

THE SON OF MAN
--REVELATION 1:9-20--

INTRODUCTION:

Often when Christmas has come and gone, we have left Jesus as a baby in the manger and we must remember that He is no longer that helpless baby that had to be cared for and protected by Mary and Joseph, but He is now the glorified Son of Man, and He is intimately involved in the work of His church. This morning I want to focus on a vision that the apostle John saw of the glorified Son of Man, the Lord Jesus Christ. In this vision we will see how the Lord chose to demonstrate His glory and to allow John to see Christ's ongoing work in His church.

I. THE VOICE OF THE SON OF MAN (Revelation 1:9-11)

- a. As the apostle _____ begins his description of what he saw, he first introduces himself.
- b. John informs us that he was in the _____ on the Lord's Day.
- c. As he was worshipping on this particular Sunday John writes that he heard behind him a loud _____ like the sound of a trumpet. (Exodus 19:16)
- d. The Lord Jesus tells John in this commanding voice that he is to _____ a book and send it to seven churches in Asia Minor.

II. THE SETTING OF THE SON OF MAN (Revelation 1:12)

- a. John turned to see the person connected to the _____ that was speaking to him.
- b. The first thing that John sees as he turns around are _____ golden lampstands.
- c. Though these seven lampstands correspond to the seven churches listed in verse 11, this picture of the church is not _____ to only those seven churches.

III. THE SIGHT OF THE SON OF MAN (Revelation 1:13-17)

- a. After John sees the lampstands, his attention is immediately drawn to the Person connected to the _____ that spoke to him.
- b. The fact that John saw Jesus Christ in the _____ of the lampstands should give us great comfort and be a tremendous encouragement to us.
- c. John first describes the clothing of our Lord; He was clothed in a _____ that reached down to His feet and girded across His chest with a golden sash. (Hebrews 7:24-25)
- d. The next thing John describes about the glorified Son of Man is His _____ that was white like white wool, like snow. (Ephesians 5:25-27; 1 John 3:1-3)
- e. John moves from Christ's hair to His _____ and describes them as being like a flame of fire. (Hebrews 4:13)
- f. Not only does He see it, but He also deals with it as John goes onto describes the Lord's _____ which were like burnished bronze when it has been made to glow in a furnace. (John 15:2; Hebrews 12:5-11)
- g. John next describes not what he sees but what he hears by describing the _____ of the Lord as the sound of many waters.
- h. John goes on to describe again what he sees, and he writes that the Lord was holding in His right hand seven _____.
- i. Part of the Lord's sovereign care is to _____ the church from the wickedness of false teaching. (Revelation 2:16; Hebrews 4:12)
- j. The final detail that John mentions in his description of Jesus is that His _____ was like the sun shining in its strength. (John 17:5)

CONCLUSION:

This is the vision that John saw of his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, a vision of the Lord in the midst of the church serving as their Great High Priest always interceding for them. He saw Him as their King and Judge, disciplining them so that they might share in His holiness, protecting them from the enemies of the church and those who would seek to deceive them. Finally reflecting the majesty of His glory

through them that He might draw other sinners into His kingdom. John's response to this vision of the glorified Son of Man was to fall at His feet like a dead man, John collapses before the Lord of glory in fear, in reverence, in worship. John's response is the same response we see throughout Scripture of everyone who sees a vision of the Lord or encounters the Lord. This should always be the response of anyone who sees the Lord, whether you are a redeemed sinner or not, you should be terrified to be in the presence of Holy God. There is always this fear and reverence in a true vision of Christ because we see His glory and He sees our sin.

John collapsed before the Lord, staring at His bronze feet of judgment and the double-edged sword of His word, we too would collapse in a lifeless heap. But the terror of that vision turned to comfort as the Lord reached down and placed His right hand on John. He said to John, "*Do not be afraid; I am the first and the last, and the living One; and I was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of death and of Hades.*" (Revelation 1:17–18, NASB95) These were words of comfort and encouragement to John, and they should be to us as well. The truth that He was dead and alive forevermore should cause our hearts to lift in grateful praise that He has purchased our salvation and any and all discipline and judgment is to draw us closer to Him and to purify us as He is pure in preparation of meeting the glorified Son of Man. There is reason to be terrified when we see God moving in judgment against the church, but that terror turns to comfort when we reflect on what God has done for us. Just as He had work for John to do, He also has work for us. We are not called to write another book of the Bible, but we are called to proclaim the glory of His gospel to those around us. The glorified Son of Man is at work in the church, how will you respond to Him, and His charge to proclaim the gospel to those around you?