

Revelations in Revelation - 2

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Bible Text: Revelation 1:1-20 03/02/22

We'll go ahead and open our bibles up to Revelation Chapter One, and we had a little reprieve last week with the study God gave us, but now on to Revelations in Revelation, so thank You Jesus. Now two weeks ago we got together and thanks be to God we saw as it opened in that verse one the Revelation of Jesus Christ. That word "revelation" means apocalypse. That word apocalypse is the unveiling. Thanks be to God, if you missed it that study, I'd encourage you to go back. How the word, and that word apocalypse is found in such precise exact ways and meanings pretty much identified always in Paul's epistles, and always speaking of the readiness and the unveiling of the bride. And this is exactly what this revelation is about as we studied that Wednesday, and as we know from Paul's gospel. The unveiling is going to be Jesus Christ, praise God, and Jesus Christ taking the throne as God. And that is going to require one thing; He's going to have to have a wife, and she's going to reign with Him, and she's going to be glorified together with Him. This is the word of God to us, and so when this unveiling happens, we know that this is for Christ, and His bride; this is for us. And I thank God for this, and as we go forward, by His grace as we go forward in studying Revelation, may we always see it from this perspective of this unveiling with the husband; see it from that throne. Thank the Lord, see it in the wonder of ruling and reigning jointly together with Jesus Christ. See it in that powerful peace; the peace of New Jerusalem, the double peace, praise be to be to God. That'll grip your heart in a way, and I pray in such a rejoicing and excitement of what we're about to receive and step into with our soon coming bridegroom Jesus. But this is going to be I believe somewhat of a fire hydrant study. I think they all are in a way. But God has encouraged my heart, we're going to go after chapter one tonight. So, it's like you know, that gate's open, the horse is running, and so here we go onto to verse one.

Let's read together. The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him, to shew unto his servants things which must shortly come to pass. And as this was speaking of servants here, these would be the ones such as John that would be speaking and teaching, and preaching these things. And so, thanks be to God that He uses us in these things like this. And again, that must shortly come to pass. This is with speed brothers and sisters, and remember we're talking about God, and we'll talk about this again, but as the Lord says a day with the Lord is as a thousand years, and a thousand years is as a day, time is nothing to God. But the thing that's important to God is now, and the urgency is now, and the readiness for us which is now. And so, that we're always living in this sense to redeem the time. This is why by His grace we're in bible study; it's a thanksgiving to God. It's not anything for us, and oh look at me. It's a thankfulness, it's a humbleness, it's award. It gets to the point of why me, yet you understand the word of God, and you say well thank You Lord, it is me. But, thank You again for this precious love to my heart that I know that this is mine. I know this is ours together as the one body hallelujah, and one with Him. So, it says it will shortly come to pass, and He sent and signified it by His angel unto His servant John.

Now as we go on about this angel as it speaks of here, the word angel in the word of God, it means messenger. I don't mean just messenger, but it means messenger. Sometimes you'll have angels such as Gabriel, right? And Michael and there were certain things, and God created those angels, and those angels have to do exactly what God said. In this regard of this messenger as we'll see about this angel, and this angel will be defined in a sense; not by name, but by position. And as John is being led in and ministered to by this angel throughout Revelation. John multiple times falls down and starts to worship the angel thinking that it's Jesus Christ Himself. And the angel says John, stop doing that. See that you do it not; I'm redeemed just like you; angels are not redeemed. So, this angel that is ministering this to John is obviously, and thankfully praise be to God; this is one that has this full sun glory that is so like our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ it's His bride. So, praise the Lord, as this encouragement is coming forth, and as John is being revealed these things. So, it says who bear record of the word of God, and of the testimony of Jesus Christ. So, once again it's all about the Lord and of the things that he saw, and that's once again, all these things we're going to see the words "see", and "saw", and "seen." Brothers and sisters, without a vision the people perish. We have to have enlightened eyes of understanding to see this, and it must be by the Spirit. See, man can try to study these things for events, but see it's not about the events, it's about Jesus and it's about what these events are all leading up to, and what they're for and we know it. It's for the unveiling of Jesus Christ and His wife. That's what this is all about, and I thank the Lord that these are wonderful incredible things that the Lord is telling us to expect and understand what we will step into, and will begin to rule and reign with Jesus Christ.

I'm thankful to God, I not going to heaven and wondering what's going to happen, by the grace of God my Bridegroom has told me what's going to happen. I'm so thankful to God to have that confidence in Him, praise the Lord, and I'm going to have a body like unto His own glorious body that this body is going to do everything it needs to do; it's going to be like Him. So, we thank God that He's going to give us this and we can anticipate. So, it says that it was all the things that he saw, this precious vision blessed them, and here we are; this is us. Is he that reads, and they that hear the words of this prophesy, and keep those things which are written therein, for the time is at hand? So, we just saw shortly come to pass, we just now hear the time is at hand, amen? So, there's always this urgency. Brothers and sisters, we don't know, we're just a step between us and death. We need to be ready, and it's not in fear, it's in thankfulness to God, but most importantly because the trumpet's about to sound, and we thank the Lord that God has given us this encouragement. So, think of this: reading, hearing, and keeping. I always appreciated how brother Hill would give us that encouragement many, many times. Know the word of God, reckon the word of God; that means count it done, finished, and yield. To know, reckon, and yield, and you can see that in those things of reading, hearing, and keeping. And praise the Lord, that again is all by His wondrous grace.

Now, on to verse four. It says 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. Now we see these seven churches, and these seven churches we will understand even more so is basically just the state of believers in a sense of where they're at in their walk with the Lord from ones that are absolutely fully ready, all the way down to the ones that literally have left it, and are gone, and basically ones that are coming in that are not

even being exposed to the truth anymore. That's what so sad about the state of many a Christian churches today, so this is where we have. Now at this time I want you to understand this as well too. This is John to the seven churches which are in Asia. Thirty years earlier from John writing this, in Second Timothy Paul says about these seven churches all in Asia, that's where these churches were; all in Asia have forsaken me. All of these churches have turned away. There wasn't anyone that was again standing in this truth at that time. It was literally completely gone, but God. But God, and see God in His grace, He never ceases in wanting us not to only come to the Lord, but to be ready; be ready, and to be ready for the first trumpet rapture. And you have to think about again what He's speaking and preaching, and such intensity to these churches and being in the company that will ready for the rapture, hallelujah, that will the beginning of the tribulation.

And the bible always tells us in the word who the word is speaking to, and I want you to understand this: here He's speaking to saints, and that's exactly what this is, and saints to be awakened. Now think about what was just said there; saints, this is speaking to saints, and this perfectly follows the word of God. We must be born again, we must be a child of God to have the capacity to be awake. You understand that? A sinner is dead, a sinner cannot be awake, but a child of God can be sleeping, and as a child of God needs to be awake. And so, what we have here is this letter is not calling out to the world; this letter is not for the world, this letter is to the churches. This is to the churches that know, or have known, and to believe the word of God, and more importantly to awaken, to be alive, and to be ready for the first trumpet. Alright? So, as we read there it says to the seven churches which are in Asia, grace be unto you, and peace from Him which is, which was, and which is to come, and from the seven spirits which is before His throne. Now we thank God for this as we'll understand a little bit more about these seven spirits as well too, and we're thankful to God for this, but as we see here grace and peace. Brothers and sisters, always remember this, its absolute unmerited favor, we never earn this. This is just a mercy of God, and thanks be to God, He loves us. He's forgiven us, and grace is what brings all peace. Without grace there's no growth, without grace there's no peace; without grace there's nothing. And I thank God we have all grace, and it's where it's all at, so let's continue to press on for more of it.

Now, here as we go from Jesus Christ in verse five. And from Jesus Christ. So, this is John who's writing this, and John obviously received this from the Lord, 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. Isn't that beautiful? Again, it's always the Lamb; it's always the Lamb of God and it's going to be the Lamb's wife. Hallelujah. Isn't that how beautiful this is to always praise Him? And here in verse six is what we've been made for Him, and hath made us. So, our precious Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ; listen to what He's saying here: hath made us kings and priests unto God and His Father; to him *be* glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen. That's quite an opening, and I love that, so think about this. So, it's Jesus Christ in verse five again, the faithful witness; King of kings, Lord of lords, Him that has washed us from our sins in His own blood, and hath made us kings and priests unto God, and His Father, to Him *be* glory and dominion for ever and ever. Brothers and sisters, kings and priests and this is who we are to Him. Isn't that gorgeous? You're not going to read anything about see, he's getting right at it, we're going right as we understand Paul's gospel. This just opened this up just perfectly; we're tracking right on it. This is all about ruling and reigning. This isn't

About servants, this isn't about psalm wavers, this is truly for this ruling and reigning company; He hath made us kings and priests.

You believe Him? Oh my, with what God has been pouring forth all these years, but especially these last couple three years brothers and sisters, come on, these are cookies on the shelf. I know whom I am in Christ praise God, I know hallelujah what I've been called to. I know hallelujah Him, and that He is able to keep that which I committed unto Him against that day, and this is the day we're talking about. So, here we go, it's all about ruling and reigning. This is all about the unveiling again of royalty when Christ takes the throne. We don't mention here anything about waving psalms, this is kings and priests. Now notice, did you notice there in verse six how it said unto God and His Father? When we go through this precious Revelation study there's going to be different perspectives of this. John, he's been taken in spirit, and he's taken in spirit and he's going to see different parts of the Lord's Day, and in a minute, we're going to see that he hears a trumpet behind him and he looks back over the Church Age, So, right here when we see and to God, it says and His Father. So, we understand here well we would say now wait a second, isn't God the Father, isn't He God in all? Well yes, He's always God, but there'll be a time when God will handle with His throne to the Son. So now we understand just in this first perspective what John is saying here, and this is when Jesus is taking the throne as God.

And so, it's to Him as God in this reign capacity of this acknowledgement that God has handed Him His throne, and His Father to Him be glory and honour for ever and ever. Now, here's why we know this. Verse seven it says 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. So, what's happened in verse seven is John is seeing everything. Turn on over to Revelation Nineteen. Did you hear that what we just said? Every eye's going to see Him, alright? So, we know that this isn't the bridal company being raptured into the air because every eye is not going to see Him there; no. Nuh-uh, nuh-uh, nuh-uh, nuh-uh and it says, and they that pierced Him, and all the kindreds of the earth shall wail because of Him. Alright? So, we jump right over to Revelation Nineteen, we're right there at the time of Armageddon. We're right there at the time of this judgment In the final wrap-up of the tribulation which is the last of the seven years. So, let's go ahead and read so it just kind of brings this into connection of what we just read here in Revelation Nineteen Verse Eleven. John says and I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and He that sat upon him called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He doth judge and make war. His eyes *were* as a flame of fire, and on His head *were* many crowns; and He had a name written, that no man knew, but He himself. And He *was* clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God. And the armies; there they are *which were* in heaven, they followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean. And how beautiful this is, I just love it and out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. So that's where we're at just so quickly in Revelation here, verse seven of chapter one. Behold, he comes with the clouds; those clouds are speaking at this time the armies of heaven, and what judgment of to those that pierced Him.

And then he says in verse eight which is so powerful, 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. We're going to hear that often, and we've already heard that once which is, what was, and is to come. He's always showing; He's always I am that I am. Let that be such a comfort to your heart's brothers and sisters, let that be just such a rejoicing. He made, and created everything for Himself. Everything is exact, everything is perfect, there is nothing out of order to God; He has it. He said look, I've appointed the wicked for the day of evil. Every wicked one, every wicked thing that's ever been done to your life; I mean that. That evil, He is appointed it for your life. Every bit of it no matter what we face in this life, no matter what we think is so bad whether it's in the world, or in a country, or in our work, or our neighbor, or whoever it may be. Understand God appointed that, and He appointed it for you. And it wasn't a coincidence, it wasn't an accident; it's precise. It's precise; He's the God that knows the hair on your head. He's the God that knows your thought afar off, He's the God that knows your uprising, your down-sitting, amen? This is God, and He knows you; He knew you in the womb, He formed you. Praise the Lord, He knows you. You don't know you; God knows you, and that's why it's so wonderful just the ministering that the Lord did in Spirit on Sunday I'm just so thankful, and I need a little bit of time. I need to go back and listen to what He said, and I mean that.

There're things Lord I need to glean. I want them written in my heart; I want them expanding in my heart. But that thought about the Apostle Paul not even knowing what was there became so real to my heart. Oh son, I know it's there, and I know the messenger of Satan, and I going to send to bring that out so that you don't get puffed up. With what I've revealed to you, so you remain that beautiful lowly vessel praising Me for My mercy. Even the more so that there's nothing that's ever going to keep you from winning Me. You are My workmanship; you're created in Me unto good works. Before I ever set a star in heaven, before the foundation of the world I saw you in love Paul and I got you; I got you perfectly. That's the rest, amen? And I thank the Lord, and this is what I pray that I see more, and you see more as we go through this in the Spirit reveals that we see this from that throne that He has called us to take jointly together with Him.

Now, verse nine. John says I John, who also am your brother, and companion in tribulation. Isn't that gorgeous? Uh, John let me tell you, who needs friends like John if they're just going to be companion in tribulation, huh? And in the kingdom, and the patience of Jesus Christ was in the isle that is called Patmos for the word of God, and for the testimony of Jesus Christ. Now, when John uses the word companion here, it's a very precious word; it means partaker. This is the same word that was used by Paul when he said that you're my yoke fellow, and; I know, he actually said it, my partaker of my grace. Amen, that companion, that there was that joint heirship in it, praise the Lord. And notice what John says that we are companion in, or a partaker with him in; it's tribulation. You go right back to, this is about ruling and reigning, right brethren? Praise the Lord, what is the requirement to reign? The word of God says we must suffer together with Him. If we're to be joint heirs together with Jesus Christ, if so be that we suffer together with Him, that we might also be glorified together. The word of God says if we don't suffer with Him, He will deny us the right to suffer. Now I thank God, it's not joyous for the moment. It's not joyous for the moment, but it's not worthy to be compared with the glory that shall be revealed in us. When we're talking about this kind of glory, when we're talking about this absolute truth, this is the word of God, this isn't a fairytale. This is truth, alright? Because this is the only truth that there is, this is the only knowing that there is, and to understand and to know

what the Lord has for us, it's just awaiting us. This isn't an if, this is a when; when it will be. By

the grace of God, this joy that is set before us we can endure. Amen? Amen, all by His grace.

So, we're thankful that He's called us to be partakers of the tribulation of this suffering, a requirement to reign, and John says a partaker in the kingdom. And sure, we're all going to have our place in a sense in this kingdom as the word of God speaks of here, Now John being one of the disciples, the word tells us that John will be reigning on one of the twelve thrones that will be over the twelve tribes; that's John's place. Alright? That's why John could write about these things; this is what he saw. John never had the revelation of knowing what John was seeing, as was given to the Apostle Paul; he didn't. That's what's so beautiful about this. He was writing things that he could see, but in order to understand, you have to understand and receive, and know that place of what Paul ministered in the mystery of Christ in the church. So, here we are, and we thank the Lord that we have an offering not of just any throne, but the throne with very God of very God jointly ruling and reigning, and glorified together with Him. That is something, praise the Lord. So, that's an encouragement to us.

Now, John is standing there. Now think about what we've already read. John's standing there, he's ministering about this precious encouragement; behold, the Lord comes, the clouds and the eyes is going to see Him. You see Jesus in a sense taking that throne as God, but everything changes here in just a moment. Verse ten, John says I was in Spirit on the Lord's Day, and heard behind me a great voice as of a trumpet. So, John had been looking over if you will with what we're looking here kind of the end of the tribulation; that's the view that he had. But now he hears a trumpet behind him which makes sense doesn't it? Because that first trumpet blast is going to be seven years earlier behind him, right? Right? Because that first trumpet blast, the bride is with the Lord, then starts the seven-year tribulation, and somewhere towards the end of that tribulation okay, we find chapter nineteen when the Lord's going to appear, and I'll tell you what, there's going to be a lot of rap coming at that time. Okay?

So, it says that John was in Spirit on the Lord's Day, and he heard behind him a great voice as of a trumpet. We go right over to First Thessalonians Four don't we, right? The Lord, well, let's just go read that together. First Thessalonians Four, let's turn there. What a joy to our hearts to know this, and it says in verse fifteen: for this we say unto you by the word of the Lord that we which are alive and remain. See, this is this this gathering tonight, we're alive to this, this is the beat of our heart, this is the panting of why we live, this is the first love by His grace that He has built in our hearts; this is real, we're reading about it right here. Alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep, for the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven, and here's the trumpet with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, 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, and see this? To meet the Lord where? In the air, and so shall we ever be with the Lord. The first meeting of that company with the Lord is not here on earth, it is in the air. That is the bridal rapture, and this is what John is hearing, this is this voice that he hears, this is this trumpet that's behind him, he's hearing the mark, praise God, of the moment; the moment that the Lord's Day begins.

Now, I want you to understand this about the Lord's Day. The Lord's Day isn't a day that we think of, the Lord's Day, remember that we just read, and this is what Second Peter Three

Eight tells us, a day with the Lord is as a thousand years, and a thousand years is as a day. Now speaking of this, the Lord's Day which is so beautiful it almost is about a thousand years; it's a thousand and seven really if you take the tribulation plus a thousand years. The Lord's Day spans from the moment that trumpet blast all the way through the seven years, and all the way through the millennium. That's the entirety of that Lord's Day that he's speaking of here. Alright? So, when we read this, and we study this that Lord's Day has a lot of events in it, doesn't it? Praise the Lord?

So, see John, he was looking at over here basically over this at the Lord's Day, okay? From that trumpet blast all the way over, and now he's going to turn and he's going to look back over the Church Age. So, what we're going to read about here in a second half of this first chapter is John is looking back over the time that we live in right now. Alright? So, let that just be a comfort to your heart; that's why he's turning. Now this voice, the trumpet that calls to him let's read about what it says in verse eleven. Saying, I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last: and, what thou seest, write in a book, send *it* unto the seven churches which are in Asia; unto Ephesus, unto Smyrna, unto Pergamos, unto Thyatira, unto Sardis, unto Philadelphia, and unto Laodicea. Now what we see here is such a passion of our Lord for His people, and His people to awaken. Let me tell you something, Jesus is merciful, and I can testify because I know He's merciful with me. You know what I'm saying, and I'm not just saying that to say it. I'm saying that in truth beyond what you could ever bear. I know how merciful God is with me, and you know what in that? I know how merciful He is with you. So here He is, so merciful praise be to God to the churches. And He's calling out to them, and you can hear Him through John in this mistering: awaken, awaken. I am that I am, I'm Alpha Omega, I'm beginning and end; I'm everything. I'm it, will you awaken to that, how I love you? How I have everything for you; awaken unto Me. So, verse twelve comes in and here is as it says. And I turned to see the voice that spake with me, and being turned I saw seven golden candle sticks. Alright?

Now one thing that we're going to see here and always be, the word, the voice speaks to you. Isn't that beautiful about John? He heard; whatever John hears he turns to hear it. Let that be us in the word of God. Hear the word of God, Lord, protect my ears from hearing all the winds of doctrine, all the smoking mirrors that are out there. Lord, let me just be focused upon You. Let my thoughts and my mind be captivated with You. We can get turned into such pretzels if you will by the world so quickly. We need to hear Him, and we need to turn to Him. Yeah, go onto Him out from among the camp, that's the one, that's the leading that will always take us out from among the camp.

Now what we're going to notice here when we get into chapter two and three, each church will receive their own letter; oh yes, they do. See, the Lord knows what you'll receive. Amen. You know, and I do, and I want you to think about it, think about how each and every one of us got into this place. Not a one of us came the same way. No way, from the same way that the Lord ministered to bring you into it, family that you might have been born into, and all of us have family, and all of us family members that aren't here. And matter of fact the majority of our family members aren't here. It's just the way it is, and you know you hear people every once; well, you know. You think that this? Let me tell you, the word of God says I would be that all men be saved, and come to the full knowledge of the truth. The Lord wants this for all of His people. But the Lord also knows who's going to take what. He's God, and so He'll if you're going to receive

this it's right there for you. And so, the word of God says, if you want to go a certain way, and you don't want to go away from the things of God, He'll send leanness to your soul; it's exactly what you'll embrace. But if you'll go after full, the complete counsel of grace you'll hit right into the midst of the throne ruling and reigning with Jesus Christ; it can't be anything else.

So, to each one of these churches there's a specific letter written to them because the Lord knows what they're going to receive. He knows what they're going to take. It doesn't mean that He's a respecter of persons in that at all, because to each and every one of them He tells them to overcome. That message is right there to the very worst of the church state as we'll read with Thyatira, that they could go right in to being ready with the church of Philadelphia. Know that, that's still there for them, but if they're going to stay in that state that's all they're going to receive, or that's all that I'm going to tell you. Be gone, and that's why we need to pray for one another, and pray for God's precious people constantly. But each one of these churches they're going to receive what they believe.

So, let's go ahead and read twelve through fifteen here. And I turned to see the voice that spake with me, and being turned I saw seven golden candlesticks, and those are the churches, see? So, John sees these churches alright? And in the midst of the seven churches uh-oh, here we go. One like unto the Son of man; we got Jesus right here. Clothed with a garment down to His foot, and girt about with paps with a golden girdle. Look at that, so, these paps, it speaks of feeding. It does, the paps speak of breasts, and it speaks of a feeding. Isn't that what the Lord's doing to us? It is, He feeds us, doesn't He? And praise be to God, and what a golden feeding it is if we'll be encouraged in His head, and His hair were like white like wool, as white as snow. His eyes were as a flame of fire, and His feet like unto fine brass as if they burned in a furnace and His voice as the sound of many waters. Now I want to stop here for just a second, and I want you to think about this. We're seeing a real depiction of Jesus Christ in a great way of judgment. We are. But you'd say now wait a second. He's got white hair and all that. Wouldn't that be the time that He would be taking the throne as God in that type of a judgment? I thought we just said brother, we're right here at this time of the Church Age that Jesus Christ is this wonderful encourager, and foster of grace and truth, and peace, and all of this encouragement to us? Amen, He is, but He's judging right now. He's judging for reward; this is serious business. And I thank the Lord that He's judging right now for reward, and remember what the Father said? The Father is seeking who? The true worshipper who worships Him in Spirit and truth.

So, we know as Jesus said, I and the Father are one; so much going on in here, but I want us to stay with the thought of Jesus, praise the Lord as we see here. There's this judgement that truly is going on. Turn to 2 Cor 5:10 and this will begin to answer this which I am already thankful to God we understand and know. And it says in 2 Cor 5:10 for we must all appear before the judgement seat of Christ. Okay? Now this is not the great white of judgment that we read of in the end of Revelation. The great white throne of judgment at that time is going to be that which the sinner will come before, and that sinner will be judged according to works. Alright? That judgment is a judgment of guilt. It's a judgement of was that name written in the Lamb's book of life? That's the judgment seat of God, that's the great white throne of judgment. Alright? This

speaking here is the judgment of Christ that everyone may receive the things done in His body according that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.

Now I want to ask you something, can a sinner do good? Not to God, they're dead. Alright? So, if it was good or bad, we know what we got here. Now we're talking about good or bad. Now, wait a second brother. I thought we had a really wonderful grace meeting message on Sunday, I'm feeling a little bad right now, but I was kind of bad this week. And well, remember that message praise the Lord. Good or bad, you know what this means is, was our life about wood, hay, and stubble, or was about gold, silver, and precious stones? What did we build? If I'm justified, if I have a life praise God, which is the life of Jesus that lives in me, it's a life that cannot sin; cannot sin nor commit sin, the word of God tells us that. Period! So, we're being judged right now to reward. What was built in our life, and thanks be to God, the ministering that God gives us is the word of His grace. Always remember that, it's the word of His grace that builds us up that has this wonderful wealth; the gold, silver, and precious stone. It's not the works of my flesh. It's not the things that I can do, and conjure up, and all of the goodness that man would throw acylates at me. The measure is going to be how much of the grace of God that I take. The only growth that you'll ever have is in grace. That's why the word of God says that's why sweet Peter can tarry less than he says. Let that just strike you. Grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

And just a few verses before that, you know what He says about the Apostle Paul? He says, you know that Apostle Paul? Some of those things that he said were hard to be understand to them that are unlearned. See, we're without excuse, we're not unlearned in grace. You're wise in grace, you understand its grace, and grace alone, but they're hard to be understood by them that are unlearned, by them that wrestle with the scriptures. Know it, count it done, and yield to it. Amen. That's the warrior, that's fighting the good fight of faith. Double minded? Oh, my goodness, you're going to be unstable in all your ways. I don't want to be unstable, and I thank God we don't have to be, and matter of fact we shouldn't be. So, this is so sweet to us as God has called us here, and we see that He is the great high priest, and He's judging the churches: The Judgement seat of Christ. Christ Jesus is judging us for reward; that's what He is judging. That's why the Lord, our Father says I sent that Holy Spirit, I am seeking the true worshipper; the true worshipper that worships Me in spirit. That's that love, and knowledge, and in truth. So, let's just settle it and thank God for it.

Now remember, it's so sweetly, remember the paps that we just read about going back over here to Revelation One. Remember I said about the gird about with paps there in verse thirteen with the golden girdle? Our precious wonderful Lord is, He's feeding us and how He feeds us praise God. I want you to read this. These are just sweet tidbits as we go along in this study. Go to Rev 15:6. Let's read about these seven angels which represents the bridal company. Praise God. And the seven angels came out of the temple having the seven plagues clothed, and they were clothed in pure and white linen. And see, we'll get into that as well too. Remember, this pure and white linen here, that's the "lampros" white again. The only ones ever spoken of that have that kind of a white garment; that completely illustrious glorious garment is Jesus Christ and His bride. The twenty-four elders don't wear that kind of white, the innumerable multitude, they're in white, but all of that is a "leukos" white. It's a wonderful white, but it's not that glorious translucent light, and white of praise God of Jesus Christ and His bride because she's glorified together with Him. She's like Him in the measure, and the stature, and the fulness of Him. Praise God.

And so, as we get down to this, so this is her, and what is this? Having their breast girded with golden girdles. I just think that's so awesome. See those golden girdles that He had in the past? She has that same, she's clothed just like Him; praise be to God. And I'll tell you what, that's we'll get back into that as well too in verse fifteen, because she rules and reigns with Him. Right then she's going to start pouring out all that wrath. Pouring out all that - see, everyday sometimes when I start to look at the watch I say Lord, could I pour just a little bit of that wrath right now? Just a little bit? And He said, now you better get over that if I'm going to delay My coming. Even so Lord, come. But I think you kind of get there too, don't you? Amen?

Now, so she judges with Him. Let's read over here in First Corinthians Chapter Six, we're almost done Tim. I told you it's coming quick so, but the Lord, we're like Esther, He gives it speedily unto us and I'm going to trust Him for this. This is the way He's giving it. So, 1 Cor 6:2-3. Let's read this. Do you not know that the saints shall judge the world? Ho, ho, look at that. And if the world shall be judged by you. Are ye unworthy to judge the smallest matters? Know ye not that we shall judge angels? how much more things that pertain to this life? Praise God, I'm not going to be just some you know nonengaged you know participant up there, by the grace of God, I know what I'm called to. I know, praise the Lord what He is enabled me in faith to take, that in due time it'll just be something I'll step into, and be revealed in my life. So, that's how the word of God works here. All of those in Hebrews Chapter Eleven, those worthies of faith, they believed God, and then God revealed and they stepped right into it. They just kept believing God. Oh, it's coming, oh you may not see it with your eyes, or you might look at me and think I'm a fool, but I'll tell you what, I know my God and I know His word is true, and that will be, so praise the Lord.

So, this judgment of reward brothers and sisters, let's go on a little bit more in this. This is what Paul speaks of, and this is what we're after here. Go on over to Romans Two, and think about this judgment seat of Christ that we're in right now. The Lord now, right now is judging us for reward, He is, He's walking through the churches, and thank the Lord; thank the Lord, I'm not worried about being judged by Him, I'm taking His grace. I'm not worried about anything else, my whole focus Lord, I just want to praise You for Your grace. That grace is doing all the good work, all of that good is being mined, hallelujah, up in my life for you which is glory. See, that's what grace does, is it takes us from glory to glory, and we transform into what? His very image. That's what grace does. So, this is this reward that we're taking. But going on over here to Rom 2:16. Now remember we're talking about this day, the Day of The Lord. That day that that trumpet blasts sounds, we need to be ready, amen? And we understand praise God the Lord is judging right now for those that are ready. The Father right now seeketh those that worship Him; the true worshipper, in spirit and in truth, and here's how we grow into that.

Rom 2:16, this is Paul speaking. In the day when God, and see notice the day; the day, alright? So, this is this day the Lord when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ according to what? My gospel. See, Paul's not ashamed of it. In 1 Cor 11:1 Paul says be followers of me, as I am of Christ. No other writer of the word of God writes like that, and speaks like that. Because Paul as the word of God says with the chosen vessel unto him, and it's not that any worship to Paul, any anything to Paul, he's our precious brother in Christ. But the Lord so sweetly took the chief of sinners; the worst of the worst, and why was he the worst of the worst wasn't even because he was killing Christians, it was because there was no one that tried to keep the

law like him. There was no one that pursued the perfection of the flesh like him. That's why he was the chief of sinners is because he was trying to come to God in his goodness without the blood of His Son, and actually just saying there is no goodness I have. The only goodness I have is the blood of Your Son, and that praise the Lord is God chose him to show us the help that He was. I can do all things through Christ Jesus. Not a one of us have an excuse, so we see that this day that God's going to judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ according to my gospel, and really, we see that. It's Paul's gospel that brings you the bridal message. Without Paul's gospel you're not going to understand the bridal message. That's why the Old Testament saints cannot be in this company of the bride; they were never preached that, and it's okay, they have their place, praise God, that full overcomers that are seated in those twenty-four thrones with twenty-four crowns around the throne, and we'll get to that. They have a precious place, an incredible place; there cup is full, but we've got a cup to be ruling and reigning, and jointly together with Jesus Christ to be glorified together with Him.

To be those that give Him that glory, as opposed to those that stand around the throne and say he's worthy to receive his glory. Praise God, it all comes this judging of reward, at that day comes all through Paul's gospel. You see that? It didn't say anything, it's specific and Paul says it: it's according to my gospel. It's according to these epistles that he gave to men according to this mystery of Christ in the church. Praise the Lord. Let's go on a little bit further thinking about that reward at that day. There's a tenacle of it, Second Timothy Chapter Four. Turn on over there, how beautiful this is, and let's just hear how it says. So, Paul says I'm ready to be offered, my time of departure is at hand, I fought a good fight, I finished my course, I kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness. This is this exalted rank of righteousness crown; that's how again that is translated, which the Lord, and here we go; the righteous judge. See, Jesus is the righteous judge. He's judging us for that growth of righteousness. We're fully righteous but how much would you grow into it? Amen? Shall give me at; there it is again, that day: that day, this Day of The Lord, the beginning of that Day of The Lord, and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing. Once again this is why Paul preaches this. This is why it is Paul's gospel that's going to judge the secrets of men according to Paul's gospel. Praise the Lord, and here it is; it's reward, isn't it? It's the reward, it's the crown, and praise be to God, it's always at that day. At that day, at that day, at that day.

Let's wrap this up tonight, alright? So, going on here to verse sixteen. And it said 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 that shineth in strength. Notice, it's always the word; it's always the word. The word discerns the heart. Amen? it cuts all the way down to us; it's always the word. Alright? So wonderful, and again this judgment that's going forth in thanking the Lord, He's judging for what will be received, and here's what's so beautiful, His countenance was as the sun that shineth in strength. It's sun glory, this is what this is, it's that sun glory. I thank the Lord we look to Him, and we look at that sun glory, and it sure does give us strength, doesn't it? Hallelujah? The sun glory that emits from Him. As the word of God says, it changes us from glory to glory into His very image. And that's where the glory of God is, it's in face of Jesus Christ. Praise His name.

Now when John saw Him, oh here's what happened to John. 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. The word of

God says no man has seen God and lived. Aren't we thankful to God that He's merciful? And it says that His pleasures are at His right hand forever more. I think that's so sweet how He touched John. John, it's okay honey. I'm your life son, hallelujah. I just think that's so beautiful. It's just little things that the Lord does within His word is just so beautifully intimate and personal for us. Once again, He says in verse eighteen, *I am* He that lives, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death. And I will say this as well too, remember this, that's why we're going to have a body like unto His own. See, without that body like unto His own we'd all fell dead at every time we saw Him. It's true, and so I thank God, He's got this all taken care of. You think you're going to well, see, He didn't cover me. Yeah, He did cover that. Well, yeah, He did cover that. That's what those doubters are mostly, just believe God; just believe God, He'll show you these things you'll be so happy you just believed Him. He said I believe You for that Lord Jesus, there it is. See, I love coming to the lord that way. I don't want to have to be arm tied and, or Him to touch my hip joint out of place like He to do with Jacob to see things in the word of God. I want to believe Him for it, and then wait on Him to show it to me; praise the Lord? And so, He says to me write the things which thou hast seen. There is the vision again, and the things which are, and the things which shall be hereafter. Without a vision people perish, let's just keep believing the Lord.

It's coming brothers and sisters, it shall be. The mystery, and here He says it right here; the mystery of the seven stars which thou sawest in my right hand, and the seven golden candlesticks. The stars are the angels of the seven churches. By the grace of God, thanks be to God I'm ministering this, hallelujah. I pray, and I know that there's other ministers of these things, and we're ministering saints of these things. It's not just the pastors, by the grace of God we're ministering saints at this, hallelujah. And I pray and believe we're ministering saints of a church that we're going to read about a lot of Philadelphia. And that's where we want to hone in on, and abide in, and be ready in. So, these seven stars are the angels of the seven churches, and the seven candlesticks which thou sawest are the seven churches. Praise the Lord. I'll never doubt Him, I said Lord, how are we going to get through chapter one? Well, there we go, and I think next week God willing we'll do Smyrna and Philadelphia if He's touching my heart. We'll touch on those churches first, and then if the Lord tarry we'll go on to the other five the next week. Let's stand and be dismissed.