

The book of Revelation

Chapter 1-Part 2

5. *John's Commission to Write the Apocalypse (1:9-11)*

-The Apostle John "addresses his fellow Christians in order to gain their confidence and to make them feel that he is standing on _____ ground with them." (65)

-He identifies with them in four ways:

1. **"your brother"**-there is a _____ bond that he and his audience share in Christ
2. **"partner in the tribulation"**-John is _____ for Christ as are those to whom he is writing
3. **"partner in...the kingdom"**-John and his audience are partners in the _____ of Christ
4. **"partner in...patient endurance"**-John is having to endure _____ as are those to whom he is writing

-John was suffering exile on Patmos because of his _____ to Christ. We must remember that "conversion does not remove us from this world but rather puts us into conflict with it." (Goldsworthy, 184)

-John was "in the Spirit on the Lord's day" when he heard behind him "a loud voice like a trumpet."

-**"in the Spirit"**-"He is taken out of contact with the physical world around him...he sees, indeed, but not with _____ eyes. He hears, but not with _____ ears. He is in direct spiritual contact with his Savior." (65)

-"John 'became' in the Spirit on the Lord's day. This is a reference to prophetic _____ like Ezekiel's statements, 'Then the Spirit lifted me up...'" (Johnson, 34)

-**"on the Lord's day"**-"It is the Lord's Day, that is, the first day of the week, the day which we commemorate the Lord's _____." (65)

-Jesus Christ tells John to write what he sees and to send it to the seven churches

6. *The Vision of the Son of Man (1:12-16)*

-John turns to see the voice that was speaking to him and sees, first, seven golden lampstands and then sees one "in the _____" of the lampstands.

-What John sees and how John describes it are meant to strike fear and awe into the hearts of all who read it. (notice Hendriksen's description on pages 66 & 67)

"The symbols seen by John in the vision reveal not what Jesus looks like but what He is _____-His identity as the searcher of hearts, full of consuming holiness and boundless wisdom, the perfect priest standing for His people before the Father, the perfect King defending them against the devil by His invincible

Word. Revelation's visions show us how things are, not how they look to the physical eye." (Johnson, 60)

7. *The Effect of the Vision on John (1:17-20)*

-When John saw Him, he fell at His feet as though dead.

"Yet the real purpose of the vision was not to terrify but to _____
John...The Son of Man tenderly lays His right hand on John, and expression of love an imparting of strength, so that the apostle's drooping and exhausted frame revives and he arises." (67)

-The glorious Christ then tells John to "Fear not" and tells John five important truths about Himself

1. **"I am the first and the last"**-He is the _____ One
2. **"I am...the living one"**-He is God (aseity)
3. **"I died"**-The Eternal Son really did take to Himself a human nature and that nature experienced _____ death
4. **"behold I am alive forevermore"**-He rose triumphantly from the grave _____ defeating death
5. **"I have the keys of Death and Hades"**-"He has the 'keys' of death, that is, authority and power over death, so that death cannot _____ the believer but is to be considered gain for the kingdom, and so, also, for the believer." (67)

-Then, "Christ instructs John to write the things which he saw, that is, this vision of the Son of Man; and 'the things which are,' that is, the conditions at that very time, of the seven churches in Asia Minor; and 'the things which shall come to pass hereafter,' that is, the events that would happen throughout the _____ future, according to their leading principles." (68)

-This chapter concludes with the Lord explaining several of the elements of the vision John had of Him.

-The seven stars that were in His right-hand Christ identifies as the (7) angels of the seven churches.

-"Angels must be taken in the sense of _____, ministers. The Lord holds them in His right hand; He exercises absolute authority over them; they are His ambassadors. He protects them; they are safe when they obey Him and are faithful to His service." (68)

-The seven lampstands that Christ was in the middle of He tells us are symbolic of the seven churches

-The churches are lampstands, that is, _____-bearers." (69)

-"Jesus, the holy One of God, is present among them and knows their situation more _____ than they do." (Johnson, 61)