

## LIFE GROUP SERMON SUMMARY QUESTIONS

*Palm Sunday*

These questions are for the **April 5, 2020** sermon, "Like a Son of Man." Please read the sermon passage (Revelation 1:9-20) together out loud.

### Sermon Outline

IN FLUID TIMES OF SOCIAL DISTANCING, NOTE . . .

1. The trials we face in Christ (9-11)
  - a. John, quarantined to the island of Patmos because of the name of Jesus, knows all about affliction, suffering and isolation.
    - i. John focuses on his identity rather than his location.
    - ii. Though he was "on Patmos," he was also "in Christ."
  - b. He endured his quarantine with patient endurance: eagerly expecting victory.
2. The portrait we possess of Christ (12-16)
  - a. John emphasizes the presence of Jesus with him in the midst of harsh trials.
  - b. Jesus is co-equal and co-eternal with God the Father.
    - i. The very voice which calls worlds into being is speaking to John.
    - ii. The Son of Man, the Messiah from God has come. His people worship him.
    - iii. The reference to "bronze feet" emphasizes strength and loyalty.
    - iv. John emphasizes the love of Jesus!
3. The assurance we receive from Christ (17-20)
  - a. Jesus lays his hand upon John and says, "Fear not." He does the same for us today!
  - b. Jesus, the holy one who removes all our fear, is alive and well, forevermore!

### Life Group Discussion Questions

1. Based on #1, above: John was quarantined to an island by Domitian because of he continued to proclaim Jesus. But he does not complain about his circumstances. Instead, he sets his mind upon his identity in Jesus Christ. What are some practical ways that you could improve in focusing on your identity in Jesus Christ instead of your own difficult circumstance?
2. Based on #1, above: John reminds believers of the "patient endurance" which is in Jesus. That phrase emphasizes the courageous expectation of coming victory. We MAY be delivered from temporary affliction in this world. We WILL be delivered ultimately from affliction forever when we see Jesus face-to-face. Discuss the hope of this "patient endurance."
3. Based on #2, above: One of the best ways to patiently endure is to focus on the One who has truly rescued us. Read through verses 12-16. Which of the descriptions of Jesus most resonate with you/encourage you? Why? How can you improve at setting your mind on this "portrait"?
4. Based on #3, above: Jesus has conquered death forever. He lays "his right hand on" John and says, "Fear not." Think of that! Jesus is alive forevermore. How does this concept change the way you think about coronavirus, trials and your own physical death? Jesus is near to you even while we are socially distanced. How has his presence reduced your fears?