

## **SERIES: THE ELEVENTH HOUR**

Title: THE SAVIOR OF REVELATION

Text: Rev. Various passages

### **I see Jesus**

- The atheist's view
  - No God
  - No Jesus – a myth
- The allegiances view
  - Other faiths
  - A prophet, teacher, avatar
  - A way, but not the only way
- The apostate church view
  - Jesus saves everyone.
  - Loving, compassionate, non-condemning
  - Scripture is not the authority.
  - A loving God would not judge.
  - Sin is subjective, so God will allow for your own truth.
- The apathetic church view
  - Jesus saves those who come to Him.
  - I do not want to hurt anyone's feelings, so I won't say anything.
  - I hope all good people get to heaven.
- The accurate view
  - Jesus is inclusive – Anyone may come.
  - Jesus is exclusive – Only those who follow Him as Lord will be saved.
  - Scriptures are true.
  - He will judge all humanity.
    - Some will be saved.
    - Some will be condemned.
    - He tells you who you are.

Let us look at how Jesus reveals Himself in His letter to the Church.

### **The Author of the Letter**

#### **Rev. 1:1**

*The revelation of Jesus Christ...*

- It is not the revelation of John the Divine.
- It is not John's letter at all. And he certainly is not divine.

#### **Rev. 1:10-11**

<sup>10</sup> I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet <sup>11</sup> saying, "Write what you see in a book and send it to the seven churches."

- Jesus is speaking and telling John to write down what is said and what is seen.

## THE ALPHA AND OMEGA

### Rev. 1:8, 11

<sup>8</sup> 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. ... <sup>11</sup> Saying, I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last:

### Rev. 22:13

... "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end."

- He was there before the foundations of the world, and He will be there at the end of the world.
- He knows what your problems are before they come, is there with you through them, and knows the effects of what is transpiring for generations to come.
- He does not miss anything. He sees everything and will judge the mind, soul, spirit and body of everyone.

Look at how He is described in this passage:

### Rev. 1:12-17

<sup>12</sup> Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking to me, and on turning I saw seven golden lampstands, <sup>13</sup> and in the midst of the lampstands one like a son of man, clothed with a long robe and with a golden sash around his chest. <sup>14</sup> The hairs of his head were white, like white wool, like snow. His eyes were like a flame of fire, <sup>15</sup> his feet were like burnished bronze, refined in a furnace, and his voice was like the roar of many waters. <sup>16</sup> In his right hand he held seven stars, from his mouth came a sharp two-edged sword, and his face was like the sun shining in full strength. <sup>17</sup> When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. But he laid his right hand on me, saying, "Fear not, I am the first and the last, <sup>18</sup> and the living one. I died, and behold I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades.

- In the midst of seven lampstands – the churches
- Clothed in a long robe with a golden sash across his chest
  - Kingly authority and priestly authority
- White hair like snow – wisdom and pure
- Eyes of flame - judgement
- Feet shining like molten bronze
  - Compare Daniel 10:6, "And his arms and his feet like in color to polished brass." See also Ezekiel 1:7, "and they" (the feet of the living creatures) "sparkled like the color of burnished brass."
  - White - signified his ways, counsels, and methods, in ordering and governing his church, which are compared to fine brass, for the beauty and glory of them, and

for their firmness, strength, and steadiness. They are refined and pure to be true in justice and holiness.

- Voice like the waters – breaks down and builds up. Gives life
  - His voice as the sound (better, voice, as the same word—*phoné*—is used twice, and translated first “voice” and then “sound” in our English version) of many waters.—Daniel described the voice of the Ancient of Days as the voice of a multitude (Daniel 10:6); but the voice of the multitude was in earlier Hebrew writings compared to the sound of the waves of the sea, which the voice of the Lord alone could subdue (Psalm 65:7; Psalm 93:4).
- Right hand seven stars – angels of the churches
- Sword from His mouth – the Word of God
  - Judgement on the churches will come from the WORD OF GOD.
- Face like the sun

Jesus shows Himself to John as:

- The One who speaks to the churches.
- The One who is at the center of the churches.
- The One who holds the authority over the angels of those churches.
- The One who judges.
- The One who’s Words are True.

From this He will launch into his messages to the Churches. We will cover next week.

## **The second Image of the Savior of Revelation is the image of the Lamb**

### **THE LAMB WHO WAS SLAIN**

#### **Worthy is the Lamb – 5:1-11 (9)**

- Scroll with seven seals, who is worthy to open the scroll?
- No one in heaven or earth...So John weeps.
- One of the 24 elders speaks:
  - *“Weep no more; behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered, so that he can open the scroll and its seven seals.”*

#### **Rev. 5:6-11**

*<sup>6</sup> And between the throne and the four living creatures and among the elders I saw a Lamb standing, as though it had been slain, with seven horns and with seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth. <sup>7</sup> And he went and took the scroll from the right hand of him who was seated on the throne. <sup>8</sup> And when he had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each holding a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. <sup>9</sup> And they sang a new song,*

saying, "Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation,<sup>10</sup> and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth."

- **The scroll reveals the seals, the trumpets, the bowls of God's Wrath.**
- This passage states clearly that the heavy, but inevitable burden of judgement can be held by no one who ever existed...including you and me.
- Judgement will come and it is held alone by the Lamb – Jesus.

### **Wrath of the Lamb**

Rev. 6:15-17

<sup>15</sup> Then the kings of the earth and the great ones and the generals and the rich and the powerful, and everyone, slave and free, hid themselves in the caves and among the rocks of the mountains, <sup>16</sup> calling to the mountains and rocks, "Fall on us and hide us from the face of him who is seated on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb, <sup>17</sup> for the great day of their wrath has come, and who can stand?"

- What?! Your loving mamby-pamby Jesus who allows for all sin to be excused shows WRATH? YES!
- The sixth seal has been opened and the great earthquake has knocked the earth off its axis.
- Stars are scrolling and a great solar eclipse will happen.
- Leaders are crying out to be hidden.
- They will face the Lamb on the throne and experience His WRATH.

### **Water of Life – Washing of tears by the lamb**

Rev. 7:17

"...<sup>17</sup> For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of living water, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

- For those who make themselves ready for Him and follow Him in obedience, He is their shepherd.
- Eternal living water to refresh
- Washing away tears

Rev. 21:6

"...<sup>6</sup> To the thirsty I will give from the spring of the water of life without payment."

Rev. 22:1-2

<sup>1</sup> Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb <sup>2</sup> through the middle of the street of the city; also, on either side of the river, the tree of life...

- No payment because he paid the price.
- To the thirsty – Thirsty for what? Thirsty for whom?
  - If we hunger and thirst for righteousness. Called to holiness

CONTRAST LIFE-GIVING WATER THAT WASHES TEARS with WRATH TO OTHERS

### **Woman's Child is the Lamb**

**Rev. 12:1-2, 5**

<sup>1</sup> *And a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars. <sup>2</sup> She was pregnant and was crying out in birth pains and the agony of giving birth.*

<sup>5</sup> *She gave birth to a male child, one who is to rule all the nations with a rod of iron, but her child was caught up to God and to his throne.*

### **Writer of the Name of the Lamb** standing on Mount Zion

Rev. 14:1, 4

<sup>1</sup> *Then I looked, and behold, on Mount Zion stood the Lamb, and with him 144,000 who had his name and his Father's name written on their foreheads.*

<sup>4</sup> *...It is these who follow the Lamb wherever he goes...*

- We will identify as best we can the 144,000 in the weeks ahead; yet the point here is that His name and the Father's name are written on their foreheads.
  - A literal name scribed on their heads
  - "N" on the heads of those killed in Syria – for "Nazarene"
  - Figurative in that their thoughts are on God, their worldview is linked to God's Word, and they are obedient to His will.
- They follow the shepherd wherever he goes.
- People say a loving God won't condemn people.
- They use "Judge not, lest you be judged" out of context. They say this to shut you up.
  - But the passage is about not being a hypocrite, and that both you and the other have something wrong in your perceptions.
  - The slivers in their eyes need to be removed as well as the beam in your own.
  - It is not saying the sliver in the other's eye is just fine.
- They say we are to love others – the 2<sup>nd</sup> commandment
- They miss that the first commandment calls for us all, to love God with all of our...
  - Mind – his thoughts should rule our thoughts
  - Soul (emotions) – your emotions and feelings are no excuse for sin. Offer you feelings to the Truth of God and love Him
    - I am a victim so moral laws do not apply to me.
    - Manage your emotions or be ruled by emotions
      - Self-pity – woe to me! I am ... in a ...phobic society

- Not, 'In God we Trust.' It is now 'pity yourself.'
- Not what do I feel, but what do I have to do?
  - Sure...I feel something, but that should not drive me
  - What am I supposed to do?
- Strength (Body) – what you do with your body matters. You cannot live a sinful sexual life and love God with your body. If you ignore the Scriptures throughout the Old and New Testament on the topic of your body.... You are not loving Him with your Body
- If you are not obedient to the 1<sup>st</sup> commandment...the 2nd one means nothing. Because the love you show will not be a sacred, holy love, but a love designed in the sinful thoughts, feeling, and actions by your own thinking.
- His seal on your forehead declares that your thoughts are in line with His thoughts

## Warrior is the Lamb

### Rev. 17:14

*They will make war on the Lamb, and the Lamb will conquer them, for he is Lord of lords and King of kings, and those with him are called and chosen and **faithful**.*

- The world is against the Lordship of Jesus Christ. They are at war.
- But they lose. And those who align themselves with the world are at war with Jesus Christ. They too will lose.
- Chapter 19 gives a description of the warrior Jesus.
- This is a moment to evaluate your thoughts, emotions, and life and see if you are at war with Jesus Lordship. What He says is true and is to be lived by.

## THE VICTOR AND THE JUDGE

### White Horse Victor

#### Rev. 19:11-16

*<sup>11</sup> Then I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse! The one sitting on it is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he judges and makes war. <sup>12</sup> His eyes are like a flame of fire, and on his head are many diadems, and he has a name written that no one knows but himself. <sup>13</sup> He is clothed in a robe dipped in blood, and the name by which he is called is The Word of God. <sup>14</sup> And the armies of heaven, arrayed in fine linen, white and pure, were following him on white horses. <sup>15</sup> From his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations, and he will rule them with a rod of iron. He will tread the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God the Almighty. <sup>16</sup> On his robe and on his thigh he has a name written, King of kings and Lord of lords.*

- His judgment is righteous... it is the ruling value which brings judgment.
- He is called the Word of God.
- His ruling will strike you down.

- His judgement will be a rod of iron...unyielding.
- His Judgement will crush as the fury of wrath.

## **White Throne Judge**

Rev. 20:11,12,15

<sup>11</sup> Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it. From his presence earth and sky fled away, and no place was found for them. <sup>12</sup> And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Then another book was opened, which is the book of life. And the dead were judged by what was written in the books, according to what they had done.

<sup>15</sup> And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

- There will be a final judgement
- If not in the book of life...the lake of fire.
  - It is what it says. You do not have to like it.
  - Earthly – I hope I get a lenient judge...not one who goes by the law and established penalties assigned to crimes.
- Jesus over and over talked about the separation of those who are with Him and those who are not.
  - Wheat and chaff
  - Sheep and goats
  - One taken...the other left
  - You are with me or against me.
  - If you call God a liar...you are the liar and there is nothing of God in you.
  - Depart from me or enter into my presence.
- Compassion
  - A child running into the street – loving or not loving to ignore?
  - A bridge is out, and cars are moving through and not take a detour. Do you stop and tell people not to go down that road? Is that not compassion?

## **THE RETURNING GROOM**

### **Wedded bridegroom**

Rev. 19:6-9

<sup>6</sup> Then I heard what seemed to be the voice of a great multitude, like the roar of many waters and like the sound of mighty peals of thunder, crying out, "Hallelujah! For the Lord our God the Almighty reigns. <sup>7</sup> Let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and his Bride has made herself ready; <sup>8</sup> it was granted her to clothe herself with fine linen, bright and pure"—for the fine linen is the righteous deeds of the saints. <sup>9</sup> And the angel said to me, "Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb."

- Groom for His Bride – He is coming
- Bride for the Groom – she has made herself ready
  - Bright and pure
  - Righteous deeds
  - Jesus’ parable: five ready for the wedding and five not ready
  - The harlot contrasted with the Bride
- Again, at His return there will be a separation

### **The Root of David and Returning Morning Star**

**Rev. 22:7, 12, 17, 20**

<sup>7</sup> *“And behold, I am coming soon. Blessed is the one who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book.”*

<sup>12</sup> *“Behold, I am coming soon, bringing my recompense with me, to repay each one for what he has done.”*

<sup>17</sup> *The Spirit and the Bride say, “Come.” And let the one who hears say, “Come.” And let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who desires take the water of life without price.*

<sup>20</sup> *He who testifies to these things says, “Surely I am coming soon.” Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!*

- He is coming to bless
- He is coming to repay
- He is come to quench the thirst
- He is Coming

### **CHALLENGE**

It is Jesus who is speaking to each of you and calling you to Himself.

It is Jesus Who was there at the beginning and will be there at the end.

It is Jesus Who, by humbling Himself to be the sacrifice for all mankind, is worthy to comfort and care for His bride and bring vengeance and judgement on those who oppose Him.

It is Jesus who will return for those whom he has sealed and who love and follow Him in obedience.

Are You Ready for His Return?