

## Sermon #2: Stirred Not Shaken

28 Jan 2024

### BREAKING THE ICE

- What impacted you most about this week's message?

### UNDERSTANDING THE TRUTH

*Read the Passage (Revelation 1:9-20)*

1. How does John address his readers in verse 9? What does he say he is a "partner" in?
2. How should this opening greeting impact our perspective as Christians?
3. In verses 10-11, what does the loud voice John heard tell him to do? (Specifically, is he to record what he *hears* or what he *sees*?) How does this help us understand the nature of this letter?
4. To whom was John to send this letter? How should this impact how we read and understand this letter?
5. Read verses 12-16 describing this "one like the Son of Man". All the metaphorical and symbolic descriptors of this "one like the Son of Man" had clear meaning in John's time. A ruler would have worn a white robe and gold sash. White hair was a symbol of wisdom and fire often symbolized judgment. Bronze was the strongest of metals at that time. The double-edged sword draws on Hebrews 4:12-13. His face shining like the sun would remind John of the transfiguration (Matthew 17:1-2). Putting these together, what is this vision communicating to us?
6. How do verses 17-18 (as well as Daniel 7:9, 13-14) clarify who this "one like the Son of Man" is?
7. According to verse 20, what do the seven lampstands and seven stars from verses 12 & 16 refer to? (this is a great example of seeking other scripture to help understand a verse)
8. Where does John see this "son of man" in regard to the lampstands (see vs 13)? What does this seem to communicate?
9. How does verse 19 reiterate again what John was to do, but also add a bit more do description?

### SEEING JESUS CHRIST

*This vision of Jesus Christ is so different from every picture we have of Him in the four Gospels. Imagine John, who knew Jesus intimately while He walked on earth, seeing Him like this for the first time. He fell to his knees as if he was dead! We rarely think of Jesus like this due to our frequent interaction with the Gospels and neglect of Revelation (sometimes called the fifth Gospel).*

- How does this vision of Jesus transform your typical view of Him and lead you to deeper worship?

### **MAKING IT MATTER**

1. How well would you say you embrace your partnership in “the ***affliction, kingdom*** and ***endurance*** that are in Jesus”? Which of these three do you embrace best/worst?
2. What mindset do you need God to transform in you through this series to help you better embrace this “partnership” with Jesus?
3. What might our church look like if we fully embraced this picture of Jesus we see in this passage “standing amongst us” in our church?
4. How might we impact our community differently if we embraced this “partnership” as well as the majestic, mighty vision of Who Jesus fully is?

### **PRAYING FOR GOD’S POWER**

“This is the confidence we have before him: If we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. And if we know that he hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have what we have asked of him.” 1 John 5:14-15

When we pray according to God’s will it engages the power and guidance of God to bring about our transformation. If we apply these things in our own strength, then it is just legalistic obedience. But, when we humbly ask God to change us and empower us according to His will and by His Spirit, it becomes transformational AND it glorifies God.

1. Ask people to share one key, specific application from today’s lesson that they want God to bring about in their life. Then take time to pray for each other in these areas.