

AN EASTER PRAYER

Revelation 1:4-6

We can rest in our resurrected Redeemer!

I. THE REQUEST (4a)

A. FROM JOHN

- Here is a 95-year-old persecuted and isolated pastor and disciple - see 1:9

B. FOR CHURCHES

1. The seven churches in Asia
2. These are problematic churches in less-than-perfect times

C. ABOUT COMFORT

- Grace to you and peace

II. THE RESOURCES (4b-6a)

- From ...

A. THE ETERNAL GOD (4b)

1. His ways: Timeless
2. His worshippers: Devoted

B. THE EXCEPTIONAL CHRIST (5-6a)

1. His Conduct (5a)

- a. The faithful witness - See John 8:12, 36, 42
- b. The firstborn of the dead
 - 1) His power: He overcame Satan's domain and man's doom
 - 2) His preeminence: No one called Him out, this is an unaided resurrection - see Col. 1:18
 - 3) His permanence: He's the first who will never die again
 - 4) His proclamation: Because He lives ... we live > See I Corinthians 15:16-22
- c. The ruler of the kings of the earth - Philippians 2:8-11

2. His Care (5b-6a)

- a. Loving us
- b. Releasing us - See Colossians 2:13-14
- c. Making us ... A kingdom and priests to His God and Father

Over please >

III. **THE REVELING** (6b)

A. OUR TASK

1. Make Christ shine: To Him be the glory
2. Acknowledge Christ's strength: To Him be dominion

B. OUR TIMEFRAME

- Forever and ever

IV. **THE RESPITE** (Application)

A. RELAX: Christ comforts us with His grace and peace.

B. REFLECT: He is risen! Nothing is too hard for Him.

C. REMEMBER: He redeems! None are too sinful for His salvation.

D. REJOICE: Glorify Him! Celebrate Jesus!

CONCLUSION: We can rest in our resurrected Redeemer!