

# "The Alpha and the Omega"

(Rev 1:8)



Truth Matters Church, Inc.

# Scripture Reading



Revelation 1:1-8

1 The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave Him to show to His bond-servants, the things which must soon take place; and He sent and communicated it by His angel to His bond-servant John, 2 who testified to the word of God and to the testimony of Jesus Christ, even to all that he saw. 3 Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of the prophecy, and heed the things which are written in it; for the time is near.

# Scripture Reading



4 John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace, from Him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven Spirits who are before His throne, 5 and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To Him who loves us and released us from our sins by His blood— 6 and He has made us to be a kingdom, priests to His God and Father—to Him be the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

# Scripture Reading



7 BEHOLD, HE IS COMING WITH THE CLOUDS, and every eye will see Him, even those who pierced Him; and all the tribes of the earth will mourn over Him. So it is to be. Amen.

8 “I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, “who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.”

# Exposit Rev 1:8



8 “I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, “who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.”

We’ll break this up into 4 parts:

❧ “I am the Alpha and the Omega”

❧ “the Lord God”

❧ “who is and who was and who is to come”

❧ “the Almighty”

# “I Am the Alpha and the Omega”



- ❧ “I am the Alpha and the Omega” is in quotes
- ❧ As we’ve customarily done, we’ll try to figure out which Person of the Trinity is speaking
- ❧ And as we’ll see there are so much layers to this
- ❧ Some of our English translations has this in red signifying Jesus is speaking
  - ❧ Do you agree this is Jesus speaking? Thoughts anyone?
- ❧ Let’s see what we can find out

# “I Am the Alpha and the Omega”



- ❧ “I Am” is eimi which means to be or to exist to remain
- ❧ This is the familiar statement Jesus often used to describe Himself:
  - ❧ I am the Bread of Life
  - ❧ I am the Bread that came down from heaven
  - ❧ I am the Living Bread
  - ❧ I am the Light of the World
  - ❧ I am the door of the sheep
  - ❧ I am the Good Shepherd
  - ❧ I am the Son of God
  - ❧ I am the resurrection and the life
  - ❧ I am the way, the truth, and the life
  - ❧ I am the True Vine

# “I Am the Alpha and the Omega”



☞ So should we just add “Alpha and Omega” to that list?

☞ Well before we do that, we need to reconcile the Other “I AM”

Matthew 22:31 (Jesus speaking)

31 But regarding the resurrection of the dead, have you not read what was spoken to you by God: 32 ‘I AM (eimi) THE GOD OF ABRAHAM, AND THE GOD OF ISAAC, AND THE GOD OF JACOB’? He is not the God of the dead but of the living.”

☞ Whose the other “I AM” here? How can we know that?

☞ Clue: “He”

# “I Am the Alpha and the Omega”



- ❧ So “I AM” eimi can be applied to both the Father and the Son
- ❧ So to determine whose speaking in v.8 let’s consider the context
- ❧ In v. 1-2 God the Father gave the Revelation to Jesus the Son who gave the vision to an angel who delivered the message to John
- ❧ In v. 4 we learned that “from Him who is and who was and who is to come” is speaking of God the Father
- ❧ In v. 5-6, both the Father/Jesus were spoken of
- ❧ In v. 7 (right before our verse) Jesus was the primary Subject
- ❧ Because the Father/Son are intertwined in v. 1-7, whose speaking in v.8, is still not clear... so let’s look at Alpha+Omega closer...

# “I Am the Alpha and the Omega”



- ☞ “the Alpha” is the first letter of the Greek alphabet
- ☞ “the Omega” is the last letter of the Greek alphabet
  - ☞ Brownie points: what is the first/last letter in the Hebrew alphabet?
- ☞ Alpha+Omega are used only 3x in the NT and all in this book
- ☞ Let’s look at the other 2x mentions

# “I Am the Alpha and the Omega”



Other examples of Alpha+Omega usage in the NT

## Revelation 21

6 Then He said to me, “ It is done. I am **the Alpha and the Omega**, the beginning and the end. I will give to the one who thirsts from the spring of the water of life without cost. 7 He who overcomes will inherit these things, and I will be his God [theos] and he will be My son.

Q: Which Person of the Trinity is the “I AM Alpha+Omega” spoken of here?

Clue: “he will be My son”

Note: not in red in red line Bible translations

## Revelation 22

12 “Behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to render to every man according to what he has done. 13 **I am the Alpha and the Omega**, the first and the last, the beginning and the end.”

Q: Which Person of the Trinity is the “I am Alpha+Omega” spoken of here?

Clue: “to render to every man”

Note: in red in red line Bible translations

# “I Am the Alpha and the Omega”



- ✧ So just as I AM (eimi) can be applied to the Father or Son depending on context
- ✧ So can the Alpha+Omega be applied to the Father or the Son too
- ✧ So the Father and Son are sharing these titles
- ✧ Which means we're still not clear if it's the Father or the Son speaking v.8 so we'll need to keep digging...
- ✧ Let's look at what this Person of the Trinity says after claiming to be the Alpha+Omega
  - ✧ 8 “I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God,
- ✧ Whoever is claiming to be the Alpha+Omega is also claiming to be “the Lord God” so let's look at this designation further...

# “the Lord God”



- ❧ “Lord” is kurios which also means master
- ❧ “God” is theos which is the common rendering of God
- ❧ As I’ve noted in prior studies
  - ❧ In the OT: “LORD” (Yahweh) refers to God the Father
  - ❧ In the NT: “God” (theos) generally refers to God the Father
- ❧ So we’ll need to look to Scripture of which Person of the Trinity is attributed the title of the “Kurios Theos”
- ❧ And we’ll go to the NT to see Who this title is applied to

# “the Lord God”



Luke 1:32-33 (Gabriel delivers the message to Mary that she'll be conceived by the Holy Spirit)

32 He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High; and the Lord God [Kurios Theos] will give Him the throne of His father David; 33 and He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and His kingdom will have no end.

✧ Now allow me to enter Person's of Trinity so we can see who the Kurios Theos is in this passage

# “the Lord God”



Luke 1:32-33 (Gabriel delivers the message to Mary that she'll be conceived by the Holy Spirit)

32 [Jesus] will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High [God the Father]; and the Lord God [God the Father] will give [Jesus] the throne of [Jesus's] father David; 33 and [Jesus] will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and [Jesus's] kingdom will have no end.

✧ In this passage, the Lord God (Kurios Theos) = God the Father!

✧ Kurios Theos is also applied to the Father in other NT passages

# “the Lord God”



Acts 3:22 (Peter's 2<sup>nd</sup> Sermon quoted Moses)

22 Moses said, 'THE LORD GOD [KURIOS THEOS] WILL RAISE UP FOR YOU A PROPHET LIKE ME FROM YOUR BRETHREN; TO HIM YOU SHALL GIVE HEED to everything He says to you.

✧ Again, allow me to insert the Person's of the Trinity

# “the Lord God”



Acts 3:22

22 Moses said, ‘THE LORD GOD [GOD THE FATHER] WILL RAISE UP FOR YOU A PROPHET [JESUS] LIKE ME FROM YOUR BRETHREN; TO HIM [JESUS] YOU SHALL GIVE HEED to everything He [JESUS] says to you.

✧ KURIOS THEOS is God the Father in this verse

✧ Jesus is the Prophet being spoken of by Moses

✧ So does this mean that the Father is speaking in v.8, is the Father the Alpha and the Omega, the Lord God in v.8?

✧ Well, it’s not that simple... Lord [Kurios] is also applied to Jesus

# “the Lord God”



✧ John the Baptist introduces Jesus as the LORD (Kurios):

Matthew 3:2-3

2 “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” 3 For this is the one referred to by Isaiah the prophet when he said,

“THE VOICE OF ONE CRYING IN THE WILDERNESS,  
‘MAKE READY THE WAY OF THE LORD [KURIOS],  
MAKE HIS PATHS STRAIGHT!’”

✧ JTB applies LORD or KURIOS to Jesus

✧ Jesus applies Kurios to Himself in Matthew 7...

# “the Lord God”



Matthew 7:21-23 (Jesus speaking)

21 “Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ [Kurios, Kurios] will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven will enter. 22 Many will say to Me on that day, ‘Lord, Lord, [Kurios, Kurios] did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles?’ 23 And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you; DEPART FROM ME, YOU WHO PRACTICE LAWLESSNESS.’

✧ Jesus again applied the title of Kurios to Himself in Matthew 12

# “the Lord God”



Matthew 12:8 (Jesus speaking)

8 For the Son of Man is Lord [Kurios] of the Sabbath.”

❧ So JTB applied the title of Kurios to Jesus

❧ Jesus applied the title of Kurios to Himself

❧ In fact, so did Peter, the Canaanite woman whose daughter was demon possessed, a man whose son was had epilepsy and was very ill, the man with leprosy, the two blind men, the crowds uttering Hosanna, His mother Mary, angels, demons, the rest of His disciples, are other examples of those who applied the title of Kurios to Jesus!

❧ And last but not least our beloved apostle Paul applied Kurios to Jesus too

# “the Lord God”



Philippians 2:5-11

5 Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, 6 who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, 7 but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men. 8 Being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. 9 For this reason also, God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, 10 so that at the name of Jesus EVERY KNEE WILL BOW, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and that every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord [Kurios], to the glory of God the Father. [allow me to fill this in]

# “the Lord God”



Philippians 2:5-11

5 Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, 6 who, although [Christ Jesus] existed in the form of God [theos], [Christ Jesus] did not regard equality with God [the Father] a thing to be grasped, 7 but [Christ Jesus] emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant [doulos; slave], and [Christ Jesus] being made [came to being] in the likeness of men. 8 [Jesus] Being found in appearance as a man, [Jesus] humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

# “the Lord God”



9 For this reason also, God [**the Father**] highly exalted [**God the Son**], and bestowed on [**God the Son**] the name [**onoma, authority**] which is above every name [**onoma, authority**], 10 so that at the name [**onoma, authority**] of Jesus EVERY KNEE WILL BOW, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and that every tongue will confess that **Jesus Christ is Lord [Kurios]**, to the glory of God the Father.

∞ What is the “name which is above every name”? [DON'T PEEK]

# “the name which is above every name”



- ✧ It is NOT the birth Name given to Jesus [or Yeshua]!
- ✧ People are NOT saved by calling on the birth name of Jesus [Yeshua]!
- ✧ “the name which is above every name” can be rendered “the authority which is above every authority”
- ✧ So what authority is above every authority (both in heaven and earth and under the earth)? [DON'T PEEK]

# “the Lord God”



☞ “the authority which is above every authority” is the authority of God the Father!

☞ Paul makes this clear in 1Cor 15:

1 Corinthians 15:25-28 (Paul speaking of Jesus’s role)

25 For He must reign until He has put all His enemies under His feet. 26 The last enemy that will be abolished is death. 27 For HE HAS PUT ALL THINGS IN SUBJECTION UNDER HIS FEET. But when He says, “All things are put in subjection,” it is evident that He is excepted who put all things in subjection to Him. 28 When all things are subjected to Him, then the Son Himself also will be subjected to the One who subjected all things to Him, so that God may be all in all.

☞ You guys know the drill... let’s add the Person’s of the Trinity

# “the Lord God”



1 Corinthians 15:25-28 (Paul speaking of Jesus)

25 For [Jesus] must reign until [Jesus] has put all [Jesus's] enemies under [Jesus's] feet. 26 The last enemy that will be abolished is death. 27 For [JESUS] HAS PUT ALL THINGS IN SUBJECTION UNDER [JESUS'S] FEET. But when [Jesus] says, “All things are put in subjection,” it is evident that [God the Father] is excepted who put all things in subjection to [Jesus]. 28 When all things are subjected to [Jesus], then the Son Himself also will be subjected to the [God the Father] who subjected all things to [God the Son], so that [God the Father and God the Son] may be all in all.

# “the Lord God”



- ❧ So “name above every name” OR “the authority which is above every authority” in Phi 2 passage is the authority of God the Father!
- ❧ TRUTH: People are saved NOT because of the birth name of JESUS, people are saved because of the authority of God the Father given to His Son who died and rose for us!

# “the Lord God”



- ✧ The take away from Phi 2, is God the Father bestowed [charizomai; showed favor, gave freely] His authority to Jesus because of His Son's humiliation and was demonstrated in Christ Jesus's exaltation!
- ✧ So the “name that is above every name” or “the authority which is above every authority” is the authority that God the Father showed favor and gave freely to God the Son!
- ✧ And that authority is carried in the title of Lord (Kurios)
- ✧ Which means, the title Lord (Kurios) was the Father's to begin with and the Father bestowed that title to Jesus!
- ✧ Which brings us to another truth.... Who's the Greatest in the Trinity?

# “the Lord God”



## TRUTH:

The Father is the Greatest in the Trinity! But wait a minute! Isn't Jesus Co-Equal with the Father? That's right! AMEN! But the reason that Jesus is Co-Equal with the Father is because the Father CHOSE to bestow upon Jesus the Father's authority (except for the Father Himself of course) and the Father was pleased to do that because of His Son's humiliation and this was demonstrated in Jesus's exaltation!

# “the Lord God”



- ❧ Which means “the Lord God” or the “Kurios Theos” is a title and authority that originally belongs to God the Father
- ❧ But we know through Philippians 2, that title and authority wasn’t bestowed upon Jesus until after His resurrection and exaltation!
- ❧ This helps explain why Jesus told His disciples  
Luke 24:25-27 (on the road to Emmaus)  
25 And He said to them, “O foolish men and slow of heart to believe in all that the prophets have spoken! 26 **Was it not necessary for the Christ to suffer these things and to enter into His glory?” 27 Then beginning with Moses and with all the prophets, He explained to them the things concerning Himself in all the Scriptures.**

# “the Lord God”



And also why Jesus spoke of being glorified as part of His death and resurrection in the Great High Priestly Prayer in John 17:

John 17:1-5

1 Jesus spoke these things; and lifting up His eyes to heaven, He said, “Father, the hour has come; **glorify Your Son**, that the Son may glorify You, 2 even as **You gave Him authority over all flesh**, that to all whom You have given Him, He may give eternal life. 3 This is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God [theos], and Jesus Christ whom You have sent. 4 I glorified You on the earth, having accomplished the work which You have given Me to do. 5 **Now, Father, glorify Me together with Yourself**, with the glory which I had with You before the world was.

# “the Lord God”



CASE IN POINT: In v. 8 the first 2 titles of:

- ☞ The Alpha and the Omega
- ☞ The Lord God (Kurios Theos)
- ☞ Are titles of authority that belong to God the Father!
- ☞ God the Father bestowed (gave freely) those titles with authority to Jesus His Son!
- ☞ Hence why these titles depending on context may be speaking about the Father or the Son!
- ☞ So with this in mind, let's now relook at v.8...

# Exposit Rev 1:8



8 “I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God [Kurios Theos], “who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.”

- ✧ Although v.8 can be applied to the Father or the Son
- ✧ Because Jesus was already exalted and given the title LORD in Phi 2
- ✧ Because v.7 was speaking of Jesus coming with the clouds, I agree with the English translations that Jesus is the Alpha and the Omega, the Lord God, Who is speaking in verse 8!
- ✧ Which means means we can apply the following phrase “who is and who was and who is to come” to the Lord Jesus!
- ✧ Let’s now look at this phrase closely...

# “Who is Who was and Who is to come”



- ☞ “Who is” is *present* tense
- ☞ “Who was” is *past* tense
- ☞ “Who is to come” is *future* tense
- ☞ Many commentators will say this speaks of God’s eternity (God is past/present/future) and that would be an accurate statement
- ☞ Back in verse 4, we concluded that “from Him Who is and Who was and Who is to come” was NOT speaking of Jesus, but the Father
- ☞ We learned that the Father is coming too! (but not until the very end!)
- ☞ Back in v.4....

# “Who is Who was and Who is to come”



☞ It says the Father is *past/present/future*

☞ *past*: The Father was not Created, eternally existed as the Father with the Son

☞ *present*: The Father is sitting on His throne in heaven presiding over all His creation as the Most High God over all creation

☞ *future*: The Father will come after the Son's arrival on earth!

☞ Now what we learned today is that v. 8 is speaking of Jesus

# “Who is Who was and Who is to come”



- ❧ Which means Jesus like His Father is *past/present/future*
  - ❧ *past*: Jesus was not Created, Jesus eternally existed as the Son with His Father
  - ❧ *present*: Jesus is risen, glorified, exalted by His Father and is alive forevermore
  - ❧ *future*: Jesus like His Father is coming to earth and will come before Him!
    - ❧ Jesus comes first and will fulfill all that was written of Him (including destroying all His enemies, ruling, reigning, judgments, etc.)
    - ❧ Then when all is completed the Son offers all things back to the Father and the Father comes at the very end!
- ❧ Now to the last part of v.8...

# “the Almighty”



- ❧ “Almighty” is pantokrator̄ and it’s a compound of two Greek words which means ruler over all, omnipotent, above every power, strength and dominion
- ❧ The Almighty can also be rendered the Omnipotent One (unlimited power and authority)
- ❧ Just like the titles of the Alpha and Omega and the Lord God belong to the Father, to no surprise this title belongs to the Father too
- ❧ Allow me to show you that...

# “the Almighty”



2 Corinthians 6:18 (Paul touches on end times)

16b For we are the temple of the living God; just as God said,

“I WILL DWELL IN THEM AND WALK AMONG THEM;

AND I WILL BE THEIR GOD, AND THEY SHALL BE MY PEOPLE.

17 “Therefore, COME OUT FROM THEIR MIDST AND BE SEPARATE,”  
says the Lord (Kurios).

“AND DO NOT TOUCH WHAT IS UNCLEAN;

And I will welcome you.

18 “And I will be a father to you,

And you shall be sons and daughters to Me,”

Says the Lord Almighty.

# “the Almighty”



✧ So Paul in his epistles ascribes the title of Almighty to God the Father

✧ The Four Living Creatures also applies this title to the Father in Rev 4:

Revelation 4:8-9 (scene around heaven's throne)

8 And the four living creatures, each one of them having six wings, are full of eyes around and within; and day and night they do not cease to say, “HOLY, HOLY, HOLY is THE LORD GOD [KURIOS THEOS], **THE ALMIGHTY**, WHO WAS AND WHO IS AND WHO IS TO COME.”

9 And when the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to **Him who sits on the throne [God the Father]**, to Him who lives forever and ever,

✧ So the title of the Almighty is attributed in the NT to God the Father

✧ But to no surprise this title too is ascribed to Jesus...

# “the Almighty”



Revelation 15:3 (after the 7<sup>th</sup> Trumpet reaping)

3 And they (those victorious over the beast and his image and the number of his name) \*sang the song of Moses, the bond-servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying,

“Great and marvelous are Your works,

O Lord God, **the Almighty**;

Righteous and true are Your ways,

**King of the nations!**

☞ The redeemed sang the song of Moses and the Lamb and ascribed the title of “the Almighty” to the Lord Jesus (King of the nations)!

☞ We’ll look at one more passage in Revelation that applies this title to Jesus

# “the Almighty”



Revelation 19:15-16 (Jesus coming on a white horse)

15 From His [Jesus's] mouth comes a sharp sword, so that with it He [Jesus] may strike down the nations, and He [Jesus] will rule them with a rod of iron; and He [Jesus] treads the wine press of the fierce wrath of God, the Almighty. 16 And on His robe and on His thigh He has a name written, “KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS [KURIOS OF KURIOS].”

✧ So to no surprise, just as the Alpha and the Omega, the Lord God titles are shared between God the Father and the Lord Jesus, the Almighty too is shared between the Father and Son!

# In Closing



- ❧ There were 3 titles of God in verse 8:
  - ❧ the Alpha and the Omega
  - ❧ the Lord God
  - ❧ the Almighty
- ❧ All 3 are titles of authority and belong to God the Father
  - ❧ TRUTH: God the Father is the “OG”
- ❧ All 3 are titles of authority and was given by the Father to the Son
- ❧ Thus, the Lord Jesus PRESENTLY bears all of the titles, authority, rights, privileges, honor and glory of His Father!

# In Closing



- ✧ The Father is the original Alpha and the Omega, the Father is the original Lord God, the Father is the original Who is and Who was and Who is to come, the Almighty
- ✧ The Father bestowed upon Jesus His titles, including the Name that is above every Name or the Authority that is above all Authority, that is Kurios, as such the Father has given all authority in heaven and on earth and under the earth to His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ
- ✧ Thus, in v. 8, Jesus is speaking and is the Alpha and the Omega, the One bears the title of the Lord God (Kurios Theos), Jesus like His Father is the One Who is Who was and Who is to come, the Almighty
- ✧ The rest of Revelation will give us the rest of the details of Both comings!