

April 28, 2024 Worship Service Pastor Bruce Adrian WeAreLifeBridge.com

Dear Church: 7 Letters to 7 Churches

Lesson Four • Revelation 1:12-20

Vision of the Exalted Christ

What the Church Needs Today

In the midst of suffering for Jesus in tribulation, we need a vision of the <u>EXALTED CHRIST</u> to strengthen our endurance and sustain our assurance to the end when He comes again.

I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet saying, "Write what you see in a book and send it to the seven churches, to Ephesus and to Smyrna and to Pergamum and to Thyatira and to Sardis and to Philadelphia and to Laodicea." Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking to me... Revelation 1:10-12

Vision of the Exalted Christ

1. Jesus Is Revealed to Strengthen Our **ENDURANCE!**

A Vision for Churches in Tribulation

Jesus is <u>PRESENT</u> among His churches as our Prophet, Priest, and King empowering us to endure to the end (v. 12-13, 20).

John's Description of the Exalted Christ

- Jesus INTERCEDES for His churches (v. 13).
- Jesus PURIFIES His churches (v. 14-15).
- Jesus SPEAKS to His churches (v. 15).
- > Jesus HOLDS His churches (v. 16).

- Jesus PROTECTS His churches (v. 16).
- Jesus REFLECTS His glory through His churches (v. 16).

2. Jesus Is Revealed to Sustain Our ASSURANCE!

Reason for Assurance in Tribulation

- > Jesus holds the KEYS in His sovereign control (v. 17-19).
- > Jesus holds the CHURCHES in His constant care (v. 20).

Our Need for the Exalted Christ

To strengthen our endurance and sustain our assurance to the end, keep your <u>EYES</u> on Jesus; He is present among His church and is near His people in tribulation.

COMMUNION Participating in the Lord's Supper

Followers of Jesus Christ (those who trust Christ for salvation, identify with Christ in baptism, and commit to Christ's body in membership of a local church of like faith and practice) are invited to participate in Communion located at the four tables in the auditorium. **After you take the bread and cup back to your seat, PLEASE WAIT so we may eat and drink together.** The bread and juice represent the body and blood of Jesus when He died on the Cross and reminds us who our Lord is, what He has done for us, is doing for us, and will yet do for us when He returns. Come, Lord Jesus, come!