

## 1) Apostle John Sees a vision of Jesus – The Book of Revelations

### a) What does John see and what does he do?

- John Sees a vision of Jesus Rev 1:2
- John worships Jesus after he sees Him Rev 1:17

## 2) Description of Jesus Rev 1:10-13

**Background** - The early churches being persecuted – extreme pressure

- **Culture** of the day was ‘hard’, pressure to compromise belief & practices
  - Trade Guilds, Romans allowed the practice of Judaism in Asia Minor  
*Non-compliance resulted in severe consequences – possibly execution*
  - So many Christians abandon their faith.

**The Lords Day** – Jesus is King over Culture Rev 1:10

- John sees a vision (in the Spirit) of Jesus on the “*lords day*”
    - The *lords day* was a celebration / Emperors’ Day / Imperial Day
  - For us this represents our **CULTURE**
    - Culture forces us to conform, to compromise, to obey the norms of society
    - To worship other things - *Tug of war example*
    - We often do things to avoid culture pressure - persecution
  - Jesus in His earthly ministry constantly stepped over culture and religion traditions
    - Healed on the Sabbath Jhn 5:1-18
    - Touch an unclean leper Jhn 3
    - Ministered to the outcast Samaritan Woman Jhn 4
    - Adulterous woman Jhn 8
    - Not afraid of persecution
  - Jesus is saying: “*I am King over culture, of local rule & authority, Worship Me!*”
- a) **High Priest - Garment to the foot (even in a hard place)** Rev 1:13, Ex 28, Heb 9:1-28
- When we worship after seeing Jesus as High Priest:
- b) **King - Gold band around the chest** Rev 1:13
- Jesus was given a Name above all else – King of Kings Phil 2:8-10
    - Jesus is above / elevated above CULTURE

**High Priest & King define His Position & Role. What did His physical attributes look like?**

- c) **Hair – white as wool (old age)** Rev 1:14
- Daniel also sees Jesus’ hair white as wool, seated on His throne Dan 7:9
  - *Snow* = Purity & Holiness
  - *White Hair* = *Ancient-of-Days* – Signifies:
    - Been there before – *Alpha – Omega – Beginning and the End*
    - White signifies Wisdom – nothing will rattle Him
    - Guidance Jer 6:16 (NIV)
  - **Seated = Job Done!** Matt 26:64, Mrk 14:62, Lk 22:69, Acts 2:33, Rom 8:34
    - Daniel see Jesus as seated on His throne
    - Seated speaks of *rest* and *completion* – His redemptive work is done
    - In the OT, a priest never sat down Heb 10:11-12
      - Jesus sat down signifying the sin sacrifice was complete - finished
    - Jesus inaugurated – He sat down on his throne Eph 1:20-22
  - **Right hand of God (signifies specifically in the OT)**
    - It Imparts special blessings Gen 48:14-10, Ps 16:11
    - It conveyed Power Ex 15:6,12, Is 63:12

- It signifies a position of Authority 1 Kings 2:19, Ps 45:9
- It depicts Protection, safety, favour Ps 16:8, 17:7, 18:35, 20:6, 21:8, 44:3
- It carries the idea of Strength and Victory Ps 98:1, 110:1 118:15, Is 62:8

- But why did John See Jesus Standing amongst the candlesticks (churches) in Rev 1
  - Standing position often signifies: *non-rest position, taking action, intense*
  - Jesus is uneasy about something – stands to take note of it – important (X2)
    - When Stephen was martyred, he saw Jesus standing... Acts 7:54
    - John sees Jesus standing – showing concern, identifying with us in hard times...Tug-of-war; there is a cloud of witnesses – Jesus is cheering us on...
  - Jesus also about to rebuking some of the churches
    - Lost first love, Luke Warm, Compromise...

d) **Eyes – like a flame of fire** Rev 1:14

- His eyes were not actual fire, they were 'like' fire
  - Flames have a *magnetic, mesmerising* effect, *draw* people in, have *warmth*
- He draws us in with His gaze compelled to look at Him, we find Him *riveting & gripping*
- We can feel His Love and *Sense His Acceptance*
- Fire Luminates – Gives Light, Gives Clarity
  - We see Jesus' *Purity & Holiness*
  - Highlights our *impurities, our flaws, cracks, exposes sin*
- On the earth; Jesus drew people to Himself;
- Came to save, not to judge the world Jhn 12:47
  - Samaritan woman; Mad man Mary Magdalene; Lepers, Tax collectors
- When we look into His eyes, we are drawn in by His Love, The fire in His eyes shows us His purity and Holiness and we surrender to Jesus, make right anything as He shows us.
- Can you SEE – His LOVE?

e) **Feet – like fine brass** Rev 1:15

- Fine Brass - Double barrel compound Greek Word
- 1) **Brass Alter (First Grk word = Heavy Brass)**
  - The Sacrificial Alter in the tabernacle was made of Brass – signifies *Judgement*
  - Fine Brass is heavy – hard and slow to move
    - Jesus is so gracious Jesus always gives notice / warning / time before judgement 2 Pet 3:9, 1 Tim2:4
    - Not a final judgement – end of the world

Abraham pleads with God for the city of Sodom, x50, x40, x10 Gen 18
- 2) **Frankincense was integral in temple worship (Second Grk word = Frankincense)**
  - Frankincense represents Jesus again in His Priestly Role
  - Represent Incense - Prayer
    - Jesus Interceding for us Rom 8:34
    - He stand between us and the accuser of the brethren Rev 12:10
- 3) **Brass Water Laver**
  - The Water Laver was also made of Brass – Cleansing
  - *You are clean because of the Words I have spoken* Jhn 15:3
  - Cleaned & sanctified by the Washing of the Word Eph 5:26
- **Woman caught in adultery** Jhn 8:1-20
  - We see love of His eye towards her – “*as if he did not hear*” (slow to judge)
  - We see Jesus' intercession for her; Jesus loving challenges her accusers
  - We also see his purity – “*Go and sin no more*” (Judgement)
- **Can you SEE – His LOVE?**