

Jesus: The Alpha and the Omega

Ponder: Is Jesus really your everything?

Scripture: “I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End, the First and the Last” (Revelation 22:13, NKJV).

Who and what is Jesus? Does it matter? Jesus certainly thought so. Some of His countrymen had odd ideas about Him. “He’s John the immerser . . . or Elijah . . . or Jeremiah . . . or . . .” (Matthew 16:14). Peter got it right: “You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God” (v. 16).

Jesus identified Himself with numerous “I Am” statements in John’s gospel: “I am the true vine,” “I am the light of the world,” etc. But did you know John recorded four more “I Am” statements from Jesus in the book of Revelation? One of them is: “I am the Alpha and the Omega” (Revelation 1:11; 22:13).

Alpha is the first letter of the Greek alphabet; Omega is the last. In English we would say “from A to Z.” That covers all the bases. Jesus is, in a very real way, our everything.

Revelation 22:13 is not the first time we read of “the First and the Last.” Isaiah the prophet wrote in 44:6, “Thus says the Lord, the King of Israel, and his redeemer, the Lord of hosts: ‘I am the First and I am the Last; besides Me there is no God,’” Through His prophet, the Lord was urging His people to steer clear of the idolatry that had plagued them since before they came out of Egypt. He had chosen them and promised to bless them abundantly with everything they needed (44:1-5). He had given them every reason to trust Him; specifically, He had foretold future events and brought them to pass. The pagan idols couldn’t do that!

Today, Christians are God’s chosen people; we have all spiritual blessings in Christ (Ephesians 1:3). In Jesus, His word, and His church, we have everything God wants us to have. He has proven Himself trustworthy by fulfilling every prophecy and confirming His word with supernatural signs (Mark 16:20).

The world offers us innumerable alternatives to Jesus. Satan appeals to our vain desire for “some new thing” (Acts 17:21). Don’t fall for it! Really mean it when you say Jesus is your everything.