

## REVELATION 1:12-20

A. Revelation 1:12 - And I turned to see the voice that spake with me. And being turned, I saw seven golden candlesticks;

1. As John turns to see whose voice he heard, he first sees [seven golden candlesticks]. These are the seven **Jewish** churches-synagogues. They are assemblies of kingdom believers.

Revelation 1:20 - The mystery of the seven stars which thou sawest in my right hand, and the seven golden candlesticks. The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches: and the seven candlesticks which thou sawest are the seven churches.

2. These seven churches, that will be located in the future day of the Lord, are identified in 1:11. The [candlestick] is the container, or **holder**, of the candle that produces the light.

- a. \*These synagogue-churches are to hold Christ's light:

Matthew 5:14-16 - [Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid.

Matt. 5:15 Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. Matt. 5:16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.]

John 8:12 - [Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.]

- b. They will be responsible to individually be lights in Antichrist's **evil** kingdom.

\*\*This is as we are to be today: II Cor. 4:3-4 - [But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost: 2Cor. 4:4 In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.]

B. Revelation 1:13 - And in the midst of the seven candlesticks *one* like unto the Son of man, clothed with a garment down to the foot, and girt about the paps with a golden girdle.

1. John now sees [one like unto the Son of man]. Remember, Paul **never** refers to Christ as the Son of man. Paul does call Him the Son of God. The reason is that today we no longer know Him after the flesh - His earthly ministry.

II Corinthians 5:16 - Wherefore henceforth know we no man after the flesh: yea, though we have known Christ after the flesh, yet now henceforth know we *him* no more.

2. Also, it may seem strange that John is somewhat **uncertain** of Christ's identity. Remember, as we will see, John had never seen Christ in this manner before. In Matthew 17 (Mt. of Transfiguration), he saw **some** of Christ's glory (humanly speaking). But here, being in the Spirit capsule, John can see the **full** force of Christ's deity.

\*\*Because of man's sinfulness, he is limited in seeing God's glory!

3. [Son of man] This is His Messianic-Kingship title. It identifies Him with Israel as He is in the midst of the seven Jewish Churches.

- a. This phrase is used for His **first** coming, as He presented Himself as the rightful King (was rejected).

Matthew 8:20 - And Jesus saith unto him, The foxes have holes, and the birds of the air *have* nests; but the Son of man hath not where to lay *his* head.

- b. It is also used for His **second** coming, showing He has authority and dominion over the earth to judge it.

Revelation 14:14 - And I looked, and behold a white cloud, and upon the cloud *one* sat like unto the Son of man, having on his head a golden crown, and in his hand a sharp sickle.

Daniel 7:13-14 - I saw in the night visions, and, behold, *one like the Son of man* came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him.

Dan. 7:14 And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion *is* an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom *that* which shall not be destroyed.

- c. Being called the [Son of man] reminds us that God the Son **became** a man (Jn. 1:14; Mt. 1:23; Heb. 2:14). It also speaks of His **love**. It shows that He was willing to leave heaven and to take upon Himself the punishment for our sins on the cross (Phil. 2:5-8; II Cor. 5:21; I Tim. 2:5-6).

4. [clothed with a garment down to the foot, and girt about the paps with a golden girdle.]

- a. In order for John to see this, Christ must have been **standing**! \*This is important to Israel.

Psalm 7:6, 9:19, 82:8 - Arise, O LORD, in thine anger, lift up thyself because of the rage of mine enemies: and awake for me *to* the judgment *that* thou hast commanded. Psalm 9:19 Arise, O LORD; let not man prevail: let the heathen be judged in thy sight. Psalm 82:8 Arise, O God, judge the earth: for thou shalt inherit all nations.

Acts 7:56 - And said, Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God.

- b. \*Remember, these Jewish leaders were infuriated because they **knew** what it meant for Messiah to stand up. It meant fire and judgment - the Lord's Day - Day of the Lord!

\*\*Christ picks up where He left off in Acts 7 when standing. The Prophetic Program is now about to **resume**.

5. The garment down to His feet is the attire of a **judge**. It was apparently regal and royal.

John 5:22 - For the Father judgeth no man, but hath committed all judgment unto the Son:

6. The [paps] was the chest and the [girdle] was a sash/rope worn around the waist to help **control** the robe from flapping around while they worked (Isaiah 11:5).

\*\*But here, it is up around His chest. Evidently before He goes to work, He pulls **up** His britches. Judgment will **soon** be on its way.

C. Revelation 1:14 - His head and *his* hairs *were* white like wool, as white as snow; and his eyes *were* as a flame of fire;

- 1. In the Bible, "white" is a reference to **purity**, righteousness, holiness, and wisdom - this is Christ!

Isaiah 1:18 - Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.

Daniel 7:9b - ...whose garment *was* white as snow, and the hair of his head like the pure wool: his throne *was like* the fiery flame, *and* his wheels *as* burning fire.

2. Have you ever heard - "There is fire in his/her eyes"? This means they are mad as fire - **angry** - upset.
  - a. Here, Christ has finally had it with man's sinfulness, arrogance, pride, foolishness, and **mistreatment** of Israel.
  - b. His eyes are penetrating, all-seeing, in searching the evil deeds of mankind. No one can hide from Him or be able to **stand** before Him.

D. Revelation 1:15 - And his feet like unto fine brass, as if they burned in a furnace; and his voice as the sound of many waters.

1. Does this sound like how most describe Christ today? Brass is a reference to **judgment**. In the tabernacle, the first piece of furniture you would see was the brazen altar. It was the place where sacrifices for sin were judged.
2. His eyes on fire, His feet as fire, and all His enemies will be put under His feet. Remember John the Baptist? Matthew 3:11 - [I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire:]

Isaiah 63:3-4 - [I have trodden the winepress alone; and of the people *there was* none with me: for I will tread them in mine anger, and trample them in my fury; and their blood shall be sprinkled upon my garments, and I will stain all my raiment. Isa. 63:4 For the day of vengeance is in mine heart, and the year of my redeemed is come.]

3. His voice! He will speak with earth-shaking supreme authority. He remains silent no more, as the **roar** of His wrath goes forth (Heb. 11:3).

E. Revelation 1:16 - And he had in his right hand seven stars: and out of his mouth went a sharp twoedged sword: and his countenance *was* as the sun shineth in his strength.

1. The seven stars are seven angels-messengers of the seven churches (Rev. 1:20).
2. The [sword] is His **Word** (Heb. 4:12).
3. [his countenance was as the sun] This speaks of the dazzling glory and brilliance, even greater than at the Mt. of Transfiguration.

\*The sun is 93 million miles from us. Can you imagine its light if it were right next to us? Christ-as the **sun**!

II Thessalonians 2:8 - And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming:

F. Revelation 1:17 - And when I saw him, I fell at his feet as dead. And he laid his right hand upon me, saying unto me, Fear not; I am the first and the last:

1. John was so overwhelmed by what he saw in Christ. All he could do was to fall out cold, as he is knocked down by Christ's glory. Ezekiel fell on his face - Isaiah said [woe is me] - Daniel fainted - Saul of Tarsus fell...knocked down to the ground. There will be **no** high fives!
2. Christ reminds John, "[Fear not], I am on your side. John, be comforted, encouraged, and remember - I am not upset with you. I **love** you."

\*"Plus, since I am eternal, I have everything under control. You just have not seen **My** end for you and Israel. So do not worry and always remember:" Daniel 4:35 - [And all the inhabitants of the earth *are* reputed as nothing: and he doeth according to his will in the army of heaven, and *among* the inhabitants of the earth: and none can stay his hand, or say unto him, What doest thou?]

G. Revelation 1:18 - *I am* he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.

\*Christ has lived upon earth, proving that He was the prophesied Messiah. Being rejected at the age of 33, He was crucified by the Romans - through Jewish pressure and deceitfulness. He fulfilled God's determinate council, conquered death by rising from the tomb 3 days later - never to die again. Now He is on the Father's right hand, having been promised all victory and dominion. Now He has all authority, having the keys of death and hell - thus showing the Father's satisfaction with Him and exaltation of Him.

Hebrews 2:14-15 - Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil; Heb. 2:15 And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.

I John 3:8b - ... For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.

Colossians 2:14-15 - Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross; Col. 2:15 And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it.

\*\*The power that Satan once held over Hades and death was **lost** when Christ died, was buried and rose!

H. Revelation 1:19 - Write the things which thou hast seen, and the things which are, and the things which shall be hereafter;

1. [hast seen] - past - Chapter 1  
[which are] - present - Chapters 2-3 (& future)  
[shall be hereafter] - future - Chapters 4-ff

\*\*This is what most say - but it is **wrong!**

2. Actually, **all** of Revelation is future. John was told to write what he saw. So many have misunderstood this verse and that has resulted in misinterpreting the whole content of this book. They came up with a threefold division: past, present, and future - (which I used to believe).

3. John was instructed to write what he **had** seen. The first chapter is John's introduction to the whole book because we see at its very beginning (Chap. 1:1-2), it is said of John that he [bore record of the Word of God and of the testimony of Jesus Christ, and of all the things he saw.] This is past tense.

**\*\*Remember, John saw the prophecy of Revelation, then he sat down to write. John writes his introduction **last**.**

4. Verse 19 is still a part of John's introduction, so verse 19 is in the same sense as verse 2 (saw). John is supposed to have seen all the vision of the book when he was commanded to write all that was given to him.
- a. \*So it is not about past, present, and future - but to the **future** alone [the things which shall be hereafter]. There is no portion of Revelation that is to the present Church Body. Revelation only relates to the Prophetic Program of Israel.
- b. Someone said: "What about [the things which are,]?"

Paul Saddler: "The things that are simply means that John was to explain the symbolic things and what they actually **mean** or signify."

Example: The seven stars of verse 16 are seven angels-messengers (verse 20).

Example: Revelation 17 - [mystery of the woman, and of the beast that carrieth her, which hath seven heads and ten horns.]

\*John interprets it: [The seven heads are seven mountains], or kingdoms - which have seven kings. [And the ten horns which thou sawest are ten kings] which have no kingdoms (Rev. 17:7, 9-10, 12).

- I. Verse 20 is **self**-explanatory. Let's read and **in**terpret it now.

Revelation 1:20 - The mystery of the seven stars which thou sawest in my right hand, and the seven golden candlesticks. The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches: and the seven candlesticks which thou sawest are the seven churches.

# Seal, Trumpet, and Bowl Judgments

