



## Intro: **Why Study Revelation?**

### **Revelation 1:1-8**

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**Title:** *apokalypsis*, “unveiling.”

**Author:** The Apostle John

The Gospel of John: Believe (John 20:31)

The Epistles of John: Be sure (1 John 5:13)

The Revelation given to John: Be ready (Rev. 22:20)

**Location:** The island of Patmos in the Aegean Sea off the coast of modern-day Turkey (then called Asia Minor)

**Date:** (Two views) After the death of Nero, c. 69 A.D. or during the reign of Domitian in the 90's A.D.

**A Key Verse:** *1:19 Write therefore the things that you have seen, those that are and those that are to take place after this.*

**Type of Literature:** Prophetic and Apocalyptic

### **Revelation 1:1-3 ESV**

*1 The revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show to his servants the things that must soon take place. He made it known by sending his angel to his servant John, 2 who bore witness to the word of God and to the testimony of Jesus Christ, even to all that he saw. 3 Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear, and who keep what is written in it, for the time is near.*

### **Why study this “strange” book?**

It holds a special blessing for the reader and doer. v.3

It has a crucial relevance for the church. v.4

It reveals Jesus Christ as he is now. vv.5-6

It encourages us that he will return for us. v.7

It reminds us that God is in control. v.8

## **LifeGroup Study Guide**

### **Why Study Revelation?**

#### **Revelation 1:1-8**

**Interest:** What is it about the study of Revelation that intrigues or interests you?

What, if anything, has frustrated you about Revelation?

**Promises:** What promises does the Lord give in Revelation 1:3? What blessing have you received already? (7 Beatitudes of Revelation: 1:3a; 14:13; 16:15; 19:9; 20:6; 22:7; 22:14)

**Urgency:** Time (1:3) does not refer to time on a clock or calendar, but refers to seasons or eras. The next great era of God's redemptive history is near. Compare to Rom 13:12; 1 Pet. 4:17; 2 Pet 3:3-4; James 5:7-9; 1 John 2:18

What does it mean to you that God is in control of His Story (history)?

**Recipients:** To whom was this revelation written? (1:4, Cf. Ch. 2-3) If this is written to seven churches in the first century, how does this apply to the church in the 21<sup>st</sup> century? (2 Tim 3:16-17; Rev 22:18-21)

**God:** What do we learn about God in Rev 1:4-8? What aspect(s) of His character or actions are especially meaningful to you right now? Why?

God the Father:

God the Holy Spirit: The seven spirits before His throne is a reference to the Holy Spirit. The number seven depicts Him in His fullness (Rev 5:6; Isa. 11:2; Zech 4:1-10).

God the Son, Jesus Christ:

**Change:** What difference can these truths make in your life this week?