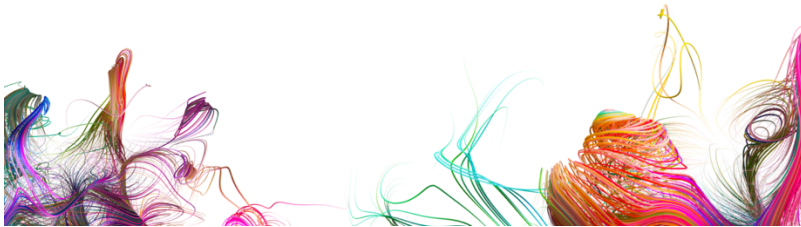


# REVELATION

FINDING PEACE IN A  
WORLD OF CHAOS



## Week 1: What is Revelation About?

**Date:** Week of 1/7/24

**Scripture:** Revelation 1:1-8

### Bridgebuilder Opening

1. Most people at some point in their lives think about the future and how the world might end. Some people fear the unknown so much, that they will superstitiously read their horoscopes or visit a psychic for answers. Others might fear their own ability to survive something like a global war or the depletion of the earth's natural resources, and they become doomsday preppers. When you think about the future of our world are you optimistic or pessimistic? Explain why? Are there any fears you have when you think about how the world will end, and if so explain what those fears are?
2. Many people are fascinated with the book of Revelation because people often connect it to prophetic descriptions about the end of the world. What is your understanding of the book of Revelation? What do you think the book of Revelation is about?

### Observations and Interpretations

1. Read Revelation 1:1-8, and circle or highlight any words that stand out to you. What are some of your observations from this initial reading of the text?
2. These opening verses give us many contextual details about the book of Revelation. We learn about the author, the timeline, and the purpose. As a group answer the following:
  - The Author - What do we learn about the author John in these verses?
  - The Timeline - When does John say these prophetic events will happen?
  - The Purpose - Who does John say the book of Revelation is about, and what does he tell us about this person?

3. Who does John say *grace and peace* comes from? Why would that statement be helpful to remember as we study the rest of Revelation?
4. In vs. 8 John writes that Jesus identifies himself as *the Alpha and the Omega*. That is a powerful statement with great significance, so spend some time unpacking that statement.
  - What is the meaning of that statement?
  - What does it imply about the eternal existence and authority of Jesus?
  - What does it imply about who is in control of the end of history, and how should it affect the way you view your future and the end of history?
5. What is the main thing John is trying to teach us in these opening verses?

## Applications

1. This year our church is focusing on the theme of helping to bring *peace* into our lives and city. How can this text help give you *peace*, as you live in a world of chaos?
2. In one sentence, state one thing the Lord wants you to take away from this study?

## The Gospel and Prayer

Jesus gives us *grace and peace* through faith in his life, death, and resurrection. Let's pray for the *Alpha and Omega* to sustain us with his *grace and truth*, while we await his return.