



ONE PLUS GOD

**Get going: We don't have forever to get into forever  
A study on Revelation**

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**Week 1  
Who is Jesus?**

**One Plus God Ministries**

**Missions Minded, Every Day, Everywhere.**

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## **Revelation: Lesson plan**

Lesson 1 — September 3 — Who is Jesus? (Rev 1)

Lesson 2 — September 10 — What Jesus expects from His Church, part 1 (Rev 2 & 3)

Lesson 3 — September 17 — What Jesus expects from His Church, part 2 (Rev 2 & 3)

Lesson 4 — September 24 — In the throne room with God: Father, Lamb, and Spirit (Rev 4 & 5)

Lesson 5 — October 1 — Judgement and Grace (Rev 6 & 7)

Lesson 6 — October 8 — The Church has a mission (Rev 8 to 11)

Lesson 7 — October 15 — The Christmas-story through the eyes of Revelation (Rev 12)

Lesson 8 — October 22 — Evil attempting to imitate God (Rev 13)

Lesson 9 — October 29 — Time for grace will run out... (Rev 14 to 16)

Lesson 10 — November 5 — The efforts of Darkness will intensify, yet come to an end (Rev 17-18)

Lesson 11 — November 12 — God's triumph over a one-sided war (Rev 19 to 20)

Lesson 12 — November 19 — God's complete reign is coming soon! (Rev 21 to 22)

## Discussion - Who is Jesus?

### Revelation 1:1-3, Testify fearlessly, and obey faithfully, always with a sense of urgency

What we will be sharing with each other truly comes from God, will come to pass without a doubt (emphasis on “must” as part of God’s plan and purpose), and it will happen “soon” (v. 1)! “Testifying” about who God is (God’s word/message), and what He has done (testimony of Jesus), is in Revelation always something that happens fearlessly, and without holding anything back (v. 2)—this we will see more clearly as we continue through this study, but keep an eye out for this powerful truth!

All of what we will hear from Revelation needs to be obeyed (“take to heart”). This is not just a good old story, or a great perspective on life—this is a powerful message from God, because the end of all things are near (v. 3)! Living with a sense of urgency is essential...

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### Revelation 1:4-8, Who Jesus is transforms us into whom we should be

The use of the number seven, signifying a number of completeness (very much like the number 10), helps us to recognize that this message from God was indeed at first meant for 7 churches in what is now known as western Turkey, but it is also directed towards the whole church over all time (v. 4). Father, Son and Holy Spirit (see the use of seven again in reference to the Spirit), is introduced in a striking manner (vv. 4b-5a). Not only is God introduced with the powerful “I am the One who is” from Exodus 3:14 in the background, but He is also contrasted with gods from the Greek/Roman world like Zeus of whom was said, “Zeus was, Zeus is, Zeus shall be”—not only is God presented as the One and Only, True God, but also as the only One who “is to come” (v. 4b)! Jesus is the one setting the tone for all to follow as the “faithful witness”—the Greek *martyrs* for “witness” was not technically a term for being “martyred” in Jesus’ time, but Jesus undeniably did illustrate with His life that faithful

witnessing could surely result in death (v. 5a). In fact, it is in Christ’s death that God’s love is seen the best (v. 5b)! It should therefore not come as a surprise to us that who Jesus is, transforms us into whom we should be: “A kingdom and priests to serve His God and Father” (v. 6). How powerful? Showing the true God to this world (“kingdom”), and showing the lost the way to find Him (“priests”)—humbling, yet amazing!

No wonder that He deserves all the glory, and power, He who started it all (“Alpha”), and He who will bring all to completion (“Omega”), as He so powerfully proclaims Himself—some would argue that God’s voice is only heard directly twice in Revelation, here (v. 8) and in 21:5-8. Even the structure of the Book helps us to understand that God is in the focus!

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**Revelation 1:9-13, 19-20, Jesus is with us, and has truly finished “working”**

It is precious and encouraging to know that when we are looking for Jesus we don’t have to look too far, because He is right here with us. This is one of the most encouraging truths about Christianity, as well as distinguishing factors from other religions. Jesus is to be found “among the lamp stands” (vv. 12b-13a), in other words right where His church (body of believers) is at (v. 20c).

One of the most important truths about Jesus in Revelation is to acknowledge right from the start that Jesus is our High Priest, wearing a very special garment (v. 13b; see Ex. 28:2-4), who has completed His work on the cross (John 19:30), and can therefore now wear His golden sash high up on His chest, and not around His waist anymore, like men who were still at work normally would have done (v. 13c).

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**Revelation 1:14-15, Jesus, worthy to follow!**

Jesus is truly worthy to follow. Simply seeing all His attributes, described by way of special metaphors, help us to realize that very quickly. His white hair shows that He has all the wisdom (v. 14a), and just like blazing fire those eyes can see through flesh and bone (v. 14b)—both a scary, but also very comforting thought... And if you are going through trials and suffering, feeling that the storms of this world are going to throw you back and forth till you break into a million pieces...don't fear, because when you're holding on to Jesus you are safe—nothing can shake Him, because He stands firm with that strong, pure posture, as His feet like bronze glowing in a furnace remind us of (v. 15a). Also, it is in these times that we should remember that His powerful voice, like the sound of rushing waters, can calm any storm in our lives, and speak with great authority into all of our doubts, fear and fragile faith... (v. 15b). How amazing is that?! (For further reading, see especially Daniel 7:9 and 10:6, as well as Ezek. 1:24 and 43:2).

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**Revelation 1:16, 19-20, Jesus, the One who has triumphed!**

Spiritual leaders can often feel so alone, can often wonder if they are heading the right direction, making the right decisions, feel the weight of responsibility wearing them down... It is in moments like these that leaders should remember that they are never alone, as Jesus is holding them in His strongest hand (right hand), just like seven stars (vv. 16a, 20b)!

Another highly important, and often misinterpreted metaphor in Revelation is found in verse 16b—the double-edged sword coming from Jesus' mouth (see also Is. 11:4 and 49:2). It is very

interesting that neither Jesus, nor believers, are ever found in Revelation with a sword in the hand! It seems that the focus is much more on Jesus judging righteously (double-edged sword) through His words (from his mouth), than gearing up for war... We will need to follow this challenging thought as we continue our study through Revelation—see especially lesson 11 on Revelation 19.

When one would take all of what we have seen about Jesus in, all at once, it would surely be a picture of utmost glory, indeed like looking straight into the sun in all its brilliance on a bright summer day (v. 16c; see also Matt. 17:2 and Ps. 19:1-6)!

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**Revelation 1:17-18, When I realize “Who is Jesus”...**

What can one do after “seeing” Jesus like this...? Probably nothing else than what John did—fall down in total worship, complete adoration at the feet of Jesus, surrendering totally to Him, laying down your life in His presence, giving yourself and your brokenness over to His mercy (v. 17a). And what is Jesus’ reaction when we dare to do that? He reaches out with His strongest hand again (just like with the leaders of His church, v. 16), and the first words He says is this: “Do not be afraid” (v. 17b)! Wow, who would not want to hear that...?!

And why should we not have any fear? Of course, not because of who we are, but because of who He is: The First and the Last (v. 17c), the One who is not dead anymore, but who is living forever (v. 19a), the One who holds the key of death and Hades—important, *already* holds they key...as He proved at the cross...*already* (v. 19b)! (See for further reading Job 17:16, Ps. 9:13, Is. 38:10).

How can this not be encouraging? How can this not encourage us to step out into a life of living boldly to His glory, and bringing His Light and His Hope to a broken world, stuck in darkness? How can this not empower us to testify faithfully, without fear, even to the point of death? How can this not lead to a life of total surrender, living in His presence, and living into



## Resources

71% of Christians commit their lives to Christ before the age of 15. Learn more about the 4/14 window here: <https://414movement.com/>.

## Want to dig deeper, or just stay connected?

- Email pastor Wayne/Wynand with your questions/remarks at [wynand@OnePlusGod.org](mailto:wynand@OnePlusGod.org).
- Call pastor Wayne/Wynand at 567-356 2007.
- Connect with us on Facebook:
  - Pastor Wayne/Wynand: <https://www.facebook.com/wynand.dewet.7>
  - One Plus God Ministries: <https://www.facebook.com/OneplusgodMinistries>

## References

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