

Revelation 1:1-8 – Simon Vibert – 26.04.2020

A. True reality

Instagram vv reality... Prince Louis

But the reality of King Jesus is more glorious!

B. What in the world is real?

- We should be humbled by how “reality” has changed in the last 3 months

Jesus and God’s plans and purposes are reality. Hidden behind a curtain for most people, but, God plans are wrapped up in his church

V1 God unveils his plans for the future

“revelation” = apocalypse ... we can take a peak behind the curtain!

.. Particularly for the church (7 lampstands, the 7 churches)

God is in control

He has made his mind known

... Near future and far distant

Jesus is central to these plans

... This isn't John's revelation... It is the revelation of Jesus Christ

- Millennium – (Pre-post-a-pan)

C. Why this book matters

Is this the end?

- Every generation has asked this question
 - They know persecution
 - Death

v2 John records the word of God and the testimony of Jesus

V3 We, the readers, who will be blessed if we hear and heed

v4-6 it is addressed to all for church

D. A central message

Jesus came

Jesus is coming back

The end will come

... It will be visible and Glorious

Let’s prepare ourselves for the new reality!

V7... The end will be fearful for some

V4-5... Jesus is among his churches

... **Alpha and omega...** Beginning and end

... He **IS**, was and is to come

... Note: hear what the spirit **Is** saying to the churches

I may not know what the future holds but I know the one who holds the future

Some questions for further thought and reflection

1. Consider the definition of “Revelation” i.e. “drawing back the curtain to see true reality”. How does that make you feel about life today?
2. Did you observe the 4-fold steps of the revelation (v1-2): How may we come to be sure of who God is and what He expects of us?
3. What is the right response to God’s revelation? (v3)
4. What is already assumed in these opening verses about Jesus Christ’s central place in time and eternity (v4-8)
5. Does the thought of His 2nd Coming bring joy, or mourning? (v7)
6. What comfort is in verse 8 for current trials and challenges? (v8)
7. How can we tell everyone about the true reality of Jesus Christ?