

the Lord's Day arrived (Sunday, the first day of the week, observed as the Christian Sabbath because on it Jesus rose from the dead) John made himself a place to worship out under the heavens, and his spirit was in communion with a better world.

He heard a voice like a trumpet which began to instruct him what to do. It is of interest to note that it was thus that God prepared Moses to receive the law. See Exodus 19:16-19.

FROM A TO Z

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." Rev. 1:11

The word "book" is sometimes translated "scroll." We will deal in detail with the seven churches later.

SEVEN CANDLESTICKS

"And I turned to see the voice that spake with

me. And being turned, I saw seven golden candlesticks;" Rev. 1:12

The word "seven" is very important, being used in the Scriptures more than any other number. It represents perfection; it is the Zenith.

The number "six" is that of a man (Rev. 13:18) and is a divisible number, but "one" is not. Man (six) when joined to God (one) makes perfection.

The candlesticks (or lampstands) represented the seven churches in which, according to verse 20, the light of God was shining.

VISION OF CHRIST

"And in the midst of the seven candlesticks one like unto the Son of man, clothed with a garment down to the foot, and girt about the paps with a golden girdle." Rev. 1:13

Christ was seen dwelling among the churches. His garment was fashioned like the sacerdotal (priestly) robes of the Old Testament priests, coming down to the feet.

The golden girdle was an emblem both of regal

Study Questions for Chapter 1

1. What does God entitle the book?
2. To whom did Christ reveal God's plan?
3. This record was written down by His servant ____?
4. Where did John write the book of Revelation?
5. What three things need to be done in order to receive a special blessing?
6. What is the central theme of the Bible?
7. How are we made new and become new creatures?
8. What number represents perfection?
9. Where is Christ dwelling?
10. What do the seven candlesticks represent?

As you conclude the study of each chapter, list an individual you know who is not ready for HIS appearing! Will you take the Truth to this precious soul? Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus!

Name of one who is not ready for HIS appearing: _____

The Memory Verses, as well as, Key Verses are suggestions. Please allow the Holy Spirit to guide you in all truth. There also may be other verses you desire to commit to heart as a result of your study.

Memory Verse: Rev. 1:3

Key Verse: Rev. 1:8

Prayer: Lord, help me to see You, exalted in all your glory and majesty. Grant understanding as I read, hear, and obey.

Personal Application & Additional Notes

So, the message to the churches is to individuals of all ages. It is given specifically that the individual may be warned by the failure revealed therein. It is hoped that he will profit by the warning and find encouragement from the promises to the overcomer.

THE GOOD REMEMBERED

“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:” Rev 2:2

The church had labored, they had been patient in tribulation, and had sought to keep a clean roll. This is evident from the fact that some false preachers had come along claiming the call of God on their lives to apostleship. The church had put them to the test, found them liars, and dealt with them accordingly.

FAITHFUL IN LABORS

“And hast borne, and hast patience, and for my name’s sake hast laboured, and hast not fainted.”
Rev. 2:3

Christ is not a judge who cannot be pleased. He commends the church on every point that merits commendation. However, on points where they needed condemnation, He did not fail to speak out as we see in verse four. This should be the established rule of every preacher who stands in the pulpit with God’s message on his lips. He **MUST** commend the good, but he **MUST** also cry out against wrong. He is to name the sins of people, uncover them, call for repentance and forsaking of them, and call attention to the punishments awaiting those who fail to do so.

FIRST LOVE LOST

“Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love.” Rev. 2:4

In spite of her glorious beginning, “the desirable one” began to cool off a few years later. They did not retain that strong and ardent affection for God