



Rethinking Revelation

Will Douglas
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Revelation 1:4-20 Douglas translation

⁴John, to the seven churches in Asia, Grace to you and peace from the One who is, who was, and who is coming; from the seven spirits who are before His throne; ⁵and from King Jesus - the loyal martyr, the first-born from the dead, and the sovereign over the kings of the earth. He is the One who continually loves us and set us free from our sins by His blood. ⁶He is also the One who made us a Kingdom, to be priests for God, His Father. To Him belongs glory and sovereignty forever and ever! Amen.

⁷Behold! He comes with the clouds, and every eye will see Him, even those that pierced Him. Then, all the nations of the earth will mourn because of Him. Yes, amen.

⁸"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, the One who is, who was, and who is coming - the Almighty.

⁹I, John, your brother and co-sharer in the suffering, Kingdom, and fortitude which are in Jesus, have been on the island of Patmos as a result of God's word and the testimony concerning Jesus. ¹⁰Being in the Spirit on the Lord's day, I heard behind me a great voice like a trumpet, ¹¹saying, "You must write what you see in a book and send it to the seven churches in Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia, and Laodicea."

¹²Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking to me and I saw seven golden lampstands. ¹³In the midst of the lampstands is One like a son of man. He wears a long robe, and a golden belt around His chest. ¹⁴His head and hair are white like wool, even white as snow. His eyes are like a flaming fire. ¹⁵His feet are like brass that's been refined in a furnace. His voice is like the sound of many waters. ¹⁶In His right hand He's holding seven stars, and a sharp, double-edged sword is coming out of His mouth. His face is like the sun shining in all its strength.

¹⁷When I saw Him I fell down before His feet like a dead man. Then, having put His right hand on me, He says, "Do not fear! I am the First and the Last. ¹⁸I am the Living One. I was dead, but behold I am alive for ever and ever! I possess the keys to death and the place of the dead. ¹⁹Therefore, write down what you observe - what is taking place now as well as what will come to pass after these things happen. ²⁰This is the mystery of the seven stars you see at my right hand and the seven golden lampstands: the seven stars are the messengers of the seven churches and the seven lampstands are the seven churches.

Rethinking our SAVIOR

Rethinking our SELVES