

“The First Seven of Revelation”

Revelation 1:1-7

Intro: “ No other book of the New Testament is as permeated by the Old Testament as is Revelation.” (*Commentary on the New Testament Use of the Old Testament* by G. K. Beale and D. A. Carson, page 1081)

I. The “apocalypse” of Jesus Christ

- a. “Unveiling, revealing, removing the lid”

II. John’s testimony

- a. The word of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ

III. Blessed are the reader and the hearers of this prophecy

- a. That’s you and me! If we take the words to heart

IV. The seven churches and the seven spirits

- a. A letter of letters to seven city churches

V. Jesus Christ: faithful witness, firstborn from the dead, ruler of all

- a. He loves us & has freed us from our sins by his blood

VI. He has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve God

- a. A strong echo from Moses on Mt. Sinai (Exodus 19:6)

VII. “Look, he is coming with the clouds...”

- a. From Daniel to the Gospels to Acts...to us

Close: The book of Revelation is all about Jesus Christ. In a sense, this vision given to John encapsulates what the Apostle Paul says in 1 Corinthians 11:26: “you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.” *Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches.*