

Revelation
The Vision of the Son of Man

- **JOHN'S CIRCUMSTANCES LEADING UP TO THE VISION (9-10)**
- **Their brother and companion (9a)**
 - **In tribulation**
 - -He relates to them by his own suffering for the cause of Christ.
- **In the kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ.**
 - He shared in the Kingdom with fellow Christians.
 - The Kingdom was a present reality not a future utopia. ([Col 1:13](#))
 - This is established early on in this book by this statement.
- **On the island called [Patmos](#) (9b)**
 - For the word of God
 - He was exiled for speaking the "Word of God"
- **For the testimony of Jesus Christ.**
 - He was exiled for preaching the gospel (testimony)
 - Gospel = Good News
 - Death, Burial and Resurrection ([I Cor 15:12-19](#))
- **In the Spirit (10a)**
 - Not as in joy, ecstasy,
 - But the means to which he received the revelation
- **On the Lord's Day (10b)**
 - Nowhere else used in the NT
 - John considered this day associated to the Lord
 - The audience would have been familiar with this statement.
 - No day fills this requirement but the "first day of the week"
 - The day of the Lord's resurrection
 - The day they came together to break bread.
 - The Greek word Kuriakos is only used one other time in 1 Cor 11:23-34

- **WHAT HE HEARD BEHIND HIM (10b-11)**
- **A loud voice, as of a trumpet (10c)**
 - Loud like a blast from a trumpet...
- **Saying to him... (11)**
 - "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last"
 - "What you see, write in a book"
 - What he saw and what he was about to see.
 - To write down the vision as the Spirit revealed it.
 - God revealed his will through the written word.
 - The Prophets spoke His word but also wrote it.
 - The written word has the same power and authority as the spoken word
 - The word was written to be understood.
 - "Send it to the seven churches which are in Asia..."
 - The number seven represented a whole or complete number.
 - The seven addressed were probably chosen because they represented a cross sampling of the problems facing the Universal Church.
 - While exiled, John may not have been aware of the issues of each church thus validating that the revelation was from God.

- **WHAT HE SAW, AND HIS REACTION (12-17a)**
- **Turning to see the voice, he saw... (12-16)**
 - Seven golden lampstands
 - Seven = complete
 - Gold = purified
 - Lampstands = church (vs 20)
 - The church was complete and purified.
 - The Church as it was designed and constructed was complete and pure.
 - The human side is where the faults are.
 - In the midst of the seven lampstands, One like the Son of Man
 - Christ is seen walking among the churches as he promised (Mat 18:20, 28:20)
 - Because of this, He knows their works, strengths and shortcomings.
 - The "Son of Man" described
 - Clothed with a garment down to the feet, girded about the chest with a golden band
 - Fully clothed signifies dignity
 - The golden band signifies victory secured
 - His head and hair white as wool, white as snow
 - Purity, deity.
 - His eyes like a flame of fire
 - Eye see, fire purifies
 - He sees things as they are not as they appear from the outside.
 - His feet like fine brass, as if refined in a furnace
 - The word Brass (Chalkolibanon) is only used here and in vs 2:18.
 - Unknown substance meaning not known for sure.
 - It was purified by fire.

- His voice as the sound of many waters
 - Consider the sound of a rushing river.
 - Loud roar that never ceases
 - In His right hand, seven stars
 - Just like He is at the Father's right hand, He has hold of the church in His right hand.
 - Out of His mouth, a sharp two-edged sword (Heb 4:12)
 - His countenance like the sun shining in its strength
 - Countenance usually means face but this could be His whole body.
 - Depicts Him as a source of light.
 - Shining brighter than the sun.
 - The light of the world.
 - The light of eternity yet to come.

- **Seeing Him, John fell at His feet as dead (17)**
 - John recognized His majesty and his unworthiness to stand before Him.
 - John was no doubt breathless at the site and reverent fear.

- **THE LORD'S WORDS TO JOHN (17b-20)**
 - "Do not be afraid" (17b-18)
 - "I am the First and the Last"
 - "I am He who lives, and was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore. Amen."
 - "I have the keys of Hades and of Death."
 - Christ has control over..
 - The abode of the dead
 - Death itself.

- "Write..." (19)
 - "The things which you have seen"
 - "The things which are"
 - "The things which will take place after this"
 - "The mystery of the seven stars...and the seven golden lampstands"
 - "The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches"
 - "The seven lampstands...are the seven churches"

- **LIFE APPLICATION:**

- Jesus walks among his churches
- The symbols represent Christ as...
 - Victorious ruler
 - Deity with omnipotence
 - Voice of authority
 - The light of the world
- He has the power over death.
- With such a King, we have no need of fear!