

# Vision of Christ



Chapter one opens the stage for the rest of the book of Revelation. Jesus Christ is the central figure of this chapter, *“The Revelation of Jesus Christ”* (1:1). This chapter describes Jesus, tells what he has done, and indicates his intentions for the book.

Chapters two and three will address the conditions of the seven churches of Asia *to whom the book was first sent. “John, to the seven churches which are in Asia. (1:4)”* These are Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamos, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia, and Laodicea.

1. The map to the right identifies where Patmos was in reference to the seven cities in which the seven churches were located.

- What is this region of Asia Minor known as today?
- How far from the city of Jerusalem were these churches?
- Weren't there more than just these seven churches in Asia Minor? (see II Tim 4:13, Col 4:13&16)
- Then why was this only written to these 7 churches?



2. To WHOM was this letter written (1:4)?

3. What was the time frame for this prophecy to occur (1:1,3)?

What were they to DO with this information (1:3)?

4. John was both a brother and companion in what things (1:9)? What does this mean?

5. When John turned to see Jesus (1:12-20) he saw a drastically different Jesus than is revealed in the gospels. In general, how would YOU describe the differences in the picture of Christ here and the gospels?

**6.** John uses symbolism to describe Jesus. This overall picture sends us a message about Christ's position & power. How do the following portions of the description help you see this message?

**a.** Long garment with a golden band around his chest ~ 1:13

**b.** Hair white as snow ~ 1:14

**c.** Eyes like a flame of fire ~ 1:14

**d.** Feet like brass ~ 1:15

**e.** Voice like the sound of many waters ~ 1:15

**f.** A sharp two-edged sword coming from his mouth ~ 1:16

**g.** Countenance like the sun ~ 1:16

**7.** What does Jesus claim for himself in 1:18?

**8.** Outline the book of Revelation based on 1:19. (3 parts)

**9.** Consider to whom the book was originally written and what they were to do with this information (Questions 2 & 3 above), and the information we covered in the Intro material about the Roman persecution of Christianity. Why would this book begin with the vision of Jesus that we see in chapter 1 – how would this help and be a foundation for the rest of the book? How can it help YOU today?

**10.** The mystery of the seven stars & lampstands (1:20)

- What are the 7 stars Jesus holds in his hand?

- What do the 7 lampstands represent?

Angel means “messenger”. Although typically it represents a spiritual being, here it more likely represents the message being given about that church - & it comes from the hand of Jesus!