



## WE NEED A REVELATION

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### **Sermon Notes**

**Text: Revelation 1:1-18**

#### **Intro:**

“Though St. John the evangelist saw many strange monsters in his vision, he saw no creature so wild as one of his own commentators”  
~G.K. Chesterton

The apocalypse of Jesus Christ is written to unveil the hidden and invisible spiritual realities of the present and the future.

“Revelation is not a crystal ball revealing esoteric secrets that enable one to escape the harsh realities of life on earth, but a down-to-earth manual on how to be a disciple of Jesus facing the harsh realities of life on earth.” ~Darrell Johnson

Revelation 1:1-8

**Revelation is a LETTER (v. 4)**

**Revelation is a PROPHECY (v. 3)**

Revelation is meant to give us endurance through tribulation and hope for eternity.

**Revelation is an APOCALYPSE (v. 1)**

We need a revelation!

What is Revelation unveiling? Revelation is unveiling the unseen realities of the future and the invisible realities of the present.

Revelation 1:8

The “I am” statements bracket the book:

1:8 “I am the Alpha and the Omega”

1:17 “I am the First and the Last”

21:6 “I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End.”

22:13 I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End.”

In God, we find our origin, our purpose and our destiny

Everything has its beginning in Jesus and takes its shape from Jesus, and finds its ultimate fulfillment in Jesus.

**Conclusion:**

## Life Group Discussion

### Warm up:

1. What stood out to you about Sunday's message? Were you around for the first Revelation series (The Cosmic Battle) in the fall of 2017? Do you remember anything from it?

\*go to [www.betheltab.ca/series/unveiled-the-cosmic-battle](http://www.betheltab.ca/series/unveiled-the-cosmic-battle) to listen to that series.

### Study & Discussion:

1. How have you typically viewed the book of Revelation? Does it interest you? Confuse you? Do you avoid it? Do you love to study it? Have you heard seemingly crazy things about it?
  - Consider the three types of literature found in the book - it's a letter (v. 4), a prophecy (v. 3), and an apocalypse, (v. 1). How does the genre impact our interpretation of the book?
2. Read 1 Corinthians 5:1-10. The main purpose of the book of Revelation is to unveil the unseen realities of the future, and the invisible realities of the present. This passage reflects on the burdens of the present, but also highlights the unseen realities of the future - resurrected bodies and eternal life with Jesus! Paul comments, "we live by faith, not sight" (v. 7) to remind us to always be aware of that which we cannot see.
  - Do you find it difficult or easy to remain aware of the spiritual realities that you cannot see? Why? What would help you grow in your awareness?
  - "The judgement seat of Christ" is not a judgement deciding between salvation and damnation. It is a judgement for those who *are* saved. We will be judged on our works, and

rewarded accordingly. Paul mentions this future event to try to motivate us. Does it help you? Why or why not?

3. Read Revelation 1:5-6. To be a "Kingdom of priests" means that every person has a holy vocation, not just pastors or other "religious professionals." Does your life feel like a holy vocation? Why or why not?

- Being a Christian does not just mean we "do Christian things." It means we do whatever we do in a way that is more Christ-like. So...if you are a plumber who plumbs like Jesus, you are working a "holy vocation." The key is to give God glory in everything (see the end of verse 6). What would it mean to give God greater glory in your work? Your home life? Your relationships? etc.

### Prayer:

- Pray for a revelation of Jesus Christ in your life

### Other Requests

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