

Revelation Study
The Call To Write
Revelation 1:4-11

- I. John Writes To The “Seven” Churches (4)
 - A. The use of seven in the Old Testament, Revelation, and Apocalyptic literature
 - 1. The number seven is often used in the Old Testament as the number of fullness or completeness
 - 2. Sometimes it is used in a strictly literal way
 - 3. Sometimes it is used both literally and figuratively (Cross reference Leviticus, sprinkling of blood on altar “7” times)
 - 4. Sometimes it is used strictly figuratively (see Leviticus 26:18-28)
 - B. In Revelation – the number “7” plays a key role in indicating the fullness or completeness of the work of Christ toward the final redemption
 - C. Likely, John is writing this letter to the literal “7” churches listed and figuratively to the universal body of Christ in all places at all times
 - D. This figurative usage is made clear by His reference to the “seven Spirits” in the same verse (cf. Zechariah 4:2-10, and Revelation 4:5; 5:6)
- II. The Content of the Letter
 - A. Author – the Trinity
 - 1. The one who was and is and is to come (often Jesus, can be the Father)
 - 2. Seven Spirits – Holy Spirit
 - 3. Jesus Christ
 - B. The Recipients of the Letter

- 1. Those loved by Jesus
 - 2. Those released from their sins by His blood
 - 3. Those who have been made to be a kingdom and priests
 - C. The Content – Write what you see (the rest of the sermon series)
- III. Behold, He Is Coming In The Clouds
 - A. Two Old Testament References – Daniel 7:9-14 and Zechariah 12:10-14
 - 1. Jesus made mention of both of these in Matthew 24:30
 - 2. The Daniel passage is already universal in its scope (all peoples, nations, men of every language)
 - 3. The Zechariah passage is made universal here in Revelation and in Matthew
 - a. In Zechariah it was particular to “they/them” – Israel
 - b. Here – “every eye” and “all the tribes of the earth”
 - c. Who hasn’t “pierced him”? – Both Jew and Gentile
 - B. This is a reference to a future event, one of both sorrow and hope: the Second Coming of Jesus
- IV. The Context of This Letter
 - A. During tribulation, the kingdom, and the on-going persecution
 - 1. Because of the Bible
 - 2. Because of the gospel
 - B. In the context of spiritual awareness and personal worship
 - C. Directly from Jesus Christ Himself