

The background of the poster is a photograph of a sunset over a body of water. The sky is filled with warm orange and red hues, with a bright sun partially visible on the horizon. Silhouettes of palm trees and tropical foliage are visible against the bright sky. The water in the foreground reflects the warm colors of the sunset.

REVELATION :

THE FINAL ANSWER

REVELATION

The Final Answer - Picture Perfect - Part 4

Revelation 1:9-11

INTRODUCTION

NOTES

In this message, I want us to take one more step in this perfect picture of the Messiah. This is, “A picture of partnership.” If you read Revelation 1:9-11, you will see that what John is describing is the perfect picture of partnership. More specifically, John wants us to understand that God calls us to be in partnership with three different entities: believers, the Lord, and the church.

KEY POINTS

1. Partnership With Believers

We should be in partnership with believers, generally. Anyone who loves Jesus, who has turned from sin and placed their faith in Christ; they are on the same team with us. We need to be in partnership with them, and that's wonderful. You need to realize that many of us come from a heritage that tried to divide people along denominational lines. Rightfully so, because there are some key doctrinal differences. The important thing is whether or not you know Christ. Guess what? There are believers in every denomination who love Jesus, and I thank the Lord for that.

You could have some doctrinal differences, but as long as the common denominator is Jesus, that is all that counts. That is all that matters. You have heard me say it a gazillion times, but let me say it again: “That tag of denominationalism will either fall off in heaven or burn off in hell!” Once we leave this planet, denominationalism will not be the focus. You need to understand that and embrace that. We need to embrace that and be in partnership with other believers. We are together and we are going through the very same things.

2. Partnership With The Lord

It is very important for us to realize that there is another partnership. John is describing not only a partnership with all believers, but a partnership with the Lord. He is representing the Lord. He is hearing from God and He has a message for us. John is the conduit to describe and communicate this to other people. You and I are to be in partnership with Jesus. You need to look at your life as a partnership with Christ. It is not about what God can do for you; rather, it is what you can do for the partnership. This will make a huge difference in the world. We are to see ourselves focused on Jesus.

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The whole focus of John's experience in Chapter One was on Jesus. We will talk about that in more detail in the days to come. It is very important for us to realize that we are in partnership with the Lord. We need to align with that. Do you know why? Because He is the Almighty! Do you know why? He is in charge! When you and I are not getting our way, we need to submit to whatever way He is going and line up that way.

NOTES

3. Partnership With The Church

If it was that important for Jesus to identify with the local church and partner with them, don't you think it is important for you too? Many people, especially in our culture today, are faithful attenders. However, there is no commitment to a particular local church. Commitment is very important to a local church where you live. That is where you do ministry.

There is an expectation, a presupposition that you will commit to doing something. That's what a partnership is all about. You bring something to the table; together in that relationship and in that community, you accomplish the will of God to do what He wants you to do in ministry. You and I need to realize that God has called us to be actively involved and committed to a local church.

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QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

1. What is one way you are in partnership with other believers in your life right now?
2. Do you view your relationship with Jesus like a partnership? Why or why not?
3. Are you committed to partnering and serving with your local church? If not, what's one way you can develop that partnership?
