



Revelation

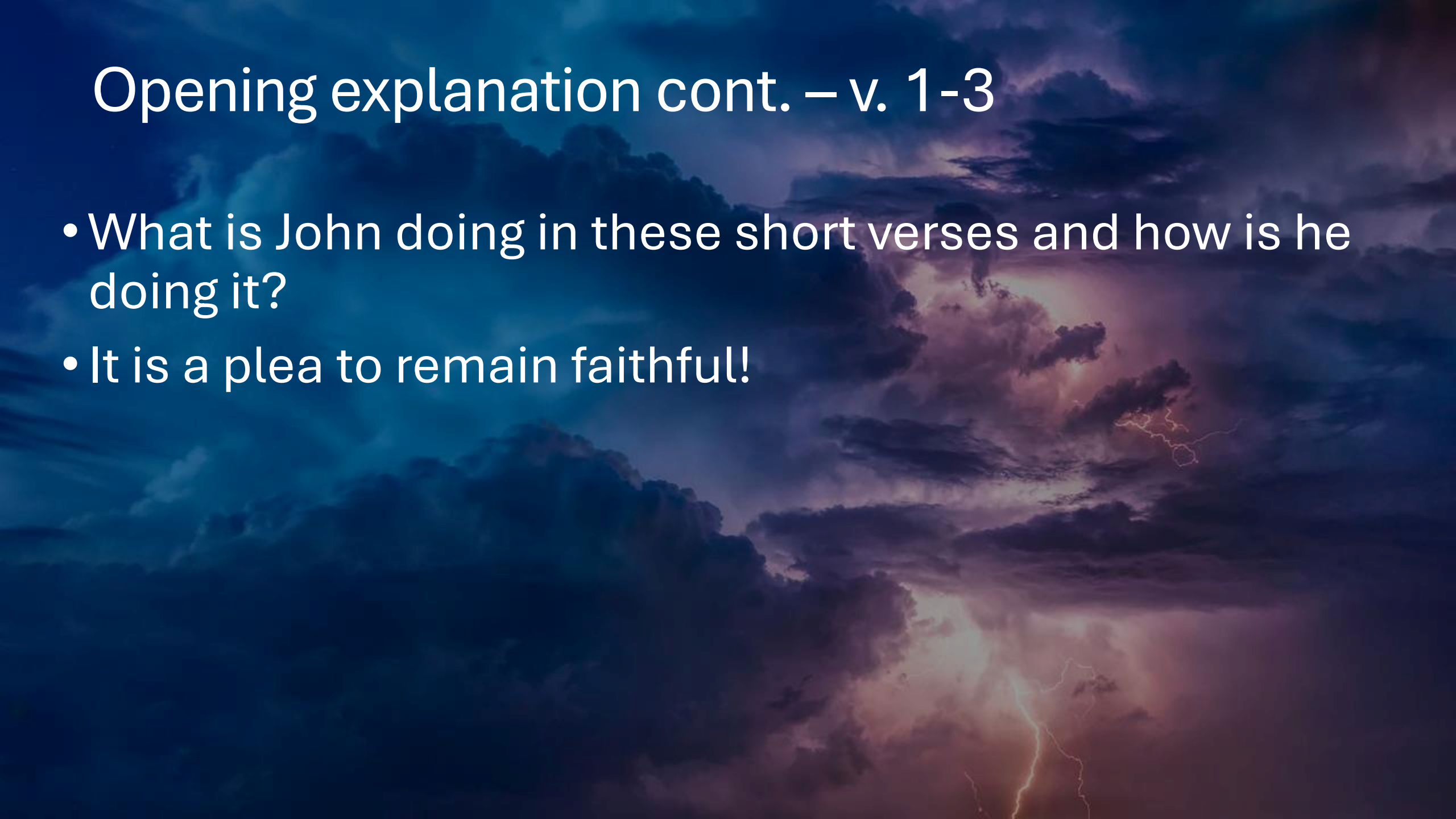
The Prologue – Rev. 1:1-20

Opening explanation – v. 1-3

- Jesus Himself reveals it – He is not the one being revealed.
- Soon, time is near – the word for “time” does not mean simply the ticking off of seconds and minutes – it means “significant” time, and it is imminent.
- Word of God, testimony of Jesus Christ – this is weighty.

Opening explanation cont. – v. 1-3

- What is John doing in these short verses and how is he doing it?
- It is a plea to remain faithful!



Greetings and praise – v. 4-8

- There were more than seven churches in Asia, seven is significant – signifies “complete.”
- “Grace and peace...” discuss – How is this possible in light of trouble?
- “From Him who is, and was, and is to come” – butchered Greek (with a Hebrew background) – time can’t contain Him.
- Seven Spirits – conveys the fulness/completeness of the Holy Spirit.

Greetings and praise cont. – v. 4-8

- Jesus Christ – Faithful witness
 - To what He had to do
 - Affirmed in His sacrifice that God's way is right
 - Becomes the basis for trust – won't ask of us more than He asked of Himself
 - In actuality, as the firstborn from the dead, we will never give as much as He.
 - 5-6 – What He has done for us
 - 7 – clouds – as He left, so He will come – Acts 1:9
- Alpha and Omega – God speaks - the beginning and end of everything.

Greetings and praise cont. – v. 4-8

- Alpha and Omega – God speaks - the beginning and end of everything.
- In these verses we see all of the God-head involved in what is going on.

The Christophany – v. 9-20

- A “Christophany” is an appearing of the exalted Christ, just as a “Theophany” is an appearing of God the Father.
- Examples: Isaiah 6:1-5; Ezekiel 1
- Here, the vision of Jesus parallels Daniel’s vision of God in Daniel 7:9.
- Reaction is universal – falling down in fear and worship.

The Christophany cont. – v. 9-20

- John is in exile because of his witness – fellow sufferer.
- Seven lampstands – churches. Purpose of lampstands?
Matt. 5:15
 - What is our purpose?
- Seven stars – angels of the churches
- Sword – As He speaks, so it is; represents judgement –
Rev. 2:16; 19:15, 21. Consider Hebrews 4:12-13