

GOD'S VISIONS AND DREAMS CANNOT BE DEFEATED!
REVELATION 1

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Verse 1:

The revelation of Jesus Christ-not about but given by
To show to his servants-slave (those who are owned by God and completely surrendered
to God

Abraham, Genesis 26: 24

Jacob, Isaiah 44: 1, 2

Caleb, Numbers 14: 24

Joshua, Joshua 24: 29

David, Psalm 132: 10

Elijah, II Kings 9: 36

Isaiah, Isaiah 20:3

Job, Job 1:8

Prophets, II Kings 21: 10

Apostles, Philippians 1:1

All Christians, Ephesians 6: 6

Difficulty of term

For myth of rugged individualism

For African Americans

Rescue of meaningful biblical term

We cannot reject significant theological expressions because of
human misuse and abuse of the term

Slavery still has honor when applied to God because only God is
worthy

Biblical servants and contemporary church leadership (clergy and lay)

What must soon take place

Context of Revelation was immediate political, economic, social situation

Verse 3:

Threefold blessing: The reader, the hearer, and the doer

Seven blessings in Book of Revelation

1. Blessing of reading, hearing and doing

2. Those who die in the Lord (14: 13)

3. Watchful believer (16:5)

4. Those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb (19:9)

5. Those who share in first resurrection (20: 6)

6. Those who keep words of prophecy in this book (Revelation 22:7)

7. Blessed who do his commandments (22: 14)

Verse 4:

Seven churches in Asia

Asia, the Roman province

Seven churches of Asia

Located as major postal stations and could be easily circulated to outlying areas

Writer may have had a special relationship with these churches

Seven represents number of completeness

Used 54 times in Book of Revelation

Seven candlesticks (1:12)

Seven stars (1: 16)

Seven lamps (4: 5)

Seven seals (5: 1)

Seven horns and seven eyes (5:6)

Seven thunders (10:3)

Seven angels, plagues and bowls (15: 6, 7, 8)

Since seven represents completeness, writing was to whole church

Grace to you and peace—

We would do well to remember that the first words of message to the church is not judgment or critique in the Book of Revelation but **two** of Christ's great gifts to believers

Grace, II Corinthians 12: 9

Peace, John 14: 27, 20: 19-21

The seven spirits before the throne

Possible interpretations:

Seven archangels-Uriel, Rafael, Raguel, Michael, Gabriel, Saiquel, and Jeremiel

Sevenfold gifts of the Spirit: Isaiah 11: 2

Titles of Jesus

Faithful witness- Witness speaks from firsthand knowledge; The Lord Jesus is a unique person who has firsthand knowledge of God

Firstborn of the dead-The Lord's resurrection

Ruler of the kings of the earth---Mighty and Almighty

Verse 6:

Kingdom of Priests

Right and ministry of access and intercession

Verse 7:

Look he is coming

Certainty of second coming

Verse 8:

Alpha and Omega: The eternal God

Almighty

Appears 7 times in New Testament; once in II Corinthians 6: 18, 6 times in Revelation

Word of comfort to those undergoing persecution and oppression

Verse 10:

I was in the spirit on the Lord's Day

Emergence of Sunday worship

Sabbath, rest of God; Lord's Day, Rising of Jesus

Loud voice like a trumpet (Exodus 19: 16)

No place or circumstance can shut out the glory and presence of God

Verses 12-13:

Seven Lamp stands

Tabernacle (Exodus 25: 31-37)

Temple of Solomon (I Kings 7: 49)

Vision of Zechariah (Zechariah 4:2)

One like the Son of Man

The Ancient of Days (Daniel 7:9)

Verse 14-18

Vision of the Risen Christ

His head and his hair were white as white wool, (Daniel 7: 9)

His eyes were like flames of fire (Daniel 10:6)

His feet were like burnished bronze (Daniel 10: 6; Ezekiel 1: 7)

His voice like the sound of many waters (Ezekiel 43: 2)

In his right hand he held seven stars (The church)

And from his mouth came a sharp two-edged sword (Isaiah 11: 4, 49: 12)

And his face was like the sun shining (Exodus 34: 29; Matthew 17:2)

Verse 20:

Angels of the seven churches

Messengers from the churches

Bishop or pastor of the churches

Guardian angels

The ideal churches being addressed to bring them back into line