

UNVEILED!

**The Ancient Secrets of Daniel &
The Revelation of Jesus Christ**

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Underscores in the Biblical texts are added for emphasis.
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The Revelation of Jesus Christ

CHAPTER 1

¹ The revelation from Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show his servants what must soon take place. He made it known by sending his angel to his servant John, ² who testifies to everything he saw—that is, the word of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ. ³ Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear it and take to heart what is written in it, because the time is near.

⁴ John,
To the seven churches in the province of Asia:

Grace and peace to you from him who is, and who was, and who is to come, and from the seven spirits before his throne, ⁵ and from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood, ⁶ and has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve his God and Father—to him be glory and power for ever and ever! Amen.

⁷ “Look, he is coming with the clouds,”
and “every eye will see him,
even those who pierced him”;
and all peoples on earth “will mourn because of him.”
So shall it be! Amen.

⁸ “I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, “who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty.”

⁹ I, John, your brother and companion in the suffering and kingdom and patient endurance that are ours in Jesus, was on the island of Patmos because of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. ¹⁰ On the Lord’s Day I was in the Spirit, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet, ¹¹ which said: “Write on a scroll what you see and send it to the seven churches: to Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia, and Laodicea.”

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¹² I turned around to see the voice that was speaking to me. And when I turned I saw seven golden lampstands, ¹³ and among the lampstands was someone like a son of man, dressed in a robe reaching down to his feet and with a golden sash around his chest. ¹⁴ The hair on his head was white like wool, as white as snow, and his eyes were like blazing fire. ¹⁵ His feet were like bronze glowing in a furnace, and his voice was like the sound of rushing waters. ¹⁶ In his right hand he held seven stars, and coming out of his mouth was a sharp, double-edged sword. His face was like the sun shining in all its brilliance.

¹⁷ When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. Then he placed his right hand on me and said: "Do not be afraid. I am the First and the Last. ¹⁸ I am the Living One; I was dead, and now look, I am alive for ever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and Hades. ¹⁹ "Write, therefore, what you have seen, what is now and what will take place later. ²⁰ The mystery of the seven stars that you saw in my right hand and of the seven golden lampstands is this: The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands are the seven churches. (Revelation 1:1-20 NIV)

Insights

The Father gave the revelation to Jesus Christ to impart it to His faithful servant John who would pass it on to the messengers of the churches in Asia, now SW Turkey.¹⁰⁹ Writing the words of Messiah, the apostle takes no credit, but glorifies the One who freed us from our sins by His blood to serve His God and Father.

Jesus Christ is the Man uniquely fathered when the Word of God was born in the flesh as His Son. The prophet Nathan spoke as an oracle of God, foretelling the descendant of David who'd be born the Son of God: *I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son.* (in 2 Sam. 7:12-14) By faith the virgin received the Word of God in her seed, forming the unique Son from David's lineage. (Is. 7:14; Lk. 3:23-38; Lk. 1:35; John 1) He is the eternal Word from God's heart to mankind. (Jn. 14: 9-11; 16:13-15, 28)

His Word is the Reason for all that exists; thus within all that exists is His reason. With words as thoughts, He speaks to us. As the Word, He brings purpose and reality into existence. He is the

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Life; apart from Him, nothing has life. He made everything out of nothing by His Wisdom *so that things which are seen were not made out of things which do appear.* (**Heb. 11:3b**) And His power holds it all together. He gives nature its order, symmetry, and design throughout the expanding universe. Everything that exists came from nothing but the Word of God. Atoms were formed by the power, brilliance, and energy of His Word. He is nature's Lawmaker and life's Breath. (Rom. 1:18-25; Col. 1:16-17)

His Word brings clarity to the obscure and wisdom to the fool. In Yeshua men see the Word of God by the Light that pierces spiritual darkness. He invades, disrupts, and overcomes whatever rebels against its Maker. (2 Pet. 3:10-13)

He overcame Death and Hell and is therefore worthy to open the Revelation (in 5:5). As a man His God is our God. The Son of God and of man is our Mediator, our "go-between," reconciling us to God by His blood in the new covenant. (Jer. 31:31-33) No other mediator exists between God and man (in 1 Tim. 2:5).

Conceived by the virgin's seed, the Son of David was born, but His biological Father was the Spirit of God. (Gal. 3:19-20; 1 Tim. 2:5; Heb. 8:6, 9:15; Is. 7:14; 2 Sam. 7:12-16) Few rabbis could imagine David's seed would be the seed of a woman, but God had made His plan known from the beginning. (Gen. 3:15)

His own people rejected Him and gave Him over to Roman soldiers who beat Him with rods, scourged Him with whips, and crucified the Lamb of God who paid for our sins as though He had done the wrongs:

¹²When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. ¹³He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. ¹⁴I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son. When he commits iniquity, I will discipline him with the rod of men, with the stripes of the sons of men, ¹⁵but my steadfast love will not depart from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I put away from before you. ¹⁶And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. Your throne shall be established forever." (2 Sam. 7:12-16 ESV)

⁷He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter,

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and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he opened not his mouth. He was taken from prison and from judgment, and who shall declare his generation? for he was cut off out of the land of the living: for the transgression of my people was he stricken. (Is. 53:7-8)

²¹ For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. (2 Cor. 5:21 ESV)

God suffers long and is kind. He laughs and He mourns. He is pleased or angered. He felt His Son's pain, and He knows our pain. Israel tore His heart, and yet He sees their tears and wipes them dry. God is compassionate but, in judgment and in wrath, is untouched by His adversaries. (Ps. 2:1-5; Ps. 37; Prov. 1:22-33; Mat. 13:41-43; 23; 24:45-51; 25:29-30; Mk. 9:44-49; Rev. 18:1-20)

We who truly believe take His words to the world, living by them and telling the true gospel till Jesus comes. Each one must do his part without envy or selfish ambition.

⁹ And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith: (Phl. 3:9)

The One amid the Lamps

... *Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God. Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men; and the weakness of God is stronger than men.*" (1 Cor. 1:24b-25) The Holy Spirit came upon Yeshua in the Jordan to empower Him in our weakness for He came in the *likeness of sinful flesh*. (Rom. 8:3-4) He rose from the dead for us and is exalted above all others.

The apostle John knew the Son of God as the eternal Word in mortal flesh, born as the perfect Sacrifice. At Pentecost Peter spoke to Jews in Jerusalem, saying, *Repent and be baptized ... in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.* (from Acts 2:38) ... *For verily he took not on him the nature of angels: but he took on him the seed of Abraham.* (Heb. 2:16; cf. 2 Sam. 7:12-16) He indwells us by the same Spirit for believers to know Him.

In the fear of God, we turn from evil, but if we spurn the fear of God, we'll die in our sins. He Himself feared God, and His

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cry was heard from Gethsemane. (Heb. 5:7) We can't love Him and remain in sin, but shunning sin, we overcome it by the power and authority of Jesus Christ. He lives in us to give life to our bodies by victory over our sinful nature. As we live by faith, we yield to the nature of His Spirit, and the nature of our flesh dies.

He expressed the Father by His Word in our mortal flesh as the Son of man with the fullness of the Spirit and the Word in Him. He said, ... *If I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you.* (from Jn. 16:7) Had He remained, He could not have come to us. Yeshua relied on His Father for wisdom, power, and authority, yet is One with the Father as His Word; God is Spirit. He was the Word in the Spirit in the beginning, hovering over the face of the waters. (Gen. 1:2) And He's the Word of God today, the eternal Truth in the unchanging nature of God, which enters us by His Word.

The voice John heard behind him stunned the apostle *like the sound of a trumpet* alerting him. Suddenly, he was *in the Spirit*—what does that mean? There's another dimension to life, which is not of this world. John was instantly there!

Jesus is the Revelator who showed His glory to the prophet who wrote down visions for generations to search out. Their truth convicts our hearts and transforms our lives, so we trust in these words though he wrote them two thousand years ago as an eyewitness of the Son of God. The prophets before him had written about Jesus. Then John saw their words fulfilled in part.

Every word of God is life to us, but hypocrites profess the faith without acting on His words by faith. Each time we receive His words and allow them to change our hearts, we turn from the darkness of our hypocrisies to the light of His truth.

Yeshua holds *the keys of death and hell* (in Rev. 1:18) since He is the Word of God: ⁴*And I say unto you my friends, Be not afraid of them that kill the body, and after that have no more that they can do.* ⁵*But I will forewarn you whom ye shall fear: Fear him, which after he hath killed, hath power to cast into hell.* (Lk. 12:4-5) The Almighty said, *I kill, and I make alive.* (Dt. 32:39)

When meteorologists describe tornadoes, earthquakes, wild-fires, floods, hurricanes, lightning strikes, radical temperatures, droughts, volcanoes, tsunamis, and infestations, they remind us, though not far off, God is in control and judges nations:

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¹⁹ Behold, a whirlwind of the LORD is gone forth in fury, even a grievous whirlwind: it shall fall grievously upon the head of the wicked. ²⁰ The anger of the LORD shall not return, until he have executed, and till he have performed the thoughts of his heart: in the latter days ye shall consider it perfectly. ²¹ I have not sent these prophets, yet they ran: I have not spoken to them, yet they prophesied. ²² But if they had stood in my counsel, and had caused my people to hear my words, then they should have turned them from their evil way, and from the evil of their doings. ²³ Am I a God at hand, saith the LORD, and not a God afar off? (Jer. 23:19-23)

We teach God cares about each of us but often believe He neglects the nations and doesn't control the weather very well either. Maybe we haven't believed in His greatness after all.

The first to read and hear this book, the seven churches, were far from perfect congregations but were made examples for us, wherever their practices exist—even in the most sinful places as the church in Pergamon was. The churches were in a perilous moral condition by the influence of an ungodly culture, tempting them to compromise their godly values.

What would we be like if we were to believe we're eternally secure no matter what we do? Yet most of us have believed that and have no fear of God, wondering why we must repent. We've taken in the world and have become like it, participating with its ways by our acceptance of them. That is not true Christianity, but hypocrisy that comes by the apostasy.

The last verses of its first chapter prepare us for more of the mysteries in Revelation: past, present, and future events to John, many of which are history to us while some are daily news and others are yet to come. (See 1:19)

Speaking to the congregations, Jesus addresses each of us in a personal way. His instructions are for everyone with an ear to hear, receive, repent, and obey the warnings of His words since that's what it means to believe. *He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.* (Rev. 2:29) It's personal. He speaks to you and me. Although the Lord often hides the treasures of His Kingdom, He opened His *Apocalypse* for us to read, hear, and believe.