

LOYAL TO THE LAMB



EXPLORING THE TIMELESS TRUTH OF REVELATION

“The book is not so much designed to dispense information as it is designed to strengthen the readers’ commitments. When the images move readers to **renounce evil and to affirm their loyalty to God and Christ**, they are effective in their communication even if readers cannot explain the meaning of each detail.”

- Craig R. Koester, *Revelation and the End of All Things*

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How to Read Revelation Responsibly

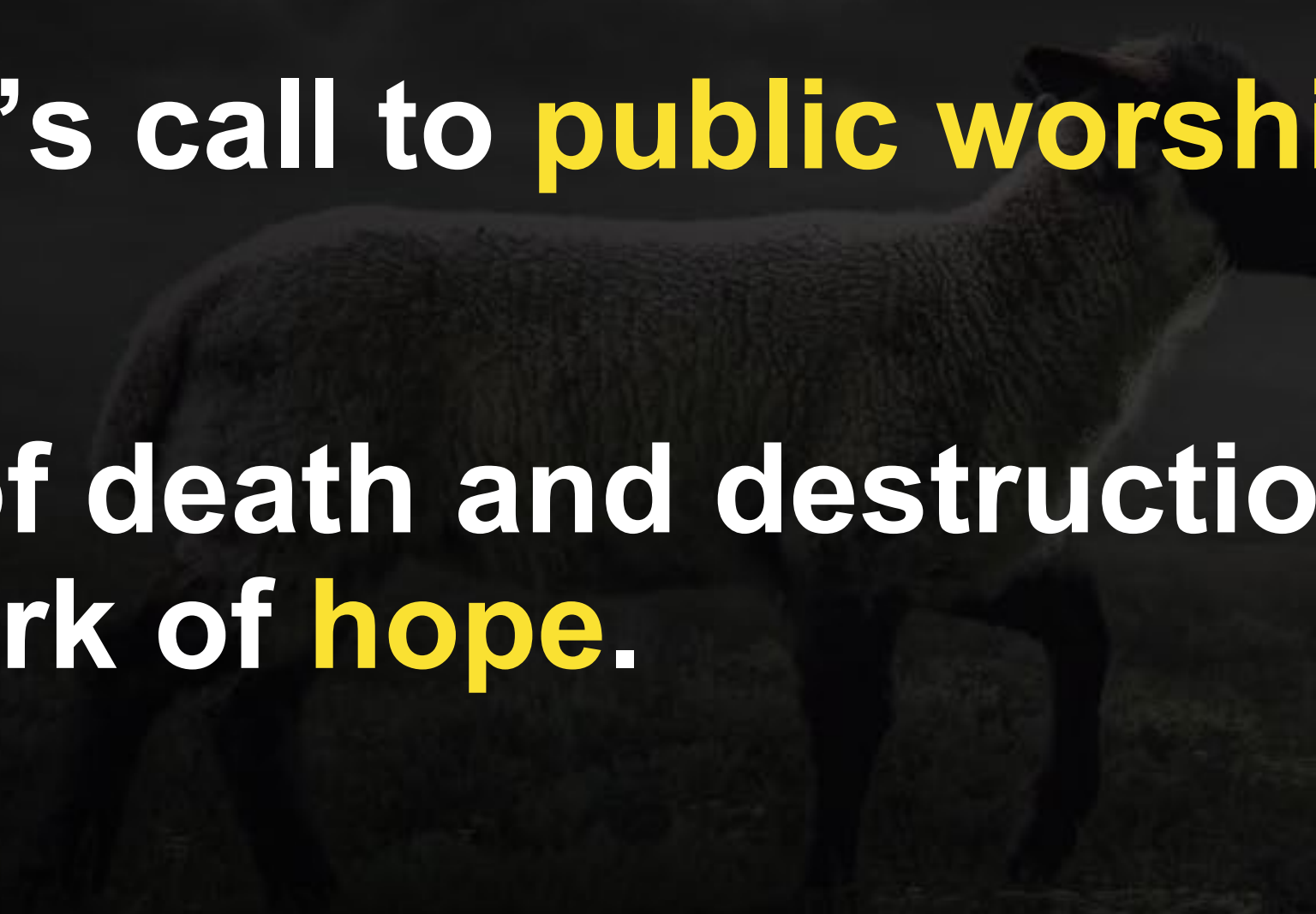
Source: Michael Gorman

1. Realize that the central and centering image of Revelation is **the Lamb that was slaughtered.**
2. Remember that Revelation was first of all written **by** a first-century Christian **for** first-century Christians **using** first-century literary devices and images.
3. Abandon so-called **literal, linear approaches** to the book as if it were history in advance, and use an interpretive strategy of analogy rather than correlation.

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4. Focus on the book's call to **public worship** and **discipleship**.
 5. Place the images of death and destruction in Revelation within the larger framework of **hope**.

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Recommended Resources on Revelation

- RightNow Media (CCMR Homepage)
- *Revelation and the End of All Things* by Craig R. Koester
- *Reading Revelation Responsibly* by Michael J. Gorman
- RadicallyChristian.com/revelation



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Revelation 1:1-2

English Standard Version

¹ The **revelation** of Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show to his servants the things that must soon take place. He made it known by sending his angel to his servant John,
² who bore witness to the word of God and to the testimony of Jesus Christ, even to all that he saw.

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Revelation 1:3

English Standard Version

³ Blessed is the one who **reads aloud** the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who **hear**, and who **keep** what is written in it, for the time is near.

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Revelation 1:4-6

English Standard Version

⁴ John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from him **who is and who was and who is to come**, and from the **seven spirits** who are before his throne, ⁵ and from **Jesus Christ** the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth. To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood ⁶ and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

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Revelation 1:7

English Standard Version

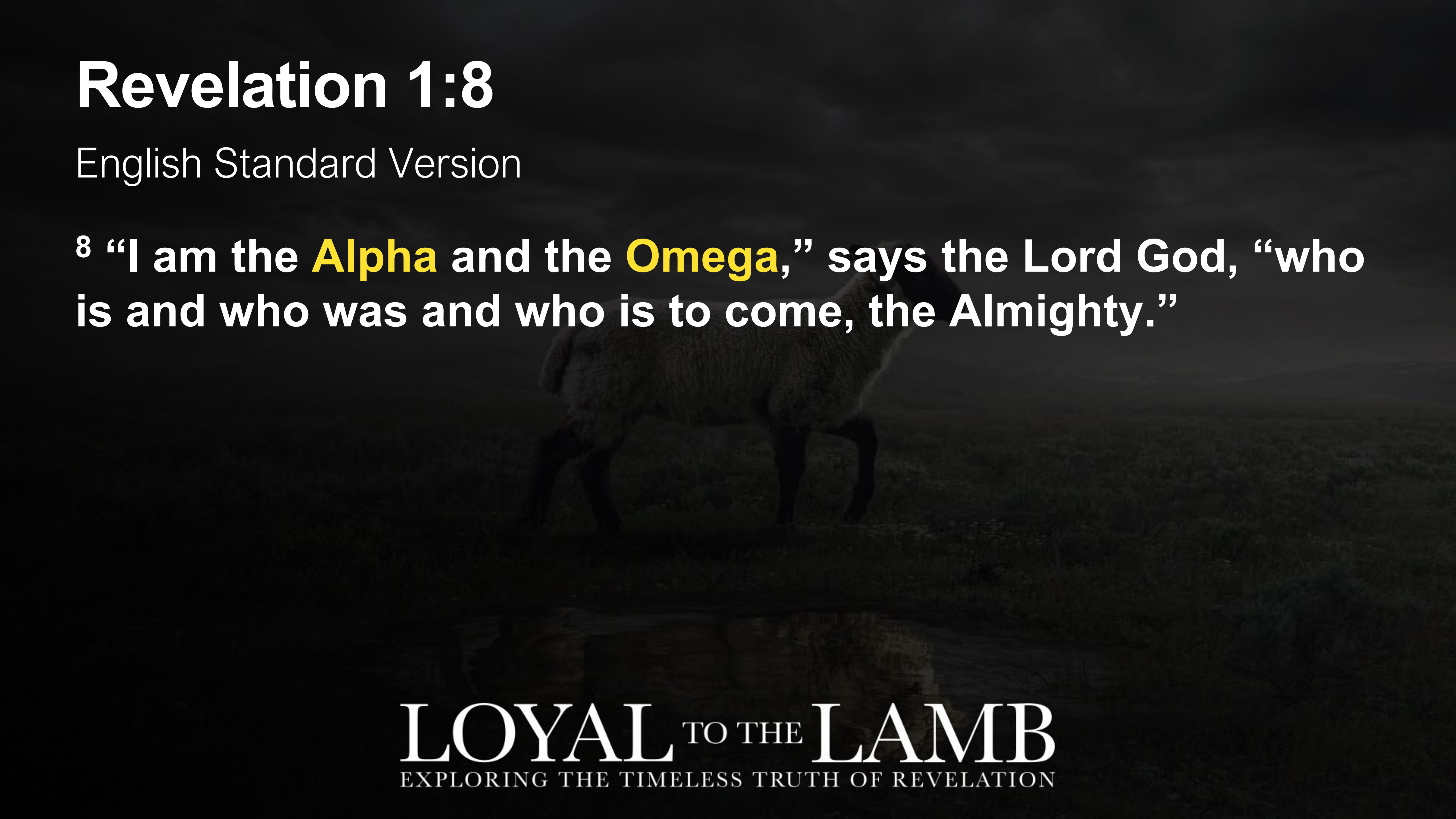
⁷ Behold, **he is coming with the clouds**, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him, and all tribes of the earth will wail on account of him. **Even so. Amen.**

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Revelation 1:8

English Standard Version

⁸ “I am the **Alpha** and the **Omega**,” says the Lord God, “who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.”



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Revelation 1:9-11

English Standard Version

⁹ I, John, your brother and partner in the tribulation and the kingdom and the patient endurance that are in Jesus, was on the island called Patmos on account of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. ¹⁰ I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet ¹¹ saying, "Write what you see in a book and send it to the seven churches, to **Ephesus** and to **Smyrna** and to **Pergamum** and to **Thyatira** and to **Sardis** and to **Philadelphia** and to **Laodicea**."

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“I saw in the night visions, and behold, with the clouds of heaven there came **one like a son of man**, and he came to the Ancient of Days and was presented before him. And to him was given **dominion** and **glory** and a **kingdom**, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him; his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom one that shall not be destroyed” (Daniel 7:13-14).

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Revelation 1:14-16

English Standard Version

¹⁴ The hairs of his head were white, like white wool, like snow. His eyes were like a flame of fire, ¹⁵ his feet were like burnished bronze, refined in a furnace, and his voice was like the roar of many waters. ¹⁶ In his right hand he held seven stars, **from his mouth came a sharp two-edged sword**, and his face was like the sun shining in full strength.

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Revelation 1:17-18

English Standard Version

¹⁷ When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. But he laid his right hand on me, saying, “Fear not**, I am the first and the last, ¹⁸ and the living one. I died, and behold I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades.**

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Revelation 1:19-20

English Standard Version

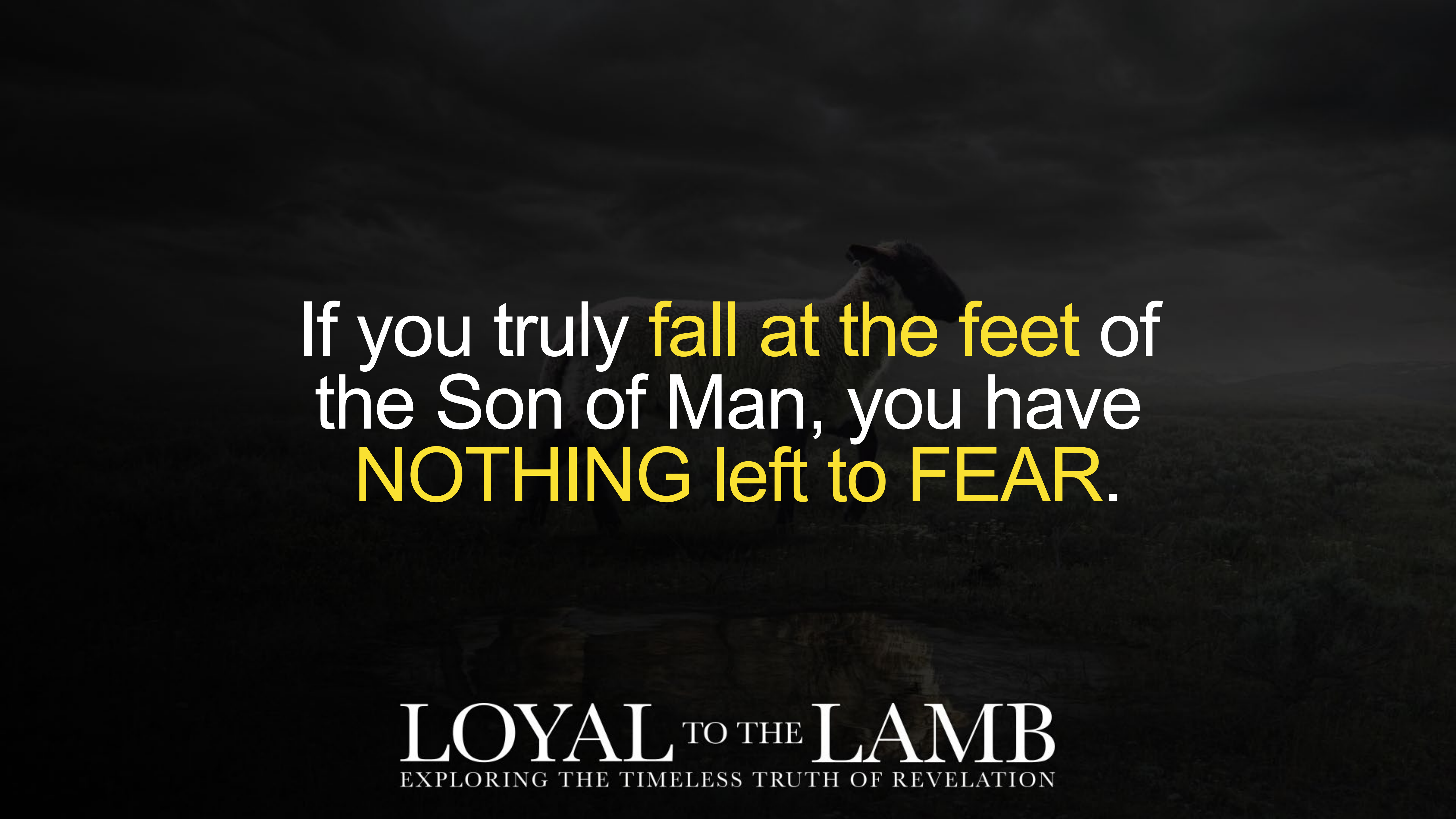
¹⁹ Write therefore the things that you have seen, those that are and those that are to take place after this. ²⁰ As for the mystery of the seven stars that you saw in my right hand, and the seven golden lampstands, the seven stars are the angels of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands are the seven churches.

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LOYALTY determines
whether the Son of Man is
your FRIEND or your FOE.

LOYAL^{TO THE} LAMB
EXPLORING THE TIMELESS TRUTH OF REVELATION



If you truly fall at the feet of
the Son of Man, you have
NOTHING left to **FEAR**.

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