

01 - A Letter worth reading – Revelation 1:1-8**From Genesis to Revelation****Not**

- i) all about “cracking a code”
- ii) helps them to “uncode every other book” in God’s word.
- iii) a book best avoided.

BUT ... a letter worthwhile reading..

What is the whole book saying?

“The lamb wins”

WITH THE POWERPOINT - DO NOT RACE AHEAD ...START THIS VIDEO AFTER RICK HAS TOLD YOU TO ☺)

Show video (Rev 1-3 only.wmv) 3:45

The ways people read it

- i) ... only to events in the past
- ii) ... only to events in the future
- iii) ... summary of all human history
- iv) ...only there to encourage us
- v) ... the opportunity to see what God is doing from different angles

What does it say?

...where this revelation comes from and who it is about.

...the line of transmission. The Father to the Son to the Angel to John to the readers...

... what sort of revelation it is.

Apocalyptic literature ... uses symbolism vision to reveal God’s perspective on current history so it can be viewed in light of God’s final plan for humanity.

Prophecy ... God’s word delivered through his prophet to his people.

... the seven churches in the province of Asia.

The province of Asia (show picture)

The seven churches. (show picture of 7 churches)

Grace and Peace ...

A Letter worth reading - Revelation 1:1-8

i) God's nature and character

... **God the Father**

one who is, who was and who is to come.

... **the seven spirits.**

indwells the followers in each of the seven churches.

... **Jesus.**

the faithful witness

the firstborn from the dead

now rules God's world.

ii) Our purpose as his people

... **to be in his kingdom and to be priests who serve him.**

So what does this really mean?

God's people, living under God's rule

... **whose role it is to mediate the goodness, the reign and the redemptive work of Jesus to the world around us.**

iii) God's end goal

... **will return, he will judge and his dominion will never pass away**

Us today?

1) Prepare for persecution and compromise

... **know God is vital**

2) Serve with eternity in your hearts