

Revelation Chapter 1

Revelation 1:1-20

Message to reader: John's Introduction

As you read **Revelation chapter 1, verses 1-9**, keep in mind that John is writing an introduction to the seven churches in Asia. John received the visions and prophecies found in the book of Revelation because of Christ's obedience to God. Christ humbled himself to the word of God, by fulfilling the prophecies in the Old Testament, including dying on the cross. **Revelation 1:1** states, *"The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him..."* John made this statement because Christ prevailed to take the book from the Most High's hand, see **Revelation 5:1-7**.

INTRODUCTION AND BLESSING TO THE SEVEN CHURCHES

Revelation 1:1: *"The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him,"* [Christ] *"to shew unto his servants"* [The 144,000, see **John 10:27-29** and **Revelation 7:2-4, 14-15**] *"things which must shortly come to pass; and he"* [Christ] *"sent and signified it by his angel"* [The angel sent to reveal Revelation] *"unto his servant John:"* The servants of the Lord are the 144,000/Saints of the Most High.

Message to reader: The Angel of Christ Sent to John

Revelation 1:1 in part, states *"...and he sent and signified it by his angel unto his servant John:"* **It is important to note**, that the angel sent to reveal the book of Revelation, was commanded by Christ to show and speak (signify), Christ's words to John. **Everything** in the book of Revelation is revealed to John by the angel of Christ! Christ, through his angel, is warning, revealing and preparing his servants for what shall shortly come to pass.

An example of the angel speaking the words of Christ is found in **Revelation 22:7:** *"Behold, I come quickly: blessed is he that keepeth the sayings of the prophecy of this book."* Clearly the words spoken are those of Christ. When read in context, the angel sent by Christ is speaking, see **Revelation 21:9** through **Revelation 22:17**. There are other examples throughout the book of Revelation where the angel speaks using Christ's words.

This is similar to the events which took place concerning the Israelites, when they left Egypt in the Old Testament. The Most High sent his angel to guide and speak His words unto Moses and the children of Israel, read **Exodus 23:20**: *"Behold, I" [The Most High] "send an Angel" [Christ, read 1 Corinthians 10:1-4] "before thee, to keep thee in the way, and to bring thee into the place which I have prepared."* [The land of Israel] **Verse 21**: *"Beware of him, and obey his voice, provoke him not; for he will not pardon your transgressions: for my name is in him."* **Verse 22**: *"But if thou shalt indeed obey his voice,"* [Christ spoke the Most High's words to Moses and the Israelites in the Wilderness] *"and do all that I speak; then I will be an enemy unto thine enemies, and an adversary unto thine adversaries."*

Revelation 1:2: *"Who" [John, one of the 12 disciples, see Acts 10:39-43, Peter is explaining that the 12 disciples are the witnesses chosen by God] "bare record of the word of God, and of the testimony of Jesus Christ, and of all things that he saw."* This statement affirms that John was with Christ from the beginning; he bore record of the acts of Christ and continues to teach, by way of letters, when exiled on the island of Patmos.

Revelation 1:3: *"Blessed is he that readeth,"* [The book of Revelation] *"and they" [The 144,000/Servants of God/Saints of the Most High] "that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein:"* [The 144,000/Servants of God/Saints of the Most High will be blessed to understand, and do the will of God, by humbling themselves and obeying his word unto death.] *"for the time is at hand."* The time began when John sent the book of Revelation to the seven churches in Asia, this will be explained in **Revelation chapters 2 and 3**.

Revelation 1:4: *"John to the seven churches which are in Asia:"* [The book of Revelation was written and sent to the seven churches in Asia. These churches consisted of Jews and Gentiles who followed the New Covenant/Testament of God, which is the teachings of Christ, see **Acts 18:18-21** and **Acts 19:1, 8-10**.] *"Grace be unto you, and peace, from him which is, and which was, and which is to come;"* [The Most High, see **Revelation 4:8**] *"and from the seven Spirits which are before his throne;"* See **Revelation 4:4-11** and **Revelation 5:6**.

Revelation 1:5: *"And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness,"* [See **John 3:31-34**] *"and the first begotten of the dead,"* [See **Colossians 1:14-18**] *"and the prince of the kings of the earth."* [See **Ephesians 1:20-21**] *"Unto him" [Christ] "that loved us,"* [The 144,000/Servants of God/Saints of the Most High] *"and washed us" [The*

144,000/Servants of God/Saints of the Most High] *"from our sins in his own blood,"*

Revelation 1:6: *"And hath made us" [The 144,000/Servants of God/Saints of the Most High] "kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him" [Christ] "be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen."* This proves that Christ died for both the Jews and Gentiles that accepted and followed his teachings (The New Covenant).

Revelation 1:7: *"Behold, he" [Christ] "cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him," [Christ] "and they also which pierced him:" [See, **Matthew 27:25**, **Acts 2:36** and **Zachariah 12:10**] "and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen."*

Revelation 1:8: *"I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty."* Christ is coming to conquer and destroy the present world. This will be proven as we continue through Revelation.

Revelation 1:9: *"I John, who also am your brother," [Of the 144,000/Servants of God/Saints of the Most High] "and companion in tribulation, and in the kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ, was in the isle that is called Patmos, for the word of God, and for the testimony of Jesus Christ."* During the time of the Romans, John was imprisoned and persecuted on the island of Patmos for teaching the word of Christ.

Message to reader: John Told Write Down What He Sees

In **Revelation 1:11** The angel of Christ commands John to write down what he sees, *"...What thou seest, write in a book, and send it unto the seven churches which are in Asia..."* John fulfils that commandment, see **Revelation 1:12-17**. Additionally, John is commanded in **Revelation 1:19:** *"Write the things which thou hast seen,"* [See **Revelation 1:13-17**] *"and the things which are,"* [See **Revelation 2:1** through **Revelation 3:22**, the sins of the churches in Asia, Christ warns them to repent] *"and the things which shall be hereafter."* See **Revelation 4:1** through **Revelation 22:5**, they are the visions and prophesies leading up to the second coming of Christ his thousand year reign, and New Jerusalem.

THE ANGEL OF CHRIST SENT TO JOHN

Revelation 1:10: *"I" [John] "was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet,"* [The angel of Christ, sent to speak his words] **Verse 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.”

Revelation 1:12: *“And I” [John] “turned to see the voice that spake with me. And being turned, I” [John] “saw seven golden candlesticks;”*

Revelation 1:13: *“And in the midst of the seven candlesticks” [See **verse 20**, the seven candlesticks are the seven churches throughout Asia] “one like unto the Son of man, clothed with a garment down to the foot, and girt about the paps with a golden girdle.”*

Revelation 1:14: *“His head and his hairs were white like wool, as white as snow; and his eyes were as a flame of fire;”*

Revelation 1:15: *“And his feet like unto fine brass, as if they burned in a furnace; and his voice as the sound of many waters.”* As revealed by “his angel” this is the description of Christ, which every eye shall see when he returns, **Revelation 1:7** and **Revelation 19:11-16**.

Revelation 1:16: *“And he had in his right hand seven stars:” [See **verse 20**, the seven stars are the leaders of the seven churches in Asia] “and out of his mouth went a sharp twoedged sword:” [The twoedged sword represents the fiery indignation which shall devour the adversaries of Christ, which includes the rebellious that refuse to repent in the seven churches, read **Revelation 19:15** and **Hebrews 10:25-27**] “and his countenance was as the sun shineth in his strength.”*

Revelation 1:17: *“And when I” [John] “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:”*

Revelation 1:18: *“I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen;” [Roman 6:9: “Knowing that Christ, being raised from the dead, dieth no more; death no more hath dominion over Him.”] “and have the keys of hell and of death.”* Christ has the keys/power to save and deliver from hell and death.

Message to reader: Hell and Death

Hell and Death came into the world when Adam sinned. **I Corinthians 15:21:** *“For since by man came death, by Man came also the resurrection of the dead.”* **Verse 22:** *“For as*

in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive"

Death:

The punishment of "death" was given to Adam in **Genesis 3:17**: *"And unto Adam He said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it, cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life."* **Verse 18**: *"Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee, and thou shalt eat the herb of the field."* **Verse 19**: *"In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread till thou return unto the ground, for out of it wast thou taken; for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return."* Adam broke the Lord's commandment, by eating the fruit from the tree of knowledge of good and evil. As a result, his punishment was a physical death. **Genesis 3:17-18**, Adam's **life** changed, it was replaced with hard work and sorrows (death). The earth was cursed, and would no longer provide food which he freely ate, without labor, in the Garden of Eden.

Hell:

The punishment of death as explained above also includes hell. **2 Peters 2:1-4**: *"For if God spared not the angels"* [Or messengers (people), see **2 Peter 2:1-9**] *"that sinned, but cast them down to hell,"* [Hell is a place, in the nether parts of the earth, a place where the dead are, see **Ezekiel 32:17-24**] *"and delivered them"* [The angels or messengers that sinned] *"into chains of darkness,"* [No understanding of the word of God] *"to be reserved unto judgment;"* See Revelation **20:11-13, 15**. The punishment of death that fell upon all flesh as a result of Adam's sin, will be taken out of the earth, see **Revelation 20:14**.

Revelation 1:19: *"Write the things which thou hast seen, and the things which are, and the things which shall be hereafter;"* See **Message to the reader: John told write down what he saw**.

Revelation 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."* The definition of the word angles is messengers; they are the leaders/teachers in the churches of Asia.