

REVELATION TO JOHN 1

NLET

THE IDENTIFICATION OF THIS LITERARY WORK

1 A revelation of Jesus *the* Anointed which the God gave to Him to show the slaves *who are* His the things which are necessary to occur with swiftness.

HOW THIS REVELATION CAME TO BE

And, He showed *these things* by a *divine* sign, having commissioned *it* by agency of the *heavenly* messenger¹ *that is* His to the slave *that is* His – *namely*, John, 2 who testified to the Word of the God and the Testimony of Jesus *the* Anointed –

- such things that He saw, and
- whatever things are, and
- the necessary things to come about after these things.²

A BLESSING

TO THOSE WHO READ, HEAR, AND KEEP THIS REVELATION

3 Blessed is

- the one who is reading, and
 - the ones who are hearing the words of the prophecies, and
 - the ones who are keeping the things having been lastingly written in it!
- For, the Critical Time is near!

THE AUTHOR

4 *From*: John

THE ADDRESSEES

To: The Seven Ekklesias³ - the *ones* in the *region* of

Asia.

GREETING

Grace to you and peace –

- from the One Who Is Being, and the One Who was, and the One Who is coming, and
- from the Seven Spirits Which is⁴ ⁵ before the Throne *that is* His, 5 and
- from Jesus *the* Anointed,
 - the Witness,
 - the trustworthy One,
 - the Firstborn from among⁶ the dead ones, and
 - the *Chief* Ruler of the kingdoms of the Earth!

PRAISE TO JESUS

To the One Who loved⁷ us and the One Who washed⁸ us from the moral failures *that are* ours by means of the Blood *that is* His. 6 And, He made us a kingdom, priests to the God, even His Father! To Him *be* the Glory and the Sovereignty into the Ages of the Ages!

Amen⁹!

AN ANNOUNCEMENT OF JESUS' COMING

7 Behold! He comes with the Clouds! And, every eye shall see Him, even such as the ones who pierced Him! And, all the tribes of the Earth shall beat themselves *with grief* because of Him!

Yes!

Amen!

JESUS IDENTIFIES HIMSELF

8 "I, for My part, Am¹⁰, the Alpha¹¹ and the Omega¹²," says YaHWeH¹³ –

- the God,

¹ 'messenger' – a translation of the Greek word 'ἄγγελος', from which we get the word 'angel'. 'messenger' can be translated as 'a heavenly angel', 'a human messenger', or even as 'the Divine Messenger' – that is, the Son of God Himself Who revealed Himself as 'the Angel of God' in the Old Testament. This translator suspects that it is the last of these here.

² All three of the main streams of transmission, including f35, include the words 'and the necessary things to come about after these things'

³ 'Ekklesia' – A transliteration of the Greek word ἐκκλησία. It is typically translated 'church'. However, the English word 'church' is derived from an Old English transliteration of a Greek word which meant '(place?) of the Lord'. This Greek word actually means 'an assembly of those who are called out' that is, out of the general populace by God for some special function in society. The word is an excellent description of an assembly of Christian disciples but cumbersome to translate as such in every occurrence. This translator hopes that English readers will eventually learn the meaning of the transliterated Greek word 'Ekklesia'.

⁴ f35 includes the verb 'is' here. The NU omits it.

⁵ 'Which is' – After the plural object of the previous preposition, grammatically we would expect a plural relative pronoun, which it is. However, this is followed by a SINGULAR verb, indicating that these 'Seven Spirits' are actually a reference to the single third person of the Holy Trinity – that is, the Holy Spirit! This makes perfect sense since the other two persons are clearly denoted before and afterward.

⁶ f35 has a preposition which can mean 'from among' here. The NU omits it.

⁷ f35 has 'the One Who loved' (an aorist, dative participle) here. The NU has 'the One Who is loving' (a present, dative participle).

⁸ f35 has 'the One Who washed' here. The NU has 'the One Who released'.

⁹ 'Amen' - The transliteration of a Hebrew word which affirms the truth of something.

¹⁰ 'I ... Am' - The name that the Divine Being attributed to Himself when He appeared to Moses, as recorded in Exodus 3:14.

¹¹ 'Alpha' – the first letter of the Greek alphabet.

¹² 'Omega' – the last letter of the Greek alphabet.

¹³ 'YaHWeH' – The Greek noun here is translated as 'Lord'.

However, it is this translator's observation that when 'Lord' appears

- the One Who is, and
- the One Who was, and
- the One Who is coming,
- the Almighty!

*JOHN DESCRIBES HIS CIRCUMSTANCE
WHEN WRITING THIS REVELATION*

9 I, for my part,

- John,
- the brother *who is* yours, and
- a participant¹⁴ in connection with
 - the Tribulation, and
 - a kingdom, and
 - an endurance in connection with an anointed One,

because of Jesus¹⁵ came to be on the island – the one being called ‘Patmos’ – on account of¹⁶ the Word of the God and the Testimony of Jesus *the* Anointed¹⁷.

JESUS REVEALS HIMSELF TO JOHN

10 I came to be in tune with spirit in the course of the Day pertaining to the Lord.

And, I heard a voice behind me as great¹⁸ as a war-trumpet, 11 saying, “What you are seeing write on papyrus paper. And, send *the manuscript* to the Seven Ekklesias; –

- to Ephesus, and
- to Smyrna, and
- to Pergamum, and
- to Thyatira, and
- to Sardis, and
- to Philadelphia, and
- to Laodicea.”

12 And, there¹⁹ I turned around to see *the source* of the voice which was speaking in his interaction with me.

And, having turned around, I saw seven lampstands – gold *ones*.

13 And, in the midst of the Seven²⁰ Lampstands was

someone similar to a son of a man,

- having lastingly been clothed with a robe extending down to His feet, and
- having lastingly girded Himself over the chest²¹ with a band –
that is, golden one.

14 Now, the head *that was* His and the hair *were* white, as if wool – white *wool*, as snow.

And, the eyes *that were* His *were* as flames of fire.

15 And, the feet *that were* His *were* similar to fine brass, having been lastingly fired by a blast furnace.

And, the sound *that was* His was as a sound of water – MUCH *of it!*

16 And, having in the right hand *that is* His, He had stars – seven *of them*.

And, coming out from the mouth *that was* His was a large, broad sword –

- two-edged,
- sharp!

And, the countenance *that was* His was as the Sun shines in connection the power *that is* its.

17 And, when I saw Him, I fell toward the feet *that are* His, as though dead.

And, He placed the right hand²² *that is* His upon²³ me, saying, “Stop being afraid! *I am* -

- I Am²⁴,
- the First, and
- the Last, 18 and
- the One Who is Living.

And, I became dead.

And, look! I am One who is Living for the Ages of the Ages!

Amen!²⁵

And, I have the Keys of the Death and of the Hades²⁶.

without a definite article in the Greek New Testament, as is the case here, it often indicates the sacred, four-consonant personal Hebrew name for God which is transliterated here as ‘YaHWeH’.

¹⁴ f35 has ‘participant’ here. The NU has ‘fellow participant’.

¹⁵ f35 has ‘in connection with an anointed One, because of Jesus’ here. The NU has ‘in connection with Jesus’ (although the case of the noun after this preposition is wrong).

¹⁶ f35 includes the preposition translated as ‘on account of’ here. The NU omits it.

¹⁷ f35 includes ‘the Anointed’ here. The NU omits it.

¹⁸ f35 has the word order ‘a voice behind me as great’ here. The NU has ‘behind me a voice as great’.

¹⁹ f35 includes the adverb ‘there’ here. The NU omits it.’

²⁰ f35 includes the adjective ‘Seven’ here. The NU omits it.

²¹ f35 has a Greek noun that was more commonly used for males here. The NU has a Greek word that was more commonly used for females.

²² f35 includes the noun ‘hand’ here. The NU omits it.

²³ f35 has ‘placed ... upon’ here. The NU has ‘placed’.

²⁴ ‘I Am’ - The name that the Divine Being attributed to Himself when He appeared to Moses, as recorded in Exodus 3:14.

²⁵ f35 includes the exclamation ‘Amen!’ here. The NU omits it.

²⁶ ‘Hades’ – a transliteration of the Greek word ᾍδης, referring to the places(s) where the spirits of dead people go.

*JESUS COMMISSIONS JOHN
TO WRITE HIS REVELATION DOWN*

19 So then, write

- the *things* which you have seen, and
- the *things* which are, and
- the *things* which are about to happen after these *things*.

JESUS EXPLAINS THE MYSTERY

OF THE SEVEN STARS AND THE SEVEN LAMPSTANDS

20 The mystery of the Seven Stars which you saw in the right hand *that is* Mine and the Seven Lampstands – the gold *ones*, *is this*:

- The Seven Stars are the *human* messengers²⁷ of the Seven Ekklesias. And,
- the Seven Lampstands²⁸ which you saw are seven²⁹ ekklesias.”

²⁷ ‘messengers’ – a translation of the Greek word ἄγγελοι, *from which we get the word ‘angels’*. These ‘messengers’ can be human, heavenly, divine, or even demonic. From the usage of this word in the seven letters this seems to be a reference to human messengers.

²⁸ f35 has ‘the Seven Lampstands’ here. The NU has ‘the Seven, the Lampstands’.

²⁹ f35 has ‘which you saw ... seven’ here. The NU has ‘seven’.