

“Come and See, Go and Tell”
(Revelation 1:4-8)

~ LETS PRAY ~

I’VE TITLED TODAY’S MESSAGE:

- “Come and See, Go and Tell”

TURN TO REVELATION 1...

- And follow along as I read (vv.4-8).

~ INTRO ~

LAST WEEK...

- I covered the intro to the book of Revelation...
 - And explained the flow (past / present / future)...
 - With some different ways it’s been interpreted.

I SHARED...

- That we’ll approach this book in a literal sense...
 - Looking toward the future...
 - As prophetic events are unfolded.

I SHOULD ADD...

- The Futuristic approach is held...
 - By a vast majority of scholars...
 - & even Church fathers:

(Slide #1) Church Fathers:

- Justin Martyr (100-165 AD)
- I-re-nae-us (130 – 202 AD)
- Clements of Alexandria (150 – 215 AD)
- Tertulian (155 – 240 AD)
- O-rigen (184 – 253 AD)
- Victor-inus (270 AD)
- Eu-se-bi-us (260 – 340 AD)



“Revelation – Unlocking The Future” (Hindson, 2002)

(Slide #3)

NOW...

- The Apostle John writes...
 - 65-years after the death of Christ (A.D. 95).

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JOHN WAS...

- Imprisoned on the Island of Patmos...
 - Where he had been sent to die.

THIS WAS AFTER AUTHORITIES TRIED TO KILL HIM...

- By boiling him in oil, but it didn't work.

YET... THRU THESE HARSH EXPERIENCES...

- John didn't get bitter...
 - It actually created a deeper love for people.

~ STUDY ~

HERE'S WHY I SHARE THIS...

- Look at (v.4).
 - John writes to the Seven Churches who were experiencing...
 - Extreme persecution under Domitian...
 - (The Roman Emperor – 81-96 AD).

BY THIS TIME...

- The churches were filled with second & third generation Christians
 - Yet there was dullness because of tough times.
 - So God needed to speak to the churches.

(v.4) “churches which are in Asia”

- Literal churches (if the plain sense makes sense seek no other sense)
- History of the church
- Today's church
- Individuals in the church

(Slide #4)

(v.11)

Ephesus – *The Loveless Church*
Smyrna – *The Persecuted Church*
Pergamos – *The Compromising Church*
Thyatira – *The Corrupt Church*
Sardis – *The Dead Church*
Philadelphia – *The Faithful Church*
Laodicea – *The Lukewarm Church*

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JOHN...

- Is given the Revelation of Jesus Christ...
 - Which starts with GRACE & PEACE (v.4).

AS CHRISTIANS...

- We're familiar with the term GRACE...
 - As God's unmerited favor!

BUT WE OFTEN FORGET...

- That this is **God's attitude towards all sinners – GRACE!**
 - And we've been given the ministry of reconciliation.
- God doesn't want anyone to perish...
 - Yet, this book reveals the impending doom of those that...
 - Reject His Grace!

ON THE OTHER HAND...

- Christians have peace with God.

THIS PEACE...

- Refers to **our standing before God & our experience with God.**
 - Peace with God & peace OF God.

SO... ALL OF THIS...

- Brings us to the timelessness of God...
 - And His unchanging nature!

(Heb 13:8)... (Mal. 3:6)...

“Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.”

SO... (vv.4-5) LAY'S OUT...

- Father / Son / & Holy Spirit = (Co-equal / Co-eternal)

(v.4) *“The seven Spirits...”*

- Turn to **(Isa 11:2)**...
 - These are the characteristics of God's Spirit.

NOW WE GET TO...

- The end of (v.5)... *“To Him who loved us & washed us...”*

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GRAMMATICALLY SPEAKING... (*loved*)

- Is known as an **Aorist Active Participle**.
 - Which is a verb without regard to...
 - Past, present, or future timeframes.

LET ME PUT THIS IN ACTION...

- Turn to **(Rom 5:8)**.

OK... HERE'S THE POINT:

- The cross is the ultimate proof of God's love for you!

ANYTIME WE GET INSECURE OF HIS LOVE...

- It's because we've taken our eyes off the cross...
 - And are looking at circumstances to measure His love.

Jesus' love is unchanging...

- “to Him who *loved us and washed us*” (v.5).

No matter what conditions may FEEL like.

- Jesus loved you FIRST...
 - THEN He washed you!

(v.6)

Kings = Gods royalty... we're ambassadors for Christ (2 Cor. 5:20).

Priest = We're Gods servants representing God to man & man to God...

- Consider prayer.

(v.7) *Behold* (Grk *e-du*) = Imperative expressing a command to the hearer to perform a certain action by the order & authority of the one commanding.

Clouds are often associated with God's visible glory... His **Shekinah glory!**

- Jesus will return in visible glory.

(v.8) *Alpha & Omega* = used of God in the OT (Isa 44:6 & 48:12-13).

- This speaks of His eternal existence & omnipotence (all powerful).

The Almighty = absolute Deity

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NOW THIS FINAL WORD OF (v.8)...

- Sets the stage for the remainder of the book.

Almighty = (Grk.) *pan-to-krater*.

- Literally: The one who has his hand on everything.

God has sovereign control over all the events...

- Of the past, present, & future.

This word Almighty is used 10-times in the NT...

- And 9 of them are in Revelation.

The take away is...

- We're safe in light of the coming judgment!
 - God desires grace before wrath (Gen. 6:8) & (Hab. 3:2).

~ IN CLOSING ~

HERE'S THE TAKE AWAYS:

(Slide #5)

- Application = God's in control & we are His.
- Action = We must tell others.
- The reason = Because He is coming & the time is short.

~ LETS PRAY ~

SLIDES ARE BELOW

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SLIDE #1

Dates Quoted

- ✧ Justin Martyr (100 - 165 AD)
 - ✧ Irenaeus (130 - 202 AD)
 - ✧ Clements of Alexandria (150 - 215 AD)
 - ✧ Tertulian (155 - 240 AD)
 - ✧ Origen (184 - 253 AD)
 - ✧ Victorinus (270AD)
 - ✧ Eusebius (260 - 340 AD)
- “Revelation – Unlocking The Future”* (Hindson, 2002)

SLIDE #3

Additional Details

- ✧ Apostle John
- ✧ Date Written (95 AD)
- ✧ Wrote From The Island of Patmos
- ✧ John Was 80 - 90 yrs. old
- ✧ Only Disciple to Show Up at The Cross

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SLIDE #4

(v.4) The Seven Churches

Ephesus – *The Loveless Church*

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SLIDE #5

Take Away

Application = God’s in control & we are His.

Action = We must tell others.

The Reason = Because He is coming & the time is short.