

“The Glorified Son of Man”

Part 2

(Rev 1:16-18a)



Truth Matters Church, Inc.

Housekeeping



- ❧ No study next week (last Fridays are TMC sabbatical)
- ❧ Download Spond app 

| |
|--------------------------|
| SSID: Lincoln Guest |
| PW: guestnet (lowercase) |
- ❧ Sign up/register
 - ❧ Please provide address, DOB, and a picture so we can send tax deductible statements, celebrate bdays, and see your beautiful face 😊
- ❧ This will help us stay connected with our scheduled studies, track attendance, communicate, share Jeremy's devos, TMC lessons
- ❧ Enter group code: **XOXMA**
- ❧ I would like to make a correction from our Lord's Day study
 - ❧ Day 1: of Feast of First Fruits is not after high Sabbath #1, but rather on the 1st day of the week after the Weekly Sabbath

7 Annual High Sabbaths (3 out of 7: Spring Feasts)



- ❧ **Passover** (day of Preparation, Pesach)
 - ❧ Nisan 14 (lamb killed at twilight)
- ❧ **Feast of Unleavened Bread** (also called Passover or Pesach Week)
 - ❧ Nisan 15: Day 1 (**high Sabbath #1**)
 - ❧ Nisan 16: Day 2 (~~Countdown to Pentecost begins: 1of50~~)
 - ❧ Nisan 17: Day 3 (~~day 2of50 for Pentecost~~)
 - ❧ Nisan 18: Day 4 (~~day 3of50 for Pentecost~~)
 - ❧ Nisan 19: Day 5 (~~day 4of50 for Pentecost~~)
 - ❧ Nisan 20: Day 6 (~~day 5of50 for Pentecost~~)
 - ❧ Nisan 21: Day 7 (**high Sabbath #2**; ~~day 6of50 for Pentecost~~)
- ❧ **Feast of Weeks** (Pentecost, Shavuot)
 - ❧ 50th day after high Sabbath #1 (**high Sabbath #3**)

7 Annual High Sabbaths (3 out of 7: Spring Feasts)



☞ **Passover** (day of Preparation, Pesach)

☞ Nisan 14 (lamb killed at twilight)

☞ **Feast of Unleavened Bread** (also called Passover or Pesach Week)

☞ Nisan 15: Day 1 (**high Sabbath #1**)

☞ Nisan 16: Day 2

☞ Nisan 17: Day 3

☞ Nisan 18: Day 4

☞ Nisan 19: Day 5

☞ Nisan 20: Day 6

☞ Nisan 21: Day 7 (**high Sabbath #2**)

Day 1 of 50: Feast of First Fruits countdown begin on the 1st day of the week after the Weekly Sabbath during the Feast of Unleavened Bread. It is on this day that the Israelites bring in the sheaf of first fruits of their harvest to the priest. Priest in turn waves it before the LORD on their behalf.

☞ **Feast of Weeks** (Pentecost, Shavuot)

☞ 50th day after **7th Weekly Sabbath** (**high Sabbath #3**)

Scripture Reading



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



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 1:16



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.

- ✧ John went from Head to Feet now to Hand and Mouth
- ✧ We covered what is associated with “right hand” in prior studies
- ✧ “right hand” is associated with blessing, the Blessed One, majestic power able to shatter enemies, pleasure, favor, saving, Savior, righteousness, long life, exalted
- ✧ In context “right hand” is associated with the Glorified Son of Man who is the Blessed One of the Father majestic in splendid power and authority
- ✧ “He held seven stars” [more on this]
- ✧ “out of His mouth came a sharp two-edged sword” [more on this]
- ✧ “His face was like the sun shining in its strength” [more on this]

“He held seven stars”



☞ At this part of the vision, Jesus held seven stars in His right hand

☞ “seven” means “7” (1,2,3,4,5,6,7)

☞ “stars” is astēr which means star or luminous heavenly body

☞ astēr is what the wise men saw that lead them to the birth of Jesus

☞ “seven stars” Jesus gave John the interpretation in v.20

Revelation 1:20 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.

☞ 7 stars = 7 angels

☞ “angels” is aggelos which means messenger or angel

☞ aggelos can mean a human messenger or an angelic messenger

“He held seven stars”



- ✧ In the NT, most of the time *aggelos* refers to angels
- ✧ In some cases it was used of human messengers: John The Baptist and his disciples, Jesus's disciples, the spies Rahab received and hid James called *aggelos*
- ✧ In context, it is clearly speaking of angelic (not human) messengers
- ✧ There are 7 (1,2,3,4,5,6,7) angels of the 7 (1,2,3,4,5,6,7) churches
 - ✧ 1 angel over each church
- ✧ SIDE NOTE: Israel has their very own angel over them. Does anyone want to take a guess of who that angel is? [DON'T PEEK]

“He held seven stars”



☞ Michael the archangel is the angel over Israel!

Daniel 12 (concerning the end times)

1 “Now at that time **Michael**, the great prince who stands guard **over the sons of your (Daniel’s) people (Israel)**, will arise. And there will be a time of distress such as never occurred since there was a nation until that time; and at that time your people (Israel), everyone who is found written in the book, will be rescued.

☞ As we progress in our study, we will see that angels are very busy

☞ So John sees 7 stars held in Jesus’s right hand (of power and authority) which signify the 7 angels assigned over the 7 churches (7 golden lampstands)

☞ LITERAL INTERPRETATION: the 7 letters were addressed to both the 7 churches and the 7 angels over them (just like Gabriel delivered the message to Daniel)

“out of His mouth came a sharp two-edged sword”



- ❧ Let's look at what came out of Jesus's mouth...
- ❧ What is the common interpretation of what this means?
- ❧ Or what passage comes to mind? [DON'T PEEK]

“out of His mouth came a sharp two-edged sword”



Hebrews 4:12

12 For **the word of God** is living and active and sharper than any **two-edged sword**, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

- ☞ Upon a loose reading of Rev 1:16, “out of His mouth came a sharp two-edged sword” many think is communicating that Jesus is the Word of God who became flesh
- ☞ This Hebrews verse often comes to mind, so they carry this over to Rev 1:16 and say something along the lines that “out of His mouth came a sharp two-edged sword” simply means that Jesus, the word of God, is speaking
- ☞ But there are a few important words from our Heb 4:12 passage...

“out of His mouth came a sharp two-edged sword”



Hebrews 4:12

12 For **the word of God** is living and active and **sharper than any two-edged sword**, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

- ☞ The word of God is not a two-edged sword, it is “sharper than any” two-edged sword!
- ☞ It’s pierces even the division of soul/spirit, joints/marrow, thoughts/intentions
- ☞ So Rev 1:16 is not intended to simply communicate that Jesus (the Word of God) is speaking
- ☞ To understand what is meant by this phrase, we need to look to the OT

“a sharp two-edged sword”



Proverbs 5:1-5 (Warning against the adulterous woman)

1 My son, give attention to my wisdom, Incline your ear to my understanding;

2 That you may observe discretion And your lips may reserve knowledge.

3 For the lips of an adulteress drip honey And smoother than oil is her speech;

4 But in the end she is bitter as wormwood, **Sharp as a two-edged sword.**

5 Her feet go down to **death**, Her steps take hold of **Sheol**.

✧ What's interesting is that in the letter to Thyatira, Jesus's bond-servants were lead astray to commit adultery with Jezebel the prophetess, and were warned to repent or else they will be thrown into great tribulation

✧ In this Proverbs passage, “sharp two-edged sword” is associated with the adulteress woman, death and the grave

✧ This is to say, Proverbs 5 has undertones of end times prophecy concerning Israel

“a sharp two-edged sword”



- ✧ That said, a particular Psalm is more instructive for our Rev 1 passage
- ✧ Here is the Psalm where “two-edged sword” is associated with vengeance and judgment against the nations:

Psalms 149:6-9

6 Let the high praises of God be in their mouth, And a **two-edged sword** in their hand, 7 **To execute vengeance on the nations**

And punishment on the peoples,

8 To bind their kings with chains

And their nobles with fetters of iron,

9 **To execute on them the judgment** written;

This is an honor for all His godly ones.

Praise the LORD!

“out of His mouth came a sharp two-edged sword”



- ✧ In Psalm 149, the saints were the ones holding the two-edged sword
- ✧ Ready to execute vengeance and judgment against the nations
 - ✧ This association is most applicable to Rev 1:16
- ✧ In Rev 1, it is not people, but the risen Son of Man who is ready to execute vengeance and judgment against the 7 churches and the nations

INTERPRATATION: When John says that out of Jesus’s mouth came a sharp two-edged sword, it is a solemn warning to the 7 churches and His people against committing adultery against God and that this risen and glorified Son of Man is ready to come and execute vengeance and judgment on them and the nations!

- ✧ Now let’s look at the last part of v. 16 and Jesus’s face...

“His face was like the sun shining in its strength”



☞ Has allusions to Moses face shining account:

Exodus 34:11-16 (Moses on Mount Sinai to receive 2nd set of tablets of stone)

11 “Be sure to observe what I am commanding you this day: behold, I am going to drive out the Amorite before you, and the Canaanite, the Hittite, the Perizzite, the Hivite and the Jebusite. 12 Watch yourself that you make no covenant with the inhabitants of the land into which you are going, or it will become a snare in your midst. 13 But rather, you are to tear down their altars and smash their sacred pillars and cut down their Asherim 14 – for you shall not worship any other god, for the LORD, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God – 15 otherwise you might make a covenant with the inhabitants of the land and they would **play the harlot with their gods** and sacrifice to their gods, and someone might invite you to eat of his sacrifice, 16 and you might take some of his daughters for your sons, and his daughters might **play the harlot with their gods** and cause your sons also to **play the harlot with their gods**.

☞ Echoes Pro 5 adulterous woman whose likened to a sharp two-edged sword

“His face was like the sun shining in its strength”



☞ Has allusions to Moses face shining account:

Exodus 34:29-35

29 It came about when Moses was coming down from Mount Sinai (and the two tablets of the testimony were in Moses' hand as he was coming down from the mountain), that Moses did not know that **the skin of his face shone because of his speaking with Him**. 30 So when Aaron and all the sons of Israel saw Moses, behold, **the skin of his face shone**, and they were afraid to come near him. 31 Then Moses called to them, and Aaron and all the rulers in the congregation returned to him; and Moses spoke to them. 32 Afterward all the sons of Israel came near, and he commanded them to do everything that the LORD had spoken to him on Mount Sinai. 33 When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil over his face. 34 But whenever Moses went in before the LORD to speak with Him, he would take off the veil until he came out; and whenever he came out and spoke to the sons of Israel what he had been commanded, 35 **the sons of Israel would see the face of Moses, that the skin of Moses' face shone**. So Moses would replace the veil over his face until he went in to speak with Him.

“His face was like the sun shining in its strength”



- ✧ From Moses shining face account because he spent time with God, the glory of God shone on his face
- ✧ In Rev 1:16, Jesus's face was like the sun shining in its strength also signifies that He spent much time in His Father's presence!
- ✧ You can also say that Jesus spent time in His Father's presence and received further instructions and in turn is issuing this warning to the 7 churches and the nations

“His face was like the sun shining in its strength”



☞ Also has allusions to the Transfiguration:

Matthew 17:1-5

1 Six days later Jesus took with Him Peter and James and John his brother, and *led them up on a high mountain by themselves. 2 And He was transfigured before them; and **His face shone like the sun [shining in its strength]**, and His garments became as white as light. 3 And behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to them, talking with Him. 4 Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good for us to be here; if You wish, I will make three tabernacles here, one for You, and one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” 5 While he was still speaking, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and behold, a voice out of the cloud said, **“This is My beloved Son, with whom I am well-pleased; listen to Him!”**

☞ Peter/James/John were allowed to see the Transfiguration

“His face was like the sun shining in its strength”



INTERPRETATION: When John describes Jesus's face was like the sun shining in its strength, it is communicating in human words that Jesus talked and spent time in His Father's presence and received further instructions and in turn this vision is issuing this warning to the 7 churches and the nations against committing adultery with foreign gods.

Furthermore, the Father is pleased with His Son and given the Son to share the Father's glory. John through the Holy Spirit is telling us that God the Father Himself is commanding that we listen to the One whose face was like the sun shining in its strength, the Lord Jesus Christ who came from the Father!

Summary of v. 12-16



- ✧ When John turned to see that voice that was speaking with him, he first saw 7 golden lampstands
- ✧ John then saw the risen Son of Man standing in the middle of 7 lampstands
- ✧ Jesus's attire is consistent with that of God's High Priest and Judge
- ✧ Jesus also held in His right hand 7 stars which represents Jesus's power and authority over the 7 angels
- ✧ The 7 letters as we shall see are addressed to the 7 angels over those 7 churches
- ✧ Jesus commands John what to say and write to the 7 angels over the 7 churches

Summary of v. 12-16



SPIRITUAL TRUTH: What we've learned is what happens in the physical is a manifestation in the spiritual (the heavenlies as Paul puts it)

- ✧ When a King or kingdom rises/falls, this happened 1st in the angelic realm
- ✧ When nation rises up against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, this happened 1st in the angelic realm
- ✧ When a church rises/falls, this too 1st happened in the angelic realm

Catarroja AMP – Rev 1:12-16



12 Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking with me. And having turned I saw seven golden lampstands [which represents the 7 churches: Ephesus/Smyrna/Pergamum/Thyatira/Sardis/Philadelphia/Laodicea]; 13 and in the middle of the (7) lampstands I saw one like a son of man (the glorified Jesus), clothed in a robe reaching to the feet, and girded across His chest with a golden sash [consistent with that of God's High Priest and Judge]. 14 His head and His hair were white like white wool, like snow [spotless, sinless, pure]; and His eyes were like a flame of fire [ready to render a verdict in judgment].

Catarroja AMP – Rev 1:12-16



15 His feet were like burnished bronze [a perpetual memorial offering before the throne of His Father], when it has been made to glow in a furnace [ready to refine the 7 churches and His people through trials, imprisonment and affliction], and His voice was like the sound of many waters [the glory of the God of Israel is ready to come to pay a visit and bring destruction]. 16 In His right hand He held seven stars [which represents the 7 angels over the 7 churches over whom Jesus has power and authority], and out of His mouth came a sharp two-edged sword [ready to execute judgment and vengeance on the nations]; and His face was like the sun shining in its strength [as the Blessed One of God Most High, the only begotten of the Father].

☞ Let's continue to see John's reaction to this magnificent vision

Exposit Rev 1:17



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

- ❧ It was not uncommon for individuals who are visited by angels or God to be paralyzed in fear like a dead man
 - ❧ Daniel was that way when Gabriel and another angelic being visited him (Dan 8:17, 10:9-15)
 - ❧ The disciples were that way when they saw Jesus walking on water (Mt 14:26) and during the Transfiguration (Mt 17:6)
- ❧ This is precisely what happened to John when he saw this great vision
 - ❧ John was terrified and needed to be comforted and reassured
- ❧ Let's look at other parts of this verse...

“I am the first and the last”



- Some loose reading and study of this can take this at the surface and say this is just another fancy way of Jesus saying “I am the Alpha and the Omega” or something along those lines
- Do you agree? Any other guesses? [DON'T PEEK]

“I am the first and the last”



- ✧ Not surprisingly, this phrase is rooted in the OT
- ✧ In fact it's a very specific designation
- ✧ Allow me to show you

“I am the first and the last”



Isaiah 44:6-7

6 “Thus says the LORD, **the King of Israel and his Redeemer**, the LORD of hosts:

‘I am the first and I am the last [verbatim to Rev 1:17],

And there is no God besides Me.

7 ‘Who is like Me? Let him proclaim and declare it;

Yes, let him recount it to Me in order,

From the time that I established the ancient nation.

And let them declare to them the things that are coming

And the events that are going to take place.

“I am the first and the last”



INTERPRETATION: When Jesus says “I am the first and the last”, it is not another fancy way to say “I am the Alpha and the Omega”, Jesus is declaring that He is the King and Redeemer of Israel spoken of in the Old Testament!

❧ This was probably the easiest of this vision because it was verbatim to Is 44:6

❧ SIDE NOTE: the Bible, especially the book of Revelation, needs to be plowed, pondered, meditated and reflected upon to glean and understand its fullness

❧ In some cases, it's easy (like this one), in many cases it's hard

❧ Let's look at v.18...

Exposit Rev 1:18a



18a and the living One; and I was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore

☞ “the living One” [more on this today]

☞ “I was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore [self-explanatory]

☞ We’ll save 18b for our next study

“the living One”



☞ “the living One” pretty straight-forward

☞ Was mentioned only 1 other time and it was by the angel at the empty tomb:

Luke 24:1-6

1 But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they came to the tomb bringing the spices which they had prepared. 2 And they found the stone rolled away from the tomb, 3 but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. 4 While they were perplexed about this, behold, two men suddenly stood near them in dazzling clothing; 5 and as the women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, the men said to them, “Why do you seek **the living One** among the dead? 6 He is not here, but He has risen.

☞ TECHNICAL TRUTH: “the living One” is a direct reference to Jesus walking out of the tomb after being raised from the dead

Summary of v. 17-18a



- ❧ After John sees the glorified Son of Man from Head → Toe → Hand → Mouth John fell at His feet like a dead man
- ❧ Jesus comforted John and declared He is the King and Redeemer of Israel!
- ❧ Jesus proclaimed it was He who was crucified and walked out of the tomb!
- ❧ Jesus proclaimed that because He is sinless, pure, holy, righteous and the Blessed One and only begotten Son of His Father and is alive forevermore!
- ❧ This Glorified Son of Man whose attire and posture is that of God's Great High Priest and Judge has much more to say, in particular, declaring to possess the keys of death and of Hades
 - ❧ We'll look more at that topic for our next study
 - ❧ It is very sobering and enlightening, so be sure not to miss that

AMEN. Amen.