them, and therefore it was important and necessary that John write to them to help them and ultimately point them to Christ and His instruction.

### 4. Remember his blessing.

In the midst of our key passage of Scripture, John extends a blessing to the reader, "Grace and peace to you." This is a beautiful description of what God wants you to have and how He wants you to live. He wants you to live with grace because you have received grace. Grace is where God gives you what you don't deserve, like second chances. He wants you to live with peace. He wants you to be a recipient of grace, but He wants you to have a calm confidence in your life, regardless of what is happening on the outside.

We want peace on the outside. We think if we have peace on the outside, we will have peace on the inside. John was writing to some churches and to future Christians who will never have peace on the outside, but they can have peace on the inside. Jesus is the source of that. It is very important for us to realize that God wants us to operate by grace, to give other people grace.

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# REVELATION

## The Final Answer - Pitch Perfect - Part 1

*Revelation 1:4-7*

### **5. Remember his personal message.**

Revelation is not from John; he was the conduit from God. He used John to pen His personality, and how he saw things as a first-century man would describe the future. Some people have asked the question, “Is the one who wrote the Gospel of John the same John who wrote the Book of Revelation? The way he wrote was a little bit different in the two books. Remember, John was much older when he was writing Revelation than when he wrote the Gospel of John. This was in his later years, not his formative years.

John just saw himself delivering a message from Jesus, a special message from Christ. That is why he doesn't embellish this. He doesn't make this about himself; He makes it about Christ. You and I need to shy away from people who promote themselves, especially in Christianity. That should be something that sticks in your mind. If someone is constantly telling you everything they have done and accomplished in life, you need to question, “Are they focused on Christ? Are they using Christ’s church to develop their platform of influence?” John was focused on Jesus, not on himself. We should be living the same way.

### **6. Remember his focus.**

In verses 4-7 of the first chapter of Revelation, take special note of John’s focus. There are four things he focuses on specifically, so pay attention to these four things as you read through the rest of the chapter, and the book as a whole:

- 1. The Greeting
- 2. The Worship
- 3. The Message
- 4. The Benediction

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# REVELATION

## The Final Answer - Pitch Perfect - Part 1

*Revelation 1:4-7*

### QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

1. Do you struggle with being fearful? Are you consistently worried or anxious about what's going on around you?
2. Would other people describe you as humble – someone like John who is more concerned about promoting Christ than promoting themselves?
3. Are you plugged in and involved in a local church? If not, what's holding you back from doing so?

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# REVELATION

## The Final Answer - Pitch Perfect - Part 2

*Revelation 1:4-7*

### INTRODUCTION

As we continue our study of the book of Revelation, we are going to spend some more time looking at the perfect picture of God's messenger, and that is John. In today's key passage, John is still taken away with Christ alone even after all of the years of following Jesus. You can't read what he wrote (inspired by the Holy Spirit) without capturing his passion, love and worship of Jesus Christ. As we look at these words, I need to tell you that some of us have lost heart. How does that happen? How does someone lose the fire that was once in their heart to follow Christ? In the coming days, we will read about a church that lost its first love. But for now, I want us to become aware that we may have lost our fire. And when that happens, we need to know what to do to keep the fire alive in our hearts.

### KEY POINTS

#### **1. Never forget whose you are, regardless of your present situation.**

I don't know where you are in your life right now, but you need to be caught up in whose you are. If you focus only on your present situation, it is easy for the fire to go out. You could look at what is happening in your life and you might say, "This is not where I intended to be financially, relationally, or professionally right now. And certainly, this is not where I intended to be spiritually right now." It is very easy to implode if you look at your present situation. Sometimes, it can be out of control.

Simply remember John. Remember that his focus was not on his isolation or his present situation; instead, his focus was on whose he was in Christ. If you want the fire to burn brightly in your heart, focus on Christ!

#### **2. Never compare yourself, or your situation, to others or theirs.**

Even though it's tempting to compare yourself to others, you don't really know what someone else's situation is. John could have fallen into this comparison trap. He could have said, "Lord, why have you isolated me? Why have you allowed me to be in exile? You haven't done that with Simon Peter or James. Why me?" Why me and why us? That's our problem. The fire has gone out because we are too busy looking at our neighbor across the street. When we are extrapolating certain ideas about someone else in comparison to us, and it has literally drowned our fire for Christ.

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# REVELATION

## The Final Answer - Pitch Perfect - Part 2

*Revelation 1:4-7*

### **3. Live to be a blessing to others, not expectant to receive blessings from others.**

With many of us, we are counting how many people have blessed us rather than living how we can bless other people. That's what John was doing. He was living to be a blessing. He realized that God had given him insight not only for the churches of his generation, but also for the people who would read the Book of Revelation for years and years to come. I pray you will realize that you can keep your heart on fire by living outward. God will be fanning the flame on your bonfire personally.

### **4. Choose to remain faithful in difficult seasons.**

Difficult seasons will come in your life without a doubt. And when they do, you will have a tendency to wonder, "God, what are you up to? Why have you allowed this to happen? What is your agenda? What is your plan?" When you are experiencing a difficult season in your life, you need to realize that God has a plan for your life, in the midst of that difficult season. Remember, John was going through a difficult season on the Island of Patmos. He was in his later years, and he was totally separated from everyone. He literally could have said, "Okay, I'm done. I'm done. God, if this is how you're going to treat me as your child, I'm done. Instead of being blessed, I seem to be cursed."

That was not his perspective; and he chose to remain faithful. Let me remind you of something that is very, very powerful here. Do you realize that this difficult situation in John's life positioned him to be at the right time, in the right place, and in the right position personally, to be able to receive and write? Because he was isolated, he could hear from God without any distractions. While he was isolated alone on this island, he had time to write. If he had not gone through this difficult situation, we may have never received the Book of Revelation.

### **5. When isolated from meaningful encouragement from others, press into Jesus.**

I mentioned before that John wasn't receiving visitors. They weren't coming to Patmos to visit him. There is no record that anyone showed up, wrote a letter, sent a basket of food, nothing, nothing! Instead, do you know what he did? He pressed into Jesus. Your spiritual life should never be dependent upon what others are doing for you or with you. Even if they have forgotten you (and they will), press into Jesus. Maybe, they will continue to do so, spiritually and personally. When you are isolated from meaningful encouragement from others, press into Jesus.

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# REVELATION

## The Final Answer - Pitch Perfect - Part 2

*Revelation 1:4-7*

### 6. Resist putting yourself before others.

This is exactly what John did. He saw that the message he was writing was inspired by the Holy Spirit; and he knew it would be a blessing to other people. Remember when he wrote, "Blessed are those who read and those who hear the words of this prophecy." His focus was on others; it was not about putting himself first. I told you before that John rarely referred to himself in his own Gospel. He was always, "the one whom Jesus loved" or, "John, the beloved." This is where we get that phrase; he always downplayed himself and up-played Jesus. When you do that, when you put others first before yourself; your fire will continue to burn.

### 7. Get back into the Word.

On the Island of Patmos. John did not have the Torah at his disposal. There was no cell phone or computer to Google, "Where is this passage? Where did this come from?" It came because it was already in his heart.

As a child, John had studied the law and the prophets. He had memorized Scripture. Guess what? At the right time and in the right place, the Spirit of God brought things back into his memory. Let me ask you a question. How much of the Word of God do you know? If there was a time when you were separated from your Bible and you don't have access to the Internet, could you write down verses which God has placed in your heart? Do you have that catalog of the Word of God in your heart and in your mind? With that catalog and the Holy Spirit, you can recall the words when you need them. If you want to keep the fire alive in your heart, you need to get back into the Word.

### 8. Keep your eyes on Jesus and verbalize what you think of Him to others.

The entire Book of Revelation is about sharing Christ with others. That's what John was doing. Many believers have lost their fire and their heart because they have stopped telling other people what they think about Jesus. They have stopped witnessing. They have stopped sharing Christ with their family members and their friends. They think these people have been exposed. However, they have no idea what people are hearing. The discipline of sharing your faith and talking to people about what Jesus is doing in your life, doesn't put out the fire; it fans the fire and the flame grows larger.

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# REVELATION

## The Final Answer - Pitch Perfect - Part 2

*Revelation 1:4-7*

### 9. Repent and repeat 1-8, until you are where you know you are to be spiritually.

Rinse and repeat. This is key. For many of us, we think the Christian life is about wet wick living. The normal Christian life is not complacent. It is not inactive. It is not flat. Instead, it is full of fire and vinegar. It is full of passion and love for Jesus and worship of Him. You are verbalizing about Jesus and the things He can do in other people's lives. Don't settle for a wet wick.

Your life is critical. Your life is important. Your life counts! Let it burn for Jesus! If you find yourself complacent, inactive, unengaged, and detached; guess who moved and threw water on your fire? It wasn't the Lord, and you can't blame anyone else. Do you know where it came from? You know who was holding the bucket. It is time to let the bucket go and begin to cry out, "Oh Lord set my soul afire, set my soul afire."

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# REVELATION

## The Final Answer - Pitch Perfect - Part 2

*Revelation 1:4-7*

### QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

1. What are some ways you find yourself regularly comparing yourself to others?
2. When was a time you chose to remain faithful amidst a difficult season? How did that work out for you?
3. Do you make it a habit to memorize Scripture? If not, what are one or two verses you can begin committing to memory so that you can have God's Word readily available to you at all times?

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# 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.

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# REVELATION

## The Final Answer - Picture Perfect - Part 3

*Revelation 1:8*

As you know, “three” is a description of the Trinity. You don't have to know the Greek text here, but if you could read it, you would see this phrase, “ho pantokrator,” which translates “The Almighty.” To keep it simple, this is the way Jesus is letting us know He is The Almighty. He is Lord.

### The First and the Last

Once again, Jesus is emphasizing that He is the Lord, God. And God is totally in charge. He is in total control, regardless of what anyone says and regardless of what is happening around you right now. If you think this world is out of control and it seems to be haywire, and your life is like that, you need to understand that it is not. He is in total control of everything. Everything and everyone comes underneath His authority.

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# REVELATION

## The Final Answer - Picture Perfect - Part 3

*Revelation 1:8*

### 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.

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# REVELATION

## The Final Answer - Picture Perfect - Part 4

*Revelation 1:9-11*

The whole focus of John's experience in Chapter One was on Jesus. We will talk about that in more detail in the days to come. It is very important for us to realize that we are in partnership with the Lord. We need to align with that. Do you know why? Because He is the Almighty! Do you know why? He is in charge! When you and I are not getting our way, we need to submit to whatever way He is going and line up that way.

### **3. Partnership With The Church**

If it was that important for Jesus to identify with the local church and partner with them, don't you think it is important for you too? Many people, especially in our culture today, are faithful attenders. However, there is no commitment to a particular local church. Commitment is very important to a local church where you live. That is where you do ministry.

There is an expectation, a presupposition that you will commit to doing something. That's what a partnership is all about. You bring something to the table; together in that relationship and in that community, you accomplish the will of God to do what He wants you to do in ministry. You and I need to realize that God has called us to be actively involved and committed to a local church.

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# REVELATION

## The Final Answer - Picture Perfect - Part 4

*Revelation 1:9-11*

### QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

1. What is one way you are in partnership with other believers in your life right now?
2. Do you view your relationship with Jesus like a partnership? Why or why not?
3. Are you committed to partnering and serving with your local church? If not, what's one way you can develop that partnership?

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# REVELATION

## The Final Answer - Picture Perfect - Part 5

Revelation 1:8-20

### INTRODUCTION

The last couple of weeks, we've talked about John describing Jesus as being a picture of authority and partnership. This week, I want us to see that the Messiah is also a picture of power. Today's key verses describe the powerful image of the Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, I want us to take several steps to understand this picture of power and break it down into more specific parts.

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### KEY POINTS

#### 1. A Powerful Voice

In Verse 12, John says, "I turned around to see the voice that was speaking to me." He was overpowered with the voice. Most of the time, when you hear someone call your name and they are behind you, you recognize their voice. You never turn around to see the voice; instead, you turn around to see the person. In this case, John was so over-powered by the sound of the Lord's voice, that he turned around to see the voice. Please understand that this is a different kind of image. In fact, the voice of Jesus was the most powerful thing that grabbed his attention.

I pray that you will long for this more than any other thing in life. I pray this is the goal of your life. Every single day that you live, I pray that when you wake up in the morning, you will say, "Oh God, I need to hear from you." As you read the Word of God, it may not be coming to you with neon blinking lights. You will have no doubt that it is just for you today. This is the word that you need to focus on today. However, it might also come in a still small voice, a whisper.

#### 2. A Powerful Posture

The very first thing that John saw was Jesus in the middle of His churches. When he turned around to see the voice, he saw the lampstands. Guess what? That is exactly what this world does. They often don't see Jesus, but they see the church. They look at individual churches. This is why it is so important that individual churches stand for Christ. They must stand for His work because they represent Jesus to the world. They need to get beyond the churches and get to Jesus.

# REVELATION

## The Final Answer - Picture Perfect - Part 5

*Revelation 1:8-20*

The very first image that John sees of Christ is Jesus standing in the midst of His churches. Guess what? Any church that loves Jesus, loves His Word, and loves preaching the Gospel; they are a partner in ministry with us. We should never put down other churches. If they are standing for Christ and His Word, they are partners with us in ministry; and Jesus is in the midst. Don't think like a football team. Other churches are not our rivals. We are not trying to beat them out. We are trying to be in partnership with them because all of us collectively represent Jesus to a world that desperately needs Christ.

### 3. A Powerful Image

I want you to see the similarity between Ezekiel and Daniel. These are wonderful companion books in the Old Testament for the Book of Revelation. John saw the very same thing that Daniel saw. Do you know why? Because they were the same. Who is the Son of Man? Say His name? "Jesus."

Daniel saw Jesus in that vision. John saw Jesus. Now this phrase, "like a son of man" literally is describing like a son of man, but definitely is not a man. That's how you would interpret that passage, "Like a Son of Man." In other words, biologically, with anatomy that looks like a man, but definitely not a man. This is Jesus.

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REVELATION

**The Final Answer - Picture Perfect - Part 5**

*Revelation 1:8-20*

**Visualize 8 Things:**

**NOTES**

**1. His Clothes (v. 13)**

The way Jesus is dressed is very, very important. In verse 13, there is a robe that goes all the way to His feet. Do you know what that describes? It is a mark of distinction. This is a beautiful picture of distinction. Anyone with a robe, it didn't just go to his knees, it didn't just go to his calves, it didn't just go to his ankles; it went all the way down to his feet. Especially with the golden sash around his chest, this is a picture which is a mark of royal priesthood. This is the picture of Jesus being our high priest, who lives to make intercession for us.

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**2. His Hair/Head (v. 14)**

The Bible tells us His hair was white like wool. It was white as snow. This is the picture of the “ancient of days.” You see the intertwining, describing Jesus as the ancient of days, but distinct from the ancient of days. The book of Proverbs describes two things: wisdom and purity. Do you know where you get wisdom? From the Word of God. Do you know what wisdom is? It is the Word of God which is applied practically to your life to show you how to live. This picture of whiteness is total purity. Therefore, when you come to Christ, you are coming to Him who is completely pure. He has all the wisdom you need to take the next step in your life.

# REVELATION

## The Final Answer - Picture Perfect - Part 5

*Revelation 1:8-20*

### QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

1. When was the last time the Lord spoke to you through His Word? What did He say?
2. Would you say you treat your spiritual life more like a hobby or like the sustenance you desperately need to survive?
3. Is there something you've been seeking wisdom about? How have you gone about seeking out that wisdom?

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# REVELATION

## The Final Answer - Picture Perfect - Part 6

*Revelation 1:8-20*

### INTRODUCTION

In this passage of Revelation, John goes on to describe several images of Jesus that are important for us to visualize in our minds. Last week, we talked about the first image of His clothes: the robe going to his feet (picture of authority), and the golden sash around his chest (picture of priestly royalty). And we also talked about His hair being white as snow and how white represents purity and wisdom. Let's continue this list today of things we need to visualize according to John's description of Jesus.

### KEY POINTS

#### 1. His Eyes (v. 14)

This image of Jesus and His eyes; it tells us that He has great probing power. The probing power of the Holy One is that of revealing sin to us. Also going deeper, He is revealing that our motives are impure and improper. He sees all; nothing escapes His vision. You need to realize that. This image of the Almighty is that of total authority. He sees all, and when He sees you, He sees everything about you.

#### 2. His Feet (v. 15)

Isn't it curious that John noticed His feet? I want you to picture in your mind an ancient throne of yesteryear. Do you know how the kings were exalted and built up in the throne room? When you entered the throne room and moved toward the throne, the throne was way above you; your eye height was even with the feet of the king. That's what you would see. You would not be looking at the king face to face; you would see his feet. This description of ancient rulers conveyed complete authority over their subjects. This is the same kind of picture that we have of Jesus. He is totally superior, and He has total judgment in His hands. He holds the judgment of our lives and the nations in His hands.

#### 3. His Voice (v. 15)

In verse 15, we hear the description of His Voice. What does His voice sound like? This is not the still small voice that we have heard about in Scripture (like Elijah experienced in the cave). This picture of the voice of Jesus is powerful, like rushing waters.

### NOTES

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# REVELATION

## The Final Answer - Picture Perfect - Part 6

*Revelation 1:8-20*

### QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

1. When was the last time you experienced the probing power of Jesus and let the Holy Spirit thoroughly examine your heart and your life?
2. Which aspect of Jesus can you visualize the easiest? Why?
3. Which aspect of Jesus do you have the most trouble visualizing? Why?

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# REVELATION

## The Final Answer - Picture Perfect - Part 7

Revelation 1:17-18

### INTRODUCTION

### NOTES

The last picture of Jesus that we are left with that introduces this Book is that of blessing and comfort. I tell you that for a couple of reasons, because verses 17 and 18, describe that specifically. *Then he placed his right hand on me.* Picture this as a blessing and also as a picture of comfort. When a person wants to encourage someone, they have a tendency to put their hand on them. God wants you to live a full life now. For whatever time He gives you, He places His hand of blessing and comfort upon you. Blessing comes from whose hand is on you. So in this week's message we are going to take a look at what you can do if you want to sense the Father's hand of comfort and blessing in your life.

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### KEY POINTS

1. **Look to the Savior and not a sign.**
2. **Don't expect God to do a miracle.**
3. **Don't look for an event.**
4. **Stand on His Word and not your experience.**
5. **Remember that Christianity is based on the Word of God.**
6. **Live by faith and not by feeling.**
7. **Don't forget that faith is standing on the Word of God.**
8. **Base your worth on whose you are.**
9. **Remember that Christianity is not performance based; it is grace based.**
10. **Praise Him for what He has done for you.**
11. **Be reminded that God looks at us through what Jesus did for us, not what we've done for Jesus recently.**
12. **Be encouraged to do much for Him.**

# REVELATION

## The Final Answer - Picture Perfect - Part 7

*Revelation 1:17-18*

**13. Don't miss what God has for you because you're refusing to see what you should be seeing.**

**14. Remember that He is King and He is Lord.**

**15. Fix your eyes solely on Jesus.**

**16. See how powerful your Savior is right now.**

### NOTES

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# REVELATION

## **The Final Answer - Picture Perfect - Part 7**

*Revelation 1:17-18*

### **QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER**

1. Do you feel God's hand of comfort in your life right now? Why or why not?
2. What is one way God has blessed you recently?
3. Are there any key points from above that you need to work on in your own faith walk?

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# REVELATION

## The Final Answer - Where Are You?

*Revelation 2-3*

### INTRODUCTION

A good question to answer from time to time is “Where are you?” It’s a question of self-awareness and self-evaluation, which are areas we should all be growing in on a regular basis, particularly when it comes to our faith. As we dive into this message, I want us to take a look at this important question in the context of today’s key Scripture passage and see how it applies to our lives as believers.

### KEY POINTS

#### 1. Different Kinds Of Churches

A church often takes on the personality of its pastor over a period of time. They become melded together. These kinds of churches were not only in existence in the First Century, but they are also in existence today. Not all churches are the same. You know that if you have been a member of different churches. You know that every church has a different personality and a different heartbeat. You feel that when you are in their presence and worship with them. In light of this reality, it is important to ask yourself as a member of your church, “Where are you?”

#### 2. The Different Kinds Of Church Ages

We need to realize that in every age, God still has His churches that stand for Him. Not all churches are the same. Some churches have been around for hundreds of years. Others have only sprung up in the last decade. But God uses each church that is surrendered to Him and His Word in order to further His Kingdom and bring Him glory. Where is your church when it comes to age?

#### 3. The Different Kinds Of Christians

In today’s key passage, we see the different types of Christians described in each of the seven churches. We see how each group is living out their faith (or how they aren’t) and the consequences they’re reaping from their actions. As we break down each kind of Christian located in each of these seven churches, consider which group you would fall into. Where are you in your walk with Christ? Which church would you be a part of if you were living in the times that John was describing?

### NOTES

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# REVELATION

## **The Final Answer - Where Are You?**

*Revelation 2-3*

### **QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER**

1. Where would you say your church is right now? Are they in a healthy place spiritually? Or are they in somewhat of a drought?
2. Do you think the age of a church is directly correlated to the maturity of its congregation? Why or why not?
3. Where are you in your walk with Jesus right now? Are you where you want to be or do you wish you were in a different place in your faith walk?

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