

Will the Real ‘Ruler of All’ Please Stand Up?

Revelation 1; Coast Community Church; Pastor Earl Miles; 9-26-21

1. Jesus is the fixed point of reference for our lives, especially in a world filled with sin and suffering.

‘The revelation of Jesus Christ’ (1)

‘revelation’ = unveiling of something formerly hidden/unknown

Jesus reveals to John the truth about Jesus! Jesus is the point of history. Jesus is who we need to fix our eyes on, whatever is happening in our world. Why? Jesus shows us the Father and shows us true humanity and shows us the way to reconciliation with God and shows us the way to full and lasting happiness and shows us who is truly in charge of all the painful and confusing things that happen in a fallen world. – John 18:33-38; Hebrews 12:1-3

2. Jesus is coming back and He wants us to know what to expect before and when it happens.

‘Behold, He is coming with the clouds’ (7)

Jesus went to heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father: Now what? What can his people expect? Immediate victory? Peace and safety? Heaven on earth? The submission of the nations? – Acts 1:6; 1 Peter 4:12-13; Matthew 24:29-31; 2 Thessalonians 1:3-10

Outline of the Book

1. The Vision of the *Reigning Christ* (1)
2. The Vision of the *Embattled Church* (2-3)
3. The Vision of the *Birth Pangs* (4-7)
4. The Vision of the *Fig Tree Trumpets* (8-11)
5. The Vision of the *Cosmic War Signs* (12-14)
6. The Vision of the *Day of the LORD* (15-20)
7. The Vision of the *Heaven on Earth Consummated Kingdom* (21-22)

3. Jesus rules the world: the reign of promotion and permission and prevention – *the reign of regulation.*

‘the ruler of the kings of the earth’ (5)

‘like a son of man’ (13) – Daniel 7:13-14

Jesus rules over what happens in the world. Jesus rules those who rule. Therefore, Jesus rules over the whole world, whether they like it or not and whether they acknowledge it or not. Jesus exalts those He wills and brings down those He wills. Jesus permits those in authority to do some things and prevents them from doing all that they desire. Jesus regulates what is happening in the world, regardless of who is in power on the earthly level. – Daniel 4:29-32

4. Jesus rules over His church: the reign of protection and provision and purity – *the reign of relationship.*

‘in the middle of the lampstands I saw one like a son of man’ (13, 20)

‘in His right hand He held seven stars’ (16, 20)

‘Him who loves us’ (5)

Jesus rules over what happens in the visible church. Jesus rules the church that bears His name. Jesus rules to protect His people. Jesus rules to provide for His people. Jesus rules to purify His Church. Jesus rules His Church through relationship: as the Head of His Church, which is His body. – Ephesians 1:15-23; Psalm 19:4-6

5. Jesus rules over history: the reign of providence and purpose and promises – *the reign of reason.*

‘I am the first and the last’ (17)

Jesus rules over history. Where it is going. How it plays out. Who the main players are. He is working behind the scenes. Jesus rules through providence (divine activity in all that happens). Jesus rules by fulfilling His purpose through all that happens. Jesus rules by fulfilling His promises through all that happens. Jesus, His purposes, His promises, His glory, is the reason for all that happens. His rule is the reason for it all. – Colossians 1:13-20

6. Jesus is the reason we don’t need to fear.

‘Do not be afraid’ (17)

If Jesus, the One who loves us, is completely in charge and is ready to help us, then we have nothing to fear. And we should live to do what is right and wise and good. We should not make decisions based on fear. – 2 Timothy 1:7; Habakkuk 3:16-19

The Good News

Our lives are to be fueled by good news, not fear!

- Jesus came to save and satisfy.
- Jesus lived the life we could never live.
- Jesus died the death we deserve to die.
- Jesus rose from the dead as King of kings.
- Jesus is an able and willing Savior for all,
 - so *turn* from sin and *trust* in Him.
- Jesus reigns over all for the good of His people,
 - so *trust* His promises and *love* as He commands.
- Jesus will return one day to establish heaven on earth.