

A Trinitarian Gift

Revelation 1:4-5a



God's
lovingkindnesses
will come as His
covenant with David
is fulfilled in Jesus,
His Anointed One

Revelation 1:4-5a - Message



A Trinitarian Gift – Rev 1:4-5a

- I. God ministers to the churches



The seven churches in Asia – Rev 1-3



A Trinitarian Gift – Rev 1:4-5a

- I. God ministers to the churches
- II. God provides good things to the churches

John wishes for his readers “the grace and peace of the gospel which flow to us from God”

(Philip Hughes, *Revelation*, p. 18)





Revelation 1:4

Grace represents the gift of God's favor to enable them to remain faithful in all scenarios

Peace is a wish for their well-being (Heb., *shalom*)

Peace with God enables them to remain at rest in God through the coming turbulence (Eph 2:14-17; Phil 4:7)

A Trinitarian Gift – Rev 1:4-5a

- I. God ministers to the churches
- II. God provides good things to the churches
- III. God provides for them out of His trinitarian fulness



Trinitarian Fulness

Revelation has “the
most developed
trinitarian theology of
any New Testament
book”

(Ian Paul, quoted in Schreiner,
Revelation, p. 82)



Trinitarian Bookends

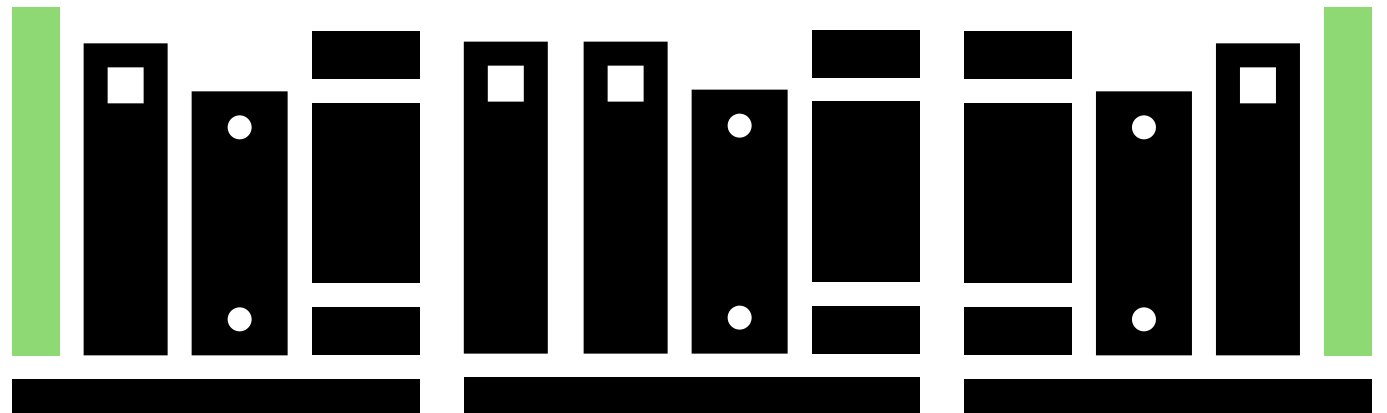
Genesis

- Father, Spirit create (chs 1-2)
- Son is veiled (3:15)

Revelation

- Father, Spirit (1:4)
- Son (with doxology, 1:5-6)

Jesus:
Holy Spirit “*will glorify Me*” (Jn 16:14)
Father “*glorify Your Son*” (Jn 17:1)



God the Father – Rev 1:4

“the One who is and who was and who is to come”

He transcends time, is eternal,
unchangeable

He is Lord of history

(Ex 3:14; Isa 41:4)



Holy Spirit – Rev 1:4

“the seven Spirits who are before His throne”

- Sevenfold description (Isa 11:2)
- Seven lamps (Zech 4:1-10)
- Thus, the sevenfold Spirit’s abundant power and grace to empower the seven churches





- It's as if each church had its own dedicated Holy Spirit!
- As infinite God, He works in our church as if we were the only church!

The Sevenfold Holy Spirit (Rev 1:4)

Jesus Christ – Rev 1:5

“and from Jesus Christ”

- **Jesus** is His personal name, He will save us from our sins (Mt 1:21)
- **Christ** is His title as God’s anointed One, the Messiah, the King



Who Jesus is – Rev 1:5a

1. Jesus is the faithful witness

- In Scripture, a testimony or witness testifies to the truth
- Jesus' witness is even more reliable (faithful) because He had been with God in heaven (Jn 18:37; 3:11)



Who Jesus is – Rev 1:5a

2. Jesus is the firstborn of the dead

- He has the preeminent place among all who will be raised (Col 1:18; Heb 1:6; 12:23; Rom 8:29)
- Jesus is sovereign over death and He is the prototype of our promised resurrection (1 Cor 15:20)



Who Jesus is – Rev 1:5a

3. Jesus is the ruler of the kings of the earth

- Jesus is sovereign over all earthly rulers so we need not fear them! (Eph 1:20-22)



Davidic Covenant Fulfillment

(2 Samuel 7)

“Where are your former lovingkindnesses, O Lord?” (Ps 89:49)

Jesus is God’s Anointed One (Ps 89:20)

Jesus is the more faithful witness (Ps 89:36-37)

Jesus is the firstborn of the dead (Ps 89:27)

Jesus is the ruler of the kings of the earth (Ps 89:26-27)