**Revelation 1: The Revelation of Jesus Christ**

 **I. Prologue (1:1-3)**

 **II. Introduction (I:4-8)**

 **III. The Experience of the churches (1:9-3:22)**

 **IV. The Beginning of the Birth Pangs – the First Half of the Week (4:1-11:19)**

 **V. Birth Pangs Proper: The Second Half of the Week (12:1-16:21)**

 **VI. Climax: The Two Cities (17:1-22:5)**

**VII. Conclusion (22:6-21)**

**(The Revelation of Jesus Christ, The Grace New Testament Commentary, Robert Vacendak, Ed. Robert N. Wilkin, 2010. Copied by permission)**

**Purpose: To present Jesus as the Supreme Judge that we might be motivated to live godly lives, looking forward to God’s eternal rule.**

**We’re on the winning team!**

**MAIN IDEA (Ch. 1): A correct view of Jesus is life-changing**

**1. Prologue (1:1-3)**

* **The revelation is of Jesus**
* **These things “must” happen soon (to the Lord)**
* **John didn’t compromise the Word nor his allegiance to Jesus**
* **This is a letter to the Church and there is a practical message for us**

 **II. Introduction (I:4-8)**

* **This book is addressed to the Church**
* **This section seeks to give us a picture of Jesus critical to our lives and an understanding of what is to come**
* **In addition, it gives us perspective on His relationship to us and our role in the world today and the Kingdom to come**
* **The words of 1:7 mirror those of Mt. 24:30 and His teaching on the Tribulation**
* **God gives Israel a heart to realize what they have done (Zech. 12:10-13)**
* **End of Trib. Israel repents and the remnant (1/3) is saved (Zech. 13)**

**III. The Experience of the churches (1:9-3:22)**

**The overpowering appearance of Jesus 1:9-20**

* **“Seven golden lampstands” (12-13) Churches (20) This is the Head of the Church and walks among them**
* **“Like the Son of Man” (13) Dan. 7:13-14 – The Ruler of the eternal kingdom**
* **“Garment” and “Band of gold” (13) Judge’s robe?**
* **“His Head and His were hair white like wool” (14) Again, like Dan. 7:9-10; the wisdom to Judge**
* **“Eyes like a flame of fire” (14) Piercing, sees all, with the fire of judgment**
* **Powerful voice and presence (13-20)**
* **Sharp two-edged Sword (16) Indicates judgment (Heb. 4:11-12; Isa. 49:2)**
* **Bright, brilliant countenance, like the sun (16)**
* **Overpowering – Jesus’ closest friend on earth “fell at His feet as dead”**
* **Why should John “not be afraid**?” (17)
	+ **“First and the Last” Jesus is eternal, the same One John knew**
	+ **“Dead…alive forevermore” “I represent love for you at the cross and victory, John, I know how to win!”**
	+ **“Keys of Hades and Death” I control both the first and the second death**
		- **“You’re safe with Me”**
		- **“I’ll take care of the rest”**
	+ **“You have nothing to fear!”**
* **“Write…which you have seen…which are…which will take place”**
* **“Stars” and “lampstands” – Jesus is sending a message to His Body**
* **This section pictures Jesus as the One who has the right to judge.**

**Attributes of Jesus from Revelation 1**

* **Eternal: Jesus presented as eternal (11, 17)**
* **All-seeing and all-powerful. Seven spirits = Symbolic of His power and omniscience (See 4:5 and 5:6); He sees all and can do anything (4)**
* **Faithful Witness: Wouldn’t compromise, even to death**
* **Firstborn from the dead = The Preeminent One of those who have died; The Heir who inherits all; He has the rights to rule of the first-born - Heb. 1:2, 6**
* **Ruler of the kings of the earth – Ps. 2:7-8 “Today I have begotten You” - Acts 13:33 with Heb. 1:2, 6**
* **He is the God of life, (Lev. 7:25-27; Jn. 1:4) NOT the rulers!**
* **Sacrifice for sin: “Loved us/washed us from our sins in His own blood” – (5b). Interesting that, like Hebrews 1:3, His sacrifice is in the midst of His attributes; He is love, He is humble, He is sacrificial.**
* **He shares His rule Like Hebrews, He shares His rule with humanity “Kings and priests.” Also, like Jesus, that is not yet realized Heb. 2:5-8; Ps. 8**

