

them in long ministries that required tremendous perseverance?
What principles can you apply in your life and ministry when you see little to no fruit and/or experience persecution?

6. What is the significance of Jesus being **in the middle of the churches** (lampstands – v. 12f, 20)? Is He in our midst today? How should awareness of this impact the way we live and worship?
7. How do the details of the vision of Jesus in His glory bring both comfort and conviction? For each of the following descriptions, discuss what **attribute(s)** it represents and the **implications** in our lives, and/or in the lives of those who don't yet believe.
 - Son of Man
 - Robe reaching to the feet and golden sash across His chest
 - Head & hair like white wool / snow
 - Eyes like a flame of fire
 - Feet like glowing, burnished bronze
 - Voice like the sound of many waters
 - Holding seven stars in His right hand
 - Sharp two-edged sword coming out of His mouth
 - Face shining like the sun in its strength
8. Why would the following words of Jesus be so encouraging to believers facing persecution and possible martyrdom (or facing death under any circumstances)? **“Do not be afraid; I am the first and the last, and the living One; and I was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of death and of Hades.”**
9. **Read the book of Revelation (again) this week.** Pastor Paul has received very few questions on Revelation, please send him some (pbrown@tbbfchurch.org).
10. **Make a list of at least 5 people you know who do not yet know Jesus as Savior & Lord.** Pray daily and seek opportunities to tell them about Jesus. Invite them to a LIFE Group, church worship service, and/or our Christmas Concert on December 15th.
11. **Pray** and ask the Lord to enable you by His Spirit to keep on seeking first His kingdom and righteousness (Mt. 6:33), and to keep your eyes fixed on things above (Col. 3:1-4). Seek each day this week to live in the light of the soon return of our resurrected, glorious, almighty Lord and Savior, Jesus. Represent Him well.

November 17, 2024

The Bridge Bible Fellowship

Pastor Paul S. Brown

Revelation 1:9-20

“The Things Which You Have Seen – Part 3” A Vision of the Glorious Lord of the Church

I. The Things Which You Have Seen – Revelation 1

A. Prologue (1-8)

B. Prophet’s Commission to Write (9-20)

1. Commission #1 (9-11)

⁹ I, John, your brother and fellow partaker in the tribulation and kingdom and perseverance *which are* in Jesus, was on the island called Patmos because of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. ¹⁰ I was in the Spirit on the Lord’s day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like *the sound* of a trumpet, ¹¹ saying, “Write in a book what you see, and send *it* to the seven churches: to Ephesus and to Smyrna and to Pergamum and to Thyatira and to Sardis and to Philadelphia and to Laodicea.”

2. Vision #1 (12-16)

¹² Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking with me. And having turned I saw seven golden lampstands; ¹³ and in the middle of the lampstands *I saw* one like a son of man, clothed in a robe reaching to the feet, and girded across His chest with a golden sash. ¹⁴ His head and His hair were white like white wool, like snow; and His eyes were like a flame of fire. ¹⁵ His feet *were* like burnished bronze, when it has been made to glow in a furnace, and His voice *was* like the sound of many waters. ¹⁶ In His right hand He held seven stars, and out of His mouth came a sharp two-edged sword; and His face was like the sun shining in its strength.

3. Commission #2 (17-20)

¹⁷ When I saw Him, I fell at His feet like a dead man. And He placed His right hand on me, saying, “Do not be afraid; I am the first and the last, ¹⁸ and the living One; and I was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of death and of Hades. ¹⁹ “Therefore write the things which you have seen, and the things which are, and the things which will take place after these things. ²⁰ “As for the mystery of the seven stars which you saw in My right hand, and the seven golden lampstands: the seven stars are the angels of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands are the seven churches.

So What?

Discussion & Application:

1. Share with one another two or three **attributes of Jesus** that are the most comforting to you in times of great difficulty or persecution. Why are they so helpful to you?
2. Notice John doesn't highlight being an Apostle, even though he was the last living, Apostle. How does he describe himself in verse 9? How would John's statement that he is a fellow partaker in the tribulation and kingdom and perseverance in Jesus help the readers?
3. What do you know about the island of **Patmos**? Why was John there? How could he have avoided going? Why didn't he do that?
4. What does it mean that John was “**in the Spirit on the Lord's day**”? (See also Matt 22:43; Rev 4:2; 17:3; 21:10).
5. What are the **similarities** between the call of **Moses** (Ex. 3), **Isaiah** (Is. 6), **Ezekiel** (Ezek. 1-3), **Saul/Paul** (Acts 9) and the call of **John** in Rev. 1? How did the way God called them motivate and sustain