Revelation 1:1-20

Introduction:

The resurrected Christ appears to the apostle John and says, "What thou seest, write in a book, and send *it* unto the seven churches which are in Asia..." John is given the outline of this book in chapter 1:19: "Write the things which thou hast seen, and the things which are, and the things which shall be hereafter..."

- I. The Servant of God (1:1-10): The apostle John receives an extended heavenly message.
 - A. The Source of the Message (1:1-2)
 - 1. From the Father to the Son (1:1a)
 - 2. From the Son to an angel (1:1b)
 - 3. From the angel to John the apostle (1:1c-2)
 - B. The **Promise** of the Message (1:3): A special blessing is promised.
 - 1. To those who read and obey its contents (1:3a)
 - 2. To those who hear and obey its contents (1:3b)
 - C. The Recipients of this Message (1:4a): It is written to the seven churches of Asia.
 - D. The Greetings in this Message (1:4b-5a)
 - 1. From the Father (1:4b)
 - 2. From the sevenfold spirit (1:4c)
 - 3. From the Son (1:5a)
 - E. The Theme of this Message (1:5b-8): Jesus Christ is its grand and glorious theme.
 - 1. Who He is (1:5b-5e, 8)
 - a. God's Faithful Witness (1:5b)
 - b. The Firstborn from the dead (1:5c)
 - c. Ruler of the kings of the earth (1:5d)
 - d. The Alpha and Omega (1:8a)
 - e. The Eternal One (1:8b)
 - 2. What He has done (1:5e-6)
 - a. Shed His blood to redeem us (1:5e)
 - b. Made us kings and priests unto God (1:6)

- 3. What He will do (1:7): He will come to earth again with clouds.
 - 1. Revealing Himself to the Jews (1:7a)
 - 2. Revealing Himself to the Gentiles (1:7b)
- F. The Place of the Message (1:9): John was on the Isle of Patmos
- G. The Time of the Message (1:10a): It was on "the Lord's Day"
- H. The Sound of the Message (1:10b): "and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet…"
- II. The Son Of God (1:11-20)
 - A. The Appearance By Jesus (1:11-16)
 - 1. His Command (1:11): Again, John is instructed to send the message to the seven churches of Asia.
 - 2. His Countenance (1:12-16)
 - a. He appears standing among seven golden candlesticks (1:12-13a)
 - b. He is wearing a long robe with a golden band across the chest (1:13b)
 - c. His hair is white as snow (1:14a)
 - d. His eyes are like a blazing fire (1:14b)
 - e. His feet are as burnished brass (1:15a)
 - f. His voice thunders like massive rushing water (1:15b)
 - g. His right hand holds seven stars (1:16a)
 - h. Out of His mouth comes a double-edged sword (1:16b)
 - i. His face shines like the noonday sun (1:16c)
 - B. The Reassurance By Jesus (1:17-20)
 - 1. Comforting (1:17-18): he reassures the fear-stricken John,
 - a. "Fear not; I am the first and the last: 18 I *am* he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen..."
 - b. "...and have the keys of hell and of death."
 - 2. Clarification (1:18-20): He explains what the candlesticks and stars represent.
 - a. The seven candlesticks are the seven churches (1:20b)
 - b. The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches (1:19-20a)