

“LETTERS FROM JESUS - Pt. 3” (Rev. 1:4-20)

[Rightly Dividing the Word of Truth]

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GREETING THE SEVEN CHURCHES (Rev. 1:4-8)

A. From John to the 7 churches (Modern Turkey) (v. 4).

B. Grace & Peace from God, the Holy Spirit (Eph. 4:4) and from Jesus Christ (Rev. 1:4-5).

C. Jesus Christ is:

1. The faithful witness – to this book & all He said.
2. The firstborn from the dead (in an immortal body).
3. The ruler over the kings of the earth (Rev. 17:14).
4. Who loves us & freed us from our sins in His blood (1Jn. 1:7).

D. Jesus made us kings & priests – a kingdom of priests (Rev. 1:6; Rom. 5:17; 1Pet. 2:5, 9; Ex. 19:5-6).

“to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever!”

E. Behold He Is Coming (Rev. 1:7)!

1. With clouds – prophetic judgment terminology (Isa. 19:1; Jer. 4:13).
2. Every eye will see Him. The lost at the resurrection.
3. All the tribes will mourn because of Him. Why?
 - a. Rapture? Not every eye will see him.
 - b. 2nd Coming?
 - c. Coming to destroy temple/Jerusalem (Matt. 24:1-2)?
4. Other comings of Jesus (Jn. 14:18, 23; Matt. 10:23; 16:28; Rev. 2:5, 16; 3:20; Matt. 24:30, 34).

F. Description of Jesus (Rev. 1:8; Heb. 12:2).

JOHN’S VISION OF JESUS (Rev. 1:9-20)

(Verse 9)

- A. John considered himself in the tribulation.
- B. John saw the kingdom of God as present.
- C. John was aware of the need for perseverance.
- D. John had been banished to Patmos (v. 9d).

(Verses 10-11)

- A. Even in the midst of persecution and suffering, we can be in the Spirit [on the Lord’s Day]!
- B. John heard the voice of Jesus telling Him to write what he saw and send it to the 7 churches in Asia.

(Verses 12-13)

A. John saw 7 golden lampstands and Jesus in their midst in a priestly garment.

(Verses 14-18) – a description of Jesus.

- A. He had in His right hand 7 stars.
- B. A sharp two-edged sword came out of His mouth (Heb. 4:12; Eph. 6:17).
- C. His countenance was like a very bright sun (Isa. 6:5; 2Cor. 3:18; 1Jn. 3:2)!
- D. John fell at His feet as dead (v. 17; 2Cor. 5:16).
- E. Jesus has the keys (authority) of Hades & Death (v. 18).

(Verses 19-20)

- A. John is told to write all this & what is next (v. 19).
- B. The meaning of the symbols (v. 20).
 1. The 7 stars – the angels (messengers) of the 7 churches. Jesus wants to sustain, guide & empower His leaders!
 2. The 7 lampstands – the 7 churches, called to bear the light of Christ to the world (Jn. 8:12; Matt. 5:14-16; Phil. 2:15).

CONCLUSION: Jesus fully knows the condition of every church – both good and bad and is in the midst of His churches to provide the fuel (oil) for the light, and to provide encouragement and correction as needed!