

Session 12 The Majesty of Jesus as the Son of Man (Rev. 1)

I. JESUS, OUR MAGNIFICENT OBSESSION

- A. No aspect of God's grace more powerfully transforms our emotions or satisfies our heart than when the Spirit reveals Jesus to us. Paul gave up everything as he saw the magnificence, or excellence, of Jesus! (Phil. 3:8). If we can see what Paul saw about Jesus, then we can live like he lived.

⁸I count all things loss for the excellence [magnificence] of the knowledge of Christ Jesus... (Phil. 3:8)

- B. The Spirit is our escort into the deep things of God's heart. He knows more about Jesus than we can imagine. He will reveal as much of Jesus as we are hungry for. He gives to us based on our hunger. I pray, "Spirit, let me see what You see and feel what You feel about Jesus—teach me about Him."

¹³The Spirit...will guide [escort] you...¹⁴for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you. (Jn. 16:13-14)

- C. The Spirit is raising up those who will proclaim the riches of Jesus. The most neglected subject in the kingdom of God is God Himself.

⁸To me...grace was given that I should preach...the unsearchable riches of Christ... (Eph. 3:8)

II. JESUS IN THE BOOK OF REVELATION

- A. The book of Revelation is called the ***revelation of Jesus*** because it reveals the majesty of His heart and leadership. Second, it reveals events that will occur in His end-time plan to purify the Church, bring in the harvest, replace all the governments on earth, and transition it to the age to come. God's first desire is *to reveal the Man behind the plan*. Many only see the end-time plan and miss the Man.

¹The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave Him [Jesus] to show His servants—things which must shortly take place. And He sent and signified it by His angel to...John. (Rev. 1:1)

- B. The greatest corporate miracle in history is the transformation of the end-time Church from spiritual compromise into a "*prepared Bride*" walking in the first commandment (Rev. 19:7).

⁷...for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready. (Rev. 19:7)

- C. In Revelation 1-3, John shares a vision which highlights ***30 descriptions of Jesus'*** majesty, ministry, and personality, and ***22 eternal rewards***. Each description and reward communicates insight into Jesus' leadership that is necessary in equipping the Church to overcome compromise, endure persecution and pressure, and engage in partnership with Jesus in the great end-time drama.

- D. I identify ***30 descriptions*** from Jesus' titles, appearance, actions, and clothing in Revelation 1-3. I recognize ***24 descriptions*** in Revelation 1 (note 7 descriptions in 1:5-7 and 17 in 1:10-16) and ***18 descriptions*** in Revelation 2-3, ***totaling 42***. However, since 12 are seen in both Revelation 1 and Revelation 2-3, I identify 30 distinct descriptions in Revelation 1-3. John gave only abbreviated statements of each description and reward. Each phrase is but a *hint* that we are to search out more by using the rest of the Bible to get a more complete picture of what the Spirit is saying about Jesus.

III. JESUS AS THE SON OF MAN

- A. One of the most significant prophecies about Jesus is found in Daniel 7. It describes Jesus as the *Son of Man* who will rule all nations with His people (Dan. 7:14). Jesus used this title more than any other when speaking of Himself (85 references). Each time Jesus was referring to His identity as set forth in Daniel 7 since Daniel is the only one to prophesy about Jesus as the "*Son of Man*."
- ⁹*The Ancient of Days [the Father]... His garment was white as snow, and the hair of His head was like pure wool...¹³One like the Son of Man, coming with the clouds of heaven! He came to the Ancient of Days [Father]...¹⁴To Him was given dominion...and a kingdom, that all peoples, nations...should serve Him [Jesus]. His dominion is an everlasting dominion...²⁷Then the kingdom...shall be given to the people, the saints of the Most High. (Dan. 7:9-14, 27)*
- B. The two primary chapters that describe Jesus as the Son of Man are Daniel 7 and Revelation 1. In Revelation, Jesus gives more insight into His identity as the *Son of Man*, which will be manifest across the nations in the generation He returns to the earth.
- ¹³*In the midst of the seven lampstands One like the Son of Man, clothed with a garment down to the feet...¹⁴His head and hair were white like wool...and His eyes like a flame of fire;¹⁵His feet were like fine brass, as if refined in a furnace, and His voice as the sound of many waters;¹⁶He had in His right hand seven stars, out of His mouth went a sharp two-edged sword, and His countenance was like the sun shining in its strength.¹⁷When I saw Him, I fell at His feet as dead. (Rev. 1:13-17)*
- C. The *Son of Man* title emphasizes that Jesus will reign as King over all nations forever and that He is fully God and fully human—the God-man. Jesus is saying, "I am God, yet I am also one of you."
- D. Jesus can manifest or veil His glory. On several occasions, believers did not recognize Jesus in His resurrected body, because He veiled His glory (Lk. 24:13-32; Jn. 20:11-15; 21:1-14).
- E. ***His hair is white***: In Daniel 7, the Son of Man came near to the Father, the Ancient of Days, who has hair white like snow (7:9), speaking of His eternal nature, wisdom, and holiness.
- F. ***His eyes are like a flame of fire***: The Man who loves us is a Man with eyes like fire. He has burning eyes because He has a burning heart. It is not enough to know doctrine about the Messiah; we must encounter the Man with eyes of fire
- G. ***His feet were like fine brass***: He will judge the hostile kingdoms that persecute His people.
- H. ***His voice is as the sound of many waters***: For 2,000 years, multitudes have ignored the voice of Jesus, but when He returns, every knee will bow, and every tongue will confess His lordship. He will never be dismissed again. He has a voice of authority to impact all nations when He returns.
- I. ***In His right hand are seven stars***: The stars represent the leaders over the seven churches (1:20). He carries His leaders in His right hand. He helps them because they are near and dear to Him.
- J. ***Out of His mouth went a two-edged sword***: Jesus' piercing words liberate His people from sin, sickness, and it removes those in the nations who persecute His people (Rev. 19:2, 15).

- K. **Summary:** John heard a voice like a *trumpet* calling the Church to seek and encounter God's glory (Joel 2:15) and warning all nations that the King was coming to earth (Rev. 6-19). The One who spoke is *fully God* (Alpha/Omega) and *fully man* (First/Last). He is the glorious *Son of Man* who will rule all nations as a *sympathetic High Priest* (garment to the feet), yet as One who is *forever holy and wise* like His Father (His head and hair are white) in all that He does. He is filled with burning desire for His people with *eyes like fire*. He will cleanse the nations with His *feet like brass*. All will listen to Him because *His voice is like many waters*. In the midst of all His mighty works, He *holds and upholds* His messengers (stars) and *fights against all* that harms them (sword). None can resist the brightness of His glory (sun), even His people fall overwhelmed at His glory.
- L. A more complete biblical picture of Jesus is set forth in Daniel 7 and Revelation 1 in the context of the four gospels, the epistles, the book of Acts, the book of Psalms, and the Old Testament prophets.
- M. We understand more about the "Jesus of the gospels" in context to the "Jesus of Revelation." We see both Jesus' transcendence and immanence expressing His power and love for His people.
1. In the gospels, He reveals that He loves His people in the way that God loves God (Jn. 15:9). In Revelation 1, He has eyes of fire that are filled with love for His people (Rev. 1:14).
⁹As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you... (Jn. 15:9)
 2. In the gospels, He cleansed the temple (Mt. 21:12-14). In Revelation 1, we see that He has feet like brass that will cleanse the nations preparing them for God's presence (Hab. 2:14).
¹⁴For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD... (Hab 2:14)
 3. In the gospels, He spoke piercing words to liberate His people from sin, sickness, and Satan. In Revelation 1, we see that His mouth is like a sword that liberates His people (Rev. 2:16) and removes those in the nations who persecute them (Rev. 19:2, 15).

IV. SEARCHING WITH ALL OF OUR HEART

- A. The Spirit will escort us into the divine treasury of the magnificence of Jesus. Searching for God includes prayerful study of the Word, with fasting. We are to be diligent in our pursuit of the knowledge of God, being willing to pay any price in seeking for more of Jesus.
⁴If you seek her as silver, and search for her as for hidden treasures ⁵Then you will understand the fear of the LORD, and find the knowledge of God. (Prov. 2:4-5)
- B. Jesus is our greatest treasure, but is "hidden" until we seek for more of Him with all our heart.
²Attaining to all the riches of...Christ, ³in whom are hidden all the treasures... (Col. 2:2-3)
- C. A kingly spirit searches diligently and refuses to be denied (Prov. 25:2).
²It is the glory of God to conceal a matter, but the glory of kings is to search out a matter. (Prov. 25:2)

V. HOW TO APPLY THE DESCRIPTIONS OF JESUS: A-R-K

- A. We are on a lifelong journey into the glory of Jesus as highlighted by these 30 descriptions of Him. The Spirit will teach us about each one. Take time to journal as you pray-read the Word.
- B. Jesus' name will be the "ark of safety" and the "ark of His presence" in the end-time pressures.
¹⁰*The name of the LORD is a strong tower; the righteous run to it and are safe. (Prov. 18:10)*
¹¹*Holy Father, keep through Your name those whom You have given Me... (Jn. 17:11)*
- C. **A-R-K**: We apply the truths of the descriptions of Jesus in Revelation to our lives in three ways:
1. **A**-agreement; **R**-ask for revelation; **K**-keep the prophecy.
 2. Jesus promised to bless all who "keep" the prophecy set forth in the book of Revelation (Rev. 1:3; 22:7, 9) by responding in faith and obedience in our actions and attitudes.
⁷*Blessed is he who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book. (Rev. 22:7)*
⁷*"I am coming quickly! Blessed is he who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book"...*
⁹*I [the angel] am your fellow servant...and of those who keep the words of this book."*
(Rev. 22:7-9)
³*Blessed is he who reads...this prophecy, and keep those things which are written in it...*
(Rev. 1:3)
- D. **Agreement**: We make declarations of agreement to Jesus about who He is and what He does. We identify the core truths in each of the 30 descriptions (some overlap), then simply declare these truths back to Jesus with affection and gratitude.
For example, pray:
1) **"You are..." declarations**: You are a faithful witness, the firstborn, the ruler of kings (v. 5).
2) **"You have..." declarations**: You have a sword; You have the keys of the kingdom, etc.
3) **"Your..." declarations**: Your face is like the sun; Your eyes are like fire, etc.
- E. **Revelation**: We pray for increased revelation of the truth implied in each description (Eph. 1:17).
For example, "Reveal Yourself to me as One with eyes like fire," or "as One with feet like brass."
"Show me Your glory as One who shines like the sun. Teach me more about this."
- F. **Keep the prophecy**: We make simple declarations of commitment to obey or believe these truths.
For example: "I commit to be a faithful witness to the truth, regardless of the cost. Help me to do this. I will submit to Your leadership as the ruler over the earth. Empower me to obey You."