

Lesson 2 – Revelation 1:9-20
John's _____ and _____

1. v9-16: John's _____ of Christ:

a. v9: John gives us the _____ and _____ surrounding the revelation:

1) He had been _____ to the island of Patmos:

a) Patmos is a rocky island about 37 miles southwest of Miletus. It is about 10 miles long and 6 miles wide and consists of about 22 square miles of land.

b) It was used by Rome as a _____ settlement for _____ agitators and others whom they felt threatened the peace of the empire. Its residents, including John who was probably in his _____ at the time, were forced to labor in the _____ located on the island.

2) He was sent there because of his _____ for Jesus Christ.

a) According to the historian and early church father Eusebius (AD 263-339), John was sent there by Emperor Domitian in _____ and released 18 months later by Emperor Nerva in _____.

b) Domitian was the 11th Emperor of Rome and the first to persecute Christians because of the _____ that Christ presented to the glory of the _____. Prior to Domitian, Christians were seen as _____ Jews and not necessarily as a separate and distinct religion.

c) John was on the Island of Patmos because of his preaching against the cult of _____ and his bold witness concerning the _____ of Jesus Christ and man's requirement to _____ the one and only true God: the Triune God of the Bible, which put him in direct conflict with this Roman leader who saw himself as _____ and demanded to be worshipped as such.

3) Why did the Lord choose this man at this time in this place under these circumstances to reveal this revelation?

b. v10a: The stage is set:

1) v10a: "I was in the Spirit" – "refers to his experience of being carried beyond _____ into a state where God could reveal supernaturally the contents of this book. Such was the experience of Ezekiel (Ezek. 2:2, 3:12, 14; etc.), Peter (Acts 10:10-11; 11:5), and Paul (Acts 22:17-18)" (Walvoord, 42).

2) v10a: "on the Lord's day" – most likely refers to the OT expression "the day of the Lord," which includes the extended period of time comprising the events of the

_____ and the _____ as described in this Book. In other words, John was propelled supernaturally into the future so that he could see the events recorded in this Book, and these events are referred to in Scripture as the Day of the Lord.

c. v10b-11: John hears a great voice:

- 1) v11: The voice is that of _____ who identifies Himself as Alpha (the first letter of the Greek alphabet) and Omega (the last letter in the Greek alphabet), the first and the last. As such, Jesus is declaring that He (the Lord God Almighty – v8) is the _____ and _____ of all things.
- 2) v11: The voice commands John to write what he sees and send it to the seven churches.
 - a) Why is John commanded to write exactly twelve times throughout the Book? The number twelve, which represents _____ in the Bible, serves to reinforce the fact that John is writing this Book under _____ and not under his _____.
 - b) Also notice that Jesus orders John to send the contents of this revelation to each of these local churches. He does not work through some _____, but instead, He communicates with each local church _____ and _____.

d. v12: “And I turned to see the voice that spake with me.”

- 1) v12b-13a: “And being turned, I saw seven golden candlesticks; And in the midst of the seven candlesticks one like unto the Son of man” – This pictures His _____ over the local churches, which collectively comprise the Church _____.
- 2) v13: “one like unto the Son of man” – Jesus has already emphasized His _____, so now He emphasizes His _____ and the bride’s price He paid to secure His bride: the Church.
- 3) v13: “clothed with a garment down to the foot, and girt about the paps with a golden girdle.” – Here Christ is pictured as both _____ and _____.
- 4) v14: “His head and his hairs were white like wool, as white as snow;” – This speaks to His complete _____.
- 5) v14: “and his eyes were as a flame of fire;” – “His eyes ... speak of the searching righteousness and _____ upon all that is impure” (Walvoord, 44).
- 6) v15: “And his feet like unto fine brass, as if they burned in a furnace;” – This serves to reinforce verse 14 by adding the metal associated in the OT with _____.

- 7) v15: “and his voice as the sound of many waters.” – This speaks to His _____ and _____ before which human authority must bow” (Walvoord, 45).
- 8) v16: “And he had in his right hand seven stars:” – This depicts His _____ and _____ over each of the leaders of the local churches, which collectively comprise the Church universal.
- 9) v16: “and out of his mouth went a sharp twoedged sword:” – Unlike the sword mentioned in Heb 4:12, this long heavy sword is used to exact devastating _____ and serves to indicate the _____ and _____ of the One yielding it.
- 10) v16: “and his countenance was as the sun shineth in his strength.” – This speaks to the _____ and _____ that belongs only to the King of kings and Lord of lords.

2. v17-18: The Two Key _____ of Christ:

- a. v17: God is _____ (1 John 4:8); consequently, we see the _____ or compassion of Christ in His comforting of John.
- b. v18: God is _____ (1 Pet 1:16); accordingly, we are reminded of the _____ of Christ which demands judgment against sin. Therefore, He is the One who has _____ (i.e. “the keys”) over physical death as well as the _____ and _____ that comes after death for which the word “hell” is referring (John 5:22-24).

3. v19: John’s _____ to Write (Aorist, Active, Imperative):

- a. “the things which thou hast seen” = Chapter ____.
- b. “and the things which are” = Chapters ____-____, which comprise the letters to the seven churches.
- c. “and the things which shall be hereafter” = Chapters ____-____, which contain “the words of this prophecy” (v3).

4. v20: A Mystery Revealed:

- a. “The mystery of the seven stars which thou sawest in my right hand The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches”
- 1) Who are these seven angels?
- a) “the angels of” could just as easily be translated as “the angels _____”.

- b) The word angels in this verse cannot be referring to _____
 _____ for why would God use a human messenger to deliver written
 letters to _____.
- c) The Greek word translated as angels (ἄγγελοι or aggeloi) can also mean
 _____ or one who is _____ by God. These seven angels are
 the _____ of these seven churches whom Jesus Christ had appointed
 to be His heavenly _____ to these churches.
- 2) Why does He refer to them as stars?
- a) Since stars are the brightest elements in the sky, the spiritual leader of a church is
 to shine the brightest – i.e., set the example in _____, _____,
 and in giving forth _____.
- b) Stars also are at the center of solar systems and thereby control the path of the
 planets that revolve around them, which speaks to the pastors' _____
 and _____ (see Heb 13:17).
- 3) Why are they in His right hand?
- a) Pastors are to operate under His _____ – Gal
 1:10, 1 Thes 2:4, 2 Tim 2:3-4, and Acts 21:10-14.
- b) He is the one who _____ the pastors for His local churches; the church
 only _____ what He has already decided – Acts 9:10-16.
- b. “and the seven golden candlesticks. ... and the seven candlesticks which thou sawest are
 the seven churches.”
- 1) The local churches are referred to as candlesticks because they are to give forth
 _____ (see Ps 43:3, 119:105; Prov 6:23; Matt 5:14-16; Eph 5:13; Php 2:15; 1
 Pet 2:9; and 2 Tim 4:2).
- 2) The local churches are referred to as golden candlesticks because they are to make
 visible the _____ and _____ of Christ whose _____ they comprise
 (see 2 Cor 4:4-6 and 1 Cor 10:31).
- 3) He is depicted “in the midst of the seven candlesticks” (v13) because it is His
 _____ that makes a church a _____ church (see Rev 2:5).