I. FIRST, WHO DID JOHN SEE?

A. In verse 13 John said the one speaking to him was “someone like a son of man”.

B. This phrase appears in Daniel 7:13 with reference to the coming Messiah—Dan. 7:13.

C. This was a title Jesus used for himself 81 times in the gospels.

D. Stephen also used this term as he was being stoned to death—Acts 7:56.

E. It’s obvious then that John saw Jesus Christ in this first of four visions in the book of Revelation.

F. John’s description of Christ is similar to that of Jesus’ transfiguration, but with much more detail—Matt. 17:2.

II. SECOND, WHAT DID JOHN SEE?

A. First, John saw Jesus’ majesty.


   Revelation 1:12-13
   12 I turned around to see the voice that was speaking to me. And when I saw seven golden lampstands, 13 and among the lampstands was someone like a son of man…….

   a. Jesus was standing among seven lampstands.

   b. These lampstands are identified in verse 20 as the seven churches mentioned in verse 11—1:20b and 1:11.

   Revelation 1:20b
   ......................the seven lampstands are the seven churches.

   c. These seven lampstands represent real churches in the first century, but they also represent churches everywhere and in every age—Matt. 18:20.
2. John not only saw Jesus’ majesty in his activity but also in his appearance. How did Jesus appear to John?

a. Jesus’ robe is majestic—13b ... dressed in a robe reaching down to his feet and with a golden sash around his chest.

b. Jesus’ head and hair are majestic—14a The hair on his head was white like wool, as white as snow........

c. Jesus’ eyes are majestic—14b ...........and his eyes were like blazing fire.

d. Jesus’ feet are majestic—15a His feet were like bronze glowing in a furnace...

e. Jesus’ voice is majestic—15b ...........his voice was like the sound of rushing waters.

f. Jesus’ hand is majestic—16a In his right hand he held seven stars...

g. Jesus’ mouth is majestic—16b ...........coming out of his mouth was a sharp, double-edged sword.

h. Jesus’ face is majestic—16b ...........His face was like the sun shining in all its brilliance.

B. Second, John not only saw Jesus’ majesty but also his mercy.

1. John’s reaction to seeing Jesus was one of fear—17a When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead....... John does what any of us would do, he faints.

2. Jesus’ reaction was to express mercy to John in two ways.

a. First Jesus assured John with his hand—17b ....Then he placed his right hand on me...

b. Second, Jesus assured John with his words—17c ...........and said: “Do not be afraid.....

C. Third, John not only saw Jesus’ majesty and mercy but also his magnitude.

1. John saw the magnitude of Jesus’ eternal nature—17d......I am the First and the Last.

2. John also saw the magnitude of Jesus’ death and resurrection—18a .....I am the Living One; I was dead, and now look, I am alive for ever and ever!

3. Finally John saw the magnitude of Jesus’ authority—18b .....And I hold the keys of death and Hades.