

# JESUS CHRIST, THE GLORIOUS SON OF MAN

COREY STARK

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## I. INTRODUCTION: THE BOOK OF REVELATION

A. The title of the book is, “*the Revelation of Jesus Christ*” (Rev. 1:1), because its’ *primary purpose* is to unveil the unsearchable riches of Christ to *transform* the Church into a fully mature Bride who is made *comparable* to Him and prepared to be *compatible* with Him for eternal *partnership*, while dwelling in face-to-face communion with our Father on the earth forever (Eph. 3:8; 4:13-16; 5:27; Rev. 19:7; 21:3; 22:17)!

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

B. The word *revelation* literally means to “unveil” and occurs when the Holy Spirit takes the unsearchable things of God—previously hidden from man’s understanding—and reveals them to us by His grace (Jn. 14-16; 2 Cor. 2:9-11). Therefore, the book of Revelation could literally be called the “unveiling of the beauty and glory of Jesus Christ,” because it gives us unprecedented insight into the perfection of His *heart* (how He feels), His *mind* (how He thinks) and His *leadership* (how He acts) in preparing the nations for the future glory of God (Hab. 2:14; Num. 14:21; Ps. 72:19; Isa. 11:9). We should pray Ephesians 1:17-19 regularly.

***Eph. 1:17 That the Father of glory, may give you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, 18 that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, 19 and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe . . .***

C. Prior to Jesus’ return, the Church will emerge as a mature Bride in unprecedented unity, purity and power, possessing divine *wisdom* (Jer. 23:20), godly *character* (Eph. 4:13; 5:27) and supernatural *power* (Jn. 14:12).

***Eph. 5:27 that He might present her to Himself a glorious Church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish. (Rev. 19:7; 22:17)***

D. Because our *transformation* occurs through revelation (Ps. 17:15; 2 Cor. 3:18; 1 Jn. 3:2), the *highest maturity* of the Church necessitates the *greatest revelation* of Jesus. As we behold the glory of Jesus seen throughout Revelation we are progressively *transformed* into the *same image* (minds renewed, emotions restored, will unified, motives purified, etc.), and *prepared* for mature partnership as His eternal companion.

***2 Cor. 3:18 But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.***

E. Jesus commissioned John approximately 60 years after His ascension around 90 AD. John was banished to the Isle of Patmos after being unsuccessfully boiled in oil for preaching the Gospel in Ephesus. In Revelation 1-3 John reports one visionary experience that is the most comprehensive picture of Jesus in all of Scripture.

F. John was charged to communicate all that he “saw and heard” (Rev. 1:2, 11, 19; 22:8). As John beheld the glory of Jesus he was being transformed, giving him the *correct perspective* to interpret, pray and prophesy the following events with the right heart. The intimate details Jesus chose to reveal weren’t random, but very *strategic revelation* to provoke a very *specific response*, impacting the message and manner in which John would prophesy, as well as giving him the truths necessary to prepare and equip the Church to prevail through the unprecedented events of the end times in great victory. If we faithfully respond to Jesus according to the core truths given throughout Revelation, we can be confidently prepared for the events of the end times!

***Rev. 15:2 I saw... those who have the victory over the beast... standing on the sea of glass, having harps...***

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## II. THE PRIMARY BATTLEFRONT OF OUR DAY – THE TRUTH ABOUT JESUS CHRIST

A. When asked about His return, Jesus' primary warning was about deception (Mt. 24:4-5, 11, 23-27).

**Mt. 24:4 Take heed that no one deceives you. 5 For many will come in My name... and deceive many...**

B. In the Church there is both an *overt denying* the truth about Jesus, because it's costly, embarrassing and uncomfortable, as well as a more *subtle ignoring* of the truths about Him, as many try to make life work better (comfort, money, honor), while sprinkling Jesus' name on religious activities. Paul warned about a "*different gospel*" with "*another Jesus*" who is an imposter and counterfeit (2 Cor. 11:4). He has no resemblance to the true Jesus of the Bible and therefore no power to transform the heart (2 Cor. 3:18; Rev. 1-3).

**2 Cor. 3:18 But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.**

C. Jesus wants *much more* than to just fulfill your dreams, give you more favor and bless your circumstances. He wants an *eternal partner* who has been transformed into His image and made comparable to Him forever!

**Eph. 4:13 till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ (Rom. 8:29; Eph. 5:27).**

D. Our individual maturity and victory, as well as that of the global Church are dependent on our experiential knowledge of God; what He thinks, feels and does (Dan. 11:32-33; Eph. 1:17-19; 3:16-19; 4:13; 5:27).

**Dan. 11:32 The people who [experientially] know their God shall be strong [vibrant in inner man], and carry out great exploits. 33 And those of the people who understand shall instruct many...**

E. We will partner with Jesus, having a *vibrant spirit* (Dan. 11:32; Jn. 7:38; Eph. 3:16-19), being *victorious over darkness* and having *authority in intercession* only to the degree that we *know* Jesus, as the Scriptures declare Him (Jn. 7:38). He is the "Son of Man" who is both fully God and fully Man forever (Mt. 16:13-19)!

**Jn. 7:38 He who believes in Me, as the Scripture said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.**

**Mt. 16:13 "Who do men say that I, the Son of Man, am?" 14 So they said, "Some say John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." 15 He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" 16 Simon Peter answered and said, "You are the Christ [humanity], the Son of the living God [divinity]." 18 And... on this rock [of truth] I will build My Church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it. 19 And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."**

F. To focus on "binding and loosing" (v. 19) without growing in the knowledge of who Jesus is (v. 16) leads to prayer without intimacy that is duty-based, producing workers disconnected from His heart (Lk. 9:53-56).

**Lk. 9:54 Lord, do You want us to command fire to come down and consume them, just as Elijah did?**

G. To focus on "victory over darkness" (v. 18) without growing in the knowledge of who Jesus is (v. 16) leads to power without intimacy and ministry style that is presumptuous, self-willed, foolish (Mt. 7:21-23; 25:1-8).

**Mt. 25:3 Those [virgins] who were foolish took their [ministry] lamps and took no oil [intimacy]...**

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## III. UNDERSTANDING JESUS, AS THE GLORIOUS SON OF MAN (REV. 1)

A. The revelation of Jesus Christ, as the glorious “*Son of Man*” (Rev. 1:13; 14:14) is central throughout the book of Revelation and founded upon the core reality of the Messiah, who is both fully God and fully Man.

***Rev. 1:13 In the midst of the seven lampstands One like the Son of Man... (Rev. 14:14)***

B. Around 500 B.C. Daniel has the *only* prophetic vision in the OT revealing the Messiah as the “Son of Man”. He was undoubtedly perplexed as he saw a human in heaven approach Almighty God and be given dominion over every nation and sphere of society forever. More surprising is that He shares this eternal term with all the saints (Dan. 7:18, 22, 27). Jesus’ kingdom is comprehensive, everlasting and incorruptible.

***Dan. 7:13 Behold, One like the Son of Man, coming with the clouds of heaven! He came to the Ancient of Days, and they brought Him near before Him. 14 Then to Him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve Him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and His kingdom the one which shall not be destroyed.***

C. In Revelation 1 John declares that Jesus is “*coming with clouds*” (v. 7) immediately before the “*Son of Man*” designation (v. 13), clearly revealing Jesus as the coming Messiah of Daniel’s prophecy (Dan. 7:13-14).

***Rev. 1:7 Behold, He is coming with clouds, and every eye will see Him... 13 One like the Son of Man...***

D. Jesus used this title for Himself more than any other (83x). As the “*Son of Man*”, Jesus ultimately fulfills all of God’s original design and intention for man to be created in His image and likeness. Jesus will take *global dominion* and finally *subdue* the earth unto the Father’s will forever (Gen. 1:26-28; 1 Cor. 15:45).

***Gen. 1:26 “Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness...” 28 Then God blessed them and said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion... over everything...”***

E. As the Son of Man, Jesus is the *highest revelation of God to us*, revealing all the fullness and perfection of the Godhead (Col. 1:15, 19; 2:2-3, 8-10; 2 Cor. 4:4-6). Jesus is our “divine invitation” into the presence of God by revealing how He related to the Father *for us* and how He represented the Father *to us* (Jn. 14:6, 7-11).

***Col. 1:19 For it pleased the Father that in Him all the fullness [of God] should dwell...***

***2 Cor. 4:6 God... to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.***

F. As the Son of Man, Jesus is the *highest revelation of Man to us*, revealing all of the fullness and perfection of who man was *ultimately intended* to be (Lk. 13:32; Heb. 2:10; 5:9; 7:28)! He is our “divine invitation” to comprehend and apprehend our original design, legitimacy and eternal destiny (1 Cor. 15:49; Col. 3:3-4).

***1 Cor. 15:49 As we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall bear the image of the heavenly Man.***

G. There is no one like Jesus! He is the only *unique Person* to be both fully God and fully Man. The Father and the Spirit are *not human* and *no human* will ever be God, yet Jesus’ dual nature displays both. When Jesus descended from heaven at the incarnation He *never ceased* to be God. When He ascended back to the Father after the resurrection He *never ceased* to be Man. Jesus is the glorious Son of Man and God-Man forever!

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## IV. THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST – FIFTY-TWO DISTINCT ASPECTS OF HIS MAJESTY

A. In Revelation 1 Jesus reveals Himself, as the glorious “*Son of Man*”, highlighting 52 distinct aspects of His eternal majesty, strategically given in 14 titles, 10 attributes (inherent qualities) and 28 descriptions (authority, appearance, apparel, articles, action, words) giving us the clearest picture of who Jesus is.

B. The study of God’s beauty takes time, effort and dedication. Like walking out of a dark room into the blinding light of the summer sun, be patient as your eyes slowly adjust to the glorious light of God’s Son. Seasoned understanding increases progressively and over time, as we consistently behold these truths with a teachable spirit and talk to Him about them (Ps. 27:4; Jn. 5:38-40; 2 Cor. 3:18).

C. Titles (14): Jesus (Rev. 1:1, 2, 4, 9 x2); Christ (Rev. 1:1, 2, 4, 9 x2); Faithful Witness (Rev. 1:4); Firstborn from the Dead (Rev. 1:4); Ruler over the Kings of the Earth (Rev. 1:4); Him Who Loved Us (Rev. 1:5); Lord (Rev. 1:10); Alpha (Rev. 1:11); Omega (Rev. 1:11); First (Rev. 1:11, 17); Last (Rev. 1:11; 17); Son of Man (Rev. 1:13); He who Lives and was Dead (Rev. 1:18); Alive Forevermore (Rev. 1:18).

D. Attributes (10): Blood washed us from sin (Rev. 1:5); Voice like a trumpet; as many waters (Rev. 1:10, 12, 15); Feet like fine brass (Rev. 1:13, 15, 17); Chest with golden band (Rev. 1:13); Head white like wool (Rev. 1:14); Hair white as snow (Rev. 1:14); Eyes like flame of fire (Rev. 1:14); Right Hand (Rev. 1:16, 17, 20); Mouth with sharp two-edged sword (Rev. 1:16); Countenance like sun shining in strength (Rev. 1:16).

E. Descriptions (28): His revelation (Rev. 1:1); His servants (Rev. 1:1 x2); He sent and signified (Rev. 1:1; 11); His angels (Rev. 1:1); His testimony (Rev. 1:2, 9); He loved us (Rev. 1:5); He washed us from our sins in His own blood (Rev. 1:5); He made us kings and priests (Rev. 1:6); His God (Rev. 1:6); His Father (Rev. 1:6); He is coming with clouds (Rev. 1:7); Every eye will see Him, even they who pierced Him (Rev. 1:7); All the tribes of the earth will mourn because of Him (Rev. 1:7); His tribulation (Rev. 1:9); His kingdom (Rev. 1:9); His patience (Rev. 1:9); His Day (Rev. 1:10); His appearance behind John (Rev. 1:10); He commissions to write and send (Rev. 1:11, 19); He’s in the midst of the seven lampstands (Rev. 1:13); He’s clothed with a garment down to the feet (Rev. 1:13); He’s girded about the chest with a golden band (Rev. 1:13); He holds the seven stars in His right hand (Rev. 1:16, 20); Out of His mouth goes a sharp two-edged sword (Rev. 1:16); His appearance is deathly terrifying (Rev. 1:17); He laid His right hand saying “Do not be afraid” (Rev. 1:17); He has the keys of Hell and Death (Rev. 1:18); He reveals mysteries (Rev. 1:20).

F. Use the acronym A.R.K. and allow the Holy Spirit to guide you into the deep things of God (1 Cor. 2:9-11).

1. Agreement: *Make declarations of agreement* to Jesus about who He is (titles), what He’s like (attributes, appearance, apparel) and what He feels, says or does. Identify the core truths in each of the 52 aspects of Jesus’ majesty (some overlap) and simply declare them back to Him with affection, gratitude and wonder.

2. Revelation: *Pray for increased revelation* of these specific aspects of Jesus’ majesty. For example, “Reveal yourself to me as the Faithful Witness.” Or “Show me why your eyes are like fire.” etc.

3. Keep the Prophecy: *Commit to respond* in loving faith and obedience to these specific truths and *ask for strength* to walk them out in the face of resisting temptation, enduring persecution or simply overcoming the mundane seasons of routine life. We make *simple declarations* of our resolve to walk in agreement and to stand in faith according to these truths. We also ask Jesus to *empower us* to reveal these aspects of Himself in our lives and ministries, while turning these verses into an active dialogue with God.