

A close-up photograph of a broken pocket watch. The watch face is white with black Roman numerals and is surrounded by a dark, metallic case. The watch is shattered, with many small, dark fragments scattered around it. A black cord is tangled in the background. The overall scene is dimly lit, with a dark, textured background.

Jesus Christ—the Beginning and the Ending of Human History

Revelation 1:1-8

Revelation 1:7-8

⁷ Behold, He is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see Him, even those who pierced Him, and all tribes of the earth will wail on account of Him. Even so. 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.”

I. God Accurately Predicts the Future Because He is in Control of History vv. 1-2, 7-8.

The revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave Him to show to His servants the things that must soon take place. He made it known by sending His angel to His servant John, ² who bore witness to the word of God & to the testimony of Jesus Christ, even to all that He saw.

- A. The nature of the book: it is the revelation or unveiling of Jesus Christ v. 1a.
- B. The means of giving us the revelation: God the Father Sent an Angel to John v. 1b.

I. God Accurately Predicts the Future Because He is in Control of History vv. 1-2, 7-8.

⁷ Behold, He is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see Him, even those who pierced Him, and all tribes of the earth will wail on account of Him. Even so. 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.”

God can accurately predict the future because He is the eternal and Almighty v. 8.

II. God Blesses those Who Take What He Says Seriously v. 3.

Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear, and who keep what is written in it, for the time is near.

When we live in anticipation of Christ's return we live differently (Matthew 25:1-13).

Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.
—Jesus of Nazareth.

III. God Has Determined that Jesus Christ will Reign Over the Earth vv. 4-6.

John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from Him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven Spirits who are before His throne, ⁵ and from Jesus Christ the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth. To Him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by His blood ⁶ and made us a kingdom, priests to His God and Father, to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

- A. The One who made our redemption possible is also the one who will have dominion over all the earth (Col. 1:15-20).
- B. The return of Christ will give joy to those who call Him Lord but will be a terrifying day for those who reject Him.