

"THE VISION OF CHRIST'S GLORY"**Introduction**

1. So many refer contemptuously to Jesus
2. All the foolish books, films, etc.
3. Perhaps your view of Christ too is very weak

1. THE VISION OF CHRIST IN HIS GLORY: v.17

- 1) The language is symbolic, e.g. v.12 refers to the "candlesticks" = Christian churches
- 2) The glory of Christ to highest degree:
 - (i) not in this life
 - (ii) not after grave
 - (iii) but CLOUD
- 3) How Christ now is in His glory:
 - (i) v.13: Great High Priest of the Church
 - (ii) v.14: Head + Hair: most venerable
 - (iii) v.14: eyes: able to see the heart
 - (iv) v.15: feet: all magnificent
 - (v) v.15: voice: of infinite authority
 - (vi) v.16: stars: the churches are His
 - (vii) v.16: mouth: power // the scriptures
 - (viii) v.16: face: infinitely glorious

2. JOHN'S REACTION TO THIS VISION: v.17

- 1) Recall that John was "the disciple whom Jesus loved". Explain.
- 2) Even so, John fell at Christ's feet...
- 3) Why was this?
 - (i) it is clear that Christ is God.
 - (ii) "all power" is in Christ's hands

(iii) Christ has a two-fold kingship**ILLUSTRATION:** Andrew Melville to King James VI

- 4) So, we refer to Christ's two Estates.
- 5) In His humiliation, He had veiled His glory. Why? Explain.
- 6) Now He is in His exaltation. This is how He appears in our nature. So He will come back in the end of the world.
APPLICATION: How shall the unbelievers fare then?

3. CHRIST'S WORDS OF COMFORT: v.17-18

- 1) To John as a believer: lovely words
- 2) Christ has comfort for believers:
 - (i) The very words: "Fear not"
 - (ii) "I am the first and the last". Explain
 - (iii) "I am...liveth...was dead"
 - (iv) "...alive for evermore"
 - (v) "Amen" – a solemn word
 - (vi) "the keys" – i.e. to open or shut
 - (vii) "hell and...death". Two places.
- 3) Only Christ can open or shut the kingdom of heaven – or else of hell to any man.
ILLUSTRATION: Claverhouse at death of John Brown.

APPLICATION:

1. All must face Christ in the end.
2. If John was afraid, what of others?
3. You must make your peace with Christ
NOW in this life.

PSALM**24: 1 – 6****96: 9 – 13****24: 7 – 10**