

## **BASIC INFORMATION FOR INTERPRETATING REVELATION**

### **Revelation 1:9-20**

#### **Introduction:**

- A. Many who seek to solve the mysteries of Revelation rush forward to the fourth chapter. This can be a fatal error that leads to a false interpretation.**
- B. It is much like trying to solve a problem in chemistry without using the supplied basis facts or by using some fact foreign to the equation – (true factors and untrue factors). Dr. Snugs and his lists of factors.**
- C. Basic factors supplied by the verses of our text to aid our interpretation of the Revelation.**
  - 1. The Author (vs. 10-18)**
  - 2. The writer (vs. 9, 10, 19)**
  - 3. The receiptants (vs. 11, 12, 16, 20)**
  - 4. The message (vs. vs. 11, 19)**

#### **I. IDENTIFYING THE AUTHOR OF REVELATION (vs. 10-18)**

- A. V. 10 A great voice, as of a trumpet, identifies Himself as the Alpha and the Omega; the first and the last.**
- B.V. 13 One like unto the Son of Man.**
  - A. Vs. 13-15 give a detailed description all of which depict qualities of the Lord Jesus Christ –priestly garments; eternal presence; all seeing Eyes; righteous judgments.**
  - B. V. 16 holding the stars (pastors) of the churches in His right hand.**
  - C. V. 17 control over John who was to write.**
  - D. V. 18 The Lord Jesus Christ – the One that liveth, was dead, and behold, I am alive for evermore.**
  - E. V. 18 The One who has the keys of hell and death.**

#### **II. IDENTIFYING THE WRITER OF THE REVELATION (vs. 9-11)**

- A. V. 9 John who is your a brother and companion in tribulation – tribulation that had already begun under cruel Roman rulers.**
- B. V. 10 John was in the Spirit on the Lord’s Day – a man indwelled by the Holy Spirit and who honored the Lord’s day – Sunday in this church age.**
- C. V. 10 John who had an ear attuned to the call of God.**
- D. V. 17 A man overcome by what he had heard and seen.**
- E. V. 19 A man commissioned to write what he had seen.**

#### **III. IDENTIFYING THE RECEIPTANTS OF THE REVELATION**

**(VS.11, 16, 20)**

- A. V. 11 Primarily the seven churches of Asia, which are named.**
- B. The number seven in the study of Bible Numerics stands for perfect or complete. Thus, the Lord was directing the Revelation to His true churches. The seven named are representative of all true churches all through this Church Age.**
- C. The message of the Revelation was neither intended for the general public nor for the Christian world with all its false churches.**
- D. Like the parabolic teaching of the Lord as recorded in Matthew 13, the message was for those “who have ears to hear and will hear.”**

- E. It seems that the Lord clearly identifies the pastors of the churches are to receive the message of the Revelation as leaders of the churches. V. 20**

#### **IV. IDENTIFYING THE MESSAGE OF THE REVELATION**

**(VS. 11, 19)**

- A. The Lord did not leave John the freedom to write his own thoughts; neither was he permitted the freedom to choose what someone else said.**
- B. The Lord clearly instructed John to write:**
- 1. v. 11 What you see**
  - 2. v. 19 the things which you have seen; and the things which are; and the things which shall come hereafter.**
  - 3. It seems that “the things you have seen” have to do with the visions of the Lord he has just witnessed. Chapter 1**
  - 4. The things that are have to do with the messages to the seven churches of Asia. – chapters 2 and 3 (v. 20 – seven candlesticks ARE the seven churches)**
  - 5. The things which shall be hereafter have to do with the things revealed concerning the ending of this age – chapters 4-22.**

**CONCLUSION: Let us study the Revelation with prayerful hearts.**

