

## **The Risen Christ and His Church** **Revelation 1:10-20**

**Introduction:** Christ is risen from the grave and ascended into heaven. Before His ascension, He left the church with a commission and a promise (Acts 1:8-11). While we work here on earth, carrying out His plan, He is working in heaven to insure that we have all we need to serve Him effectively.

Revelation 1 – the prospects for the early church looked bleak. They seemed powerless against the Roman government and wondered where was the risen Lord. John saw the resurrected Christ in the midst of His churches. Christ is risen, alive and working in His church.

### **I. He is Building His church 1:13a**

John sees Christ moving through the lampstands.

- He is the light and life
- He is the fuel (oil)
- He is the flame

Note: The phrase “Son of Man” is a title given to Messiah in Daniel 7:13-14. He is given authority, glory and sovereign power. He is working in His church to carry out God’s eternal plan. He is giving light and life to the church as He lives through His people.

### **II. He is Interceding for His church 1:13b; Heb 2:17; 4:15-16**

John sees Christ wearing the robe of the high priest (Exodus 28-29). Christ is the perfect priest who offered Himself as the perfect sacrifice. And now He intercedes for us, providing all the mercy and grace His people need to overcome temptation, persevere in trials and overcome the world.

### **III. He is Purifying His church 1:14-15a; Heb 12:6**

Nothing is hidden from His omniscience (Heb 4:13).

- He sees every sinful deed and act of injustice
- He sees every act of faithful service

### **IV. He is Speaking to His church 1:15b**

He seeks a people with a hunger to know and obey His Word.

### **V. He is Sovereignly Equipping His church 1:16, 20**

He sovereignly equips His church with gifted men (Eph 4:11-13)

### **VI. He is Protecting His church 1:16; 2:14-16**

Christ is out to protect His church against deception and false teaching.

**VII. He is Shining in the World through His church 1:16; 2 Cor 4:6-7; Mat 5:14-16**

**Application:** John’s message should inspire us to know that serving Christ in His church is not in vain. What kind of person is Christ using to build His church? People like John...

➤ He had a sense of fear 1:17

➤ He sensed God’s presence 1:17-18

What a picture of the ministry of Christ, the sovereign Lord stooping down to touch His people:

- We don’t have to fear in THIS life because He is alive and in control
- We don’t have to fear death because He conquered death.
- We don’t have to fear eternity because He holds the keys of death and hell.

➤ He had a sense of duty 1:19

**Study Questions:**

1. John found great comfort and strength when Jesus showed up on the island of Patmos. Compare Paul’s experience in 2 Timothy 4:14-18. Share a time in your life when Jesus showed up at a time when you were most in need of His comfort and strength.
2. How does the book of Revelation contradict the false teachings of the prosperity gospel?
3. Note how John refers to himself in 1:9. In what way is suffering persecution and hardship a corporate event? How does Christ use the Body to minister in times of trial and temptation?
4. What stands out most to you about the portrait of the risen Christ in verses 13-16. Why?
5. How does the truth of the resurrection motivate us to be faithful to Christ in our devotion and service? Compare 1 Corinthians 15:56-58.

| December 2024   |                          |                           |                           |                           |
|---|--------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Week 1<br>Starting Dec 2  | Week 2<br>Starting Dec 9 | Week 3<br>Starting Dec 16 | Week 4<br>Starting Dec 23 | Week 5<br>Starting Dec 30 |
| Day 1: Mark 2   | Day 1: Mark 6            | Day 1: Mark 10            | Day 1: Mark 14            | Day 1: Luke 2             |
| Day 2: Mark 3   | Day 2: Mark 7            | Day 2: Mark 11            | Day 2: Mark 15            | Day 2: Luke 3             |
| Day 3: Mark 4   | Day 3: Mark 8            | Day 3: Mark 12            | Day 3: Mark 16            | Day 3: Luke 4             |
| Day 4: Mark 5   | Day 4: Mark 9            | Day 4: Mark 13            | Day 4: Luke 1             | Day 4: Luke 5             |
| Day 5: John 8:12-30   | Day 5: John 8:48-59      | Day 5: John 10:1-18       | Day 5: John 10:22-39      | Day 5: John 11:17-44      |
| <p><sup>7</sup>In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God’s grace</p> <p><sup>8</sup>that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and understanding,</p> <p><sup>9</sup>he made known to us the mystery of his will according to his good pleasure, which he purposed in Christ,</p> <p><sup>10</sup>to be put into effect when the times reach their fulfillment—to bring unity to all things in heaven and on earth under Christ.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Ephesians 1:7-10 (NIV)</p> |                          |                           |                           |                           |