



## **New Vision**

Seven: Letters of Revelation  
Session 1: Revelation of Jesus  
Revelation 1:1--20  
5/5/19

### MAIN POINT

The book of Revelation was written to give unshakable hope, encourage unwavering holiness, refute deception, and fuel mission among the nations and to help us understand the revelation of the glory and nature of Jesus Christ!

### INTRODUCTION

We've got to be careful not to overcomplicate this book. Our goal whenever we study the Bible is not just to hear what it says, but to get into the shoes of the people who were first reading or hearing it. But the only thing we necessarily and ultimately need to understand the book of Revelation is the Spirit of the living God.

### UNDERSTANDING

REVELATION 1:1-8.

**In your own words, what do these verses indicate about the content and purpose of this book?**

**Considering this vision took place 2,000 years ago, how do you account for the words “quickly” and “the time is near”? Do you believe Jesus could return today? Why is it important that we live like “the time is near”?**

**What application is there for believers in verse 3? Why do you think John used these three different verbs—read, hear, and keep?**

**In verses 4-8: How does John describe God the Father in these verses? How does he describe Jesus? How does he describe believers? What three things does Christ do for us (vv. 5-6)? How has your life been changed by each of these actions?**

**How does the grand portrait of God's greatness in verses 4-8 impact the way you live today? If we look to Jesus in the past, present and future, what truths can we say about Him in those contexts?**

**What three facts about Jesus are especially significant to you in your life? Why are these facts so important?**

**Verse 7 could be considered the theme verse for the Book of Revelation? What does this text tell us that we should expect to find in Revelation? How are we to live today, in light of this verse?**

**How do you typically react when someone spoils the end of a movie or a book? Why do we prefer not to know the ending? The book of Revelation tells us the ultimate outcome of history. How does knowing the ending to your story affect the way you live? Is this something you think about often? Why or why not?**

REVELATION 1:9-11.

**What is significant about John's circumstances and the day when he received this vision? What would it have meant to 1st century believers that John identified himself as their brother and partner in "the tribulation, kingdom, and endurance that are in Jesus"? What does it mean to you?**

**What was John's role in delivering God's messages? Can you relate John's responsibility to the responsibilities God has given you? How has God used you to spread His Word to others recently?**

REVELATION 1:12-20.

**The seven lampstands in verse 12 represent Christian churches. What does it mean for a church to be a light? How do we do this?**

**Jesus is portrayed majestically among the churches (vv. 12-16). What does this mean? How does it apply to our present-day churches and our personal lives? Name characteristics of the glorified Jesus from Revelation 1:12-16. What do the images John saw suggest about Jesus?**

**How does focusing on these characteristics of Christ strengthen your commitment to serve Him? Name characteristics of the glorified Jesus from Revelation 1:12-16. What do the images John saw suggest about Jesus?**

**What are some circumstances or events that have happened in your past that caused you to be as overwhelmed by God as John was? Jesus said that He is victorious over death and Hades (v. 18). What are the implications of this truth for your current circumstances?**

APPLICATION

**Of the truths in this passage, which most motivates you to live a life of urgency and preparation, both in your own spiritual growth and your commitment to sharing the gospel with others? Explain your thoughts.**

**What are appropriate responses to the revelation of Christ's glory? What is one step you can take to make sure you acknowledge His glory every day.**

**Spend time in prayer thanking God that in Christ, we have no fear. Pray God's glory would continually captivate your imagination, His grace supernaturally empower your devotion, and His gospel radically compel you on mission.**