



Big Idea: Our purpose in life is to worship and to witness.

- ~ The Book of Revelation first existed as a letter written to particular people who lived in a particular context.
- ~ The seven churches here are given as a _____ of all churches in every age of the earth.

~ John sends this greeting from the _____ God.

~ v. 4a – A greeting from God the Father, whom John identifies as “*Him who is and who was and is to come.*”

~ v. 4b – A greeting from the _____, whom John identifies as “*the seven spirits who are before his throne.*”
~ Isaiah 11:1-3, Zechariah 4:1-10, Revelation 1:20, 4:5, 5:6).

~ v. 5 – A greeting from the Jesus Christ, whom John identifies as “*the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth.*”

~ In verses 4-8, John impresses upon his hearers the tremendous purpose we have in and through Christ and in His second coming.

1.) Be a _____.

~ v. 5 – “*the faithful witness*” (Isaiah 55, Psalm 89, John 18:37)

~ Since our Savior’s mission on Earth was to bear witness to the truth, should it not also be the mission of His servants?

~ We have been won to Christ to witness for Christ. We have been saved to speak.

~ v. 6 – “*who ... made us ... priests to his God and Father.*”

~ Above all, our appointment as _____ of God is a calling to witness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ (1 Peter 2:9).

~ We serve as priests of God by bearing witness to the Gospel and summoning the lost to faith in Christ.

2.) Be a _____.

~ Immediately after the Trinitarian greeting (v. 4-5a) comes a _____ meant to summon us to worship.

~ To receive this letter as it is written and to understand what it really reveals is to shout the praises penned by John in v. 4-7.

~ Much more than a merely optional call to worship, this doxology comes also as a _____ command (v. 7).

~ Make it your highest ambition to live each day as an earnest worshipper of God.

~ In these the two purposes of the church—to worship and witness—we see the two Great Commandments from a new angle (Matthew 22:37-39).

~ We will know that we understand the Book of Revelation if we are inspired through it to worship and to witness.