

Hope Has a Name Week of December 27

*“Alpha and Omega”* Rev. Kyle Gatlin

* **In-Between**

(Revelation 1:1-3) 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, **2**who testifies to everything he saw—that is, the word of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ. **3**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.

* **Hear and take heart**

(Revelation 1:4-5c) John, To the seven churches in the province of Asia: Grace and peace to you from him who is, and who was, and who is to come, and from the seven spirits before his throne, **5**and from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

* **John recognizes Jesus as:**
  + **Christ**
  + **Faithful witness**
  + **Firstborn from the Dead**
  + **Ruler**

(Revelation 1:5d-8) To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood, 6and has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve his God and Father—to him be glory and power for ever and ever! Amen. 7 “Look, he is coming with the clouds,” and “every eye will see him,  
even those who pierced him”; and all peoples on earth “will mourn because of him.” So shall it be! Amen. 8 “I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, “who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty.”

* **How do we live in the In-Between?**
  + **Hear and Do**

(Revelation 1:3; NCV) Blessed is the one who reads the words of God’s message, and blessed are the people who hear this message and do what is written in it. The time is near when all of this will happen.

(Isaiah 42:20) You have seen many things, but you pay no attention; your ears are open, but you do not listen.”

(Isaiah 44:6) “This is what the Lord says - Israel’s King and Redeemer, the Lord Almighty: I am the first and I am the last; apart from me there is no God.