



Hillside Baptist Church Sunday Night Study

An Exposition of Revelation

The First Vision **Revelation 1:9-20**

I. The Context and Commission (9-11)

1. John, your brother and partner...
 - a. In the tribulation (John 16:33; Acts 14:22)
 - b. And the kingdom (Acts 28:31)
 - c. And the patient endurance (Hebrews 12:1-3)

....that **are** in Jesus...
2. Was on an island called Patmos...

Patmos was a six-by-ten-mile rocky island about 37 miles off the coast of Miletus in the Aegean Sea.

 - a. **On account** of the Word of God and the Testimony of Jesus. (Rev. 1:2)
3. I was...
 - a. In the Spirit (Ezekiel 3:12)
 - b. On the Lord's Day (Acts 20:7)
 - c. I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet - Theophany (Exodus 19:17-20)
4. The Commission
 - a. Write what **you SEE**
 - b. Send it to the seven Churches - a message to the universal church
Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia, Laodicea

II. A Glorious Vision (12-16)

1. I turned to **see the voice** which was speaking to me... (Exodus 20:18, LXX)
2. Seven Golden Lampstands - Churches (1:20)
 - a. Tabernacle - Exodus 25
 - b. Temple - Zechariah 4:2-9
3. And **in the midst of the lampstands...**
 - a. one like **a son of man** (Dan. 7:9-13; 10:5-6)
 1. Clothed with a long robe and with a golden sash on his chest (Dan. 10:5)
 2. Hairs of his head white like wool, as white as snow (Dan. 7:9)
 3. Eyes were like a flame of fire (Dan. 10:6)
 4. His feet were like burnished bronze, refined in a furnace (Dan. 3:24-25)
 5. His voice was like the roar of many waters (Ezekiel 1:24; 43:2)
 6. His right hand held seven stars (Rev. 1:20)
 7. From his mouth came a two-edged sword (Isa. 11:4; 49:2; Heb. 4:12)
 8. His face was like the sun shining in full (Judg. 5:31; Ps. 84:11; Matt. 17:2)

III. A Glorious Comfort (17-20)

1. John's Response to the Glorified Son of Man
 - a. I fell at his feet as though dead...
(Ex. 33:18-23; Ezek. 1:28; Isaiah 6)
2. The Glorified Son of Man's Response to John
 - a. He placed his Right hand on me and said Fear Not...
(Dan. 10:10-12; Lk. 5:8-10)
 - b. I am the First and the Last
(Isa. 41:4, 10; 44:2, 6; 48:12-13)

c. The Living One (Deut. 32:39-40)

d. I died and behold I am living forevermore (Living—dead—living)

Romans 6:9, ‘We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him.’

e. I have the keys of death and hades (1 Cor. 15:54-55; Matt. 16:18)

3. An Instruction and an Interpretation

a. Write therefore...(Isa. 8:1; Hab. 2:2)

i. The things that you have seen... (Past)

ii. Those that are... (Present)

iii. Those that are to take place after this. (Future)

*All three of these realities will be present in every vision, and refers to the fullness of the Messianic Age.

b. An interpretation of the mystery...

i. Seven stars = seven angels (*angelós*)

(Dan. 10:13-14; Jude 8-9; 2 Kgs 6:16-17; 1 Cor. 11:10?)

ii. Seven Lampstands = seven churches

Application

1. The church at all times needs a glorious vision of Christ.

2. The church is under the protection of a sovereign eternal King.

3. The church is to serve as bright lights in the broken world carrying the light of Christ to all as his faithful witnesses.

4. The best way for the church to serve as lights in the world is to live without fear.