

ORDER OF SERVICE

June 9, 2019

Worship in Fellowship
Worship in Music
Worship in Message
Worship in Response
Worship in Giving

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Listen To What The Spirit Says To The Churches

Revelation 1:9-20

Listen Series

Life Change: We heed the Lord.

Make the lead/purpose statement clear.

John and his situation.

9

John is the author.

John describes himself.

He is exiled on Patmos.

The Romans used Patmos as a penal colony where they warehoused their political prisoners. Domitian, the Roman emperor at the time, sentenced John to exile perhaps because John rejected emperor worship or possibly merely because he was a Christian leader. [WB note: this is the same emperor who beheaded his cousin merely for being a church leader in Rome.] Maybe the authorities thought the apostle would die on Patmos or at least change his ways after such difficult treatment, but he outlived the emperor and was released from the island following Domitian's death, a greater worshipper of Jesus than ever. The kingdom of Rome exiled John, but he was part of a different kingdom, one from which he could never be exiled and [which was] far greater than Rome.

– Bill Lawrence, "The Island Wilderness"

What he saw and heard.

10-18

John's lead/purpose statement.

19

What is.

20

The churches

The letters

The rewards He promises.

We do not know just what these rewards will be. The verses in [Rev. 2-3] speak of rewards, and crowns, and "shining." Shall we have real gold crowns, with precious stones in them? We do not know. This may be in Heaven's language a symbol of some great blessing, which we could not even understand in earth's language. But whatever these rewards are, they will be very wonderful indeed, and we shall be very happy to have them. The very best thing about these rewards is that it will make the Lord Jesus happy if He can give them to us. He wants us to have them, and He will be even happier than we are when we receive them.

– Donald Grey Barnhouse, *Teaching the Word of Truth*

So what?

Jesus is the Lord and worthy of worship.

Those who would build to last should heed Him.