

# “The Glorified Son of Man”

## (Rev 1:14-15)



Truth Matters Church, Inc.

# Opening Comments

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- ❖ On the surface, seems like fancy apocalyptic writing (like poetry)
- ❖ But we will do what we've been doing here and in Daniel series
  - ❖ Follow ROEs
  - ❖ Using Scripture w/Scripture
  - ❖ We have zero chance of rightly interpreting Rev apart from the OT
- ❖ We're going to find that as the title of our study indicates, John sees in his vision the Glorified Son of Man in attire consistent with that of Priest and Judge
- ❖ We're going to find that the vision is communicating a message and warning to the 7 churches
  - ❖ Blessing and cursing

# Scripture Reading

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Revelation 1:9-20 (NASB)

9 I, John, your brother and fellow partaker in the tribulation and kingdom and perseverance which are in Jesus, was on the island called Patmos because of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. 10 I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like the sound of a trumpet, 11 saying, "Write in a book what you see, 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."

# Scripture Reading

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12 Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking with me. And having turned I saw seven golden lampstands; 13 and in the middle of the lampstands I saw one like a son of man, clothed in a robe reaching to the feet, and girded across His chest with a golden sash. 14 His head and His hair were white like white wool, like snow; and His eyes were like a flame of fire. 15 His feet were like burnished bronze, when it has been made to glow in a furnace, and His voice was like the sound of many waters. 16 In His right hand He held seven stars, and out of His mouth came a sharp two-edged sword; and His face was like the sun shining in its strength.

# Scripture Reading



17 When I saw Him, I fell at His feet like a dead man. And He placed His right hand on me, saying, “Do not be afraid; I am the first and the last, 18 and the living One; and I was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of death and of Hades. 19 Therefore write the things which you have seen, and the things which are, and the things which will take place after these things. 20 As for the mystery of the seven stars which you saw in My right hand, and the seven golden lampstands: the seven stars are the angels of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands are the seven churches.

# Exposit Rev 1:14



14 His head and His hair were white like white wool, like snow; and His eyes were like a flame of fire.

- ❖ John in this vision sees the glorified Jesus and begins to describe Him from head to toe
- ❖ His head and His hair were “white wool, like snow” [more on this]
- ❖ “His eyes were like a flame of fire” [more on this]

# “white wool, like snow”



❖ “white wool, like snow” is associated with being sinless and pure in the OT:  
Isaiah 1:18

18 “Come now, and let us reason together,” Says the LORD,  
“Though your sins are as scarlet [bright red w/tinge of orange in it], They will  
be as **white as snow**;

Though they [your sins] are red like crimson [bright red], They will be **like**  
**(white) wool.**

# “white wool, like snow”



❖ “white wool, like snow” is also associated with presiding as Judge:  
Daniel 7:9-10 (Ancient of Days sat on His throne)

9 “I kept looking Until thrones were set up, And the Ancient of Days took His seat;  
His vesture (garment) was like **white snow** And the hair of His head like **pure wool**.  
His throne was ablaze with flames, Its wheels were a burning fire.

10 “A river of fire was flowing And coming out from before Him;  
Thousands upon thousands were attending Him, And myriads upon myriads were  
standing before Him; **The court sat**, And the books were opened.

❖ The Father’s garments were like white snow, and the hair of His head like pure  
(white) wool and here is associated with presiding as Judge and rendering a  
verdict

❖ Just like children resemble their parents, Jesus in Revelation resembles His Father ☺

# “His eyes were like a flame of fire”

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❖ Flame and fire are associated with judgment, wrath and destruction

Isaiah 10:16-19

16 Therefore the Lord, the GOD of hosts, will send a wasting disease among his stout warriors; And under his glory a fire will be kindled **like a burning flame**. 17 And the light of Israel **will become a fire and his Holy One a flame**, And **it will burn and devour his thorns and his briars in a single day**. 18 And **He will destroy** the glory of his forest and of his fruitful garden, both soul and body, And it will be as when a sick man wastes away. 19 And the rest of the trees of his forest will be so small in number That a child could write them down.

❖ In this passage, “burning flame” or “flame of fire” is associated with the glory of the Holy One (Messiah) who will come in destruction

❖ And again this is the case in Daniel 7 Ancient of Days vision...

# “His eyes were like a flame of fire”



Daniel 7:9-10 (Ancient of Days sat on His throne)

9 “I kept looking Until thrones were set up, And the Ancient of Days took His seat;  
His vesture was like white snow And the hair of His head like pure wool.  
**His throne was ablaze with flames, Its wheels were a burning fire.**

10 **“A river of fire was flowing And coming out from before Him;**  
Thousands upon thousands were attending Him, And myriads upon myriads  
were standing before Him; **The court sat,** And the books were opened.

❖ In context, Antichrist is on the scene, and God the Father is ready to judge him and give Jesus and the saints the kingdom

❖ Throne being in flames and its wheels a burning fire, a river of fire coming our before Him are indicative of judgment, wrath and destruction

❖ SIDE TRUTH: The Father’s throne has wheels, it is mobile! ☺

# “His eyes were like a flame of fire”



❖ Lastly, John the Baptist also associates fire with impending judgment:

Matthew 3:11-12

11 “As for me, I baptize you with water for repentance, but He (Jesus) who is coming after me is mightier than I, and I am not fit to remove His sandals; He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire (tongues as of fire during Pentecost). 12 His winnowing fork is in His hand, and He will thoroughly clear His threshing floor; and He will gather His wheat into the barn, but He will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.”

# Exposit Rev 1:14



INTERPRETATION: When John sees Jesus's head and hair like white wool, like snow, and His eyes John is using English language to describe the risen, righteous, pure, Holy One of the Father whose attire is consistent with that of Priest and Judge (just like His heavenly Father) and is ready to examine the 7 churches and render a verdict from heaven through eyes of unquenchable fire

❖ Let's now look at John's vision of His feet in v.15...

# Exposit Rev 1:15



15 His feet were like burnished bronze, when it has been made to glow in a furnace, and His voice was like the sound of many waters.

- ❖ “His feet were like burnished bronze” [more on this]
- ❖ “made to glow in a furnace” [more on this]
- ❖ “His voice was like the sound of many waters [more on this]

# “His feet were like burnished bronze”



- ❖ “burnished bronze” is chalkolibanon means fine copper, bronze, or brass
- ❖ chalkolibanon is a compound of 2 Greek words
  - ❖ chalkos: bronze or copper
  - ❖ libanos: frankincense or frankincense tree
    - ❖ Frankincense is a perfume and incense
- ❖ I would like to take a closer look at the libanos or frankincense:
- ❖ Frankincense was part of the incense and graining offerings prescribed in the Law and was associated with two things:
  - ❖ A holy and a memorial offering
  - ❖ A visit by God
- ❖ Let’s look at a couple of examples of this in the Law...

# “His feet were like burnished bronze”



❖ Frankincense was part of the incense and graining offerings prescribed in the Law and is associated with a visitation by God and being holy and memorial offering

## Exodus 30 (instrux on the incense)

34 Then the LORD said to Moses, “Take for yourself spices, stacte (aromatic gum) and onycha (ingredient of the holy incense) and galbanum (gum smelling resin), spices with **pure frankincense**; there shall be an equal part of each. 35 With it you shall make incense, a perfume, the work of a perfumer, salted, pure, and holy. 36 You shall beat some of it very fine, and put part of it before the testimony in the tent of meeting where **I will meet with you**; it shall be **most holy** to you.

## Leviticus 2 (instrux on grain offering)

1 ‘Now when anyone presents a grain offering as an offering to the LORD, his offering shall be of fine flour, and he shall pour oil on it and put **frankincense** on it. 2 He shall then bring it to Aaron’s sons the priests; and shall take from it his handful of its fine flour and of its oil with all of **its frankincense**. And the priest shall offer it up in smoke as its **memorial portion** on the altar, an offering by fire of a soothing aroma to the LORD. 3 The remainder of the grain offering belongs to Aaron and his sons: a thing **most holy**, of the offerings to the LORD by fire.

# “His feet were like burnished bronze”

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❖ The frankincense used in both the incense and grain offerings are associated with a visitation by God and being a holy memorial offering to God

INTERPRETATION: When John describes Jesus's feet like burnished bronze John is testifying to the effect that Jesus is a most holy and a perpetual memorial offering to God His Father and that this glorified Son of Man whose attire is consistent with that of Priest and Judge is ready to pay a visit to the 7 churches and His people

❖ Now let's look at “glow in a furnace”

# “made to glow in a furnace”



- ❖ “glow” is purō which means to ignite, kindled, or set on fire
- ❖ “furnace” is káminos which describes a furnace for smelting metals, pottery
- ❖ In the OT, “furnace” is associated with judgment, God’s presence, slavery, testing, affliction, refinement
- ❖ Allow me to show you...

# “made to glow in a furnace”



Here are a couple of examples where “furnace” is associated w/judgment:

Genesis 19 (Sodom and Gomorrah)	Malachi 4 (end times judgment)
<p>27 Now Abraham arose early in the morning and went to the place where he had stood before the LORD; 28 and he looked down toward Sodom and Gomorrah, and toward all the land of the valley, and he saw, and behold, the smoke of the land ascended like <b>the smoke of a furnace</b>.</p>	<p>1 “For behold, the day is coming, <b>burning like a furnace</b>; and all the arrogant and every evildoer will be chaff; and the day that is coming <b>will set them ablaze</b>,” says the LORD of hosts, “so that it will leave them neither root nor branch.”</p>

# “made to glow in a furnace”

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¶ Here is an example where “furnace” is associated with God’s presence:

Exodus 19:18 (God visits Sinai)

18 Now Mount Sinai was all in smoke because **the LORD descended upon it in fire**; and its smoke ascended like **the smoke of a furnace**, and the whole mountain quaked violently.

¶ So both “burnished bronze” and “furnace” are associated with God’s presence or God visiting to bring judgment

# “made to glow in a furnace”

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- ❖ Here is a different example where “furnace” is associated with slavery:  
Deuteronomy 4:20 (Moses admonishing the Israelites to obey God’s Law)  
20 But the LORD has taken you and brought you **out of the iron furnace, from Egypt**, to be a people for His own possession, as today.  
❖ The Jews being enslaved by the Egyptians is likened to being in an iron furnace

# “made to glow in a furnace”

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❖ Here one final example where “furnace” is associated w/being refined through trials and affliction:

Isaiah 48:10

10 “Behold, I have **refined** you (Israel), but not as silver;  
I have **tested** you in the furnace of affliction.

INTERPRETATION When John describes Jesus’s feet like burnished bronze made to flow in a furnace John is describing Jesus not only as a perpetual offering to His Father, but One who is ready to Judge through trials, including slavery, imprisonment and affliction, to refine the 7 churches and His people

❖ Let’s now look at His voice in John’s vision...

# “His voice was like the sound of many waters”

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❖ “the sound of many waters” is associated with the glory of the God of Israel arriving to destroy

❖ This phrase definitely has allusions to a specific OT passage:

Ezekiel 43:1-5 (the vision Ezekiel had was the Glory of God filling the Temple)

1 Then he (Ezekiel saw in his vision a man with a measuring rod) led me to the gate, the gate facing toward the east; 2 and behold, the glory of the God of Israel was coming from the way of the east. **And His voice was like the sound of many waters; and the earth shone with His glory.** 3 And it was like the appearance of the vision which I saw, like the vision which I saw when **He came to destroy the city.** And the visions were like the vision which I saw by the river Chebar; and I fell on my face. 4 And **the glory of the LORD** came into the house by the way of the gate facing toward the east. 5 And the Spirit lifted me up and brought me into the inner court; and behold, **the glory of the LORD** filled the house.

# “His voice was like the sound of many waters”



INTERPRETATION: When John describes Jesus's voice like the sound of many waters, John is ascribing Jesus's voice to the glory of the God of Israel who is ready to come to pay a visit and bring destruction

❖ I will pull this all together at the end, but for now onto next verse 16...