

**THE GLORIOUS CHRIST REVEALED
REVELATION 1:9-20**

INTRODUCTION

The **APOSTLE JOHN** recorded **THE BOOK OF THE REVELATION** while he was in exile on the small island of **PATMOS** just a few miles off the shore of **ASIA MINOR** (which is present day **TURKEY**). In beginning the **BOOK OF THE REVELATION**, **JESUS CHRIST** spoke words of exhortation and challenge to seven local **CHURCHES** in **ASIA**.

Let me share with you some things about the seven **CHURCHES** that **CHRIST** addressed here that you may or may not know:

1. Understand that these seven **CHURCHES** were seven literal **CHURCHES** in **ASIA MINOR** that were in existence at the time of **JOHN'S** writing this. *(We know that to be a fact! Verse 1a and 11)*
2. Understand that according to some scholars of Church History, these seven **CHURCHES** represent seven periods of time in **CHURCH** history where a dominant theme of the times corresponds with these seven **CHURCHES**.
(e.g. Many Pastor's suggest that the time period we are living in is the Laodecian Church age. That may be true of many Churches in our nation, but it is hard to pinpoint this to be the case in the world.)
3. Understand that these seven **CHURCHES** had diverse characteristics, with many that might be found in **CHURCHES** in each age, including the **CHURCHES** in our day. *(e.g. These 7 different types of CHURCHES existed in JOHN'S day all at the same time.)*
4. Understand that the **TRUTH** the **LORD** expressed to these seven literal **CHURCHES** is **RIGHT DOCTRINE** suitable for every **TRUE BELIEVER** in every local **CHURCH** to **LEARN** from and for the **CHURCHES** that they are a part of to **LEARN** from. **CHURCHES** are made up of **BELIEVERS** who are at different stages of **GROWTH** and **MATURITY** in their **SPIRITUAL LIFE**.
(Revelation 1:3)

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Let's think about this thought for a minute. Do you ever wonder what **CHRIST** would say to our **CHURCH** if **HE** spoke to us as he did these seven **CHURCHES**? What areas would **HE COMMEND** in us? What areas would **HE REBUKE** in us?

I personally believe we can find our areas of **COMMENDATION** as well as our areas of **REBUKE** in what **CHRIST** said to these **CHURCHES**! *"He that hath an ear, let him hear what the SPIRIT saith unto the CHURCHES."* *(Seven times!)*

Let's look at some other things that we need to think about:

I. WE SEE THE GLORIOUS CHRIST WAS REVEALED TO HIS SERVANT—THE APOSTLE JOHN.

What can we understand of what we see here?:

- A. **We Can Understand The LORD Has A Purpose For His Own In Both The Time And Place Which They Live! Vs 9**
Note that the **LORD** had a purpose for **JOHN** being in exile on the **ISLE OF PATMOS** at this particular time.

We see recorded in **SCRIPTURE** many of **GOD'S PEOPLE** being found in diverse **DIFFICULT CIRCUMSTANCES** for the **GLORY OF GOD!**

e.g. **JOSEPH'S** words to his brothers who found him in leadership in **EGYPT**: **Genesis 50:20**—*"But as for you, ye thought evil against me; but God meant it unto good, to bring to pass, as it is this day, to save much people alive."*

e.g. **MOSES** was born in **EGYPT**, raised as **PHARAOH'S** daughter's child, had to flee **EGYPT** for killing an **EGYPTIAN**, was on the backside of a desert in **MIDIAN** shepherding sheep, was called of the **LORD** at about age 80 to lead **GOD'S PEOPLE** in the **EXODUS** from **EGYPT** to the **PROMISED LAND**.

e.g. **JEREMIAH** in *Jeremiah 1:4-10*.

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e.g. **DANIEL and the three HEBREW CHILDREN.**
(Carried away into captivity but used mightily by the LORD)

e.g. **MORDECAI'S** words to **QUEEN ESTHER** in
Esther 4:14—“... and who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this?”)

e.g. Even the **LORD JESUS CHRIST** according to the
APOSTLE PETER:
Acts 2:23—“Him, being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God, ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain.”

If it is true even for the **LORD JESUS CHRIST**, then it is true for those who are **IN HIM!**

Romans 8:28—“And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.”

We Can Understand The LORD Has A Purpose For His Own Living In Both The Time And Place Which They Live!

B. We Can Understand The Importance Of The SPIRIT-CONTROLLED LIFE! (Vs 10)

We see that **JOHN** was “*in the Spirit*” when the **LORD** spoke to him. There is also a great need for **US** to be “*in the Spirit*” in the day and time in which we live!!!

1. The BIBLE Says That We Should WALK In The SPIRIT!

Galatians 5:16—“This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.”

Galatians 5:25—“If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.”

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a. When we walk, we walk one step at a time!
(Patience)

b. When we walk, we move forward. *(Hope)*

c. When we walk, it is a continuous motion.
(Consistency)

2. The Bible Says That We Should PRAY In The SPIRIT.

Ephesians 6:18—“Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;”

3. Please Note That:

a. **JOHN** was “*in the Spirit*” when the **LORD** spoke to him.

If we want to hear from the **LORD**, we need to *walk in the Spirit.*

b. **JOHN** was “*in the Spirit*” when the **LORD** used him.

If we want to be used of the **LORD** for great things, we need to *walk in the Spirit.*

WE SEE THE GLORIOUS CHRIST WAS REVEALED TO HIS SERVANT—THE APOSTLE JOHN.

II. WE SEE THE MANNER IN WHICH OUR SAVIOUR WAS REVEALED!

A. HE Revealed The Greatness In HIS VOICE! (Vs 10)

The first time we will hear the **LORD'S** actual voice it will be great! *1 Thessalonians 4:16—“For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout. . .”*

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- B. HE Revealed The Greatness Of HIS Existence!(Vs 11, 18)**
- C. HE Revealed The Greatness In HIS Message! (Vs 11, 19)**
- 1. HE Had A Message To The Churches! (Vs 11)**
 - a. HE said, “I know thy works...” to each one of the seven CHURCHES!**

Ephesus - (2:2)
Smyrna - (2:9)
Pergamos - (2:13)
Thyatira - (2:19)
Sardis - (3:1)
Philadelphia - (3:8)
Laodicea - (3:15-17)
 - b. HE called each CHURCH to action!**
 - c. He calls on each of us to hear! “He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the Churches.”**
 - 2. HE Had A Message For The CHURCHES. (Vs 19)**

The things that JOHN had seen.

 - a. “...the things which are...”**
CHRIST told it like it was!
 - b. “...the things which shall be hereafter...”**
CHRIST tells it like it shall be!
- D. HE Revealed The Greatness Of HIS Position. (Vs 12, 13)**
- E. HE Revealed The Greatness Of HIS Glory. (Vs 13-16)**
- 1. HE Is Clothed As A KING, HIGH PRIEST Or JUDGE Might Be. (Vs 13)**
HE is all three wrapped up into **ONE!**

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- 2. HIS HEAD and HIS HAIRS Were White. (Vs 14)**
HE is Full of Wisdom and Holiness!
- 3. HIS EYES Were As A Flame Of Fire. (Vs 15)**
HE is **JUDGE!**
- 4. HIS FEET Like Unto Fine Brass. (Vs 15)**
Brass speaks of **JUDGMENT!**
- 5. HIS VOICE As The Sound Of Many Waters. (Vs 15)**
- 6. HIS RIGHT HAND. (Vs 16)**
The **MESSENGERS** of the seven **CHURCHES.**
- 7. Out Of HIS MOUTH. (Vs 16)**
Hebrews 4:12
- 8. HIS COUNTENANCE. (Vs 16)**

*WE SEE THE GLORIOUS CHRIST WAS REVEALED TO HIS SERVANT—THE APOSTLE JOHN.
WE SEE THE MANNER IN WHICH OUR SAVIOUR WAS REVEALED!*

- III. WE SEE THE RESULTS OF THE GLORY OF THE SAVIOUR BEING REVEALED. (Vs 17)**
JOHN fell at his feet as dead. He was utterly awed by what he saw!
- CHRIST** said, “*Fear not*” as **HE** revealed **HIS IDENTITY** to **JOHN.** **JOHN** had no reason to fear...
- 1) Because he knew the SAVIOUR.**
 - 2) Because he walked in the SPIRIT.**

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Conclusion

What a GLORIOUS LORD AND SAVIOUR CHRIST JESUS IS!

Do you have reason to fear tonight?

Do you know HIM? If you don't know HIM you have reason to fear!

Are you walking in HIM? If you aren't walking in HIM you have reason to fear!

We will see HIM one day. . .possibly, very soon! And then comes the judgment! Are you ready?