

Introduction: A powerful proclamation “Then” and “Now”

27 Jesus and His disciples went on to the villages around Caesarea Philippi. On the way He asked them, “Who do people say I am?”

28 They replied, “Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets.”

29 “But what about you?” He asked. “Who do you say I am?” Peter answered, “You are the Christ.”

30 Jesus warned them not to tell anyone about Him.

Mark 8:27-30 (NIV)

- Peter’s confession was based on less than 3 years of observation, teaching, and living with Jesus.

- How would John answer this question some 60 years later to strengthen a persecuted church, where Jesus’ identity and their lives were under attack?

The Answer = John's Revelation of Jesus:

John,

To the seven churches in the province of Asia:

Grace and peace to you,

- *from Him who is, and who was, and who is to come,*
- *and from the seven spirits before His throne,*
- *and from Jesus Christ, who is*

*the Faithful Witness
the First Born from the dead
and the Ruler of the kings of the earth*

To Him (Jesus)

*who **loves us**,
and has **freed us** from our sin by His blood,
and has **made us** to be a kingdom and priests*

to

serve His God and Father –

To Him (Jesus)

be glory and power forever and ever! Amen.

Revelation 1:4-6 (NIV)

⁷ *LOOK, HE IS COMING WITH THE CLOUDS, and every eye will see Him, even those who pierced Him; and all the tribes of the earth will mourn because of Him. So it shall be! 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."*

Revelation 1:7-8 (NIV)

5 Questions “This” Jesus is asking you today:

1. Have you _____ My grace and are you _____ My peace? (v.4)
 - Ephesians 2:8-9
 - John 16:33

2. Do you _____ My testimony about My Word, My Father, Myself, and My love for you? (v.5)
 - John 1:14-18
 - John 14:9
 - John 3:16

3. Will you _____ Me even when it means the death of your agenda, selfish desires, and physical life? (v.5)
 - John 12:24
 - 1 Corinthians 15:20-26

4. Are you _____ My God and My Father in your heart and life 24/7, 365 days a year? (v.6)
 - 1 Peter 2:9
 - Matthew 6:33

5. Are you _____ to stand before Me and give an account of your life when I return? (v.7)
 - Philippians 2:9-11
 - Hebrews 4:12-13

Application / Discussion Questions:

When we say the word “Jesus,” something comes to our mind about who He is and what He is like. Let’s compare our internal concept with the Jesus of Scripture.

1. How does the “unveiled Jesus” of Revelation Chapter 1 differ from what came to your mind when you heard the word “Jesus”?
2. What is most encouraging and comforting about the Jesus of Revelation Chapter 1? Why?
3. What is most alarming or convicting about the Jesus of Revelation Chapter 1? Why?
4. Take a few moments and briefly answer each of the “**5 questions Jesus wants to ask you**” on the previous page.
5. What specific action step of faith/obedience do you need to take to enjoy and receive all the grace and peace God has for you?