

# The Importance Of An Absolute Pt6

## *Seven Church Ages Pt1*

### REVELATION 1:1

1. *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:*

### REVELATION 1:4-11

4. *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;*

5. *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,*

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

7. *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 because of him. Even so, Amen.*

8. *I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.*

9. *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.*

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

11. *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.*

*"Some historicists typically interpret the seven churches as representing seven different periods in the history of the Western Church from the time of Paul until the return of Jesus Christ.*

*Scofield states that "these messages by their very terms go beyond the local assemblies mentioned." He is of the opinion that the letters have a prophetic purpose disclosing the seven phases of the spiritual history of the Church. Other writers, such as Clarence Larkin, Henry Hampton Halley, Merrill Unger, and William M. Branham also have posited the view that the seven churches preview the history of the global Church."*

*~ Wikipedia*

## **REVELATION 1:16-20**

16. *And he had in his right hand seven stars: and out of his mouth went a sharp twoedged sword: and his countenance was as the sun shineth in his strength.*
17. *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:*
18. *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.*
19. *Write the things which thou hast seen, and the things which are, and the things which shall be hereafter;*
20. *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.***

GREEK LEXICON - STRONG'S NUMBER 32

aggelos {ang'-el-os}

1) a messenger, envoy, one who is sent, an angel, a messenger from God

## **REVELATION 2:1**

1. *Unto the [angel] of the church of Ephesus write; These things saith he that holdeth the seven stars in his right hand, who walketh in the midst of the seven golden candlesticks;*

## **ACTS 9:15**

15. *But the Lord said unto him, Go thy way: for he is **a chosen vessel** unto me, **to bear my name before the Gentiles**, and kings, and the children of Israel:*

## **ACTS 13:46**

46. *Then Paul and Barnabas waxed bold, and said, It was necessary that the word of God should first have been spoken to you: but seeing ye put it from you, and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life, lo, **we turn to the Gentiles.***

## **ROMANS 15:16**

16. *That I should be **the minister of Jesus Christ to the Gentiles**, ministering the gospel of God, that the offering up of the Gentiles might be acceptable, being sanctified by the Holy Ghost.*

**REVELATION 2:29** *He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.*

## CHURCH AGE BOOK

His manner of ministering set **the pattern that all future messengers were to aspire to**, and actually sets the pattern for every true minister of God, though he would not attain to such heights in the prophetic realm as did Paul.

## CHURCH AGE BOOK

Thus by reading history we can find out what man or men in the various ages were the closest to God's original pattern, the Apostle Paul. The ones that God used to bring His people back to the Word of Truth would be the ones to examine. Then out of those there would be **one for every age** who would stand out the clearest as the closest in Word pattern and power. That one would be the messenger.

## CHURCH AGE BOOK

They won't be exactly like him; but the true messengers will be the ones that come the closest to Paul, who was free of all men, sold out to God, and gave forth the Word of God only, and manifested the Holy Ghost in power. None else would do. You have to work from the original. As like begets like, **the True Church will always be the one that tries to follow in the steps of her founders at Pentecost** and her messengers will follow the apostle Paul, the first messenger to the first church age. **It is that simple, and that wonderful.**

## CHURCH AGE BOOK

Notice here that Jesus (by the Spirit) in EVERY age addresses Himself to ONLY ONE person relative to the Word for that age. Only ONE messenger for each age receives what the Spirit has to say to that age, and that ONE MESSENGER is the messenger to the true church. **He speaks for God by revelation to the "churches", both true and false.** The message is then broadcast to all. But though it is broadcast for all who come within range of the message, that message is received individually by only a certain qualified group in a certain way. **Each individual of that group is one who has the ability to hear what the Spirit is saying by way of the messenger.** Those who hear are not getting their own private revelation, nor is a group getting their collective revelation, BUT **EACH PERSON IS HEARING AND RECEIVING WHAT THE MESSENGER HAS ALREADY RECEIVED FROM GOD.**

Now think it not strange that this is the case, for Paul set this pattern under the hand of God. Paul alone had the full revelation for his day as evidenced by his confrontation of the other apostles who admitted that Paul was the Prophet-Messenger to the Gentiles for that day.

## CHURCH AGE BOOK

Yet for all this great testimony, this student of John the Revelator was not militant against the Nicolaitane system, for he himself leaned toward organization, not realizing that the desire for fellowship and what appeared like a good plan to foster the work of God was really a trick of the enemy.