REVELATION 1:

10 I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet,

11 Saying, I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last: and, What thou seest, write in a book, and send it unto the seven churches which are in Asia; unto Ephesus, and unto Smyrna, and unto Pergamos, and unto Thyatira, and unto Sardis, and unto Philadelphia, and unto Laodicea.

REVELATION 1

1 The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him, to shew unto his servants things which must shortly come to pass; and he sent and signified it by his angel unto his servant John:

2 Who bare record of the word of God, and of the testimony of Jesus Christ, and of all things that he saw.

3 Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand.

*These writings are called* ***revelation*** *which mean:* 602 apokalupsis {ap-ok-al'-oop-sis} a disclosure of truth, instruction, concerning things before unknown

EPHESIANS 1

17 That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and **revelation** in the knowledge of him:

*The book of revelation is a private message sent to what is called churches but is only revealed to those who overcome. Without the wisdom and revelation from God we will never understand the book*.

*What is a revelation? It is given to each believer in order for faith to be increased and understanding to be opened which gives edifying.*

*If a person receives a revelation, it must be scripture. A revelation does not change or interpretate the scripture but reveals it and it is the only way the Spirit of God operates.*

EPHESIANS 6:

17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:

*The only thing the Spirit of God uses is the Word of God*.

JOHN 3:

34 For he whom God hath sent speaketh the words of God: for God giveth not the Spirit by measure unto him.

*That was speaking of Christ but also of any God called minister*.

JOHN 6:

63 It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the **words that I speak unto you, they are spirit**, and they are life.

I CORINTHIANS 2:

13 Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing **spiritual things with spiritual.**

II TIMOTHY 2:

15 Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, **rightly dividing** the word of truth.

3718 orthotomeo {or-thot-om-eh'-o} to cut straight, to cut straight ways, i.e. to proceed on straight paths, hold a straight course, equiv. to doing right.

*A true revelation of scriptures compares with all other scriptures*

GALATIANS 3:

10 For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse: for it is written, Cursed is every one that continueth not in all things which are written in the book of the law to do them.

GALATIANS 3:

» 13 † Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree:

I CORINTHIANS 2

7 But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, even the hidden wisdom, which God ordained before the world unto our glory:

8 Which none of the princes of this world knew: for had they known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.

9 But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.

*A true revelation of scripture reveals events prophesied in scripture.*

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MATTHEW 3

3 For this is he that was spoken of by the prophet Esaias, saying, The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.

ACTS 2

16 But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel;

I want to add that a scripture revelation must be about a scripture prophecy.

*A true revelation never glorifies anyone other than the Lord.*

JOHN 7:

18 He that speaketh of himself seeketh his own **glory**: but he that seeketh his glory that sent him, the same is true, and no unrighteousness is in him.

JOHN 5

44 How can ye believe, which receive **honour** one of another, and seek not the **honour** that cometh from God only?

JOHN 8:

54 Jesus answered, If I **honour** myself, my **honour** is nothing: it is my Father that **honoureth** me; of whom ye say, that he is your God:

Glory/Honour: 1391 doxa {dox'-ah} - glory (145)

Glorify 1392 doxazo {dox-ad'-zo} glorify (54)

*The book of revelation is only sent to the seven churches so if any person is not a member of one of the seven churches the book is not even for them.*

*John was told the time was at hand so every event in the book of revelation is either an event already in history or happening at that time or is present in seed form.*

REVELATION 1:

19 Write the things which thou hast seen, and the things which are, and the things which shall be hereafter.

MATTHEW 13:

38 The field is the world; the good seed are the children of the kingdom; but the tares are the children of the wicked one;

*The good seed follow only one path which is called the narrow way or strait gate, but the way of the tares can follow many paths which is the wide gate or broad way*.  *The tares may take many forms, but they are only one seed a tare.*

MATTHEW 7:

13 Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat:

14 Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.

JOHN 14

6 Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

MATTHEW 11

27 All things are delivered unto me of my Father: and no man knoweth the Son, but the Father; neither knoweth any man the Father, save the Son, and he to whomsoever the Son will reveal him.

*As I speak about the seven churches many listening know we were taught that the churches represent seven ages of the first church failing or falling and then a gradual restoring until the last age when all will be restored. This teaching of ages was taught by many people called dispensationalist, but the ages and dates were completely from a man called Clarence Larkin’s book copyrighted in 1919. As many other teachings was also copied from the man’s books.*

*Of course, we were told it was a revelation give to an end time prophet.*

*As I start first of all, I have no scripture to compare that Christ’s church fell or would ever need restoring. The old testament was given as a type of things to come.*

ROMANS 15

4 For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope.

COLOSSIANS 2:

16 Let no man therefore judge you in meat, or in drink, or in respect of an holyday, or of the new moon, or of the sabbath days:

17 Which are a shadow of things to come; but the body is of Christ.

*No record of seven different messages to Iseral neither a little at a time bringing back what was lost.*

*Since the book was written only to the seven churches but is to all who read it, I believe those churches represent all error and correction for the true church.*

REVELATION 1:

3 Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand.

REVELATION 14

6 And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people,

II TIMOTHY 3:

16 All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

17 That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works.

REVELATION 2

1 Unto the angel of the church of Ephesus write; These things saith he that holdeth the seven stars in his right hand, who walketh in the midst of the seven golden candlesticks;

2 I know thy works, and thy labour, and thy patience, and how thou canst not bear them which are evil: and thou hast tried them which say they are apostles, and are not, and hast found them liars:

3 And hast borne, and hast patience, and for my name's sake hast laboured, and hast not fainted.

*They recognized truth enough to identify false teachers and to keep evil out of their width.*

4 Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love.

*This was a seed planted and if not removed it would destroy and bring to ruin that church.*

*What is the first love?*

MATTHEW 24:

12 And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold.

MARK 12

29 And Jesus answered him, The first of all the commandments is, Hear, O Israel; The Lord our God is one Lord:

30 And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment

MATTHEW 10:

37 He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me.

ROMANS 5:

5 And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.

I CORINTHIANS 13:

3 And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing.

REVELATION 2

5 Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent.

*Christ stands in the middle of the seven churches if the candlestick is removed that group no longer represents the true church no matter what name they choose. God’s mercy calls then to repentance to where they once were.*

*Even if a church/group is removed there will always be seven churches.*

REVELATION 3:

11 Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown.

*I do not believe any man can take a crown form an individual because it is a crown of life*

ICORINTHIANS 9:

25 And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible.

JAMES 1:

12 Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.

II TIMOTHY 4:

8 Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.

[*Young's Literal Translation*](https://biblehub.com/ylt/revelation/3.htm) *Lo, I come quickly, be holding fast that which thou hast, that no one may receive thy crown.*

*2983 lambano {lam-ban'-o} receive (133) to take to one's self, lay hold upon, take possession of, i.e. to appropriate to one's self.*

*If the candlestick was removed from Ephesus there would be another to take its place.*

*God again recognizes things that are right.*

6 But this thou hast, that thou hatest the deeds of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate.

*No one can correctly identify the Nicolaitans, but the deeds are identified*.

MATTHEW 7

21 Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.

22 Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works?

23 And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.

*Christ hates iniquity.*

HEBREWS 1

9 Thou hast loved righteousness, and hated iniquity; therefore God, even thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows.

MATTHEW 25:

45 Then shall he answer them, saying, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to me.

46 And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal.

*Only religious works that will be accepted will be the Father’s will and the only deeds will be those that were beneficial to the true church.*

7 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God.

*As long as a minister will take correction Christ will always be there but when correction is refused from the pulpit the candlestick is removed and that group will not be identified as a church in God’s eyes. At that time is when the Call comes*.

REVELATION 18

4 And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues.

*It should be obvious that many churches form the pulpit will never take correction and the only remedy for people to overcome is to leave the midst.*

*The message is sent to the angel of the church.*

Angel: 32 aggelos {ang'-el-os} a messenger, envoy, one who is sent, an angel, a messenger from God

*Used for both earthly and heavenly messengers.*

MATTHEW 11:

9 But what went ye out for to see? A prophet? yea, I say unto you, and more than a prophet.

10 For this is he, of whom it is written, Behold, I send my **messenger** before thy face, which shall prepare thy way before thee.

JAMES 2:

25 Likewise also was not Rahab the harlot justified by works, when she had received the **messengers**, and had sent them out another way?

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*Barabbas is a type and picture of the sinners for whom Christ Jesus died (1Tim.1:15). We stand guilty before the law of God (Rom. 3:19-20). We were justly convicted of great offences against God (Psalm 51:4). We were waiting the execution by God’s holy law (Rom.6:23). However, by the order of Almighty God, Jesus Christ was sent to rescue, redeem and release sinners (Matt.9:13; Luke 4:18).*

*Believers no more merit release and rescue than Barabbas did (Eph.2:1-4). But God in His sovereign grace sent the gracious Substitute, the Lord Jesus Christ to take our place and set us free (1Peter 3: 18). Christ Jesus paid our debt to God’s law and justice and cleared us of all guilt (Gal. 3:10-13). Christ Jesus took our scourging and with His strips we are healed (Isa. 53:5). Christ Jesus took our death and gave us His life (1John 5:12). He took our sin and gave us His righteousness (2Cor. 5:21). He was condemned though innocent (1Peter 2:22), that we might be justified though guilty (Rom.8:1).*

*There is infinite merit in all that Christ performed for His covenant people (Heb. 2:17; Rom. 5:6-11). Surely, it is right to honor and worship the Lamb of God that taketh away all our sin and that brings in and freely imputes to us an everlasting righteousness (1John 3:5; John 1:29; Rom 4:6). “God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto*

*The trying of the faith of God’s saints is good for it proves God’s love for them and therefore their sonship (Heb. 12:8). But coupled with the trials suffered by the Lord’s people is the realization that the sufferings shall not be forever. Soon their sufferings and sojourning in this life shall give way to the glory of the kingdom prepared for them from the foundation of the world (Matt. 25:34). “For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory” (2 Cor. 4:17).*

***Pastor Marvin Stalnaker***