

Session 01 The Majesty of Jesus as the Son of Man (Dan. 7; Rev. 1)

I. REVIEW: JESUS, OUR MAGNIFICENT OBSESSION PART 1

- A. No aspect of God’s grace more powerfully transforms our emotions or satisfies our heart than when God, the Spirit, reveals God to the human spirit. Many think of Jesus mostly in terms of One who heals, provides, directs, and blesses their circumstances. He is much more.
- B. Paul gladly gave up everything as he saw the magnificence, or excellence, of Jesus! If we can see what Paul saw about Jesus then we can live like he lived. Paul would have given up anything to position his heart to gain more insight into Jesus’ magnificence and to feel the power of it.
⁸I count all things loss for the excellence [magnificence] of the knowledge of Christ Jesus... (Phil. 3:8)
- C. The Spirit was given to us to be our escort into the deep things of God’s heart. He knows more about Jesus than we can imagine. He will reveal as much of Jesus as we are hungry for. He gives to us based on our hunger for more. He will not force-feed us. I pray, “Holy Spirit, let me see what You see and feel what You feel about Jesus—teach me about Him.”
¹³The Spirit...will guide [escort] you...¹⁴for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you. (Jn. 16:13-14)
¹⁰The Spirit searches...the deep things of God...¹²We have received...the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God. (1 Cor. 2:10-12)
- D. The Spirit is raising up those who will proclaim the riches of Jesus. The most neglected subject in the kingdom of God is God Himself. We mostly teach about good topics, such as leadership principles, relationship skills, economic principles, ministry skills, and how to be happier, etc.
⁸To me...grace was given that I should preach...the unsearchable riches of Christ... (Eph. 3:8)

II. JESUS AS THE SON OF MAN

- A. One of the most significant Old Testament prophecies about Jesus is found in Daniel 7. It describes Him as the Son of Man who will rule all nations with His people forever (Dan. 7:14) after He defeats the Antichrist before all the earth (Dan. 7:11). Jesus used this title more than any other when speaking of Himself (85 references). Each time He was referring to His identity as set forth in Daniel 7 because Daniel is the only one to prophesy about Jesus as the Son of Man. The Son of Man prophecy about Jesus may have been His favorite prophecy. He must have thought on it often. He used it when teaching about returning to rule the earth (Mt. 24:30; 25:31).
⁹The Ancient of Days [the Father]...His garment was white as snow, and the hair of His head was like pure wool. His throne was a fiery flame...¹¹I watched till the beast [Antichrist] was slain...¹³I was watching...One like the Son of Man, coming with the clouds of heaven! He came to the Ancient of Days [Father]...¹⁴To Him was given dominion...and a kingdom, that all peoples, nations...should serve Him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion...²⁷Then the kingdom...shall be given to the people, the saints of the Most High. (Dan. 7:9-14, 27)

- B. The two primary chapters that define Jesus as the Son of Man are Daniel 7 and Revelation 1. In Revelation, Jesus gives insight into His identity as the Son of Man, which will be globally manifest in the generation He returns to the earth. The Son of Man title emphasizes that Jesus is fully God and fully human—the God-man. Jesus is saying, “I am God, yet I am also one of you.”
¹⁰I heard behind me a loud voice, as of a trumpet, ¹¹saying, “I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last,”...¹²Having turned I saw seven golden lampstands, ¹³and in the midst of the seven lampstands One like the Son of Man, clothed with a garment down to the feet and girded about the chest with a golden band. ¹⁴His head and hair were white like wool, as white as snow, and His eyes like a flame of fire; ¹⁵His feet were like fine brass, as if refined in a furnace, and His voice as the sound of many waters; ¹⁶He had in His right hand seven stars, out of His mouth went a sharp two-edged sword, and His countenance was like the sun shining in its strength. ¹⁷When I saw Him, I fell at His feet as dead. (Rev. 1:10-17)
- C. In Revelation 1-3, John shares a vision which highlights **30 descriptions of Jesus’** majesty, ministry, and personality, and **18 eternal rewards**. Each description and reward communicates a specific insight about Jesus that is necessary in equipping the Church to overcome compromise. We identify 30 descriptions from Jesus’ titles, names, appearance, actions, and clothing. There are 24 descriptions in Revelation 1 (7 in v. 5-7 and 17 in v. 10-16), and 18 in Revelation 2-3, totaling 42. Since 12 are in both Revelation 1 and Revelation 2-3, we identify **30 descriptions**.
- D. John only gave abbreviated statements of each description and reward. Each phrase is significant and is but a *hint* that we are to search out more by using the rest of the Bible to get a more complete picture of what the Spirit is saying about Jesus. It is like a *menu* highlighting what the Holy Spirit will feed the Church to equip her to overcome temptation and persecution.
- E. **Summary:** John heard a voice like a trumpet preparing the Church to experience God’s glory (Rev. 2-3) and warning all nations that the King of kings was coming to earth (Rev. 6-19). The One who spoke is fully God (Alpha/Omega) and fully man (First/Last). He is the glorious Son of Man who will rule all nations as a sympathetic High Priest (garment to the feet), yet as One who is eternal, holy, and wise like His Father (head and hair white) in all that He does. He will cleanse the nations with His eyes of fire and feet like brass. All will listen to Him because His voice is like many waters. In the midst of all His mighty works, He upholds His messengers (stars) and fights against all who harm them (sword). None can resist Him because He is God, with such brightness (sun), that even His people fall at His feet overwhelmed with His glory.
- F. The book of Revelation is called the **revelation of Jesus** because first, it reveals the majesty of His heart and leadership in His plan to transition history to the age to come. Second, it is a book about events that will occur in His end-time plan to purify the Church, bring in the harvest, replace all the evil governments, and drive Satan off the planet. God’s purpose in Revelation is first to reveal the Man behind the plan. Revelation 1 and Revelation 19 give the most complete picture of Jesus in the Bible. They describe who He is (how He thinks and feels) and what He does when more “fully revealed” in His end-time plan.

¹The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave Him [Jesus] to show His servants... (Rev. 1:1)

- G. Jesus' earthly ministry gave significant revelation and expression of who He is as the Son of Man. Then in the book of Revelation, He gave more insight into His identity as the Son of Man, which will be globally manifest in the generation that He returns to earth. We only get the complete biblical picture of Jesus as we see Him in Daniel 7 and Revelation 1 in the context of the gospels, the book of Acts, and the epistles.
- H. We understand more about the "Jesus of the gospels" as we see the "Jesus of Revelation." We see Jesus' transcendence and immanence together in a mutual relationship of love.
1. In the gospels, He reveals that He loves His people in the way that God loves God (Jn. 15:9). In Revelation 1, we see that He has eyes of fire that are filled with desire for us.
⁹As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you... (Jn. 15:9)
 2. In the gospels, He cleansed the temple twice (Mt. 21:12; Jn. 2:15). In Revelation 1, we see that He has feet like brass that will judge everything that hinders love. He will cleanse all the nations because the whole earth will one day be as a temple of God's presence (Isa. 66:1; Rev. 21:3).
 3. In the gospels, He spoke piercing words to the disobedient, especially the Pharisees (Mt. 23). In Revelation 1, we see that His mouth is like a sword that pierces and strikes the sinful agendas in His Church (Rev. 2:16) and the wicked in the nations (Rev. 19:15). The sword of His mouth refers to His power that is released by His commands.
 4. In the gospels, He got into the boat with His disciples and calmed the raging storm. In Revelation 1, He is seen walking in the midst of His Church (candlestick) to assure the Church that He will be with them during the end-time storm that will shake the nations.

III. SEARCHING WITH ALL OF OUR HEART

- A. The Spirit will escort us into the divine treasury of the magnificence of Jesus. Searching for God includes prayerful study of the Word, with fasting. We are to be diligent in our pursuit of the knowledge of God, being willing to pay any price in seeking for more of Jesus. We must spend long hours in the Word and prayer in our quest. There is a deep correlation between the amount of time we spend seeking God and the measure of encounter that we have with Him.
⁴If you seek her as silver, and search for her as for hidden treasures ⁵Then you will understand the fear of the LORD, and find the knowledge of God. (Prov. 2:4-5)
- B. Jesus is our greatest treasure, but is "hidden" until we seek for more of Him with all our heart. A kingly spirit searches diligently and refuses to be denied.
²Attaining to all the riches of...Christ, ³in whom are hidden all the treasures... (Col. 2:2-3)
²It is the glory of God to conceal a matter, but the glory of kings is to search out a matter. (Prov. 25:2)

IV. HOW TO APPLY THE DESCRIPTIONS OF JESUS: A-R-K

- A. We are on a lifelong journey into the glory of Jesus as highlighted by these 30 descriptions of Him. The Spirit will teach us about each one, little by little, as we ask Him (journal as you pray).
- B. Jesus' name will be the "ark of safety" and the "ark of His presence" in the end-time pressures.
¹⁰*The name of the LORD is a strong tower; the righteous run to it and are safe. (Prov. 18:10)*
¹¹*Holy Father, keep through Your name those whom You have given Me... (Jn. 17:11)*
- C. **A-R-K**: We apply the truths of the descriptions of Jesus in Revelation to our lives in three ways: **A-agreement**; **R-ask for revelation**; **K-keep** the prophecy. Jesus promised to bless any who resolve to "keep" the prophecy set forth in the book of Revelation (Rev. 1:3; 22:7, 9). We resolve to "keep" each of the truths by responding in faith and obedience in our actions and attitudes.
⁷*Blessed is he who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book. (Rev. 22:7)*
- D. **Agreement**: We make declarations of agreement to Jesus about who He is and what He does. We identify the core truths in each of the 30 descriptions (some overlap), then simply declare these truths back to Jesus with affection and gratitude. For example, pray:
1) "**You are...**" declarations: You are a faithful witness, the firstborn, the ruler of kings, etc.
2) "**You have...**" declarations: You have a sword, You have the keys of the kingdom, etc.
3) "**Your...**" declarations: Your face is like the sun, Your eyes are like fire, etc.
- E. **More examples to pray**: "You are the Son of Man. You are fully God and fully man. I love this about You. You became a man to win me. I trust Your leadership. You are the ruler over all kings. They will soon bow before You. I love Your greatness. Thank you that You have eyes of fire and You desire to fill me with Your love. Jesus, You are the faithful witness to the truth. You are the truth. I thank you that You always tell the truth. I love this about You. I trust what You say. You are reliable, I can count on You. You took a stand that cost Your reputation and life. You are the firstborn. I rejoice in Your preeminence."
- F. **Revelation**: We pray for increased revelation of the truth implied in each description (Eph. 1:17). For example, "Reveal Yourself to me as the faithful witness," or "Reveal Yourself to me as the firstborn. Show me Your glory as the ruler of all kings. Teach me more about these."
- G. **Keep the prophecy**: We make simple declarations of resolve to obey or believe these truths. For example: "I commit to be a faithful witness to the truth, regardless of the cost. Help me to do this. I will submit to Your leadership as the ruler over the earth. Empower me to obey You."
- H. **More examples**: Pray, "You are the firstborn from the dead, I will take time to cultivate understanding of the resurrection. I will give You preeminence over all things in my life because You are the ruler over the kings of the earth. I seek to love you with all my heart as Your eyes of fire empower me. I will resist immorality as your feet like brass will surely "step in" to help.