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WEEK ONE

REVELATION 1

JESUS
IS WITH
YOU

1 PROLOGUE

The revelation of Jesus Christ that 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 testified to the word of God and to the testimony of Jesus Christ, whatever he saw. ³ Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear the words of this prophecy and keep what is written in it, because the time is near.

⁴John: To the seven churches in Asia. Grace and peace to you from the one who is, who was, and who is to come, and from the seven spirits before his throne, ⁵ and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and has set us free from our sins by his blood, ⁶ and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father—to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

⁷ **Look, he is coming with the clouds,**
and every eye will see him,
even those who pierced him.
And all the tribes of the earth
will mourn over him.
So it is to be. Amen.

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

JOHN’S VISION OF THE RISEN LORD

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

¹²Then I turned to see whose voice it was that spoke to me. When I turned I saw seven golden lampstands, ¹³ and among the lampstands was one like the Son of Man, dressed in a robe and with a golden sash wrapped around his chest. ¹⁴ The hair of his head was white as wool—white as snow—and his eyes like a fiery flame. ¹⁵ His feet were like fine bronze as it is fired in a furnace, and his voice like the sound of cascading waters. ¹⁶ He had seven stars in his right hand; a sharp double-edged sword came from his mouth, and his face was shining like the sun at full strength.

¹⁷ When I saw him, I fell at his feet like a dead man. He laid his right hand on me and said, “Don’t be afraid. I am the First and the Last, ¹⁸ and the Living One. I was dead, but look—I am alive forever and ever, and I hold the keys of death and Hades. ¹⁹ Therefore write what you have seen, what is, and what will take place after this. ²⁰ The mystery of the seven stars 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.

• The Revelation of Jesus Christ (1:1–8)

NAMES FOR JESUS CHRIST IN CHAPTER 1:

Faithful witness (1:5)	The One who is, who was, and who is to come (1:8)
Firstborn from the dead (1:5)	The Almighty (1:8)
Ruler of the kings of the earth (1:5)	The First and the Last (1:17)
Alpha and Omega (1:8)	The Living One (1:18)

The revelation of Jesus Christ that God gave him to show his servants what must soon take place... (Revelation 1:1)

“But there is a God in heaven who reveals mysteries, and he has let King Nebuchadnezzar know what will happen in the last days...” (Daniel 2:28)

NEBUCHADNEZZAR’S DREAM

What Daniel envisioned occurring in the last days, John is announcing.

HEAD OF GOLD

BABYLON

CHEST AND ARMS OF SILVER

PERSIA

STOMACH AND THIGHS OF BRONZE

GREECE

LEGS OF IRON

ROME

FEET OF IRON AND CLAY

DIVIDED NATIONS OF WESTERN EUROPE



“STATUE”
by Renata Costa

• To the Seven Churches (1:9–11)

I, John, your brother and partner in the affliction, kingdom, and endurance that are in Jesus...“Write on a scroll what you see and send it to the seven churches: Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia, and Laodicea.” (Revelation 1:9, 11)

...To him who loves us and has set us free from our sins by his blood, and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father—to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. (Revelation 1:5-6)

“Now if you will carefully listen to me and keep my covenant, you will be my own possession out of all the peoples, although the whole earth is mine, and you will be my kingdom of priests and my holy nation.’ These are the words that you are to say to the Israelites.” (Exodus 19:5-6)

• He is with you (1:12–16)

...When I turned I saw seven golden lampstands, and among the lampstands was one like the Son of Man... (Revelation 1:12-13)

“...the seven lampstands are the seven churches.” (Revelation 1:20)

MAP OF THE SEVEN CHURCHES



Adapted from Jen Wilkin. *Revelation: Eternal King, Everlasting Kingdom*. (Nashville, TN: Lifeway Press, 2024)

• **Worship is the only response (1:17–20)**

When I saw him, I fell at his feet like a dead man. He laid his right hand on me and said, “Don’t be afraid. I am the First and the Last, and the Living One. I was dead, but look—I am alive forever and ever, and I hold the keys of death and Hades.” (Revelation 1:17-18)

**JOHN’S RESPONSE WAS CONSISTENT
WITH OTHERS WHO SAW THE GLORY OF GOD**

- ...*Woe is me for I am ruined because I am a man of unclean lips and live among a people of unclean lips, and because my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of Armies.* (Isaiah 6:5)
- *I heard the words he said, and when I heard them I fell into a deep sleep, with my face to the ground.* (Daniel 10:9)
- ...*This was the appearance of the likeness of the LORD’s glory. When I saw it, I fell facedown and heard a voice speaking.* (Ezekiel 1:28)

JESUS, THE SON OF MAN, IN REVELATION 1:13-16		
The Son of Man	Scriptural Images	Meaning
One like a Son of Man (1:13)	Daniel 7:13	The promised Messiah with divine authority
Clothed with a long robe (1:13)	Exodus 28:4	Priestly and royal authority
Golden sash around His chest (1:13)	Daniel 10:5	Honor, dignity, and heavenly authority
Hair white like wool (1:14)	Daniel 7:9	Shares the identity of God Himself
Eyes like a flame of fire (1:14)	Daniel 10:6	Piercing, all-seeing judgment
Feet like burnished bronze (1:15)	Ezekiel 1:7; Daniel 10:6	Strength, stability, and purity
Voice like many waters (1:15)	Ezekiel 43:2	The powerful voice of God
Sharp, two-edged sword from His mouth (1:16)	Isaiah 11:4; 49:2	His Word judges and rules
Face like the sun shining (1:16)	Matthew 17:2	Radiant, divine glory



"JESUS, SON OF MAN"
by Renata Costa

Life Group Discussion Guide

WEEK ONE

RHYTHM REMINDER



 **Serve the Community**

LEAN IN

If you could have a front-row seat to any event in history—past or future—what would you choose and why? _____

LOOK DOWN

Read Revelation 1 (pg. 26). In verse 5, John describes Jesus as “the faithful witness,” “the firstborn from the dead,” and “the ruler of the kings of the earth.” What do these titles tell us about who Jesus is? Which one stands out most to you, and why? _____

LOOK OUT

In verse 20, Jesus identifies the seven churches as seven lampstands—called to shine in their cities (see also Matthew 5:14-16). What makes it difficult for churches—or individual Christians—to be a visible light in their communities today? _____

LOOK IN

Jesus responds to John with "Don't be afraid" (v. 17). Is there an area of your life right now where you need to hear those words from Jesus? Share as you feel comfortable. _____

NOTES

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.