STUDY OF REVELATION

Rev. 1:10-13

Rev. 1:10 I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet, 11 Saying, I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last: and, What thou seest, write in a book, and send it unto the seven churches which are in Asia; unto Ephesus, and unto Smyrna, and unto Pergamos, and unto Thyatira, and unto Sardis, and unto Philadelphia, and unto Laodicea. 12 And I turned to see the voice that spake with me. And being turned, I saw seven golden candlesticks; 13 And in the midst of the seven candlesticks one like unto the Son of man, clothed with a garment down to the foot, and girt about the paps with a golden girdle.

Scriptural Introduction

Rev. 1:19 Write the things which thou hast seen, and the things which are, and the things which shall be hereafter;

Part One – THE PAST: REVEALING GOD – "...the things which thou hast seen..." Ch. 1

Introduction: 1:1-3

- A. The Significance of the Book, 1:1a-b
 - 1. The Person of Christ Unveiled, 1:1a
 - 2. The Purposes of God Unveiled, 1:1b
- B. The Signature of the Book, 1:1c-2
 - 1. The Marvelous Way He Received This Revelation, 1:1c
 - 2. The Meticulous Way He Recorded This Revelation, 1:2
- C. The Singularity of the Book, 1:3
 - 1. It Embodies a Special Promise, 1:3a
 - 2. It Embraces a Special Period, 1:3b

- I. THE COURSE OF THE AGE, 1:4-6
 - A. The Blessing, 1:4-5a
 - 1. The Substance of the Blessing, 1:4a
 - 2. The Source of the Blessing, 1:4b-5a
 - B. The Benediction, 1:5b-6
 - 1. The Grace That Accrues to Us, 1:5b-6a
 - 2. The Glory That Accrues to Him, 1:6b
- II. THE CONSUMMATION OF THE AGE, 1:7-8
 - A. The Eventual Triumph of Jesus, 1:7
 - B. The Everlasting Triumph of Jesus, 1:8

III. THE CHARACTER OF THE AGE, 1:9-20 A. It Is an Age of Individual Witness, 1:9

John described himself to his readers as their "brother" in Christ, and as a "companion" with them in three things:

- 1. These were, first, the religious persecution ("tribulation") they were presently experiencing as a result of their faith in Jesus Christ.
- 2. Second, they shared in the present and future "kingdom" of Jesus Christ.
- 3. Third, their "patience" as they remained steadfast in the midst of affliction.

Tonight we will begin in Rev. 1:10...

- B. It Is an Age of Instinctive Worship, 1:10-18
 - 1. The Spiritual Enlightenment as to the Recipients, 1:10-12
 - a. The Commissioning, 1:10-11a "I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet, 11 Saying, I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last..."

Ezek. 3:12 Then the spirit took me up, and I heard behind me a voice of a great rushing, saying, Blessed be the glory of the LORD from his place. ...

14 So the spirit lifted me up, and took me away, and I went in bitterness, in the heat of my spirit; but the hand of the LORD was strong upon me.

Ezek. 8:3 And he put forth the form of an hand, and took me by a lock of mine head; and the spirit lifted me up between the earth and the heaven, and brought me in the visions of God to Jerusalem, to the door of the inner gate that looketh toward the north; where was the seat of the image of jealousy, which provoketh to jealousy.

Ezek. 11:1 Moreover the spirit lifted me up, and brought me unto the east gate of the LORD'S house, which looketh eastward: and behold at the door of the gate five and twenty men; among whom I saw Jaazaniah the son of Azur, and Pelatiah the son of Benaiah, princes of the people. ...

24 Afterwards the spirit took me up, and brought me in a vision by the Spirit of God into Chaldea, to them of the captivity. So the vision that I had seen went up from me.

Ezek. 43:5 So the spirit took me up, and brought me into the inner court; and, behold, the glory of the LORD filled the house.

 Last week I shared with you the hermeneutical principle of cross-referencing – comparing Scripture with Scripture...<u>Isa. 28:10, 13</u>

New International Version

which said: "Write on a scroll what you see and send it to the seven churches: to Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia and Laodicea."

New American Standard Bible

saying, "Write in a book what you see, 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."

Holman Christian Standard Bible

saying, "Write on a scroll what you see and send it to the seven churches: Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia, and Laodicea."

King James Bible

Saying, I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last: and, What thou seest, write in a book, and send it unto the seven churches which are in Asia; unto Ephesus, and unto Smyrna, and unto Pergamos, and unto Thyatira, and unto Sardis, and unto Philadelphia, and unto Laodicea.

https://biblehub.com/revelation/1-11.htm

<u>Isa. 41:4</u> Who hath wrought and done *it*, calling the generations from the beginning? I the LORD, the first, and with the last; I am he.

<u>Isa. 44:6</u> Thus saith the LORD the King of Israel, and his redeemer the LORD of hosts; I *am* the first, and I *am* the last; and beside me there is no God.

<u>Isa. 48:12</u> Hearken unto me, O Jacob and Israel, my called; I *am* he; I *am* the first, I also *am* the last.

Rev 1:17 And when I saw him, I fell at his feet as dead. And he laid his right hand upon me, saying unto me, Fear not; I am the first and the last:

Rev. 22:13 I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last.

b. The Churches, 1:11b "...and, What thou seest, write in a book, and send it unto the seven churches which are in Asia; unto Ephesus, and unto Smyrna, and unto Pergamos, and unto Thyatira, and unto Sardis, and unto Philadelphia, and unto Laodicea."

Rev. 1:19 Write the things which thou hast seen, and the things which are, and the things which shall be hereafter;

- Rev. 2:1 Unto the angel of the church of Ephesus write; These things saith he that holdeth the seven stars in his right hand, who walketh in the midst of the seven golden candlesticks; ...
- 8 And unto the angel of the church in Smyrna write; These things saith the first and the last, which was dead, and is alive; ...
- 12 And to the angel of the church in Pergamos write; These things saith he which hath the sharp sword with two edges; ...
- 18 And unto the angel of the church in Thyatira write; These things saith the Son of God, who hath his eyes like unto a flame of fire, and his feet *are* like fine brass;

Rev. 3:1 And unto the angel of the church in Sardis write; These things saith he that hath the seven Spirits of God, and the seven stars; I know thy works, that thou hast a name that thou livest, and art dead.

• • •

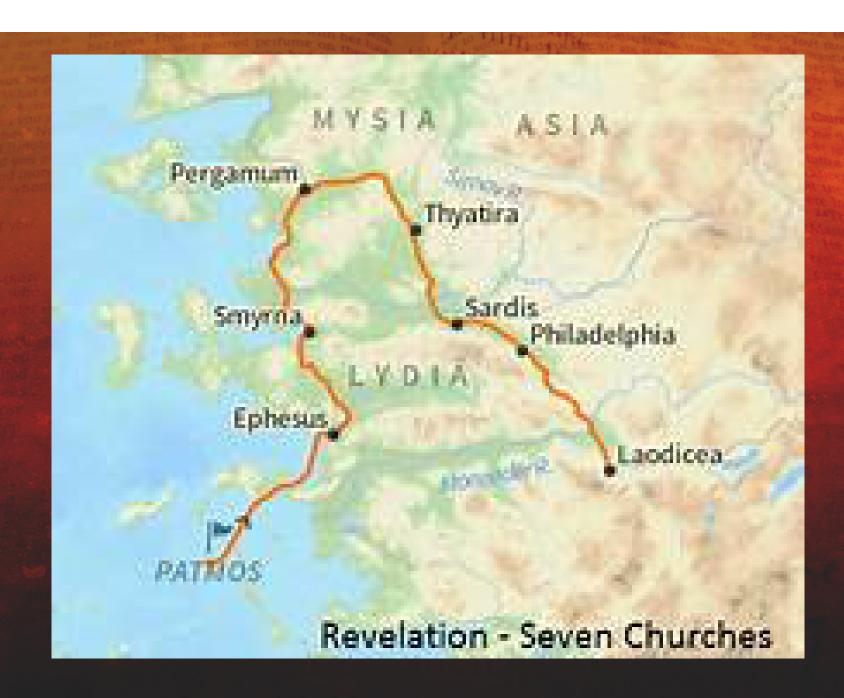
7 And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write; These things saith he that is holy, he that is true, he that hath the key of David, he that openeth, and no man shutteth; and shutteth, and no man openeth; ... 14 And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write; These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God;

Rev. 14:13 And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them.

Rev. 19:9 And he saith unto me, Write, Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb. And he saith unto me, These are the true sayings of God.

Rev. 21:5 And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful.





https://www.pinterest.com/pin/283304632786978609

• The "seven churches" were contemporary congregations that may represent seven specific periods of church history. Note the meaning of their names:

Ephesus = "fully purposed"

Smyrna = "myrrh"

Pergamos = "much marriage"

Thyatira = "odor of affliction"

Sardis = "red ones"

Philadelphia = "brotherly love"

Laodicea = "civil rights" or "the rights of the people" or "justice for the people"

- 2. The Spiritual Epiphany as to the Redeemer, 1:12-18
 - a. The Redeemer's Relationship with the Churches, 1:12-13

Rev. 1:12 And I turned to see the voice that spake with me. And being turned, I saw seven golden candlesticks;

13 And in the midst of the seven candlesticks one like unto the Son of man, clothed with a garment down to the foot, and girt about the paps with a golden girdle.

• The "seven golden candlesticks" are clarified for us in Rev. 1:20:

Rev. 1:20 The mystery of the seven stars which thou sawest in my right hand, and the seven golden candlesticks. The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches: and the seven candlesticks which thou sawest are the seven churches.

Dan. 7:13 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.

14 And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed.

<u>Dan. 3:25</u> He answered and said, Lo, I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire, and they have no hurt; and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God.

<u>Dan. 10:5</u> Then I lifted up mine eyes, and looked, and behold a certain man clothed in linen, whose loins *were* girded with fine gold of Uphaz:

6 His body also was like the beryl, and his face as the appearance of lightning, and his eyes as lamps of fire, and his arms and his feet like in colour to polished brass, and the voice of his words like the voice of a multitude. ...

18 Then there came again and touched me one like the appearance of a man, and he strengthened me,

Acts 7:56 And said, Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God.

Mark 13:26 And then shall they see the Son of man coming in the clouds with great power and glory.

<u>Dan. 10:5</u> Then I lifted up mine eyes, and looked, and behold a certain man clothed in linen, whose loins were girded with fine gold of Uphaz:

Ex. 28:4 And these *are* the garments which they shall make; a breastplate, and an ephod, and a robe, and a broidered coat, a mitre, and a girdle: and they shall make holy garments for Aaron thy brother, and his sons, that he may minister unto me in the priest's office.

Lev. 16:4 He shall put on the holy linen coat, and he shall have the linen breeches upon his flesh, and shall be girded with a linen girdle, and with the linen mitre shall he be attired: these *are* holy garments; therefore shall he wash his flesh in water, and *so* put them on.

Heb. 4:14 Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession.

Conclusion

Mark 13:32 But of that day and that hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels which are in heaven, neither the Son, but the Father.

33 Take ye heed, watch and pray: for ye know not when the time is.

34 For the Son of man is as a man taking a far journey, who left his house, and gave authority to his servants, and to every man his work, and commanded the porter to watch.

35 Watch ye therefore: for ye know not when the master of the house cometh, at even, or at midnight, or at the cockcrowing, or in the morning:

36 Lest coming suddenly he find you sleeping.

37 And what I say unto you I say unto all, Watch.

2 Pet. 3:10 But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.

11 Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness,