

# Revelation

## Believing Is Seeing

### Revelation 1:12-20

Grace Fellowship Church / Pastor Peter LaRuffa / April 12, 2026

**Revelation 1:12-20** ““Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking to me, and on turning I saw seven golden lampstands, <sup>13</sup> and in the midst of the lampstands one like a son of man, clothed with a long robe and with a golden sash around His chest. <sup>14</sup> The hairs of His head were white, like white wool, like snow. His eyes were like a flame of fire, <sup>15</sup> His feet were like burnished bronze, refined in a furnace, and His voice was like the roar of many waters. <sup>16</sup> In His right hand He held seven stars, from His mouth came a sharp two-edged sword, and His face was like the sun shining in full strength. <sup>17</sup> When I saw Him, I fell at His feet as though dead. But He laid His right hand on me, saying, ‘Fear not, I am the first and the last, <sup>18</sup> and the living One. I died, and behold I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades. <sup>19</sup> Write therefore the things that you have seen, those that are and those that are to take place after this. <sup>20</sup> As for the mystery of the seven stars that you saw in My right hand, and the seven golden lampstands, the seven stars are the angels of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands are the seven churches.””

Reader: This is the Word of The Lord.

Response: **Thanks Be To God!**

#### I. The Wrong Jesus Always Leads to the Wrong Response.

- A. Same crowd, different response—because they had the wrong expectations **of who Jesus was**.

**Matthew 21:9** “And the crowds that went before Him and that followed Him were shouting, ‘Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!’”

**Matthew 27:22-23** “Pilate said to them, ‘Then what shall I do with Jesus who is called Christ?’ They all said, ‘Let Him be crucified!’”

- B. They followed a Jesus who fed them—not the Jesus who demanded their lives.

**John 6:13-14** “So they gathered them up and filled twelve baskets with fragments from the five barley loaves left by those who had eaten. <sup>14</sup> ...they said, ‘This is indeed the Prophet who is to come into the world!’”

**John 6:66** “After this many of His disciples turned back and no longer walked with Him.

- C. Even a disciple can have a **wrong version of Jesus**—and it leads to opposing Him.

**Matthew 16:21-23** “From that time Jesus began to show His disciples that He must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. <sup>22</sup> And Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him, saying, ‘Far be it from You, Lord! This shall never happen to You.’ <sup>23</sup> But He turned and said to Peter, ‘Get behind Me, Satan! You are a hindrance to Me. For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man.’”

#### II. See Jesus For Who He Really Is!

**Revelation 1:12** “Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking to me, **and on turning I saw...**”

## 7 Realities About Jesus You Can't Afford To Miss

1. Jesus is Alive—He is Risen Indeed!

**Revelation 1:12, 17-18** “Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking to me...<sup>17</sup>...‘Fear not, I am the first and the last, <sup>18</sup>and the living One. I died, and behold I am alive forevermore’...”

2. Jesus is With His Church—just as He promised He would be.

**Revelation 1:13, 20** “and in the midst of the lampstands one like a son of man, <sup>20</sup>...and the seven lampstands are the seven churches.”

- a. One of the earliest promises about Jesus was that He would be **with us**.

**Matthew 1:23** “Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call His name Immanuel’ (which means, **God with us**).”

- b. And one of the final promises Jesus made was that He would **always** be with us.

**Matthew 28:19-20** “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup>teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, **I am with you always, to the end of the age.**”

3. Jesus is the Powerful Son of Man.

**Revelation 1:13** “and in the midst of the lampstands one like a son of man...”

**Daniel 7:13** “I saw in the night visions, and behold, with the clouds of heaven there came **one like a son of man**, and He came to the Ancient of Days and was presented before Him.”

4. Jesus is Our Priest, King, and Authority.

**Revelation 1:13** “and in the midst of the lampstands one like a son of man, clothed with **a long robe and with a golden sash** around His chest.”

5. Jesus is Pure, Wise, and Eternal.

**Revelation 1:14** “The hairs of His head were white, like white wool, like snow. His eyes were like a flame of fire...”

**Daniel 7:9** “As I looked, thrones were placed, and the Ancient of Days took His seat; His clothing was white as snow, and the hair of His head like pure wool...”

6. Jesus is The Powerful Judge.

**Revelation 1:15** “His feet were like burnished bronze, refined in a furnace, and His voice was like the roar of many waters.”

7. Jesus Has Ultimate Authority.

**Revelation 1:16** “In His right hand He held seven stars, from His mouth came a sharp two-edged sword, and His face was like the sun shining in full strength.”

*You don't get to redefine Jesus—you only get to respond to Him as He is.*

### III. A Right View of Jesus Demands A Right Response.

A. The glory of Jesus demands a response.

**Revelation 1:17** “When I saw Him, I fell at His feet as though dead...”

B. Jesus meets those who fall before Him with grace.

**Revelation 1:17** “...But He laid His right hand on me, saying, ‘Fear not’...”

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**This week** → Read *Revelation 1:12–18* once daily.

Pray: “Lord Jesus, help me to see You for who You really are—and respond to You rightly.  
Teach me to fear You rightly... and to trust You fully.  
You are the First and the Last, the Living One—help me live like that’s true.”

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#### **Questions for Personal Reflection and/or Community Group Discussion:**

1. Where in your life are you truly following Jesus—and where might you be shaping Him to fit what you want?
2. When Jesus doesn’t meet your expectations, how do you typically respond—trust, frustration, or distance?
3. Which of the “7 realities” encouraged, challenged, or corrected your view of Jesus the most? Why?
4. In what ways are you tempted to treat Jesus as a helper, advisor, or Savior—while resisting Him as King and authority over your life?
5. John fell at Jesus’ feet in awe. What would it look like for you to respond rightly to Jesus this week—in your attitudes, decisions, or priorities?