

New Community Church of
Union
Website: www.thenccu.org

Revelation 1:1-8
The Revelation of Christ
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An Encouragement – vs.1-3

The Message

- Given to Jesus by God the Father, revealed to the angel who revealed them to John.
- This is the word of God, the testimony of Jesus as testified to by John.

The Blessing

- This is a type of beatitude as in Matt. 5:3-11
- What is this blessing?

The Blessing

- The blessing of knowing and understanding God more deeply. Of hearing from Him and being upheld by his words.
- The presence of God and the peace that comes from the presence of God in your life.
- Revelation is a book of comfort and hope and security to those who follow Jesus

The Timing

- “must soon take place”
- “The time is near”
- We need to prepare for God to fulfill His word at any moment.

The Timing

- We are currently in the end times.
 - Began with the resurrection of Jesus and will be completed at the return of Jesus.
- His return is immanent.

A Greeting and Doxology – vs.4-6

The Recipients

- To the seven churches in the province of Asia.
- Why these seven churches?

The Intent

- For the grace and peace of the readers.
- It is not a “the sky is falling” message.
- Definition of peace: “The objective condition when all is well with us in our relationship to God through Christ.” (Lenski)

The Sender – v.4-5a

- The sender of the message is the triune God; Father, Son, Holy Spirit

The Father

- The Being One and the Was One, and the Coming One.
- The Coming One is highly Messianic.

The Holy Spirit

- Referred to as the seven-fold Spirit.
- A reference to the Holy Spirit who is over the seven churches.
- See Rev.3:1

The Son

- Jesus Christ – Savior and Messiah
- Jesus Christ – The faithful Witness
 - The one who lived on earth and faithful and perfectly represented God and His words.

The Son

- Jesus Christ – The firstborn from the dead.
 - His death and resurrection.
- Firstborn:
 - The foremost one, in the sense of position, title, and authority.
 - NOT in the sense of first created or physically born.
- Firstborn speaks of pre-eminence, authority, and of His God-ness; His eternal enthronement.

The Doxology – vs.5b-6

- Jesus loves us.
- Jesus freed us from our sins through His blood.
- Jesus made us to be a kingdom of priests in order to serve God the Father.

We are a Kingdom

- Note! The only verb is “to be made”, the other two are participles.
- THUS – the stress is on being made to be a kingdom! We are not just sufferers to be trifled with, we are kingdom!

We are priests

- One who represents God, who hears from God, who speaks to other about God.
- Priests intercede for the world on behalf of God.

A prologue – vs. 7-8

Prologue

- Jesus is Coming! This is the theme of the apocalypse; the certainty of the coming of Christ.
- Note! This is the epilogue also! See Rev.21:20.

Prologue

- All people or “tribes” of earth will know when Jesus comes.
- This will be a time of mourning – There will no longer be a chance of repentance; Christ has come to judge the living and the dead.

The Signature of Jesus – v.8

- The confirmation of Jesus that these words are true. He seals it with His signature.
- NOTE! Jesus is the one who was, and is, and is to come.
- Jesus is God and He is coming back again. See Acts 1:11
