



Thaddeus R. Barnum



PO Box 1493, Fairfield, CT 06825
203.383.9320
call2disciple@gmail.com
call2disciple.com



Lord, At Any Cost

A Study of Revelation 1:1-11

By Thaddeus Barnum

Study Guide



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STUDY GUIDE

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For information:

call2disciple

PO Box 1493, Fairfield, CT 06825

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LESSON 6, CONTINUED

2. The silver trumpets: Numbers 10:2-10 (sons of Aaron)
3. Jericho (Joshua 6:1-21) / Gideon (Judges 7:7-25) in the Day of Battle
4. Attending the ark (2 Sam 6:15) / Announcing the King (1 Kings 1:34)
5. The voice of the Prophet (Isaiah 58:1)/ Voice of the Watchman (Ezekiel 33:3-6)
6. Sound attending worship (Psalms 98:6 , 150:3)
7. Sound at the last day – Matt 24:31, 1 Cor 15:52, 1 Thess 4:16 – with SHOUT
Context of Rev 1:10: This is the sound attending the King and His Word

III REVELATION CONTENT – THE LORD JESUS CHRIST HIMSELF

1. By the operation of the Holy Spirit we say: JESUS IS LORD *1 Cor 12:3*
2. Gospels: Peter knew Jesus by the Father's revelation *Matt 16:16-17*
Road to Emmaus – Eyes opened / Apocalypse! *Lke 24:31*
3. Paul on Road to Damascus – Unveiled to see Jesus! *Acts 9, 22, 26*
A. This is work of the Holy Spirit ***“He shall Glorify Me”*** *Jn 16:14*
B. This is what He does when He makes faithful witnesses *Acts 1:8*
C Behold the Revelation of the Lord Jesus Christ *Rev 1:12-16*

IV REVELATION RESPONSE

1. John heard / Turned / Saw / Fell at His feet *Rev 1:10-17*
2. Fall at His feet *Eze 1:28, Matt 17:2-6, Lke 17:16*
Jn 18:6, Acts 26:14, Rev 4:8-11
3. Behold the Lord Jesus Christ – How can we be Secret, Timid Followers?
4. He wants to make us Faithful Witnesses – by the Power of the Pentecost Holy Spirit
5. Temptations: To compromise / To fear the consequences /
To go with the crowd / To not embrace the cost of discipleship that is OURS IN JESUS
6. The blessing of Revelation is for the one who reads/
hears/and obeys! *Rev 1:3*

Are You Willing to Say:

LORD JESUS, I WANT TO FOLLOW YOU AT ANY COST

LESSON 6

On The Lord's Day-Like A Trumpet-Revelation 1:10-11

INTRODUCTION

Two Revelation Events of 1:9-11

1. Word of God and the Testimony of Jesus before Patmos *Rev 1:2,
Lke 5:1-11, Jn 20:31*
 2. Word of God and the Testimony of Jesus *on* Patmos *Rev 1:10-20*
John -- Like Paul -- writing Epistles in Prison --
God's Word is Not Chained! *2 Tim 2:8-9*
- Event on Patmos in Rev 1:10-20: **THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST**

I REVELATION DEFINED

Rev 1:1

The Greek Word “Apocalypse” means uncovering / unveiling

1. Study of 2 Corinthians 4:2-6
 - A. Setting forth the truth plainly *2 Cor 4:2*
 - B. Gospel veiled -Veil covering heart and its removal
Blinding by the “god of this age” /
cannot see the light / perishing *2 Cor 3:13-15, 4:3-4*
 - C. Apocalypse! – Veil rent – Light / Glory of God /
Face of Jesus Christ
An act of the Holy Spirit (see *2 Cor 3:16-17*) *2 Cor 4:5-6*
2. Study of Revelation 1:1
 - A. God given Revelation of Jesus Christ to the Church
 - B. Language of Old Testament: Through Angels *Acts 7:53, Gal 3:19*
 - C. Language of Gospels: Father to Son / Son to us *Matt 11:25-27*

II REVELATION INTERPRETED – “TRUMPETS”

Use of Biblical Symbols in Revelation *as seen previously in Rev 1:4-8*
– Loud Voice Like a Trumpet
**Note the “Sharp Double Edged Sword” in Rev 1:16 and read: Isa 49:2,
Eph 6:17, Heb 4:12

Trumpets

1. Trumpets at Sinai: Ex 19:16-19 / Voice of God / Giving of the Commandments

Lord, At Any Cost

A Study of Revelation 1:1-11

The promise of Scripture is that “everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted.” [2 Timothy 3:12]

There is a suffering that is “ours in Jesus” – John writes in Revelation, which comes from testifying without compromise to the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. John knows – he is writing from prison. His readers know – they are enduring the same opposition.

The Revelation given – the message of comfort – is not found in a quest for knowing the end times. It is found in the Revelation of Jesus Christ Himself, and specifically in the mighty work He accomplished on the Cross.

Is this a study for our time? What do we know about suffering in the American Church? Is it possible we have compromised the Gospel in the pulpit so that we might attract more people? Have we done the same personally so we might not suffer insults, risk our jobs, or lose family members and friends? Are we bold witnesses in the Church and among Christian friends – but secret disciples in the world?

If there is to be a day of great awakening again in our land it is going to begin with a prayer – from those who confess the name of the Lord Jesus – that we are willing to follow Him, in the power of the Spirit, at any cost.

Thaddeus Barnum

LESSON 1

The Testimony of Jesus – Revelation 1:9

INTRODUCTION 1: APPROACH TO REVELATION

1. Humility
2. The Ministry of the Holy Spirit
“He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says..”
3. The Revelation – not of end times – but of the Lord Jesus Christ
Only book of the Bible that promises blessing when read,
heard, and obeyed *Rev 1:3*

INTRODUCTION 2: APPROACH TO TEXT

Rev 1:1-11, Rev 1:9

Question: Is this book really meant for us

today in First World America?

Rev 1:9

1. John is suffering on Patmos
(16 sq miles of rock in Aegean Sea / penal colony)
2. He is writing to the suffering
3. He has dropped all titles
4. He gives the reason for suffering

I TESTIMONY OF JESUS LEADS TO PATMOS

1. The American Gospel does not *Rom 5:1-2, 5*
2. The Full Gospel does *Rom 5:3-4*

II THE COMPROMISE: SECRET DISCIPLES

Jn 12:37-43

1. HARDENED They saw. They did not believe. *Jn 12: 37-40*
2. AWAKENED They saw. They believed.
They did not confess. FEAR! *Isa 53:1, 6:9-10*
3. JUDGEMENT They want praise from men
more than praise from God *Jn 12:42-43*

Jn 12:43

Question: Is being *AWAKENED* enough?

Mk 8:34-38

THERE IS A GOSPEL THAT LEADS TO PATMOS

LESSON 5, CONTINUED

III THE HOLY SPIRIT ENABLING THE CHURCH

1. The Word of God is heard/Confirmed in power
by the Holy Spirit *Heb 2:1-4*
2. Christians know their weakness, the grace &
glory belong to God *2 Cor 12:7-8*
3. By His power we are born again
tested for character/hope *1 Pet 1:3-9*
Rom 5:4
4. The Glory of the Cross / The Authority
of the Lord God Almighty *Rev 1:7-8*
**Do you know the difference between His regular work and
the times of His extraordinary work?

IV THE HOLY SPIRIT VISITING THE CHURCH

1. He comes by Sovereign Grace – and not at the impulse of man’s efforts
2. He comes with Exhortation -- calling us to Biblical Repentance /
Holiness / Discipleship
3. He comes in the Days of our Suffering, just as He did with John
on Patmos *Rev 1:10*

V APPLICATION

1. Do you know something about the special work of the Holy Spirit?
2. Are you concerned that we have learned to do Church without Him –
without any need for His visitation?
3. Are you aware that He comes upon the Church to make us witnesses –
what would that look like in your life?
4. Have you, or your Church, ever seriously prayed the prayer of Acts
4:24-30?
5. Would you know how to test between a real awakening – and a
counterfeit? Do you know the Holy Spirit?

MAKE TIME TO DISCUSS THESE
QUESTIONS WITH SOMEONE ELSE

NEXT LESSON:

“On the Lord’s Day – Like a Trumpet”
Read: Num 10:1-10, 1 Thess 4:13-18

LESSON 5

On The Lord's Day – In the Spirit – Revelation 1:10

INTRODUCTION

John in worship on the Lord's Day – Day of Resurrection *Jn 20:22*
John commanded to wait in Jerusalem for the Holy Spirit *Acts 1:4*
John "in the Spirit" – made a "witness" *the very context of Rev 1:9*
- The Holy Spirit is the Door into the Kingdom / the Source of Perseverance
- He is One revealing the Lord Jesus/we need the outpouring of the Holy Spirit today

I THE HOLY SPIRIT UPON THE CHURCH

The Seven Spirits Before His Throne *Rev 1:4*
The Lampstand of Zechariah *Zech 4, Rev 1:12-20*
1. Prophesied in the Old Testament *for example: Jl 2:28f, Acts 2:17f*
2. Prophesied by John the Baptist *Lke 3:16, Acts 1:5*
3. Fulfilled in the Lord Jesus *Jn 14:16f, Jn 20:22, Lke 24:49*

****John was born of the Spirit – and at Pentecost – "in the Spirit"**

II THE HOLY SPIRIT SPEAKING TO THE CHURCH *Rev 2 & 3* *He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches*

1. He reveals truth *Jn 16:13, 1 Cor 2:12, Matt 16:17*
2. We must have ears *Heb 3:7-8, 5:11*
 - a. Satan attacking the Church from within / without *Rev 2-3*
The Churches with acts of obedience / acts of disobedience
 - b. Reproof by the Holy Spirit – *forsaken first love* *Rev 2:4-5*
Remember / Repent / If not – Lampstand removed

**** The Holy Spirit is speaking to the Church today. Do we have Light?
Power? Witness?**

LESSON 1, CONTINUED

III THE WORD OF GOD AND THE TESTIMONY OF JESUS

1. Proper Awakening: We know our condition before a Holy God *Rom 3:19*
2. If we are saved it is because God has extended His mercy. Do we have an attitude of presumption – entitlement?
3. Act of God in the Soul
4. Regenerate power of new birth *Gal 2:20*
 - A. Known by the fruit of changed life *1 Cor 6:9-11*
 - B. Lordship of Jesus Christ / Following Him at any cost
 - C. Not belief only but the power of changed lives that causes opposition *1 Cor 4:20*
5. "Testimony": same word as "witness" and "martyr" *Rev 1:2,9, Acts 1:8*

IV APPLICATION: COMPROMISING THE COST

1. Are You Hardened...Deeply religious / have no idea that your soul is in jeopardy?
2. Are You Awakened...A secret disciple – playing between the old life and new?
3. Are You Regenerate...You know the saving power of Jesus Christ in you, but you have not yet given Him your all – not to the point of suffering?
4. Are You a Leader...in your family, at work, in ministry – and afraid of the cost? Where are you compromising? What makes you tolerate the intolerable?
5. Are You Half-Gospel or Full? Are you someone with an entitlement attitude?

MAKE TIME TO DISCUSS THESE
QUESTIONS WITH SOMEONE ELSE

NEXT LESSON:

"Suffering that is OURS in Jesus"
Read: John 15:18-16:4

LESSON 2

Suffering that is OURS in Jesus—Revelation 1:9

INTRODUCTION 1: This Gospel inevitably leads to suffering *Rev 1:9, Rom 5:1-5*

INTRODUCTION 2: The Danger of Compromise to Avoid Suffering/
Secret Disciples

Three Principles in the Suffering of the Lord Jesus Christ *Heb 5:7-10*

1. His Nature *Jn 1:5, 3:19*
2. Word of God *Lk 13:34, Matt 23:29-32*
3. Way of the Cross: “learned obedience from what He suffered”

PROMISE: If they persecuted me, they will persecute you also. *Jn 15:20*

INTRODUCTION 3: There is a SUFFERING that is OURS in JESUS

I SAME THREE PRINCIPLES IN THE LIFE OF THE EARLY CHURCH

1. Counted Worthy *Acts 5:41-42*
2. Expansion through Suffering *Acts 8:4-5*
3. Christian Leadership *Acts 9:16, 2 Cor 11:23-29, Acts 14:22*

2 Tim 3:12: Everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted.

Testimony: Suffering produces maturity in discipleship, urgency in mission, and depth in worship

II NEW TESTAMENT PROMISES

1. We Are To Expect Suffering *1 Thess 3:3-4, 1 Peter 4:12*
2. We Are Given Suffering As A Gift *Phil 1:27-30*
3. We Are To Long For Suffering *Phil 3:10*
4. We Are Appointed to Suffering *Col 1:24*

Suffering Proclaims the Cross in Every Generation *Phil 2:17, 2 Tim 4:6 Gal 3:1, 2 Cor 4:10-12*

LESSON 4, CONTINUED

III PERSEVERANCE THAT IS MINE

1. Suffering produces perseverance
2. Perseverance produces character
Character = proven / tested *1 Pet 1:6-7*
3. Character produced hope *Rev 1:7-8*
4. Hope does not disappoint God’s Love poured out,
Holy Spirit *Rom 5:3-4*
5. Leads to maturity *Jas 1:4*
6. Maturity to crown *Jas 1:12*

IV APPLICATION

Look at what kind of saving faith God has given you in the Lord Jesus Christ. See what it produces in the Christian life. Then ask yourself – Imagine what the Christian life would be like without suffering – without perseverance – without character? No-Cost Christianity raises the question: What will we be like in the testing? Will we be “stony ground hearers” or will we be found in the good soil – bearing fruit in Jesus Christ to the glory of our Father in heaven?

**MAKE TIME TO DISCUSS THESE
QUESTIONS WITH SOMEONE ELSE**

NEXT LESSON:

**“On the Lord’s Day—In the Spirit”
Read: Rom 8**

LESSON 4

Perseverance that is OURS in Jesus—Revelation 1:9

INTRODUCTION

Parable of the Sower—Suffering That Leads to Perseverance

Lk 8:11-15

George Whitefield: (In determining if a person is saved)

“There are so many stony ground hearers which receive the word with joy, that I have determined to suspend my judgment till I know the tree by its fruits.” (His rule was:) “A holy life is the best evidence of a gracious state.”

Perseverance:

Endurance to End / Patience / Remain Faithful / Steadfastness
Constancy / Hold On Unswervingly / Stand Firm / Diligence
Continue/ Not Shrink Back

Defined in Greek: remain under / an abiding under

Major Texts: Rom 5:3-4, Jas 1:2-4

I PERSEVERANCE THAT IS HIS — He is the Source of Perseverance

1. Attribute of God Himself *Rom 15:5, Isa 40:28-31*
2. Modeled by the Lord Jesus Christ at the Cross *Heb 5:8, Heb 12:1-3*
3. Commanded by God *Rev 3:10*
4. He does His Part in Covenant *Jer 32:40, Eze 36:27*
5. Systemic in Saving Faith—Established in the Divine Gift of Saving Faith *2 Pet 1:3-4*

Doctrine: **Apart from Me you can do nothing**
Abide in the Vine—Abide Under

II PERSEVERANCE THAT IS OURS

1. Possible in His Strength *2 Pet 1:5, 2 Cor 12:9-10*
2. We do Our Part *Phil 2:12-13*
3. Exhortations: Are we a STONY GROUND HEARER?
 - A. STAND FIRM *Eph 6:13-14*
 - B. HOLD FIRMLY TO THE END – Book of Hebrews *Heb 10:35-36*
 - C. RUNNING THE RACE *Heb 12:1-3, Phil 3:14, 2 Tim 4:7*
 - D. TO HIM WHO OVERCOMES *Rev 2 & 3, 13:10 /14:12*
(also see *Matt 10:28, 1 Cor 15:57, 1 John 5:4, John 16:33, Rom 8:31-39*)

LESSON 2, CONTINUED

If we proclaim the Cross-but won't bear the Cross- how will our generation see it? Satan battles for our children, not with words only, but with acts of power - 1 Cor. 4:20. The Lord has appointed necessary suffering for us for the advancement of His kingdom.

Rev 2-3 Churches: THE LORD JESUS CHRIST standing in center of His Church—LIGHT!

1. Satan opposing from the outside – trials, hardships, persecutions, death
2. Satan opposing from inside – false teachers in many disguises
3. Flesh – unwilling to confront – therefore, tolerating sin
4. Flesh – forsaking first love / falling asleep / pride, arrogance and deception

Satan's Goal: To have Big Churches / Mighty Preachers / Happy Christians –
WITH NO LIGHT

III APPLICATION

1. Are you born again by the saving power of the Lord Jesus Christ?
2. Do have courage and boldness to speak and live the Word of God or do you hesitate?
3. Do you tolerate what you know to be intolerable? Are you being obedient?
4. Are you doing what you know He is calling you to do?

Prayer: That we would be **COUNTED WORTHY** of suffering disgrace for His Name.

MAKE TIME TO DISCUSS THESE
QUESTIONS WITH SOMEONE ELSE

NEXT LESSON:

“Kingdom that is OURS in Jesus”
Read: Revelation 4-5

LESSON 3

Kingdom that is OURS in Jesus—Revelation 1:9

Review: We are changed – Rom 1:16 -- the power of God for salvation
We are witnesses – Acts 1:8 – we bear the word of God
We are disciples – 2 Tim 3:12 – godly life in Christ Jesus – persecuted

There is medicine for the suffering—Rev 1:9— There is a place to go.

I THERE IS A PLACE TO GO

Rev 1:4-6

1. John standing at door,
GRACE AND PEACE TO YOU FROM HIM
[Note most of the NT epistles begin the same way]

Rev 1:4

2. THE PLACE

A. The Wilderness: Ex 3:14 – WHO IS / WAS / IS TO COME

Rev 1:8, 4:8, 11:17, 16:5, Jn 8:58

B. Tent of Meeting: THE SEVEN SPIRITS BEFORE HIS THRONE

1. Lampstand *Ex 25:31-40, Zech 4:1-6, Rev 1:20*
2. “a copy and shadow of what is in heaven” *Heb 8:5*

C. The Outer Court: JESUS CHRIST

1. Christ – the anointed one *Ps 2:2*
2. Faithful witness *Rev 1:2, 9 “Testimony”, 3:14, Acts 1:8*
3. Firstborn from dead *Col 1:18 & Rev 1:18*
4. Ruler of the kings: *Ps 2:6, Lk 1:32, Phil 2:9f, Rev 19:16*

HOLY GROUND John fell at His feet as though dead

Rev 1:17

5. To Him who loves us: Greek tense -- present continuous
6. He has freed us from our sins by His blood

*Rev 5:9,
Col 1:20, Rom 3:25*

THE CENTRALITY OF THE CROSS

7. He has made us to be a kingdom

Rev 5:9-10, Phil 3:20

LESSON 3, CONTINUED

II A CHOSEN PEOPLE

1. Chosen/ brought on eagles’ wings by His almighty power *Ex 19:3-6*
2. Belonging to God -- For Him – treasured possession
We are FOR HIM a kingdom of priests / a holy nation
3. Chosen/Called out of darkness / enter His wonderful light *1 Pet 2:9-10*
4. Belonging to God – people / priesthood / holy nation / mercy
5. Declaring His praises (to the world)
 - A. Priests to serve our God and Father
 - B. To Him be glory and power for ever and ever! Amen.

There is medicine for the suffering – there is a place to go!

III APPLICATION

1. Have you had a foretaste of this medicine – this Kingdom that is yours in Jesus?
2. Do you understand the nature of your calling out of this dark world? Into His kingdom?
3. Do you find yourself focused HERE/ NOW/ your NEEDS/ your COMFORT?
4. Is it your expectation that God is here to make this life go well for you?
5. Have you found the door? Do you know what it means to be a priest serving Him?

MAKE TIME TO DISCUSS THESE
QUESTIONS WITH SOMEONE ELSE

NEXT LESSON:

“Perseverance that is OURS In Jesus”

Read: Rom 5:1-5, Jas 1:1-12,
1 Pet 1:3-9, 1 Thess 1:1-10