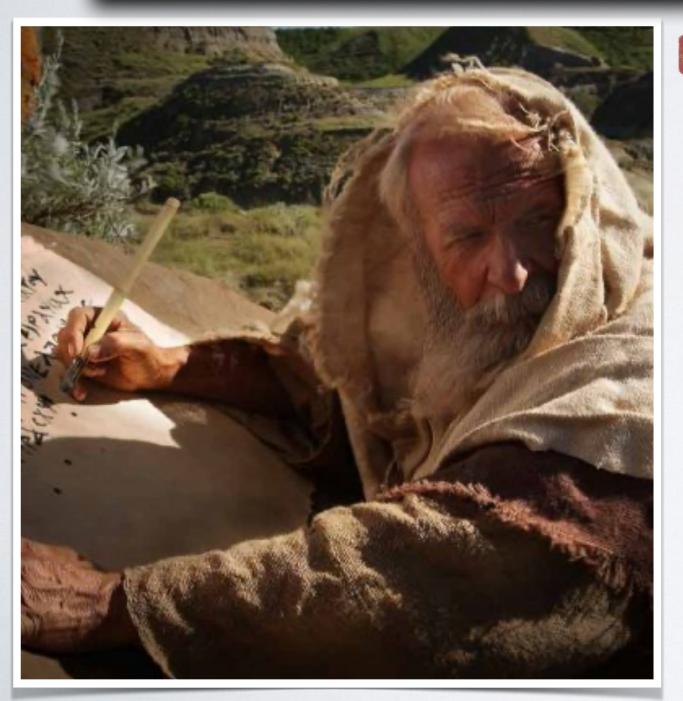


- The book of REVELATION is not about the end of the world, and it was not penned for the sake of the last generation just prior to the end of world history.
- The visions of the Revelation speak to the needs and concerns of those first century Christians!
- "Shortly" cannot be made to imply the the inclusion of, nor the skipping over of, thousands of years.

A VISUAL IMAGE OF CHRIST (Revelation 1:9-20)



The Appearance of Christ to John (1:9-20)

- John is presented with a spectacular vision of the Christ among the churches.
- There is significance in the placement of this vision at the beginning of the book.
- These suffering Christians need to see their Lord in His true Majesty that they can be sustained in their tribulation.

A VISUAL IMAGE OF CHRIST (Revelation 1:9-20)

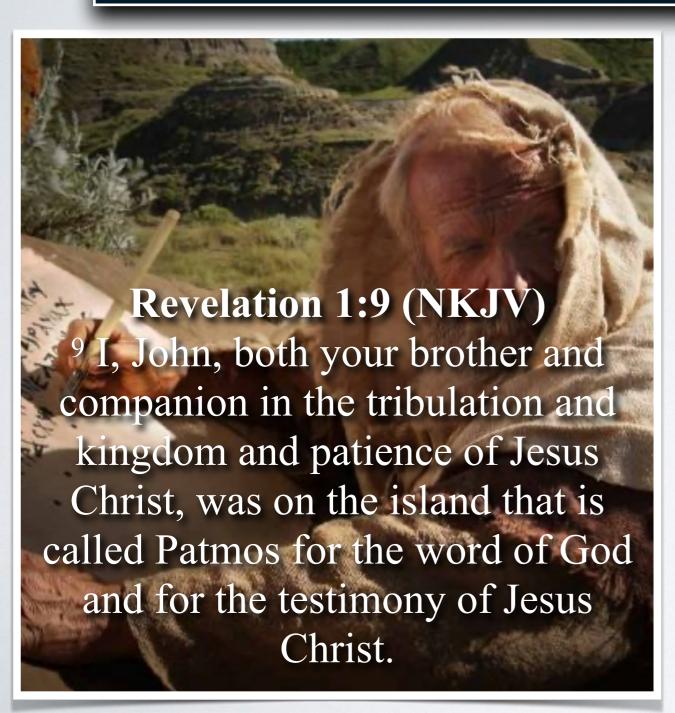
⁹ I, John, both your brother and companion in the tribulation and kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ, was on the island that is called Patmos for the word of God and for the testimony of Jesus Christ. ¹⁰ I was in the Spirit on the Lord's Day, and I heard behind me a loud voice, as of a trumpet, ¹¹ saying, "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last," and, "What you see, write in a book and send it to the seven churches which are in Asia: to Ephesus, to Smyrna, to Pergamos, to Thyatira, to Sardis, to Philadelphia, and to Laodicea."

A VISUAL IMAGE OF CHRIST (Revelation 1:9-20)

12 Then I turned to see the voice that spoke with me. And having turned I saw seven golden lampstands, 13 and in the midst of the seven lampstands One like the Son of Man, clothed with a garment down to the feet and girded about the chest with a golden band. 14 His head and hair were white like wool, as white as snow, and His eyes like a flame of fire; 15 His feet were like fine brass, as if refined in a furnace, and His voice as the sound of many waters; 16 He had in His right hand seven stars, out of His mouth went a sharp two-edged sword, and His countenance was like the sun shining in its strength.

A VISUAL IMAGE OF CHRIST (Revelation 1:9-20)

¹⁷ And when I saw Him, I fell at His feet as dead. But He laid His right hand on me, saying to me, "Do not be afraid; I am the First and the Last. ¹⁸ I am He who lives, and was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore. Amen. And I have the keys of Hades and of Death. 19 Write the things which you have seen, and the things which are, and the things which will take place after this. ²⁰ The mystery of the seven stars which you saw in My right hand, and the seven golden lampstands: The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands which you saw are the seven churches.



- "Your brother and companion in the tribulation" John was their partner in "tribulation" because he is presently enduring personal exile as a prisoner of the Roman state on the island of Patmos. (1:9)
- "and kingdom" John was also their fellow citizen in the "kingdom" (1:6; 5:10; Col. 1:13)
- "and patience" His faith and hope in Christ Jesus enabled him to have endurance (14:12-13).



- "I was in the Spirit" (cf4:2; 17:3; 21:10) denotes something like a state of trance in which one is enabled by the Holy Spirit to see a vision from God. (2 Cor. 12:1-7; Isa. 6:1; Eze. 1:1-13; 3:12,14; etc.)
- "On the Lord's Day" It is most logical to conclude that John has reference to the first day of the week, (Ac 20:7; 1 Co 16:2), as per most historians and traditions.
- "I heard behind me a loud voice, as of a trumpet"

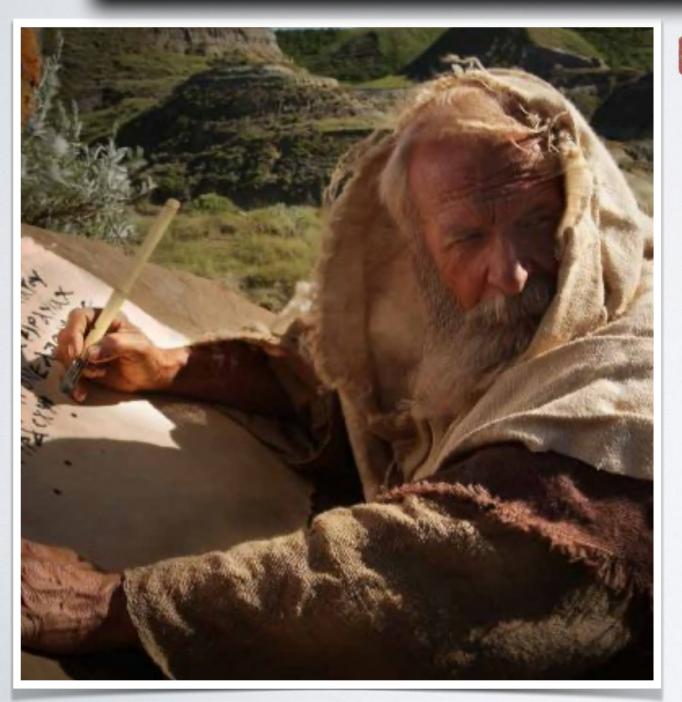
A VISUAL IMAGE OF CHRIST (Revelation 1:9-20)



Revelation 1:11 (NKJV)

11 saying, "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last," and, "What you see, write in a book and send it to the seven churches which are in Asia: to Ephesus, to Smyrna, to Pergamos, to Thyatira, to Sardis, to Philadelphia, and to Laodicea."

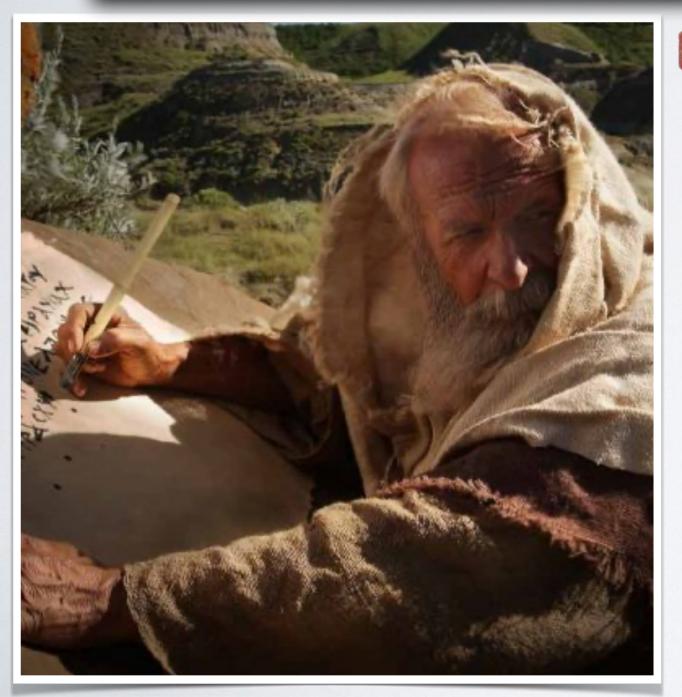
A VISUAL IMAGE OF CHRIST (Revelation 1:9-20)



Jesus described in (1:5-7)

- "Faithful Witness" (1:5; Jn 8:14; 18:36-38; He 1:1-3)
- "1st Begotten From The Dead" (1:5; Col. 1:18; 1 Cor. 15:20)
- "Prince of the kings of the earth" (1:5; 17:14; 19:16; Ep 1:20,21; 1 Tim 6:15)
- "Who loved us & washed us from our sins in His own blood" (1:5; Jn 13:34; Mt. 28:26; Heb 9:15,25-28)

A VISUAL IMAGE OF CHRIST (Revelation 1:9-20)



Jesus described in (1:5-7)

- "Made us kings & priest to God" (1:6; 5:9,10; 1 Pet 2:9; Col. 1:13)
- "To Him be glory and dominion forever and ever" (1:6; 5:12-14; 17:14; Acts 2:36; 1 Pet. 4:11; 5:11; 2 Pet 3:18; Jn 5:23; Heb. 13:21; Jude 25)
- "Coming in the clouds" (1:7; Eph 1:20,21; Acts 1:9-11; 1 Thes 4:17)

A VISUAL IMAGE OF CHRIST (Revelation 1:9-20)

Revelation 1:11-17 (NKJV) 11 saying, "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last," 12 Then I turned to see the voice that spoke with me. And having turned I saw seven golden lampstands, 13 and in the midst of the seven lampstands *One* like the Son of Man, clothed with a garment down to the feet and girded about the chest with a golden band.

- Jesus described in (1:11-20)
- "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last" (1:11, 17; 2:8; 21:6; 22:13)
- "Like unto the Son of Man"
 (Human form 1:13; Dan 7:9-13;
 Jn 1:14; Hb 2:14-16; Phili 2:5-8)
- "Clothed with garment down to His feet, girded around the chest with a golden band" (Priestly attire with authority -1:13; 15:6; Dan 10:5)

A VISUAL IMAGE OF CHRIST (Revelation 1:9-20)

Revelation 1:11-17 (NKJV) ¹⁴ His head and hair were white like wool. as white as snow, and His eyes like a flame of fire; 15 His feet were like fine brass, as if refined in a furnace,

- Jesus described in (1:11-20)
- "Head & hair white as wool & snow" (divine majesty, glory & purity 1:14; Dan 7:9)
- "Eyes as a flame of fire"
 (penetrating, omniscient, divine knowledge / judgment 1:14;
 Rev 2:18; 19:12; Dan 10:6)
- "Feet like fine brass, refined in the fire" (Strength, justice, authority & power to vanquish all enemies 1:15; 2:18; Dan 10:6; Ezek. 1:7; 40:3)

A VISUAL IMAGE OF CHRIST (Revelation 1:9-20)

Revelation 1:11-17 (NKJV) and His voice as the sound of many waters; ¹⁶ He had in His right hand seven stars, out of His mouth went a sharp twoedged sword, and His countenance was like the sun shining in its strength. 17 And when I saw Him, I fell at His feet as dead. ...

Jesus described in (1:11-20)

- "Voice as sound of many waters" (overwhelming majesty, authority, demanding our attention 1:15; 14:2; 19:6; Ps 93:4; Ez 43:2)
 - "Seven stars in His hand" (Ownership & authority over
 the messengers to the churches /
 they & the churches belong to
 Him, to Whom they must give
 account 1:16,20; 19:6; Ps
 93:4; Ez 43:2; 2 Cor 5:10)

A VISUAL IMAGE OF CHRIST (Revelation 1:9-20)

Revelation 1:11-17 (NKJV) and His voice as the sound of many waters; ¹⁶ He had in His right hand seven stars, out of His mouth went a sharp twoedged sword, and His countenance was like the sun shining in its strength. 17 And when I saw Him, I fell at His feet as dead. ...

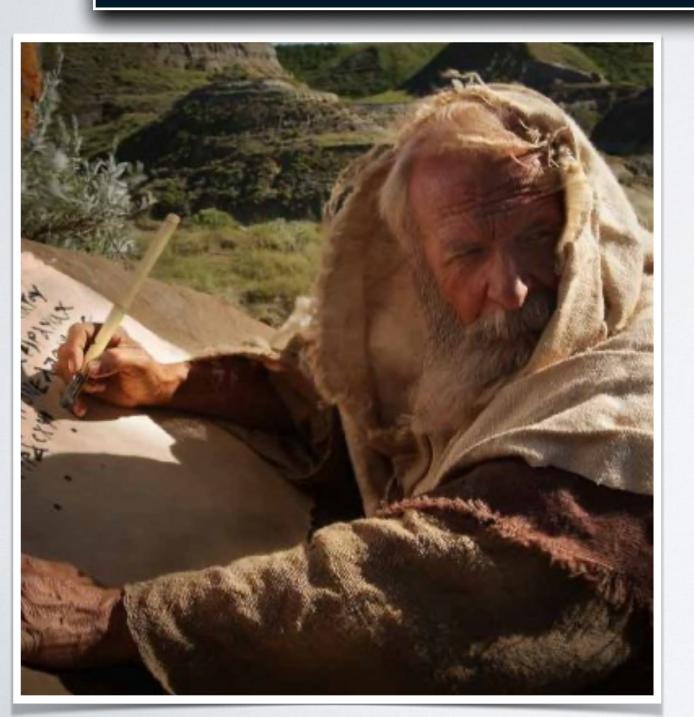
- Jesus described in (1:11-20)
- "Sharp two edged sword out of His mouth" (word of truth / exposes & destroys / judges 1:16; 2:12,16; 19:15,21; Is 11:4; Ep 6:17; Heb 4:12; Jn 12:48)
- "Countenance as the unimpeded light of the sun" (Divine glory 1:16; Heb 1:3)
- "Worthy of all reverence & worship" (John "fell at His feet as dead" 1:17; Ez 1:28; Dan 10:8,9; 17-19)

A VISUAL IMAGE OF CHRIST (Revelation 1:9-20)

Revelation 1:17,18 (NKJV) But He laid His right hand on me, saying to me, "Do not be afraid; I am the First and the Last. ¹⁸ I am He who lives, and was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore. Amen. And I have the keys of Hades and of Death.

- Jesus described in (1:11-20)
- "I am the First and the Last." 3 times in Revelation (1:17; 2:8; 22:13) = eternality.
- "I am He who lives, and was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore" lives, (eternal), was dead, (deity tasted death), Forever our living Savior (Heb 2:9,14-15; 7:25).
- "And I have the keys of Hades and of Death." has conquered death & has power over it.

A VISUAL IMAGE OF CHRIST (Revelation 1:9-20)



Revelation 1:19 (NKJV)

19 Write the things which you have seen, and the things which are, and the things which which will take place after this.

A VISUAL IMAGE OF CHRIST (Revelation 1:9-20)

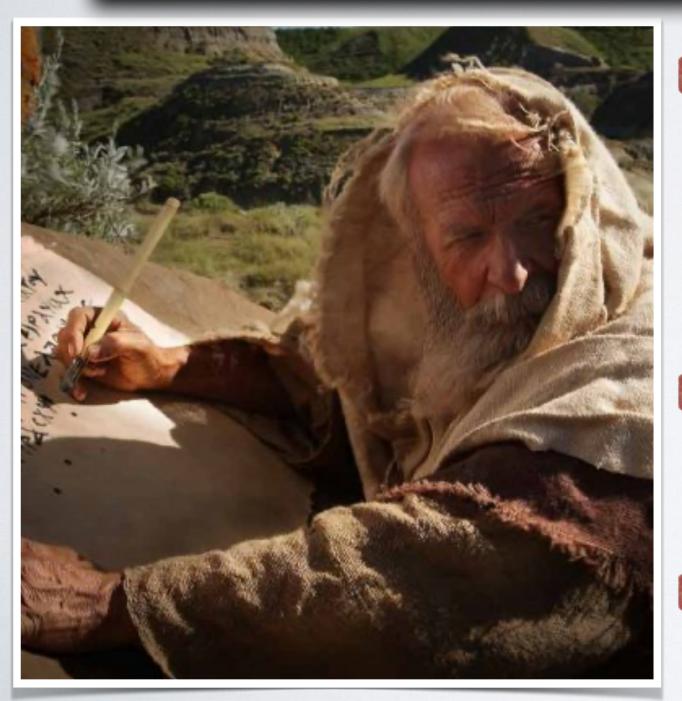


Revelation 1:20 (NKJV)

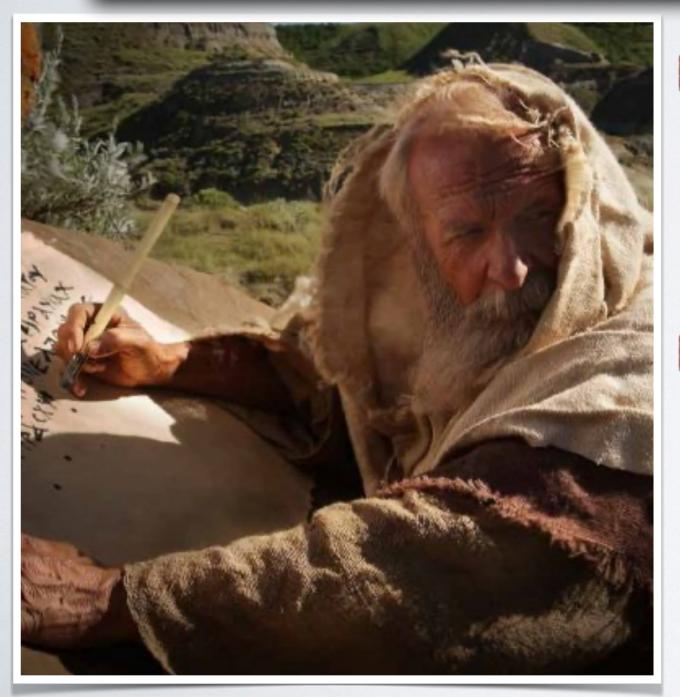
20 The mystery of the seven stars which you saw in My right hand, and the seven golden lampstands: The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands which you saw are the seven churches.



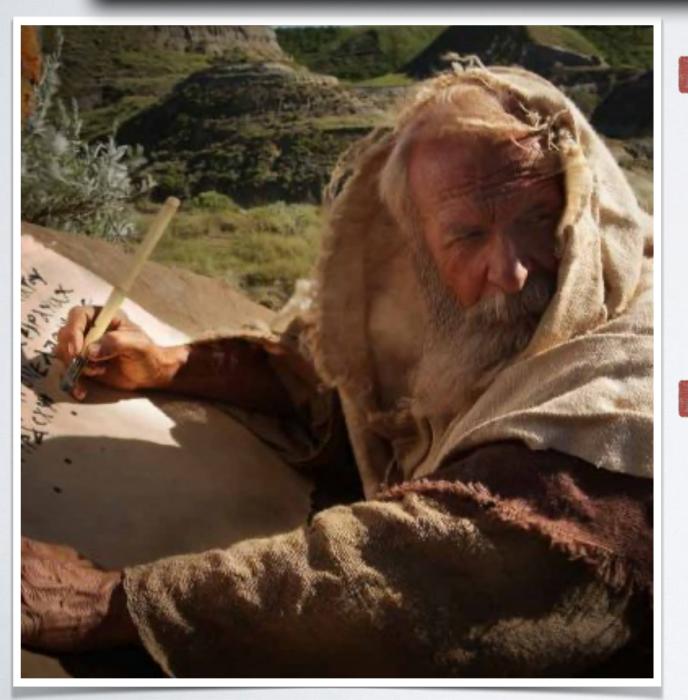
- The churches at that time needed hope, courage & comfort
- Social disgrace / financial & material loss / physical persecution / loss of physical life (Acts 14:22; 2 Tim 3:12)
- Was / is being a Christian "worth it?" (Mat 10:28; 16:24-27; Rev 14:12,13)
- A message needed for all Christians of all ages



- Faithfulness to the Lord is a worthwhile endeavor regardless what may happen to us in the flesh (Rev 14:12,13)
- We need to keep our focus on Jesus (Rev. 1:5-19; Jn 10:10; Heb 12:1-3)
- Jesus is still Lord of lords & King of kings! (Rev 17:14)



- Jesus knows our collective state He knows our works (How do we measure up as a church?)
 - Jesus knows our individual state He knows our works (How do we measure up as individuals?)



- May we, as a church belonging to Christ, give Him the respect He deserves surrendering to His authority in all things!
 - May we individually respect the Lord enough to surrender to His will giving our best to Him who loved us and died for us!

A VISUAL IMAGE OF CHRIST (Revelation 1:9-20)

Hear the gospel Believe the gospel Repent & Confess Be baptized into Christ for the remission of your sins Be faithful / submitting to, serving & trusting Jesus

Revelation 22:14 (NKJV)

¹⁴ Blessed *are* those who do His commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city.

"The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave Him to show His servants—things which must shortly take place."

Revelation 1:1

Charts by Don McClain

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REVELATION

Isaiah 6:1-5 (NKJV)

¹ In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up, and the train of His robe filled the temple. ² Above it stood seraphim; each one had six wings: with two he covered his face, with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. ³ And one cried to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; The whole earth is full of His glory!" ⁴ And the posts of the door were shaken by the voice of him who cried out, and the house was filled with smoke. ⁵ So I said: "Woe is me, for I am undone! Because I am a man of unclean lips, And I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; For my eyes have seen the King, The Lord of hosts."