

The revelation from Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show his servants what must soon take place. He made it known by sending his angel to his servant John, who testifies to everything he saw—that is, the word of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ. Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear it and take to heart what is written in it, because the time is near. **Revelation 1:1–3 (NIV)**

On the Lord's Day I was in the Spirit, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet, which said: "Write on a scroll what you see and send it to the seven churches: to Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia and Laodicea." I turned around to see the voice that was speaking to me. And when I turned I saw seven golden lampstands, and among the lampstands was someone like a son of man, dressed in a robe reaching down to his feet and with a golden sash around his chest. The hair on his head was white like wool, as white as snow, and his eyes were like blazing fire. His feet were like bronze glowing in a furnace, and his voice was like the sound of rushing waters. In his right hand he held seven stars, and coming out of his mouth was a sharp, double-edged sword. His face was like the sun shining in all its brilliance. When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. Then he placed his right hand on me and said: "Do not be afraid. I am the First and the Last. I am the Living One; I was dead, and now look, I am alive for ever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and Hades. "Write, therefore, what you have seen, what is now and what will take place later. The mystery of the seven stars that you saw in my right hand and of the seven golden lampstands is this: The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands are the seven churches."

Revelation 1:10–20 (NIV)

WHAT WOULD JESUS SAY TO SEACOAST

1. DON'T LOSE YOUR FIRST LOVE

Yet I hold this against you: You have forsaken the love you had at first. Consider how far you have fallen! Repent and do the things you did at first. If you do not repent, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place. **Revelation 2:4–5 (NIV)**

- Restoring "1st Love" love
 - Remember
 - Repent
 - Redo

2. KEEP SERVING THE COMMUNITY

I know your deeds, your love and faith, your service and perseverance, and that you are now doing more than you did at first. **Revelation 2:19 (NIV)**

3. REMEMBER THAT BEING RIGHT IS NOT AS IMPORTANT AS BEING TOGETHER

Nevertheless, I have a few things against you: There are some among you who hold to the teaching of Balaam, who taught Balak to entice the Israelites to sin so that they ate food sacrificed to idols and committed sexual immorality. **Revelation 2:14 (NIV)**

THIS WEEK'S READING:

OCT 8: REV. 8; NEH. 11; PS. 103

OCT 9: REV. 9; NEH. 12; PS. 104:1-23

OCT 10: REV. 10; NEH. 13; PS. 104:24-35

OCT 11: REV. 11; ESTHER 1; PS. 105:1-25

OCT 12: REV. 12; ESTHER 2; PS. 105:26-45

OCT 13: REV. 13; ESTHER 3-4; PS. 106:1-23

OCT 14: REV. 14; ESTHER 5:1-6:13; PS. 106:24-48

For a digital version of the reading plan, visit [SEACOAST.ORG/AYEARINTHEWORD](https://seacoast.org/AYEARINTHEWORD)