

JESUS REVELATION

The Son of Man (Revelation 1:12-18) Jesus Revelation pt. 1 Pastor Tim Peck

THE BIG IDEA

When we worship together, Jesus stands among us as our divine King, our sacrificial priest, and our truth-revealing prophet. He holds our leaders in his hands.

OPENING

- What comes to mind when you hear the word “worship”?
- As we start this new series, what prior impressions do you have about the book of Revelation?

DIGGING DEEPER

- Read Revelation 1:1. The word “revelation” is a translation of the Greek noun *apocalypsis*. This word describes an unveiling of something that was once hidden. The book of Revelation is an unveiling of Jesus in his glory. It is “the revelation of Jesus” (1:1 NRSV). How does knowing this affect how you approach reading this book?
- Read Revelation 1:12-18 and Daniel 7:9-14. How are these two visions similar? How are they different?
- Compare Revelation 1:12 with Zechariah 4:2. How are these passages similar? According to Revelation 1:20, what does the golden lampstand with seven lamps represent? New Testament scholar William Hendrickson suggests that this lampstand represents “*the entire Church throughout the full span of its existence to the very end of the world.*”¹ What does this mean for us at Glenkirk?

¹William Hendrickson, *More than Conquerors: An Interpretation of the Book of Revelation* (Baker Publishing, 1968), p. 16.

- Pastor Tim suggests that the seven stars in v. 12 (identified as seven “angels” or “messengers” in v. 20) refer to a congregation’s leaders.² This means that Jesus holds our leaders *“in His right hand; He exercises absolute authority over them; they are His ambassadors. He protects them; they are safe when they obey Him and are faithful in His service.”*³ How does this insight impact how you view the elders, pastors, and deacons at Glenkirk?
- Pastor Tim suggests that this initial vision of Jesus in Revelation pictures Jesus as a king, a priest, and a prophet. These roles have sometimes been called the threefold offices of Christ. According to the *Westminster Shorter Catechism* (a Reformed summary of doctrine from the 1600’s), *“Christ executes the office of a king in subduing us to himself, in ruling and defending us, and in restraining and conquering all his and our enemies.”* Christ executes his office as our priest *“in his once offering up of himself a sacrifice to satisfy divine justice, and reconcile us to God, and in making continual intercession for us.”* And Christ executes his office as our prophet *“in revealing to us, by his word and Spirit, the will of God for our salvation.”*⁴ Of these three offices, which one brings you the most comfort right now? Why?

PUTTING IT TO WORK

- Spend time in prayer this week reflecting on Jesus as your divine king, sacrificial priest, and truth revealing prophet. How does this impact how you pray?
- When you come to worship at Glenkirk next Sunday, picture Jesus in his glory standing among us as our king, priest, and prophet while we worship. How does this impact your experience of worship?

PRAYER REQUESTS

To learn more about Pastor Tim’s approach to Revelation, see the article “Approaches to Revelation” on the Glenkirk website: <https://www.glenkirkchurch.org/sermon-series-jesus-revelation/>

²See John Walvoord, *The Revelation of Jesus Christ* (Moody Press, 2011), p. 46.

³Hendrickson, *More Than Conquerors*, p. 58.

⁴*The Westminster Shorter Catechism* Questions 24, 25, 26.