

The Revealed Christ (Revelation 1:5-20)

January 13, 2019 | Don Logan

Revelation 1:4-20 (ESV)

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, and from Jesus Christ the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth.

To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. Behold, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him, and all tribes of the earth will wail on account of him. Even so. Amen.

“I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, “who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.”

I, John, your brother and partner in the tribulation and the kingdom and the patient endurance that are in Jesus, was on the island called Patmos on account of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. I was in the Spirit on the Lord’s day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet saying, “Write what you see in a book and send it to the seven churches, to Ephesus and to Smyrna and to Pergamum and to Thyatira and to Sardis and to Philadelphia and to Laodicea.”

Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking to me, and on turning I saw seven golden lampstands, and in the midst of the lampstands one like a son of man, clothed with a long robe and with a golden sash around his chest. The hairs of his head were white, like white wool, like snow. His eyes were like a flame of fire, his feet were like burnished bronze, refined in a furnace, and his voice was like the roar of many waters.

In his right hand he held seven stars, from his mouth came a sharp two-edged sword, and his face was like the sun shining in full strength.

When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. But he laid his right hand

on me, saying, "Fear not, I am the first and the last, and the living one. I died, and behold I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades. Write therefore the things that you have seen, those that are and those that are to take place after this. As for the mystery of the seven stars that you saw in my right hand, and the seven golden lampstands, the seven stars are the angels of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands are the seven churches.

Group Discussion

1. Read Revelation 1:5-20.....What do you feel? What words and adjectives resonate with you? What words or ideas confuse you? Pretend you are a 1st century church under intense persecution. What sort of impact does this have on you?

2. What difference does it make that Jesus is the Alpha and Omega. How can this theological truth impact our everyday lives?

(Consider when you are the Alpha and Omega...When you make a house out of Legos. When you make a meal for the family. Or when you craft a table from wood?

All those things are made for something, and all those things are made to bring you glory. To be used. To give to you in some way.)

Now consider what it means for us to know that we have an Alpha and Omega.

3. What is the Hope that Jesus gives to John? What does that Hope tell us about how we should live our lives, and what we should expect in this life?

4. Why is John told to "fear not?" What about everyone else? Why should we not, and why would we fear this Coming Judge?

5. Pray for the church at Eternal. Pray for your group. Pray that we become people who show the world that our true Hope is Jesus. Pray that we take

the opportunities before us to "opt into" suffering for His name's sake.