

THE LIVING BIBLE

12-28-08

(Rev 1:1-3) **The Revelation of Jesus Christ**, which God gave unto him, to show unto his servants things which must shortly come to pass; and he sent **and signified it** [*i.e., by signs and symbolism*] by his angel unto his servant John: Who bare record of the word of God, and of the testimony of Jesus Christ, and of all things that he saw. **Blessed** is he that readeth [*i.e., puts forth effort*], and they that hear [*Gk: understand*] the words of this **prophecy** [*Gk: prediction*], **and keep** [*Gk: guard: hold fast, watch*] [*Gen 2:15*] those things which are written therein: **for the time is at hand**.

1. revelation = Gk: *apokalupsis*; “apocalypse”; disclosure:--appearing, coming, lighten, manifestation, be revealed, revelation /// separation, departure, cessation, completion, reversal **AND** to take off the cover, i.e. disclose:--reveal /// to cover up:--cover, hide /// to conceal (prop. by covering):--hide (self), keep secret, secret [-ly].
2. (Gen 3:21) Unto Adam also and to his wife did the LORD God make coats of skins, **and clothed them**.

(Rev 1:4-6) John to the seven churches which are in Asia [*western Turkey*]: **Grace** be unto you, and **peace**, from him which is, and which was, and which is to come; and from **the seven Spirits** [*Isa 11:1,2*] which are before his throne; And from **Jesus Christ**, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince [*Gk: first (in rank or power):--chief (ruler), magistrate, prince, ruler*] of the kings of the earth. Unto him that **loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood**, And hath made us kings and priests [*repeated: Rev 5:10*] unto God and his Father; to him be **glory and dominion** [*over what?*] for ever and ever. Amen.

1. glory = Gk: glory (as very apparent) [*fig., like a brilliant sunburst, but steady and eternal*], in a wide application (lit. or fig., obj. or subj.):--dignity, glory (-ious), honour, praise, worship.
2. dominion = Gk: vigor ["great"]:--dominion, might [-ily], power, strength.

(Rev 1:7,8) **Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him**, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen. **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.

1. Commentary: Men and women are symbolized by the clouds in the air, separated from the earth. Water is a symbol of the Holy Spirit. Clouds are composed of millions of drops of water, assembled together (Heb 10:25). Each drop of water in a cloud condenses around and encompasses a grain of dust. White is the righteousness of the saints.
 - a. (Gen 2:7) And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.
 - b. (Rev 19:7,8) Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and **his wife hath made herself ready** [*Mat 25:10*]. **And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen** [*Gk: made of linen /// Heb: white linen*], **clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints**.
2. (Rom 8:17-19) And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified [*i.e., sunburst*] **together** [*with whom? With Jesus Christ? Yes. With brothers and sisters in Christ? Yes*]. For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with **the glory which shall be revealed in us** [*2 Thess 1:7,10,12*]. For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for **the manifestation** [*Gk: apokalupsis; revelation, revealing*] **of the sons of God**.

(Rev 1:9-11) I **John**, who also am your brother, **and companion in tribulation**, and in the kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ, was in the isle that is called **Patmos**, for the word of God, and for the testimony of Jesus Christ. I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet, 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.

1. Commentary: John the younger brother of James was exiled (banished) to the island of Patmos about fifty miles southwest of Ephesus in the Aegean Sea during the Roman emperor Domitian's reign, 81-96 A.D. Domitian persecuted Christians for faithfully proclaiming the gospel and remaining loyal to

Christ and His Word. Tradition has it that the apostle John finished writing The Revelation in 95 A.D., returned to Ephesus after Domitian died, and himself died in 98 A.D.

(Rev 1:12-16) And I turned to see the voice that spake with me. **And being turned, I saw seven golden candlesticks; And in the midst of the seven candlesticks one like unto the Son of man**, clothed with a garment down to the foot [*most likely the High Priest's robe*], and girt about the paps with a golden girdle [*most likely the High Priest's breastplate*]. His head and his hairs were white like wool, as white as snow [*"the Ancient of days" Dan 7:9*]; and his eyes were as a flame of fire; And his feet like unto fine brass [*biblical symbol of judgment*], as if they burned in a furnace [*"whose fire is in Zion, and his furnace in Jerusalem" Isa 31:9*]; and his voice as the sound of many waters [*i.e., all tongues in one voice*]. And he had in his right hand **seven stars**: and out of his mouth went a **sharp twoedged sword**: and his countenance [*Gk: appearance*] was **as the sun shineth in his strength** [*i.e., a steady immeasurably powerful sunburst*].

1. Commentary: "a sharp twoedged sword" (Heb 4:12 = logos; Eph 6:17 = rhema). **Symbolized in the act of circumcision**, the sword of the Word of God either cuts away sin from the churches (people) and brings God's **grace**, or it cuts a church (people) away from the kingdom of God in **judgment**.
2. (Exo 25:23-30) Thou shalt also make a **table of shittim wood**: two cubits shall be the length thereof, and a cubit the breadth thereof, and a cubit and a half the height thereof. And thou shalt overlay it with pure gold, and make thereto a **golden crown round about**. And thou shalt make unto it a border of an hand breadth round about, and thou shalt make a **golden crown** to the border thereof round about. And thou shalt make for it four rings of gold, and put the rings in the four corners that are on **the four feet thereof**. Over against the border shall the rings be for places of the staves to bear the table. And thou shalt make the staves of shittim wood, and overlay them with gold, that the table may be borne with them. And thou shalt make the dishes thereof, and spoons thereof, and covers thereof, and bowls thereof, to cover withal: of pure gold shalt thou make them. **And thou shalt set upon the table showbread before me alway**.
3. (Exo 25:31-40) And thou shalt make a **candlestick of pure gold**: of beaten work shall the candlestick be made: his shaft, and his branches, his bowls, his knops, and his flowers, shall be of the same. And six branches shall come out of the sides of it; three branches of the candlestick out of the one side, and three branches of the candlestick out of the other side: Three bowls made like unto almonds, with a knop and a flower in one branch; and three bowls made like almonds in the other branch, with a knop and a flower: so in the six branches that come out of the candlestick. And in the candlestick shall be four bowls made like unto almonds, with their knops and their flowers. And there shall be a knop under two branches of the same, and a knop under two branches of the same, and a knop under two branches of the same, according to the six branches that proceed out of the candlestick. Their knops and their branches shall be of the same: all it shall be one beaten work of pure gold [*in total 66 items in number; 27+12 (the center candlestick) = 39+27 = 66: the Bible*]. **And thou shalt make the seven lamps thereof: and they shall light the lamps thereof, that they may give light over against it** [*i.e., against the table of showbread*]. And the tongs thereof, and the snuffdishes thereof, shall be of pure gold. Of a talent of pure gold shall he make it, with all these vessels. And look [*take care*] that thou make them **after their pattern**, which was showed thee in the mount [*Sinai*] [*i.e., do not add to nor diminish anything written in this book: Deut 4:2; 12:32; Prov 30:6; Rev 22:18*].

(Rev 1:17,18) And when I saw him, I fell at his feet as dead [*because of resident sin*]. And he laid his right hand upon me, saying unto me, **Fear not** [*I have paid for your sins*]; I am the first and the last: I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.

(Rev 1:19,20) Write the things which thou hast seen, and the things which are, and the things which shall be hereafter; The mystery of the seven stars which thou sawest in my right hand, and the seven golden candlesticks. **The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches: and the seven candlesticks which thou sawest are the seven churches**.

Amen