

# The Vision of the Son of Man

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## *Help for Suffering Believers*

- Believers do not suffer alone
  - We have a family
  - We are partners together
  - We Share in Christ's Sufferings
- Believers Have Hope Beyond their Suffering
  - We have a kingdom
  - We can have "patient endurance"
- The Hope of the Believer is in Jesus
  - Our family, our partnership, our Kingdom our patient endurance comes from Jesus
  - The key to hope for suffering believers is to find these things "in Jesus"
  - We languish under our suffering when we seek hope in anything else
- Believers Suffer due to allegiance to Jesus
  - The Word of God
  - The Testimony of Jesus

## *The Son of Man*

- The Title Son of Man
  - This is a critically important term for understanding the New Testament
  - This is one of Jesus' favorite terms for Himself and it is only ever applied to Himself
  - The Son of Man is a title given to Messiah (Daniel 7:13-14, 10:16)
  - The Term Son of Man looks at Jesus as the Messiah
  - Stephen saw Jesus as the Son of Man just as he was about to be martyred (Acts 7:55-56)
  - The office of Messiah is an office that will be eternally filled by Christ.
- The Vision of the Son of Man (Parallels Dan. 10:5-6)
  - The Vision communicates Jesus' as the Priestly King
    - The Meaning of the Robe and Golden Sash
      - It may refer to the garments of the priest
      - It may refer to the vestments of aristocracy or royalty
      - It is likely a reference to both
        - Jesus is ministering among the "golden lampstands"
          - This is likely a reference to the lampstand in the tabernacle
          - The writer of Hebrews tells us that the earthly tabernacle was just a tangible representation of the heavenly tabernacle (Heb. 9:23)
          - Only a priest had the right to enter the holy place and be among the lampstand.

- Jesus is also a priestly King
    - In Matthew 12:1-8, Jesus points to two people who were permitted into the tabernacle
      - The Priests (vs. 5)
      - The King (David- vs. 3-4)
    - Jesus concludes by telling the Pharisees that “something greater than the temple was there”
    - He then calls on the title “Son of Man” and tells them that the Son of Man is “Lord of the Sabbath”
  - Jesus has double access into the temple as priest and as King
- The Vision Communicates Jesus’ Divine Wisdom
  - This is also a description given to the Ancient of Days (Dan. 7:9)
    - Passage shows how Jesus and the Father are distinct yet can be thought of as the same
  - White hair is often viewed as an indicator of wisdom
  - As the Ancient of Days, Jesus has eternal wisdom
- The Vision communicates Jesus’ as the Omniscient Judge (c.f. 19:12)
  - There is no escape from Christ’s judgment
  - His eyes see all (2 Chron. 16:9; Ps. 11:4)
  - This is a blessing and a curse
    - A blessing for those who seek righteousness
    - A curse for those who follow wickedness
- The Vision communicates Jesus’ as Possessing Glorious Strength
  - The reference here is to military apparel and armor
  - This armor is strong and shining
  - It communicates power and excellence
- The Vision communicates Jesus’ as Powerful
  - God’s powerful voice is often described as the sound of rushing water (Eze. 1:24, 43:2; Rev. 14:2, 19:6)
  - The rushing water is likely a reference to the unceasing pounding of the ocean waves against the rocky coast
- The Glory of the Son of Man
  - Glory Made available to the Church
    - There is Great difficulty in understanding the Stars
      - We know for certain that the stars:
        - Refer to the “angels” of the seven churches (vs. 20)
        - Are held in Christ’s Right Hand
      - We can be confident that Christ holds His church firmly and exercises authority over it.
    - There is a clear emphasis on the spiritual and heavenly realities of our faith (Eph. 1:3)
    - When the church gathers on earth, it is reminded of the heavenly reality of its presence before the Glory of Christ.

- What do the stars, which are angels, refer to?
  - Literal angels (guardian angels or patron angels)
  - “Personified Spirits”
  - A Rebuke to Angel worship
  - Leaders of the Church (Elders)
- Glory Provided through the Piercing Word of Christ
  - The Word of Christ Reveals God to Humanity
  - The Word of Christ Convicts of Sin (Heb. 4:12)
  - The Word of Christ will Bring Judgment (Rev. 19:5)
- Glory as the Shining Sun
  - Christ’s Glory is a Radiant Splendor
  - Christ’s Glory is Unsearchable (Ex. 33:18-23)
  - Christ’s Glory Will Endure with His People Forever (Rev. 21:23-25)

## *Hope from Fear*

- Fear \_\_\_\_\_ because of Our \_\_\_\_\_
  - John’s response is like every response of man when viewing the unrestrained glory of God
    - Ezekiel (Eze. 1:28)
    - Peter, James, and John (Matt. 17:6-7)
    - Isaiah (Isa. 6:5)
  - Our falling short of God’s glory because of sin makes His presence \_\_\_\_\_ (Rom. 3:23)
  - Jesus takes away that fear through His Redemptive Work
  - The most \_\_\_\_\_ words in the scripture are “fear not”
- Hope Because of Jesus’ \_\_\_\_\_
  - This Speaks of Christ’s \_\_\_\_\_
  - Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ for Himself a characteristic that only \_\_\_\_\_ can claim
    - Isa. 44:6-8- YHWH describes His \_\_\_\_\_
    - Isa. 41:4- YHWH calls himself the first and the last
  - This Speaks of Christ’s Work in \_\_\_\_\_
  - This Speaks of Christ’s \_\_\_\_\_ over All Things
  - We need not fear because Jesus is in control of \_\_\_\_\_!
- Hope Because of Jesus’ \_\_\_\_\_
  - Jesus is the \_\_\_\_\_ of Life (John 1:4)
  - Jesus has been \_\_\_\_\_ over Death (I Cor. 15:55-56)
  - Jesus provides Redemption \_\_\_\_\_
  - Christ’s full control of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ is immensely uplifting for the suffering
- Hope Because of Jesus’ \_\_\_\_\_
  - Christ has authority over Death and the Realm of the Dead
  - Christ’s authority allows him to offer true \_\_\_\_\_ from Death
  - Christ’s authority gives \_\_\_\_\_ that believers will reign with Him eternally

- Hope Because of Jesus' \_\_\_\_\_
  - Jesus' Plan is all that John is about to see
  - All that \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ happen is a part of Jesus' \_\_\_\_\_ Work
  - John is to \_\_\_\_\_ all that he sees
    - This provides a \_\_\_\_\_
    - This allows for objective \_\_\_\_\_ of God's faithfulness to His Word
- Hope Because of Jesus' \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_
  - Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ is among His \_\_\_\_\_
    - Jesus' presence among his people is the \_\_\_\_\_ of redemption (John 1:14)
    - Jesus presence is the \_\_\_\_\_ for the \_\_\_\_\_ (Matt. 28:20)
  - Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ Keeps His Church in His \_\_\_\_\_
    - The \_\_\_\_\_ place for the believer is in the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Savior (Jn 10:28)
    - Our names are \_\_\_\_\_ in His \_\_\_\_\_ (Isa. 49:15-18)