Revelation reader's theater and choral reading

CHARACTERS: John, Jesus, A, B, Voice of God
RUN TIME: 2 minutes
SCRIPTURE/BASED ON: Revelation 1

JOHN: The revelation of[a] Jesus Christ that God gave Him to show His slaves what must quickly take place.

A: He sent it and signified it through His angel to His slave John, who testified to God's word

B: and to the testimony about Jesus Christ, in all he saw.

JOHN: The one who reads this is blessed,

A: and those who hear the words of this prophecy and keep what is written in it are blessed,

ALL: because the time is near!

B: To the seven churches in Asia.

JOHN: Grace and peace to you from[a] the One who is, who was, and who is coming;

A: from the seven spirits before His throne

JESUS: and from Jesus Christ,

JOHN: the faithful witness,

A: the firstborn from the dead

B: and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

JOHN: To Him who loves us and has set us free from our sins by His blood,

A: and made us a kingdom

B: priests to His God and Father—

JESUS: the glory and dominion are His

ALL: forever and ever. Amen.

A: Look! He is coming with the clouds,

B: and every eye will see Him.

JOHN: (painfully remembering being at the cross and seeing this) including those who pierced Him.

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A: And all the families of the earth will mourn over Him.

ALL: This is certain. Amen.

VOICE OF GOD: I am the Alpha and the Omega,

JESUS: says the Lord God,

VOICE OF GOD: the One who is, who was, and who is coming, the Almighty.

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John's Vision of the Risen Lord

CHARACTERS: John, Jesus, A, B
RUN TIME: 2 minutes
SCRIPTURE/BASED ON: Revelation 1

JOHN: I, John, your brother and partner in the tribulation, kingdom, and endurance that are in Jesus,

A: was on the island called Patmos because of God's word and the testimony about Jesus.

JOHN: I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and I heard a loud voice behind me like a trumpet saying,

JESUS: Write on a scroll what you see and send it to the seven churches: Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia, and Laodicea.

JOHN: I turned to see whose voice it was that spoke to me. When I turned I saw seven gold lampstands,

B: and among the lampstands was One like the Son of Man,

JOHN: dressed in a long robe and with a gold sash wrapped around His chest.

B: His head and hair were white like wool—white as snow—

JOHN: and His eyes like a fiery flame.

B: His feet were like fine bronze as it is fired in a furnace,

JOHN: and His voice like the sound of cascading waters.

A: He had seven stars in His right hand;

JOHN: a sharp double-edged sword came from His mouth,

A: and His face was shining like the sun at midday.

JOHN: When I saw Him, I fell at His feet like a dead man. He laid His right hand on me and said,

JESUS: Don't be afraid! I am the First and the Last, and the Living One. I was dead, but look—I am alive forever and ever, and I hold the keys of death and Hades. Therefore, write what you have seen,

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ALL: what is, and what will take place after this.

JESUS: The secret of the seven stars you saw in My right hand and of the seven gold lampstands is this:

A: The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches,

B: and the seven lampstands are the seven churches.

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The Letter to Ephesus

CHARACTERS: John, Jesus, All
RUN TIME: 2 minutes
SCRIPTURE/BASED ON: Revelation 2

JESUS: Write to the angel of the church in Ephesus:

JOHN: The One who holds the seven stars in His right hand and who walks among the seven gold lampstands says:

JESUS: I know your works, your labor, and your endurance, and that you cannot tolerate evil.

JOHN: You have tested those who call themselves apostles and are not, and you have found them to be liars.

JESUS: You also possess endurance and have tolerated many things because of My name

ALL: and have not grown weary.

JESUS: But I have this against you: You have abandoned the love you had at first.

JOHN: Remember then how far you have fallen;

ALL: repent, and do the works you did at first.

JESUS: Otherwise, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place—

ALL: unless you repent.

JOHN: Yet you do have this:

JESUS: You hate the practices of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate.

ALL: Anyone who has an ear should listen to what the Spirit says to the churches.

JESUS: I will give the victor the right to eat from the tree of life, which is in God's paradise.

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The Letter to Smyrna

CHARACTERS: Jesus, John, All
RUN TIME: 1 minute
SCRIPTURE/BASED ON: Revelation 2

JESUS: Write to the angel of the church in Smyrna:

JOHN: The First and the Last, the One who was dead and came to life, says:

JESUS: I know your affliction and poverty, yet you are rich. I know the slander of those who say they are Jews and are not, but are a synagogue of Satan.

ALL: Don't be afraid of what you are about to suffer.

JOHN: Look, the Devil is about to throw some of you into prison to test you, and you will have affliction for 10 days.

JESUS: Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.

ALL: Anyone who has an ear should listen to what the Spirit says to the churches.

JESUS: The victor will never be harmed by the second death.

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The Letter to Pergamum

CHARACTERS: John, Jesus, All
RUN TIME: 2 minutes
SCRIPTURE/BASED ON: Revelation 2

JESUS: Write to the angel of the church in Pergamum:

JOHN: The One who has the sharp, double-edged sword says:

JESUS: I know where you live—

ALL: where Satan's throne is!

JESUS: And you are holding on to My name and did not deny your faith in Me, even in the days of Antipas, My faithful witness who was killed among you,

ALL: where Satan lives.

JESUS: But I have a few things against you.

JOHN: You have some there who hold to the teaching of Balaam, who taught Balak to place a stumbling block in front of the Israelites:

ALL: to eat meat sacrificed to idols and to commit sexual immorality

JOHN: In the same way, you also have those who hold to the teaching of the Nicolaitans.

ALL: Therefore repent!

JESUS: Otherwise, I will come to you quickly and fight against them with the sword of My mouth.

ALL: Anyone who has an ear should listen to what the Spirit says to the churches.

JESUS: I will give the victor some of the hidden manna. I will also give him a white stone,

JOHN: and on the stone a new name is inscribed

JESUS: that no one knows except the one who receives it.

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The Letter to Thyatira

CHARACTERS: John, Jesus, All

RUN TIME: 2 minutes

SCRIPTURE/BASED ON: Revelation 2

JESUS: Write to the angel of the church in Thyatira:

JOHN: The Son of God, the One whose eyes are like a fiery flame and whose feet are like fine bronze says:

JESUS: I know your works—your love, faithfulness, service, and endurance.

ALL: Your last works are greater than the first.

JESUS: But I have this against you: You tolerate the woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess and teaches and deceives My slaves to commit sexual immorality

ALL: and to eat meat sacrificed to idols

JESUS: I gave her time to repent,

JOHN: but she does not want to repent of her sexual immorality.

JESUS: Look! I will throw her into a sickbed and those who commit adultery with her into great tribulation,

ALL: unless they repent of her practices.

JESUS: I will kill her children with the plague. Then all the churches will know that I am the One who examines minds and hearts, and I will give to each of you

ALL: according to your works.

JESUS: I say to the rest of you in Thyatira, who do not hold this teaching,

JOHN: who haven't known the deep things of Satan—as they say—

JESUS: I do not put any other burden on you. But hold on to what you have until I come.

JOHN: The one who is victorious

JESUS: and keeps My works to the end: I will give him authority over the nations—

ALL: and he will shepherd them with an iron scepter;

JOHN: he will shatter them like pottery[1]—

JESUS: just as I have received this from My Father. I will also give him the morning star.

ALL: Anyone who has an ear should listen to what the Spirit says to the churches.

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The Letter to Sardis

CHARACTERS: John, Jesus, All
RUN TIME: 1 minute
SCRIPTURE/BASED ON: Revelation 3

JESUS: Write to the angel of the church in Sardis:

JOHN: The One who has the seven spirits of God and the seven stars says:

JESUS: I know your works; you have a reputation[1] for being alive, but you are dead.

JOHN: Be alert and strengthen what remains, which is about to die,

JESUS: for I have not found your works complete before My God.

JOHN: Remember, therefore, what you have received and heard;

ALL: keep it, and repent.

JESUS: But if you are not alert,

JESUS: I will come like a thief, and you have no idea at what hour I will come against you.

JOHN: But you have a few people in Sardis who have not defiled their clothes,

JESUS: and they will walk with Me in white, because they are worthy.

ALL: In the same way, the victor will be dressed in white clothes,

JESUS: and I will never erase his name from the book of life but will acknowledge his name before My Father and before His angels.

ALL: Anyone who has an ear should listen to what the Spirit says to the churches.

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The Letter to Philadelphia

CHARACTERS: John, Jesus, All
RUN TIME: 2 minutes
SCRIPTURE/BASED ON: Revelation 3

JESUS: Write to the angel of the church in Philadelphia:

JOHN: The Holy One, the True One, the One who has the key of David,

ALL: who opens and no one will close, and closes and no one opens says:

JESUS: I know your works. Because you have limited strength, have kept My word, and have not denied My name,

ALL: look,

JESUS: I have placed before you an open door that no one is able to close.

ALL: Take note!

JESUS: I will make those from the synagogue of Satan,

JOHN: who claim to be Jews and are not, but are lying—

ALL: note this—

JESUS: I will make them come and bow down at your feet, and they will know that I have loved you. Because you have kept My command to endure, I will also keep you from the hour of testing

JOHN: that is going to come over the whole world to test those who live on the earth.

JESUS: I am coming quickly. Hold on to what you have,

ALL: so that no one takes your crown.

JESUS: The victor: I will make him a pillar in the sanctuary of My God, and he will never go out again. I will write on him the name of My God

JOHN: and the name of the city of My God—

JESUS: the new Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from My God—and My new name.

ALL: Anyone who has an ear should listen to what the Spirit says to the churches.

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The Letter to Laodicea

CHARACTERS: John, Jesus, Lukewarm, All
RUN TIME: 1 minute
SCRIPTURE/BASED ON: Revelation 3

JESUS: Write to the angel of the church in Laodicea:

JOHN: The Amen, the faithful and true Witness, the Originator of God's creation says:

JESUS: I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish that you were cold or hot.

JOHN: So, because you are lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold,

JESUS: I am going to vomit you out of My mouth. Because you say,

LUKEWARM: I'm rich; I have become wealthy and need nothing,

JOHN: and you don't know that you are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind, and naked,

JESUS: I advise you to buy from Me gold refined in the fire so that you may be rich,

JOHN: white clothes so that you may be dressed and your shameful nakedness not be exposed,

ALL: and ointment to spread on your eyes so that you may see.

JESUS: As many as I love, I rebuke and discipline.

ALL: So be committed and repent.

JESUS: Listen! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and have dinner with him, and he with Me.

ALL: The victor:

JESUS: I will give him the right to sit with Me on My throne, just as I also won the victory and sat down with My Father on His throne.

ALL: Anyone who has an ear should listen to what the Spirit says to the churches.

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