

1 **REV WK 2: CH 1: Introduction/Inaugural Vision (53:23 mins)**

2 Bible recommendation: RSV Catholic edition (used in CCC) or New American Bible (used in Liturgy)

3 **MESSAGE:** *The victories in life don't come by the way of the world but our life behind the scenes*

4 **THEMES:** 1) Alpha and the Omega, 2) sharp two-edged sword coming from the Lord's mouth, 3) Liturgy
5 (*Grace to You and peace*)

6 **Inaugural visions:** Series of visions that provides special word of hope to a suffering church (7 churches
7 of Asia Minor) **MESSAGE:** *You are NOT ALONE in suffering, despair-GOD is with you; Christ is in our*
8 *midst. LOCATION:* John imprisoned on island of Patmos; suffered much persecution. **LITURGY:** Becomes
9 the key-what happens in Heaven and what happens on earth relates to what happens in our daily lives.

10 *^{v1}The revelation of Jesus Christ is revealing, which GOD gave him to show to His servants what*
11 *must soon take place, and He made it known by sending His angel to a certain John who bore*
12 *witness to the Word of God and to the testimony of Jesus Christ, even to all that he saw. Blessed*
13 *is he who reads aloud the words of the prophecy*, and blessed are those who hear, and who keep*
14 *what is written therein; for the time near*** Rev 1:1-3

15 *Understood to be read in assembly of the believers in context of *liturgy* and on the Lord's Day *blessed*
16 ****...time is near...**Peter is talking about final days; John's vision is a fulfillment of Daniel 2:28

17 **GOD (the bridegroom)** progressively begins to reveal Himself under different names to His people; most
18 significant name given to Moses-YHWH (Ex 3:13)

19 (1st of 7 beatitudes in Rev); beginning of something new **Final days:** 2 Peter 3:8:10,

20 *Where is the promise of His coming by the same word, the heavens and earth that now exists have*
21 *been stored up for fire being kept until the day of judgment and destruction of ungodly men, but do*
22 *not ignore this one fact, Beloved, that with the Lord, one day is as 1000 years and 1000 years, as one*
23 *day. The Lord is not slow about His promise as some count slowness, but as forbearing towards you,*
24 *not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. The day of the Lord will*
25 *come like a thief and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will*
26 *dissolve with fire, and the earth and the works that are upon it will be burned down”.*

27 **Four Kingdoms followed by fifth that will destroy all:** (1)Babylon, 2)Persian Empire. (3) Greece (4)
28 Rome (Dn 2:35), *But the stone that struck the image became a great mountain and filled the whole*
29 *earth. Pointing to destruction of Jerusalem.*

30 **Rev 1:4: Seven Churches in Asia.,** Rev 1:8 *“I am the Alpha and the Omega, says the Lord God, who is and*
31 *who was and who is to come.” MESSAGE:* This revelation is going to take place, the **coming** of the Lord
32 **was** and **is** and **is to come:** (70 AD)

33 **NUMBER 7 in Bible:** Numbers are significant; more than seven churches in Asia Minor but *symbolic of*
34 *the whole Church; completeness of covenant;* Churches are persecuted, discourages, victims of Roman
35 occupation/Emperor worship, it's harder than they thought to be a Christian; they need *hope*

36 **The Veil Removed:** God gives them a positive *glimpse* that there is sooooo much more! **MESSAGE:**
37 *There is hope and an intimacy with the Creator in the Eucharist like no other...*

38 **The TRINITY:** ...* Grace and peace flow out from Trinity as seen in threefold re petition of from, which is
39 linked to the Father (Him who is) the Son (Christ; the faithful **witness**) and the Holy Spirit (seven spirits;
40 possible the gifts of the Spirit)

41 **Witness¹:** Greek=**Martyrs** - someone who lays down their life for other people; Jesus= faithful witness.

42 **Rev 1:6:** John regards the Church as a royal/priestly *community* of mediators between GOD and all
43 others (Moses-Ex 19:6); CCC1546: *“Christ high priest and unique mediator has made the church, a*
44 *kingdom of priests for his God and Father. The whole community of believers is, as such, priestly.”*

45 **Priesthood: Laity** (faithful exercising *holy baptismal priesthood* through the sacraments of baptism and
46 confirmation; Clerical: Ordained priests)

47 **“Behold, he is coming with the clouds...”:** Trigger word that's going to bring up scriptures from the Old
48 Testament. Now this is the way that the rabbi's taught in the first century, that they would use a method
49 called **remez²** which means to “hint”; in Bible, just use a number (similar to saying 911 today)

50 **Daniel 7:13-14** - (Apocalyptic Style), *The Son of Man comes in clouds to receive the key - Judgment is*
51 **associated with the clouds.** (quote that claims divinity, highest title given to Messiah in 1st century)
52 **Matthew 26** (Jesus to Caiaphas): *“You shall see the Son of man sitting at the right hand of power*
53 **coming on the clouds of heaven.”** Jesus calls himself **Son of Man** who will see all who *pierced Him*-all will
54 *wail*
55 **Zechariah 12:10**: John uses prophet/scripture to retell what happens to Jesus in Jerusalem using same
56 OT passages fore told of Messiah and *downfall* of the *Temple* on earth; one of most powerful titles given
57 to Jesus (Zch 8); (GREEK) **I am the Alpha and the Omega, says the Lord God, who is and was, and who is**
58 **to come.**
59 **Exodus 3:13-14**: Moses at burning bush-What is your **NAME?** NOTE: Only the priest in a temple knew
60 the *secret* NAME of the Temple god (why priesthood was a *family thing*)
61 **Hebrew GOD’S secret name**: HWHYHWH: (translated) **I AM WHO I AM** (The GOD who IS, who WAS,
62 who WILL BE (I am the first and I am the last; besides me there is no GOD -Is 44:6)
63 **HEBREW**: Twenty-two consonants (no vowels); begins with **ALEPH**, middle is **MEM**, end is **TAV**=
64 **Alep-mem-tav** = EMETH (TRUTH)
65 **John 14:6**: (Jesus) *“I am the way and the TRUTH and the life. No one comes to the Father but by me”.*
66 **John 8:32**: *“You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free”.* John shares three things about
67 Jesus: 1) The Tribulation, 2) The Kingdom, 3) Patient endurance
68 **JOHN** *“I was in the spirit on the Lord’s day* (Sunday-day of the Resurrection and celebration of
69 Eucharist-ACTS 20:7)) **and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet saying, Write what you see in a**
70 **book and send it to the seven churches; to Ephesus, to Smyrna, Pergamon, Thyatira, to Sardis and to**
71 **Philadelphia and to Laodicea”.**
72 **Vatican II**: *“In the early liturgy, we take part in a foretaste of that heavenly liturgy, which is celebrated in*
73 *the holy city of Jerusalem toward which we journey as pilgrims where Christ is sitting at the right hand of*
74 *God as minister of the holies and of the true tabernacle. We sing a hymn to the Lord’s glory, with all the*
75 *warriors of the heaven.”*³ ; (Liturgical scholar Gregory Dix): the early MASS was modeled on what John
76 saw in the book of Revelation.
77 **TRUMPET in OT**: Used as 1) a *blast* of judgment, 2) to worship the LORD (liturgical instrument), 3)
78 warfare (Like Jericho)
79 The Seven Churches of Revelations: Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia and
80 Laodicea (similar to a *mail route* along the Roman road connections)
81 **REV 1:12**: *“Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking to me and in turning I saw seven golden*
82 ***lamp stands and in the midst of the lamp stands was one- like a Son of Man****, (**Dan 7:13-14** ^{v13}*clothe*
83 *with a long robe and with golden sash across his chest; his head and his hair are white snow*)
84 *white as snow, His eyes were like a flame of fire. ^{v14}His feet were like burnished bronze refined as in a*
85 *furnace and his voice was like the sound of many waters. ^{v16}in his right hand, he held seven stars, from*
86 *his mouth and issued a sharp two-edged sword and his face was like the sun shining in full strength.”*
87 **(Explains traditional arrangement of candles at MASS-three on each side of tabernacle leaving*
88 ***Son of Man*** in the middle.
89 **Rev 1:13**: *Son of Man*, highest title in 1st century (1st century Jews would understand this in context of
90 Dan 7 and earlier chapters (prophesy of 4 kingdoms and then 5th kingdom is greater-the Church)
91 **Rev 1:14**: White hair – sign of wisdom (See Dan 7:9, Dan 10:5-6); helpful to know in times bad times
92 **Rev 1:16**: Sharp, two-edges sword (Is 11:4) Prophecy of Messiah executing vengeance with rod in his
93 mouth
94 **MESSAGE: Liturgy is warfare** - like Jericho and the blast of the trumpets - and the praise of God. We
95 **change things on earth starting in liturgy**; God is WISDOM, comfort, the one who will fight for us when
96 we need Him. Happens in the Mass, in the Liturgy; He promises to *take care of it.* (See the *The Surrender*
97 *Novena*); hard lesson to learn and remember in times of trouble.

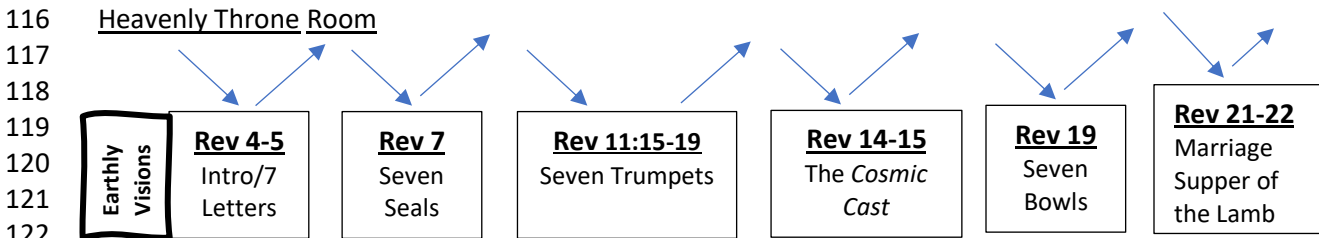
98 **Rev 1:17:** John's response: "When I saw him, I fell at his feet, as though dead". But he touched me with
99 his right hand and said, **Fear not.** I am the first and the last, the one who lives. I died and behold, I'm
100 alive forevermore and I hold the keys of death and Hades."; Book of Revelation to early church was GOD
101 putting His hand on their shoulder and stating, :I will take care of you."

102 **Rev 1:19:** (John) "Write what you see what is and what is to take place hereafter". The MESSAGE for the
103 seven Churches of Asia Minor (Symbolic use of #7 but this is addressed to the entire Church)
104 As opposition to Christianity increased, John wants faithful to see **Lamb of God** will triumphs; suffering
105 and hardship not bad news but guarantees their victory.

106 **ENDING:** Chapter 4 - 19: moving towards final outcome; final dramatic battle between Christ and
107 powers of evil, a battle which reaches climax in chapter 19.

108 **MESSAGE of INTRO:**

- 109 - **LANGUAGE:** This is a *liturgical thing* to be read during the liturgy, read on the Lord's day.
- 110 - **TITLES:** Of the one who's going to be revealed as *the Lamb, the Alpha and the Omega*, etc.
- 111 - **PASTORAL HEART REVEALED:** Receive a glimpse of His pastoral heart, how He identifies with
112 their tribulation, their kingdom, and identifies and shares in their patient endurance; be patient,
113 endure-we will win!
- 114 - **FEAR NOT:** His message is clear; I will lead you
- 115 - **HEAVEN to EARTH, EARTH to HEAVEN:** Incredible journey from a *heavenly view* (SG Chart, pg 4)



- 123 - Multiple ways of looking at same action

124 **FEAR NOT:** MASS gives us a heavenly glimpse of reality; *Do not forsake the assembling together*
125 *(Hebrews 10:25)* in Liturgy of the WORD, Liturgy of the EUCHARIST; Christ is in our midst

126 **EXODUS 33** (paraphrased): ...and the Lord said, *Your people are complaining and fussing, I'm going to*
127 *send you with an angel, but I'm not going to go with you. because I'm apt to kill you.* And Moses said,
128 **Lord, You can't do that. It is your presence with us that makes us unique.** What makes us unique
129 through trials and trouble? **Christ is with us. MASS is most unique event in the world.**

130
131 **¹ Witness**

132 The Greek words are: Martyreo (the verb, usually translated as 'to bear witness' or 'to testify')
133 Martyria (noun, i.e. the record); Martyrs (noun, i.e. the person bearing witness)

134
135 **Marty(s)** appears 34 times in the NT; always translated as 'witness' in the NAS. However, in the KJV it is
136 translated 'martyr' in the three instances where the witnessing for Christ led to persecution and death
137 Witnessing to the truth is major theme in John's gospel, his three epistles and his book of Revelation.

138 **John's writings account for exactly one-half of all the NT occurrences of "martyr..."**

139 ²The great teachers (rabbis) during Jesus' day used a technique that was later called **Remez**. Used as part of a
140 Scripture passage in a discussion, assuming audience's knowledge of Bible would allow them to deduce for
141 themselves the fuller meaning of the teaching. Jesus, who possessed a brilliant understanding of Scripture and
142 strong teaching skills, used this method often. For example, when the children shouted "**Hosanna**" to him in the
143 temple and chief priests and teachers of the law became indignant (**Matt. 21:15**), Jesus responded by quoting
144 **Psalms 8:2:** "From the lips of children and infants, you have ordained praise." The religious leaders' anger at Jesus
145 can be better understood when we realize that the next phrase in the Psalm reveals why children and infants offer
146 praise, because the enemies of God would be silenced. The religious leaders realized that Jesus was implying that
147 they were God's enemies. Jesus used this teaching method again when speaking to Zacchaeus. "**For the Son of**

148 **Man came to seek and save the lost," (Luke 19:10).** The background to this statement is probably Ezekiel 34. **God,**
 149 **angry with Israel's leaders for scattering and harming his flock, stated that he would become the shepherd and**
 150 **would seek the lost ones and save them.** Based on this, the people of Jesus' day understood that the Messiah to
 151 come would **"seek and save"** the lost. By using this phrase, knowing that his listeners knew the Scripture, Jesus
 152 communicated several things. To the people, he communicated, **"I am the Messiah and also God."** To the religious
 153 leaders, whose influence kept Zacchaeus out of the crowd, he said, **"You have scattered and harmed God's flock."**
 154 To Zacchaeus, he said, **"You are one of God's lost sheep and he still loves you."**

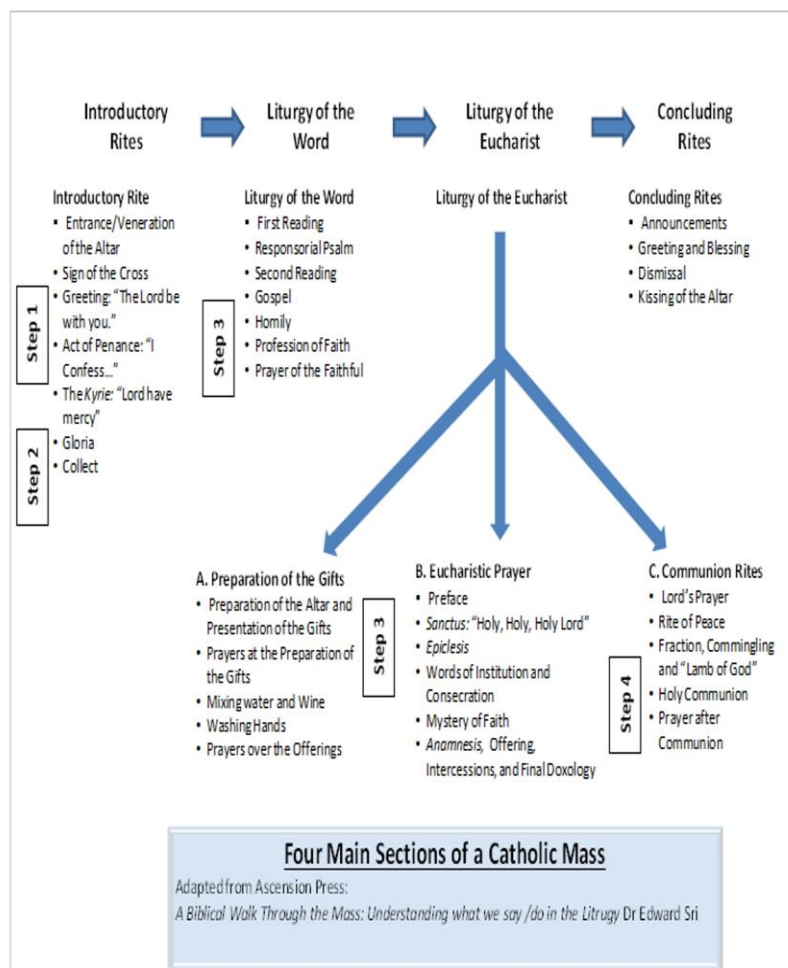
155 Jesus best fit the type of rabbi believed to have **s'mikhah, the authority to make new interpretations of the**
 156 **Torah.** Whereas most teachers of the law could only teach *accepted interpretations, teachers with authority could*
 157 *make new interpretations and pass legal judgments.* Crowds were amazed because Jesus taught with authority
 158 **(Matt. 7:28-29),** and some people questioned his authority **(Matt. 21:23-27).**

159 ³**Sacrosanctum Concilium, the Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy,** is one of the constitutions of the [Second](#)
 160 [Vatican Council.](#) It was approved by the assembled bishops by a vote of 2,147 to 4 and promulgated by [Pope Paul](#)
 161 [VI](#) on 4 December 1963.^[1] The main aim was to achieve greater lay participation in the [Catholic Church's liturgy.](#)
 162 The title is taken from the [opening lines](#) of the document and means **"this Sacred Council".**

163 **Steps to become a Christian (Protestant)**

- 164 1. **Acknowledge** you are a sinner and ask God's forgiveness
 165 2. **Recognize** that only God can save you
 166 3. **Believe** Jesus died on the cross for your sins and to bring you to God
 167 4. **Accept** Jesus Christ as your personal Lord and Savior to be saved

168 **Steps to become a Christian (The Mass – a fulfilled Catholic perspective)**



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