

Study Notes and Questions for Revelation Chapter 1

- Pastor Paul brought out the importance of keeping to known rules of biblical interpretation. They are:
 - The Rule of Plain Sense
 - The Law of Double Reference
 - The Law of Recurrence
 - The Law of Context
- Write down the meaning of the four laws listed above.
- Why are interpretive laws important?
- According to the first five verses of chapter one, what is this book all about?
- According to 1:1–3, why did God give this revelation? Also, what responses does He want its hearers to make?
- Note: The number seven recurs fifty-two times in Revelation. Because of its association with the Sabbath and the seven days of creation, this number signifies completeness, perfection, and the essence of a thing.
- The Jews were used to calling God “him who was, and who is, and who will be.” John changed this to “him who is, and who was, and who is to come” (1:4, emphasis added). What might be his point(s) in doing this?
- What difference does it make to you that God is He “who is to come”? How should this affect the way you deal with your circumstances and the people around you
- What does it mean that Jesus is “the firstborn from the dead” (1:5)? How did He become the firstborn? (Optional: Check out 1 Corinthians 15:3–4, 20–28.)
- How is it personally important to you that Jesus is all the things that are mentioned in **verse 5**?
- What does it imply about you and other believers that Jesus “has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve his God and Father” (1:6)?
- When “a loud voice like a trumpet” commands John to “write ... what you see,” John turns to see the voice (see 1:10–12). What John sees recalls visions that the prophet Daniel had centuries earlier. (See Daniel 7:9–10; Daniel 7:13–14; Daniel 10:4–6) How do those passages from Daniel help you understand John’s vision in Revelation 1:12–16?
- What does the “sharp, double-edged sword” (1:16) seem to signify? (See Hebrews 4:12)

- Why do you think John “fell at his feet as though dead” (1:17) when he saw the glorified Jesus?
- What truths about Himself does Christ emphasize in 1:17–18?
- Find twenty-four titles for Christ in 1:1–20. What does each title tell you about Jesus?
- What one truth from 1:1–20 stands out as something you would like to take to heart this week?