

<b>Grant Street Baptist Church</b>	<b>Sermon Notes</b>
<b>Jeremy Beck</b>	<b>March 10, 2021</b>

Title: *"Be Afraid, Be Overjoyed"*

Scripture: **Revelation 1:4-8**

Message: **Revelation 1:4-8** <sup>4</sup> John, To the seven **(completion/perfect)** churches **(Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamos, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia, Laodicea)** in the province of Asia **(not the only church's, but represent seven periods of church history)**: Grace and peace to you from him who is, and who was, and who is to come, and from the seven spirits **(the Holy Spirit's seven attributes/characteristics)** before his throne, <sup>5</sup> and from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood, <sup>6</sup> and has made us to be a kingdom **(God's will through us)** and priests **(can enter the presence of God, intercedes for others)** to serve his God and Father—to him be glory and power forever and ever! Amen **(John's outburst of praise; the Revelation didn't scare him, but overjoyed him)**. <sup>7</sup> "Look, he is coming with the clouds **(vehicle of travel)**" **(Daniel 7:13)**, and "every eye will see him **(second coming of Christ "the Battle of Armageddon")**, even those who pierced him **(Israel)**"; and all peoples on earth "will mourn because of him **(the lost will recognize Him and mourn because they rejected Him and weep because they know He came to judge them)**." **(Zechariah 12:10)** So shall it be! Amen. <sup>8</sup> "I am the Alpha and the Omega **(Omniscient; first/last letters of the Greek alphabet = total knowledge, all knowing)**," says the Lord God, "who is, and who was, and who is to come **(Omnipresent; no beginning/no end, all places at all times = all present)**, the Almighty **(Omnipotent; all powerful)**.""

Application:

- Be Afraid, Be Overjoyed...the Revelation leaves us with one of two reactions, to be afraid or to be overjoyed
- The Revelation was written to seven church's that is symbolic for God's perfect plan written to show God's perfection through church history
- The Revelation leaves us overjoyed, like John, for those that have become a kingdom and priest for God
- The Revelation leaves us afraid for those that have rejected Christ and one day will leave them mourning and weeping over their missed opportunity to become a kingdom and priest for God
- Jesus Christ is the total package; Omniscient (all knowing), Omnipresent (all present), Omnipotent (all powerful)
- For some reason we still live as if there is something more that this world can offer that Jesus cannot