

A Supernatural Being Appears to John

Study 2. Revelation 1:9-20

A. The Preface to the Book. 1:1-8 (Study 1)

B. A Supernatural Being Commands John to Write! 1:9-20 (Study 2)

1. John describes himself and his situation to his readers. 1:9-10
 - a. He identifies himself as a _____ to his readers, the seven churches. 1:9
 - b. Then he says that he participates with them in three things:
 - 1) In the _____
 - 2) and _____
 - 3) and _____ which are in Jesus.
 - c. Opinion question: what is the significance of these three things?
 - d. John had evidently been exiled to which island? 1:10 _____
 - e. What was John's condition on the Lord's day (Sunday)? _____

 - f. What did he hear? _____
2. The command. 1:11
 - a. A loud voice behind John gave him a command. What was he supposed to do? _____
 - b. To whom was he supposed to send the book he was to write? To the _____. These are identified as E_____, S_____, P_____, T_____, S_____, P_____, and L_____.
3. What John sees. 1:12-16
 - a. John turned to see the voice that was speaking to him. What did he see? 1:12 _____
 - b. Standing in the middle of the lampstands he saw someone like a _____ of _____ standing there.

- c. This person **wore** a full length _____ . 1:13
 - d. Across his **chest** there was a golden _____ .
 - e. What was the appearance of his **head** and **hair**? _____
_____ 1:14
 - f. His **eyes** looked like _____
 - g. His **feet** looked like _____
_____ 1:15
 - h. His **voice** sounded like _____
 - i. In his **right hand** he held _____ 1:16
 - j. Out of his **mouth** protruded a _____
 - k. His **face** looked like the _____
4. What was John's reaction when he saw this person? _____
_____ 1:17a
 5. How did this person state his supremacy over time? _____
_____ 1:17b
 6. How did he state his supremacy over death? 1:18
 - a. I was _____; now, I am _____.
 - b. I have the keys of _____ and of _____.
 7. In your estimation, who is this person? _____
 8. This person gives John some instructions to write: 1:19
 - a. The things which he has _____. (Evidently the supernatural being he has just witnessed.) This apparently outlines Revelation chapter _____.
 - b. The things which _____. (Evidently the present Church Age.) This apparently outlines Revelation chapters ____ - _____.

- c. The things which will take place _____ these things. (Evidently a reference to the events following the Church Age, outlining Revelation chapters ___ - ___.
9. The speaker identifies some symbolism. 1:20
 - a. What do the seven stars in his right hand represent? The _____ of the seven _____. (The word angel [Greek *aggelos*, pronounced ahng'-gelos] means "messenger." These messengers could be supernatural angels, or they could be human representatives of each church. The latter explanation seems more likely since John is instructed to write *to* each of the messengers (angels) of the seven churches in 2:1, 8, 12, 18; 3:1, 7, 14. John could be expected to write to human messengers. Why would he need to write to supernatural angels? They would likely already know what he was to write, wouldn't they?)
 - b. What do the seven lampstands represent? The seven _____.
10. It is our belief that the supernatural speaker in Rev. 1:9-20 is none other than the risen and ascended Lord, Jesus Christ. First, this document purports to be the unveiling (revelation) of Jesus Christ (1:1); He looks like a human being ("son of man" - 1:13); the speaker claims to be the first and the last – a claim to Deity (1:17); and the speaker once was dead, but now is alive forevermore (1:18). The only person who could match these descriptions is the resurrected God/Man, Jesus Christ.
11. What lessons can we learn from this study?
 - a. It is a fearful thing to be confronted by the risen Lord in all His glory (1:17)! (As the beaver in C. S. Lewis' *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* said of Aslan, "He's not a tame lion, you know!")
 - b. Jesus Christ, being the first and last (1:17), knows all things from beginning to end. It is his desire that we read this book of Revelation, understand it, and obey it (1:3). In order to do so, we must have an accurate understanding of what John saw (the Risen Christ, Rev. 1); what is (the Church Age, Rev. 2-3); and what is to come (the events following the Church Age, Rev. 4-22).
 - c. There are mysterious symbols in Revelation, but they have literal meanings which are meant to be understood (1:20).

- d. The Book of Revelation is given so that we might know the future; and also so that our lives might be changed as we see how God controls the future!
 - e. Your ideas? _____
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Published Online February, 2011 by WordExplain.com

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