INTRODUCTION:

The setting for the Prophecy of the Book of Revelation should be noted for contemplation. John was on Isle of Patmos because of His ministry of the Word of God and the Testimony of Jesus, the Messias, and here on the Lord's day while he was in the Spirit he saw these visions and he was given the instruction to write them in a book and send them to the 7 Churches in the province of Asia.

Quote extract: The word *Asia* originated from the Ancient Greek word "Ἀσία," first attributed to <u>Herodotus</u> (about 440 BCE) in reference to <u>Anatolia</u> or to the <u>Persian Empire</u>, in contrast to <u>Greece</u> and <u>Egypt</u>. It originally was just a name for the east bank of the <u>Aegean Sea</u>, an area known to the <u>Hittites</u> as <u>Assuwa</u>. In early Classical times, the <u>Greeks</u> started using the term "Asia" to refer to the whole region known today as <u>Anatolia</u> (the peninsula which forms the Asian portion of present-day <u>Turkey</u>). Eventually, however, the name had been stretched progressively further east, until it came to encompass the much larger land area with which we associate it today, while the Anatolian Peninsula started being called "<u>Asia Minor</u>" or "The Lesser Asia" instead.

The deeper root of the etymology can only be guessed at. The following two possibilities have been suggested:

- It could have originated from the <u>Aegean</u> root "Asis" which means "muddy and silty" as a description of the eastern shores of the Aegean Sea.
- It could derive from the borrowed <u>Semitic</u> root "Asu", which means varyingly "rising" or "light", of course a directional referring to the sunrise, Asia thus meaning 'Eastern Land'.

However, since the <u>Greek</u> name *Asia* (A σ i α) is in all likelihood related to <u>Hittite</u> <u>Assuwa</u>, the etymology of one has to account for the other as well.

Jesus (Yeshua) the Christ (Messiah) is revealed as the Alpha and Omega: the beginning and the ending, which is and was and is to come, the Almighty. He is the Word of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ is the basis of the Prophetic Ministry. Out of His mouth goes a sharp two-edged sword.

There is a blessing for those who read, hears and keeps the words of His Prophecy which was given on the Lord's Day or Seventh-Day Sabbath when He made himself available to strenghten and encourage John and His Church(es).

The messages of the Prophecy sent out to the 7 Churches in Asia with His blessings and that of the 7 Spirits before His Throne. He is identified as the one who is alive, was dead, and lives forevermore: of the present, past, and future: Alpha and Omega, hence he has the keys of death and hell. This tripartite title also given: faithful witness or messenger, firstborn from the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth who reveals the things that are seen, which are, and which shall be hereafter: present, past, and future who has reconciled us unto God and has made us priests and kings unto God his father and He ministers in the midst of the 7 Candlesticks having the 7 Messengers in His right hand. Behold, He comes again the Second time.

He, who reads, hears and keep the words of the prophecy of this book are blessed and will be able to stand up, still, continue or **remain** during the great day of the wrath of God and beyond. The Church is the **body of Jesus Christ** of which He is the Head: **the Alpha**. Those who are a part of the body of Christ, the Church shall stand or remain during the great day of God's wrath as Jesus is also **the Omega**, the Last or end, with burnished feet as Chief Corner Stone, the Christ or Messias: upon this rock I shall build my Church and the gates of hell shall not prevailed.

The application is that anyone who is a part of the Church, the body of Christ, will hear what the Head, Jesus, says. Given, He is the Alpha and Omega: past, present and future, His body, the Church, also spans time, hence it is consistent to understand that the 7 Churches spans the corridor of time from the past, present, and future. As the Alpha & Omega He is presented as the Minister with the Shehbah or 7 Angels or Messengers in His Right Hand and the One who walks among the Shehbah or 7 Church(es). This appellation of **Alpha & Omega** is further developed from **Mathew 21-28** into the **Sheh-bah**, **Perfect**, **Sacred One and Holy One.** This is the full or complete measure of being a **Perfect Man**, **Ephesians 4:13**.

Didyma CARIA

Chapter 1 accords with the Name of God or the Lord on the measuring rod. Hebrew pronounced 'Shame' translates as Name, which means: an appellation as a mark of memorial, individuality and identity that infers honour, authority and character. It speaks to the person, presence and function.

The overriding appellation in the Chapter is **Alpha & Omega** which is used to explain the person, presence and function of **Jesus as the Messiah**. It is from this perspective that His body, the Church, is explained in the successive **Chapters 2** and **3**. The appellation develops and finally is linked to Him being **Sheh-bah or 7**, Perfect or Complete, the Sacred full One or Holy One. Hence He has **7 Spirits** before His Throne, He walks among the **7 Candlesticks or Churches**, He has the **7 Stars, Angels or Messengers** in His Right Hand and He is given **the Book sealed** with **7 seals to open**.

Only those who are of His body, the Church, who are cleansed with the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Spirit and washed with water and the Word will be able to stand or remain in the great day of God's wrath. These are they who have come up to the fullness of the measure unto the stature of Messiah unto a **Perfect or Sheh-bah (7) Man**. Therefore the Book of Revelation is about the Revelation or exposition of who Jesus (Yeshua) Christ (Messias or Messiah) is.

I have discovered as documented on this website that **Alpha and Omega accords** on measuring rod or equates with the sum of the precepts 1,2,3,4,5 and 6=21. In **Revelation 21** we find this appellation again at which time it will be explained further from this perspective. But these 6 precepts are only but a part of the whole, the 7th precept or Deuteros, which recounts all six precepts a second time besides itself. Hence Israel marched around the walls of Jericho once for six days and on the 7th day, 7 times recounting once for each day and once for the 7th day.

You will see this theme of recounting at the 7th time throughout the book of Revelation if you pay keen attention.

Now behold Him who is the Alpha and Omega, Yeshua, the Messiah or Christ!

REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST: ALPHA & OMEGA, THE ALMIGHTY

V1 The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him, to shew unto his servants things which must shortly come to pass; and he sent and signified it by his angel unto his servant John:

The exposition of the Saviour of His people, the Anointed was given unto Him by the God the Father and He sent His Angel or Messenger to show, (a function He performs as High Priest), it unto His Servant John. Jesus Christ minister to His people via His Angels, who are ministering spirits sent to us who are heirs of salvation, **Hebrews 1: 14**. Bear this in mind as you read of the activities of Angels.

V8 I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord (Supreme), which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.

The Lord, Master or the one Supreme in authority is titled the Alpha and Omega: beginning and ending which means He is **present** in all time periods: present, is, past, was, and future, He is the Almighty or all powerful one.

V15 And his feet like unto fine brass, as if they burned in a furnace; and his voice as the sound of many waters.

Now we have the description of **His person** beginning at the pair of His feet having a brilliant lustre as **fine brass** as if burned in a furnace and his voice or tone like the **sound of many waters**.

THE TESTIMONY OF JESUS CHRIST: THE SPIRIT OF PROPHECY OR WORD OF GOD

V2 Who bare record of the word of God, and of the testimony of Jesus Christ, and of all things that he saw.

The servant of God, John, the apostle, bare witness or record of the Word of God which is the testimony or witness of Jesus or Yeshua, the Anointed or simply: Jesus Christ. The testimony of Jesus Christ is later explained to be the Spirit of Prophecy, **Revelation 19:10**. Therefore, all true prophets, have their foundation only in the witness or testimony received from Jesus Christ.

V9 I John, who also am your brother, and companion in tribulation, and in the kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ, was in the isle that is called Patmos, for the word of God, and for the testimony of Jesus Christ.

The kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ is of such that He as the King, like John and all his followers are brothers and companion in tribulation. Here John identified that He was sent away on the island of Patmos because of his ministry of the Word of God and the Testimony of Jesus Christ. "Patmos" means "my killing" (Dictionary of Scripture Proper Names by J.B. Jackson). It was a sterile island. "Sterile" meaning "1. unable to produce offspring; infertile. 2. free from living . . . 3. (of plants or their parts) not producing or bearing seeds, fruit, spores, stamens, or pistils. 4. lacking inspiration or vitality; fruitless" ~ Collins). Patmos is "An island off the West coast of Asia Minor . . . an islet in the Mediterranean" (Strong's). Yea, of a truth all who will live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecutions, 2 **Timothy 3: 12**. John was upon an island in the midst of the sea away from the mainland of Asia where the 7 Churches were.

V16 And he had in his right hand seven stars: and out of his mouth went a sharp two-edged sword: and his countenance was as the sun shineth in his strength.

Now we have exposed his right hand which has seven stars and out of his mouth goes a sharp two-edged sword and his countenance was the sun shining in all its brilliance.

THE JOY OF PROPHECY AND THE PROPHET:

V3 Blessed (supremely blest, happy, fortunate, well off) is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand.

The ultimate or supreme joy of the words of prophecy is experienced not only from reading, hearing but obeying or keeping the things which are written therein more so that the time is now at hand. This is the experience of those who are born again, those who will stand in the great day of God's wrath. Blessed or happy are they that do his commandments that they might have the right to the tree of life and enter through the gates of the City, **Revelations 22: 14**. Jesus says fulfil ye my joy ask that ye might receive, **John 15: 11, 16: 24 & 17: 13**.

V10 I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet,

Spiritual things are spiritually discerned for the natural man knows not the things of the Spirit, neither can he, **1 Corinthians 2: 14.** So the Apostle John was in the Spirit and as we are told there are 7 Spirits or the Spirit is seven-folded, **Isaiah 11:2 & Revelation 1:4 & 4: 5**. This encounter was on the Lord's Day or 7th Day Sabbath, **Matthew 12: 8**, the day that He both, sanctifies or hallows by His word and His presence. His voice now transcends many waters to the loudness of that of a trumpet like the shout and the trumpet blast of the children of Israel on the 7th Day around the walls of Jericho, **Joshua 6:15-16**. In his presence there is fullness of joy and at his right hand there a pleasure evermore, **Psalms 16: 11**.

V17 And when I saw him, I fell at his feet as dead. And he laid his right hand upon me, saying unto me, Fear not; I am the first and the last:

Heaven is His throne and earth is His footstool, **Isaiah 66: 1**, yet on the Sabbath He is viewed by His servant upon the earth who though he is overwhelmed by the vision that he falls at His feet as dead yet His right hand of righteousness encourages, comforts and gives hope, He speaks peace to his heart: fear not, I am the First and the Last. Yea, though we fall dead at his feet, or his footstool, yet we have hope to be resurrected by His right hand of righteousness, He is the hope of all glory, **Colossians 1: 27**. Glory! Hallelujah!

THE SEVEN CHURCHES OF RISING (ASIA opposite to PATMOS) CALLED OUT OR NAMED:

V4 John to the seven churches which are in Asia: Grace be unto you, and peace, from him which is, and which was, and which is to come; and from the seven Spirits which are before his throne;

The Seven Churches of Jesus' body for which he died for which John like him was now suffering at Patmos: my killing or death, to whom he now writes, is the '7 Churches of His Rising: Resurrection or Light (Asia)' a term that is inferred by the phrase: '7 Churches of Asia'. Remember, He is the Resurrection and the Life, **John 11: 25**. He who occupies all time periods: present or is: risen, past or was: died, and future or is to come: alive forevermore, extends greetings in the provision of His abundant grace and peace (which is afforded by His death) which also comes from the 7 Spirits before His throne. We are bought with a price, the precious blood of Jesus Christ and like how he was raised out of the grave or death by the glory of the Father even so should we walk in newness of life by faith.

V11 Saying, I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last: and, What thou seest, write in a book, and send it unto the seven churches which are in Asia; unto Ephesus, and unto Smyrna, and unto Pergamos, and unto Thyatira, and unto Sardis, and unto Philadelphia, and unto Laodicea.

Now the **7 Churches** are named by Him who is the **First and the Last** as **Ephesus**: meaning relax or let go, stand still and see the salvation of God, or let go and let God and rather not relax and forgetting our first love; **Smyrna**: meaning myrrh, bitter or suffering trials, poor yet rich encouraged to remain faithful; **Pergamos**: meaning married to the Tower which is the Name of the Lord which is a strong Tower, **Proverbs 18: 10**, not like those who are of the Tower of Babel or confusion of Balaam and the Nicolaitans; Thyatira: meaning a continual sacrifice bearing the burden of Christ increasing in faith, patience and love rather than being as those who are killed or slain with Jezebel; Sardis: means coming out of or that remains, among the remnant were they which needed to strengthen the things that remain lest they die having a reputation of being alive yet dead, yet they were a few or remnant like Jesus who did not defile their garments; Philadelphia: meaning brotherly love, little strength yet faithful, holding fast to the end; and Laodicea: meaning people of judgment or punishment. There is a duality in the names that were called out by the First and the Last either we will be saved or lost depending on whether or not we are faithful and have repented from our sins as identified. The 'calling out' of the names speaks to the work he performs by His presence in the heart of all who overcomes. That Christ Jesus might dwell in our hearts by faith, that we might be rooted and grounded in love, **Ephesians 3: 17**. Remember we are His workmanship created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which he had foreordained that we should walk therein, **Ephesians 2: 10**. This is much like when He spoke and it was done, commanded and it stood fast, Psalms 33: 6 & 9, by His words and breath or Spirit. I tell you the truth only those who are of the first or apostolic church shall be as the one who lasts or stands in the great day of God's wrath. These are the Remnant children or the 7 Churches of the Light or Resurrection who stand by the Word of God and primitive godliness and yet they are those of the darkness and the prince of darkness or the night that shall fall.

V18 I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.

The Alpha and Omega, the First and Last, his person cannot be destroyed by death or hell, for he lives, was dead and is alive forevermore or eternal. He is the Amen. Therefore upon this Rock: being Christ or the Anointed, he built His Church and the gates of hell shall not prevail, Matthew 16: 18, for He has the keys of hell and death.

JESUS THE CHRIST:

V5 And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood,

And being found in the fashion of a man He humbled himself and became obedient unto the death, **Philipians 2: 8**, fulfilling the function of His name, **Jesus:** for He shall save his people, **Matthew 1: 21.** He was first anointed as the **Messias**, **Messiah** or **Christ** after He was baptized by John in the river Jordan when the Spirit descended upon Him as a dove and lighting, **Matthew 3: 16**. Then He began his ministry announcing the Spirit of the Lord is upon me, for He has anointed me,

Isaiah 61:2 and Luke 4:18. The Creator was joined unto His creature in the flesh and became **the Faithful Witness** and **the First Begotten** from the dead, and ascended to His Throne to be the **Prince of the kings of the earth**.

V12 And I turned to see the voice that spake with me. And being turned, I saw seven golden candlesticks;

Now John hears His voice and when he turned to see He saw seven golden candlesticks which represent the 7 Churches, **Revelation1: 20**, which are the members of Jesus' spiritual body. Jesus the Christ's voice in His words is to be heard and seen in the life of the members of His body, the 7 Churches. This is how we complete the union with Him by becoming as He is. If any man be in Christ He is a new creature behold old things have past away behold all things have become new, **2 Corithians 5: 17**. If any man has not the Spirit of Christ He is none of His, **Romans 8: 9**.

V19 Write the things which thou hast seen, and the things which are, and the things which shall be hereafter;

As the author and finisher of our salvation Jesus as Rabbi or Teacher now instructs John to write the things which he sees in vision, what is present and the things which are yet future, prophetic. Whatever things are written afore time were written for our learning upon whom the end of the world is come, **Romans 15: 4**. Which as new born babes we are to desire the sincere milk of the word thereby we may grow, **1 Peter 2: 2**. The wise and faithful servant will give to His Master's House also meat in due season, **Matthew 24: 45**. Thus we may grow up in Him, Jesus Christ, the righteous, the Faithful Witness, the First Begotten from the dead, the Prince of kings of the earth, in all things, unto the fullness of the measure of the stature of Christ unto a perfect or Shehbah man, **Ephesians 4: 13** as we become one with Him as He became one with us in the flesh. As the Finisher of our faith He from Heaven now ministers the manifold blessings of His sacrifice washing us in His blood which was shed for our sins.

KINGS & PRIESTS AS THE SON OF GOD AND MAN:

V6 And hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

By the blood of Jesus' sacrifice are we recreated in the image of God as kings and priests unto our heavenly Father to take back our position which we once held before Adam's fall. We will be numbered on the four corners of the earth as the children of Israel were numbered around the tabernacle in **Numbers 2**. All who are so numbered as kings and priests will give glory and dominion for ever and ever to Jesus our Prince even so let it be as John said.

V13 And in the midst of the seven candlesticks one like unto the Son of man, clothed with a garment down to the foot, and girt about the paps with a golden girdle.

The Son of Man, as the Levitical High Priest, ministers in the midst of the 7 Candlesticks clothed with His priestly robe, a garment down to the foot, and girt about the paps with a golden girdle. As Jacob saw Mahanaim: two encampments of the Angels when He was returning to Canaan, so the Children of Israel were arranged with the 11 tribes on the outer quadrant or four corners and the Priests, the tribe of Levi, in their midst around the Sanctuary where they ministered, even so now Jesus is portrayed as the High Priest ministering in the midst of His Church, the seven Candlesticks. Those of the Seven candlesticks are kings and priests who minister on the four corners of the earth throughout earth's history or as long as time shall last.

V20 The mystery of the seven stars which thou sawest in my right hand, and the seven golden candlesticks. The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches: and the seven candlesticks which thou sawest are the seven churches.

The mystery is now revealed about the 7 Stars in His right hand as the 7 Angels or Messengers of the Churches: and the seven candlesticks are the 7 Churches. If the Church is the body of Christ of which He is the Head, the 7 Stars is not limited to being only Angels but includes those to whom like John they are sent to upon the earth to disseminate the messages of Christ.

DEUTEROS: SECOND COMING

V7 Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail (lament or mourn) because of him. Even so, Amen.

The promise is if I go away, I will come again, and receive you unto myself that where I am there you may be also, **John 14: 3**. Hence we look for him the Second time but not only are we going to see him but every eye shall see him and they also who pierced or killed him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail or mourn because of him. Even so, amen.

And yet there are some who will stand in this great day of God's wrath when He shall appear. This is the basis of the vertical recount along with the functions that Jesus Christ performs, who are these?

- 1 His servants who receives His **revelations** by His Angels, dreams and visions.
- 2 Those who like John bare Witness of the **Word of God** and the **Testimony** of Jesus, who tell forth.
- 3 Those who reads, hears the words of the **prophecy** which foretells and keeps the things written therein.
- 4 Those of the 7 Churches of His **Resurrection** who receive His 7 Spirits in whose life His grace and peace has efficacy, see the book of Ruth.
- 5 Those who like Jesus are proven to be Faithful Witnesses and of the First Resurrection and are cleansed from their sins by His blood.
 6 These are made kings and priests, yea, these shall stand up and remain or continue in that day.

14 His head and his hairs were white like wool, as white as snow; and his eyes were as a flame of fire;

Imagine the Son of God coming in all His glory, his head and his hairs as white like wool and as white as snow as the sun shining in all its brilliance and every eye of all the kindreds of the earth that see his eyes which are as a flame of fire and His glory wail and lament and are struck dead by the brightness of His coming. In that day when He shall return who can stand to bear the Presence:

- 8 Of the Alpha and Omega, The Almighty or Omnipotent.
- 9 Who allowed His servants to pass through great tribulations in His Kingdom and patience, suffering like him his death because of the Word of God and His testimony.

10 Yea, of course those who receive His Spirit on His 7th Day or Sabbath and heard his voice afore times.

- 11 Those of His 7 Churches of His Resurrection which he called out by name: (Ephesus) those that let God (relax), and let go; (Smyrna) those that endured (myrrh) bitter suffering and remain faithful to the end; (Pergamos) those that were married to the Tower of the Name of the Lord, praying without ceasing; (Thyatira) those who were as a continual sacrifice increasing in faith; (Sardis) the remnant who did not defile their garments; (Philadelphia) those who by brotherly love though weak remain faithful and (Laodicea) those who repent and are a people of justice.
- 12 These are His 7 golden candlesticks who obeyed His command, let your light so shine that men may see your good works and glorify your Father which is in Heaven, **Matthew 5: 16**. These reflected His glory! Therefore they can stand in His Presence at His second return.
- 13 He often stood amidst them as seen by John in the vision of the Son of Man standing in the midst of the 7 golden candlesticks as He ministered from heaven as their High Priest.

CONCLUSION: HIS PERSON

V15 And his feet like unto fine brass, as if they burned in a furnace; and his voice as the sound of many waters.

V16 And he had in his right hand seven stars: and out of his mouth went a sharp two-edged sword: and his countenance was as the sun shineth in his strength.

V17 And when I saw him, I fell at his feet as dead. And he laid his right hand upon me, saying unto me, Fear not; I am the first and the last:

V18 I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.

V19 Write the things which thou hast seen, and the things which are, and the things which shall be hereafter;

V20 The mystery of the seven stars which thou sawest in my right hand, and the seven golden candlesticks. The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches: and the seven candlesticks which thou sawest are the seven churches.

Jesus Christ is revealed as **the Alpha and Omega**, the beginning and the ending, the Almighty or **Omnipotent**. He is the Word of God, the sharp two-edged sword, from the beginning to ending.

Alpha is the first letter of the Hebrew alphabet and the Omega is its last letter and as the Word of God He is the combination of every alphabet that forms His Words, hence His **Omniscience**. Hence it would be wise of us to read, hear and take heed to what He says. He is and was and is to come even as He is alive and was dead and lives for evermore.

He is **Omnipresent** from eternity past, of the present and of the future forevermore. So then there is no getting around Him. He is the faithful witness and first begotten of the dead and the prince of the kings of the earth who by His blood has washed us from our sins and has made us kings and priests of God, His Father. He now ministers as High Priests dressed in robe down to His feet and a golden girdle around His paps in the midst of His 7 Churches. Behold he is coming a second time!

