

~ALPHA AND OMEGA (179)

- These are the names of the **first and last letters of the Greek alphabet** and are used as a title three times in the book of Revelation. The additional occurrence of this phrase in the **King James** rendering of
- Saying; What you see write in a scroll and send it to the seven congregations, in Ephesus and in Smyrna and in Pergamum and in Thyatira and in Sardis and in Philadelphia and in Laodicea. (**Revelation 1:11**)
- However, does not receive support from some of the oldest Greek manuscripts, including the **Alexandrine, Sinaitic, and Codex Ephraemi rescriptus**. It is, therefore, omitted in many modern translations.
- While many commentators apply this title both to God and to Christ, a more careful examination of its use restricts its application to Yehowah God. The first verse of Revelation shows that the revelation was given originally by God and through Jesus Christ, hence the one speaking, through an angelic representative, at times is God himself, and at other times it is Christ Jesus.
- Well, I John was the one hearing and seeing these things. And when I had heard and seen, I fell down to worship before the feet of the angel that had been showing me these things. (**Revelation 22:8**)
- I am the **Alpha and the Omega**, says Yehowah God, the One who is and who was and who is coming, the Almighty. (**Revelation 1:8**)

[RS] says; **I am the Alpha and the Omega**, says the Lord God, Yehowah God, **NW**, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty. Although the preceding verse speaks of Christ Jesus, it is clear that in **verse 8** the application of the title is to the Almighty God. In this regard **Barnes Notes on the New Testament (1974)** observes; **It cannot be absolutely certain that the writer meant to refer to the Lord Jesus specifically here. There is no real incongruity in supposing, also, that the writer here meant to refer to God as such.**

- The title occurs again at;

- And he said to me; They have come to pass! I am the **Alpha and the Omega**, the beginning and the end. To anyone thirsting I will give from the fountain of the water of life free. (**Revelation 21:6**)
- And the following verse identifies the speaker by saying; Anyone conquering will inherit these things, and I shall be **his God** and he will be my son. Inasmuch as Jesus referred to those who are joint heirs with him in his Kingdom as brothers, not sons, the speaker must be Jesus heavenly Father, Yehowah God.
- And in reply the king will say to them, truly I say to you, to the extent that you did it to one of the least of these **my brothers**, you did it to me. (**Matthew 25:40**)
- For it was fitting for the one for whose sake all things are and through whom all things are, in bringing many sons to glory, to make the Chief Agent of their salvation perfect through sufferings. (**Hebrews 2:10**)
- For both he who is sanctifying and those who are being sanctified all stem from one, and for this cause he is not ashamed to call them **brothers**. (**Hebrews 2:11**)
- As he says; I will declare your name to **my brothers**, in the middle of the congregation I will praise you with song. (**Hebrews 2:12**)
- The final occurrence of the title is at;
- I am the **Alpha and the Omega**, the first and the last, the beginning and the end. (**Revelation 22:13**)
- Which states; I am the **Alpha and the Omega**, the first and the last, the beginning and the end. It is evident that a number of persons are represented as speaking in this chapter of Revelation, **verses 8 and 9** show that the angel spoke to John, **verse 16** obviously applies to Jesus, the first part of **verse 17** is credited to the spirit and the bride, and the one speaking in the latter part of **verse 20** is manifestly John himself. **The Alpha and the Omega** of **verses 12-15**, therefore, may properly be identified as the same one who bears the title in the other two occurrences: Yehowah God. The expression; Look! I am coming quickly, in **verse 12**, does not require that these aforementioned verses apply to Jesus, inasmuch as God also speaks of himself as coming to execute judgment.

- **Well, I John was the one hearing and seeing these things. And when I had heard and seen, I fell down to worship before the feet of the angel that had been showing me these things. (Revelation 22:8)**
- **But he tells me; Be careful! Do not do that! All I am is a fellow slave of you and of your brothers who are prophets and of those who are observing the words of this scroll. Worship God. (Revelation 22:9)**
- **And the spirit and the bride keep on saying; Come! And let anyone hearing say; Come! And let anyone thirsting come, let anyone that wishes take life's water free. (Revelation 22:17)**
- **He that bears witness of these things says; Yes, I am coming quickly. Amen! Come, Lord Jesus. (Revelation 22:20)**
- **Look! I am coming quickly, and the reward I give is with me, to render to each one as his work is. (Revelation 22:12)**
- **I am the **Alpha and the Omega**, the first and the last, the beginning and the end. (Revelation 22:13)**
- **Happy are those who wash their robes, that the authority to go to the trees of life may be theirs and that they may gain entrance into the city by its gates. (Revelation 22:14)**
- **Outside are the dogs and those who practice spiritism and the fornicators and the murderers and the idolaters and everyone liking and carrying on a lie. (Revelation 22:15)**
- **For, look! Yehowah is coming forth from his place to call to account the error of the inhabitant of the land against him, and the land will certainly expose her bloodshed and will no longer cover over her killed ones. (Isaiah 26:21)**
- **Look! I am sending my messenger, and he must clear up a way before me. And suddenly there will come to His temple the true Lord, whom you people are seeking, and the messenger of the covenant in whom you are delighting. Look! He will certainly come, Yehowah of armies has said. (Malachi 3:1)**
- **But who will be putting up with the day of his coming, and who**

will be the one standing when he appears? For he will be like the fire of a refiner and like the lye of laundrymen. (**Malachi 3:2**)

- And he must sit as a refiner and cleanser of silver and must cleanse the sons of Levi, and he must clarify them like gold and like silver, and they will certainly become to Yehowah people presenting a gift offering in righteousness. (**Malachi 3:3**)
- And the gift offering of Judah and of Jerusalem will actually be gratifying to Yehowah, as in the days of long ago and as in the years of antiquity. (**Malachi 3:4**)
- And I will come near to you people for the judgment, and I will become a speedy witness against the sorcerers, and against the adulterers, and against those swearing falsely, and against those acting fraudulently with the wages of a wage worker, with the widow and with the fatherless boy, and those turning away the alien resident, while they have not feared me, Yehowah of armies has said. (**Malachi 3:5**)
- For I am Yehowah, I have not changed. And you are sons of Jacob; You have not come to your finish. (**Malachi 3:6**)
- Speaks of a **joint coming for judgment** on the part of Yehowah and his messenger of the covenant, Jesus Christ.
- The title **the Alpha and the Omega** carries the same thought as the first and the last and the beginning and the end when these terms are used with reference to Yehowah. The title means that Yehowah God is the **first and last word regarding** what will come in the future and in fulfillment of his grand purpose. Before him there was no Almighty God, and there will be none after him. He will bring to a successful conclusion the issue over godship, forever vindicated as the one and only Almighty God.
- This is what Yehowah has said; The King of Israel and the Repurchaser of him, Yehowah of armies, **I am the first and I am the last**, and besides me there is no God. (**Isaiah 44:6**)