

### **Revelation 1 Part 3**

Hi, this is Richard Oliver, and we're looking at the second part of the first chapter of the book of Revelation.

And in verse 9, John who wrote the book, explains that he's the companion, he's just another Christian, and he was on the Isle of Patmos. Then he says in verse 10, 'I was in the Spirit'. Now, you never get anywhere unless you catch the spirit of what's really going on. When God comes you need to have God's Spirit, when the spirit of praise is there we need to get involved and catch that. John here was in the Spirit and it says he was on the Lord's Day. Now that does not mean a particular Saturday, Sunday, Monday, Friday or whatever. The Day of the Lord or the Lord's Day is the one thousand year reign of Christ, it is the millennium. The whole point here is John was carried forward in time to a period yet to come. The Day of the Lord.

And it says he heard a voice behind him saying 'I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last'. It tells John to write down what he sees in a book and send it to the seven churches which are in Asia. He lists the churches. Of course John turns and looking back to see who spoke to him saw seven golden candlesticks, or, if you like, a seven branched candelabra, the Menorah. Now just try and catch this picture for a second. He's been carried forward in time to the millennium, hears a voice behind him, he turns and looks back, he's looking back over time. What he's seeing is what is now past and it is an illustration of seven branched candlestick. He is seeing, in emblem form, the history of the church.

And in the middle of that golden candlestick was One likened to the Son of Man, clothed with a garment that went down to the ground, and His hair on top of His head was silver, indicating eldership, leadership, judgement. Here was the Judge. This judgement effect is furthered by the eyes that are like a flame of fire and His feet like unto fine brass as if they burned in a furnace. Brass always in the Bible means judgement. The altar in the temple was always a brazen or brass altar. Brass means judgement, so here we have Christ not coming as a lamb but coming as a Judge.

His voice is the sound of many waters. Now later on we'll find that the waters are multitudes of people. God is made up of His Bride, multitudes of people and they're speaking.

And He had in His right hand seven stars, and out of His mouth went a sharp two-edged sword. The Word of God is sharper than any two-edged sword. It cuts and divides asunder the difference between soul and spirit. A lot of people never catch that. But that is the key difference. You can have the spirit of all sorts of things but if your soul isn't right then you really are doomed. But that's another – we'll get into that another time.

This is God, and John falls at His feet to worship Him. But this Alpha and Omega has been dead and is risen from the dead. This Alpha and Omega is God. Jesus is God. He said 'I am He that liveth and was dead and behold I am alive forevermore, and have the keys of hell and death.' That obviously is Jesus Christ. No one else has done that.

He once again, John is told to write the things he is going to see. And then there's a description of the mysteries, the seven stars which you saw in my right hand, says Jesus, and the seven golden candlesticks. Seven stars are the angels of the seven churches, and the seven candlesticks which thou saw are the seven churches.

As I said before chapter one introduces us to what's coming up next in chapter two and three, the seven churches or the seven church ages.

See you next time.