

**Book of Revelation Chapter 1**  
**ASV (updated)**

1 The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show unto his servants, even the things which must shortly come to pass: and he sent and signified it by his angel unto his servant John; 2 who bare witness of the word of God, and of the testimony of Jesus Christ, even of all things that he saw. 3 Blessed is he that reads, and they that hear the words of the prophecy, and keep the things that are written therein: for the time is at hand.

4 John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace, from him who is and who was and who is to come; and from the seven Spirits that are before his throne; 5 and from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loves us, and loosed us from our sins by his blood; 6 and he made us to be a kingdom, to be priests unto his God and Father; to him be the glory and the dominion for ever and ever. Amen. 7 Behold, he comes with the clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they that pierced him; and all the tribes of the earth shall mourn over him. Even so, Amen.

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

9 I John, your brother and partaker with you in the tribulation and kingdom and patience which are in Jesus, was in the isle that is called Patmos, for the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. 10 I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and I heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet 11 saying, What you see, write in a book and send it to the seven churches: unto Ephesus, and unto Smyrna, and unto Pergamum, 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 having turned I saw seven golden candlesticks; 13 and in the midst of the candlesticks one like unto a son of man, clothed with a garment down to the foot, and girt about at the breasts with a golden girdle. 14 And his head and his hair were white as white wool, white as snow; and his eyes were as a flame of fire; 15 and his feet like unto burnished brass, as if it had been refined in a furnace; and his voice as the voice of many waters. 16 And he had in his right hand seven stars: and out of his mouth proceeded a sharp two-edged sword: and his countenance was as the sun shines in his strength.

17 And when I saw him, I fell at his feet as one dead. And he laid his right hand upon me, saying, Fear not; I am the first and the last, 18 and the Living one; and I was dead, and behold, I am alive for evermore, and I have the keys of death and of Hades. 19 Write therefore the things which you saw, and the things which are, and the things which shall come to pass hereafter; 20 the mystery of the seven stars which you saw in my right hand, and the seven golden candlesticks. The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches: and the seven candlesticks are seven churches.

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**Study of Revelation Chapter 1**

**1:1**

**Revelation** (0602) *apokalupsis* (pronounced ap-ok-all'-oop-sis) disclosure; appearing, coming, lighten, manifestation, reveal,

Occurs 18 times in NT: Luke 2:32; Rom. 2:5; 8:19; 16:25:1 Cor. 1:7; 14:6; 14:26. 2 Cor. 12:1; 12:7; Gal. 1:12; 2:2; Eph.1:17; 3:3; 2 Thess.1:7; 1 Peter 1:7; 1:13; 4:13; Rev. 1:1.

**Jesus Christ:**

Jesus (2424): *Iēsous* (ee-ay-sooce) of Hebrew origin (yešū'â) Yahweh is salvation. The personal name of our Lord. Christ (5547) *christos* (khris-tos'), anointed one, the Messiah.

**servants:** (1401) *doulos* (doo'-los): a slave, bond-slave, servant.

Revelation: (14 times): 1:1 (2x); 2:20; 6:15; 7:3; 10:7; 11:18; 13:16; 15:3; 19:2; 19:5; 19:18; 22:3; 22:6.

**soon/shortly:** (5034) *tachos* (takh'-os): a brief space of time, quickly shortly, speedily.

Occurs 9 times: Luke 18:8; Acts 12:7 (2x); 22:18; 25:4; Romans 16:20; Revelation 1:1; 2:5; 22:6.

**Angel** (0032) *aggelos* (ang'-el-os) a messenger; especially an "angel"; by implication, a pastor, angel, messenger. (The word angel occurs 75 times in the Book of Revelation). Compare Rev. 1:1 with 22:8.

Angels were used for the revelation of the Law of Moses (Acts 7:53; Gal. 3:19; Heb. 2:2). They were active in the presenting of the prophetic truth to Daniel (Dan. 7:16-27; 8:16-26; 9:20-27; 10:1-12:13) and to Zechariah (Zec. 1:9; 2:3; 4:1, 5; 5:5; 6:4, 5). Angels were used to announce the birth of John to Zacharias (Luke 1:11-20) and the birth of Jesus to Mary (Luke 1:26-38) and to Joseph (Mat. 1:20-21).

Occurs 64 times in Book of Revelation in the ASV.

**1:2**

**bare witness:** (3140) *martureo* (mar-too-reh'-o)

Translated as: "bore witness" (ESV, NKJV). as "bare record" (KJV). as "testified" (NASB). as testifies (NIV).

as "fully reported" NLT. As "bare witness" (ASV).

Occurrences in Revelation: 1:2; 22:16, 18, 20. This word forms a "bookend" for the Book of Revelation. 1:2---22:20)

**testimony:** (3141) *martyria* (mar-too-ree'-ah) Meaning: evidence given (in court), a record, a report, giving testimony, witness. Occurrences in Revelation: 1:2; 1:9; 6:9; 11:7; 12:11; 12:17; 19:10 (2x); 20:4.

**1:3**

**blessed:** (3107) *makarios* (mak-ar'-ee-os). fortunate, well off, blessed, happy, recipient of God's favour.

Occurrences in Revelation: 1:3; 14:13; 16:5; 19:9; 20:6; 22:7; 22:14.

Blessed is the one (ESV) (1) who **reads** aloud the words of this prophecy.

(2) and blessed are those who **hear** (it).

(3) and who **keep** what is written in it.

**7 Blessings in Revelation**

1 The one who reads, hears and keeps the words of this prophecy (Rev. 1:3)	The Blessed Challenge
2 The dead who die in the Lord during the Tribulation (Rev. 14:13)	The Blessed Comfort
3 He who watches and keeps his garments (Rev. 16:15)	The Blessed Cautiousness
4 Those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb (Rev. 19:9)	The Blessed Calling
5 He who has part in the first resurrection (Rev. 20:6)	The Blessed Conquest
6 He who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book (Rev. 22:7)	The Blessed Cherishing
7 Those who have washed their robes (sins forgiven) (Rev. 22:14)	The Blessed Conformity

**prophecy:** (4394) *prophēteia* (prof-ay-ti'-ah) prediction, declaration from divine inspiration.

Rev. 1:3; 11:6; 19:10; 22:7, 10, 18, 19. Another word occurring at the beginning and ending of Revelation.

**keep:** (heed): (5083) *tereo* (tay-reh'-o) to obey, keep a watch over, guard, keep an eye on, retain in custody.  
keep/keeps: Rev 1:3; 2:26; 3:3, 8, 10; 12:17; 14:12; 22:7, 9. Also occurs at the beginning and ending of Revelation.

**time:** (2540) *kairos* (kahee-ros') refers not to clock time as we normally think of it [that is the Greek word (5550) *chronos* (khron'-os)], but refers to a season of time, a given period of time.

Occurrences *kairos* of in the Book of Revelation: Rev. 1:3, 11:18; 12:12; 12:14 (3x); 22:10.

Occurrences of *chronos* in Book of Revelation: 2:21; 6:11; 10:6; 20:3.

### 1:3

**is at hand** (near): (1451) *eggys* (eng-goos) literally: to squeeze or throttle. Meaning: near, at hand, nigh, unto, ready. The expression "at the doors" (Matt. 24:33; Mark 13:29) means near. The time is near (Matt. 26:18; Rev. 1:3; 22:10); the Passover (John 2:13; 6:4; 11:55); the feast (John 7:2); the kingdom of God (Luke 21:31); the Lord (Phil. 4:5. Compare with Heb. 10:37. The day is at hand (LXX.: Ezek. 30:3; Joel 1:15; 2:1).

Occurrences in Revelation: 1:3; 22:10. Another word occurring at the beginning and the ending of Revelation.

### 1:4

**To the seven churches that are in Asia.** Asia was the Roman Province that contained the western part of Asia Minor which is now the country of Turkey.

Rev. 2:1-7 Ephesus      Rev. 2:8-11 Smyrna      Rev. 2:12-17 Pergamum      Rev. 2:18-29 Thyatira

Rev. 3:1-6 Sardis      Rev. 3:7-13 Philadelphia      Rev. 3:14-22 Laodicea

The Apostle Paul also wrote letters to churches in seven places:  
Rome, Corinth, Galatia, Ephesus, Philippi, Colosse, and Thessalonica.

**-church/churches:** (1577) *ekklēsia*. (ek-klay-see'-ah): assembly, community, congregation (similar to synagogue).

Occurrences in Revelation 1:4; 1:11; 1:20 (2x); 2:1, 7, 8, 11, 12, 17, 18, 23, 29; 3:1, 6, 7, 13, 14, 22; 22:16.

Another word occurring at the beginning and ending of the Book of Revelation.

### Grace to you and peace:

Similar greeting at the beginning of most letters in the N.T. Hebrews, 1 John and 3 John do not contain an opening salutation. James only contains the one word "Greetings" James 1:1.

**-grace:** (5485) *charis* (khar'-ece). Meaning: favour. Occurs 150 times in the NT. Most references indicate the grace of God shown in His limitless kindness and mercy to His undeserving image bearers.

Occurrences in Revelation: 1:4; 22:21. Another word that "bookends" the Book of Revelation.

The blessing of finding "favor" with God is noted in Luke 1:30; Acts 7:46. Jesus is explicitly said to have found "favor" with both God and human beings in Luke 2:52. Specific references to the "grace of God" granted to human beings include those in Luke 2:40; John 1:16; Act. 4:33; 11:23; Rom. 1: 5; 2Co. 6: 1; Jude 1: 4. **In particular, God's "grace" is indicated as the specific catalyst initiating a person's salvation in Rom. 3:24; 4:16; 5:15 ff.; 11:5; Gal. 5: 4; Eph. 1: 7; 2:5 ff.; Tit. 2:11; 3:7.**

Reference to Christ as the incarnate Word of God, "full of grace and truth," indicates that his being was full of divine goodness and favor intended for the blessing of God's people (John 1:14, 17; 1Pe. 1:13). Divine "grace" is also given by Jesus Christ in Acts 15:11; Gal.1: 6; 2 Tim. 2: 1.

The "grace of God" is noted as part of a benediction in Rom. 1: 7; 1Co. 1: 3; 2Co. 8: 9; Gal. 1: 3; Eph. 1: 2; Php. 1: 2; Col. 1: 2; 1 Thess. 1: 1; 1Tim. 1: 2; Heb. 13:25; 1 Peter 1: 2; Rev. 1: 4 and 22:21.

"Grace" in the sense of "divine enabling, or gift" is indicated in Rom. 12: 3 ff.; 1Co. 3:10; Eph. 4: 7; Heb. 2: 9; 1Pe. 4:10. "Favor" in the sense of "goodwill" among people is indicated in Act. 2:47; 7:10. "Favor" in the sense of an "act of kindness" is indicated in Act. 25: 3; 2 Corinthians 8. (Stephen D. Renn, Expository Dictionary of Bible Words, page 448).

**-peace:** (1515) *eirēnē* (i-ray'-nay). *eirēnē* is a close dynamic equivalent to the Hebrew term shalom meaning "peace" in virtually all of its ninety occurrences and is found in a number of varying contexts. Occurrences in Revelation: 1:4; 6:4.

(1) *eirēnē* indicates "peace" as a blessing, greeting, or farewell salutation to individuals, coming from human beings (cf. Mat. 10:13; Joh. 20:19 ff.); from Christ (cf. Mar. 5:34; Joh. 20:19; Rev. 1: 4); and from God himself (cf. Rom. 1: 7; Luk. 2:29; 2Co. 1: 2; Eph. 1: 2; Php. 1: 2; Col. 3:15; 1 Thess. 1: 1; 2Ti. 1: 2). See also Luk. 19:38, where the context is offering praise to God.

(2) *eirēnē* also refers to "peace" as a state of tranquillity, an absence of conflict among people. It is given as a blessing from God through the person of Christ (cf. Luk. 2:14; Rom. 2:10; 15:13). See also Mat. 10:34; Luk. 12:51. 1Co. 7:15 affirms that God calls his people to manifest such a peace.

(3) The "way of peace" is indicated in Luk. 1:79; Rom. 3:17 as a godly lifestyle, a consequence of devotion to God in Christ. The "gospel of peace" is alluded to in Eph. 6:15. The title "king of peace" is noted in Heb. 7: 2 (citing Gen. 14:18) as a secondary translation of the name Melchizedek, the mysterious priest king of Salem.

(4) The phrase "at peace" refers to the safety and security of property in Luk. 11:21. Peace, with reference to the cessation of military conflict, is indicated in Luk. 14:32; Act. 12:20.

(5) As a specific blessing, or gift from Christ, peace is promised to his disciples and all his followers. This peace is unique in that it is everlasting and flawless, unlike any peace offered by the world (cf. Joh. 14:27; 16:33). Similarly, the spiritual peace of reconciliation with God as a direct consequence of saving faith in Christ is affirmed in Act. 10:36; Rom. 5: 1; 8:6; Eph. 2:15. Christ is described as the supreme embodiment of peace in Eph. 2:14.

(6) Peace is described as a "fruit" of the spirit in Gal. 5:22,

(7) Peace is also described as a characteristic evident in the relationship among believers (cf. Eph. 4: 3).  
(Adapted From Stephen D. Renn, Expository Dictionary of Bible Words, page 720).

### Grace to you and Peace from:

[the Father] From Him who is who was and who is to come  
[the Spirit] From the seven spirits that are before His throne  
[the Son] From Jesus Christ

(1) The Father: **from Him who is and who was and who is to come**

-This is a reference to God the Father as can be seen by the Son being mentioned in the following verse "and from Jesus Christ" (Rev. 1:5). This phrase is a further explanation of Exodus 3:14, "I Am Who I Am"

-This phrase depicts the eternal existence of the Father sovereignly ruling His creation. See Rev. 4:8.

(2) The Spirit: **"the seven Spirits that are before His throne"**

**-spirits** (4151) *pneuma*, (pnyoo'-mah) literally: breath, a current of air. In Rev. 1:4 this word refers to the Holy Spirit. The majority of occurrences refer to the Spirit of God (Holy Spirit) and in many cases to the soul, the human spirit.

Occurrences in Revelation 1:4, 10; 2:7, 11, 17, 29; 3:1, 6, 13, 22; 4:2, 5, 6; 11:11; 13:15; 14:13; 16:13, 14; 17:3, 18:2; 19:10; 21:10; 22:6; 17. (a word that also "bookends" the Book of Revelation.)

### (a) A connection to Isaiah 11:2

KJV: Isaiah 11:2 (six attributes) And the spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord.	LXX Isaiah 11:2-3a (seven attributes) And the Spirit of God shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and strength, the spirit of knowledge and godliness shall fill him. the spirit of the fear of God.
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**b) A connection to the seven lamps in Zechariah 4:1-10. (ESV)**

And the angel who talked with me came again and woke me, like a man who is awakened out of his sleep. 2 And he said to me, "What do you see?" I said, "I see, and behold, a lampstand all of gold, with a bowl on the top of it, and seven lamps on it, with seven lips on each of the lamps that are on the top of it. 3 And there are two olive trees by it, one on the right of the bowl and the other on its left." 4 And I said to the angel who talked with me, "What are these, my lord?" 5 Then the angel who talked with me answered and said to me, "Do you not know what these are?" I said, "No, my lord." 6 Then he said to me, "This is the word of the Lord to Zerubbabel: **Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, says the Lord of hosts.** 7 Who are you, O great mountain? Before Zerubbabel you shall become a plain. And he shall bring forward the top stone amid shouts of 'Grace, grace to it!'" 8 Then the word of the Lord came to me, saying, 9 "The hands of Zerubbabel have laid the foundation of this house; his hands shall also complete it. Then you will know that the Lord of hosts has sent me to you. 10 For whoever has despised the day of small things shall rejoice, and shall see the plumb line in the hand of Zerubbabel. **"These seven are the eyes of the Lord, which range through the whole earth."**

**1:5**

**(3) The Son: "and from Jesus Christ"**

The third person named is (Iēsou Christou, "Jesus Christ"). See note on 1:1. In most occurrences in the NT Jesus Christ is named in second position among the persons of the Holy Trinity. But in 1:4-5 Jesus Christ is listed last to allow for the description of many of His characteristics. The next reference where "Jesus Christ," is stated is in 22:21 (see also 11:15; 12:10; 20:4, 6 where "Christ" is used alone). From this point on "Jesus" is the usual name given to Him, emphasizing His glorified humanity. See 12:17; 14:12; 17:6; 19:10 (2x); 22:20, 21.

**Jesus Christ is next characterized by three descriptive titles in v. 5.**

(1) The first title: "**the faithful witness**"), is repeated in 3:14.

**-faithful** (4103) *pistos* (pis-tos) trustworthy, trustful, faithful, sure, true.

Occurrences in Revelation: 1:5; 2:10, 13, 14; 17:14; 19:11; 21:5; 22:6 Another word that "bookends" Book of Revelation.

**-witness** (3144) *martys*. (mar'-toos). A witness such as in court; a record, and a martyr.

Occurrences in Revelation: 1:5; 2:13; 3:14; 11:3; 17:6.

He is also called "faithful" in 19:11. "The faithful witness" compare with Ps. 89:37 where regarding the throne of David it is written, "It shall be established for ever as the moon, and as the faithful witness in the sky." Jesus Christ is of the seed of David and will sit on the Davidic throne that will endure forever as the sun (Ps. 89:36). Psalm 89 in its entirety is an inspired commentary on the Davidic covenant of 2 Sam. 7:8-16.

(2) The second title: "**the first-born of/from the dead**") (Psalm 89). God promises to make David's seed, His "first-born," "the highest of the kings of the earth" (Ps. 89:27). "The first-born from the dead" is almost identical with the title of Christ in Col. 1:18: "first-born from the dead)." See also Acts 4:2; 26:23; Romans 1:4; 1 Cor. 15:23.

(3) The third title of v. 5 is "**the ruler of the kings of the earth**"). (Psalm 89) where the psalmist notes God's promise to make David's seed "the highest of the kings of the earth" (Ps. 89:27). Here is a clear foreshadowing of Jesus Christ's future role as "King of kings and Lord of lords" (Rev. 19:16). As with the first two titles, this too is by virtue of His Davidic lineage

**Two Part Doxology**

**1:5-6 The First Amen**

**-Unto Him who loves us:** (Jesus: John 13:1, 34; 15:9; Rom. 8:35; Gal. 2:20; Eph. 3:19; 5:2)  
(the Father: John 3:16; 1 John 4:10-12)

**-has loosed/freed us from our sins by His blood:** NT: Rev. 7:14; 1 Cor. 6:11; Heb. 9:14; 10:22; 2 Peter 1:9.  
OT: Ps. 51:1-2; Isa. 1:18; Zech. 13:1.

**1:6**

**-has made us to be a kingdom** (0935) *basileus* (bas-il-yooce') a foundation of power; a sovereign, a king.  
Occurrences in Revelation: 1:5, 6; 5:10; 6:15; 9:11; 10:11; 15:3; 16:12, 14; 17:2, 10, 12 (2x), 14 (2x), 18.  
18:3, 9; 19:16 (2x), 18, 19; 21:24.

**-to be priests unto His God and Father:** 1 Peter 2:9; (OT: Exodus 19:6)  
-"priests" in Revelation: 1:6; 5:10; 20:6.

**-to Him be the glory and the dominion forever and ever, Amen.** 1 Peter 5:10-11; Jude 1:25; Rev. 4:11; 5:13;  
(to Christ 1 Peter 4:11; Rev. 5:12-13); (OT: Ps. 72:18-19; Daniel 4:34; 6:26)

What is the intent of 1:6 that we have been made? (3 viewpoints)

- (1) to be a kingdom and also to be priests to God
- (2) kings and also priests to God
- (3) made us a kingdom of priests for God

**ASV:** and he made us to be a kingdom, to be priests unto his God and Father,  
**ESV:** and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father,  
**KJV:** and hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father,  
**NASB:** and He made us into a kingdom, priests to His God and Father,  
**NIV:** and has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve his God and Father,  
**NKJV:** and has made us kings and priests to His God and Father,  
**NLT:** He has made us a Kingdom of priests for God his Father.

**1:7 Second Amen**

**-Behold He comes (is coming) with the clouds:** Daniel 7:13; Matt. 24:30-31; 26:64; Mark 13:26-27; 14:62;  
Luke 21:25-28; Acts 1:9-11; 1 Thess. 4:16-17

**- and every eye shall see Him:** Matthew 24:29-31; 25:31; 26:64; 1 John 3:2

**- and they that pierced Him:** Zechariah 12:10; John 19:37 (Isaiah 53:5).

**- and all the tribes of earth shall mourn over Him:** Zechariah 12:10-14

**-Even so, Amen.** -amen: *amēn* (am-ane') An exclamation of God's character: sure, truthful, trustworthy, faithful.

**1:8**

The Declaration of the Lord God: **says the Lord God.**

**-I am the Alpha and the Omega:** Rev. 21:6; 22:13. (first and the last: Isaiah 41:4; 44:6; 48:12; Rev. 1:17; 2:8; 22:13).

**-Who is and Who was and Who is to come:** Rev. 1:4

**-The Almighty:** (3841) *pantokratōr* (pan-tok-rat'-ore) the absolute and universal sovereign, almighty, omnipotent.  
Occurrences in Revelation: 1:8; 4:8; 11:17; 15:3; 16:7, 14; 19:6, 15; 21:22.

**1:9**

**-I John** (personal identification of the writer of the book of Revelation.)

**-brother:** (0080) *adelphos* (ad-el-fos') from the womb; a brother  
Occurrences in Revelation: ASV: 1:9 brother; 6:11 brethren; 12:10 brethren; 19:10 brethren; 22:9 brethren.

**-partaker** (4791) *sygkoinōnos* (soong-koy-no-nos') a co-participant, companion.

ASV: partaker.                      ESV: partner.                      KJV, NIV, NKJV: companion.

NASB: fellow participant.    NET: the one who shares with you.

Occurrences in the NT: Rom. 11:17; 1 Cor. 9:23; Phil. 1:7; Rev. 1:9

John a partaker/partner with Christians:

- a) in tribulation
  - b) and kingdom
  - c) and patience
- .....which are in Jesus

a) **The first of the three things that John and his fellow Christians share is tribulation.** This refers to personal afflictions and suffering first century Christians endured because of their faith in Jesus Christ which meant they:

- 1) stood apart from others including family members by not partaking in pagan rituals and its related debauchery (prostitution) and, eating foods dedicated to idols.
- 2) they could not bow to Caesar nor take part in pagan rites and observances. This meant that many Christians were denied work in the guilds (a type of a strictly monitored union) which had an element of pagan worship included in its membership.
- 3) at the annual collection of taxes, citizens were required to make obeysance to Caesar. Failure to do this would have resulted in punishment and in some cases execution as Christians were thus deemed to be enemies of Rome and its emperor.

**tribulation:** (2347) *thlipsis* (thlip'-sis) pressure, afflicted, affliction, anguish, burdened, persecution, tribulation, trouble. In the Old Testament see Jer. 30:7: time distress (trouble) for Jacob; Dan. 12:1: a time of trouble. Isaiah 26:20-21. Lord's fury, to punish the inhabitants of the earth.

#### **Occurrences of *thlipsis* in the New Testament**

Matt. 13:21; 24:9, 21, 29. Mark 4:17; 13:19, 24. John 16:21, 33. Acts 7:10, 11; 11:19; 14:22; 20:23.  
Rom. 2:9; 5:3 (2x); 8:35; 12:12. 1 Corinthians 7:28. 2 Corinthians 1:4 (2x); 1:8; 2:4; 4:17; 6:4; 7:4; 8:2, 13.  
Ephesians 3:13. Philippians 1:17; 4:14 Colossians 1:24. 1 Thessalonians 1:6; 3:3, 7. 2 Thessalonians 1:4, 6.  
Hebrews 10:33. James 1:27. Revelation 1:9; 2:9, 10, 22; 7:14.

b) The **second** of these things in vs. 9 is that John and his fellow Christians share in **(the) kingdom**, which is also mentioned in vs. 6 above. The kingdom is the universal kingdom of God which all believers share in as full members upon their conversion to Christ.

**2 Thess. 1:5:** *which is a manifest token (evidence) of the righteous judgment of God; to the end that you may be counted worthy of the kingdom of God, for which you also suffer.*

See also Acts 8:12; 28:31. John 1:6 -believers are a kingdom of priests (OT Exodus 19:6; NT 1 Peter 2:9).  
Not a reference to Christ's earthly kingdom.

**Acts 1:6-7:** *They therefore, when they were come together, asked him, saying, Lord, are you at this time restoring the kingdom to Israel? 7 And he said unto them, It is not for you to know times or seasons, which the Father has set within his own authority.*

-Many believe that Christ began (inaugurated) (already / not yet) His kingdom spiritually during His first advent  
Matthew 3:2; 4:17; Mark 1:15.

-Many combine the "body of Christ, the Church" with the concept of His kingdom. Col. 1:13-14

-Many believe that Christ's earthly kingdom will only come at His second advent. Matthew 13:43; 25:34.  
Luke 23:42; Acts 3:20-21; 2 Tim. 2:12; 4:1; 2 Peter 1:11; Rev. 5:10; 11:15.

c) The **third** of these things is **patience (patient endurance)** cheerful (or hopeful) endurance, constancy; enduring, patience, patient continuance (waiting), steadfastness. **In the NT this describes the characteristic of a man who is not swerved from his deliberate purpose and his loyalty to faith and piety by even the greatest trials and sufferings.**

1:9

- **patience** (5281) hypomonē (hoop-om-on-ay')

Translated as "patience" ASV, KJV, NKJV. "patient endurance" ESV, NIV, NLT. "perseverance" LSB, NASB  
Occurrences in Revelation: "Patience" (ASV): Rev. 1:9; 2:2, 3, 19; 3:10; 13:10; 14:12.

-**which are in Jesus**

Fellowship in suffering is one of the most frequent, if not the most frequent, among the stock of primitive Christian ideas. This is an indispensable element of Christian discipleship and following the example of Jesus (1 Thess. 1:6; 1 Pet. 2:21; 4:13; cf. also 2 Cor. 1:7; Phil. 3:10; 1 Pet. 5:1). (Robert L. Thomas, Revelation 1-7: An Exegetical Commentary (Chicago: Moody Publishers, 1992), 85.)

2 Timothy 3:12 (ASV) "*all that would live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.*"

-**Patmos**: A Roman Penal Colony, in the Aegean Sea, 37 miles southwest of Miletus near Ephesus.

Patmos was a rocky island, 10 miles long, 6 miles wide, with a settlement, two gymnasia and a temple of Artemis. The Roman historian Eusebius wrote that John was banished to Patmos in the 14<sup>th</sup> year of the reign of Domitian (AD95). John was likely released from captivity by edict of Emperor Nerva in AD 96 following the death of Domitian.

-John was exiled: **for the word of God and testimony of Jesus.**

It is implied that John was on the Isle of Patmos

- (a) due to his firm conviction to uphold the word of God against all false teaching.
- (b) due to his unwavering allegiance to testifying (witness) for Jesus

-**testimony**: (3141) martyria (mar-too-ree'-ah) see note on 1:2

Meaning: evidence given (in court), a record, a report, giving testimony, witness.

Occurrences in Revelation: 1:2; 1:9; 6:9; 11:7; 12:11; 12:17; 19:10 (2x); 20:4.

1:10

**I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day**

-**In the spirit**: (4151) pneuma, (pnyoo'-mah) see note on Rev. 1:4.

Rev. 4:2: *Straightway I was in the Spirit.*

Rev. 17:3 *And he carried me away in the Spirit.*

Rev. 21:10 *And he carried me away in the Spirit.*

The Spirit's work In the OT: Numbers 24:2; 1 Kings 18:12; Ezekiel 3:12, 14; 8:3; 11:1, 24; 37:1; 43:5; Joel 2:28.

David in the Spirit: Matthew 22:43 referring to Psalm 110:1.

**Ezekiel 37:1**: *The hand of the Lord was upon me, and carried me out in the spirit of the Lord, and set me down in the midst of the valley which was full of bones.* (KJV)

In the NT:

**Matthew 22:43**: *He said unto them, How then does David in the Spirit call him Lord.*

of Simeon: **Luke 2:25-28**. *And he came in the Spirit into the temple.* (vs.27)

**1 Corinthians 12:3**: *Wherefore I make known unto you, that no man speaking in the Spirit of God says Jesus is anathema; and no man can say, Jesus is Lord, but in the Holy Spirit.*

**Romans 8:9**: *But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwells in you. But if any man has not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.*

**Ephesians 6:18**: *With all prayer and supplication praying at all seasons in the Spirit, and watching thereunto in all perseverance and supplication for all the saints.*



**The Spirit within us:**

**1 Corinthians 3:16:** *Know you not that you are a temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?*

**1 Corinthians 6:19:** *Or know ye not that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit which is in you, which you have from God? and you are not your own.*

**Colossians 1:27:** *To whom God was pleased to make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.*

**-On the Lord's day:**

**Acts 20:7:** *And upon the first day of the week, when we were gathered together to break bread, Paul discoursed with them, intending to depart on the morrow; and prolonged his speech until midnight.*

**1 Corinthians 16:1-2:** *Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I gave order to the churches of Galatia, so also do you. 2 Upon the first day of the week let each one of you lay by him in store, as he may prosper, that no collections be made when I come.*

**3 Examples of Early church observance of worship on Sunday, the Lord's Day:**

**Epistle of Ignatius to the Magnesians:** approx. 107AD (year when he was martyred). Ignatius explains that Christians from a Jewish background as those who "have come to the possession of a new hope, no longer observing the Sabbath, but living in observance of the Lord's Day, on which also our life has sprung up again by Him and by His death. (Magnesians 9:1-3).

**The Didache:** (did-a-kay) approx. 120 AD. Instructions regarding worship on the Lord's day; "But every Lord's day do ye gather yourselves together, and break bread, and give thanksgiving after having confessed your transgressions, that your sacrifice may be pure." (14:1).

**Justing Martyr:** approx. 150 AD

Describes the order of worship in the Christian assembly "on the day called Sunday." This order of worship included the reading of the scriptures, a sermon, prayers, the celebration of the Lord's Supper, and an offering. Justin gave as a reason for worship on Sundays: because it was the day on which Jesus Christ rose from the dead. (First Apology, chapter 67).

**1:10-11 The Voice of Jesus**

- a great voice as of a trumpet

-**trumpet:** (4536) *salpigx*. (sal'-pinx) meaning: quavering, reverberation,

In Rev. 1:10; 4:1 and 8:13 it refers to the sound rather than to the actual instrument.

In Rev. 8:2, 6 and 9:14 it refers to an actual trumpet.

-What you see write in a book

-**book:** (0975) *biblion* (bib-lee'-on) a scroll, a writing, a sheet with writing upon it.

Occurrences in the Book of Revelation: 1:11; 5:1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9; 6:14; 6:14; 10:8; 17:8; 20:12 (3x); 21:27; 22:7, 9, 10, 18 (2x), 19 (2x).

-and send it to the seven churches to Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia, Laodicea.

**1:12 And I turned to see the voice that spoke with me**

**And having turned I saw seven golden candlesticks**

Exod. 25:31-40 a candlestick of pure gold for the holy place of the tabernacle

1 Kings 7:48-49 ten separate candlesticks for the holy place of the temple

Zechariah 4:2-14 a seven-branched gold candlestick with seven channels, seven eyes of the LORD, which range through the whole earth.

Revelation 1:20 the seven candlesticks are the seven churches.

**Explanation:** the seven churches are shining lights for God in the midst of a darkened and evil world.

## 1:13-16 Characteristics of Christ

### -1:13 and in the midst of the candlesticks:

Christ is in the midst of His Church: Compare Rev. 1:13-16 with Daniel 7:13-14 and 10:5-6

### -Candlestick (lampstand): (3087) *lychnia* (lookh-nee'-ah) the stand upon which a portable candle sits.

Occurrences in Revelation: 1:12, 13, 20 (2x); 2:1, 5, 11:4.

### -one like unto a son of man:

Daniel 7:13-14.

Common title of God for Ezekiel (93x): example Ezekiel 2:3; 3:17

A title for Daniel: Daniel 8:17.

Most used phrase by Jesus to describe Himself. (Matthew 28x, Mark 13x, Luke 25x, John 12x).

### -clothed with a garment down to the foot:

similar to the robe of the High Priest: Ex. 28:4; 39:29.

### -and girt about at the breasts with a golden girdle: Daniel 10:5

### -1:14 And his head and his hair were white as white wool, white as snow: Daniel 7:9

### -and his eyes were as a flame of fire: Daniel 10:6; Rev. 2:18; 19:12. See notes for Rev. 2:18.

### -1:15 and his feet like unto burnished brass, as if it had been refined in a furnace: Dan. 10:6; Rev. 2:18

### -and his voice as the voice of many waters: Ezekiel 1:24; 43:2; Rev. 14:2; 19:6.

### -1:16 And he had in his right hand seven stars:

the seven angels (messengers of the seven churches: Rev. 1:20

### -and out of his mouth proceeded a sharp two-edged sword: Isaiah 11:4; 49:2; Rev. 19:15. (Heb. 4:12)

### -and his countenance was as the sun shining in his strength: Matt. 17:2; Ps. 84:11; Isa. 60:19; Rev. 22:5.

## 1:17

### (a) The fear of John:

-And when I saw him, I fell at his feet as one dead:

Joshua 5:14; Ezekiel 1:28; Daniel 8:17-18; 10:7-9; Matt. 17:6; John 18:6.

### (b) The comfort of Jesus:

He laid his **right hand** upon me saying, **fear not**.

**Laying of hands:** an act of commission, passing on authority and power

Acts 6:6; 8:17-19; 13:3; 1 Timothy 4:14; 5:22; 2 Timothy 1:6; Hebrews 6:2.

**Fear not:** Daniel 10:10-18; Matt. 14:27; Mark 16:5; Luke 1:13, 30.

## I am the first and the last.

Rev. 21:6: *And he said unto me, they are come to pass. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely.*

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

Same idea as the title, the alpha and the omega (Rev. 1:8)

See also Isaiah 41:4; 44:6; 48:12.

**God is creator** of all that exists and sovereign over all history Acts 14:15

As creator, God is before all things, and He will bring all things to His desired will.

He is the origin and final conclusion of all history.

He has the first word in creation and the last word in the new heavens and earth.

This sovereignty of the Father in Rev. 1:17-18 is shared with the Son, Jesus Christ.

**Selected “I am” statements in Scripture:**

<p><b>7 cited I Am statements in John</b>          6:35: I am the bread of life          8:12: I am the light of the world          10:7: I am the door of the sheep          10:11:I am the good shepherd          11:25:I am the resurrection and the life          14:6: I am the way the truth and the life          15:1: I am the true vine          Other I am Statements in John: 8:24, 28; 58; 18:5</p>	<p>Exodus 3:14: And God said unto Moses, I am that I am</p> <p><b>I Am Statements in Revelation</b>          1:8 I am the alpha and the omega          1:17 I am the first and the last          2:23 I am he that searches the reins and hearts          22:16 I am the root and the offspring of David,          22:16 (I am) the bright, the morning star.</p>
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**1:18**

**-The living One:**

The Father: Joshua 3:10; Psalm 18:46; 42:2; Hosea 1:10; John 6:57; Rev. 4:9-10.

The Son: Job 10:25; John 1:4; 14:19; Galatians 2:20; Hebrews 7:25.

**-And I was dead:**

Romans 6:9; 2 Corinthians 5:14-15; 13:4; Hebrews 1:3; 12:2; Rev. 2:8.

**-And behold I am alive for evermore:**

Luke 24:5; Romans 14:9; **1 Corinthians 15:3-4**, 14; 2 Corinthians 13:4.

Rev. 1:8, 18; 10:6; 11:15; 15:7.

**-And I have the keys of death and hades:**

**keys:** Isaiah 22:22; Matthew 16:18-19; Rev. 3:7; 9:1; 20:1.

**death and hades:** Psalm 9:13; 68:20; Isaiah 38:10; Rev. 6:8; 20:13-14.

**1:19 The Outline of the Book of Revelation**

**-write:** (1125) *graphō* (graf'-o) to grave, write, writing, describe,

Occurrences in the Book of Revelation: 1:3, 11, 19; 2:1, 8, 12, 17, 18; 3:1, 7, 12, 14; 5:1; 10 4 (2x).

13:8; 4:1, 13; 17:5, 8; 19:9, 12, 16; 20:12, 15; 21:5; 22:18, 19.

**-the things:**

1) The things that you saw:	Chapter 1 Introduction
2) The things which are:	Chapters 2-3 the letters to the seven churches
3) The things which shall come to pass hereafter:	Chapters 4-22 the future judgments and kingdoms

**1:20 The mysteries of the stars and candlesticks explained**

**-Stars:** the seven angels of the seven churches

**-stars:** (0792) *astēr* (as-tare') a star in the sky.

Occurrences in Revelation: 1:16; 20 (2x); 2:1, 28; 3:1; 6:13; 8:10, 11, 12; 9:1; 12:1, 4; 22:16.

**Angels:** Three viewpoints: See notes on Rev: 1:1

(1) Assigned angels (messengers) with oversight of the churches (one angel for each church?)

(2) Refers to the leadership of the church (Elders)

(3) Refers to a single leader of the church (Bishop/ Presbyter/Elder/ Pastor)

**-Candlesticks:** the seven churches in Asia. Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia, Laodicea.