



DIVINITY

FROM ETERNITY TO THE CRADLE

Divinity – Still Reaching
Revelation 1:1-8

Rev. 1:1 The Revelation of **Jesus Christ**, which **God gave Him** to show to His **bond-servants**, the things which must soon take place; and He sent and communicated it **by His angel** to His bond-servant **John**, ... ³ Blessed is he who reads and hears... and heeds... ⁴ **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 the kings of the earth. To Him who loves us and released us from our sins by His blood—⁶ and He has made us to be a kingdom, priests to His God and Father-- to Him be the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen. ⁷ Behold he is coming ... and every eye will see Him, even those who pierced him.... (NAU)

Who is the Revelation to? How are believers referred to in the writing?

A. Who is it to?

1. Bondservants. 1:6

2. Saints. 13:7, 14:12

3. Overcomers. Rev 2 & 3

4. Bride. 19:7, 21:2, 9

5. Those Written in the Book of Life. 13:8, 21:27

6. Priestly Nation. 5:10; Priesthood. 1:6

7. Kingdom. 1:6, 5:10

1. *Revelation is like a personal letter from the three-member family– Father, Son, & Holy Spirit. The “family of God” is intent upon reaching us.*

A. *The three “signatories”:*

- V4. *Father God* – “He who is, who was, and who is about to come.”
- V4. *Holy Spirit - 7 Spirits* who are before the throne.
- V5. *Jesus Christ* – the faithful witness, the first-born from the dead, the ruler of the kings of the earth.

B. *Promise of blessing* to the one who reads and hears and heeds the prophecy. V 3

2. *The Father is the initiator of the Revelation. He is the sovereign authority. He alone is described with a three-fold “Holy” and He is primary on the throne:*

A. Holy, holy, holy:

- *Rev. 4:8 And the four living creatures, each one of them having six wings, are full of eyes around and within; and day and night they do not cease to say, "**HOLY, HOLY, HOLY** is THE LORD GOD, THE ALMIGHTY, **WHO WAS AND WHO IS AND WHO IS TO COME.**" (NAU)*
- *Isaiah 6:3*
- *Rev. 15:4 "Who will not fear, O Lord, and glorify Your name? For **You alone are holy**; ..." (NAU)*

3. *The Son is the Savior bc the Son is God in human flesh. He became flesh so he could die and release us from our sin-debt by paying it off himself.*
- A. *Achieves God's preordained redemptive plan – keeps the faithful, faithful.*
- *Rev 13:8, “All who dwell on the earth will worship him [anti-christ religion], everyone whose name has not been written from the foundation of the world in the book of life of the Lamb who has been slain.” (John 10:28-29)*
- B. *Rev. 1:5: the faithful witness, firstborn of the dead, the ruler of the kings of the earth. Who loves us and released us from our sins...*
- C. *Rev 1:18 – and the living one; and I was dead...and I am alive forevermore and have the keys of death and Hades....*

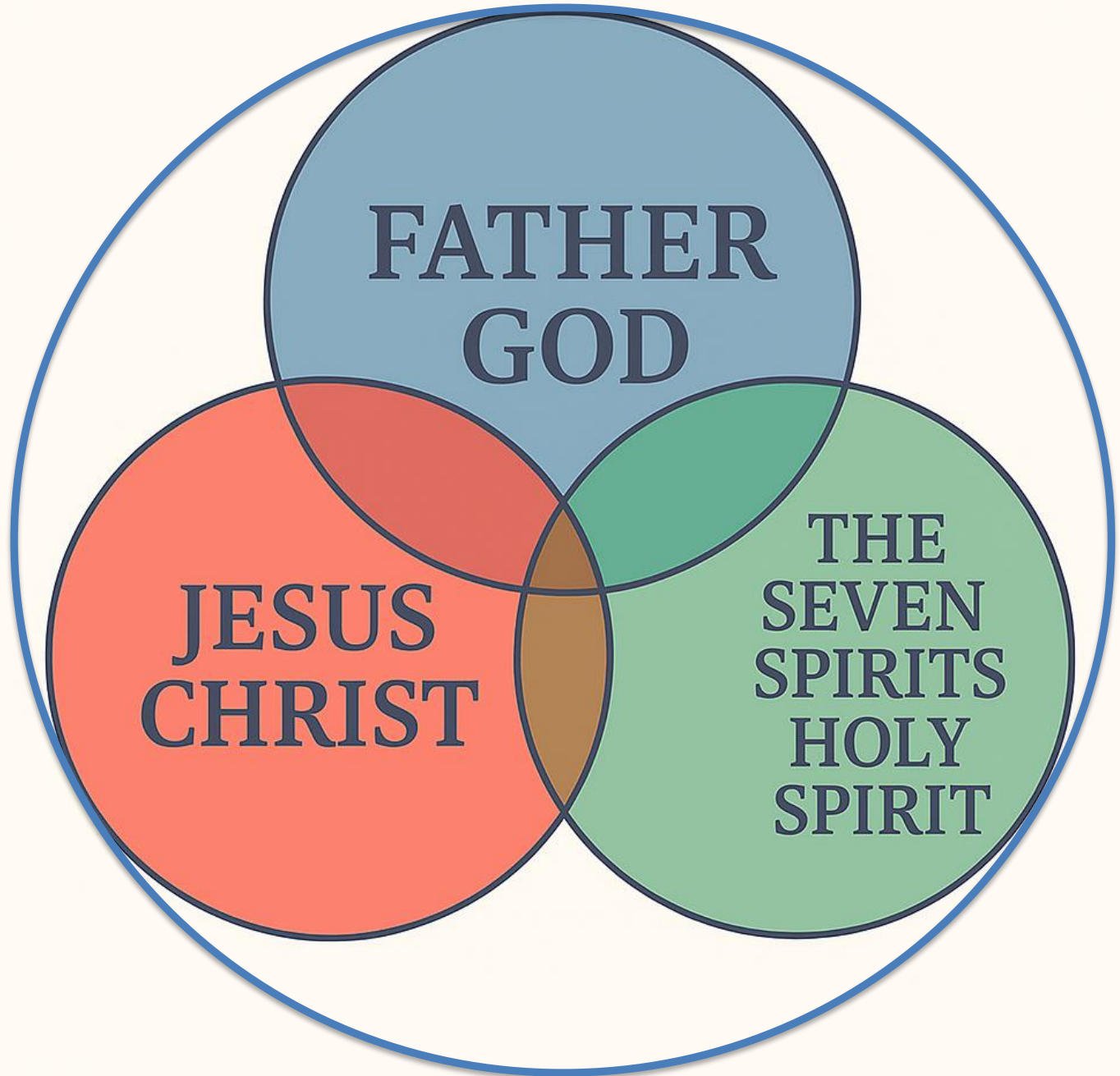
4. *The Holy Spirit is the gift of the literal presence of God in the followers of Jesus. He becomes the “eyes” of Jesus in the heart of believers as well as the eyes of Jesus reaching out to the whole earth.*
- A. *Seven Spirits of God before the throne – Rev 1:4*
- *“7” represents completeness*
 - *7 Spirits symbolizes the literal presence of the HS*
 - *The HS is sent out to our world.*
- B. *Lamb standing ... having 7 eyes – the 7 spirits sent into the world:*
- *Rev 5:6 And I saw ... a Lamb standing, as if slain, having seven horns and **seven eyes**, which are the **seven Spirits of God**, **sent out into all the earth**. (NAU), Zech 4:10*

***Do you think he feels
“invisible” to people
around him? Bullied?
God has called us to
“see” people around us.
Why else would he give
us the HS as His “eyes”?***

- ***John 14:18***
- ***James 1:27***



***God is one
and exists
eternally in
three
“persons” –
Father, Son,
and Holy
Spirit, each
distinct but
united.
Together,
the 3 reveal
our value
and
importance
to God!***



- Jn. 16:7-11 "But I tell you the truth, it is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I go, **I will send Him to you.**⁸ "And He, when He comes, will **convict** the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment;⁹ concerning sin, **because they do not believe in Me;**¹⁰ and concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father and you no longer see Me;¹¹ and concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world has been judged. (NAU)

As important as each of the three are in their own roles, there are shared roles, titles, and characteristics of the three. Yet the three are One.

A. Alpha and Omega, Beginning and the End, first and last:

- Father – Rev 1:8, 21:6;*
- Son - Rev 1:17, 22:13;*

B. Eternal presence - who is, who was, and who is to come.

- Father - Rev 1:4;*
- Son – Rev 22:13, 1:17-18 (lives forever);*
- HS – shares throne w the Father – Rev 3:21, 22:1, Rev 4:5, always present in throne room.*

C. God is One: Father is Son, Son is Father, and the Spirit is the Spirit of either or both. John 17:11. 21-23

5. *Believers are the answer to the “So what?” question of the three-member family of God!*


- *Rev. 1:6 and He has made us to be a **kingdom**, **priests** to His God and Father-- to Him be the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen. (NAU)*
 - *Kingdom. Priests. Overcomers.*
 - *Value of community.*
 - *Bc of the role He has given to His followers: He receives glory.*

Through the HS, we are given the spiritual gifts and the motivation to accomplish His message and His work.

- *1 Pet. 2:5, you also, as living stones, are being built up as a **spiritual house for a holy priesthood**, to offer up **spiritual sacrifices** acceptable to God through Jesus Christ... ⁹ But you are A CHOSEN RACE, A royal PRIESTHOOD, A HOLY NATION, A PEOPLE FOR God's OWN POSSESSION, so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; (NAU)*
- *Gal. 4:6-7 **Because you are sons**, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying, "**Abba! Father!**" ⁷ Therefore you are no longer a slave, **but a son**; and if a son, then an heir through God. NAU)*



God has chosen His church, His people, to be His human embodiment in a hurting, fallen world. We are many and are uniquely gifted by the HS for the task assigned to us. What if we could see ourselves just as spiritually gifted as Lamar is physically gifted?

A football player in a blue jersey with the number 16 is running with the ball while being tackled by a player in a white and yellow jersey. The player in blue is wearing a silver helmet and blue socks. The player in white and yellow is wearing a yellow helmet and yellow pants with green stripes. The background is a blue wall with white curved lines.

God has chosen His church, His people, to be His human embodiment in a hurting, fallen world. We can do it without fumbling the ball bc the HS is our strength!

***What if all we do is
talk about it instead
of taking up Christ's
commission and
allowing His eyes to
be our eyes to the
hurting, lost world
around us?***





What if all we do is just love one another and never get around to sharing His love with others? What if our love has human boundaries as our world does? How can we see others with the eyes of Christ unless we allow Him to transform the way we see?



God has chosen His church, His people, to be His human embodiment in a hurting, fallen world. Our job matters bc God is still reaching the hurting people of the world. We are the answer God has given to the world's "so what?" question.

6. *Jesus Christ is coming back and the whole unbelieving earth will see him when he does. What will move us to action – bc the day is approaching?*

- *Rev. 1:7 BEHOLD, **HE IS COMING WITH THE CLOUDS**, and **every eye** will see Him, even **those who pierced Him**; and **all the tribes** of the earth will mourn over Him. So it is to be. Amen. (NAU)*
 - ***With the clouds.** Daniel 7:13, Matt 24:30, 26:64, 1 Thess 4:17, Rev 14:14, Mark 13:26, Luke 21:27, Rev 22:20*
 - *Every eye will see him - even those who pierced Him.*
 - *The whole earth will mourn.*

Call to action:

- 1. 2026 will be a year of evangelism for Bethnay Church. We are the answer to the “so what” question for the people in our circle of influence. In coming weeks, we will ask you to commit to bringing one person to Christ in 2026. Will you begin your prayers to this end?*
- 2. Ask God to give you the name of someone you can pray for as the New Year arrives. Make a commitment with God to lift their name, daily, to the Father for the next 4 weeks. If God leads you to do so, drop them a note of the gift of prayer you are giving them.*