

REVELATION 1: 9-29

John Sees Who Is Really In Charge

Verse 9 - 11: John's mission - write and send

John knew suffering. John knew tribulation. John knew crushing distress!

"I, John, both your brother and companion in the tribulation . . . " **verse 9**

We may never know the "**why's**" of suffering, but we can rest in knowing that Jesus is with us **in** the suffering

God has chosen you for such a time, you are not the lone ranger - **1 Peter 4: 12**

How you go through the "**whatever's**" of life is a witness to everyone - ***God is real!***

In the midst of tribulation, John receives **his mission** in a startling way - **verse 10 – 11**

You have a **mission**, chosen by God, uniquely for you - *this is an honor!*

Carry out **your mission**, even if you do not like your **mission**

You know that you are growing up when you can say in any **mission**, *your will be done God!*

Verse 12 - 16: John sees *Who* is really in charge

In a world of tumult, we must know, **God is in charge**, and all is proceeding on schedule

John sees Jesus in the midst of the Seven Golden Lampstands - *the Church*

Why is this important to me? *Jesus knows where you are, and He is with you!*

Knowing who the **real Jesus** is will help you go through anything life throws at you

John sees the real Jesus, the One you will meet face to face! - **verse 13 – 16**

- 1) **Head and hair** were white like wool - *blazing holiness!*
- 2) **Eyes** were like a flame of fire - *Jesus sees everything; nothing is hidden from Him!*
- 3) **His feet** were like fine brass – judgment - *Jesus will judge with perfect judgment!*
- 4) **His voice** like many waters - *this is a voice of authority!*
- 5) **His countenance** like the sun - *unapproachable light, which displaces the darkness!*
- 6) **Out of His mouth** a two-edged sword - *the Word of God which destroys His enemies!*

John sees the heavenly King of Glory and He is radiant, **He is God!!**

False gods will vie for your attention

Accept no other false god substitutes

The god of sex is running rampant in America

- The god of America is sex; the "me, myself, and I" god; the all about my urge's god!

America cannot be great until America repents and returns to God *who alone is great!*

"That they may know that You, whose name alone is the LORD, are the Most High over all the earth"

Psalm 83:18

Verse 17 - 18: The reassurance of Jesus

God is all about reassuring His people

The gentleness of Jesus, the reassurance of Jesus - **verse 17**

"But He laid His right hand on me, saying to me, "Do not be afraid "

Oh, how He loves you and me!

Jesus reassures us even concerning death

“I am He who lives I have the keys of Hades and of Death”

When Jesus was resurrected, He conquered death - the believer never dies - **John 11: 25-26**

Christ conquered death for us, this means believers are also victors over death - **John 14: 19; 2 Corinthians 5: 8**

You can rest knowing that He who gave you these promises will surely carry them out!

Verse 19: Jesus repeats His marching orders for John

Verse 20: The symbolism is explained

Allow Scripture to interpret Scripture; symbols are explained in the same book, or in other areas of Scripture

The message went from God the Father, to Jesus, to an angel, to John, to God’s Servant (the Pastor of the Church)

CLOSING: What are we to make of these things?

As our world starts to unravel and to implode, it is good to know that what is occurring, right before our eyes, is under the ultimate control of the person of *Jesus Christ, all Powerful, all Mighty, God!!*

Remember where the battle resides, it is spiritual - **Ephesians 6: 12**

The battle is not at the human level; humans are simply deceived

The battle is at the **spiritual level** - highly structured, very ordered rankings in the demonic realm

Put on your armor - **Ephesians 6: 10 -18**

When your world becomes unsettling, crushing and disturbing:

- 1) **Remember** who John saw - **Jesus is in charge**, not chance, not Satan, *but Jesus Christ!*
- 2) **Remember** we worship the *Most High God!*
- 3) **Remember**, there is no Rock, *there is no God like our God!! NONE!!*
- 4) **Remember** to **carry out your mission** and tell those in your sphere of influence about the *True God!*

Who is really in charge? JESUS IS IN CHARGE!!