

**Passage:** Revelation 1:4-8

**Title:** Words for Comfort, to Consider, and to Count On (part 2)

**Summary:** This week we finish, what we began studying last week that the tendency when studying the Book of Revelation is to get to the what “John saw” regarding the unveiling of the Last Days, and they are very troubling sights indeed, So before God unfolds the book before us He brings words of comfort to His children so that they may fear not, and trust His sovereignty, and His Love.

*Revelation 1:1–8 (NKJV) <sup>1</sup> The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave Him to show His servants—things which must shortly take place. And He sent and signified it by His angel to His servant John, <sup>2</sup> who bore witness to the word of God, and to the testimony of Jesus Christ, to all things that he saw. <sup>3</sup> Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written in it; for the time is near. <sup>4</sup> John, to the seven churches which are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from Him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven Spirits who are before His throne, <sup>5</sup> and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler over the kings of the earth. To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood, <sup>6</sup> and has made us kings and priests to His God and Father, to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. <sup>7</sup> Behold, He is coming with clouds, and every eye will see Him, even they who pierced Him. And all the tribes of the earth will mourn because of Him. Even so, Amen. <sup>8</sup> “I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End,” says the Lord, “who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.”*

### **Outline Revelation 1:4-8:**

- Words for Comfort - (Revelation 1:4-6)
- Words to Consider - (Revelation 1:7)
- Words you can Count On – (Revelation 1:8)

### **Prayer**

The Word of God is Living and Powerful, and is ready, and will do a mighty work in our lives.

*Hebrews 4:12 (NKJV) <sup>12</sup> For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.*

### **In Every Study**

- Who Is God? (How Great is He?)
- What Does He Think of Me? (How Wonderful Are His Thoughts Towards Me?)
- What Does He Want Me to Do?
- What Can I Boldly Request of Him?
- What Do I Need to Be on Guard of When I Leave Here Today?

Boldly come to the throne of grace, ask God to reveal Himself in a mighty way to you, and to do I might work in you, and through you.

*Hebrews 4:16 (NKJV) <sup>16</sup> Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need*

**(Revelation 1:4 NKJV) John, to the seven churches which are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from Him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven Spirits who are before His throne,**

### **God Extends Grace & Peace to You Today**

#### **Grace and Peace**

Grace and peace are spoken to a people who are severe hardship as the Roman Empire is bringing great persecution upon the church at this time (see last study). And this grace and peace is extended from the Father, Spirit, and Son (v.4-5), saying it is complete forgiveness and acceptance from our God to them and us.

God is extending His grace and peace unto you today.

### **I Am Now What I Always Was and Always Will Be**

#### **Who Was – Is – To Come**

Verse 4 - from Him who is and who was and who is to come - The Midrash (which is kind of like a commentary on the Old Testament Hebrew Scriptures written by ancient rabbis), and it says the following regarding Exodus 3

"I am now what I always was and always will be" (Midrash. Rab. Exod. 3.6; Alphabet of Rabbi Akiba; likewise Midr. Ps. 72.1);

*Exodus 3:6 (NKJV)* <sup>6</sup> Moreover He said, "I am the God of your father—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look upon God.

*Exodus 3:13–15 (NKJV)* <sup>13</sup> Then Moses said to God, "Indeed, when I come to the children of Israel and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they say to me, 'What is His name?' what shall I say to them?" <sup>14</sup> And God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." And He said, "Thus you shall say to the children of Israel, 'I AM has sent me to you.'" <sup>15</sup> Moreover God said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the children of Israel: 'The LORD God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you. This is My name forever, and this is My memorial to all generations.'

He is the unchanging Lord God

*Malachi 3:6 (NKJV)* <sup>6</sup> "For I am the LORD, I do not change; Therefore you are not consumed, O sons of Jacob.

*Hebrews 13:8 (NKJV)* <sup>8</sup> Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

The unchanging God, I am now what I always was, and always will be..... the God who extends to you grace (unmerited favor – nothing you need to earn) and peace (Shalom – My greetings to come freely, an invitation to intimacy, a promise of acceptance).

**(Revelation 1:5 NKJV) and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler over the kings of the earth. To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood,**

### **I Am the Faithful (Full) Witness**

#### **Faithful Witness / John 14 / Show Us the Father**

Verse 5 - and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness - Jesus Christ is indeed the faithful Witness. He is the full witness of God, the heart of God, the love of God. Every action, every deed, unto the cross was the full witness of God to us. If we want to know the heart and ways and will of God, we look at Jesus, as that is what He told Phillip to do.

*(John 14:6 NKJV)* Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

*(John 14:7 NKJV)* "If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also; and from now on you know Him and have seen Him."

*(John 14:8 NKJV)* Philip said to Him, "Lord, show us the Father, and it is sufficient for us."

*(John 14:9 NKJV)* Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you so long, and yet you have not known Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; so how can you say, 'Show us the Father'?"

#### **Expressed Image – Col 1**

Jesus is the expressed image of God. The only way to know the Father is through the Son

*(Colossians 1:15 NKJV)* He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation.

*(Colossians 1:19 NKJV)* For it pleased the Father that in Him all the fullness should dwell,

#### **Firstborn / He Broke the Chains**

Verse 5 - the firstborn from the dead - Cultists try to use this verse that Jesus isn't eternal, but was created. The Bible has many who died, and were brought back from the dead (see below), but only Jesus broke the chains of sin and death. This is referring to Jesus being the first to break the hold of death, and He led the captives free. Firstborn means "unique", in that what Jesus did, only God could do, (A God – THE God). The statement is..... Jesus (God) has the power, authority, dominion over death). It is the resurrection power, that is made available to us, that says and proves there is nothing that can imprison us, bind us, and even things in our lives we feel or think are dead, can be resurrected through His resurrection power.

*(Ephesians 4:8 NKJV)* Therefore He says: "When He ascended on high, He led captivity captive, And gave gifts to men."

*(Ephesians 4:9 NKJV)* (Now this, "He ascended"; what does it mean but that He also first descended into the lower parts of the earth?

*(Ephesians 4:10 NKJV)* He who descended is also the One who ascended far above all the heavens, that He might fill all things.)

*Ephesians 1:19–23 (NKJV)* <sup>19</sup> and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power <sup>20</sup> which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, <sup>21</sup> far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age

but also in that which is to come. <sup>22</sup> And He put all *things* under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all *things* to the church, <sup>23</sup> which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.

Dead to Life in the Bible:

- The widow of Zarephath's son (1 Kings 17:17–24).
- The Shunammite woman's son (2 Kings 4:18–37).
- The man raised out of Elisha's grave (2 Kings 13:20–21).
- The widow of Nain's son (Luke 7:11–17).
- Jairus' daughter (Luke 8:40–56).
- Lazarus of Bethany (John 11).
- Various saints in Jerusalem (Matthew 27:50–53).
- Tabitha (Acts 9:36–43).
- Eutychus (Acts 20:7–12).
- Jesus (Mark 16:1–8).

### **Gospel / If You Were to Die Tonight**

#### **Personal**

*Jeremiah 29:11 (NKJV)* <sup>11</sup> For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope.

#### **Problem**

*Romans 3:23 (NKJV)* <sup>23</sup> for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

#### **Penalty**

*Romans 6:23 (NKJV)* <sup>23</sup> For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord

#### **Provision**

*John 3:16 (NKJV)* <sup>16</sup> For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

#### **Profession**

*Romans 10:13 (NKJV)* <sup>13</sup> For "whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved."

#### **Recognize**

*John 14:6 (NKJV)* <sup>6</sup> Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

#### **Repent**

*Acts 3:19 (NKJV)* <sup>19</sup> Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord,

#### **Receive**

*Romans 10:9 (NKJV)* <sup>9</sup> that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.

### **Great I Am**

Note: Here are some other scriptures to counter the cultist with, Jesus makes it clear that He is the Great I Am, so much so they want to kill Him for saying it:

*(Exodus 3:14 KJV)* And God said unto Moses, I AM THAT I AM: and he said, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I AM hath sent me unto you.

*(John 8:58 KJV)* Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, I am.

*(John 8:59 KJV)* Then took they up stones to cast at him: but Jesus hid himself, and went out of the temple, going through the midst of them, and so passed by.

## **The King – of What’s Next Rules the Rulers / Veto Rights**

*Verse 5 - and the ruler over the kings of the earth* – Doesn’t matter who is in the White House, or Kremlin, Jesus is ruler over them and He has all veto rights, and will gather all things to Himself according to His will. Jesus rules the rulers!

As we watch from history past, into today, and what tomorrow will hold regarding kings and kingdoms, we can wonder what is going to happen next. And that is true; but one thing will always remain, and it is the immovable King, who rules over all other kings and kingdoms, and His Kingdom will have no end.

I am reminded, and I pray it today, as such a time like this, (war in Israel, war in Ukraine), that it takes us to come to the end of hope in man, man’s government, to set things right, and when they all fail, or die, we can do and say what Isaiah said when one of the greatest kings of Israel died, who had reigned and brought a peace and prosperity to Israel for some 50 years:

*Isaiah 6:1–5 (NKJV)* <sup>1</sup> *In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up, and the train of His robe filled the temple. <sup>2</sup> Above it stood seraphim; each one had six wings: with two he covered his face, with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. <sup>3</sup> And one cried to another and said: “Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; The whole earth is full of His glory!” <sup>4</sup> And the posts of the door were shaken by the voice of him who cried out, and the house was filled with smoke. <sup>5</sup> So I said: “Woe is me, for I am undone! Because I am a man of unclean lips, And I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; For my eyes have seen the King, The LORD of hosts.”*

Beloved, man is not going to solve this mess, whether in Middle East, Europe, the ends of the earth, or 60 minutes down the Beltway..... only the King can..... and will.

**Revelation 19:16 (NKJV)** <sup>16</sup> *And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS*

### **Amir Tsarfati**

Verse five. It was 22 years ago. Just around this time, I was a support person at a church and the pastor was out of town and I was asked to take care of the guest speaker to which many of you know who he is back then, not all knew who he was. He was a young 28 year old from Israel, just completed his military duties as captain, and his name is Amir Tsarfati, I was asked to pick him up at his hotel, take him to dinner, and then bring him for his speaking engagement. And I’ll never forget, as we were finished with dinner, and it was just the two of us and we were walking to get a coffee. And I said to him, Amir, what would you have to say to us as Americans two weeks post September 11th? And I’ll never forget what he said to me.

He said, Ray, you now know what we live with every day as we live in the threat of terrorism every day of our lives. And as significant as that word was to us, I think now how significant it is to me as the mass and sheer number of casualties from this attack, many in Israel now call it their September 11th, to which I can say I totally grieve and understand the pain that you all are suffering as September 11th has never left my mind. Nor has it ever healed in my heart the images and the knowledge of knowing that evil is that evil. And then to see it

Again, to know what this evil is. And it could be as barbaric as we witnessed to know there is an evil ever so present in this world. Be it September 11th or be it October 7th. One thing I know this world will never be made right as long as man are the kings and rulers. But last breath on this earth, may I preach the name of the king that’s coming and he will make all things right and he will make all things new. And he will wipe away every tear from our eyes because he is the king of kings and the Lord of lords.

### **He is Loving You – He is Washing You Washed our Robes**

*Verse 5 - To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood*, - the use of the Greek present participle “the one loving us” emphasizes the continual, never-ending love of Jesus Christ for all his people. Thus it was an event that happened historically (at the cross), but is continually happening now (at and from the throne). The same is true with being washed; washed of sin at the cross, and a continual washing ever right now. We were washed and forgiven at the cross (thus making us positionally a son/daughter, and He continually washes us today as we live in these fallen sinful bodies.

Right now, He is loving you, He is washing you, He is touching you. This is not poetic wording, but a poem of love and intimacy.

### **The King Washes Me**

I like that, it was the ruler over the kings of the earth that washed my robe. A God who would get dirty for His people, that is love beyond outside of our dimension. Imagine the President coming to your house to do your laundry. Every time you wore that shirt you'd tell people this is the shirt the President washed for me. Jesus washed our robes, cleansed the soil of sin, the stench of death from it, and says here is your robe, the robe of righteousness:

*(Revelation 7:14 NKJV) And I said to him, "Sir, you know." So he said to me, "These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation, and washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.*

### **No Leader can Lead Us / Words to Persecuted / Sudan / Pre-Trib Rapture**

There is no king, president, government leader that can serve me the way Jesus does, did, and will do, for He was, and is, and is to come. These words of assurance would have meant so much to these people going through persecution and suffering. How these words much sounds to our brothers and sisters in the Sudan, China, and Muslim nations. Grace and Peace extended from the trinity. It is this grace and peace that convinces me even more that the church will be raptured before the Tribulation, for the tribulation is God's wrath against a Christ rejecting world. Tribulation today is the result of living in a fallen world.

### **Top 20% - Purging – American Fall / Remember these Words**

You know Christian, you may not live in the top 20% of the worlds wealth and then be raptured. God may allow a purging of His church before the rapture, God may allow America to fall because of our unwillingness to repent, terrorism may strike American soil before the year lets out. What ever, or however, may these words of grace and peace from Him who is, who was, and who is to come ring in your heart. Remember this book is written so that we might be ready. That we will always be in assurance of His grace and peace. That assurance needs to be applied today also as many Christians are struggling with their security and assurance that God loves them, He does.

### **Flight to Florida / Was – Is - Come**

I remeber working on getting my son a flight to Florida to visit grandma and granddad. Now I am arranging his travel plans, he will fly solo. You know what, he never asks me if I have made the reservations, picked up the tickets, have enough money. He is a typical kid knowing that I'll take care of it all. You know our Heavenly Father wants us to be like in this area of His grace and peace, His love. For my son, the was, he doesn't even question if the ticket was paid for, he knows that it is. The "is", he has no thought on how he will get to the airport on the flight day, he knows we will get him there. The will be, he isn't in fear that when he lands that he will be stranded, he knows my father will be there waiting for him. The Lord gives us comfort in these first verses, so that when things start to unfold, we can have peace in knowing He is on the throne.

### **Circumstance Do Not Change Love**

#### **John Knows Love – Regardless of Circumstance**

Verse five, who loved us? John is writing in a time of horrible persecution of the Roman empire against Christiandom, but he's also writing in a horrible situation. He's on this God-forsaken, exiled island called Patmos. Probably the oldest man alive at this point outliving the average lifespan by double almost in this horrendous situation. And here's what he speaks and shows us. He still calls the love of God. He doesn't question the love of God based on his circumstance. He bases the love of God on the action of God and there upon the cross. And it proves that God loves us and nothing will change that. And I pray for you. Don't let your circumstances change or dictate what you feel determines how much he loves you or not. When he said it's done, it was an exclamation point. The love is unchangeable because I'm the unchangeable God.

**(Revelation 1:6 NKJV) and has made us kings and priests to His God and Father, to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.**

## **Kings & Priests**

### **Millennium**

In the Millennium, we'll rule and reign on the earth as kings and priests (Revelation 5:10). He's made us kings and priests and we will rule and reign with him for 1000 years in the millennial kingdom. But He's given us that calling even still now as a kingdom of priests of the King of kings and the Lord of Lords. *(Revelation 5:10 NKJV) And have made us kings and priests to our God; And we shall reign on the earth."*

*1 Peter 2:9-10 (NKJV) <sup>9</sup> But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; <sup>10</sup> who once were not a people but are now the people of God, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy.*

### **Role of Priests**

And the role of the priest was to represent man before God. That's what we know as intercessory prayer. The priest at the temple, they would make sacrifice on behalf of the person. And then the priest were to represent God before man as they would declare his word and his holiness and come back and give the word to the people based on the word of the Lord. And that's what we're to do now as a kingdom of priests. And that's what we shall do into the millennial kingdom. And how we serve in that millennial kingdom will be based on how we serve him today. And that is the parable of well done good and faithful servant. You've been faithful in the little things I'll make you ruler over many we shall not be ruling in the heaven when it's the new heaven and earth. We will be ruling with him in the millennial kingdom. So you do well and I do well to be found. Well done. Good and faithful servant and all the good and faithful servant needs to is simply represent the people before God in prayer and represent God before the people in the word of truth.

### **Cut-off**

I like what one commentator said, people just don't know who we are yet, for if they did they would never pull-out or cut us off as they do. Same with your boss and neighbors.

Of course too often, we forget, don't recognize who we are yet either.

## **He Made You Something Never Could Be – You are Not Stuck**

### **He has Made Us! Right Now Moving in this Place – Touching Us – making Us New**

Verse six reads, past tense, who loved us and washed us. But the better translation is who is loving us and who is washing us? And we can say that the sin isn't it cleanse once and for all. It is from a positional standpoint and we're made sons and daughters.

He made us into something we never were or could be – kings and priests.

But there's the cleansing and the rehabilitation, if you would, of what God does as he begins to heal our hearts from what sin has destroyed and deformed, he begins to transform our minds from glory to greater glory. And all these things are past tense from a positional standpoint, but as we walk this earth, he's doing a work in us continually daily. And what I can promise you then and what you can receive here today is that he'll do that for you. You're not stuck who you are now. You don't have to say, this is where it ends. This is all I'll ever be. There's a God who lives and moves is here right now revealing himself, drawing us into His presence so he can speak to our hearts and tell us, I can make you new. I can heal you, I can transform you. I can do it for you. I can do it for your marriage. I can do it for your family. I can do that for your relationships. That's who I am. That's what I want to reveal to you that that's what I'm doing. Oh, blessed be his name.

### **John Can't Contain Self / Great Revelation in Great Trial**

John says to Him be the glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. I think as John reflects on all that God is, he just can't contain himself and lets out this praise and worship unto the Lord. Imagine John, he is 95 years old, his skin is probably sagging from age and being boiled in oil. He is on the island of Patmos, a death sentence (so they thought), rocky, barren, hot, lacking food and water, and after hearing

all these words of comfort he can't contain himself and he breaks out into worship. We all dread trials and tribulation, but here John is in a horrible trial, and what happens, he sees a revelation of God like none that he could ever imagine, and he walked with Jesus for 3 years, he was there on the Mount of Transfiguration, but here he receives this awesome revelation of Jesus Christ, and his heart can't contain the beauty of it all:

*(Matthew 17:1 NKJV) Now after six days Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother, led them up on a high mountain by themselves;*

*(Matthew 17:2 NKJV) and He was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and His clothes became as white as the light.*

*(Matthew 17:3 NKJV) And behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to them, talking with Him.*

It was ever so interesting as I was preparing my study that I copy and paste my Bible verses then I break them down verse by verse and for whatever reason the way I copied my passage verse six was missing to which obviously I recognized immediately but it spoke so deeply to me of how much I can miss when I miss this one verse.

John isn't just writing a theological or doctrinal dissertation yes he's under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit but he's also a man who's impressed and enveloped with the Holy Spirit which is the very love of God for God is love and he would remember his God of love he would remember leaning his head upon the heart and hearing the heartbeat of God himself at that Last Supper and he writes to us to him be glory dominion forever because life will never be complete or never come into its fullness when he's anything less then recognized for who he is the King of kings and the Lord of Lord's, And yet the gentle loving Lamb of God

But here is a power prayer example for us where we start with whatever our need or situation is and I say it Lord I know you have all dominion and power and therefore I know that you can do whatever I ask of you and whatever you choose is best for this situation..... And therefore I asked that whatever you do that you might be glorified. And Christian we find pure power in prayer and peace when we say and father I pray than in this situation you might be glorified!

And when we bring ourselves into a prayer that is truly spiritual for any prayer that's not spiritual it's just words of vain repetition but prayer that reaches the spiritual realm we'll say so that you might be glorified Lord and therefore the peace and power that I can come to is not my will but your will be done.

*Matthew 6:7-13 (NKJV)* <sup>7</sup> And when you pray, do not use vain repetitions as the heathen do. For they think that they will be heard for their many words. <sup>8</sup> "Therefore do not be like them. For your Father knows the things you have need of before you ask Him. <sup>9</sup> In this manner, therefore, pray: Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. <sup>10</sup> Your kingdom come. Your will be done On earth as it is in heaven. <sup>11</sup> Give us this day our daily bread. <sup>12</sup> And forgive us our debts, As we forgive our debtors. <sup>13</sup> And do not lead us into temptation, But deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

### **Verse 7 – He is Coming**

And therefore I love the power he moves into as he isn't teaching in verse 7, he is declaring, BEHOLD HE IS COMING!

### **Words to Consider - (Revelation 1:7)**

**(Revelation 1:7 NKJV) Behold, He is coming with clouds, and every eye will see Him, even they who pierced Him. And all the tribes of the earth will mourn because of Him. Even so, Amen.**

### **He is Coming – Eternity Will Change Your Thinking**

#### **Exhortation / 30 times / Change your Life**

Behold – this is an exhortation, something we are to consider. 30 times we will be told to consider something in this book. This is the first one, and it is that He is coming. God wants us to consider this because when we do, it will change our life, it will change the way we live.

#### **Not for New Believers / Thessalonica / Purifying Effect – 40-50 years**

You people say this end-times stuff isn't for new believers. It is interesting that the Apostle Paul was only in Thessalonica for 3 weeks before they ran him out of town. Yet amazingly when he writes to them he refers to the things he taught when he was there, which was about the resurrection, the rapture, the anti-christ, the Second Coming. Why, because if eternity is part of your thinking, it will change your life, it will have a purifying effect on your life. You will live as though He may come at any moment and I must be

right and ready. Otherwise you will live as though you got at least 40-50 years before you have to get right and get ready. Eternity thinking will have a purifying effect upon your life.

### **Second Coming**

This event is not the Rapture, but His Second Coming for every eye will see Him. Many will be deceived when the Rapture happened, but not Second Coming, for all will know, every knee shall bow and tongue confess.

### **Daniel Prophecy**

Verse 7 - He is coming with clouds – As Daniel prophesied:

*(Daniel 7:13 KJV) I saw in the night visions, and, behold, one like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him.*

### **Jewish People**

Verse 7 - even they who pierced - speaking specifically about the Jewish people:

*(Zechariah 12:10 NKJV) "And I will pour on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and supplication; then they will look on Me whom they pierced. Yes, they will mourn for Him as one mourns for his only son, and grieve for Him as one grieves for a firstborn.*

### **OT Usage**

Here are one of the many references to the OT in the Book of Revelation. Many people are not into the OT, but the better your knowledge of the OT, the better your understanding of Revelation will be. Daniel will be referenced 53 times, Exodus 27 times, Jeremiah 22, Psalms 43, Ezekiel 42, Isaiah 79, and Zechariah 15. Of the 404 verse in the book of Revelation, we will make reference or allude to over 550 OT verses (obviously duplicating several verses).

### **All will Mourn – Contrast to Verse 4**

Verse 7 - And all the tribes of the earth will mourn because of Him – Every knee will bow and every tongue will profess. What a contrast to verse 4, grace and peace.

### **All Things Flowing towards Throne / Can't Join Church – Born into It**

Again, all things are coming before the throne, all things are flowing to the throne on earth and in heaven. How important to know that you don't become a member of the church by joining it, you must be born into it. Not one of us joined our family, every one of us were born into it. We don't have membership here because we don't want anyone thinking they are going to heaven just because they are a member of the church. You must be born into the family, you must receive God's grace through the Son, to have peace with the Holy God.

### **Words you can Count On – (Revelation 1:8)**

**(Revelation 1:8 NKJV) "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End," says the Lord, "who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty."**

### **Isaiah 41 – Judgement False gods**

I find it highly provoking, and obviously inspired, but the Alpha/Omega spoken here surely ties back to the Book of Isaiah chapter 41, in which that chapter and passage is a courtroom scene, and the false gods will be tried and judged. And so here, the Book of Revelation, all the false-gods of this world, religious systems, man-made systems and institutions will be judged by the Alpha and the Omega, who was and is to come!

*Isaiah 41:1–4 (NKJV) <sup>1</sup> "Keep silence before Me, O coastlands, And let the people renew their strength! Let them come near, then let them speak; Let us come near together for judgment. <sup>2</sup> "Who raised up one from the east? Who in righteousness called him to His feet? Who gave the nations before him, And made him rule over kings? Who gave them as the dust to his sword, As driven stubble to his bow? <sup>3</sup> Who pursued them, and passed safely By the way that he had not gone with his feet? <sup>4</sup> Who has performed and done it, Calling the generations from the beginning? 'I, the LORD, am the first; And with the last I am He.' "*

They are all being called before the throne of God, just as we said the whole Book of Revelation is all things coming before the Throne of God!

*Isaiah 41:5 (NKJV) <sup>5</sup> The coastlands saw it and feared, The ends of the earth were afraid; They drew near and came.*



And, as chapter 41 goes on.....one of the proofs God uses to declare that He is God, is His speaking things before they happen. He does it in the Book of Isaiah as He declares a man name Cyrus, by name, will come on the scene as a victorious conqueror some 200 years before he is even born. Here in Revelation the Alpha/Omega does it over and over again.

*Isaiah 41:22 (NKJV)* <sup>22</sup> "Let them bring forth and show us what will happen; Let them show the former things, what they were, That we may consider them, And know the latter end of them; Or declare to us things to come.

*Isaiah 41:23 (NKJV)* <sup>23</sup> Show the things that are to come hereafter, That we may know that you are gods; Yes, do good or do evil, That we may be dismayed and see it together.

*Isaiah 41:26 (NKJV)* <sup>26</sup> Who has declared from the beginning, that we may know? And former times, that we may say, 'He is righteous'? Surely there is no one who shows, Surely there is no one who declares, Surely there is no one who hears your words.

## **The Alphabet – Stores All Knowledge – Everything You Need to Know**

### **Greek Alphabet / Stores – Communicates All Knowledge**

These are the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet. An alphabet is an ingenious way to store and communicate knowledge. The 26 letters in the English alphabet, arranged in almost endless combinations, can hold and convey all knowledge.

### **Christ Supreme Sovereign Alphabet / Nothing Outside His Knowledge / No Sabotage**

Christ is the supreme and sovereign alphabet, there is nothing outside His knowledge, thus there are no unknown factors that can sabotage His coming for us, and His Second Coming.

### **Almighty 8 Times / His Power Supreme over All events / Nothing Outside His Dominion**

The Almighty – occurs 8 times in this book, reminding that God's power is supreme over all cataclysmic events recorded in this book. He exercises sovereign control over every person, object, and event, and not molecule in the universe is outside that dominion.

### **All Words Recorded – All Words You can Count On**

All the words recorded in this book, are words that you can count on. Good and bad!

## **He is Loving You – Because Love Reveals**

### **I Now Am Who I Always Was and Will Be**

The Midrash (which is kind of like a commentary on the Old Testament Hebrew Scriptures written by ancient rabbis), and it says the following regarding Exodus 3

"I am now what I always was and always will be" (Midrash. Rab. Exod. 3.6; Alphabet of Rabbi Akiba; likewise Midr. Ps. 72.1);

*Exodus 3:6 (NKJV)* <sup>6</sup> Moreover He said, "I am the God of your father—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look upon God.

*Exodus 3:13–15 (NKJV)* <sup>13</sup> Then Moses said to God, "Indeed, when I come to the children of Israel and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they say to me, 'What is His name?' what shall I say to them?" <sup>14</sup> And God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." And He said, "Thus you shall say to the children of Israel, 'I AM has sent me to you.'" <sup>15</sup> Moreover God said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the children of Israel: 'The LORD God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you. This is My name forever, and this is My memorial to all generations.'

And Jesus used the 7 "I Am" statements in the book of John, clearly stating He is the Great I Am.

*Revelation 1:8 (NKJV)* <sup>8</sup> "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End," says the Lord, "who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty."

*Revelation 1:11 (NKJV)* <sup>11</sup> saying, "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last," and, "What you see, write in a book and send it to the seven churches which are in Asia: to Ephesus, to Smyrna, to Pergamos, to Thyatira, to Sardis, to Philadelphia, and to Laodicea."

*Revelation 1:17 (NKJV)* <sup>17</sup> And when I saw Him, I fell at His feet as dead. But He laid His right hand on me, saying to me, "Do not be afraid; I am the First and the Last.

*Revelation 1:18 (NKJV)* <sup>18</sup> I am He who lives, and was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore. Amen. And I have the keys of Hades and of Death.

*Revelation 21:6 (NKJV) <sup>6</sup> And He said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. I will give of the fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirsts.*

*Revelation 22:13 (NKJV) <sup>13</sup> I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End, the First and the Last."*

### **He Is Loving Us**

He's loving us. Psalm 139, how precious are his thoughts towards us. His thoughts are precious because he considers us precious, his spotless bride, the love of his life. And I can be held by that no matter what's going on in the world. Put me on Patmos and I've been on Patmos many a days and I feel abandoned and exiled, I have to defend for myself. I can find myself saying, I got to put all this together and make all this happen.

*Psalm 139:17-18 (NKJV) <sup>17</sup> How precious also are Your thoughts to me, O God! How great is the sum of them! <sup>18</sup> If I should count them, they would be more in number than the sand; When I awake, I am still with You.*

I just find myself tired. I simply come and go. I'm just going to sit be still, let you love on me as you love on me. You reveal yourself because your love reveals. Love always reveals what's behind the heart. Isn't that true? That person that you love, you wanted to reveal your heart to them. You didn't know how, maybe, took up courage, but when you did, you found out they received it. They loved you as well. Now they're revealing their love to you. Love reveals. And that's what the Lord wants to do to you and for you tonight. And stay here. Love reveals perfect. Love has written his book and perfect love is writing his love to you. It's a love letter. Let me show you my heart He says.

### **Prayer**

The Word of God is Living and Powerful, and is ready, and will do a mighty work in our lives.

*Hebrews 4:12 (NKJV) <sup>12</sup> For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.*

### **In Every Study**

- Who Is God? (How Great is He?)
- What Does He Think of Me? (How Wonderful Are His Thoughts Towards Me?)
- What Does He Want Me to Do?
- What Can I Boldly Request of Him?
- What Do I Need to Be on Guard of When I Leave Here Today?

Boldly come to the throne of grace, ask God to reveal Himself in a mighty way to you, and to do I might work in you, and through you.

*Hebrews 4:16 (NKJV) <sup>16</sup> Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need*