

“I Am Alpha and Omega”

Rev. 1:1-18 (text v. 8)

A great passage on the person and offices of Christ—*“I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which IS [He is now Priest], and which WAS [He was Prophet], and which IS TO COME [King of kings], the Almighty.”*

This is also a great text on deity of Christ.

- God the Father is called *“Alpha and Omega”* (Rev. 1:8; 21:6). The name also is applied to Jesus (Rev. 1:11-18; 22:12-16).
- Likewise, both God the Father and the Lord Jesus say they are *“the first and the last”* (cf. Rev. 22:12, 13, 16). Either there are two firsts and two lasts...two alphas and two omegas...two beginnings and two endings—**OR**, Jesus and the Father are one.

Jesus identifies Himself as two letters in the Greek alphabet. What a profound statement of **Christ’s eternal existence**. Jesus Christ is the beginning and ending of all there is. He began all things and He will end all things. All things find their source, support, and end in Him.

The English alphabet has 26 letters—“A to Z.” The Greek alphabet has 24 letters—“Alpha” to “Omega.” These two Greek words—“Alpha and Omega” express **totality**—The beginning and the end includes everything in between. When we say, “Someone knows it all from A to Z,” we mean he knows all there is to know about a certain subject—he knows it from start to finish. That expresses the totality of Christ—He is “all in all.”

Jesus is “the ‘ABC’s’”—He is everything from A to Z, and everything in between.

The Almighty	The “I am”
The Bread of Life	Jesus Christ
The Cornerstone	King of kings
The Door	Lord of lords
Emmanuel—God with us	The Mediator
The Friend that sticketh closer	The Nazarene
The Good Shepherd	Omega
The Holy One of Israel	Prince of Peace

Quickening Spirit	The Vine
The Rock	The Way
The Savior	The EXpress image of his person
The Truth	The Yea of God's promises
The Unspeakable Gift	The Zeal of God's house

Jesus is Alpha—Omega... First—Last... Beginning—End... Commencement— Conclusion. He is *“the AUTHOR and FINISHER of our faith.”*

Be encouraged—What Jesus starts, He will finish! SALVATION started with Jesus (not you) and He will complete it! *“He which hath BEGUN a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ!”*

I. **“ALPHA”— FIRST.**

- A. **“First”** in the sense of being SOVEREIGN. He does not give account to anyone. God is responsible to no one.
- There were none before Him. There was no "before Him." *“He is BEFORE all things, and by him all things consist”* (Col. 1:17).
1. For millions and billions and trillions of unending years He existed and never had a beginning. He IS the beginning.
 2. *“From everlasting to everlasting,”* He is God (Ps. 90:2). There never was a time when He was not.
 3. He is the One *who is*, and *who was*, and *who is to come*. He is eternal—**He exists outside of time and within time at the same time!**
- B. **“First”** in the sense being the SOURCE—everything originated with Him. As every word comes from the alphabet, so everything comes from Jesus.
1. *“First born”* of every creature. No angel can compete with Him—*“Being made so much better than the angels.” “For unto which of the angels said he at any time, thou are my Son, this day have I begotten thee?... And again, when he bringeth the first begotten into the world, he saith, And let all the angels of God worship him.”*

2. If you were Greek, when you would read the letter “*alpha*,” the sound you would make for an alpha was “*ah*.” When you would read “*omega*,” you would say, “*oh*.” Jesus is the “Ah” and “oh.”

Both sounds—“ah” and “oh”— are made by gently breathing out. In fact, they are letters that stand for breathing. All living things breathe. If you stopped breathing you would stop living.

This is why, after the Lord made Adam, the first man, it is said that He “*breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul*” (Gen. 2:7). The reason you can breathe, and the reason you are alive, is the Lord Himself breathed life into you. Daniel 5:23 says, He is “*the God in whose hand thy breath is...*” Acts 17:25—“*He giveth to all life, and breath...*” The life you have is from Him. He is the “*Ah*” and “*Oh*”—the sound of breathing, the sound of life.

- C. “**First**” in the sense of being SUPREME! ILLUS: “A-1 Roofing; A-1 Towing; A-1 Taxi; A-1 Autos; A-1 Steak Sauce”
1. Prophet—“*Of a truth this is THE Prophet*” (John 7:40).
 2. Priest—He is the GREAT High priest of our profession.
 3. King—He is the KING OF KINGS.
 4. Shepherd—He is the GREAT Shepherd who will soon appear.
 5. Cornerstone—He is the CHIEF cornerstone!

II. “**OMEGA**”— **LAST**.

➡ The context is dealing with the end of history (Rev. 21:6).

- A. In His CONDESCENSION. He came from the Highest to the Lowest—“*Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross*” (Phil. 2:6-8).

1. Least of all creatures. David said of Christ—*“I am a WORM, and no man; a reproach of men, and despised of the people”* (Ps. 22:6)
 2. Forsaken by His Father.
 3. Beaten and bruised—Crushed and broken.
 4. Poured out like water and brought unto the dust of the earth.
- B. In the CONSUMMATION (Rev. 21:5-8). God is the Omega for two classes of people:
1. For the thirsty (v. 6). He is the end in the sense that He will be the source of their life for ever.
 2. For the Lost— Those who have no thirst for God. (v. 8).
 - In the end they will meet God as Judge. As Judge, God has the first word and He will have the last word in history. All other attempts to have the last word will fail (Mt. 7:23).

SUMMATION: We need to remind ourselves our lives started with God and will someday end with God.

People say, “all roads lead to God.” In a sense, that is true. **At the end of every road is God.** You will either meet God in heaven, or you will meet God at the Great White Throne Judgment, and be cast in to the lake of fire (Rev. 20:12-15).

“I am Alpha and Omega,” — the beginning and the end—the fountain of eternal life for one, and a lake of fire for another.

We are living now between the Alpha and Omega. **What you do with God now will determine what He will do with you in the end.**