

Revelation

Two Words That Change Everything

Revelation 1:4-8

Grace Fellowship Church / Pastor Peter LaRuffa / Sunday, March 22, 2026

Revelation 1:4-8 “John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from Him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before His throne, ⁵and from Jesus Christ the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth. To Him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by His blood ⁶and made us a kingdom, priests to His God and Father, to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. ⁷Behold, He is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see Him, even those who pierced Him, and all tribes of the earth will wail on account of Him. Even so. Amen. ⁸‘I am the Alpha and the Omega,’ says the Lord God, ‘who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.’”

Reader: This is the Word of The Lord.

Response: **Thanks Be To God!**

I. Fear Is A Liar.

A. Fear brings circumstances to the foreground and buries Jesus in the background.

Revelation 1:17-18 “...Fear not, I am the first and the last, ¹⁸and the living one. I died, and behold I am alive forevermore...”

B. Fear focuses on how hard life is, but Christ gives you courage to face it.

Revelation 2:10 “Do not fear what you are about to suffer...Be faithful unto death, and I will give you the crown of life.”

C. Fear says you won't make it, but God says He'll never let you go.

Revelation 3:5 “...I will never blot his name out of the book of life. I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels.”

D. Fear says everything is out of control, but God is on His throne - and always has been.

Revelation 4:8 “Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come!”

*Fear is a liar - and if Revelation is fueling your fear
instead of your faith, you're reading it wrong.*

II. Don't Miss the Two Words That Change Everything: Grace & Peace.

Revelation 1:4-6 “John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from Him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before His throne, ⁵and from Jesus Christ the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth. To Him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by His blood ⁶and made us a kingdom, priests to His God and Father, to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.”

7 Truths About Grace & Peace

1. Grace and peace are only as good as their source.

Revelation 1:4-5 “...from Him...from the seven spirits...⁵ from Jesus Christ...”

2. Grace and peace come from the God who holds your present, past, and future.

Revelation 1:4 "...who is and who was and who is to come..."

3. Grace and peace come from the Holy Spirit who is fully present and at work in you.

Revelation 1:4 "...the seven spirits before His throne..."

4. Grace and peace come from the King who rules over everything.

Revelation 1:5 "...the ruler of kings on earth..."

5. Grace and peace come from the Savior who loves you and sets you free.

Revelation 1:5 "...to Him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by His blood."

6. Grace doesn't just save you from something - it calls you *into* something.

Revelation 1:6 "...made us a kingdom, priests to His God..."

7. Grace and peace can't be found in this world - because you were made for more than this world.

Ecclesiastes 3:11 "...He has put eternity into man's heart..."

*If Revelation leaves you focused on circumstances instead of God,
you're missing where grace and peace come from.*

III. Jesus Is Coming - And Only Those in Him Are Secure.

Revelation 1:7-8 "Behold, He is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see Him, even those who pierced Him, and all tribes of the earth will wail on account of Him. Even so. Amen. ⁸'I am the Alpha and the Omega,' says the Lord God, 'who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.'"

A. Your future is not uncertain - Jesus is coming, and you will meet Him.

Revelation 1:7 "Behold, He is coming with the clouds..."

B. Every eye will see Him - both those who trust Him and those who reject Him.

Revelation 1:7 "...and every eye will see Him, even those who pierced Him, and all tribes of the earth will wail on account of Him..."

C. Jesus has the final word - over your life, your eternity, and your destiny.

Revelation 1:8 "'I am the Alpha and the Omega,' says the Lord God, 'who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.'"

*You will meet Jesus.
The only question is whether that day is security or sorrow.*

This week → Read Revelation 1:4–8 every day (preferably aloud, preferably unhurried)

Pray: *“Lord, replace my fear with truth.
Fix my eyes on You, not on circumstances.
Help me live today in Your grace, walk in Your peace,
and be ready for the day I meet You.”*

Also, listen to the song “***Fear Is A Liar***” by Zach Williams. It’s great!

Questions for Personal Reflection and/or Community Group Discussion:

1. Where is fear currently bringing your circumstances to the foreground and pushing Jesus into the background?
2. Which of the “fear says... but God says...” truths do you most need to believe right now? Why?
3. Where are you most tempted to look for peace outside of God, and how has that been falling short?
4. Review Revelation 1:5-6. What does it practically look like this week to live as someone who has been loved, freed from sin, and made part of God’s kingdom?
5. You will meet Jesus. Will that day be one of security or sorrow? Why?