

Meeker Christian Church
Pastor Jim Pelley
Resurrection Sunday: Revelation's Description Of Jesus
4/20/25

Last week I closed by asking you to get a picture in your mind of Jesus in preparation for today. One person shared their view of Jesus with me, which adds a beautiful and clear picture of the ministry of Jesus in the life of a devoted Christian. What do you think of first when the name of Jesus is mentioned? The baby in the stable manger and the Christmas story? Perhaps His humble baptism by John the Baptist in the river Jordan, or another of His ministry settings? I often think of Jesus like John 11:35 Jesus Wept at the time of the death of his friend Lazarus. We might also think of Jesus based on Isaiah's prophecy some 700 years before describing him as a regular Jewish guy but included the sorrows and suffering He would face while physically ministering on earth.

Isaiah 53:2-5 For He shall grow up before Him as a tender plant, And as a root out of dry ground. He has no form or comeliness; And when we see Him, There is no beauty that we should desire Him. 3 He is despised and rejected by men, A Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. And we hid, as it were, our faces from Him; He was despised, and we did not esteem Him. 4 Surely He has borne our griefs And carried our sorrows; Yet we esteemed Him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. 5 But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed.

And last week we saw Jesus in the last hours of physical life in John 19:1-3; 17-18 So then Pilate took Jesus and scourged Him. 2 And the soldiers twisted a crown of thorns and put it on His head, and they put on Him a purple robe. 3 Then they said, "Hail, King of the Jews!" And they struck Him with their hands.///17 And He, bearing His cross, went out to a place called the Place of a Skull, which is called in Hebrew, Golgotha, 18 where they crucified Him, and two others with Him, one on either side, and Jesus in the center.

Perhaps we see Jesus after His resurrection during His 40 day appearances and instruction to the apostles and others. Luke 24:15-16 15 So it was, while they conversed and reasoned, that Jesus Himself drew near and went with them. 16 But their eyes were restrained, so that they did not know Him. Luke 24:36-43 36 Now as they said these things, Jesus Himself stood in the midst of them, and said to them, "Peace to you." 37 But they were terrified and frightened, and supposed they had seen a spirit. 38 And He said to them, "Why are you troubled? And why do doubts arise in your hearts? 39 Behold My hands and My feet, that it is I Myself. Handle Me and see, for a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see I have." 40 When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His feet. 41 But while they still did not believe for joy, and marveled, He said to them, "Have you any food here?" 42 So they gave Him a piece of a broiled fish and some honeycomb. 43 And He took it and ate in their presence.

Perhaps you visualize Jesus at the ascension which was when He returned to His rightful place in Heaven: Luke 24: 50-51 And He led them out as far as Bethany, and He lifted up His hands and blessed them. 51 Now it came to pass, while He blessed them, that He was parted from them and carried up into heaven. /// From that time until now is called the Church age. That is the definition of the earthly time between the ascension of Jesus following the crucifixion and resurrection until His next appearing to physical earthlings we believe is the rapture described in 1 Thessalonians 4:15-18 For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of

the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep. 16 For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. 18 Therefore comfort one another with these words.

That rapture event with Christians being removed from earth will be followed by the horrible 7 years of tribulation on earth described by John in detail in Revelation Chapters 4 - chapter 19.

We have various accumulated visions of Jesus in our thoughts as we have been taught and learned and in some cases personally experienced during our lives. Now I want to introduce you to see Jesus in the way the Apostle John saw Him and that John recorded for us in Revelation 1:12-16 Then I turned to see the voice that spoke with me. And having turned I saw seven golden lampstands, 13 and in the midst of the seven lampstands One like the Son of Man, clothed with a garment down to the feet and girded about the chest with a golden band. 14 His head and hair were white like wool, as white as snow, and His eyes like a flame of fire; 15 His feet were like fine brass, as if refined in a furnace, and His voice as the sound of many waters; 16 He had in His right hand seven stars, out of His mouth went a sharp two-edged sword, and His countenance was like the sun shining in its strength. That my beloved is the description of the one whom we worship today - that my beloved is the vision of the Savior of our hope from the promises of the Bible - that my beloved is the vision of our constant assurance to be embedded in our minds eye, in our hearts life, in our daily being.

In that description, Jesus stood in the midst of the "seven lampstands," which He explained later were the seven churches. Lampstands light the way in darkness. When Christ was excluded from the world, the world was plunged into the darkness of sin. The lampstands represent the church. The churches are to cast their light, which is the message of the truth of salvation into the darkness of the satan inspired sin saturated world. The light is the message of Jesus and His provision of salvation. The purpose of the light is to teach people forgiveness of sin through Jesus, to live as they were created and ultimately to bring glory to the Father in heaven where they will inherit eternal life with God.

John goes on to express again a part of that vision of Jesus as we see in Revelation 2:18 "And to the angel of the church in Thyatira write, 'These things says the Son of God, who has eyes like a flame of fire, and His feet like fine brass: We no longer see the lowly Galilean of the Gospels and New Testament, but a picture of the glorified Christ who will establish His kingdom on earth. We no longer see only the passive babe of Bethlehem, no longer the humiliated, mutilated corpse on the cross entombed in a grave, no longer flesh and blood disparaged, defamed, reviled, berated, belittled, abused, insulted, slighted, attacked, criticized, censured, condemned, denounced, maligned, slandered, libeled, discredited, knocked, bashed, beaten, crucified, crown of thorns, pierced with a sword and so much more.... Jesus is now and forevermore Revelation 19:11-16 11 Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war. 12 His eyes were like a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns. He had a name written that no one knew except Himself. 13 He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God. 14 And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses. 15 Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. 16 And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written:

KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.

And next, even more important than what you see, is what amazing justice our Jesus does in retribution against sinful, unrepentant, disrespectful, mankind: Revelation 19:17-21 Then I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the birds that fly in the midst of heaven, "Come and gather together for the supper of the great God, 18 that you may eat the flesh of kings, the flesh of captains, the flesh of mighty men, the flesh of horses and of those who sit on them, and the flesh of all people, free and slave, both small and great." 19 And I saw the beast, the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against Him who sat on the horse and against His army. 20 Then the beast was captured, and with him the false prophet who worked signs in his presence, by which he deceived those who received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image. These two were cast alive into the lake of fire burning with brimstone. 21 And the rest were killed with the sword which proceeded from the mouth of Him who sat on the horse. And all the birds were filled with their flesh. From the descriptions leading up to this point since chapter 4 some 2/3 of people remaining on earth following the rapture will be killed with their eternal destiny the place of eternal punishment. And there is still more! Remember John 1: 29 The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! The prophecy "Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! Was fulfilled by the life, death and resurrection of Jesus and absolutely made manifest to those whose names are written in the Lamb's Book of Life. Where is Jesus in our congregation this morning? In the back row quiet and unnoticed? Or is He somewhere in the midst of the seating respectfully acknowledged. Or is He high and lifted up aglow in divine light with all of us humbly before Him acclaiming our devotion, dedication and determination to serve Him?

On this Resurrection Day 2025 rejoice with me in these verses of Jesus that describe our inherited coming residence being prepared for us. More details in given John chapter 14: But for now, listen to this! Revelation 21: 22- 23 in the New Jerusalem: 22 But I saw no temple in it, for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. 23 The city had no need of the sun or of the moon to shine in it, for the glory of God illuminated it. The Lamb is its light.

Revelation 22:1-4 And he showed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding from the throne of God and of the Lamb. 2 In the middle of its street, and on either side of the river, was the tree of life, which bore twelve fruits, each tree yielding its fruit every month. The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. 3 And there shall be no more curse, but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it, and His servants shall serve Him. 4 They shall see His face, and His name shall be on their foreheads.

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