

JESUS IN THE CHURCH

(What Jesus Is Doing In The Midst Of The Candlesticks)
Revelation 1:1-20



THE REVELATION IS CLEAR

- ◆ The Robe
- ◆ The Hair
- ◆ The Eyes
- ◆ The Feet
- ◆ The Voice
- ◆ The Hands
- ◆ The Sword

“I turned to see in the midst of the seven candlesticks (churches), one like unto the Son of Man” (Revelation 1:12, 13)

Bill Kirk

“JESUS IN THE CHURCH”

Text: Revelation 1:1-20

Subject: What Jesus Is Doing In The Church Today

Introduction

1. One day in the year 95 A.D., John the Apostle received the revelation of Jesus Christ.
2. The Lord pulled back the curtain of heaven, and gave John a glimpse of Jesus.
3. John would record what was unveiled to him while banished on the isle of Patmos (a Roman colony for prisoners).
 - ◆ John had refused to worship the Roman Emperor.
 - ◆ John was sent to the 50 mile square island.
 - ◆ John would receive an awesome revelation of Jesus.

(Who Is This Jesus?)

- #1. The Faithful Witness (v. 5) (which means):
 - ◆ Jesus is the One person we can depend upon.
 - ◆ Jesus has witnessed to us the truth that can be depended upon.
- #2. The First Begotten Of The Dead (which means):
 - ◆ Jesus was the first to ever be resurrected who never had to die again. (and)
 - ◆ Jesus is the “first” in a long line of people who will be resurrected with glorified bodies as well.
- #3. The Prince Of The Kings Of The Earth (which means):
 - ◆ Jesus has been exalted to the right hand of God’s throne.
 - ◆ Jesus is still the Sovereign Ruler over the earth.
- #4. The Loving Redeemer (which means):
 - ◆ Jesus always loves us (the word “love” in (v. 5) is in the present tense in the Greek, meaning Jesus always loves us).
 - ◆ The word “washed” means to be loosed, set free and released from sin.
- #5. The One Who Made Us Kings And Priests (v. 6) (means):
 - ◆ We have been given direct access into the presence of God as a high priest (for prayer, worship, thanksgiving, intercession, etc.)
 - ◆ We have been given the responsibility to rule and reign with Christ throughout eternity.

(But What Is Jesus Doing In Church?)

Fact: John has a vision of the Glorified Christ.

Fact: John sees Jesus in the midst of His church.

Fact: John writes down what Jesus reveals to him.

(The 7 - Fold Ministry Of Jesus Today) (Vs. 13-16)

- #1. John Saw The Garment
“Clothed with a garment down to the foot, and girt about the paps with a golden girdle” (v. 13)
 - ◆ This is a picture of the high priestly robe in Exodus 28 & 39.
 - ◆ Jesus is seen here ministering as a high priest on behalf of His children (you & me).

Question: Why was there a golden girdle to pull the long robe tight to His body?
Answer: This was to allow the high priest to:
#1. Have greater freedom in movement in ministry,
#2. Move quickly in response time to the need.

The Garment “Gird About” means 2 Things:

- #1. **Ministry** as the High Priest,
- #2. **Mobility** as the High Priest.

(In Other Words)

- ◆ Jesus as our High Priest knows what is going on in you,
- ◆ Jesus is touched with what touches you,
- ◆ Jesus is able to do what needs to be done for you.
“Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today and forever” (Hebrews 13:8)

#2. John Saw The Hair

“His head and His hairs were white like wool, as white as snow” (v. 14)

- ◆ This has nothing to do with aging or growing old,
- ◆ The hair white like wool and snow refers to:
 1. The holiness and purity of Jesus.
 2. The wisdom and truthfulness of Jesus.
 3. The rightness and perfection of Jesus. (In other words)
- ◆ Jesus makes no mistakes and is without error.
“He is the Rock, His work is perfect, for all His ways are judgment; a God of truth and without iniquity, just and right is He”. (Deuteronomy 32:4)

#3. John Saw The Eyes

“And His eyes were as a flame of fire” (v. 14)

Fact: The eyes symbolize His ability to see.

Fact: The fire symbolizes His ability to penetrate.

(“Eyes Of Fire”) (Means:)

- ◆ Jesus sees and searches the innermost recess of the heart.
- ◆ Jesus can penetrate and knows your history, background, childhood, limitations, etc.

“Can any hide himself in secret places that I shall not see him?” (Jeremiah 23:24)

#4. John Saw The Feet

“And His feet like unto fine brass, as if they burned in a furnace” (v. 15)

Fact: Brass (or bronze) in Scripture always symbolizes judgment upon sin.

Fact: The brazen altar was used in connection with the sacrifices for sin (it was the place where fire consumed the sin offering).

(Jesus With Burning Brass Feet Means:)

- ◆ Jesus sees with eyes of fire what needs to be seen, and will consume like fire what needs to be consumed.

(In Other Words)

- #1. Feet means that all things are under Jesus (Ephesians 1:22)
- #2. Brass means that our sin, flesh and carnal tendencies are under His feet.
- #3. Fire means that the fire of the Holy Spirit can consume, torch, burn up and eradicate every sin that wants to hang onto us. “For sin shall not have dominion over you” (Romans 6:14)

#5. John Heard The Voice

“And His voice as the sound of many waters” (v. 15)

Fact: The voice refers to Jesus having something to say to His people.

“My sheep hear my voice and I know them, and they follow me” (John 10:27)

(How To Discern The Voice Of God)

1. It is a familiar voice (or understandable and comprehensible)
2. It is a personal voice (so never regulate your decisions to what someone else tells you what God’s will for your life is).
3. It is an inner voice (the voice of impression upon your heart).

#4. It is in accord with God's Word (God will never tell you something that is contrary to His Word).

#5. It is associate to the voice of love and peace (God never authors strife, division, disorder, deception or confusion).

◆ The danger is, we have a flare for the dramatic and the sensational.

◆ But, God's voice and leading doesn't have to be weird to be anointed or flashy to be God (He still communicates in a still small voice).

#6. John Saw The Hands

"And He had in His right hand seven stars" (v. 16)

Fact: The stars refer to the messengers (those who serve the Lord and share His Word)

Fact: It is a picture of Jesus holding, keeping and protecting you!

Fact: The believers in Asia Minor were going through severe and turbulent trials of faith.

Fact: Jesus wanted them (and us) to know that we need not worry, we're in good hands!

"Behold, I have graven thee upon the palms of My hands, thy walls are continually before me". (Isaiah 49:16)

#7. John Saw The Sword

"And out of His mouth went a sharp twoedged sword" (v. 16)

◆ The sword symbolizes the Word of God and its ability to penetrate any heart.

◆ It is sharp enough to pierce the very innermost being and expose its contents.

"For the Word of God is quick and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword"
(Hebrews 4:12)

Conclusion

Question: How do we respond when we really see Jesus as He is?

"And when I saw Him, I fell at His feet as dead" (1:17)

Fact: A vision of Jesus will result in holy awe!

Fact: A glimpse of Jesus will leave us reverent!

Fact: A view of Jesus' glory will provoke a deep response!

Fact: The presence of Jesus should reduce us to great humility.

(Why Is Jesus In The Church?)

1. **The Robe** - To minister unrestricted as our great High Priest.
2. **The Hair** - To reveal His holiness and flawless perfection.
3. **The Eyes** - To search the innermost recesses of our hearts.
4. **The Feet** - To consume and burn up every besetting sin.
5. **The Voice** - To speak to us and let us know His will.
6. **The Hands** - To hold us and sustain us with grace each day.
7. **The Sword** - To use His Word as a lamp to guide our path.

AMEN!
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