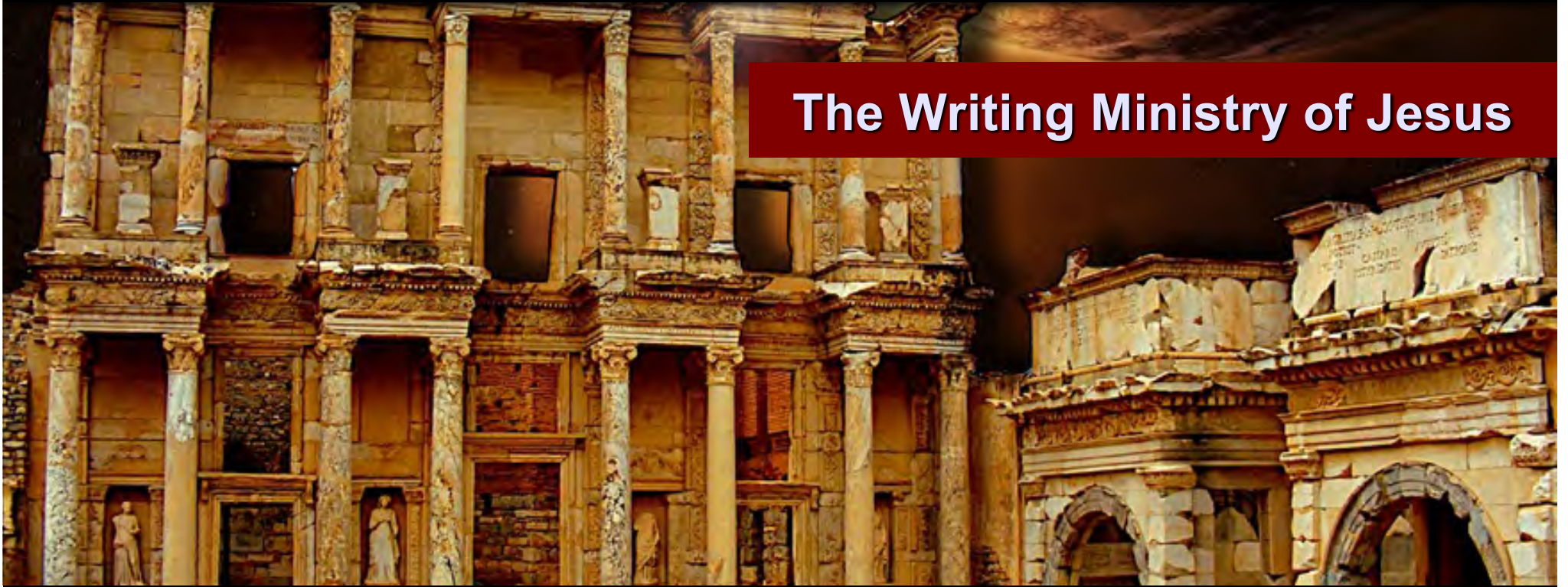


# The Incomparable Christ

## *Christology: The Person & Work of Jesus*

The Writing Ministry of Jesus

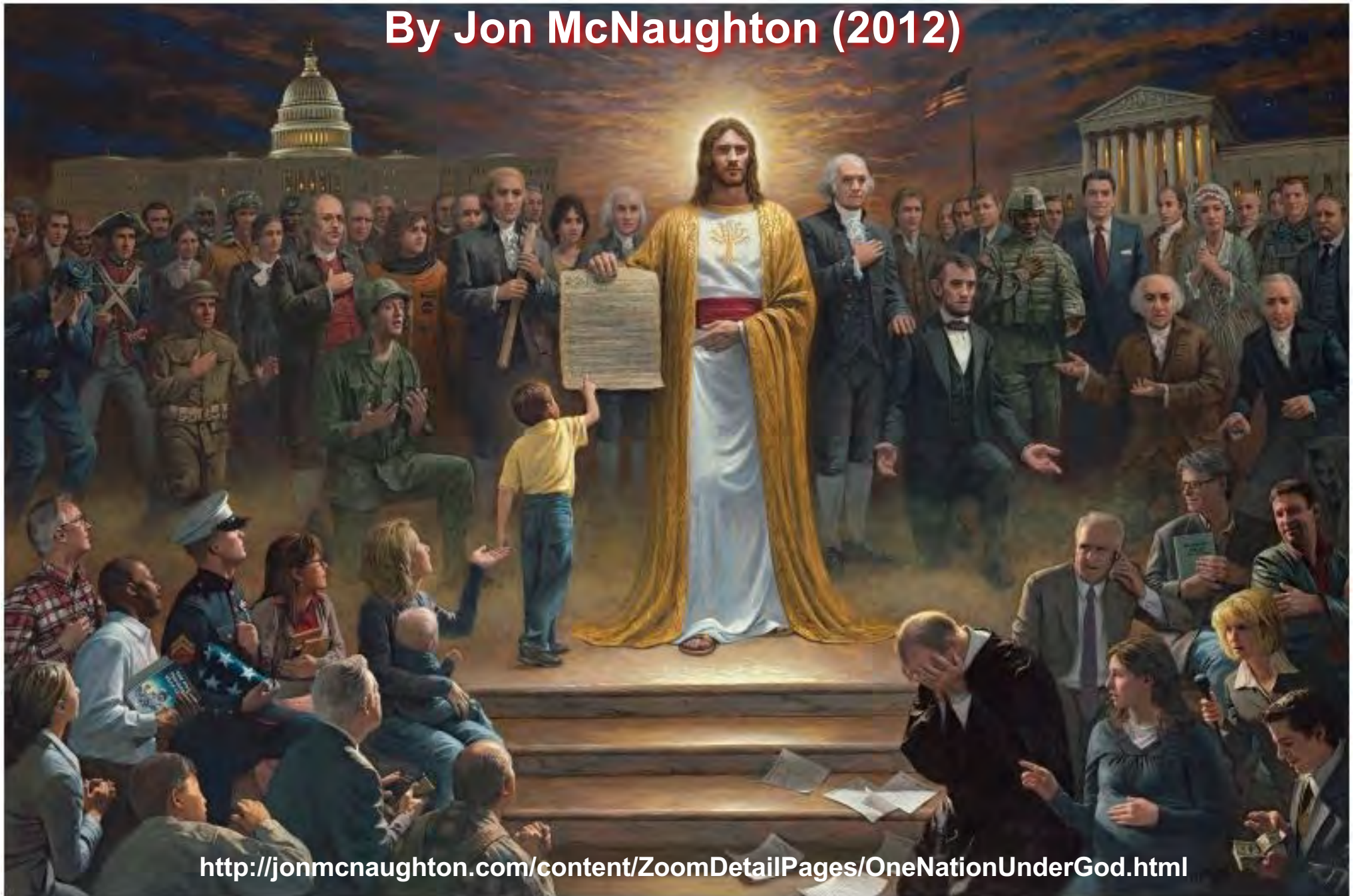


# Revelation 1



# One Nation Under God

By Jon McNaughton (2012)



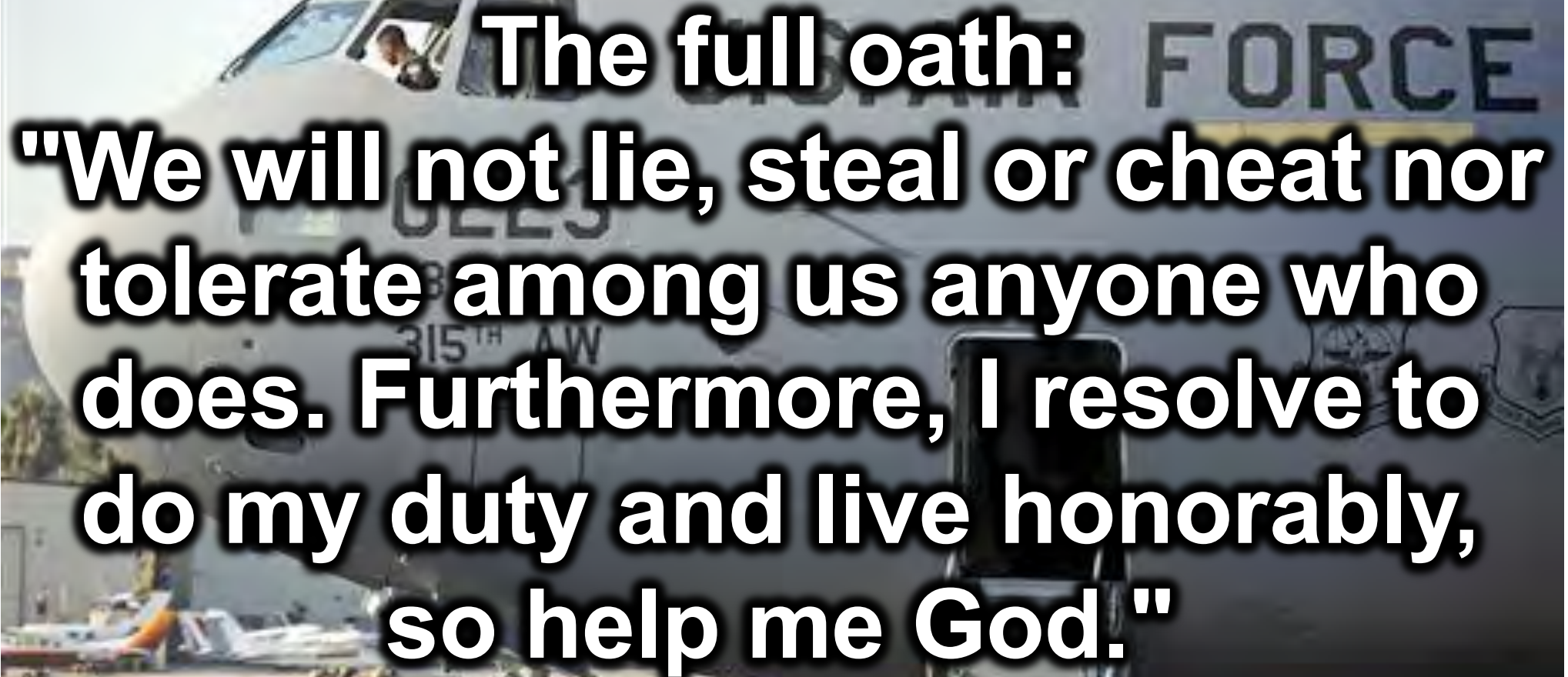
<http://jonmcnaughton.com/content/ZoomDetailPages/OneNationUnderGod.html>

# Jesus Christ, the Most Controversial Person



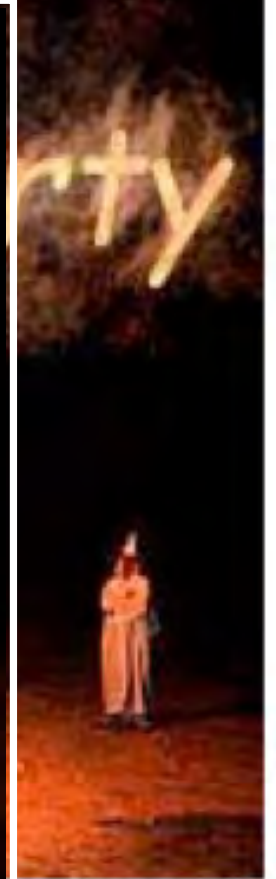
<http://jonmcaughton.com/content/ZoomDetailPages/OneNationUnderGod.html>

# "God" Now Optional in US Air Force Oath



**The full oath:**  
**"We will not lie, steal or cheat nor tolerate among us anyone who does. Furthermore, I resolve to do my duty and live honorably, so help me God."**

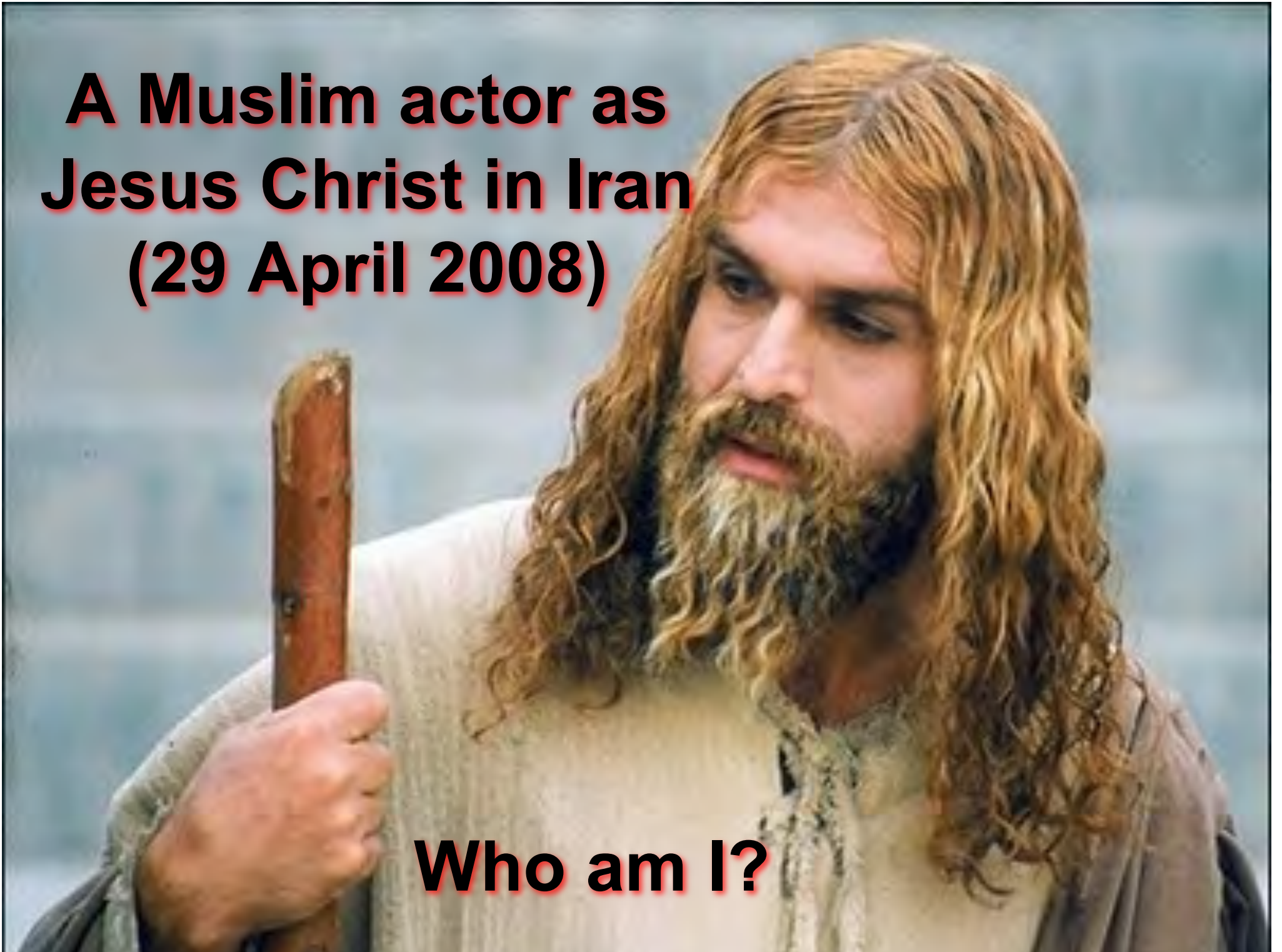
**Sinking to  
new lows...**



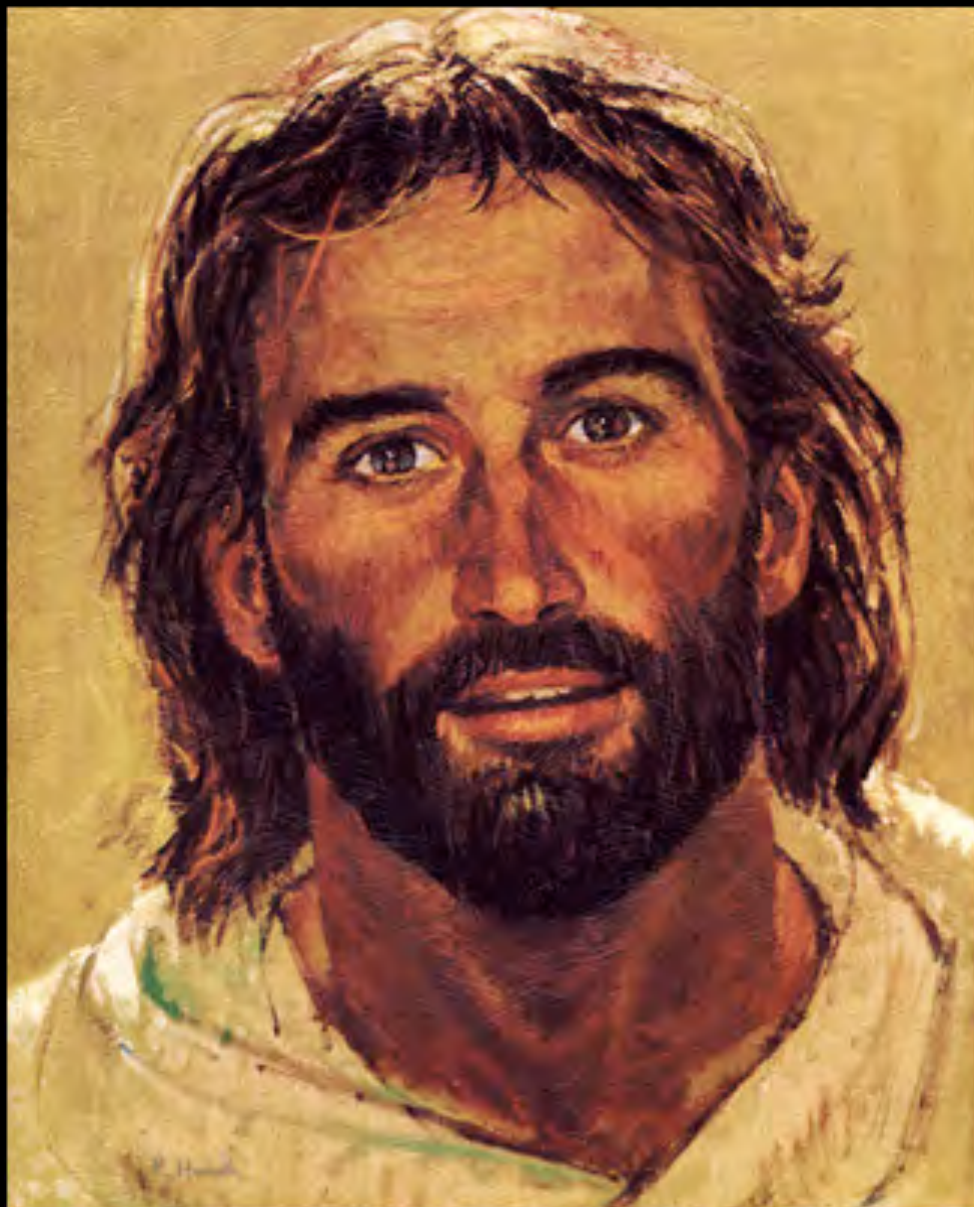
[Now You Know What the 'T' Stands For.](#)

**A Muslim actor as  
Jesus Christ in Iran  
(29 April 2008)**

**Who am I?**



Jesus was relevant in the 1980s



# But Jesus became wimpy



So Jesus became a caveman



Who is the *Real* King?



*The  
Triumph  
of Christ*

Why should we know that  
Jesus **rules** the world?

318



*The  
Triumph  
of Christ*

What's the Title?

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# The Book of Revelations?

The Book of

# Revelation

# Asia in the Roman Empire



Asian Churches

Rome

2. External Persecution  
from Rome (1:9;  
2:9-10; 3:10)

1. Internal Struggles  
inside churches  
(2:4, 14-15, 21-24;  
3:1, 15-17)

What did John  
see around  
him?

# Revelation 1

**We have victory when we see that  
Jesus rules over...**

**DEATH  
(1)**

**Outline of Revelation**

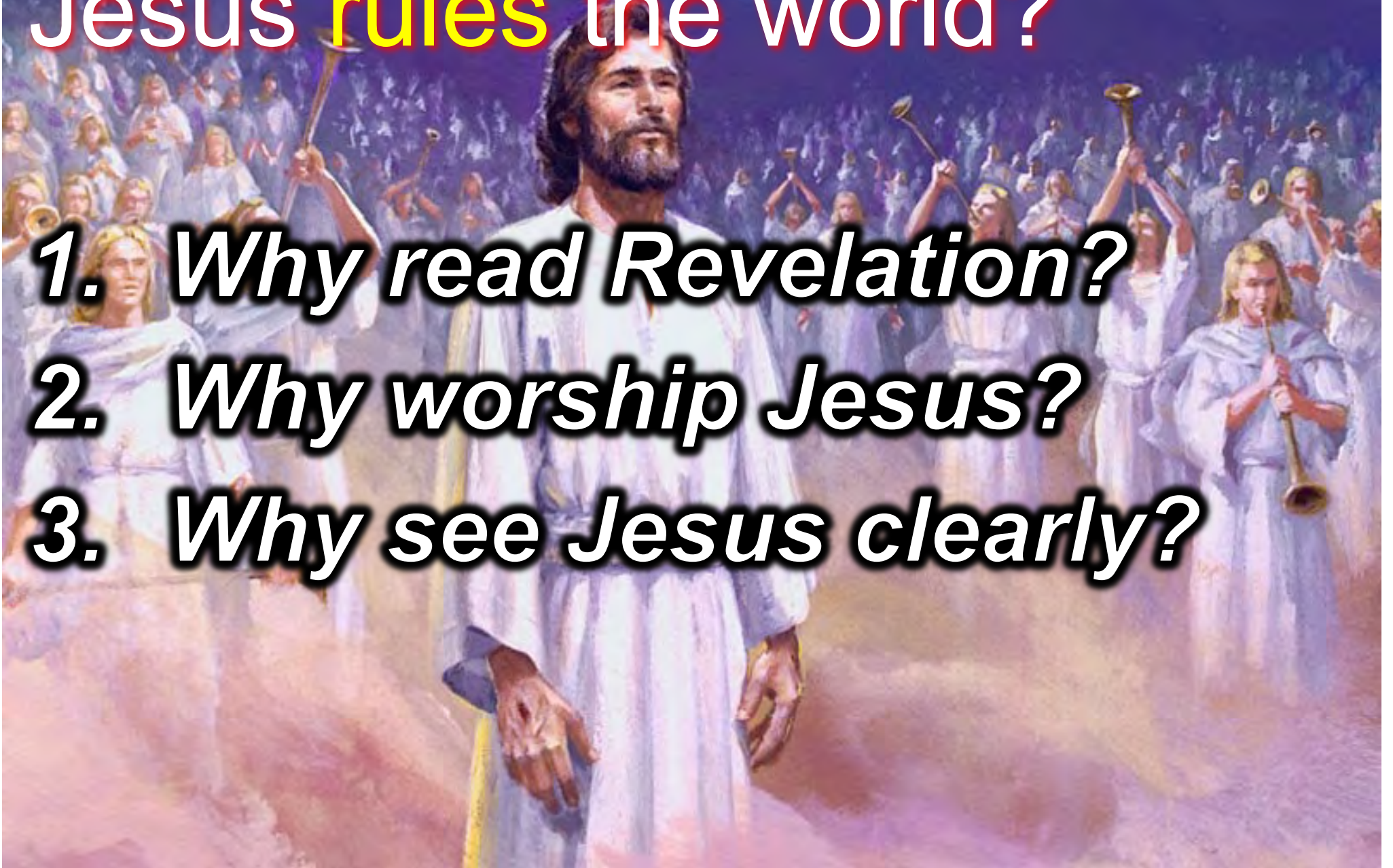
# John at Patmos (Rev 1:9-10)



Why should we know that  
Jesus **rules** the world?

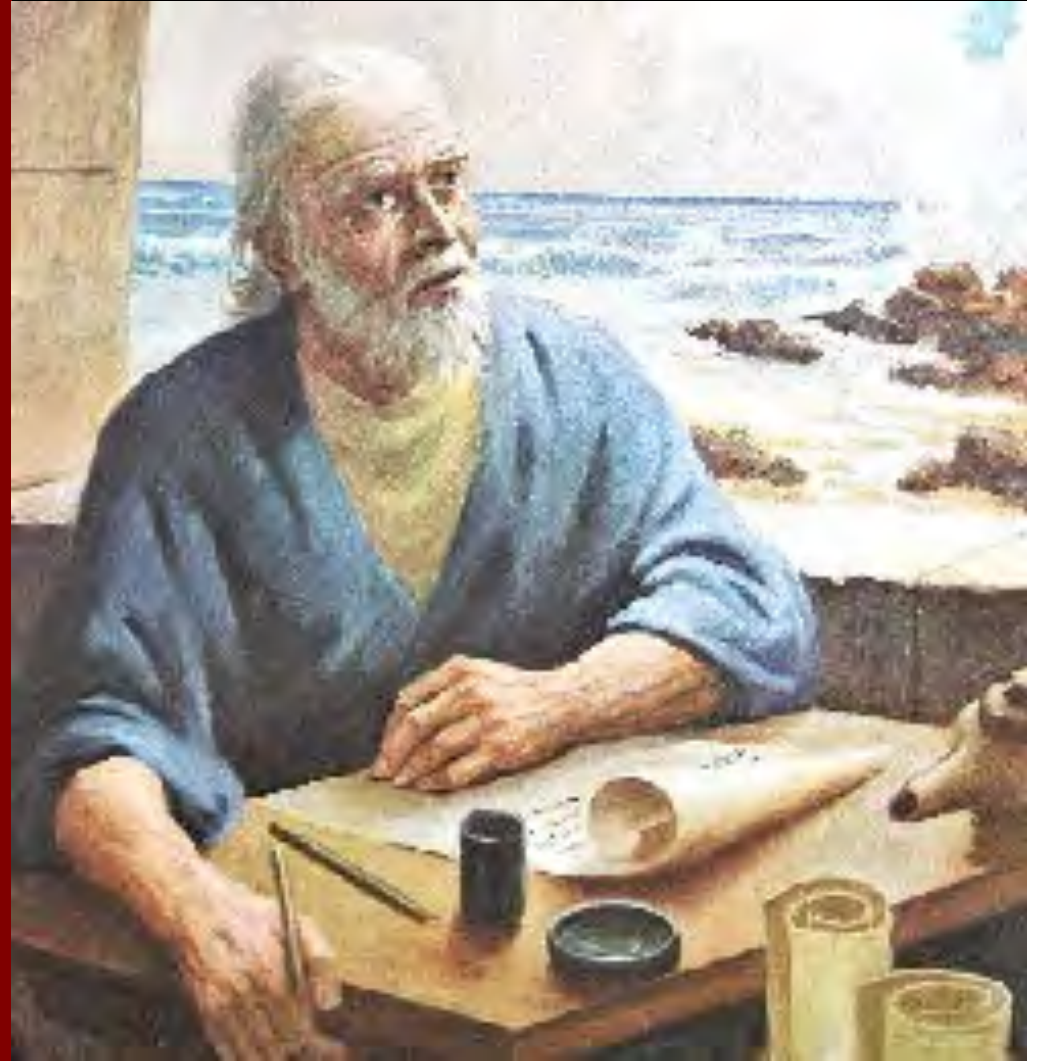
318

- 1. Why read Revelation?***
- 2. Why worship Jesus?***
- 3. Why see Jesus clearly?***



# *Why read Revelation?*

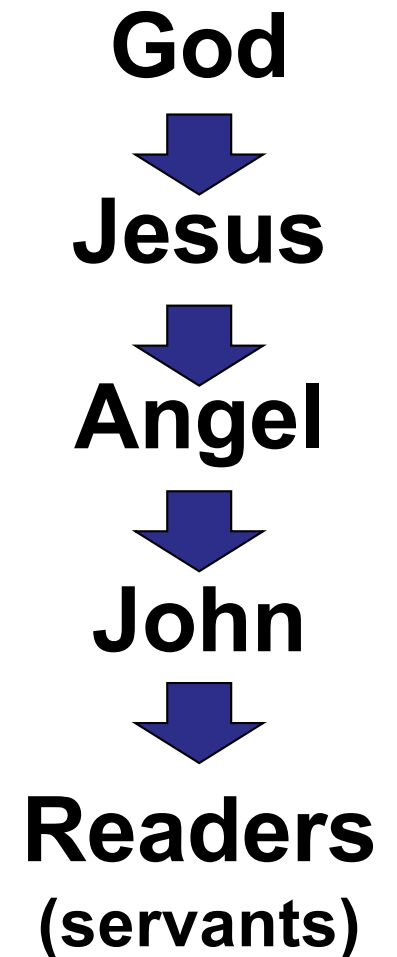
**1. Jesus reveals the future and promises to bless all who read and obey the prophecy (1:1-3).**





**Christ's sovereignty over future events transmitted to John shows the prophecy as inspired (1:1-2)**

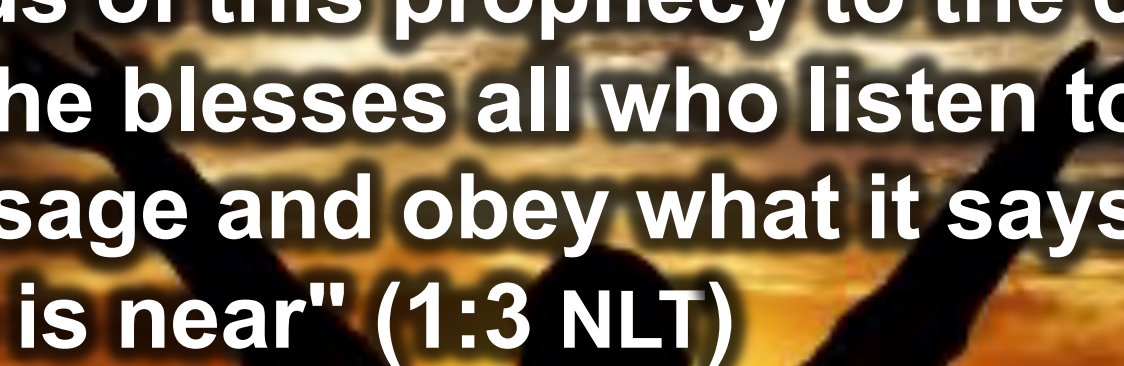
**"The revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show to his servants the things that must soon take place. He made it known by sending his angel to his servant John, who testifies to everything he saw—that is, the word of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ" (1:1-2 NIV).**



# Characteristics

This is the only biblical book that promises a special **blessing for reading** it (1:3).

"God blesses the one who reads the words of this prophecy to the church, and he blesses all who listen to its message and obey what it says, for the time is near" (1:3 NLT)

A silhouette of a person with their arms raised in a gesture of prayer or praise, set against a dramatic sunset sky with orange and yellow clouds. The person's arms are spread wide, and their head is tilted upwards.

We often look down...



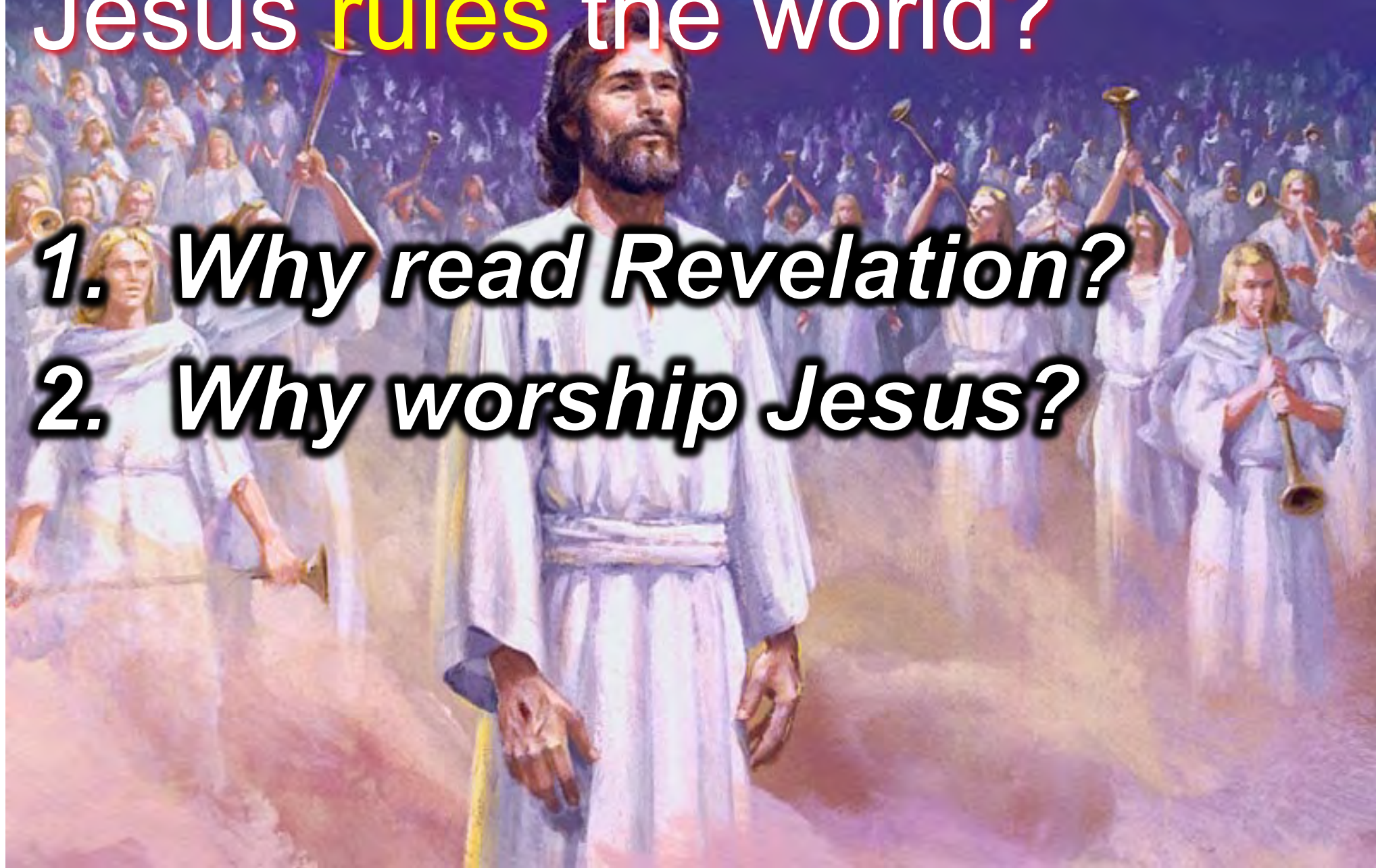


...so why  
should you  
look up and  
**why worship  
Jesus** during  
your  
struggle?

Why should we know that  
Jesus **rules** the world?

318

- 1. Why read Revelation?***
- 2. Why worship Jesus?***



# *Why worship Jesus?*

**2. We should worship the  
Triune God because the  
Risen Ruler will soon return  
(1:4-8).**

**"Grace and peace to you from the one who is, who always was, and who is still to come"**

**Rev. 1:4-6**



**"and from Jesus Christ..."**

**"...from the sevenfold Spirit before his throne"**

# Redemption in Christ (1:5b-6)

**"He is the faithful witness to these things, the first to rise from the dead, and the ruler of all the kings of the world. All glory to him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by shedding his blood for us. <sup>6</sup>He has made us a Kingdom of priests for God his Father. All glory and power to him forever and ever! Amen."**



**Rev. 1:7 NLT**  
**cf. Zech. 12:10**

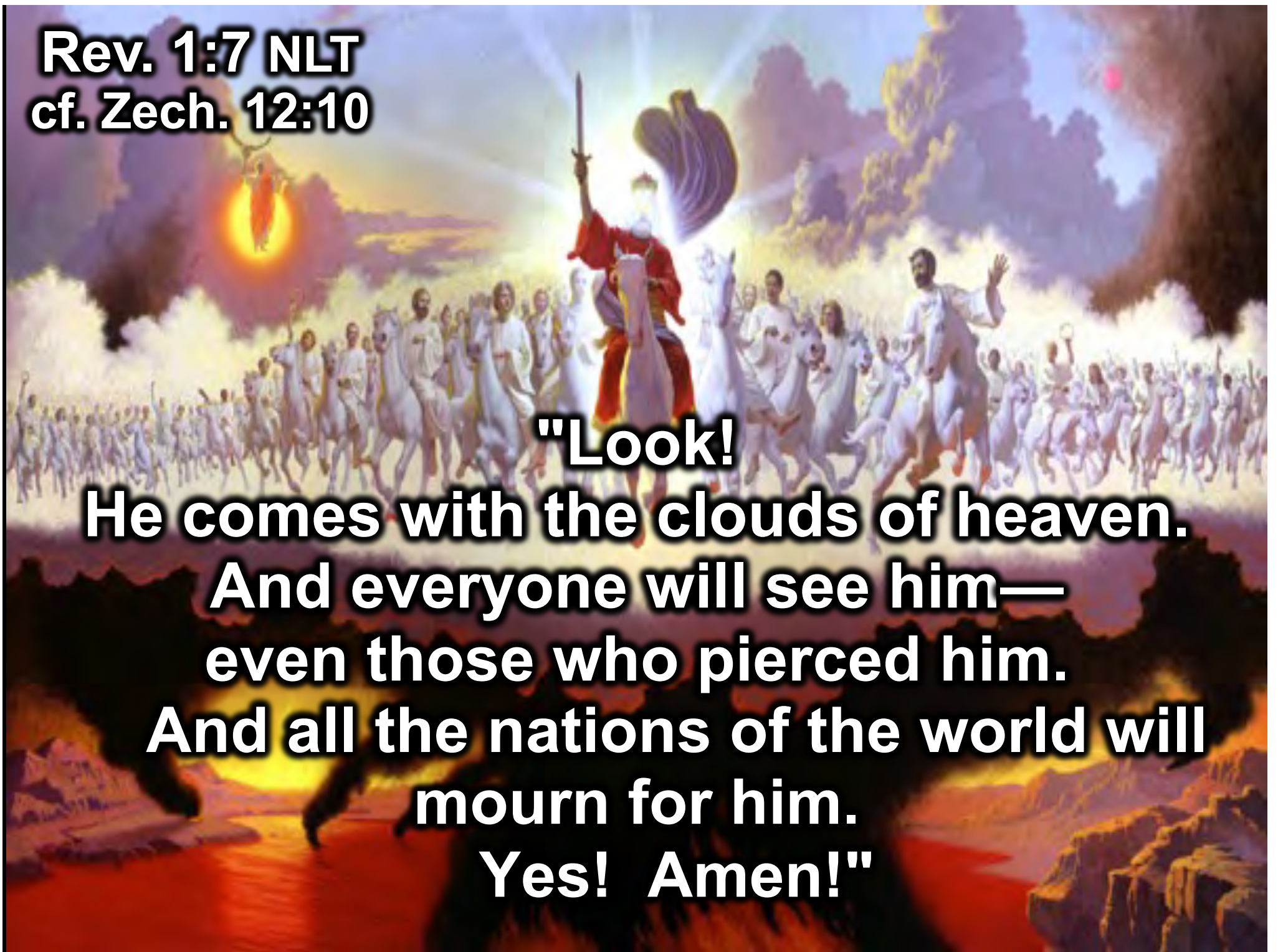
**"Look!**

**He comes with the clouds of heaven.**

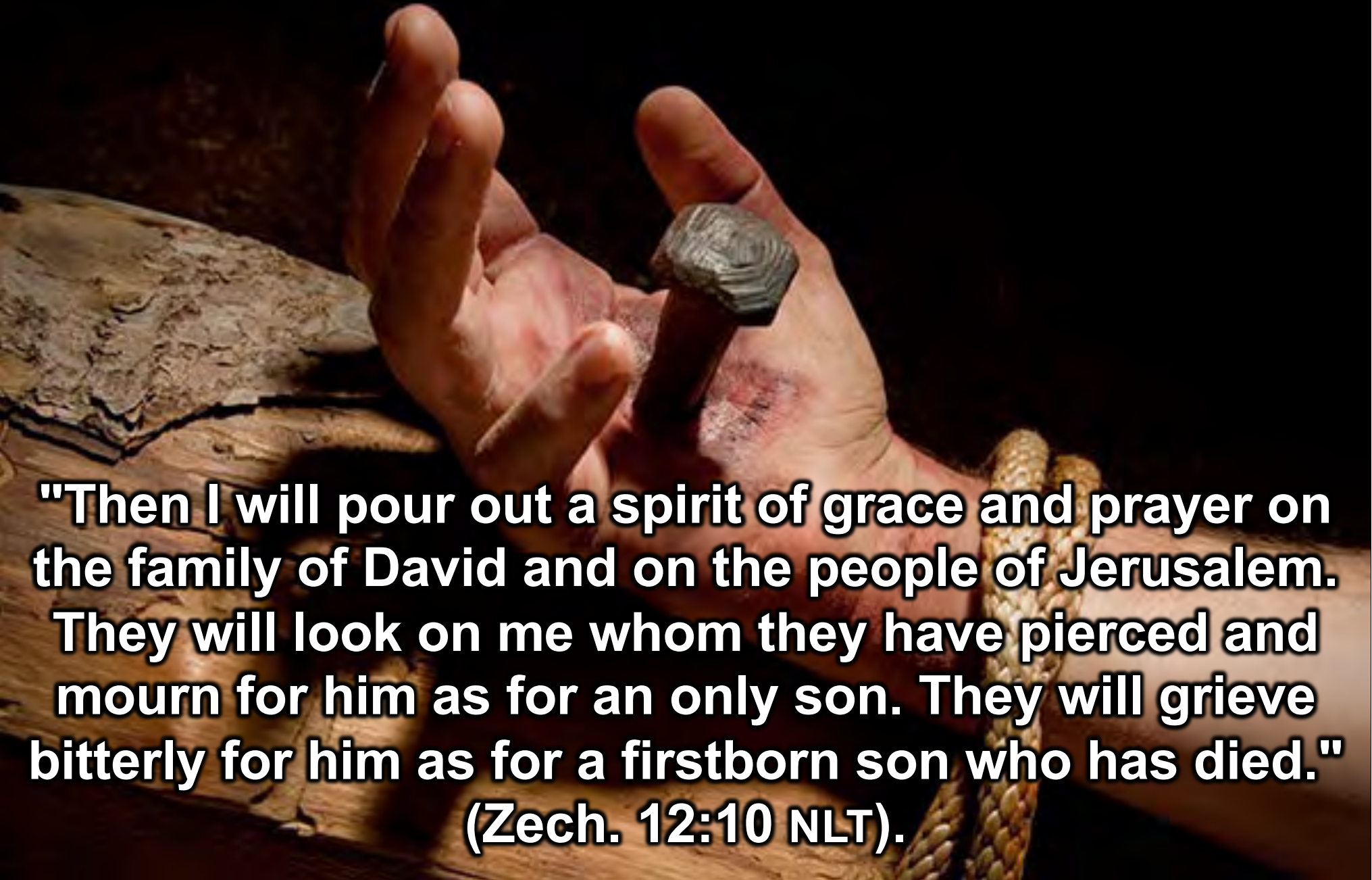
**And everyone will see him—  
even those who pierced him.**

**And all the nations of the world will  
mourn for him.**

**Yes! Amen!"**



# The Repentance of Israel

A close-up photograph of a hand with a nail driven through the palm, symbolizing suffering and repentance. The hand is positioned in the center of the frame, with the nail clearly visible in the palm. The background is dark and textured, possibly a wooden surface. The lighting is dramatic, highlighting the texture of the skin and the wood.

**"Then I will pour out a spirit of grace and prayer on the family of David and on the people of Jerusalem. They will look on me whom they have pierced and mourn for him as for an only son. They will grieve bitterly for him as for a firstborn son who has died."  
(Zech. 12:10 NLT).**

**Rev. 1:7 NLT**  
**cf. Zech. 12:10**

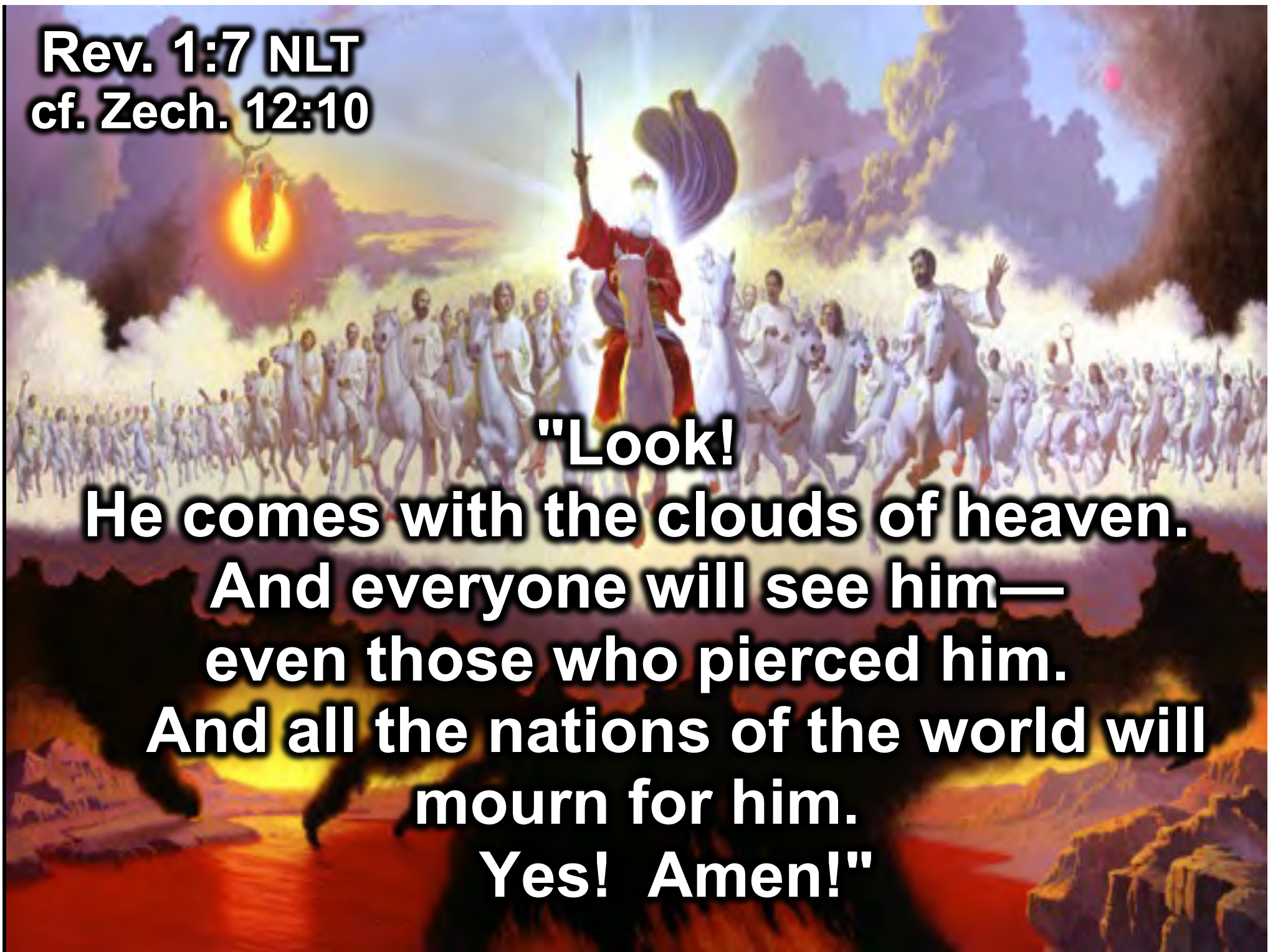
**"Look!**

**He comes with the clouds of heaven.**

**And everyone will see him—  
even those who pierced him.**

**And all the nations of the world will  
mourn for him.**

**Yes! Amen!"**



**"I am the Alpha and the Omega—the beginning and the end," says the Lord God. "I am the one who is, who always was, and who is still to come—the Almighty One" (1:8 NLT).**

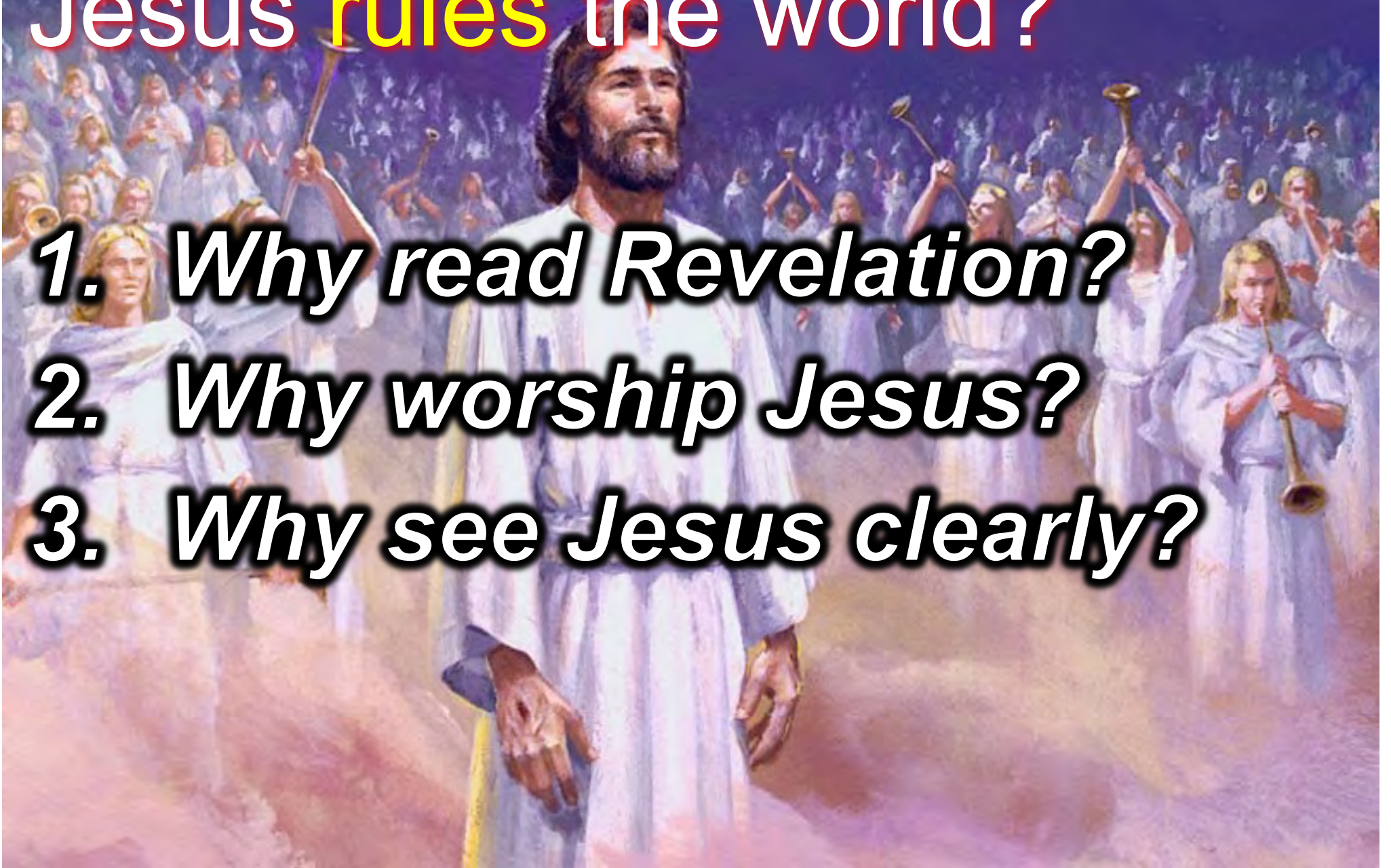
# Why see Jesus clearly?



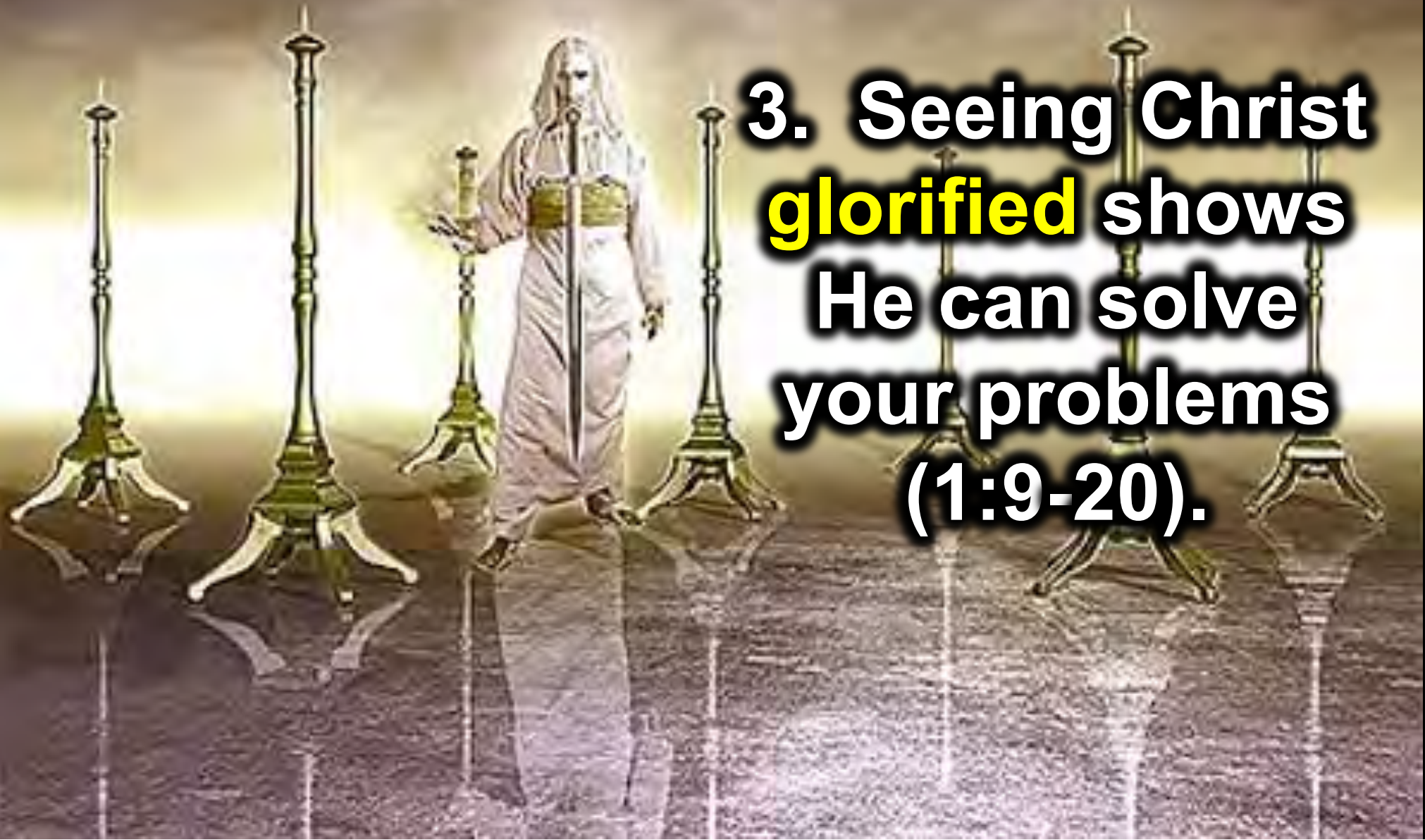
Why should we know that  
Jesus **rules** the world?

318

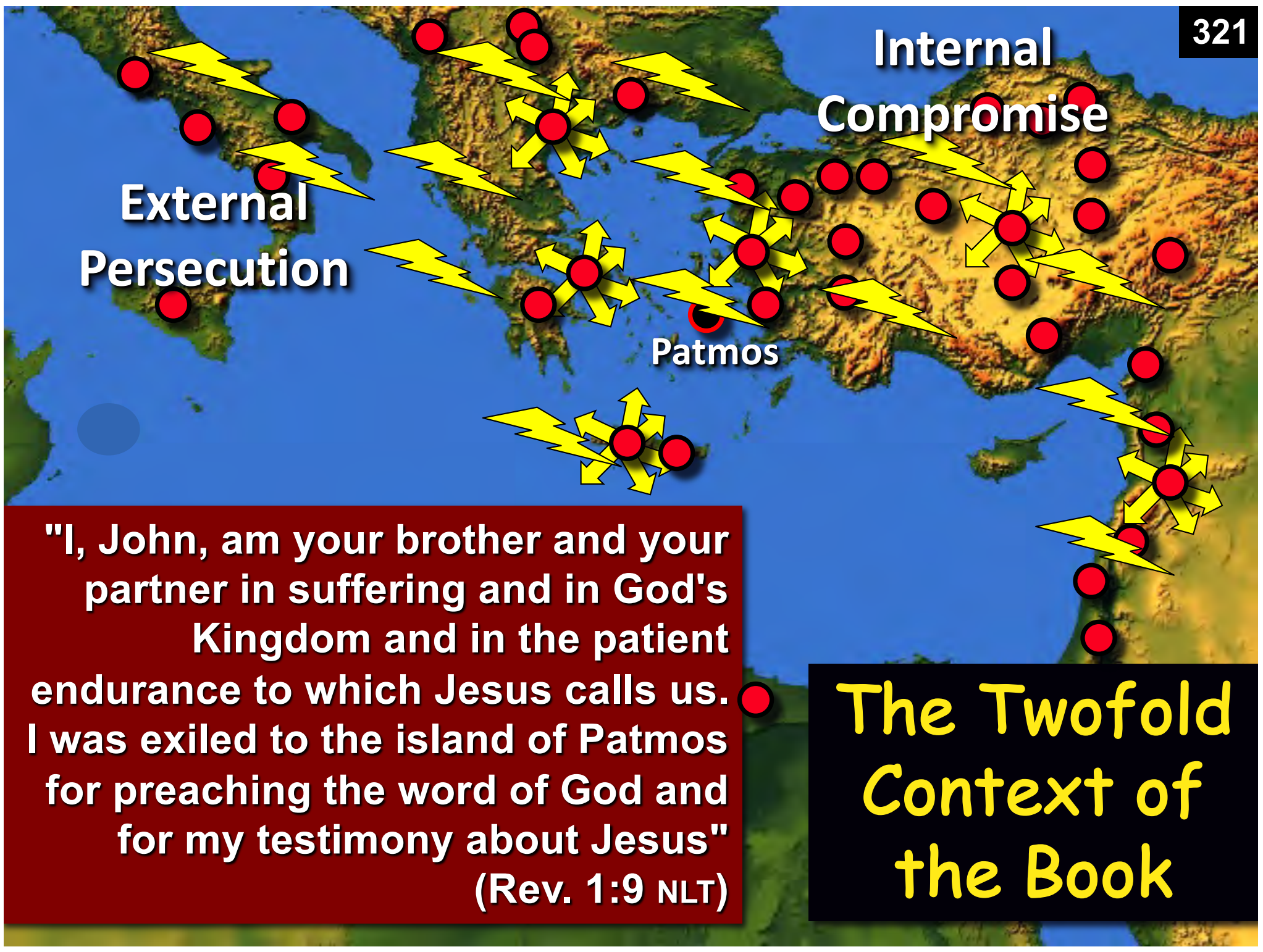
- 1. Why read Revelation?***
- 2. Why worship Jesus?***
- 3. Why see Jesus clearly?***



# *Why see Jesus clearly?*



**3. Seeing Christ glorified shows He can solve your problems (1:9-20).**



**"I, John, am your brother and your partner in suffering and in God's Kingdom and in the patient endurance to which Jesus calls us. I was exiled to the island of Patmos for preaching the word of God and for my testimony about Jesus"**  
**(Rev. 1:9 NLT)**

**The Twofold Context of the Book**

# The Island of Patmos



# Satellite Comparison of Singapore with Patmos



**Patmos**

# Patmos Island



## The Tourist Island of Patmos



# Luxury Hotels on Patmos

# Monastery of St. John at Patmos



# John's View from the Top



# John's View from the Top



**"...on the Lord's day..."  
(1:10)**

- **Sunday?**
- **The "Day of the LORD"?**





**The Day of the LORD**

**Judgment +**

**Blessing**

**Tribulation**

**Millennium**

**Rev. 6–19**

**Rev. 20**

**7 years**

**1000 years**

**"It was the Lord's Day, and I was worshiping in the Spirit. Suddenly, I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet blast" (1:10 NLT).**




# The 7 Churches (Rev. 2–3)

345

"It was the Lord's Day, and I was worshipping in the Spirit. Suddenly, I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet blast. <sup>11</sup>It said, "Write in a book everything you see, and send it to the seven churches in the cities of Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia, and Laodicea" (Rev. 1:10-11 NLT).





**John's vision of  
the glorified  
Christ proves He  
can handle the  
Church's  
internal and  
external  
problems  
(1:12-16)**

**"I saw..."  
(1:12)**

**This exact  
verb form is  
used 45 times  
in Revelation!**

1:12 13:1 19:11  
1:17 13:2 19:17  
4:1 13:11 19:19  
5:1 14:1 20:1  
5:2 14:6 20:4  
5:6 14:14 20:11  
5:11 15:1 20:12  
6:1 15:2 21:1  
6:2 15:5 21:2  
6:5 16:13 21:22  
6:8 17:3  
6:9 17:6  
6:12 18:1  
7:1  
7:2  
7:9  
8:2  
8:13  
9:1  
9:17  
10:1  
10:5

**εἶδον**

NOW...TO COMPLETE THE PORTRAIT...

## Revelation 1:12-18 (NIV)

<sup>12</sup>I turned around to see the voice that was speaking to me. And when I turned I saw seven golden lamp stands,

**THE REVELATION OF**

and with a golden sash around his chest. <sup>14</sup>His head and

hair were like snow, and his eyes

were like fire. His feet were like bronze

glowing in a furnace, and his voice was like the sound

of rushing waters. <sup>16</sup>In his right hand he held seven stars,

and out of his mouth came a sharp double-edged sword.

His face was like the sun shining in all its brilliance.

<sup>17</sup>When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. Then

he said to me, "Do not do that! I am the Lord and the Living One; I was dead, and behold I am alive for ever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and Hades."

**TO JOHN THE APOSTLE**

I was dead, and behold I am alive for ever and ever! And

I hold the keys of death and Hades."



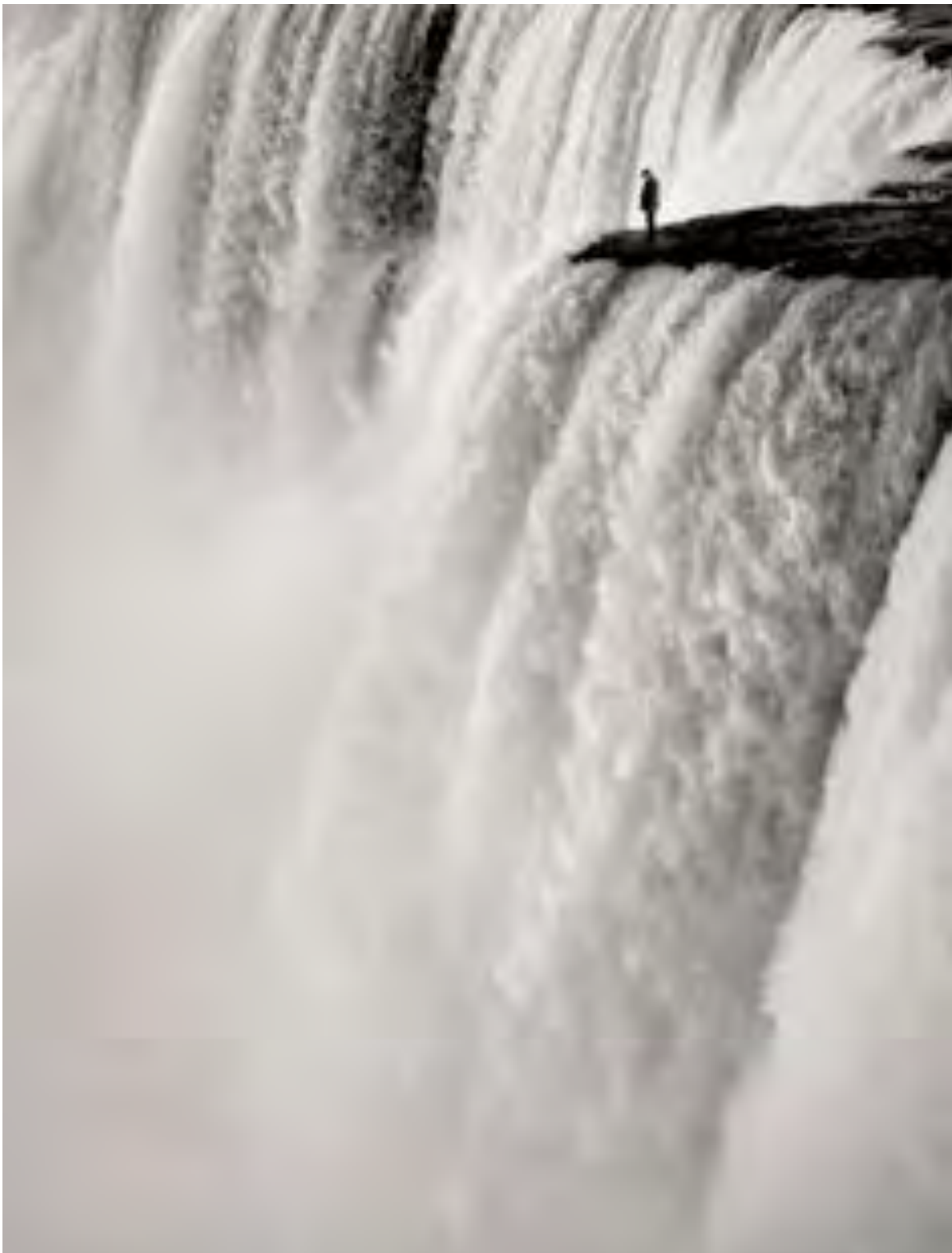
# Christ Among the Lampstands (1:12-16)

**Omniscience & Righteous Judgment:** "eyes were like blazing fire" (1:14b; cf. Rev. 19:12; Heb. 4:12)

**Eternality:** "head and hair were white like wool" (1:14a; cf. "Ancient of Days" Dan 7:9, 13, 22)

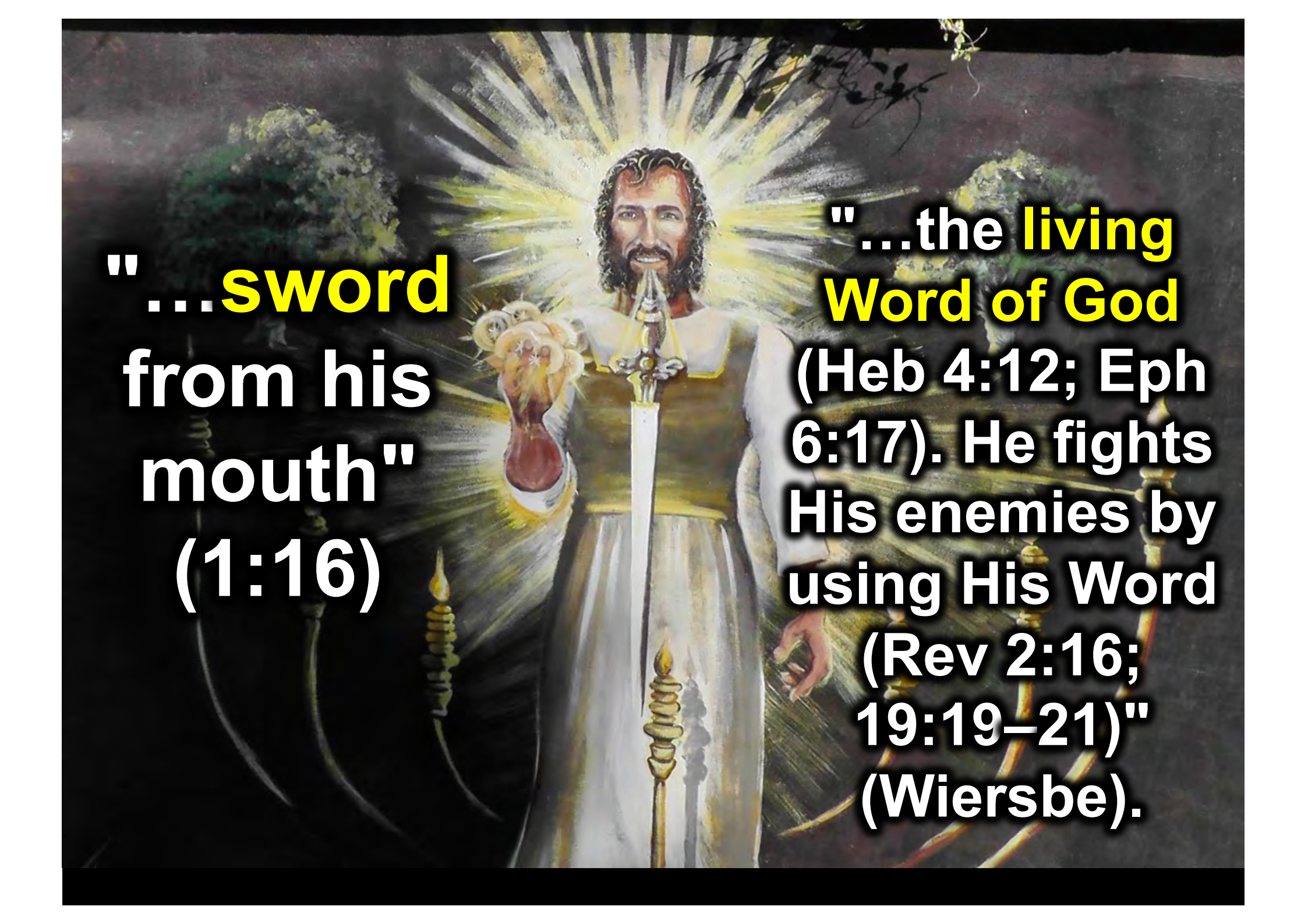
**Judge-King:** "robe reaching down to his feet and with a golden sash around his chest" (1:13)

**Judgment:** "feet were like bronze glowing in a furnace" (1:15a; cf. Rev. 19:12; Heb. 4:12)



"...**voice** of  
many waters"  
(1:15b)

1. Christ gathers together all the "streams of revelation" and is the **Father's "last Word"** to man (Heb. 1:1–3)
2. He speaks with **power and authority** and must be heard" (Wiersbe).

A painting of Jesus Christ with a beard and long hair, wearing a white robe with a gold sash. He is holding a sword upright in his right hand and a chalice in his left. A bright, radiant halo surrounds his head, with rays of light extending outwards. The background is dark with some foliage.

**"...sword  
from his  
mouth"  
(1:16)**

**"...the living  
Word of God  
(Heb 4:12; Eph  
6:17). He fights  
His enemies by  
using His Word  
(Rev 2:16;  
19:19–21)"  
(Wiersbe).**

# OT Parallels to Jesus in Rev. 1:12-16

344

Rev. 1:12-16	Ezek. 1:24-28	Dan. 10:5-6	Dan. 7:9-10	Dan. 7:13-14
son of man	like that of a man	a man		son of man
robe		linen robe		
gold sash		gold sash		
white hair			white hair	
eyes like fire	fire	eyes like flame	fire	
feet like bronze	glowing metal	gleaming bronze		
voice like rushing water	sound like rushing water	sound of a multitude		
stars in hand				
face like the sun	radiance	like lightning		

*Vern Poythress at  
www.frame-  
poythress.org*

**"When I saw him, I fell at his feet as if I were dead. But he laid his right hand on me and said, 'Don't be afraid! I am the First and the Last. <sup>18</sup>I am the living one. I died, but look—I am alive forever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and the grave'"**  
**(Rev 1:17-18 NLT)**



# Follow Revelation's inspired outline

Revelation 1:19 "Therefore write the things which you **have seen**, and the things which **are**, and the things which **will take place** after these things" (NAU).

have seen



are



will take place

# Sovereignty of Christ in Future Victory

318, 324 M

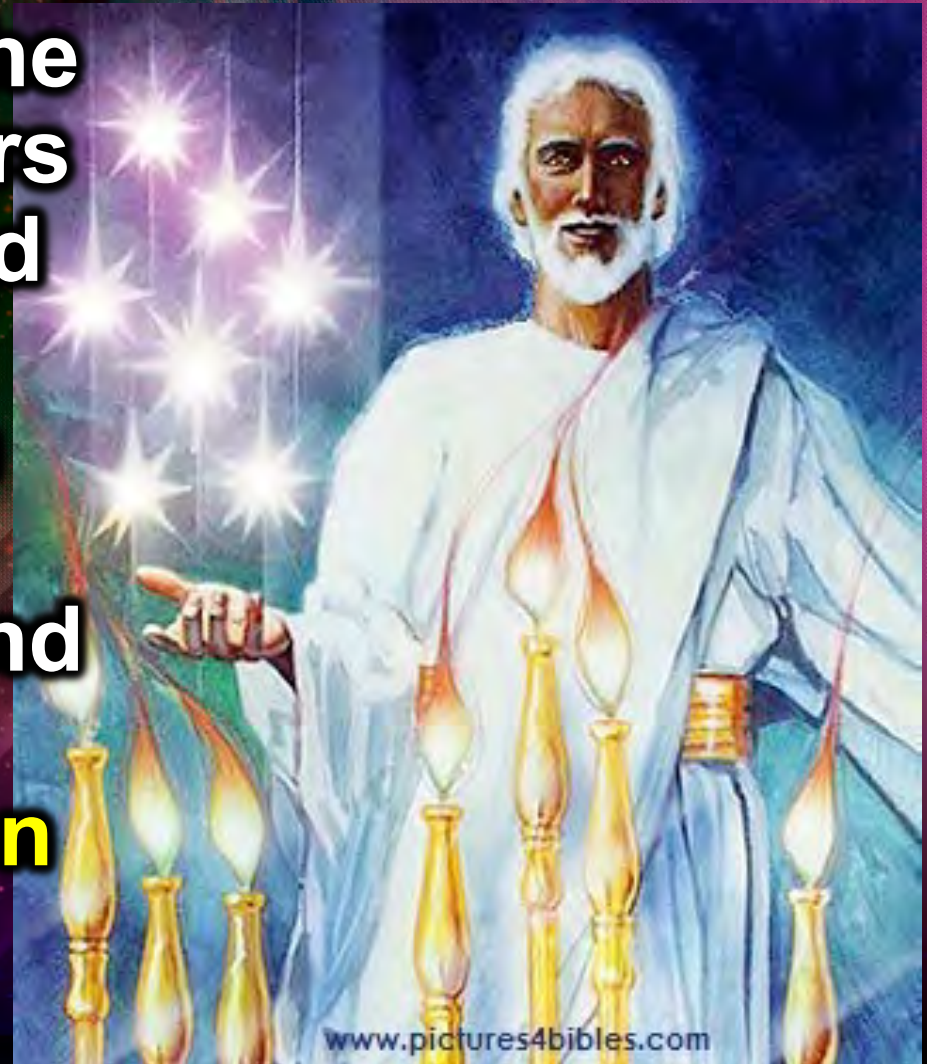
# Revelation

<b>Sovereignty in His Person</b>			<b>Sovereignty over Churches</b>	<b>Sovereignty in End-Time Events</b>				
<b>Chapter 1</b>			<b>Chapters 2–3</b>	<b>Chapters 4–22</b>				
<b>"What you have seen" (1:19a)</b>			<b>"What is now" (1:19b)</b>	<b>"What will take place later" (1:19c)</b>				
<b>Past</b>			<b>Present</b>	<b>Future</b>				
<b>Christ Unveiled</b>			<b>Churches Unveiled</b>	<b>Consummation Unveiled</b>				
<b>God on Earth</b>			<b>God's Ambassadors on Earth</b>	<b>Hell on Earth to Heaven on Earth</b>				
<b>The Judge</b>			<b>The Assignments</b>	<b>The Judgments &amp; Rewards</b>				
<b>Subject</b> 1:1-3	<b>Worship of Trinity</b> 1:4-8	<b>Glorified Christ</b> 1:9-20	<b>Seven Churches of Asia:</b> Ephesus Smyrna Pergamum Thyatira Sardis Philadelphia Laodicea	<b>Tribulation</b> 4:1–19:10	<b>Second Coming</b> 19:11-21	<b>Millennium</b> 20	<b>Eternal State</b> 21:1–22:5	<b>Closing: Imminency</b> 22:6-21

AD 95

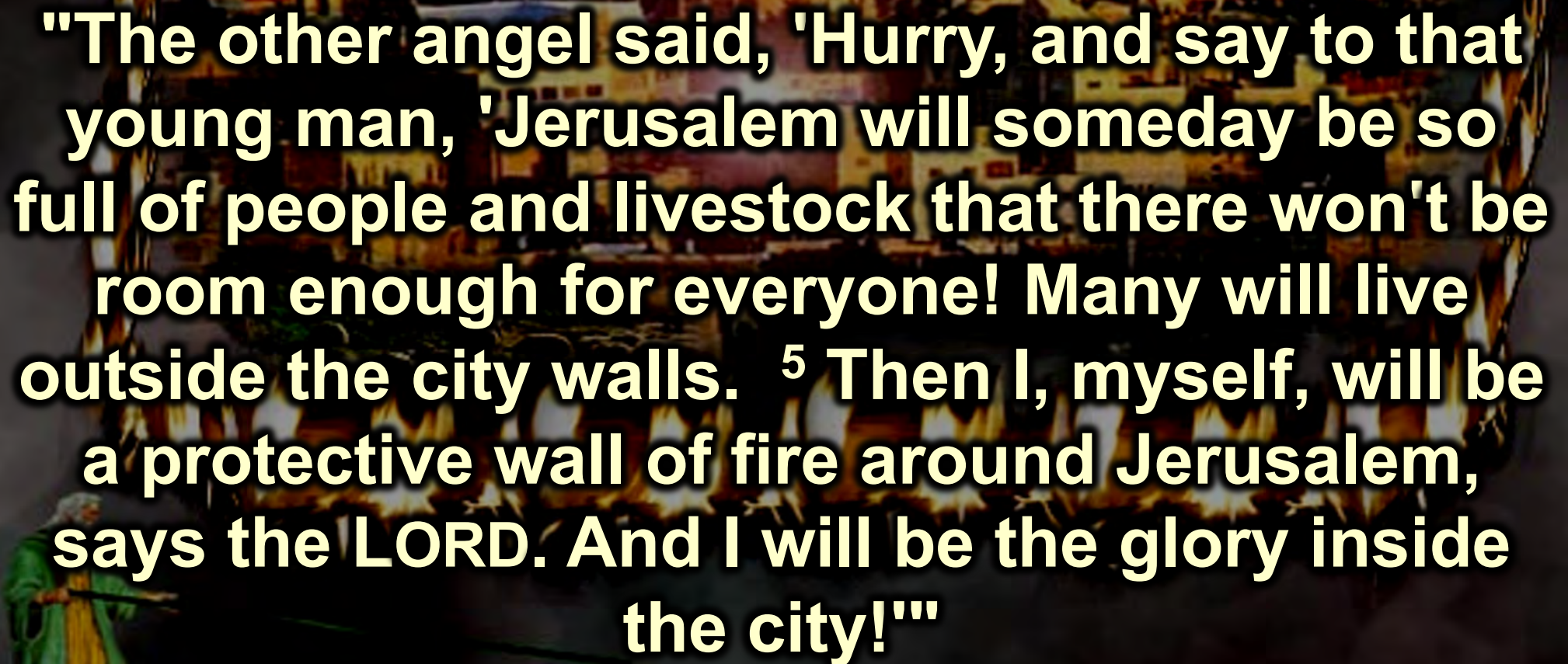
# What are the 7 Stars & 7 Lampstands (1:20 NLT)?

"This is the meaning of the mystery of the seven stars you saw in my right hand and the seven gold lampstands: The seven **stars are the angels** of the seven churches, and the seven **lampstands are the seven churches.**"

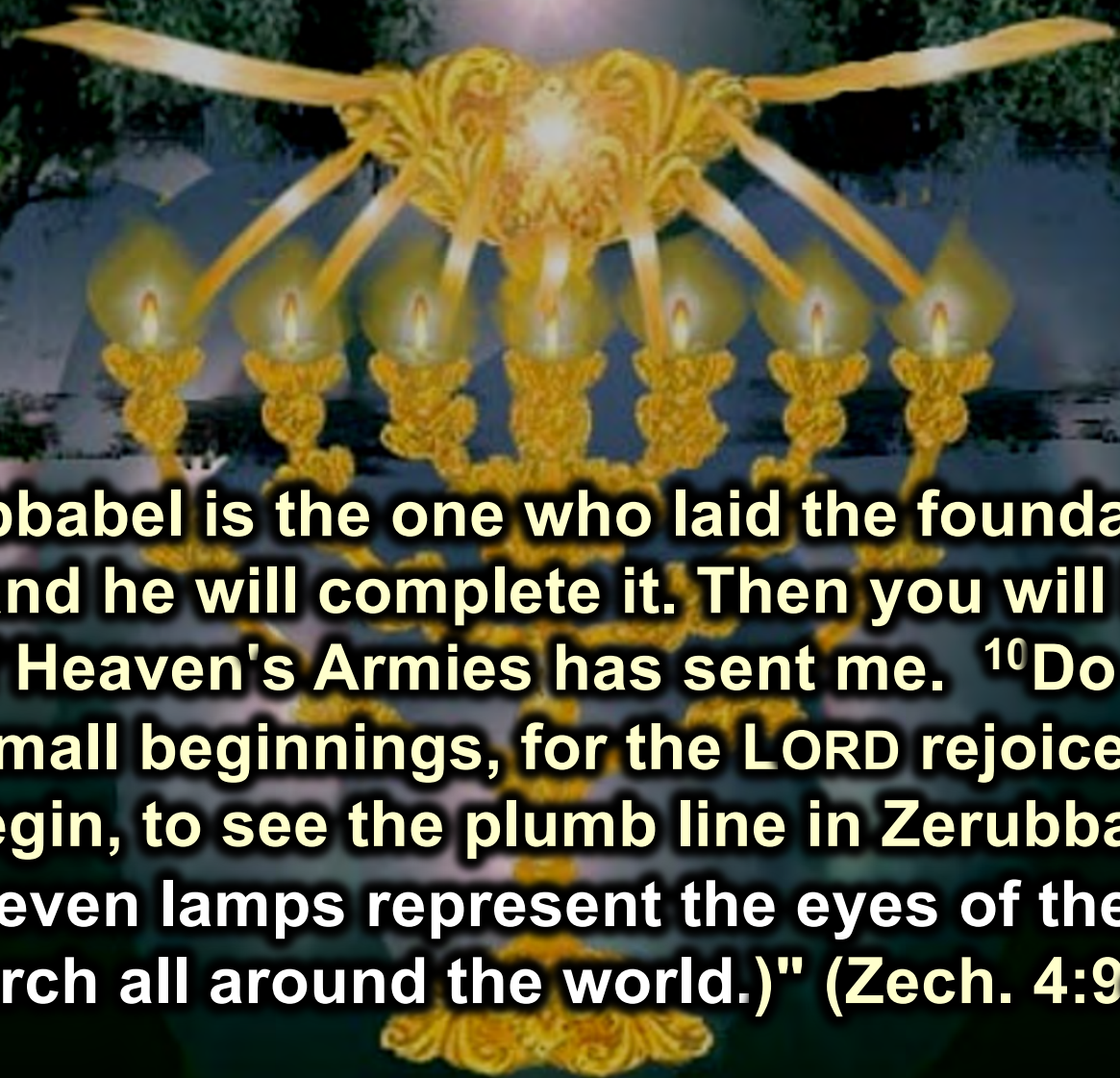


# The Wall of Fire = Protection (Zech. 2:4-5 NLT)

"The other angel said, 'Hurry, and say to that young man, 'Jerusalem will someday be so full of people and livestock that there won't be room enough for everyone! Many will live outside the city walls. <sup>5</sup> Then I, myself, will be a protective wall of fire around Jerusalem, says the LORD. And I will be the glory inside the city!'"



# Lamps = God's Omniscience



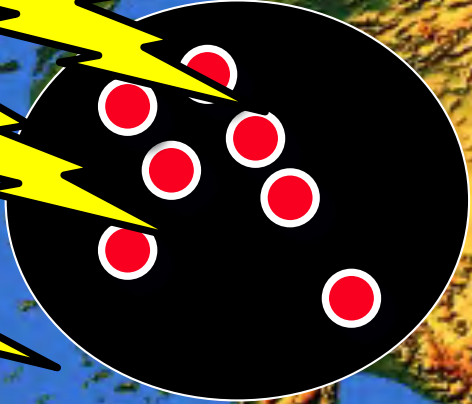
**"Zerubbabel is the one who laid the foundation of this Temple, and he will complete it. Then you will know that the LORD of Heaven's Armies has sent me. <sup>10</sup>Do not despise these small beginnings, for the LORD rejoices to see the work begin, to see the plumb line in Zerubbabel's hand.' (The seven lamps represent the eyes of the LORD that search all around the world.)" (Zech. 4:9-10 NLT)**



Rome


2. External Persecution

from Rome (1:9;  
2:9-10; 3:10)



1. Internal Struggles  
inside churches  
(2:4, 14-15, 21-24;  
3:1, 15-17)

Revealing the sovereignty of Jesus Christ helped convince the seven churches in Asia that Christ could conquer their internal compromise and external opposition

A digital illustration of Jesus with long brown hair and a beard, wearing a white robe. He is shown from the waist up, with his arms raised in a gesture of blessing or authority. He holds a large, rolled-up scroll with gold and black stripes. The background is a vibrant, abstract space scene with a bright pink and purple nebula, a glowing white path, and a dark blue area with white stars. The overall tone is dramatic and celestial.

**Jesus rules the world!  
So he can handle your  
puny problem.**

The **Big** Idea

Why should we know that Jesus rules the world?

**1. Why read Revelation?**

- **So you'll be blessed!**

**2. Why worship Jesus?**

- **He's coming back!**

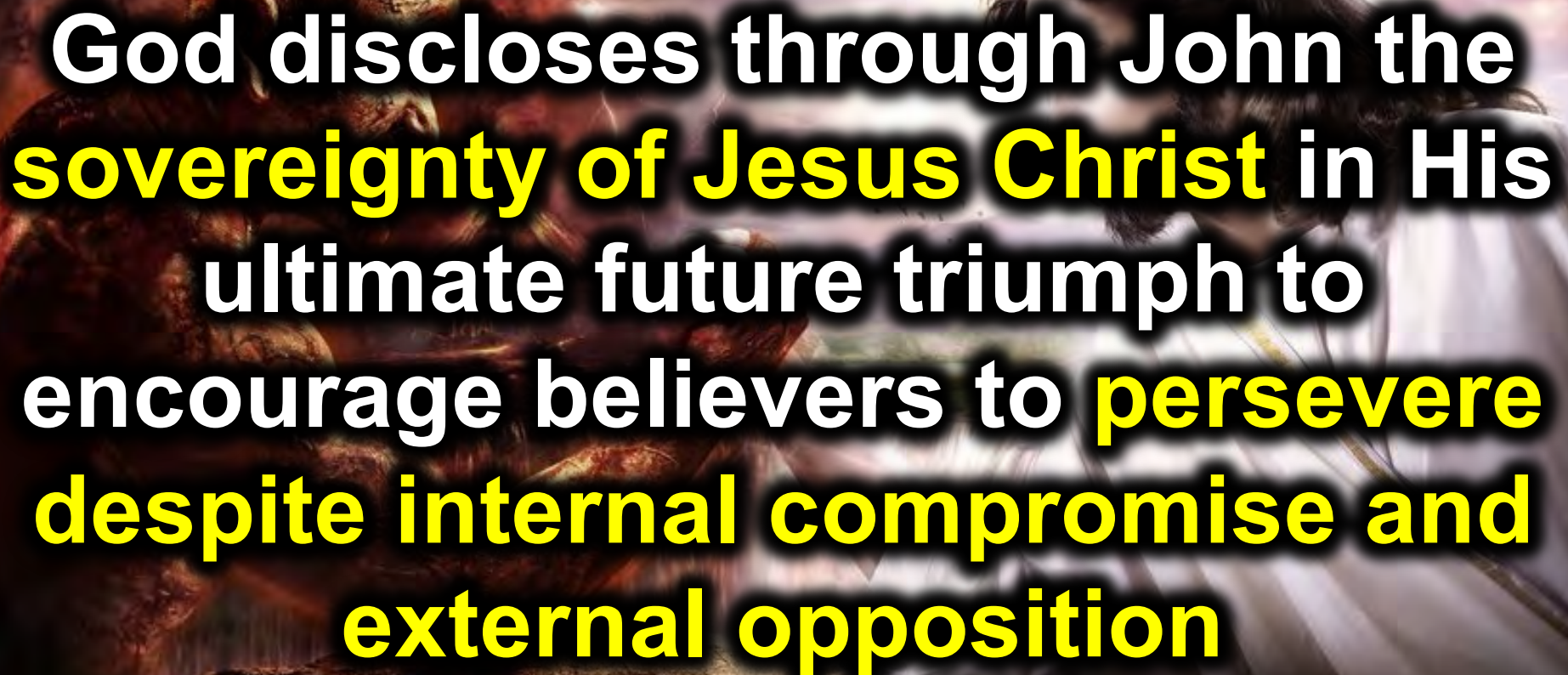
**3. Why see Jesus clearly?**

- **He can solve your problems!**

# What's *your* view of Jesus?



# Summing Up the Whole Book

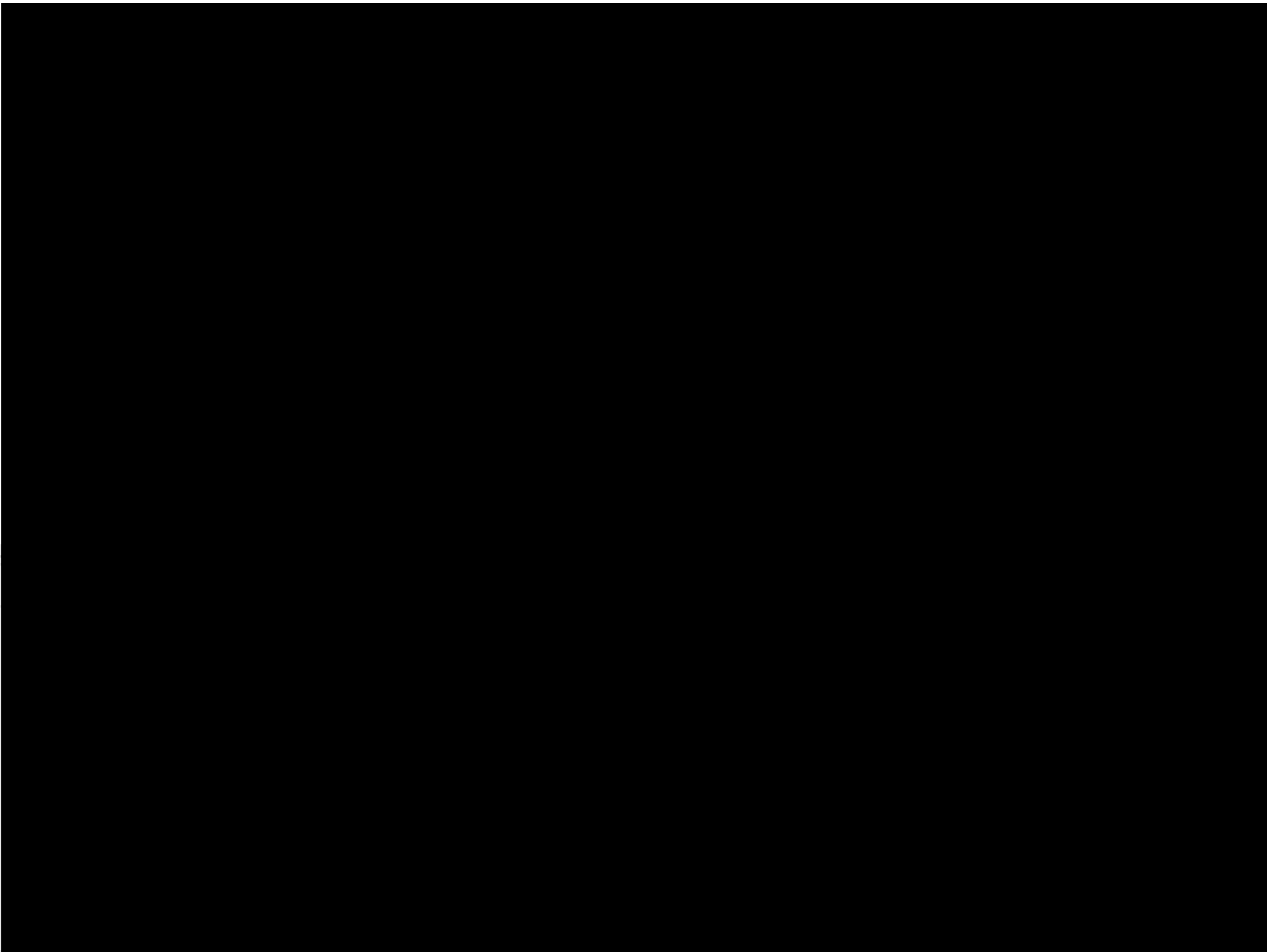


God discloses through John the **sovereignty of Jesus Christ** in His ultimate future triumph to encourage believers to **persevere despite internal compromise and external opposition**

***Series on  
Revelation***



**Jesus Wins!**



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