

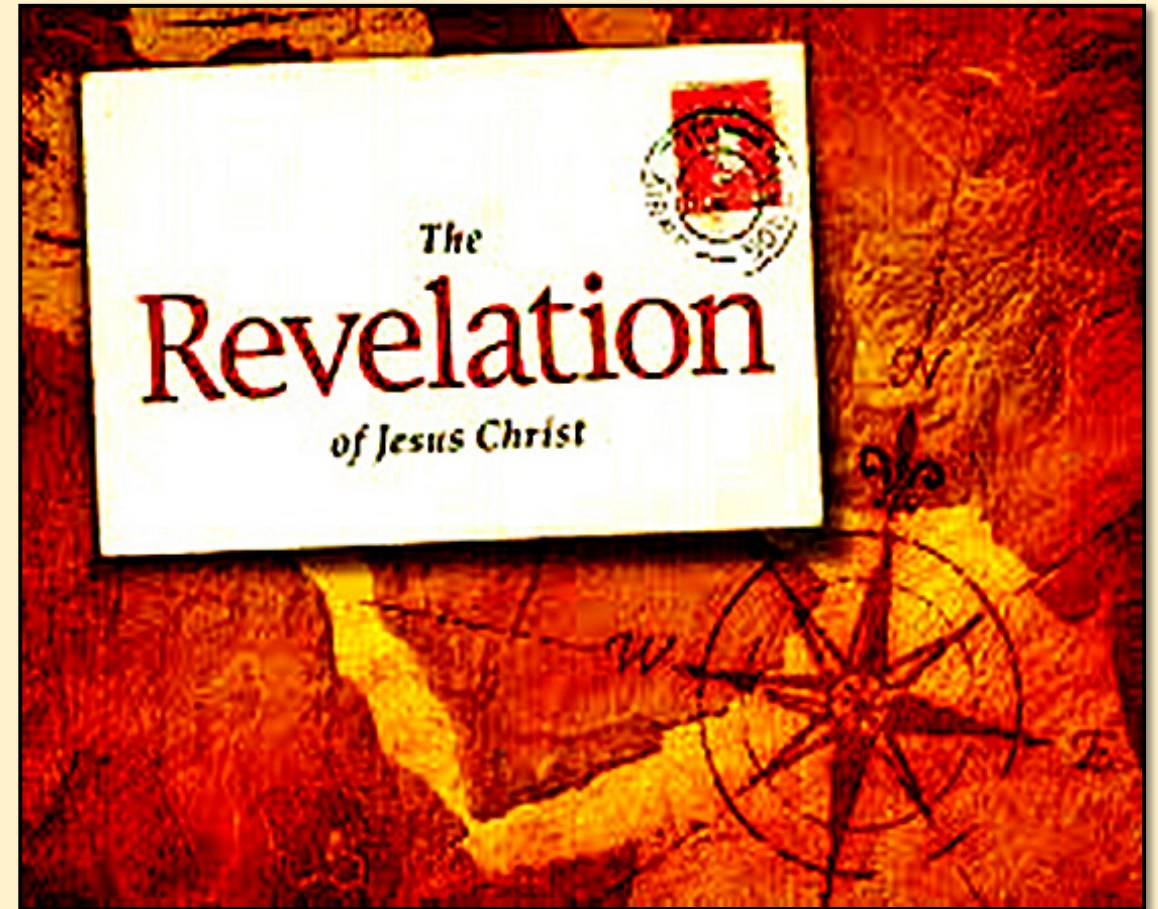
Revelation Chapter 1 -- The Revelation of Jesus Christ

Compilation of prophetic commentaries by Gaetan

Right above "*chapter one*" in most Bibles, the title reads "*The Revelation or Apocalypse of St. John the Divine.*" However, this title, which was added by someone years later, was not necessarily inspired because the first line of the prophecy says it is the "*Revelation of Jesus Christ.*"

REV.1:1 The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him, to show unto his servants things which must shortly come to pass; and he (Jesus) sent and signified it by his angel unto his servant John:

Now in almost every case of the prophets there was some spiritual agent or an angel or someone helping them. Time and again when the prophets revealed something, they said the angel of the Lord or someone else was there showing them. So here we have a good example of how God communicates in an orderly manner: the Revelation came from Him and He gave it to Jesus who then sent it by an angel to John who was able to see the revelation and pass it on to the people. (*Ez.40:3; Dan.7:16; 8:15; 9:21; 10 all; 12:5-7; Zech.1:9; Mt.1:20; Lk.1:11 etc.*)



REV.1:2 who bare record of the word of God, and of **the testimony of Jesus Christ**, and of all things that he saw.

REV.1:3 Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: **for the time is at hand.**

It takes an effort; it is work to try to understand Bible prophecy and to study to figure these things out! It sometimes takes years of study, working at it, comparing Scripture with Scripture, going back and forth through the Word of God to arrive at the most likely interpretations. But God says you're blessed if you do!



REV.1:4 John to the **seven churches** which are in Asia: Grace be unto you, and peace, from him **which is, and which was, and which is to come**; and from the **seven Spirits** which are before his throne;

Some people seem so afraid of the familiar evil spirits against which we are warned, but they seem to have forgotten that there are also many good spirits, including the Holy Spirit, the seven Spirits of God and the Seven Stars or Angels or Spirits of the Seven Churches in this book of Revelation, the Four Spirits of the Heavens of *Zech.6:5*, and the many other celestial messengers, angels or spirits of God mentioned in the Bible which are obviously all good spirits. *"Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?" He. 1:14.*



These are they of whom Paul speaks in *Hebrews 12:1* as a great cloud of witnesses which compass us about--here and now! Thank God for His Spirit! Thank God for His angels! Praise God for all His spirits! God himself is spoken of as the father of spirits in *Heb.12:9*, and the God of spirits in *Numbers 16:22 and 27:16* and who maketh His angels spirits in *Ps.104:4*. And in *Heb.12:22, 23*, He speaks of an innumerable company of angels and the spirits of just men made perfect!

**** REV.3:1** *And unto the angel of the church in Sardis write; these things said he that hath **the seven Spirits of God**, and the seven stars;*

**** REV.4:5** *and out of the throne proceeded lightnings and thunderings and voices: and there were seven lamps of fire burning before the throne, which are **the seven Spirits of God**.*

REV.1:5 and from Jesus Christ, who is the **faithful witness**, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood,

"...the faithful witness"--Jesus Himself was a faithful witness--"and the first begotten of the dead".





He was the first one to rise from the dead, and then immediately after He rose from the dead three days after His crucifixion, many of the Old Testament saints also rose from the dead! It's in the Bible. You can read it in the book of Matthew. (*Mat.27:52, 53.*) It says that when He rose from the dead, that these other people rose from the dead too. But He was the first one that rose, "*first begotten of the dead.*" "*And the Prince of the Kings of the Earth.*" He is the King of kings!

"Unto Him that loveth us, and washed us from our sins in His own blood."-- Who did that? Jesus! He died on the cross for our sins. He took our punishment for us so we could be saved just by believing on Him, receiving Him as our Savior into our hearts, loving Him and His Father God, the Holy Spirit, and loving others, our neighbors as

ourselves, and preaching the Gospel in all the World to every creature!

**** REV.7:14** *And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, these are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.*

**** 1JN.1:7** *But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the **blood of Jesus Christ** his Son cleanseth us from all sin.*

REV.1:6 *and hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.*

**** 1PE.2:9** *But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people.*

**** REV.5:10** *And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth.*





During the millennium, it will be a reign of Jesus Christ and His children over what is left of this World and its unsaved populations. We, the born-again, saved, resurrected saints will be in our new supernatural bodies, but the rest of the World, those who have been spared and blessed enough to survive into the Millennium, are going to still be in their old natural bodies. Therefore, life is sort of going to go on as usual in a lot of ways for them, but there will be quite a few big differences! Mainly, that we're going to be running the World instead of them, and we're going to have a lot of supernatural help and advantages! We'll have supernatural bodies, wisdom, skill, power, protection and we'll change a lot of things for the better!

**** *REV.20:6* Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they **shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.****

Then and only then under the supreme and powerful rule and reign of Christ and God's children, will all wars finally cease. The World will at last be governed fairly and well with true justice, liberty, peace, plenty and happiness for all!

"And He shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people: and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, their spears into pruning hooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore!" (Is.2:4) Complete disarmament at last! That will be the World's first real genuine disarmament, beating their weapons into instruments of peace!

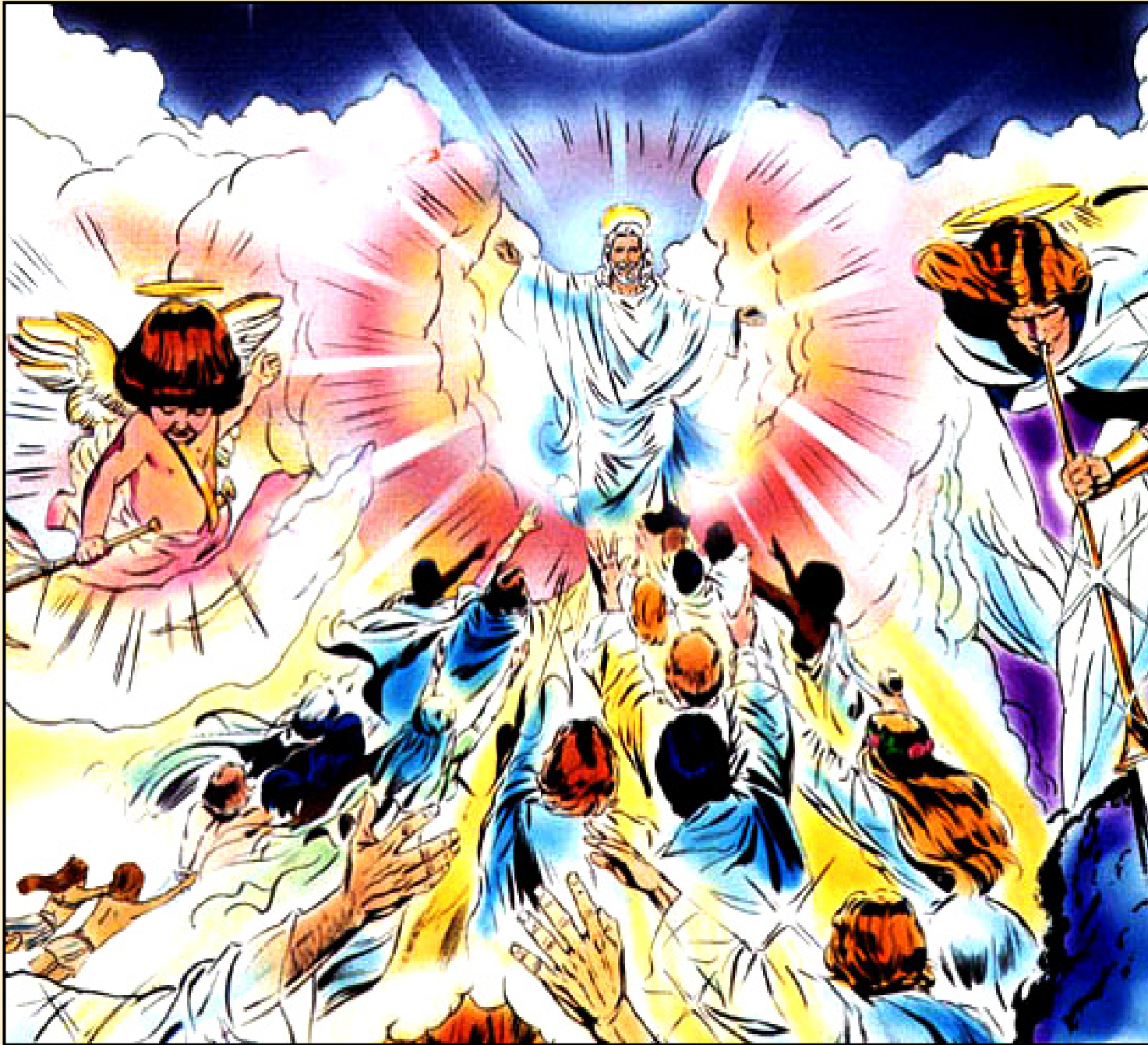
REV.1:7 Behold, He cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen. (Acts1:9-11)

When Jesus comes back to rapture His saints, He's going to come back in the clouds just the way He went away on the day of Ascension. And just like His disciples watched Him go up in the clouds. So they're going to see Him come down in the clouds.

***"Every eye shall see Him"--no secret Rapture--
"and they also which pierced Him and all kindreds of the Earth shall wail because of Him".***



The whole Earth is going to see Jesus come when He comes back to rescue us, His children, out of this wicked old World. (See also Dan.7:13)



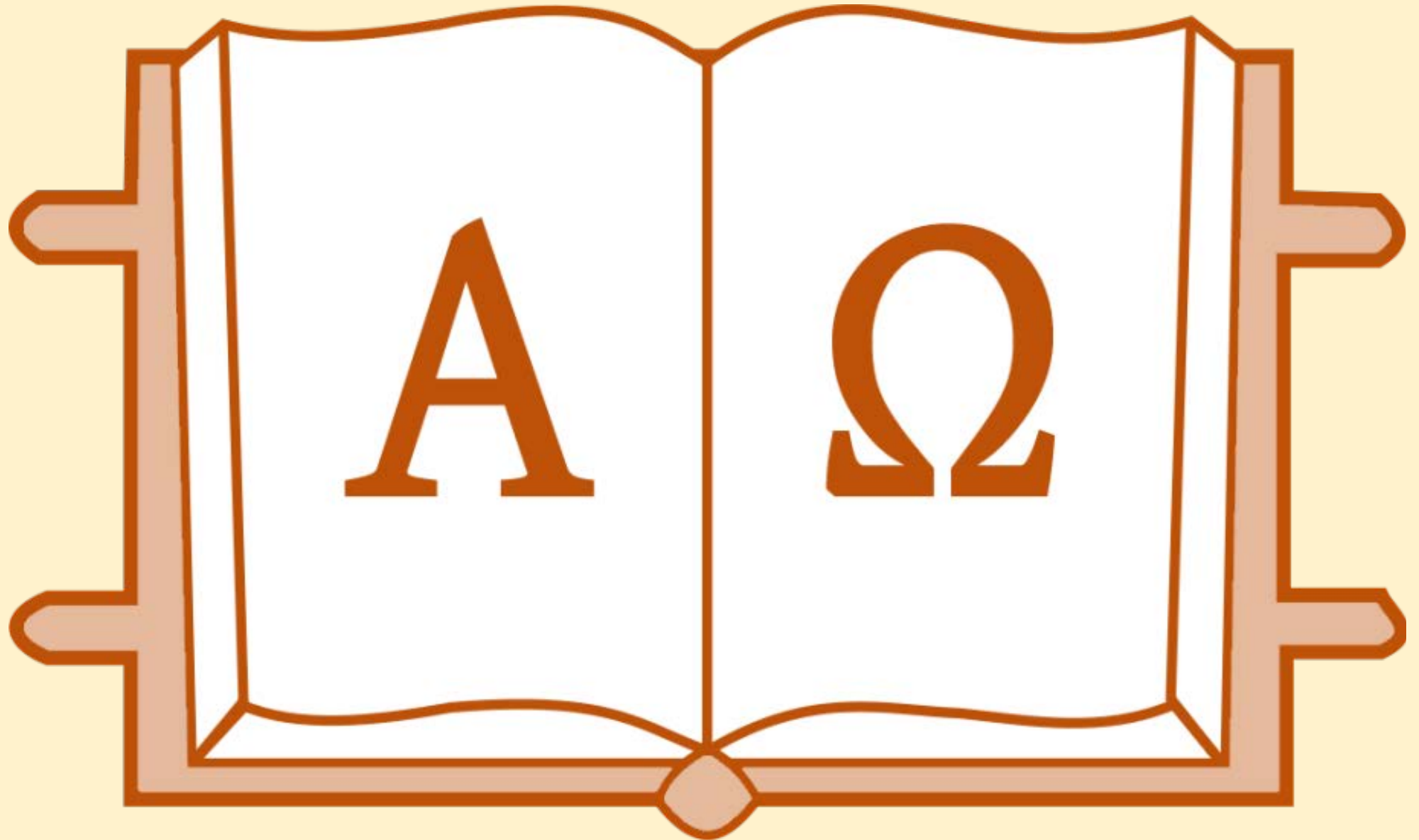
**** MAT.24:30** and then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall **all the tribes of the earth mourn**, and they shall **see the Son of man coming in the clouds** of heaven with power and great glory. (MK.13: 24-27, LK.21:27-28, Rev.6:12, 13)

**** 1TH.4:15-17** ...that we which are alive and remain unto **the coming of the Lord** shall not prevent them which are asleep. For the Lord himself **shall descend from heaven with a shout**, with the voice of the archangel, and with the **trump of God**: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain **shall be caught up together with them in the clouds**, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

REV.1:8 I am Alpha and Omega, **the beginning and the ending**, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and **which is to come**, the Almighty.

You folks down there in Greece will understand what Alpha and Omega mean, because those are the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet: Alpha, our "A", and Omega, something we don't have in the English alphabet.

So Jesus is here saying He is the ***"Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty!"*** He's been here a long time.





REV.1:9 I John, who also am your brother, and companion in tribulation, and in the kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ, **was in the isle** that is called **Patmos**, for the word of **God**, and for the **testimony of Jesus Christ**.

He was literally in exile; he was kind of a prisoner. They were trying to get rid of this guy who had caused them so much trouble, talking about God all the time and preaching Jesus to these unbelieving, pagan, idol-worshipping Romans. But he wouldn't stop talking about Jesus, so you know what they did? Tradition says that they tried to boil him in oil to make him shut up, but he wouldn't boil, because he wasn't done!

So therefore, they finally said, *"What can you do with such a man! We can't shut him up, stop his mouth from preaching, and we*

can't kill him! We'll just have to ship him off to the Isle of Patmos in exile where there are so few people to preach to, he surely couldn't do much damage there!"



So what did he do? He got a marvelous Revelation from God that has preached to literally billions of people ever since! Think of that! Down through almost 2000 years of World history from his day, about AD 90, until today.

On that little deserted island with so few people, a few farmers, he preached the greatest sermon he ever preached, the Book of Revelation, that he got from Jesus through an angel, that has reached more people than all of his other sermons ever reached, aside from the Gospel of John and his letters. So you can't get rid of a guy like that!

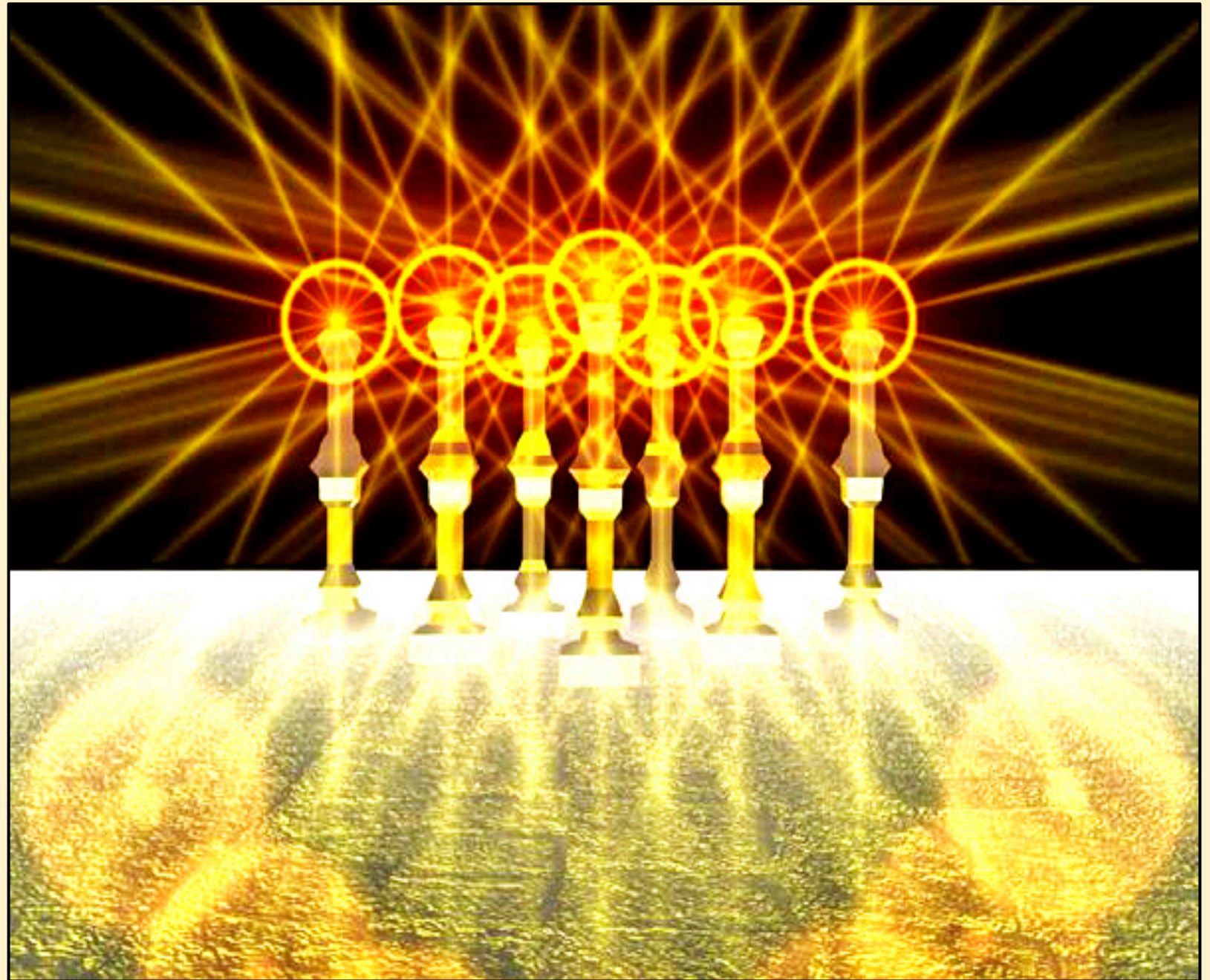
So never think that just because you're out there alone, some place or in some lonely prison cell that God can't work or use you because He may be preparing you for something in which you'll be a greater witness than you ever dreamed.

REV.1:10 I was in the Spirit on the Lord's Day, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet (loud voice),

REV.1:11 Saying, I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last: and, what thou seest, write in a book, and send it unto the seven churches which are in Asia; unto Ephesus, and unto Smyrna, and unto Pergamos, and unto Thyatira, and unto Sardis, and unto Philadelphia, and unto Laodicea.

REV.1:12 And I turned to see the voice that spake with me. And being turned, I saw seven golden candlesticks; (see verse 20.)

REV.1:13 And in the midst of the seven candlesticks one like unto the Son of man, clothed with a garment down to the foot, and girt about the paps with a golden girdle.





REV.1:14 His head and his hairs were white like wool, as white as snow; and his eyes were as a flame of fire;

REV.1:15 and his feet like unto fine brass, as if they burned in a furnace; and his voice as the sound of many waters.

**** DAN.10:5, 6** Then I lifted up mine eyes, and looked, and behold a certain man clothed in linen, whose loins were girded with **fine gold** of Uphaz: His body also was like the beryl, and his face as the appearance of lightning, and **his eyes as lamps of fire**, and his arms and his feet like in colour to **polished brass**, and the voice of his words like the voice of a multitude.

**** DAN.7:9** I beheld till the thrones were cast down, and the Ancient of days did sit, whose garment was **white as snow**, and **the hair of his head like the pure wool**.

If you want to know what Jesus looks like in Heaven, it says here that He was "clothed with a garment down to the foot, and girt about the paps with a golden girdle." It doesn't say He had robes on His arms and shoulders!

That is really an amazing description there! His hair was white. That means His beard would be white too. Also His dress, according to that description, is amazing!

REV.1:16 And he had in his right hand **seven stars**: and **out of his mouth went a sharp two-edged sword**: and his countenance was **as the sun** shineth in his strength.

**** REV.19:15** *And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron:*

This is, of course, symbolic of the Word of God which He compares to a two-edged sword of God.

**** HEB.4:12** *For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.*





REV.1:17 And when I saw him, I fell at his feet as dead. And he laid his right hand upon me, saying unto me, Fear not; I am the first and the last:

REV.1:18 I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.

Jesus died, was crucified and rose again from the dead, and now He lives for evermore! "...and have the keys of Hell and of death," so that He is able to unlock the gates of Hell itself to release its prisoners from the very jaws of death!

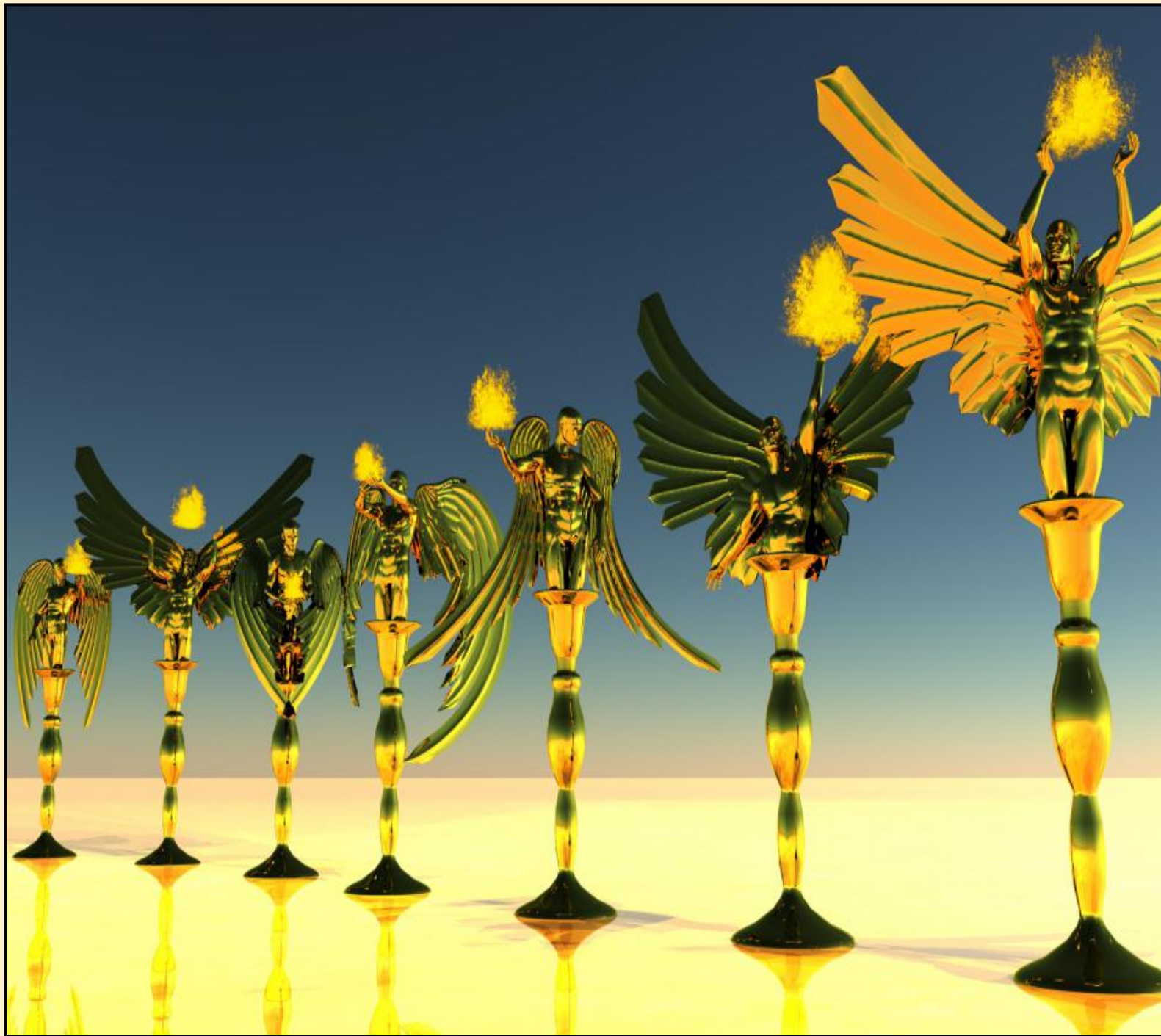
**** REV.20:14 and death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.**

**** 1CO.15:26 The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death.**

REV.1:19 Write the things which thou hast seen, and the things which are, and the things which shall be hereafter;

After the Lord had helped John to recover his senses a bit, He told him that the vision he was about to receive would span the entire panorama of history. The general pattern for the book of Revelation is a progressive preview of history "*from the things which are,*" or were in John's Day, to the "*things which shall be hereafter.*" However, frequently, sometimes even in the middle of a chapter, the Revelation goes back into the past to give some background into whatever subject it's dealing with before showing you their future and how they wind up.





REV.1:20 the mystery of the **seven stars** which thou sawest in my right hand, and the **seven golden candlesticks**. The **seven stars** are the **angels of the seven churches**: and the **seven candlesticks** which thou sawest are the **seven churches**.

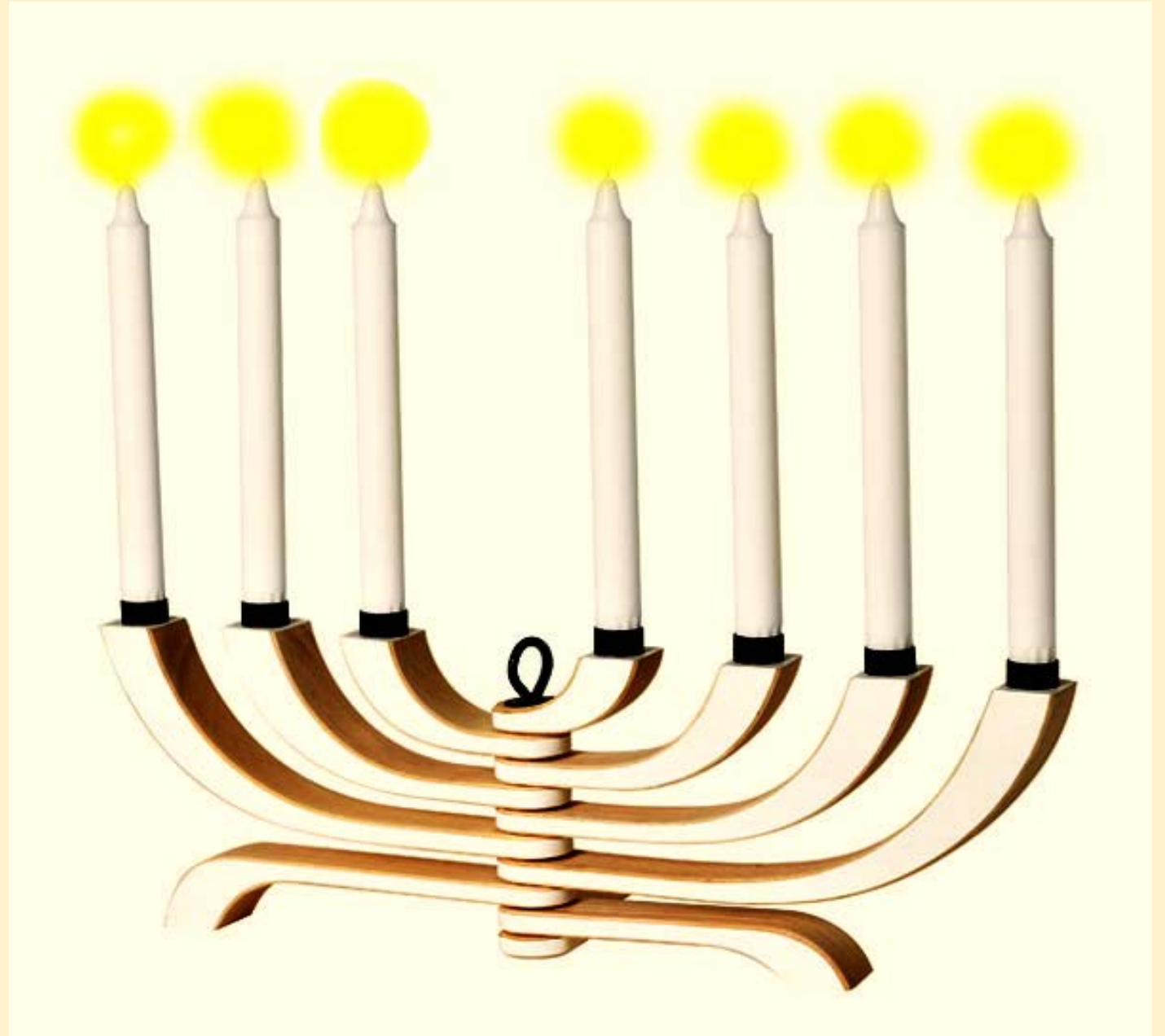
He sees the seven churches of Asia Minor, or what is now Turkey, the principal churches of that area, he sees them as seven beautiful candlesticks. Why candlesticks? Because His followers were then, and are also today, to be a light to the world. What more magnificent task and privilege could be given to any church on earth than the task of standing there, aflame with light, witnessing in a dark world to the blessed glory of the Lord Jesus Christ?

**** MAT.5:14, 15 *Ye are the light of the world.* A city that is set on a hill cannot be hid, neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a **candlestick**; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house.**

**** JOHN.8:12 *Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, **I am the light of the world**: he that followeth me **shall not walk in darkness**, but shall have **the light of life**.***

And then he sees their seven guardian angels as seven beautiful stars. The churches, seven beautiful candles standing before God, and above each one, a guiding star, its guardian angel! What a beautiful picture of the churches to whom John is writing this very epistle of this revelation of the marvels that God is about to show to him of their future, the future that they are to face, so they'll know what's coming! Praise the Lord!

The Lord does not want us to be ignorant, brethren, but that we shall know the things which must shortly come to pass.



And this is what He was telling to the Apostle John in that day, nearly 2000 years ago now, about 90-94 AD on the Isle of Patmos, exiled and banished there by the Romans, because they were afraid of his Gospel of love, afraid of his mighty supernatural miracle-working power.

You can receive Jesus at this very moment. It is a free gift of God. (Ephesians 2:8-9). Please say this simple prayer:

"Jesus, please forgive all my faults. I accept that You are the Son of God and that You died for me. I invite You into my heart and life. Thank you for your gift of eternal life and please fill me with Your Holy Spirit. Help me to read and understand Your Word. Amen"

