

## The Forth-Telling of Jesus Christ

### Introduction:

- Study of “Revelation”
- The book is full of prophecy.
- Prophecy is not only foretelling what will take place, but also forth-telling.
- Primarily the Revelation of Jesus Christ - the forth-telling of Jesus in His exaltation to the Church - which I believe is much of the blessing in this book. The more we know Jesus, the more blessed we are.

“What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us.” A.W. Tozer

- *But why...? Right thinking leads to right worship.* We were created to worship God.
- All of our right thinking of God, our theology, is a recognition of His self-revelation to us.
- God has made himself known to us through His word and creation.
- Throughout scripture - the divine nature, attributes, and characteristics of God are given to us that we might know Him. Communicated purposefully.
- Echoing truths about God back to Him is worship - Worship is not just music, but recognizing God for who He is and what He has done; and responding out of gratitude, reverence, adoration and obedience.

In our study of the first 2 chapters - we’ve seen Jesus forthtold in four primary ways:

- By His Names/Titles
- Proclamation - From man to man
- Doxology - From man to God
- Revelation - From God to man

### Names and titles

- Names are a fascinating thing!
- Most names do hold meaning. You’ve probably Googled and found out.
- Most parents gave you that name “Because it sounds nice.”
- Some names take on a connotation. Judas for example - means “Praise” and used to be a common name. But because of Judas Iscariot’s infamous betrayal of Jesus, there are very few people named Judas today. It is regarded as synonymous with traitor. In fact, according to data from the Social Security Administration. There were 0 children born in 2023 named Judas in the United States.
- It didn’t take long for that name to fall out of popularity... There were two disciples bearing that name - and the gospel of John uses the parenthetical “not Iscariot” to distinguish the other disciple. The gospels of Matthew and Mark forgo the confusion and use his nickname Thaddaeus.
- Jesus is unique in that His name is synonymous with His identity.
- Every one of His nearly 200 names and titles, are in alignment with who He is, and who He is as He relates to us. (look them up!)
- Each name conveys a lot of information and invokes us to think of Him as we ought to. They should all inform our theology!

Jesus - The Lord is Salvation  
Christ/Messiah - Anointed One  
Immanuel - God with us

- Exclusive truth claims

**Acts 4:12** "... there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."

*What comes to mind when you hear the name of Jesus? And is it in alignment with the Jesus of Scripture?*

- Some people have never even heard His name, some have a limited understanding of him, but even more dangerous is a wrong understanding of Jesus...
- Some of the beliefs held by other religions about Jesus (Mormons, Jehovah Witnesses and, Islam) are not only a departure/difference in perspective - but often an assault on the character of God, diminishing the power of God, and straight up blasphemy (whether in ignorance or not).
- Knowing and defending the Jesus of the Bible.
- Studying the true Jesus will naturally lead to the discernment of counterfeits.
- Names in Revelation:
  - Christ
  - Lord
  - The Alpha and the Omega
  - The Lamb
  - King of Kings
  - Lord of Lords
  - Faithful and True
  - The Word of God

### **Proclamation**

**1:5** ... from Jesus Christ the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth.

**1:7** Behold, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him, and all tribes of the earth will wail on account of him. Even so. Amen.

### **Doxology**

**1:5-6** To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

- This form of worship is referred to (and often identified in our Bibles) as a doxology.
- Doxology comes from the Greek words for "Glory" and "Saying" - and is a short declaration of praise given to God.
- One of the most familiar examples is found at the end of the Lord's prayer - "For yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever, Amen."
- As we move through the book, we find that the worship of Jesus in the heavenly scene sounds a lot like this! (**5: 9-14**)

### **Revelation**

**1: 12-20**

**Chapters 2-3** Introduces Himself 7 ways to the churches:

- These are the words of him who holds the seven stars in his right hand and walks among the seven golden lampstands.
- These are the words of him who is the First and the Last, who died and came to life again.
- These are the words of him who has the sharp, double-edged sword.
- These are the words of the Son of God, whose eyes are like blazing fire and whose feet are like burnished bronze.
- These are the words of him who holds the seven spirits of God and the seven stars.
- These are the words of him who is holy and true, who holds the key of David. What he opens no one can shut, and what he shuts no one can open.
- These are the words of the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the ruler of God's creation.

More important than knowing about Jesus is whether or not you know Jesus, and if you know Him as Lord.