



The Canadian *Lord's Day* Association

Bible Course Acts to Revelation Lesson 70

Name: _____

Read Revelation 1:9-20

Vision #1: **Christ Among His Candlesticks**

Revelation is a book of visions. The first vision reappears in future parts of the book.

1. I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet...and I turned to _____ the voice.
2. John gives a word picture it is not meant to be a physical picture of what Jesus looks like but of who Jesus is (v. 13 – 16).
 - a. _____ of _____ - Jesus favored this description of himself (81 times in the NT, mostly used by himself). John knew Jesus and this "voice" was familiar, yet so exalted, he could hardly believe his eyes.
 - b. A faithful priest: and in the midst of the _____ one clothed with the garments of a great high priest. What a comfort to His church that He is walking among them.
 - c. Holy: His _____ and his _____ were white like wool, as white as _____. Christ's pure and holy atoning work also makes believers white as snow.
 - d. A coming judge: his _____ were as a _____ of _____. He sees the heart.
 - e. An authoritative being: His _____ as the sound of many _____. Think of a loud crashing surf. He will come with the voice of authority, there will be not any who are able to give excuses.
3. In His right hand _____ stars (messengers, ministers)...seven gospel preachers, seven churches and Christ in the midst of them. Christ is in control and the gospel light will not go out because He is there.

Read Revelation 2:1-7

In this next section, keep in mind that the seven churches are real churches.

There is a messenger bringing this letter to be read in the churches. These messages are suitable for every age. The first message comes to the city of Ephesus. Ephesus was a large metropolitan area closest to Patmos. It was known for its worship of the goddess Diana whose temple was one of the seven wonders of the then known world. Ephesus was a superstitious city, and a city where God planted a church. Paul had visited the church three times, plus it had the benefit of Aquilla, Priscilla, John, Timothy, and Apollos.



4. First Ephesus is praised for its work...the fruit of the Spirit.

- a. Diligence: I know thy _____, and thy _____, and thy _____... for my name's sake.
- b. Discernment/Doctrinally Pure: ...and how thou canst not bear them which are _____: and thou hast _____ them which say they are apostles, and are not, and hast found them _____.
- c. Perseverance: and hast _____, and hast _____... and hast not _____.

5. Like a gardener who enjoys growth in a garden, he must also take care to notice problems that if not dealt with will destroy the garden. ...Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast _____ thy _____
_____. Like the love of a newly married couple...it is so vibrant. Yet, if not cultivated, that love may grow cold as years progress.

6. A believer's first love is love for God above all. When one first comes to know Christ, the Bible is often fresh and new. A believer can't wait to get to a private spot to read and commune with His God. Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and _____, and do the _____
_____.

7. So why is this a serious concern? Doesn't love ebb and flow? This is Jesus himself admonishing the church. This is the one who bought His church with His blood. The decline is affecting the believer's relationship with Christ. ...or else I will... remove thy _____ out of his place. Today Ephesus is in ruins and its church gone.
8. This "cooling" of the heart of Ephesus didn't happen overnight. So for believers, there are subtle losses that can cool their relationship with Christ. Prayer life declines; talk can become more about God than to God; self-examination is less frequent; there is ignorance of Satan's devices. So what does Christ recommend?
- a. _____ therefore from whence thou art fallen.
 - b. _____ (grieve over sin)
 - c. _____ the first works – go back, study, pray, search.

Believers should look back to their first love to Christ.

9. A word of promise follows ... to him that _____ will I give to _____ of the _____ of _____, which is in the midst of the _____ of God. There will be food, shade, and a relationship here as a forerunner of heavenly glory and perfectly in eternity.

10. What lesson can we gain from the message to the church in Ephesus?

Evaluator_____

Jesus My Glory

O LORD GOD

Thou has commanded me to believe in Jesus;
and I would flee to no other refuge,
wash in no other fountain
build on no other foundation,
receive from no other fullness,
rest in no other relief.

His water and blood were not severed in their flow at the cross,
may they never be separated in my creed and experiences;
May I be equally convinced of the guilt and pollution of sin,
feel my need of a prince and saviour,
implore of him repentance as well as forgiveness,
love holiness, and be pure in heart,
have the mind of Jesus, and tread in his steps.

Let me not be at my own disposal,
but rejoice that I am under the care of one
who is too wise to err,
too kind to injure,
too tender to crush.

May I scandalize none by my temper and conduct, but
recommend and endear Christ to all around,
bestow good on every one as circumstances permit,
and decline no opportunity of usefulness.

Grant that I may value my substance,
not as the medium of pride and luxury,
but as the means of my support and stewardship.

Help me to guide my affections with discretion,
to owe no man anything,
to be able to give to him that needeth,
to feel it may duty and pleasure to be merciful and forgiving,
to show to the world the likeness of Jesus.