

Heaven: The Alpha and the Omega

Sunday, January 7, 2024 – Day 1

Read Revelation 1:9-20

Key Verse:

I am He who lives, and was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore. Amen. And I have the keys of Hades and of Death. Revelation 1:18 (NKJV)

Key Reflection:

In Revelation, we see Jesus as Jesus really is: the Alpha and the Omega. He is the first and the last. He is the beginning and the end. In Revelation 1:13-16 which have an apt description of his glorious presence. Jesus is God. This is the everlasting presence of the One who is our Lord. The Apostle John operates in obedience to write what he is witnessing and experiencing. He is seeing a vision of heaven. The revelation he receives is a reality that includes the presence of the entire eschatological (end times) process in the midst of which every reader now stands to make a decision about his or her present conduct in the world.¹ Every believer must choose if they will serve rightly Him who is the Alpha and the Omega, for He is the One who has all power.

Thought:

Revelation is a word from Jesus Christ. It is here where he informs us who He is and the power he possesses. These are the words that come from his mouth that is a two-edged sword (Hebrews 4:12; Revelation 1:16). Only Christ holds the power to Hell and Death as he says in Revelation 1:18 because He is the One who was dead and is alive forevermore. This text gives credence to the fact that the tomb is empty and Christ is not dead. This is the truth and confidence that we have in the One we believe. Jesus Christ is not dead. He holds all authority in all of creation. He is the One we worship. We know this to be true because He is the One who declares the “Amen.” This means it is so. The response of humanity is to fall at his feet and worship as John does when he beheld Him (Revelation 1:17). As we begin 2024, let us respond to the Alpha and Omega who is alive forever by worshipping Him who holds the keys to life, death and Hell. The Alpha and Omega is to be worshipped.

Prayer:

Lord God, you are the Alpha and the Omega. Everything begins and ends with you. You are the One who holds all power. You hold the keys to Hell and Death. As you allow me to live in 2024, help me to recognize and acknowledge the power of your name and presence. Let me never forget who you are as I vow to worship you as the One who is alive forever. This is my prayer in the name of Jesus, Amen.

Questions:

1. How will you worship the Alpha and Omega in 2024 knowing that He holds all authority?

¹ Christopher C. Rowland, *The Book of Revelation: The New Interpreter's Bible Commentary*, vol. XII (Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1998), p. 567.