

WEEK 1 WHY? HOW?

WEEKS 2-4 WHAT? WHO?

WEEK 2 IN THE CONTROL ROOM (1 – 5)

WEEK 3 TROUBLE ON EARTH (6 – 16)

WEEK 4 A TALE OF TWO CITIES (17 – 22)

# Two

WHAT? WHO?
IN THE CONTROL ROOM
CHAPTERS 1 – 5

2

# READING

REVELATION 1:4-18

#### **CHAPTER 1 – ONE LIKE A SON OF MAN**

- $\Rightarrow$  PURPOSE (1:1) 'TO SHOW ... WHAT MUST SOON TAKE PLACE'
- $\Rightarrow$  AUTHORSHIP (1:1,4,9)
- ⇒ THE NUMBER 'SEVEN' (52 TIMES) BLESSED, CHURCHES, SPIRITS = FULLNESS, COMPLETENESS
- ⇒ DESCRIPTIONS OF GOD THE FATHER & JESUS CHRIST

5

#### WHAT DOES REVELATION SAY ABOUT JESUS?

1. What God says of himself, Jesus says of himself

'THIS IS WHAT THE LORD SAYS — ISRAEL'S
KING AND REDEEMER, THE LORD ALMIGHTY:
I AM THE FIRST AND I AM THE LAST; APART
FROM ME THERE IS NO GOD.

**ISAIAH 44:6** 

7

#### WHAT DOES REVELATION SAY ABOUT JESUS?

- 1. What God says of himself, Jesus says of himself
- 2. What is said of God in worship, is said of Jesus in worship.

<sup>3</sup> ... The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the city, and his servants will serve him. <sup>4</sup> They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads.

REVELATION 22:3-4

9

#### WHAT DOES REVELATION SAY ABOUT JESUS?

- 1. What God says of himself, Jesus says of himself
- 2. What is said of God in worship, is said of Jesus in worship
  - 3. WHAT GOD DOES, JESUS DOES.

As a way of stating unambiguously that Jesus Christ belongs to the fullness of the eternal being of God, this surpasses anything in the New Testament

RICHARD BAUCKHAM

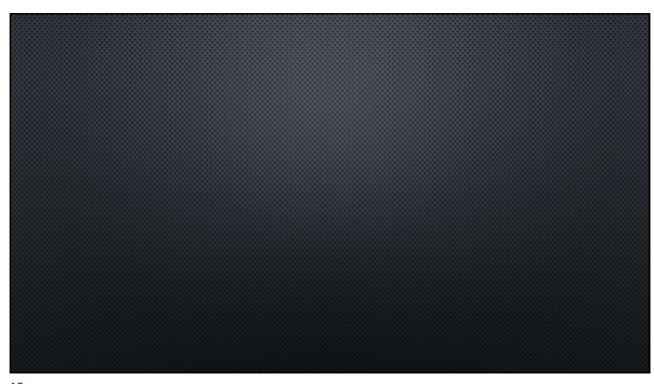
11

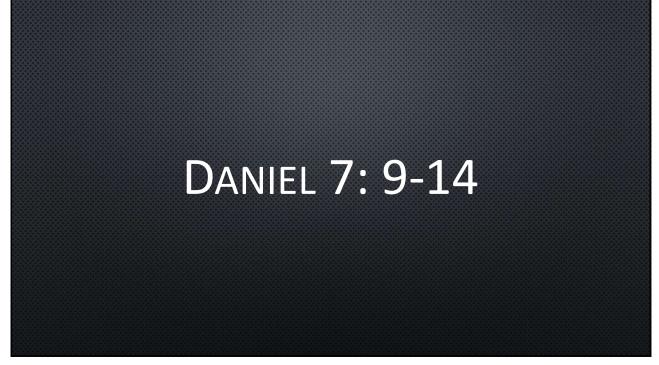
IT IS THIS JESUS WHO LOVES US, AND HAS FREED US FROM OUR SINS BY HIS BLOOD, AND HAS MADE US TO BE A KINGDOM AND PRIESTS TO SERVE HIS GOD AND FATHER (1:5)

"... YOU WILL BE FOR ME A KINGDOM OF PRIESTS AND A HOLY NATION." EXODUS 19:6

<sup>8</sup> 'I AM THE ALPHA AND THE OMEGA,' SAYS THE LORD GOD, 'WHO IS, AND WHO WAS, AND WHO IS TO COME, THE ALMIGHTY.'

17 ' ... I AM THE FIRST AND THE LAST.'





<sup>9</sup> 'As I LOOKED,

THRONES WERE SET IN PLACE,

AND THE ANCIENT OF DAYS TOOK HIS SEAT.

HIS CLOTHING WAS AS WHITE AS SNOW;

THE HAIR OF HIS HEAD WAS WHITE LIKE WOOL.

HIS THRONE WAS FLAMING WITH FIRE,

AND ITS WHEELS WERE ALL ABLAZE.

17

A RIVER OF FIRE WAS FLOWING,
 COMING OUT FROM BEFORE HIM.
 THOUSANDS UPON THOUSANDS ATTENDED HIM;
 TEN THOUSAND TIMES TEN THOUSAND STOOD
 BEFORE HIM.
 THE COURT WAS SEATED,
 AND THE BOOKS WERE OPENED.

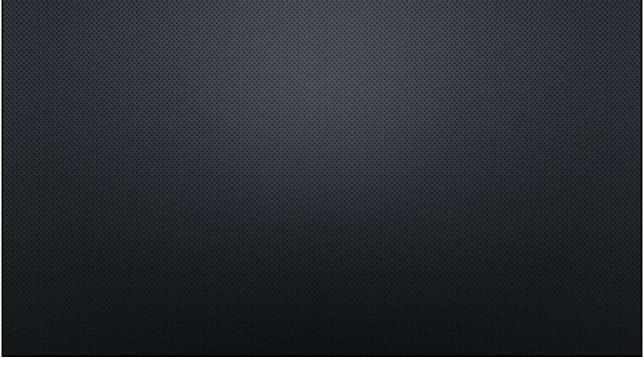
11 'THEN I CONTINUED TO WATCH BECAUSE OF THE BOASTFUL WORDS THE HORN WAS SPEAKING. I KEPT LOOKING UNTIL THE BEAST WAS SLAIN AND ITS BODY DESTROYED AND THROWN INTO THE BLAZING FIRE. 12 (THE OTHER BEASTS HAD BEEN STRIPPED OF THEIR AUTHORITY, BUT WERE ALLOWED TO LIVE FOR A PERIOD OF TIME.)

19

13 'IN MY VISION AT NIGHT I LOOKED, AND THERE BEFORE ME WAS ONE LIKE A SON OF MAN, COMING WITH THE CLOUDS OF HEAVEN. HE APPROACHED THE ANCIENT OF DAYS AND WAS LED INTO HIS PRESENCE.

14 HE WAS GIVEN AUTHORITY, GLORY AND SOVEREIGN POWER; ALL NATIONS AND PEOPLES OF EVERY LANGUAGE WORSHIPPED HIM. HIS DOMINION IS AN EVERLASTING DOMINION THAT WILL NOT PASS AWAY, AND HIS KINGDOM IS ONE THAT WILL NEVER BE DESTROYED.

21



<sup>17</sup> When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. Then he placed his right hand on me and said: 'Do not be afraid. I am the First and the Last. <sup>18</sup> I am the Living One; I was dead, and now look, I am alive for ever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and Hades.

23

# CHAPTERS 2 & 3

THE LETTERS TO THE SEVEN CHURCHES

EPHESUS
SMYRNA
PERGAMUM
THYATIRA
SARDIS
PHILADELPHIA
LAODICEA

25

AFTER THIS LETTER HAS BEEN READ TO YOU, SEE THAT IT IS ALSO READ IN THE CHURCH OF THE LAODICEANS AND THAT YOU IN TURN READ THE LETTER FROM LAODICEA.

Colossians 4:16

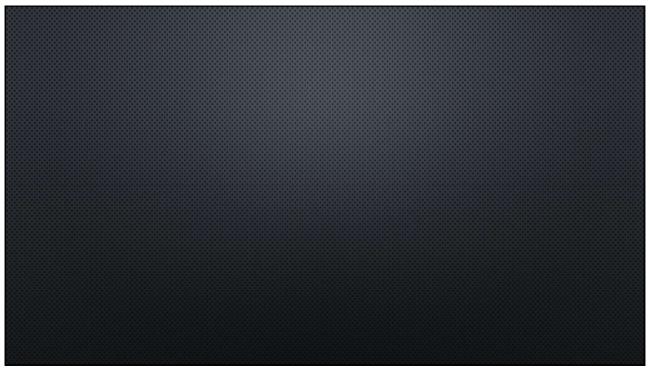
#### THE SEVEN LETTERS FOLLOW THE SAME FORMULA

EACH BEGINS: 'TO THE ANGEL OF THE CHURCH IN .... WRITE' FOLLOWED BY

- A DESCRIPTION OF JESUS
- WORDS OF HIS APPROVAL AND/OR REPROOF
- A CHALLENGE
- A THREAT
- A PROMISE

EACH LETTER CLOSES WITH THE WORDS: 'HE WHO HAS AN EAR, LET HIM HEAR WHAT THE SPIRIT SAYS TO THE CHURCHES'

27



## CHAPTERS 4 & 5

THE THRONE, THE SCROLL AND THE LAMB

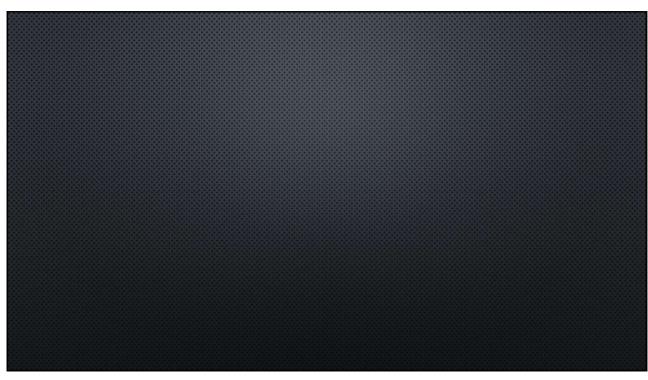
29

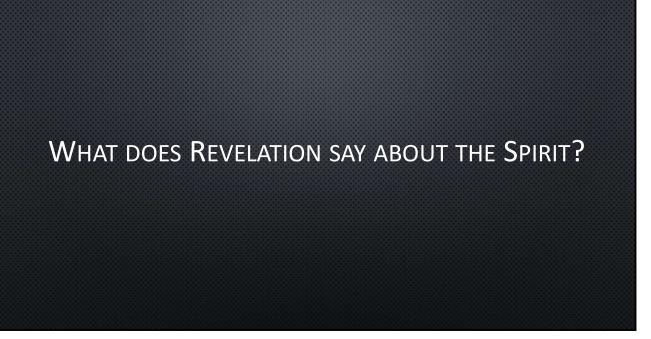
### CHAPTERS 4 & 5

THE THRONE, THE SCROLL AND THE LAMB
OR, THE DIRECTOR'S CHAIR, THE MISSING SCRIPT
AND THE LEADING MAN.

THEIR FACES LOOKED LIKE THIS: EACH OF THE FOUR HAD THE FACE OF A HUMAN BEING, AND ON THE RIGHT SIDE EACH HAD THE FACE OF A LION, AND ON THE LEFT THE FACE OF AN OX; EACH ALSO HAD THE FACE OF AN EAGLE.

**EZEKIEL 1:10** 





The seven Spirits as the divine power released into the whole world by the victory of Christ's sacrifice are the power of divine truth

Richard Bauckham

35

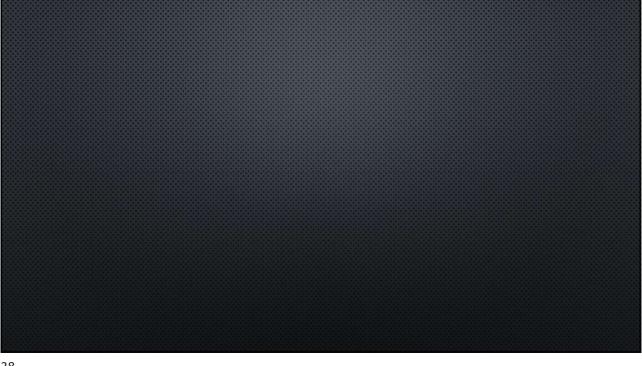
AT THIS I FELL AT HIS FEET TO WORSHIP HIM. BUT HE SAID TO ME, 'DON'T DO THAT! I AM A FELLOW SERVANT WITH YOU AND WITH YOUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS WHO HOLD TO THE TESTIMONY OF JESUS. WORSHIP GOD! FOR IT IS THE SPIRIT OF PROPHECY WHO BEARS TESTIMONY TO JESUS.'

REVELATION 19:10

THE ROLE TO WHICH REVELATION CALLS ALL CHRISTIANS IS, IN ESSENCE, THE SAME AS THAT OF PROPHETS: BEARING THE WITNESS OF JESUS, REMAINING FAITHFUL IN WORD AND DEED TO THE ONE TRUE GOD AND HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS WHICH CAN ONLY HAPPEN BY THE POWER OF THE SPIRIT.

RICHARD BAUCKHAM

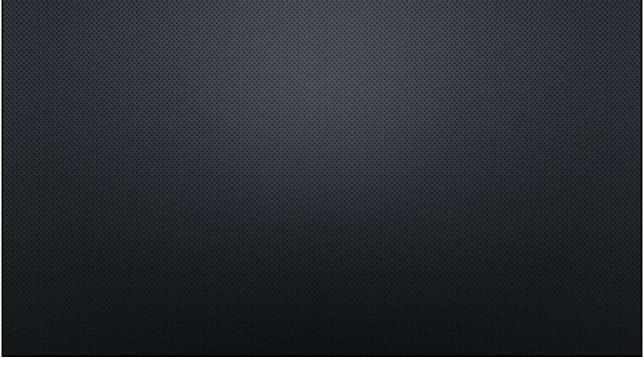
37



<sup>9</sup>THEN I LOOKED, AND I SAW A HAND STRETCHED OUT TO ME. IN IT WAS A SCROLL, <sup>10</sup> WHICH HE UNROLLED BEFORE ME. ON BOTH SIDES OF IT WERE WRITTEN WORDS OF LAMENT AND MOURNING AND WOE.

EZEKIEL 2

39



NEXT WEEK ...

WHAT? WHO?

TROUBLE ON EARTH

CHAPTERS 6 – 16