

BE FAITHFUL, EVEN TO THE POINT OF DEATH

Revelation 1:1 – 3:22
Key Verse 2:10

* Jesus, the Alpha and the Omega (1:1-20)

1. What is Revelation about, and why are those who hear the words of Revelation blessed? (1-3) Find the seven churches on a map! (11) What does it mean that Revelation is addressed to the seven churches? What does John testify about God, the Holy Spirit and Jesus in his greeting? (4-8) What does it mean that Jesus is the Alpha and the Omega?
2. Why was John on the island of Patmos? (9) What did he hear and see there when he was in the spirit? What is the meaning of each description of the glorious body of Jesus for the persecuted churches? (13.16.18; Zech 12:10) Why did Jesus show himself as the Living One who holds the keys of death and Hades? What spiritual attitude do we need for the study of Revelation? (19.20)

* Overcome, just as I was victorious (2:1 – 3:22)

3. Summarise Jesus' praise, rebuke and encouragement for each church and the reward for the victors! (2,1-3,22) How did Jesus introduce himself in each scroll? How did two churches form a godly fellowship faithfully and without rebuke? (2:9; 3:8) What do we learn from Jesus, who encourages Christians in tribulation to restore their first love and to be faithful until the point of death? (2,5.10)
4. What is the significance of Jesus' admonition: "Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches"? Why does Jesus describe a false doctrine even as 'the doctrine of Balaam'? What is 'the teaching of the Nicolaitans' about? To what does Jesus seriously rebuke the Christians in Ephesus, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis and Laodicea? What false teachings and false worship also prevail in our time? How can we here in Europe be true victors like our Lord Jesus?