

## Blessing and Hardship

What blessings do some people get?

What hardships do some people encounter?

How do you explain this world...?

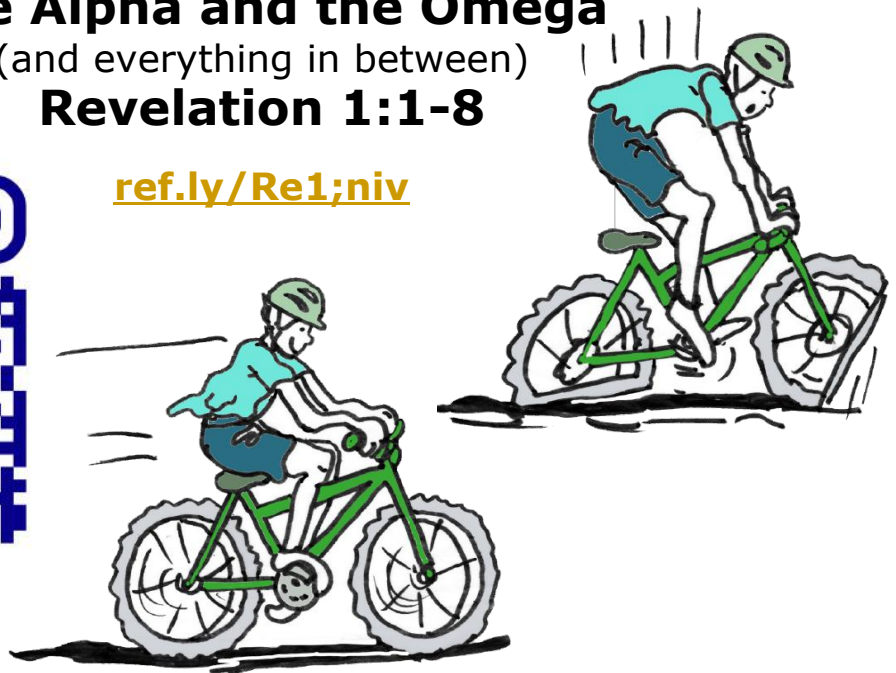
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## The Alpha and the Omega

(and everything in between)

**Revelation 1:1-8**

[ref.ly/Re1;niv](https://ref.ly/Re1;niv)



2

## 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, <sup>2</sup> who testifies to everything he saw—that is, the word of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ. <sup>3</sup> 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**.

3

## Revelation 1:4-5a

<sup>4</sup> John,

To **the seven churches** in the province of Asia:

Grace and peace to you

**God the Father**

- from him who is, and who was, and **who is to come,**

**God the Spirit**

- and from the seven spirits before his throne,

- <sup>5</sup> and from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

**God the Son**

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## Revelation 1:5b-6

To him who **God the Son = Jesus Christ**

- loves us
- and has freed us from our sins by his blood,
- <sup>6</sup> and 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.

5

## **Jesus Christ** Revelation 1:7

<sup>7</sup> “Look, **he is coming** with the clouds,” **Daniel 7:13**  
and “every eye will see him,  
even those who pierced him”;  
and all peoples on earth  
“will mourn because of him.” **Zechariah 12:10**  
So shall it be!  
Amen.

6

## Revelation 1:8

<sup>8</sup> "I am the Alpha and the Omega,"  
says the Lord God, " God the Father

- who is, and
- who was, and
- who is to come
- the Almighty."

7

## The Big Idea

### God the Father and Son...

<b>Creator</b>	<b>created all things</b>	was
<b>Savior</b>	<b>save all who believe</b>	is
<b>coming King</b>	<b>and will come to reign over all</b>	is to come

8



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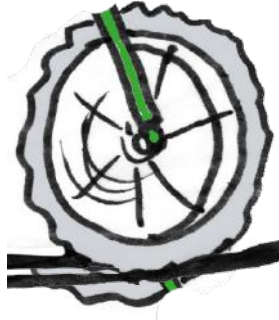
**Wheels need to handle  
the whole of life...**



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## How to understand life

**God the Creator**  
Order, meaning, value,  
goodness



### Not recognizing God as creator...

- brought profound trouble into the good world
- Now there is **goodness & rebellion/evil** in every person

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## How to understand life

**God the Creator**  
Order, meaning, value,  
goodness



**God the Savior**  
Grace, forgiveness

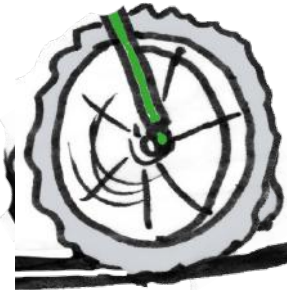
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## How to understand life



### God the Creator

Order, meaning, value,  
goodness



### God the Savior

Grace, forgiveness



### God the Coming King

Justice & mercy  
All things made right and good



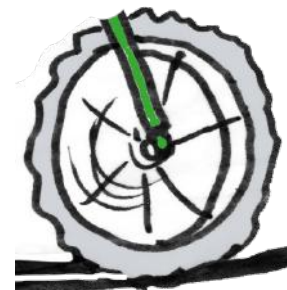
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## How to understand life



### God the Creator

Order, meaning, value,  
goodness



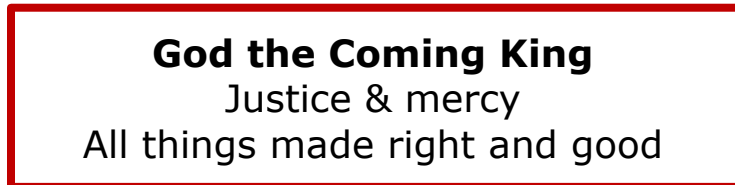
### God the Savior

Grace, forgiveness



### God the Coming King

Justice & mercy  
All things made right and good

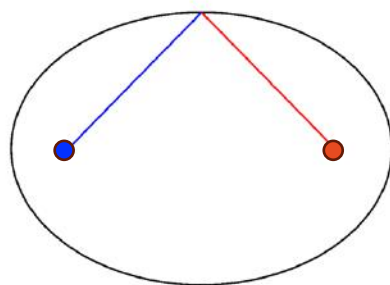


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**The Big Idea**  
**God the Father and Son are...**  
**Creator**  
**Savior**  
**and coming King**

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**How do you draw an ellipse?**



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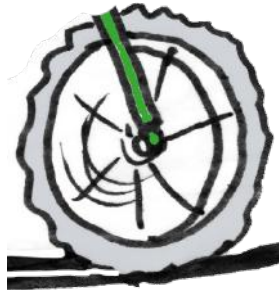


## Draw the lines for all of life...



### **God the Creator**

Order, meaning, value,  
goodness



### **God the Savior**

Grace, forgiveness



### **God the Coming King**

Justice & mercy  
All things made right and good

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## Draw the lines for all of life...



### **God the Creator**

Order, meaning, value,  
goodness



### **God the Savior**

Grace, forgiveness



### **God the Coming King**

Justice & mercy  
All things made right and good

18

*"I am the Alpha and the Omega,"  
says the LORD God,  
"who is, and who was, and who is to come,  
the Almighty."  
Revelation 1:8*

He who testifies to these things says,  
"Yes, I am coming soon."  
Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.  
The grace of the Lord Jesus be with God's people.  
Amen.

*Revelation 22:20-21*