



Series – Revelation

Study Guide 1. Introduction

Week Commencing 5th May 2019

## Please read Revelation 1.1-3

- 1. The book is described in the opening phrase of verse 1 as a 'revelation' (or apocalypse literally an unveiling) from Jesus Christ. Can you recall from the sermon some of the key features of the apocalyptic style of communication?
- 2. In verse 3, the book is also described as a 'prophesy'. In chapter 1.19, It says, 'Write, therefore, what you have seen, what is now and what will take place later'. The prophesy contains a word from the Lord for now (v3 'because the time is near') and for later, (eg. The future final judgement of Satan, and the future marriage of the Lamb and His bride). Why would both the **now** and **later** aspects of this prophesy be a blessing to the hearers who 'heard it and took it to heart'?

## Please read **Revelation 1.4-8**

- 3. This section introduces us to the fact that the book is being written as a long letter to 7 real Asian churches. It will be a letter containing prophetic words from the Lord, much of it being shared in the style of revelation (apocalypse). What difference does it make to how we try to interpret this book, that it was written as a letter to seven churches living at a particular time, in a particular place, in particular circumstances?
- 4. Please read Psalm 89.27-29
  Why does the description of Jesus in the first half of Revelation 1.5 make the description of Jesus in the second half of verse and verse 6 so astonishing?
- 5. Please read Revelation 1.7-8; Daniel 7.13-14; Zechariah 12.10
  Why is this emphasis on the coming again of the Lord prioritised for such prominence at the very beginning of this book?

## Please read Revelation 1.12-16

6. Jesus is not only coming again later, He is now already walking among the lampstands (his churches). How does it make you feel that Jesus is still today walking among His lampstands?