

What is most impr. day in proph?

REV. 1

Tomonaw! - Got told some - far ahead - but ~~known~~ crisis - in his hands - - -

(1). "The Name not on the Church Visitor's Book."

Introd:- (1). TOPIC..At least, as I have signed many such books..in many churches..never seen this one. Perhaps somebody ought take time to put it in..if confident He was at the service. What name? this one:- Rev. 1:11.

Already written..and sent to churches. In your book? Did He come to church today? Somewhere here now? Ushers, where did you seat Him? People, is He sitting next to you? If deigned to appear in phys. form..wd. you recognize Him?

(2). John the Apostle¹⁰⁰ sent to convict mines on isle of Patmos bec. he insisted on acting like a X'n..believing and proclaiming the Word of God..and witnessing to saving power of Jesus Christ. And there he saw, in a vision, the glorious, personal presence of Jesus Christ, and he had diff. recognizing Him. You see, He had changed considerably since John last saw Him..vs12-13a. "LIKE the Son of man..that I knew on earth..but now so changed...so glorious...that vs. 17 "I fell at his feet as dead."

If our Lord appeared here like that..these pews be full of limp forms..some fallen prostrate in aisles. Pulpit empty. Yet He IS here..in unseen, spiritual presence..but real..looking. listening. May the awesome sense of that Holy, glorious Presence overwhelm our souls today!

I. Take time with me to look afresh at this chap. of Rev.

(a). Some pass by this great Book..as too complicated..and so miss promised blessing set out in vs.3. Some would declare it to be just mixed up dream of old man in dotage. BUT..no Book of Bible more clearly authenticated as the Word of God. See how it was given..vs. 1-2. God the Father gave it to God the Son..to the Angel (God the H.Spirit)..to John..to us! At each stage..authenticated..authorized..by Triune God..by angels and men... from heaven direct to earth. This is the very Word of God.

(b). Then the Book was written in form of an epistle..a letter to the CHURCH. Too bad when a church doesn't read it's mail..from heaven! Signed simply in vs. 4.."JOHN". No title..frill..just plain, modest JOHN..not an excited old man. Same self-effacing man who wrote Gospel of John and would not even mention his own name in it.

ADDRESSED to seven churches of Asia..real..there in John's day..Places still well known. Been to two of them. Salutation from these: vs.4b-5a. Eternal God the Father, Seven-fold Holy Spirit, God the Son, resurrected and coming to reign. Only Bible epistle ~~signed~~ with salutation from the whole Trinity! GOD'S LETTER TO CHURCHES..THIS ON

(c). Divided into three parts..so that we can und. better. vs. 19. Things already seen..vision of chap. one. Things that are, conditions in 7 churches, described in chap's 2-3. Things that shall be hereafter, beginning at chap.4 to end.. c/f 4:1 Hereafter..after here..when church age over...So from 4:1 to end..things still in prophetic realm..future to Imp. to know..but still ahead of our day. And so chaps 1-3 are very relevant to churches in 1968..until Jesus c

II. Now ready to look over John's shoulder at this ^(VITAL today) 1st vision.

(a). Simple..yet profound..awe-inspiring.. vs.12-18. ^{IN LIGHT OF WHAT AHEAD} The resurrected, glorious, triumphant Saviour and coming King. Totally in charge of all things. (Devil doesn't even have key to own front door..Jesus has it.."keys of hell and death"!) Now vs. 20 unfolds the mystery..The seven stars are the "angels" ..messengers..leaders of the churches..Candlesticks the churches CHRIST IN MIDST OF HIS CHURCHES..LIKE THIS ONE..GLORIOUS UN* SEEN HEAVENLY VISITOR..in the midst...here today.

(b). What is He doing? See! He is shown as a glorious High Priest. The white head of supreme authority..typified by the snow-white mitre H.P. word. The long garment down to foot.. as H.P. wore the coat and the robe. The golden girdle, as H.P. of Israel wore golden breastplate. Flaming eyes of discernment..burning feet like brass furnace of judgment..Voice like thundering waters, sending out Word of God. Countenance radiating ineffable glory of God. THIS IS ONE WITH WHOM THE CHURCHES HAVE TO DEAL. How like see Him visibly..this pulpit?

(c). There He stood..in midst of the candlesticks. What does a High Priest do there? Look back today's of Israel's tabernacle in wilderness. Through Word of God we can look into the Holy Place where only priests went..see what going on. There stood a seven-branched Golden Candlestick..prototype of these 7 separate candlesticks John saw. Made of one piece of pure gold..symbol of that which is Divine in nature. So Rev. 1 tells us these things: That the true, world-wide church of J.C. is Divine institution..set up by God..and of which Jesus said: "The gates of hell shall not prevail against it." And that, although today in separate entities..it is still all of one piece..Diff. denominations..but ONE CHURCH..world-wide. God's. Notice further:- When Tab. was moved from place to place the Golden Candlestick had 2 coverings..Inner one of blue. outer of common badger skin, animal of earth. Num. 4:9-10 Just so..as church of J.C. moves through earth, mortal men see very ordinary thing..earthly organization.."religious club".. BUT FAIL SEE INNER PART..THE BLUE OF HEAVEN. CHURCH IS IN INNER NATURE HEAVENLY...and poured for heaven; Some day cover be off..be seen as she truly is.

Go of the true born
are you? - 1974

(d). Now what did H.P. do as came to candlestick? Chiefly two wonderful things. Let me read number of Scrip:- Follow these carefully:

Exod. 27:20-21

Exod. 30:7-8

Levit. 24:2-4

II Chron. 13:11.

I'm sure you noticed ^{especially} the two things H.P. did.

First, he lit the lamps of the candlestick...HE MUST DO THE LIGHTING. And to do this He supplies the oil.

- If this church to be effective for God..our great High Priest must kindle the light..and supply it. Church is no place where self-effort..self-accomplishment..self-glory..self-prowess..self-ability be set out on display. Worldly affairs can beat us every time at that game. The church is to be a DIVINELY LIT LIGHT FOR JESUS CHRIST. So it MUST be a company of the twice-born..filled with the H.S. Has our Lord come here today and found such a place? God grant it! Notice too..that the lamps were lit in the evening to SHINE IN THE NIGHT! God's Church is today the most vitally imp. institution on earth..the only organization dedicated to be a LIGHT HOLDER..to illuminate the weary spirit of men blinded by sin. LET OUR LORD SHINE THROUGH US NOW

Second:- The H.P. stood by lamp to "order" it and to "dress" it. Every MORNING he came to trim the wick..to remove the burnt ash..wipe away smut and smudges..that it might be ready to shine again. Need I suggest the application? "If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves". But H.P. not deceived. He knows we need His cleansing work..every morning. Thank God He is willing and able.. "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." - *that we may be His lamp - UNTIL He comes for us - REV. 4:1*

Conclus:- 1. Wait quietly for these closing moments bef. our great High Priest..present in this house of God..at this moment. Is there anything we should say to Him? What does He see? Something to be cleansed? Tell Him. R.C's ahead of us here. Confession part of worship. They talk to an earthly so-called priest. We have a so much greater privilege..our Heavenly High Priest..in the midst. I think we should have three things to say to Him - as each ahead

- I confess sin..all I know..Lord cleanse me thoroughly
- Fill me afresh this morn. with Thy Holy Spirit..Oil.
- Set me alight for God..to witness, life, lip..let me burn out for Thee..take my life and let it be consec...

"Let me not sink to be a clod. Make me Thy fuel, flame of God." HE WILL. WAITING..IF WE WILL...NOW. →

Brentwood Bap - Calgary - July 20/69

Part-Bapt - CHQR - CFCW - RARI - Jan 9-10/70

Gideons - Vermilion (Rhydymen, Wainwright, Ours K.) Mar 29/72

Killamney Bap - Calgary - Apr. 9/72

Didsbury - Loang Ch (Zion) - Mar. 25/73

Nanaimo W-Bap. - Aug 11/74

Med. Hst - Loang Ch Conf - Nov 3/74

Poncha Bap. - May 4/75

Edmonton - Melbourne CMA May 9/75

Mayland Bto - Calgary - July 13/75

Wetaskwin - Loang Bap - B. Class - Aug 24/75

Black Diamond B. Class - Oct 19/75

"Jesus is coming for us soon -
O God send a revival before He comes
to me."

That is the prayer God is
waiting to answer