

SEO SCORE ?

81

SEARCH TRAFFIC ?

n/a

TOTAL IMPRESSIONS ?

n/a



PAGESPEED ?



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The Book of Revelation — Kings and Priests Unto God

The Book of Revelation Explained as the Lamb Forming His Royal Priesthood and Revealing Christ Coming With Clouds of Glory



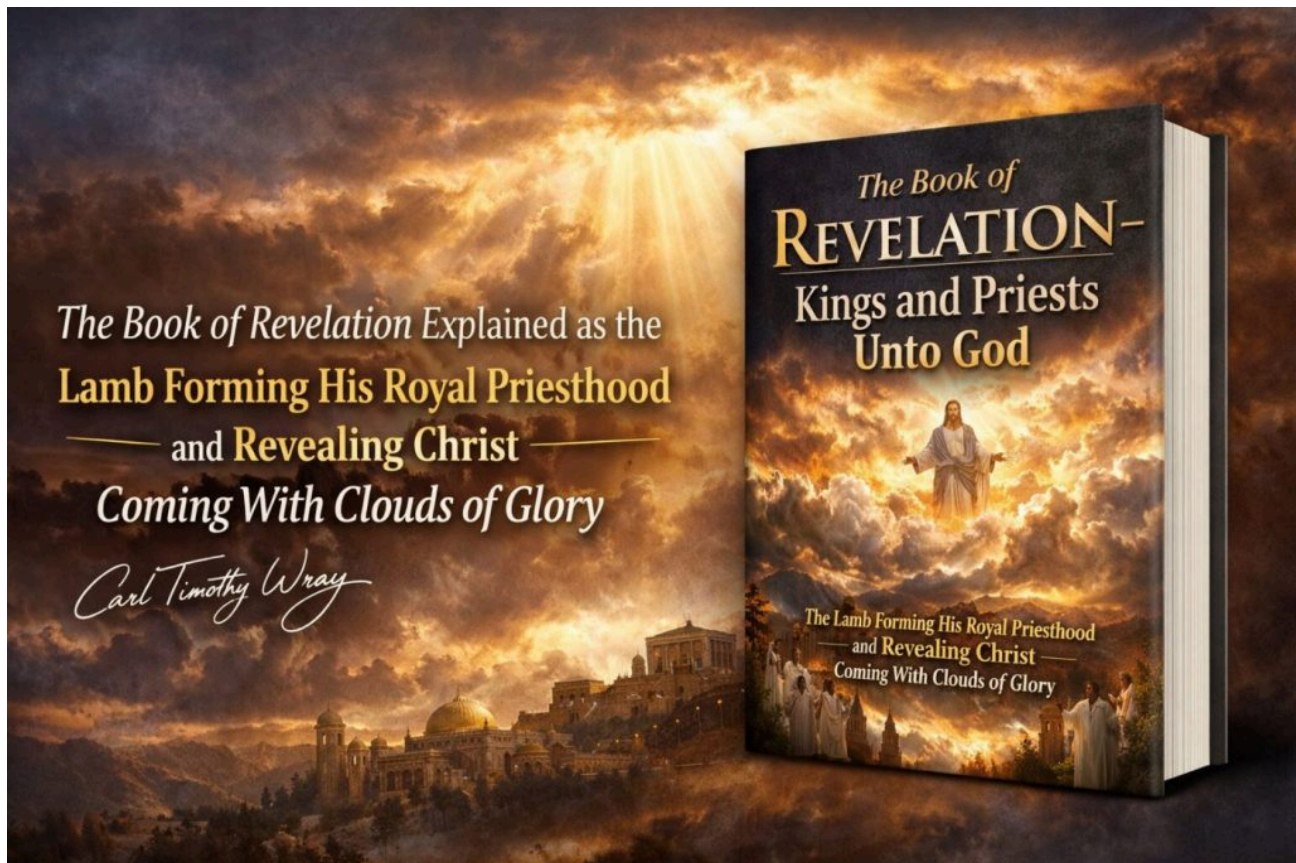
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of Revelation: Author

By Carl Timothy Wray

Carl Timothy Wray is the founder of **The Finished Work of Christ**, a teaching ministry devoted to unveiling the full counsel of God from Genesis to Revelation. After more than four decades of study, prayer, and revelation in the Word of God, Wray has written hundreds of prophetic and doctrinal works focused on the unveiling of Jesus Christ, the finished work of redemption, and the manifestation of the sons of God. His writings emphasize the unity of Scripture, the centrality of Christ, and the progressive revelation of God's eternal purpose unfolding through the ages. Through his books, teachings, and free downloadable resources, Carl Timothy Wray continues to call believers into deeper understanding of the Kingdom of God and the present reality of Christ revealed in His people.

In **The Book of Revelation — Kings and Priests Unto God**, Carl Timothy Wray explores one of the most profound revelations in the opening chapter of the Book of Revelation. Beginning with Revelation 1:5–7, this book unveils how the Lamb who redeemed humanity is forming a royal priesthood after the order of Melchizedek. These kings and priests are not merely forgiven believers but a people transformed by the life of Christ. Wray reveals how this royal priesthood becomes the “clouds” through which Christ appears in glory, fulfilling the prophetic declaration, “Behold, He cometh with clouds.” By connecting the themes of kingship, priesthood, Melchizedek order, and the manifestation of Christ in His saints, this work presents a powerful and unified vision of the Book of Revelation as the unveiling of Jesus Christ in His people.



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Book of Revelation: Introduction

The Royal Priesthood Revealed

The Book of Revelation opens with a breathtaking declaration about the work of Jesus Christ:

“Unto Him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in His own blood, and hath made us kings and priests unto God and His Father...” — Revelation 1:5–6

These words stand at the threshold of the entire book like a blazing lamp illuminating the purpose of God. Before seals are opened, before trumpets sound, His redeemed people: He is making them **kings and priests unto God**.



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This is no small statement. It unveils the very destiny of redemption.

From the beginning, God's purpose for humanity has never been merely forgiveness of sins or escape to another world. The divine intention has always been transformation — the forming of a people who share in the life, authority, and nature of Christ Himself. Redemption is not simply about where we are going; it is about **what we are becoming**.

Through the blood of the Lamb, a new order of humanity is being formed. These are not merely believers who attend religious services or hold theological opinions. They are a **royal priesthood**, a people shaped by the life of Christ and prepared to reveal His glory in the earth.

Yet immediately after declaring that Christ has made us kings and priests, the Book of Revelation announces something even more astonishing:

▮ “Behold, He cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see Him...” — Revelation 1:7

For generations, many have interpreted this statement only as a distant future event. But the Spirit of revelation invites us to look deeper. The same chapter that declares Christ is forming a royal priesthood also declares that He comes **with clouds of glory**.

What if these two revelations are connected?

What if the kings and priests Christ is forming are the very clouds through which He appears?

Throughout the Scriptures, the cloud has always signified the manifested presence of God. In the wilderness, the cloud led Israel by day and revealed the glory of the Lord. On Mount Sinai, the cloud descended as God spoke to His people. In the tabernacle and the temple, the cloud filled the holy place with divine glory. On the



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transfiguration, a bright cloud overshadowed the disciples as the voice of the Father declared the Son.

The cloud has always been the vessel of divine presence.

But in the revelation of Jesus Christ, the singular cloud of God's glory begins to multiply. Christ, who once manifested the glory of the Father alone, now shares that glory with a vast company of sons. As Jesus Himself prayed:

“The glory which Thou gavest Me I have given them.” — John 17:22

Thus the mystery unfolds: the Lamb forms a royal priesthood, fills them with His glory, and then **comes with clouds** — the many-membered vessels of His manifested presence.

The Book of Revelation is therefore not merely a prophecy of future events. It is the unveiling of Jesus Christ in His people. It reveals the formation of a King-Priest company after the order of Melchizedek, a people through whom the authority and mercy of God flow together. Kings represent the authority of Christ's kingdom; priests represent the ministry of reconciliation that brings humanity back to God.

When these two dimensions unite, the result is a people who carry both the **government of heaven** and the **compassion of the heart of God**.

This book explores that glorious mystery.

We will examine the Lamb who redeems, the royal priesthood He forms, the Melchizedek order that defines their ministry, and the clouds of glory through which Christ reveals Himself to the world. In doing so, we will discover that the coming of the Lord is not merely an event to be observed, but a revelation to be manifested — the unveiling of Christ in a people filled with His life and glory.

The Book of Revelation begins with the declaration that Christ has made us kings and priests unto God.



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with the proclamation:

“Behold, He cometh with clouds.”

Between these two verses lies one of the most profound mysteries in all of Scripture — the transformation of a redeemed people into vessels of divine glory through whom Christ reveals Himself to the earth.

Let us now enter this revelation with reverence and expectancy, for the Lamb is still forming His royal priesthood, and the clouds of His glory are gathering *[even now](#)*.

Chapter 1

The Book of Revelation — The Lamb Who Loved Us and Washed Us

The Revelation Begins With the Lamb

The Book of Revelation does not begin with beasts, judgments, or mysterious symbols. It begins with **Jesus Christ**. Before a single vision unfolds, before John describes the throne, the seals, or the kingdoms of the earth, the Spirit places our attention firmly upon the One who stands at the center of all things — **the Lamb of God**.

The opening declaration reveals the foundation upon which the entire book stands:

“Unto Him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in His own blood.”
— Revelation 1:5

This statement is not merely a greeting. It is the **key that unlocks the whole book**. Every vision, every symbol, every unfolding mystery must be interpreted in the light of this truth: **the Lamb has already accomplished redemption**.



Many approach the Book of Revelation with fear or confusion because they begin in the wrong place. They begin with the judgments or the symbols rather than with the Lamb. But the Spirit carefully establishes the order of revelation. The book begins not with wrath, but with **love**. It begins not with condemnation, but with **cleansing**.

Before anything else is revealed, the Spirit declares that Jesus Christ **loved us** and **washed us from our sins in His own blood**.

The Love That Initiated Redemption

The first word that describes the work of Christ in Revelation is love. John does not say merely that Christ saved us or redeemed us. He begins with the deeper truth: **He loved us**.

Love is the motive behind redemption. The cross was not an emergency measure or a reaction to human failure. It was the expression of the eternal heart of God. Before humanity ever fell, before sin entered the world, the love of God already existed in fullness.

The cross reveals that love.

The Lamb who sits at the center of the Book of Revelation is the same Lamb who stood upon the hill of Calvary. The One who now reigns in glory is the One who first poured out His life in sacrifice. His authority flows from His love, and His throne rests upon the finished work of redemption.

Every revelation that follows must therefore be interpreted through the lens of **the Lamb who loved us**.

Washed From Our Sins by His Blood

The second great declaration of Revelation 1:5 tells us that Christ **washed us from our sins in His own blood**. This statement reveals the cleansing power of the blood of the cross.



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The blood of Christ does more than forgive sin; it removes its stain and breaks its dominion. Through His sacrifice, Jesus did not merely overlook our sins — He dealt with them completely. The guilt of sin, the power of sin, and the separation caused by sin were all addressed through the work of the Lamb.

The Book of Revelation must therefore be read as the unveiling of a **redeemed people**, not a condemned world. The Lamb has already accomplished the decisive victory over sin, death, and the powers of darkness.

Because of His blood, a new humanity has begun.

Redemption Is the Beginning of Transformation

Yet the purpose of redemption extends beyond forgiveness. The blood of the Lamb does not merely remove sin; it prepares a people for transformation.

The next verse reveals the astonishing result of the Lamb's redemptive work:

“And hath made us kings and priests unto God and His Father.”

— Revelation 1:6

Here we begin to see the true purpose of redemption. Christ did not shed His blood merely to rescue humanity from judgment. He shed His blood in order to **form a people who would share in His life and His reign.**

The Lamb redeems in order to **make** something out of His people.

This is one of the most important truths in the Book of Revelation. God's purpose has never been limited to taking people to heaven. His purpose has always been to transform humanity into vessels through which His life, authority, and glory may be revealed.



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is therefore the **beginning of a divine process.**

From Cleansed to Called

Once a people have been cleansed by the blood of Christ, they are called into a new identity. The redeemed are not left merely as forgiven sinners; they are invited into a royal calling.

Throughout Scripture, God has always intended to raise up a people who would represent His authority and His heart upon the earth. In the Old Testament, Israel was called to be “a kingdom of priests.” In the New Testament, the same calling appears again, but now fulfilled through Christ.

The Lamb forms a people who carry both **kingship** and **priesthood**.

Kings represent authority, government, and dominion. Priests represent reconciliation, compassion, and access to God. When these two dimensions unite, the result is a people who reflect both the authority and the mercy of the heart of God.

This is the royal priesthood Christ is forming.

The Lamb at the Center of Revelation

Every revelation in the book flows from the Lamb. He is the One who walks among the candlesticks. He is the One who opens the seals. He is the One who receives worship in heaven. He is the One who overcomes the dragon and establishes the kingdom of God.

The Lamb is both the **Redeemer** and the **Revealer**.

Without Him, the visions of Revelation would remain mysterious and confusing. But when we see the book through the lens of the Lamb, its message becomes clear: the victory of Christ is being unfolded in His people and in His creation.



Who loved us is now revealing His glory through those He has redeemed.

The Foundation for All That Follows

Before we move deeper into the mysteries of kings and priests, clouds of glory, and the coming of Christ, we must firmly establish this foundation: **everything begins with the Lamb who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood.**

Without redemption there can be no transformation. Without the blood of the Lamb there can be no royal priesthood. Without the love of Christ there can be no revelation of His glory.

The Book of Revelation therefore begins where all true revelation must begin — with Jesus Christ Himself.

He loved us.

He washed us.

And through His redeeming work He has begun forming a people who will share in His life and reveal His glory.

From this foundation the next great truth unfolds: the redeemed are being made **kings and priests unto God.**

Chapter 2

The Book of Revelation — Made Kings and Priests Unto God

The Divine Purpose of Redemption

The Lamb who loved us and washed us from our sins did not redeem us merely to leave us as forgiven believers. Redemption carries a far greater purpose. The blood of Christ prepares a people for transformation and calls them into a new identity.



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Declaration in the opening chapter of Revelation reveals that purpose:

“And hath made us kings and priests unto God and His Father.”

— Revelation 1:6

These words unveil one of the most astonishing truths in all of Scripture. The Lamb who redeemed us has also **made us kings and priests**. Redemption is therefore not simply about escaping judgment or entering heaven one day; it is about the formation of a people who share in the life and ministry of Christ Himself.

God is not merely saving individuals — **He is forming a kingdom.**

Redemption Leads to Transformation

Throughout the ages, many believers have understood salvation primarily as forgiveness of sins. While forgiveness is a glorious reality, it is only the beginning of the work God intends to accomplish. The purpose of the cross was not merely to pardon humanity but to transform it.

The blood of Christ removes the barrier of sin so that the life of Christ can begin to grow within His people. Through this transforming work, the redeemed are shaped into something entirely new.

They become **a royal priesthood**.

The language of Revelation 1:6 emphasizes that this identity is not something believers earn through effort or achievement. The text declares that Christ **has made us** kings and priests. The work originates in Him. It is the result of His life working within those He has redeemed.

God does not ask humanity to elevate itself to kingship or priesthood. Rather, through the power of the Lamb’s redemption, He forms a people who carry His authority and reflect His heart.



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ning of Kingship

To understand what it means to be made kings, we must first understand the nature of Christ's kingdom. The kingship described in the Book of Revelation is not earthly domination or political power. It is the authority of the life of Christ ruling within His people.

Kingship begins with **the rule of Christ within the human heart.**

Before the redeemed can reign with Christ, His life must reign within them. The authority of the kingdom is first established internally, as the Spirit of God transforms the mind, the will, and the nature of those who belong to Him.

True kingship is therefore not the ability to control others but the authority that flows from a life fully submitted to God. When Christ reigns within His people, His authority begins to flow outward through them.

This is the government of the kingdom of God.

The Meaning of Priesthood

While kingship speaks of authority, priesthood speaks of reconciliation. Priests stand in the place where heaven and earth meet. They carry the responsibility of ministering both unto God and unto humanity.

Throughout the Old Testament, priests served as mediators between God and the people. They offered sacrifices, interceded in prayer, and maintained the sacred relationship between the Creator and His creation.

But in the revelation of Jesus Christ, priesthood reaches its fullness.

Christ Himself is the great High Priest who has opened the way into the presence of God. Through His sacrifice, the barrier that separated humanity from God has been removed. Now those who belong to Christ share in His priestly ministry.



They become a people through whom reconciliation flows.

The priestly dimension of the believer's calling reveals the compassion and mercy of God. While kingship establishes authority, priesthood carries the ministry of restoration. The priest stands between heaven and earth, touching God with one hand and humanity with the other.

In this way the heart of the Father is revealed to the world.

The Union of Kingship and Priesthood

One of the most remarkable features of Revelation 1:6 is that it joins kingship and priesthood together in the same people. In ancient Israel these two offices were separated. Kings came from the tribe of Judah, while priests came from the tribe of Levi.

But in Christ these two dimensions are united.

Jesus is both **King and High Priest**. His authority flows from righteousness, and His ministry flows from mercy. The same union now appears in the people He is forming.

The redeemed are not merely kings, nor are they merely priests. They are **king-priests**, reflecting the nature of Christ Himself.

Kings represent the authority of the kingdom.

Priests represent the compassion of the heart of God.

When these two qualities unite, the result is a people who rule not through force but through life, truth, and love.

This union protects the kingdom from imbalance. Authority without compassion becomes oppression, while compassion without authority becomes weakness. In the royal priesthood of Christ, both dimensions flow together in perfect harmony.



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al Priesthood of God

The idea of a royal priesthood did not originate in the New Testament. It echoes the original calling of Israel at Mount Sinai. When God delivered the children of Israel from Egypt, He declared His purpose for them:

“Ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation.”
— Exodus 19:6

From the beginning, God desired a people who would represent His life and authority upon the earth. Although Israel struggled to fulfill that calling, the purpose of God never changed. In Christ, that original intention finds its fulfillment.

The apostle Peter later confirmed this truth when he wrote:

“Ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation.”
— 1 Peter 2:9

The royal priesthood therefore represents the people through whom God reveals Himself to the world.

Formed for the Glory of God

Revelation 1:6 declares that Christ has made us kings and priests **unto God and His Father**. This phrase reveals the ultimate purpose behind the royal priesthood.

The calling of kings and priests is not for personal honor or spiritual status. It exists for the glory of God. The people Christ forms are a people who live for the pleasure of the Father.

Their authority serves His purpose.

Their ministry reveals His heart.

Their lives display His glory.



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nature of Christ becomes visible.

The Beginning of a New Order

As we continue exploring the Book of Revelation, we will discover that this royal priesthood is not merely symbolic language. It represents the emergence of a new order of humanity — a people shaped by the life of Christ and prepared to reveal His glory in the earth.

This order is not built upon human institutions or religious systems. It flows from the transforming work of the Spirit of God within the hearts of the redeemed.

The Lamb who washed us from our sins is now forming us into kings and priests unto God.

But the revelation does not stop there.

Immediately after declaring that Christ has made us kings and priests, the Book of Revelation announces something even more astonishing:

“Behold, He cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see Him.”
— Revelation 1:7

The mystery now begins to unfold.

The people Christ is forming as kings and priests will ultimately become the vessels through which His glory appears. The royal priesthood becomes the **clouds of His coming**, revealing the presence of Christ to the world.

To understand this mystery, we must look deeper into the divine order of kingship and priesthood revealed throughout Scripture.

Chapter 3



The Book of Revelation — The King-Priest Ministry of Christ

The Pattern Revealed in Jesus Christ

When the Book of Revelation declares that Christ has made His people **kings and priests unto God**, it is revealing a ministry that first existed in **Jesus Himself**. The royal priesthood of believers is not an invention of theology or a spiritual metaphor. It is the continuation of the very ministry that was revealed in Christ during His earthly life and now continues through His body.

Jesus walked the earth as both **King and Priest**.

He carried the authority of the kingdom of God, yet He ministered with compassion and mercy toward humanity. He rebuked storms, cast out demons, healed the sick, and spoke with authority that astonished those who heard Him. Yet at the same time He touched lepers, forgave sinners, wept over Jerusalem, and offered Himself as the sacrifice that would reconcile the world to God.

In Him, kingship and priesthood were perfectly united.

The Book of Revelation now reveals that the Lamb who once walked alone in that ministry is forming a people who will share in that same divine order.

Authority That Flows From Life

The kingship of Christ was never expressed through earthly domination. When Jesus stood before Pilate, He declared:

“My kingdom is not of this world.”
— John 18:36



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Authority of Christ flows from a higher realm. It is the authority of truth, righteousness, and the life of God operating within a human vessel. When Jesus

spoke, the words carried power because they were not merely human words — they were the expression of the Father's will.

The authority of the kingdom therefore begins with **the life of God within**.

When Christ reigns within a person, His authority begins to manifest through that life. Darkness yields to light. Fear yields to faith. Sin yields to righteousness. This inner government becomes the foundation of all true spiritual authority.

The kingship given to believers is therefore not about ruling over people through external power. It is about carrying the authority of Christ's life into the world.

The Ministry of Reconciliation

If kingship represents authority, priesthood represents **reconciliation**. The priest stands in the place where the broken relationship between God and humanity is restored.

Throughout Scripture, priests were responsible for bringing the people into fellowship with God. They offered sacrifices, interceded on behalf of the people, and maintained the sacred connection between heaven and earth.

In Jesus Christ, this priestly ministry reached its ultimate fulfillment.

Christ offered Himself as the sacrifice that removed the barrier between God and humanity. Through His death and resurrection, the way into the presence of God was opened forever.

The apostle Paul described this ministry when he wrote:

"God...hath reconciled us to Himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation."



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2 Corinthians 5:18

This statement reveals that the priestly ministry of Christ now continues through His people. Those who belong to Him carry the message and power of reconciliation.

They proclaim the love of the Father.

They reveal the mercy of God.

They help restore broken lives to the presence of the Creator.

In this way the priestly ministry of Christ continues through His body in the earth.

The Balance of Authority and Mercy

The union of kingship and priesthood produces a perfect balance in the life of the believer. Authority without compassion can become harsh and oppressive.

Compassion without authority can become powerless and ineffective.

But when kingship and priesthood flow together, the result is a ministry that reflects the full character of Christ.

Kingship provides the authority of the kingdom.

Priesthood provides the compassion of the Father.

Together they create a ministry that both confronts darkness and restores humanity.

Jesus demonstrated this balance throughout His earthly ministry. He spoke with authority against hypocrisy and injustice, yet He showed tenderness toward the broken and the humble. He confronted religious pride, yet welcomed the sinner who came seeking mercy.

In Him, truth and grace were perfectly joined.

The Government of the Kingdom



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Revelation reveals that God is establishing His government in the earth through the people He is forming. This government is not an earthly political

system, nor is it built through institutions of human power.

The government of God flows through **transformed lives**.

Where Christ reigns within a person, the kingdom begins to manifest. His righteousness influences decisions. His wisdom directs actions. His love shapes relationships. The authority of heaven begins to operate through those who have yielded themselves fully to Him.

This is the government of the kingdom.

It spreads not through force but through transformation. It advances not through human strategies but through the life of Christ revealed in His people.

The Royal Priesthood and the World

The royal priesthood described in Revelation is not separated from the world in isolation. Instead, it exists for the sake of the world. The purpose of kings and priests is to bring the life of God into every realm of human existence.

The ministry of the royal priesthood touches every area of life:

It brings truth into places of deception.

It brings healing into places of suffering.

It brings light into places of darkness.

It brings reconciliation where division has ruled.

Through this ministry the nature of Christ becomes visible in the earth.

The world does not merely hear about the kingdom of God — it begins to encounter it through the lives of those who carry the presence of Christ.



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Water Order of Priesthood

As we continue exploring the revelation of kings and priests, we will soon discover that this ministry is not patterned after the priesthood of the Old Testament law. Instead, it belongs to a greater and more ancient order.

This order appeared long before the law of Moses. It was revealed in a mysterious figure who met Abraham after a great victory. His name was **Melchizedek**.

Melchizedek was both **king of righteousness** and **priest of the Most High God**. In him the two offices of kingship and priesthood were already united.

The New Testament reveals that Jesus Christ is the ultimate fulfillment of this order. He is the eternal King-Priest after the order of Melchizedek.

And now the people He is forming are being shaped into that same royal order.

The Preparation of a People

The royal priesthood of Revelation is not produced overnight. God forms His people through a process of transformation. The Spirit of God works within the hearts of believers, shaping them into vessels capable of carrying both the authority and the compassion of Christ.

This process often includes seasons of testing, refinement, and spiritual growth. Through these experiences the life of Christ becomes more deeply established within His people.

As His life grows within them, they become increasingly capable of representing His kingdom and ministering His reconciliation to the world.

The Next Step in the Revelation

The Book of Revelation has now revealed two profound truths.



First, the Lamb has redeemed us through His blood.
Second, He has made us kings and priests unto God.

But the revelation continues to unfold.

Immediately after declaring the formation of the royal priesthood, the Spirit proclaims a powerful announcement:

“Behold, He cometh with clouds.”

— Revelation 1:7

The mystery now deepens. The people Christ has formed into kings and priests will also become the vessels through which His glory appears.

The royal priesthood becomes the **clouds of His coming**.

To understand this mystery fully, we must look deeper into the ancient order of Melchizedek — the divine pattern of kingship and priesthood that finds its ultimate fulfillment in Jesus Christ.

Chapter 4

The Book of Revelation — The Melchizedek Order Revealed

The Ancient Pattern of the King-Priest

As the Book of Revelation unfolds the mystery of kings and priests, it leads us back to one of the most fascinating and mysterious figures in all of Scripture — **Melchizedek**.



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the law of Moses was given, before Israel existed as a nation, and fore the Levitical priesthood was established, this remarkable man

appeared in the pages of Genesis.

After Abraham returned from a great victory in battle, the Scripture records:

“And Melchizedek king of Salem brought forth bread and wine: and he was the priest of the most high God.”

— Genesis 14:18

In this brief appearance, Melchizedek reveals a pattern that would later find its full expression in Jesus Christ. He was both **king** and **priest** at the same time.

This union of kingship and priesthood is the very reality that the Book of Revelation declares is now being formed in the people of God.

King of Righteousness and King of Peace

The name Melchizedek carries profound meaning. The word itself means “**king of righteousness.**” He is also called the king of Salem, which means “**king of peace.**”


These titles reveal the nature of the order he represents.

Righteousness and peace are the very qualities that define the kingdom of God. Righteousness establishes the government of God, while peace flows as the result of that righteous rule.

The prophet Isaiah later described the government of the Messiah with similar language:

“Of the increase of His government and peace there shall be no end.”

— Isaiah 9:7

In Melchizedek we see the early shadow of a divine order where righteousness and  **EN** together. This order is not based on law, lineage, or religious ritual. It is based on the life and authority of God.

A Priesthood Without Beginning or End

The book of Hebrews sheds further light on the mystery of Melchizedek. The writer explains that Melchizedek represents a priesthood that does not depend on genealogy or human succession.

“Without father, without mother, without descent, having neither beginning of days, nor end of life.”

— Hebrews 7:3

This description does not suggest that Melchizedek was a supernatural being but rather that the priesthood he represents does not originate in human lineage. Unlike the Levitical priesthood, which was passed from father to son, the order of Melchizedek is established directly by God.

It is a priesthood based on **life**, not ancestry.

This distinction is vital. The Levitical priests served according to the law and natural descent. But the priesthood of Melchizedek operates according to a higher principle — the power of an endless life.

Christ the Eternal King-Priest

The New Testament reveals that Jesus Christ is the ultimate fulfillment of the Melchizedek order. The writer of Hebrews makes this clear when he declares:

“Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek.”

— Hebrews 7:17

Jesus is not only the King of kings; He is also the eternal High Priest. In Him the union of kingship and priesthood reaches its perfect expression.



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establishes the government of God.
God reconciles humanity to the Father.

Through His life, death, and resurrection, Christ fulfills both roles simultaneously. He rules in righteousness and ministers in mercy.

The Book of Revelation reveals that the people Christ is forming will share in this same divine order.

A Royal Priesthood After His Order

When Revelation declares that Christ has made us kings and priests unto God, it is revealing that believers are being brought into the same order of ministry that exists in Christ Himself.

This is not a continuation of the Levitical priesthood. It is something far greater. The Levitical system was temporary, pointing forward to the coming of the Messiah. When Christ appeared, that system reached its fulfillment.

A new priesthood emerged — the priesthood after the order of Melchizedek.

This royal priesthood is not restricted to a single tribe or a select religious class. It includes all who are united with Christ through redemption. Through the life of the Spirit, believers are brought into participation with the ministry of the eternal King-Priest.

They carry the authority of the kingdom and the compassion of the priesthood.

Bread and Wine — The Ministry of Life

One of the most beautiful details in the story of Melchizedek is the offering he brings to Abraham. The Scripture tells us that Melchizedek brought **bread and wine**.

These elements later become the symbols of Christ's own ministry. Bread represents



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sustains humanity, and wine represents the covenant sealed through

When Jesus gathered with His disciples on the night before His crucifixion, He took bread and wine and gave them new meaning. They became the symbols of His body and blood — the life through which humanity would be reconciled to God.

Thus the ministry of Melchizedek foreshadows the ministry of Christ.

The royal priesthood Christ forms carries this same ministry of life. They do not offer animal sacrifices or religious rituals. Instead, they reveal the life of Christ to a hungry world.

They bring the bread of life and the wine of the new covenant.

The Government of Righteousness

Because Melchizedek is called the king of righteousness, the order he represents is founded upon righteousness. The authority of the kingdom of God is not built on force, wealth, or human power. It rests upon the righteousness of God revealed through Christ.

This righteousness becomes the foundation of the royal priesthood.

Those who belong to Christ do not rule through domination or control. Their authority flows from a life aligned with the character of God. As the righteousness of Christ grows within them, the government of the kingdom begins to manifest through their lives.

This is the government that will ultimately fill the earth.

A Priesthood That Reconciles the World

The priestly dimension of the Melchizedek order carries the ministry of reconciliation. Just as Christ reconciled humanity to God through His sacrifice, His



carry the message and power of that reconciliation.

The royal priesthood does not exist to separate itself from the world but to bring the life of God into it. Through their lives and ministry, the presence of Christ reaches into every corner of human experience.

They carry the mercy of God to the broken.

They carry the truth of God to the deceived.

They carry the life of God to those who are spiritually thirsty.

Through them the heart of the Father is revealed.

The Preparation for Glory

As the Spirit forms this royal priesthood, He is preparing a people who will carry the glory of God in the earth. The transformation that begins through redemption continues as the life of Christ grows within His people.

They are being shaped into vessels capable of carrying His presence and revealing His glory.

This preparation leads directly to the next revelation in the opening chapter of the Book of Revelation.

After declaring that Christ has made us kings and priests unto God, the Spirit announces a stunning proclamation:

“Behold, He cometh with clouds.”

— Revelation 1:7

The connection between these truths is not accidental.

The people Christ forms as kings and priests after the order of Melchizedek will ultimately become the **clouds of His coming** — vessels filled with the glory of God



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from Christ reveals Himself to the world.

The ancient cloud that once symbolized the presence of God will now appear in a new and multiplied form.

To understand this mystery, we must now explore the meaning of the clouds of His coming and the revelation of Christ that they carry.

Chapter 5

The Book of Revelation — Behold, He Cometh With Clouds

The Great Announcement of Revelation

Immediately after declaring that Christ has made us kings and priests unto God, the Book of Revelation presents a dramatic proclamation:

“Behold, He cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see Him...”

— Revelation 1:7

This announcement stands like a trumpet blast at the opening of the book. It calls the reader to attention and invites us to behold something extraordinary. The Spirit does not say merely that Christ will come one day in the distant future. Instead, the text declares something that is already in motion.

“Behold” is a word that calls us to **look carefully** and to consider something of great importance. It invites us to see beyond the surface and to discern the deeper meaning of the revelation being presented.

The statement that follows has often been misunderstood. Many have interpreted it only as a future physical event in which Christ will appear visibly in the sky. Yet the language of Revelation is rich with symbolism and spiritual meaning. To understand this declaration, we must examine the words more closely.



The Meaning of “He Cometh”

The phrase “He cometh” comes from the Greek word *erchomai*. This verb carries a powerful meaning. It describes an action that is **ongoing** rather than limited to a single moment.

In the language of the text, the phrase suggests that Christ **comes, is coming, and continues to come**. It speaks of a movement from the invisible realm of the Spirit into visible expression in the world.

This understanding opens our eyes to a profound truth: the coming of Christ is not confined to one event in time. Instead, it unfolds progressively as the life and glory of Christ are revealed in the earth.

Throughout history Christ has continually manifested Himself in new ways. He came in humility through the incarnation. He came in victory through the resurrection. He came in power through the outpouring of the Spirit at Pentecost.

And He continues to come as His life is revealed through those who belong to Him.

The Significance of the Clouds

The next phrase reveals how this coming takes place:

“He cometh with clouds.”

To understand this imagery, we must remember how the cloud appears throughout the Scriptures. From the earliest days of Israel’s journey, the cloud represented the **manifested presence of God**.

When Israel left Egypt, a pillar of cloud guided them through the wilderness. This cloud was more than a natural phenomenon; it was the visible expression of God’s
 guiding His people.



When Moses ascended Mount Sinai, the glory of the Lord descended in a cloud. When the tabernacle was completed, the cloud filled the holy place, signifying that God had taken up residence among His people.

Later, when Solomon dedicated the temple, the cloud of the Lord's glory filled the house so completely that the priests could not stand to minister.

In each of these moments the cloud revealed the same reality: **God was present.**

The Cloud of Glory

This manifestation of divine presence came to be known as the **shekinah glory** — the dwelling glory of God. The cloud concealed the overwhelming brightness of God's presence while at the same time revealing that He was near.

When Jesus was transfigured on the mountain before Peter, James, and John, a bright cloud overshadowed them. From within that cloud the voice of the Father declared:

"This is my beloved Son: hear Him."

— Matthew 17:5

Once again the cloud signified the presence and glory of God.

Even at the ascension of Jesus, the Scriptures tell us that **a cloud received Him out of their sight**. This was not merely an ordinary cloud drifting across the sky. It was the same divine presence that had appeared throughout the history of God's dealings with humanity.

From One Cloud to Many

Yet the Book of Revelation introduces a striking difference.



In the Old Testament, the glory of God was typically represented by **one cloud**. This singular cloud symbolized the presence of the one God manifesting His glory among His people.

But in the revelation of Christ, the cloud begins to appear in a **plural form**.

The Scripture now declares that Christ comes **with clouds**.

This change reveals something remarkable. The glory that was once revealed in a single cloud is now shared among a multitude of vessels. The presence of God is no longer confined to a single location or structure.

Instead, it is being manifested through a people.

The Clouds of His People

Throughout the New Testament we discover that the glory of Christ is not meant to remain hidden in heaven. Jesus Himself prayed that the glory given to Him by the Father would also be given to His followers.

“The glory which Thou gavest Me I have given them.”
— John 17:22

This statement reveals the astonishing intention of God. The same glory that rested upon Christ is now being imparted to those who belong to Him.

As this glory grows within His people, they become vessels through which the presence of God is revealed.

They become **clouds filled with the life of God**.

The people Christ has made kings and priests begin to carry His glory in the earth.



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cloud once revealed the presence of God in the wilderness, the lives of His people now reveal His presence in the world.

Clouds Full of Rain

The imagery of clouds carries another beautiful meaning throughout Scripture. Clouds are vessels that contain water. When they become full, they release rain upon the earth.

The book of Ecclesiastes describes this natural principle:

“If the clouds be full of rain, they empty themselves upon the earth.”
— Ecclesiastes 11:3

Water in Scripture often represents life — the life of the Spirit and the life of the Word of God. When believers are filled with the Spirit, they become vessels containing the life of God.

And just like clouds filled with rain, they cannot keep that life to themselves. It begins to flow outward to refresh the world around them.

The clouds of God’s people therefore carry the life-giving presence of Christ into the earth.

The Coming of Christ in His People

When the Book of Revelation declares that Christ comes with clouds, it reveals that His glory will be manifested through a people who have been filled with His life.

The Lamb who redeemed humanity is now forming a royal priesthood. As His life grows within them, they become vessels of His presence and carriers of His glory.

Through them Christ appears to the world.

This does not diminish the majesty of Christ; rather, it magnifies it. The One who
sted the glory of God alone now shares that glory with a vast family of



The singular cloud of divine presence becomes a multitude of clouds filled with His life.

The Gathering of the Clouds

As history moves toward the fulfillment of God's purpose, these clouds are being formed and gathered together. The Spirit of God is preparing a people who will carry the life, authority, and glory of Christ in a way the world has never seen before.

This is the unfolding mystery behind the declaration:

“Behold, He cometh with clouds.”

The royal priesthood Christ is forming becomes the vessels through which His presence is revealed.

Yet the revelation does not end there. The Scripture continues with a statement that expands the vision even further:

“And every eye shall see Him.”

What does it mean for every eye to see Christ when He comes with clouds? To answer that question, we must explore the spiritual meaning of sight and the unveiling of Christ that takes place when His glory is revealed through His people.

Chapter 6

The Book of Revelation — The Clouds of His Glory

The Glory That Once Appeared in a Cloud



Throughout the Scriptures, the cloud has always been associated with the **glory of God**. Whenever the cloud appeared, it signified that the presence of the Lord had drawn near in a special and visible way.

When Israel journeyed through the wilderness, the Lord went before them in a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. That cloud was not merely a natural occurrence in the sky; it was the visible manifestation of the divine presence guiding and protecting His people.

When Moses entered the tabernacle, the cloud descended, and the Lord spoke with him face to face. When Solomon dedicated the temple, the cloud filled the house of the Lord so completely that the priests could not stand to minister.

In every case, the message was the same: **God had drawn near to dwell among His people.**

The cloud therefore became a symbol of divine glory — the radiant presence of God revealed in a form that humanity could perceive.

The Hidden Glory Revealed

For many centuries this glory appeared only occasionally and in specific places. The cloud rested upon the tabernacle, filled the temple, or overshadowed certain sacred moments. But the glory remained largely hidden from the world.

Then something extraordinary happened.

When Jesus Christ came into the world, the glory of God appeared in human form. The Gospel of John describes this moment with remarkable simplicity:

“And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us... and we beheld His glory.”
— John 1:14



The glory that had once appeared in the cloud was now revealed in a person.

Jesus carried the presence of the Father within Him. Wherever He went, the glory of God was present. The blind saw, the sick were healed, the oppressed were set free, and the kingdom of God was revealed.

Christ became the living tabernacle of divine glory.

The Glory Shared With His People

Yet the story does not end with Christ alone carrying the glory of God. Before His crucifixion, Jesus spoke words that reveal the astonishing purpose of God for His people.

In His prayer to the Father, He declared:

“The glory which Thou gavest Me I have given them.”

— John 17:22

This statement reveals the heart of the Father’s plan. The glory that once appeared in the cloud, and later in the person of Christ, would now be shared with a vast company of sons.

God intends to fill His people with the same life and presence that dwelt in Christ.

This is the mystery behind the clouds of His coming.

Vessels Filled With Divine Life

The imagery of clouds helps us understand how this glory operates. A cloud is essentially a vessel filled with water. As the water gathers within the cloud, it eventually reaches a point where it must be released upon the earth.

The Scriptures use this imagery to describe the life of God flowing through His



Water represents the Spirit of God. Jesus Himself spoke of this when He said:

“He that believeth on Me... out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.”
— John 7:38

The Spirit fills believers with the life of God. As that life grows within them, it begins to overflow into the world around them.

In this sense, the people of God become **clouds filled with living water**.

The Nature of a True Ministry

When the clouds are full of rain, they release that rain upon the earth. The same principle applies to the ministry of those who carry the life of Christ.

A true ministry is not defined by titles, institutions, or religious systems. It is defined by the life of God flowing through a person who has been filled with the Spirit.

Such a ministry refreshes the weary, strengthens the broken, and brings life to those who are spiritually thirsty.

The apostles Peter and Jude both warned about false teachers who appear impressive but lack the life of God within them. They described these individuals as **“clouds without water.”**

A cloud without water cannot bring rain.

But when a cloud is filled with living water, it becomes a source of life for the earth.

The Gathering of the Clouds

As the Spirit of God continues His work in the hearts of believers, He is forming a



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carry His life and glory. These people are not defined by religious

institutions or outward appearances. They are defined by the presence of Christ within them.

The life of Christ grows within them until it becomes visible to the world.

The clouds are gathering.

Each person filled with the Spirit becomes a vessel of divine presence. Together they form a vast company of witnesses through whom the glory of Christ is revealed.

The singular cloud that once appeared above the tabernacle now becomes a **multitude of clouds filled with the presence of God.**

The Glory Revealed in a People

The apostle Paul spoke about this coming revelation when he wrote:

“The sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.”

— Romans 8:18

Notice the phrase **revealed in us**. The glory of God is not merely revealed to His people; it is revealed within them and through them.

As the life of Christ grows within His people, the glory of God begins to shine through their lives. The righteousness of God becomes visible in their character. The love of God becomes visible in their actions. The wisdom of God becomes visible in their words.

Through them the presence of Christ is revealed to the world.



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Preparation of the Sons

The formation of these clouds does not happen instantly. God patiently prepares His people through a process of growth and transformation. The Spirit works within them, shaping their character and refining their hearts.

Through trials, victories, and seasons of spiritual growth, the life of Christ becomes more deeply established within them.

The purpose of this preparation is to form a people capable of carrying the glory of God.

When the clouds are filled with His life, they will release that life upon the earth.

The Rain of the Spirit

The Scriptures often describe the outpouring of God's Spirit as rain falling upon the earth. Just as rain refreshes the soil and brings new growth, the life of the Spirit refreshes humanity and brings spiritual renewal.

The clouds that carry this rain are the people filled with the presence of Christ.

Through them the life of God flows outward into the world. Their words carry truth, their actions reveal love, and their presence brings peace. Wherever they go, the influence of the kingdom of God begins to appear.

The earth, long parched by sin and brokenness, begins to receive the refreshing rain of divine life.

The Revelation That Follows

The Book of Revelation now leads us to the final phrase of the great proclamation in Revelation 1:7:

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...y eye shall see Him."

If Christ comes with clouds — if His glory is revealed through the lives of those He has redeemed — then the next question naturally arises.

How will the world see Him?

What does it mean for every eye to see Christ when He appears through the clouds of His people?

To understand this final part of the revelation, we must explore the spiritual meaning of sight and the awakening that occurs when the glory of the Lord is revealed through His sons.

Chapter 7

The Book of Revelation — Every Eye Shall See Him

The Final Declaration of the Opening Vision

The opening proclamation of the Book of Revelation reaches its climax with a remarkable statement:

“Behold, He cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see Him.”

— Revelation 1:7

This declaration completes the revelation that began in the previous verses. First, the Lamb loved us and washed us from our sins. Second, He made us kings and priests unto God. Third, He comes with clouds of glory. Now the Spirit reveals the result of that coming: **every eye shall see Him**.

For centuries, this phrase has often been interpreted as a purely physical event in which the entire world will look into the sky and see Christ appearing visibly. Yet the Scripture frequently uses the concept of sight to describe **spiritual understanding** rather than natural vision.



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To see in the biblical sense is often to **know**, to **perceive**, or to **recognize** the truth of God.

The Meaning of Spiritual Sight

Throughout the Scriptures, sight is closely connected to spiritual revelation. Many people saw Jesus with their natural eyes during His earthly ministry, yet they did not recognize who He truly was.

The Gospel of John explains this tragic reality:

“He was in the world, and the world was made by Him, and the world knew Him not.”

— John 1:10

The people of that generation could see the man Jesus walking among them, yet their hearts were not awakened to the deeper reality of His identity.

On the other hand, those whose hearts were opened by the Spirit could recognize the presence of God even in the most ordinary circumstances.

Simeon’s Vision of Salvation

A beautiful illustration of spiritual sight appears in the Gospel of Luke. When Mary and Joseph brought the infant Jesus to the temple, an elderly man named Simeon was waiting there. The Holy Spirit had revealed to him that he would not die until he had seen the Lord’s Messiah.

When Simeon held the child in his arms, he exclaimed:

“Mine eyes have seen Thy salvation.”

— Luke 2:30



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To the natural eye, Simeon was holding an ordinary baby. Yet through the revelation of the Spirit, he recognized something far greater. He saw the salvation of God embodied in that child.

This moment reveals how true sight operates. It is not merely the function of the physical eye; it is the awakening of the heart to the reality of God.

The Revelation of Christ Through His People

When the Book of Revelation declares that every eye shall see Christ, it points toward a future unveiling in which the glory of God will be revealed through His people in a way the world cannot ignore.

As the royal priesthood formed by Christ grows into maturity, the life of Christ becomes increasingly visible in the earth. The righteousness, love, wisdom, and authority of the kingdom begin to shine through those who belong to Him.

When this happens, the world begins to recognize the presence of Christ.

People may not see Him with their natural eyes as a figure in the sky, but they will see the unmistakable evidence of His life and power manifested in the earth.

The glory of God will become visible through transformed lives.

The Unveiling of the Sons of God

The apostle Paul described this coming revelation when he wrote:

“For the earnest expectation of the creation waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God.”

— Romans 8:19



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self longs for the moment when the life of Christ is fully revealed through His people. Humanity, burdened by sin and brokenness, waits for the appearance of

those who carry the life of the kingdom.

When this manifestation occurs, the glory of God will shine through the lives of the redeemed.

The clouds of His coming will reveal the presence of Christ to the world.

The Recognition of Divine Glory

When the glory of God becomes visible through His people, the world will begin to recognize the source of that glory. Hearts that have long been blinded by ignorance or deception will be awakened by the power of the Spirit.

The prophet Isaiah spoke of this moment when he wrote:

“The glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together.”

— Isaiah 40:5

This prophecy does not describe merely a visual spectacle; it describes a universal recognition of the glory of God. The presence of the Lord will become so evident that humanity will no longer be able to ignore it.

The righteousness, wisdom, and love revealed through the people of God will point unmistakably to the One who lives within them.

The Light of the World

Jesus once told His followers:

“Ye are the light of the world.”

— Matthew 5:14



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... what darkness hides. When the light of Christ shines through His people, the world begins to see things as they truly are.

Truth becomes visible.
Love becomes tangible.
The kingdom of God becomes real.

Through this light the world begins to perceive the presence of Christ.

In this way, every eye begins to see Him.

The Fulfillment of the Royal Priesthood

The revelation of Christ through His people brings the purpose of the royal priesthood to its fulfillment. The kings and priests formed by the Lamb become the vessels through which the glory of God is revealed.

Their lives demonstrate the authority of the kingdom and the compassion of the Father. Through them the presence of Christ becomes visible in every sphere of human life.

The world encounters the reality of God through the lives of those who carry His Spirit.

This is the fulfillment of the declaration that Christ comes with clouds.

The Triumph of the Lamb

The Book of Revelation ultimately reveals the triumph of the Lamb. The One who loved us and washed us from our sins will complete the work He began. The royal priesthood He is forming will mature into a people who reflect His character and carry His glory.

Through them the life of the kingdom will spread across the earth.



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Darkness will give way to light.

Darkness will give way to restoration.

The knowledge of the Lord will fill the earth as waters cover the sea.

The Lamb who redeemed humanity will reveal His glory through a vast family of sons.

The Glory Revealed to All

The proclamation of Revelation 1:7 therefore carries both promise and hope. It announces a future in which the presence of Christ will be recognized throughout the world.

Every eye shall see Him.

Not because humanity has discovered Him through its own wisdom, but because His glory has been revealed through the people He has redeemed and transformed.

The royal priesthood will stand as living witnesses to the life of the kingdom.

The clouds of His glory will fill the spiritual heavens.

And the world will behold the revelation of Jesus Christ.

Book of Revelation: By Carl Timothy Wray



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