



CHRIST'S EVALUATION OF HIS CHURCH "Christ at the Center" Revelation 1:1-20

No. 1488

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John, the aged overseer of the church at Ephesus had been exiled on the island of Patmos because of his faith and ministry. While there he received a vision, an apocalypse, of Christ that he was required to share with the churches around Ephesus. Christ's words need to be heard today.

I. Introduction to Revelation. vv. 1-3

- A. A revelation by God.
 - 1. Alpha and Omega. v. 8
 - 2. Almighty.
- B. A revelation for Jesus Christ.
 - 1. He did it.
 - 2. It is about Him.
- C. A revelation for his servants.
 - 1. They need to know what is happening. v. 1
 - 2. They need to recognize the time. v. 3
 - 3. They need to be blessed in order to cope. v. 3
 - 4. They need to remember the word and the testimony.

II. Beginning of an Epistle. vv. 4-8

- A. Author: John.
 - 1. Brother and companion. v. 9
 - 2. 'En Patmo.'
 - 3. 'En pneumali.' v. 10
- B. Addressee: Seven churches of Asia. v. 11
- C. Greetings: Grace and peace. vv. 4-5
 - 1. Father—He who is...
 - 2. Spirit—Seven...Before the throne.
 - 3. Son—
 - a. Faithful witness.
 - b. Firstborn from dead.
 - c. Ruler of kings. cf. Matthew 4:8-10
- D. Doxology. vv. 5-8
 - 1. Praise for His love, redemption, re-creation.
 - 2. Chagrin from those who pierced Him, when He returns.

III. Details of a Vision. vv. 9-20

- A. Seven lampstands—designed to give light.
- B. Seven stars—also designed to give light.
- C. "Son of man."
 - 1. Authority:
 - a. Dressed in a robe...
 - b. Voice like rushing waters...
 - c. Sharp double-edge sword...
 - d. He held seven stars...
 - e. First and last...
 - f. Keys of death and hades.
 - 2. Purity: white as snow.
 - 3. Stability: feet like bronze.
 - 4. Integrity: eyes like fire.
 - 5. Glory: face like the sun.

IV. Command to an Apostle. vv. 19-20

- A. Write what you have seen.
- B. What is now.
- C. What will happen later.