

PORTRAIT OF CHRIST
REVELATION 1:12-18, 20 / APRIL 11, 2018 / WED

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.
 - 1. John saw Jesus’ majesty in his activity—1:12-13a.

Revelation 1:12-13

12 I turned around to see the voice that was speaking to me. And when I turned 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—**14band 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—**15bhis 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—**16bcoming out of his mouth was a sharp, double-edged sword.**
 - h. Jesus' face is majestic—**16bHis 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—**17bThen he placed his right hand on me...**
 - b. Second, Jesus assured John with his words—**17cand 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—**18aI 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—**18bAnd I hold the keys of death and Hades.**