Message: *Christmas is Not Yet Over*

Scripture: Revelation 1:1-8 (01-07-24 Pastor Tony Hao)

Christmas not over yet, because Jesus is coming again. We are thankful our Lord came as a baby born in a manger that first Christmas. But we are to be prepared for the second Christmas when He comes as King of Kings and Lord of Lords. The book of Revelation is about Jesus Christ and His victory over the powers of evil. It was written to offer hope to Christians in times of difficulty and darkness, and to warn others of judgment to come because of their unbelief and impenitence. You might say the themes of Revelation are (1) Christ's revelations of His glorious victory over evil, (2) hope for believers in the midst of persecution, and (3) warnings to unbelievers who are fast approaching judgment day. Do not approach Revelation as if you were solving a difficult puzzle. Do what John did: fall at the feet of the Lord Jesus Christ. Studying Revelation should make you bow before Him in wonder, adoration, and joy; if not, you have missed the point of the whole book.

GROWING DEEPER (Reflection & Application)

- 1. What is "revelation"? In the case of this book, who is revealed? By whom? To whom? For what purpose?
- 2. What is significant about the references to God in this passage? The titles given to Jesus?
- 3. To some, Jesus is a baby in the manger, or an innocent victim of crucifixion. To John, Jesus is the reigning King. How might this view of Jesus affect your day-to-day dealings with sin? With discouragement? With opposition? With apathy?
- 4. If asked to share three facts about Jesus that are especially significant to you, what would you say? Why are these facts so important for you?