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Valley Church**

**September 14 & 17, 2023
Week 2 – The Divine Design (Rev. 1:9-20)**

Introduction:

Revelation 1:9-20 Notes:

The Divine Outline of Revelation:

Revelation 1:19

- Write...what you have _____ (chapter 1)
- Write...what is _____ (chapters 2-3)
- Write...what will take place _____ (chapters 4-22)

Compare Revelation 4:1

Greek “meta tauta” = later, afterward, after these things

The Big Idea:

The Apostle John has been given a “Divine Outline” for organizing the Book of Revelation. This is the outline we will follow, trusting God to speak to us at every turn...

QUESTIONS FOR LIFE GROUPS AND PERSONAL REFLECTION

Personal Life:

1. As we study the Book of Revelation, why do you think we should approach it with a balance of both confidence and humility? Discuss...

Promptings:

2. Read Revelation 1:9-20 as a group and then discuss the following thoughts and questions...
 - John identifies himself as our “brother and companion” on this journey of “suffering...kingdom...and endurance.” Why would such a statement be so encouraging to these first century believers in A.D. 90?
 - John sees a dramatic vision of a heavenly being with human characteristics (someone “like a son of man”). When John sees this vision of Christ in His glory, he falls at his feet “as though dead.” Why do you think John reacted this way, given the fact that He was Jesus’ closest friend during Christ’s earthly ministry? Discuss...
 - In Revelation 1:19, God has given us such a clear and direct “outline” for the book. If you can, try to re-state the connection between verse 19 and Revelation 4:1 (hint: *meta tauta*).
3. Revelation 1:20 suggests that Jesus has some things to say to seven stars (messengers) and seven lampstands (churches) in Asia Minor.

Have you ever thought about what Jesus might say in a letter written to His churches in America today? As a group, try to think of at least three encouragements and three corrections Jesus might include in such a letter...

Promptings:

4. Close in prayer:
 - Ask specifically for growth in your experience of Jesus through this series.
 - Thank God for one specific thing you love about Valley.
 - Ask God to show you how He wants you to serve others at Valley and in our community at large.

Pray for Valley to remain faithful to the grace and truth of Jesus in all we do as the return of Christ draws nearer...