

Theme: Jesus, Who is fully God, has conquered death and hell and offers eternal life to all who believe in Him.

## I. Intro - The Unveiling

- A. Revelation is a much misunderstood book
- B. All kinds of visions, symbols, allusions
- C. Many crazy ideas about charts for end times
- D. But central message is actually name - the revelation/unveiling of Jesus Christ
- E. Who is Jesus? What did He do? Why does it matter?

## II. Jesus - The Living God

### A. Jesus - One "like a son of man"

I turned around to see the voice that was speaking to me. And when I turned I saw seven golden lampstands, <sup>13</sup> and among the lampstands **was someone "like a son of man,"** dressed in a robe reaching down to his feet and with a golden sash around his chest. Revelation 1:12–13

- 1. John hears a commanding voice behind him & turns
- 2. He sees one "like a son of man"
- 3. A reference to Daniel's vision in the OT  
In my vision at night I looked, and there before me was **one like a son of man**, coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient of Days and was led into his presence. <sup>14</sup> He was given authority, glory and sovereign power; all peoples, nations and men of every language worshiped him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and his kingdom is one that will never be destroyed. Daniel 7:13–14

- a. One like a son of man - same phrase John uses
  - b. Comes into God's Presence, given full authority
  - c. People from every tribe **worship** him - only God!
  - d. He has total authority forever - this One is God!
4. John uses many of Daniel's symbols in Revelation - all of which flow from this opening vision

### B. Jesus' awesome appearance

His head and hair were white like wool, as white as snow, and his eyes were like blazing fire. <sup>15</sup> His feet were like bronze glowing in a furnace, and his voice was like the sound of rushing waters. <sup>16</sup> In his right hand he held seven stars, and out of his mouth came a sharp double-edged sword. His face was like the sun shining in all its brilliance. Revelation 1:14–16

- 1. This is one awesome "son of man"!
- 2. These descriptions are used in 7 letters to churches
- 3. They are also used in Revelation 19
- 4. This is no mere created being!
- 5. They all point to the Deity of Christ & His authority

### C. Jesus' direct claims to Deity

When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. Then he placed his right hand on me and said: "Do not be afraid. **I am the First and the Last.** <sup>18</sup> **I am the Living One;** I was dead, and behold I am alive for ever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and Hades. Revelation 1:17–18

- 1. John fell down as though dead - who wouldn't??!!
- 2. Jesus says He is the First and the Last

I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End. Revelation 22:13

a. This is a claim to eternity - He surrounds and supersedes time itself

b. Same words of God the Father in Revelation 1:8

3. Jesus is the Living One - He has inherent life

a. All created life is derivative - lives because God lives

b. But Jesus is the Living One - He inherently possesses life

c. This was a title often given to God - He is the Living God, the One who inherently has life

D. The One John sees is God Himself, and the work He does is the work of God Himself, and the authority He exercises is the authority of God Himself

### III. Jesus - The Risen One

A. Jesus had been truly dead

I am the Living One; **I was dead**, and behold I am alive for ever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and Hades. Revelation 1:18

1. Jesus had been truly dead - not just passed out

2. This is Good Friday - Jesus was put to death because of our sins

3. Jesus died - to pay for our sin

B. Jesus was raised from the dead

I am the Living One; **I was dead, and behold I am alive for ever and ever!** And I hold the keys of death and Hades. Revelation 1:18

1. Jesus truly died - but He is alive again

2. This was not mere resuscitation - it is resurrection

3. Lazarus and others died again, but Jesus is alive forever and ever!

4. The One appearing before John has been raised from the dead, never to die again!

### IV. Jesus The Living Conqueror

A. Jesus has conquered death and hell

I am the Living One; I was dead, and behold I am alive for ever and ever! **And I hold the keys of death and Hades.** Revelation 1:18

1. Jesus' resurrection is His victory over death and hell

2. The keys - power/authority over

3. In death He did battle with death - and overcame!

4. He descended into the realm of the dead, and stripped the powers of death and hell - and emerged victorious once and for all

5. The word 'overcome' occurs 18x in Revelation - and only 10 in rest of NT!

6. Believers find their origin, their source, and their identity in God, not the world. To be authentic people of the Spirit is to be at odds with the world and its wicked ways.

B. Jesus has conquered death and hell - for us!

When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. Then he placed his right hand on me and said: “Do not be afraid. I am the First and the Last. 18 I am the Living One; I was dead, and behold I am alive for ever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and Hades.  
Revelation 1:17–18

1. John did not need to fear - Jesus the Living God is for Him not against Him
2. We need no longer fear - Jesus the Living God is for us!
3. ‘Fear not’ is a constant refrain, because since the fall we fear God is here to harm us. But we need not fear, because in Christ God is for us!
4. John need no longer fear death - Jesus has conquered death for him
5. We who have feared death and hell all our lives need no longer fear it, for Jesus has conquered death and hell for us!

## V. Applying the Word

A. Have you seen and heard the Living Conqueror?

1. Jesus was truly dead - but He is truly alive!
2. He conquered death, and walked out of the grave
3. This is not metaphor - it is historical fact!
4. Do you know that this is true?
5. Have you personally encountered the Risen Christ?
6. Have you embraced Him in faith?

B. Am living in faith rather than fear?

1. Like John, we need to hear “Do not be afraid!”
2. We can live in fear of so many things - finances, reputation, children, , future, death
3. But Jesus is the Risen Living Conqueror!
4. He has the keys of authority over everything in this life, and even over death itself
5. And Jesus is for us as His people - not against us!
6. This is a firm foundation for living by faith not fear
7. Give your fears to Him - for He lives and rules all!

C. Closing prayer of faith in the Living Conqueror

### Living Conqueror

Revelation 1:10-18

April 16, 2017

Prayer

Ephesians 1:17-21

Teaching keywords: Easter; resurrection; Deity of Christ

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better having the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, and his incomparably great power for us who believe - the same power he exerted in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every title that can be given, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. Ephesians 1:17–21 paraphrase

On the Lord's Day I was in the Spirit, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet, <sup>11</sup> which said: "Write on a scroll what you see and send it to the seven churches: to Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia and Laodicea." <sup>12</sup> I turned around to see the voice that was speaking to me. And when I turned I saw seven golden lampstands, <sup>13</sup> and among the lampstands was someone "like a son of man," dressed in a robe reaching down to his feet and with a golden sash around his chest. <sup>14</sup> His head and hair were white like wool, as white as snow, and his eyes were like blazing fire. <sup>15</sup> His feet were like bronze glowing in a furnace, and his voice was like the sound of rushing waters. <sup>16</sup> In his right hand he held seven stars, and out of his mouth came a sharp double-edged sword. His face was like the sun shining in all its brilliance. <sup>17</sup> When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. Then he placed his right hand on me and said: "Do not be afraid. I am the First and the Last. <sup>18</sup> I am the Living One; I was dead, and behold I am alive for ever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and Hades. Revelation 1:10–18