

Revelation and Daniel

Revelation 1:4

To the seven churches – Seven local churches in the Roman province of ‘Asia’. However, the number “seven” indicates that this message is for the whole church.

Grace and peace – Grace represents our *standing*; peace represents our *experience*! Romans 5:1-2

Peace *with* God – Romans 5:1

Peace *of* God – Philippians 4:6-7

From Him who is and who was and who is to come –

Who is - Present

Who was – Past

Who is to come – Future

This title only occurs in Revelation in five variations – 1:8, 4:8, 11:17, 16:5

This title emphasizes God’s sovereign dealing with man throughout all time. Hebrews 13:8

From the seven Spirits who are before the throne – Several interpretations are possible:

The seven angels of the seven churches (Note 2:1, 2:8, 2:12, etc.)

Seven angelic messengers (8:2, 6, 15:1)

The Holy Spirit in His fullness (3:1, 5:6, Isaiah 11:2)

Revelation 1:5

And from Jesus Christ:

-*The faithful witness* – *The One who was!* He came as a prophet and witness, John 3:31-32.

-*The firstborn from the dead* – *The One who is!* The risen Savior who is our Great High Priest, Hebrews 4:14-16.

-*The ruler of the kings of the earth* – *The One who is to come!* Jesus will come and rule over all the kingdoms of the world, Revelation 19.

And from Jesus Christ:

-*To Him who loves us* – *Agape*’ love, self-sacrificial love. The present tense here carries the idea of continual love.

-*And released (or washed, KJV) us from our sins by His blood* – The verb tense is the Greek aorist which here emphasizes the once for all action made effective by the blood of Christ.

Revelation 1:6

And He has made us to be a kingdom, priests to His God and Father –

We are a kingdom, corporately.

We are priests, individually.

One day we will *reign* in His kingdom if we are faithful.

To Him be the glory and the dominion forever and ever.

Amen. Amen = “So be it”, or “be it true”!

Revelation 1:7

Behold, He is coming with the clouds – Note Daniel 7:13, Acts 1:9, Matthew 24:29-31.

And every eye will see Him, even those who pierced Him – Matthew 24:29-31, Zechariah 11:10

And all the tribes of the earth will mourn over Him – Matthew 24:30. At His first coming, Jesus dealt with sin! At His second coming, he will deal with sinners! If you refuse to let Him deal with you in love, He must come to you as your judge.

Revelation 1:8

I am the Alpha and the Omega – The first and last letter of the Greek alphabet. This expression is called a *merism*, a figure of speech where the two extremes represent the whole.

Says the Lord God – Probably a reference to God the Father.

Who is and who was and who is to come (verse 4)

The Almighty – Nine times in Revelation God is called the Almighty!

Revelation is the unveiling of Jesus Christ – His person, His power, and His program – for the rest of history.

He is the subject of the book!