

## THE BOOK OF REVELATION 11 Key

### *John's Example*

**I. Review:** (Rev.1:9, 10a NKJV) <sup>9</sup>*I, John, both your brother and companion in the tribulation and kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ, was on the island that is called Patmos for the word of God and for the testimony of Jesus Christ.* <sup>10</sup>*I was in the Spirit on the Lord's Day...*

A. The old apostle had become a partner with Jesus in the Kingdom of God by faith.

B. Consequently, he had also become a partner with Jesus in enduring tribulation even to the point of being exiled on Patmos.

C. We need to imitate him in enduring tribulation to whatever degree we are experiencing it for the cause of Christ.

D. (2 Tim. 2:11-13 NKJV) <sup>11</sup>*This is a faithful saying: For if we died with Him, we shall also live with Him.* <sup>12</sup>*If we endure, we shall also reign with Him. If we deny Him, He also will deny us.* <sup>13</sup>*If we are faithless, He remains faithful; He cannot deny Himself.*

## **II. Description of Patmos.**

A. The apostle John was exiled by the Romans in about 96 A.D. to the island of Patmos where he received the Revelation of Jesus Christ.

B. Patmos was a volcanic, treeless, rocky island about 6 x 10 miles wide. It was a place of exile by the Romans for the lowest of criminals.

C. John had been banished there for preaching the Word and testifying about Jesus Christ.

## **III. John's endurance.**

A. John had endured in the faith for a long time.

B. Jesus was crucified in about 33 A.D. John had started following Jesus three and one-half years before in about 29 A.D.

C. At the point he received the revelation he had been exercising cheerful, hopeful endurance and constancy in the faith for about 65 years. (John received the Book of Revelation in about 94 A.D.)

D. Listen seniors. The best is yet to come. God can and will still use you in your senior years. John had suffered great persecution and rejection, but now he was in position to receive the Book of Revelation for the church.

E. How can we imitate his example? What was the secret to his longevity?

#### IV. Walking in the Spirit

A. "The Lord's Day" is a term used by the early Christians of the first day of the week; the day of the Lord's resurrection.

B. The Romans set aside a certain day for emperor worship and called it "the Augustean day."

C. So Christians set aside Sundays as the day to worship God and Christ, calling it "The Lord's Day." (Dake)

D. They would traditionally gather on the Lord's Day to worship.

E. Even in the terrible circumstances of Patmos, John was **in the Spirit** on the Lord's Day.

F. Now we know that we can worship God everyday and be in the Spirit everyday. We should!

G. But the point is this; John kept himself "in the Spirit" even in times of adversity.

H. This is a major key to his longevity and endurance, and victory.

I. He maintained the fullness of the Spirit in his life.

J. The phrase "in the spirit" is used in several ways in the New Testament.

K. One of these ways is mentioned in **(Rom. 8:9 NKJV)** *<sup>9</sup>But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His.*

L. All of us who are in Christ are in the Spirit in one sense.

M. We have the Spirit in us, and we are alive to God; whereas, the natural man lives in the flesh, dominated by his senses, and does not have the Holy Spirit. He is dead to God.

N. But here in our text the phrase "in the Spirit" it is used in a different sense.

O. Here it means that John was so full of the Spirit that he was more aware of spiritual reality than he was aware of natural circumstances.

P. He maintained his life in the Spirit regardless of circumstances.

Q. What an example for all of us.

R. At this point, John was the elder statesman of the church. Peter, James, and Andrew were gone. Paul was gone, also. He was the only one left of the 12 on earth, but he was still going strong.

S. He was probably between 90 and 100 years old, but he was still a Holy Ghost man, addicted to the presence of God.

T. It is imperative to our victory in this life to walk in the Spirit. (Eph. 5:18-20 NKJV) <sup>18</sup>*And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit,* <sup>19</sup>*speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord,* <sup>20</sup>*giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

U. If ever there was a time when we need to be filled with the Holy Spirit, it is today.

V. It is never too late to start.

W. Share Con's testimony.

#### V. John's testimony of the Word of God and Jesus Christ.

A. (Rev.1:9 NKJV) <sup>9</sup>*I, John, both your brother and companion in the tribulation and kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ, was on the island that is called Patmos for the word of God and for the testimony of Jesus Christ.*

B. One outstanding characteristic of John the apostle is that he was always faithful to share the Word of God and his testimony about Jesus Christ, even in the face of adverse circumstances.

C. We must not forget that we are called to share the Word of God and our testimony of Jesus Christ with others.

D. In fact, we must not allow trials, cares of life, and worldly pursuits to distract us from the Great Commission.

E. Eternal souls and eternal rewards are at stake.