

SEEING  
JESUS  
REVELATION 1:9-20

**-- Big Idea: Listen to Jesus, for He is awesome in power and glory as our Prophet, Priest, and King.**

-- v. 9 – John introduces himself as a *“brother and partner in tribulation and the kingdom and the patient endurance that are in Jesus.”*

-- As the church, we are partners in the **TRIBULATION** of Christ (Philippians 1:29, 2 Timothy 3:12).

-- The Christian life is a call to endure tribulation patiently because we have the sure and certain promise of everlasting victory in Christ.

-- v. 10-11 – John has been given a vision from God, which he is commanded by Christ to share with the seven churches.

-- v. 12 – John sees **JESUS CHRIST** standing before him in the incomparable splendor of His eternal glory.

-- This vision is not just about *who* Jesus is, but also about *what* He is doing right now in His exalted status as the resurrected Messiah.

**1.) Jesus is INTERCEDING as Priest (v 12-13).**

**-- Verses 12-13 are a vision of Jesus working among the churches as our Great High Priest.**

-- For Jesus to stand in the midst of the seven lampstands is for Him to stand in the midst of His **CHURCHES** (v. 20).

-- The robe and the sash point to Jesus as priest (Exodus 28:4).

-- We see here Jesus actively fulfilling His role as High Priest as He moves among His churches.

### -- **Application**

-- The churches of Christ are the central place where Christ is working and ministering, and it is the place where His Spirit burns.

-- Because Jesus is always interceding before the Father on our behalf, we can have **CONFIDENCE** in our salvation (Heb. 7:25-26).

## **2. Jesus is RULING as King (v. 13-18).**

-- **v. 13 – John looks at Jesus in His exalted glory and recognizes Him as the SON OF MAN from Daniel’s vision (Daniel 7:9-14).**

-- Even as the Son of Man, Jesus simultaneously possesses the qualities of the Father, whom Daniel sets forth as the Ancient of Days.

-- To stand in the presence of Christ is to stand in the presence of the one true God who is the King and Ruler of all.

-- **v. 13-16 – Every description of Jesus in today’s text comes from some description of God or of the Messiah in the OLD TESTAMENT (Daniel 7, 10; Exodus 28, Ezekiel 43; Isaiah 49).**

-- These descriptions are not meant to tell us what Jesus *looks* like, but to tell us what He *is* like.

-- **v. 17-18 – The exalted Jesus in the fullness of His righteous glory is absolutely TERRIFYING**

-- We are commanded not to be afraid because, even though Jesus is absolutely frightening, He is on our side.

-- Because Jesus is the one King who owns the keys of death and Hades we can face whatever comes with uncompromising confidence in Him.

## **3.) Jesus is SPEAKING as Prophet (v. 19-20).**

-- John especially emphasizes Christ’s role as Prophet (v. 11, 19).

- Christ's role as Prophet is represented in the imagery of the seven stars in that are in His right hand (v. 16, 20).
- **John describes the divinity, glory, and supremacy of Christ in order to emphasize His AUTHORITY to speak truth and be obeyed.**
  - Everyone who understands this introduction to Revelation should fearfully acknowledge that the words of Christ are very serious and should be taken very seriously (Matthew 17:1-7).
  - John is presenting before us a vision of Christ's glory and urging us to **"LISTEN TO HIM!"**
- *Are you seeing Jesus as He really is? How will that vision change who you are, how you think, what you say, and what you will do?*