

Studies in Revelation

Messages by Dr. Mike Holloway

Outline/Power point – Pastor Gangwer

‘Our First Meeting with Jesus – Part I’

Introduction:

What do you imagine it will be like when you lay down your head for one final time and awake in heaven? I believe it is a question that delights the mind of those whose heart beat in this life is the Lord Jesus Christ.

1. What will it be like when I first open my eyes in eternity?
2. What will I do? What will be my first act in heaven?
3. What might that first moment in heaven be like?

And I suppose the answer will lie in how our lives here on earth have played out, and how we have responded to those events in our lives. Some Christian’s do not seem to be able to focus for long if much at all on anything less than this world and its temporal treasures. So, not much thought if any, is given to that first moment in heaven as they spent a life-time being preoccupied here!

Truth be told, those first moments in heaven will be beyond anything we can possibly imagine or surmise when we see Jesus. There will be 5 things we will probably experience when we first awake in eternity and see Jesus for the first time. The key words – “We will be..”

I. We will be smitten by His _____ – (Fell) – Revelation 1:17.

- A. While we may have some _____ of what we want to see first when we get there,
 1. Some are undoubtedly thinking of _____ who have preceded them.
 2. Some may be thinking of the _____ promised in John 14.
 3. Or perhaps it is one of your favorite _____ characters.
 4. To ask about Moses’ experience and the Red Sea, so many questions bursting on our minds.
- B. This was John’s _____ seeing Christ for the first time since Christ’s ascension.
 1. He “fell as one dead”
 2. The one whom he had _____ here on earth, John, did not run up and hug Christ, he fell as dead!
 3. The view of beholding the Jesus in all His _____ overwhelmed him.
 - a. No longer the Son of God in _____ flesh, but now in His full glory.
 - b. Now seeing Christ in all His purity and absolute holiness brought John to _____ himself.
 - c. It was an absolutely overwhelming experience for John and more than likely for us too.
- C. John, as you and I, will not see Christ through the _____ of human flesh as He walked this earth.
 1. Nor as we may _____ Him as we read through the Scriptures - Isaiah 52:1 – 3.
 2. Or the failure of the _____ through the centuries to capture the true essence of His person.
 3. It is one of the reasons I try to avoid any pictures rendered by artist of the person of Christ.
 4. The Scriptures provide a _____ picture of His character and that is what the Holy Spirit wants us to see, and not only see, but inculcate into our lives. Romans 8:29 & Romans 13:14.

5. We are _____ to “to be holy as He is holy” (I Peter 1:15 & 16)
 6. A process that is easily hindered and tainted by our _____ when we choose to live carnally.
 7. However, in heaven we will see holiness _____ by a profane world.
- D. He is to no longer to be seen as a carpenter from Galilee, but the Son of God in His purity. And to this John fell at as feet as dead.”
- E. In light of this we need to realize that here we tend to suffer from a _____ of,
1. Thinking we are _____ than we really/actually are – Romans 12:3.
 2. The universal sin of _____ called out Adam and Eve as well ourselves. (Gen. 3:6 & I John 2:15, 16.)
 - a. It is why we have so much _____ saying, “I am sorry,” or asking to be forgiven.
 - b. Our seeing a message or Scripture as something the other person _____ more.
 3. Dr. Holloway states, “Sin is anything less than what God would do if He were in our situation or circumstances.” (I Corinthians 10:13 – escaping is doing it the way Jesus would do it!)
 4. Though we will never _____ up to Jesus while in these vessels of flesh,
 - a. We have been given a _____ to strive towards as Believers – I Peter 1:15 & 16.
 - b. We are commanded to _____ in the Spirit and not according to our flesh. – Gal. 5:17 - 26.
 5. we will never see ourselves as _____ as we are until we see Jesus as perfect as He is.
 6. It is why He is to be our gauge in our spiritual progress. Why not aim for the best?
 7. It keeps us _____ every step of the way and gives us a true self-assessment as well.
- F. What a difference it will make as often times we are _____ arrogant about our lives,
1. “That’s just how I am!”
 2. “It is how God made me!” (Never blame God for our indifferences and arrogance)
 3. On that first moment in heaven, we’ll see _____ as we truly are, Isaiah 45:23 & Romans 14:11.
- G. For the first time we will see the huge gap between Jesus and ourselves and how thankful we are going to be for His grace and His mercy, but how so very humbled as was John.

II. We will be _____ by His Love – (Fear not) – Revelation 1:17.

- A. Once again we see His great _____ and _____ that only He can give.
1. On the cross He cried out to the Father to “forgive them, for they know not what they do.”
 2. In heaven He speaks out, “fear not.”
 3. There is the gentle touch upon John’s shoulder and the words, “fear not.”
- B. It is Christ’s nature to _____ and confirm His love for His own.
1. Many Christian’s _____ this in their lives if they are not reading their Bibles.
 2. This letter to the churches of Asia Minor is an expression of His love for His Bride. Rev. 3:19.
- C. We _____ nothing, we are _____ nothing, all we are in Christ is of grace and grace alone, everything!
- D. And that which issues forth from His grace is all due to His love.
- E. First, we will see Him as He is, pure holiness,(Isaiah 6:3 & Rev. 4:8) and then we’ll feel loved.