

REVELATION

A PORTRAIT OF JESUS GLORIFIED

Icebreaker

If you ended up stranded on a deserted island, what one book (other than the Bible) would you want to have with you?

Context

With the opening of the letter complete, John tells us how the vision/revelation started for him. John starts by reminding the readers that he understands their difficult situation being under persecution. It is under the circumstances that Jesus shows up to meet his people in their need.

Today, my prayer is that you will know how Jesus meets with us and provides for us what is needed in the midst of our suffering and uncertainty. I hope you are overwhelmed by the glimpse we are given of Jesus in his resurrected glory.

Passage

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."

12 Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking to me, and on turning I saw seven golden lampstands, 13 and in the midst of the lampstands one like a son of man, clothed with a long robe and with a golden sash around his chest. 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.

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. 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.

The Holy Bible: English Standard Version (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles, 2016), Re 1:9–20.

Sermon Notes

Intro

Luke 17:1-9

Jesus Glorified

Clothed Jesus is the _____ HIGH PRIEST _____ for His people.
v. 13 - *clothed with a long robe and with a golden sash around his chest*

Head Jesus is _____ HOLY _____.
v. 14 - *The hairs of his head were white, like white wool, like snow*

Eyes Jesus sees everything _____ PERFECTLY _____.
v. 14 - *His eyes were like a flame of fire*

Feet Jesus is the righteous _____ JUDGE _____.
v. 15 - *His feet were like burnished bronze*

Voice Jesus will not be _____ IGNORED _____.
v. 15 - *His voice was like the roar of many waters*

Hand Jesus oversees _____ HIS CHURCH _____,
v. 16 - *In his right hand, he held seven stars (v. 20)*

Mouth Jesus' judgments are _____ FINAL _____.
v. 16 - *from His mouth came a sharp two-edged sword*

Face Jesus is _____ GLORIOUS _____.
v. 17 - *His face was like the sun shining at full strength*

Therefore...

1. I will not live in _____ SINFUL FEAR _____.
2. Jesus started it all and He _____ WILL _____ complete it.
3. Jesus died but He is _____ ALIVE _____ forevermore.
4. Jesus _____ DECIDES _____ who dies and who goes to hell.



Post Sermon Questions

If your group is meeting after hearing the sermon, here are some basic questions to discuss among the group.

1. What did you like about the sermon, or what was one of the more important things you heard in the sermon?
2. What was something in the sermon that caused you to have questions?
3. What did we learn about Jesus in this passage?
4. What do we learn about man (or human nature) in this passage?
5. Are there any sins we need to confess because of this passage?
6. Are there any actions we should take in light of this passage?

Discuss

1. Ask someone to read Revelation 1:9-10, but before they do say: (Person who is going to read) is going to read two verses from our lesson today. I want you to listen for the answer to four questions:
 - a. **Who is John in relation to the people receiving this letter?**
 - b. **Where is John?**
 - c. **Why is he there?**
 - d. **What was he doing?**

Once the person finishes reading the verses, ask for people to answer the four questions.

2. John was in his 90's when he is exiled to Patmos. It is likely that he was forced to work by the Romans while on the island, plus he had to find a way to survive.

Why do you think John was worshipping (in the spirit) on a Sunday?

Read Exodus 20:8-11 & Hebrews 10:24-25.

According to the passages, why is it important to worship God regularly? How high of a priority should worship be for a Christian?

3. The image of Jesus being in the middle of the lampstands is meant to paint the picture that Jesus is at work in his churches. **Is it possible to "do church" without Jesus being involved? What are some ways the church can keep Christ at the center?**
4. Ask someone to read Revelation 1:12-16. Say, "As (person who will be reading) reads these verses, listen for 8 things John noticed about Jesus when he turned around."

Ask the group to list the 8 things noticed by John's vision of Jesus.



Which of these attributes would be helpful to a person suffering injustice? Why?

Which of these attributes would be helpful to a person who is isolated or alone? Why?

Which of these attributes would be helpful to a person who feels defeated or feels like the enemy is "winning?" Why?

5. **Has there ever been a time where you were so overwhelmed by an experience that it "took your breath away"/flooded with emotions/frozen and didn't know what to do? Describe it to the group.**
[From a neuroscience perspective, that can happen when we take in new information and we don't have a way of categorizing what we are experiencing.]
6. **What are some reasons why John is overcome at this moment?**
7. **What is the significance of Jesus touching John with his right hand?**
8. Because of the sin of Adam, sin has brought the sentence of death to every person (Romans 5:12-14.) Death is the greatest enemy that we face.
9. **What is the significance of Jesus holding the keys to death and Hades? According to Revelation 1:18a, why does Jesus have those keys? (See Romans 6:9 and Romans 14:9) Why would this truth be important to a person who might be murdered for their faith?**
10. As great as this moment was for John to see the resurrected Jesus, why did Jesus remind him to write down the vision again in verse 19? (Matthew 17:1-8, noticing the temptation Peter faced at that moment.)
11. In verse 20, we are told that Jesus stands in the midst of his church, and Jesus holds the messengers/angels for the church in his hand. **Is it reassuring to you that Jesus is in control of the church/his people all the time? Why or why not?**

