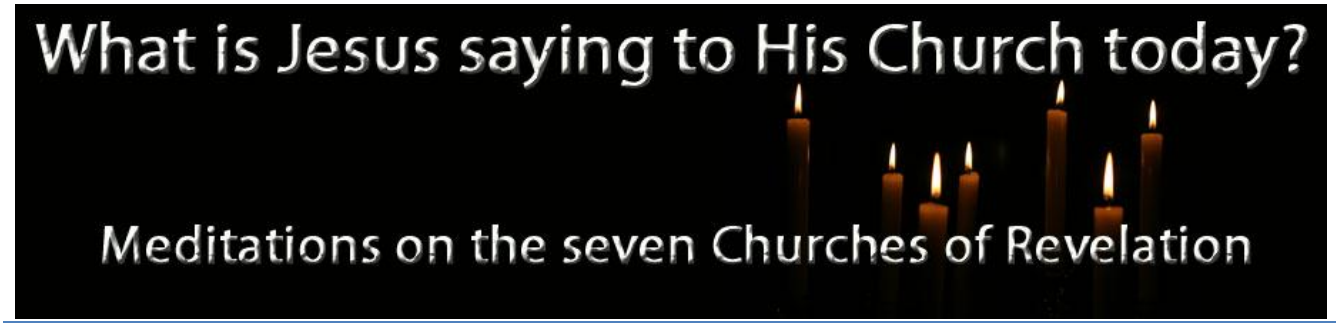

Session 1
Introduction & Overview
John's Encounter with Jesus – Rev 1:9-20

I. Introduction

A. Goals

1. Knowledge
   a. Knowledge puffs up but love builds up – I Cor 8:1
2. Change
   a. True Encounter with Jesus must provoke change
      (1) In our hearts
      (2) Leads to action where required
      (3) Repentance
      (4) Disciples
      (5) Paul
      (6) John
   b. To encounter Jesus and not change is very costly
      (1) Pharisees, scribes, high priest
      (2) Herod, Pilate
      (3) Balaam
3. Love Jesus more
   a. 1Ti 1:5 But the goal of our instruction is love from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith.

B. What is Jesus saying?

1. Pretention – exaggerated claim – "God told me"
2. Presumption – audacious, recklessly bold – Thus saith the Lord
3. Arrogance
   a. Knowledge puffs up but love builds up

b. Confidence w/o humility is pride. When acted upon, becomes arrogance – pride against another.

4. Humility & Meekness essential, doesn't mean lack of boldness.

II. Overview

A. Context of the Seven Churches

1. The Book of Revelation - given to John
2. The Revelation given by the Father
3. The Revelation of Jesus Christ

III. Foundational issue in our times: Who is Jesus?

A. Mt 16:13-19 Who do men say that I, the Son of Man, am? Who do you say that I am?

B. Jesus reveals His deity and his character throughout the book of Revelation beginning with the vision of Himself that John experienced.

C. As He speaks to each Church, elements of this revelation are highlighted in reference to His message.

IV. John's experience - Mt 16:28-17:2

A. John's very human response - divine encounters can affect our entire being

B. The place of experience & emotion in the life of a Christian

C. Consider the order of John's description of his encounter with Jesus

1. Voice of a trumpet
2. 7 Lampstands
3. One like the Son of Man
4. Dressed in a white robe down to His feet (Dan 10)
5. Golden sash around His chest
6. Hair is white like wool, like snow
7. Eyes of fire
8. Feet like burnished bronze
9. Voice like the roar of many waters
10. Right hand held 7 stars
11. From His mouth came a sharp two-edged sword
12. His face shines like the sun in its full strength
13. John fell as dead at His feet
14. He laid His right hand on John
15. "Fear not"

V. The Words of Jesus

A. Let him who has ears, hear what the Spirit says to the Churches.

1. 7x He makes this statement

B. Psalm 12:6

C. Fear not, I AM the First & the Last

D. I AM the living one who died, but I'm alive forever!

E. I have the keys to death & Hades

VI. How must we respond to Jesus?

A. What is the reality of your view of Jesus?

VII. Further study & meditation

Imagery	Topic	Verse
Voice like a trumpet	Sound the alarm! Faithful witness – Ez 33:6, Joel 2 Loud, commanding, piercing, warning, triumphant,	Rev 1:10
Walks in the midst of the 7 lamp stands	Not a distant God, ever present and intimately involved. Mt 28:20 Fully aware of our frailty, needs and pressures. Ex 25:31f	Rev 1:13
Son of Man	Dan 7:13-14 Dominion, Glory, Kingdom	Rev 1:13
Nowhere to lay his head - Mt 8:20, Lk 9:58 Executes the harvest - Rev 14:14 Authority to forgive – Mt 9:6, Mt 12:32, Mk 2:10, Lk 5:24, Lk 12:10 Lord of the Sabbath –Mt 12:8, Mk 2:28, Lk 6:5 The Sower of the Good seed – Mt 13:37 Called a glutton – Mt 11:19, Lk7:34 Commands Angels – Mt 13:41, Jn 1:51 (Joshua 5:13-15) He came to serve – Mt 20:28, Mk 10:45 He came to save unto eternal life – Mt 18:11, Mk 10:45, Lk 9:56. Lk 19:10, Jn 6:27, Jn 6:53 Who is the Son of Man? Mt 16:13 Believe on the Son of Man – Jn 9:35 He will suffer and die – Mt 17:12,22; Mt 20:18; Mt 26:2,24,45; Mk 8:31; Mk 9:9,12,31; Mk 10:33; Mk 14:21,41; Lk 9:22,44; Lk 18:31; Lk 22:22,48; Jn 3:14; Jn 8:28, Jn 12:34 3 Days in the heart of the earth – Mt 12:40, Lk 11:30 He will rise – Mt 17:9; Jn 12:23 Judge – Jn 5:27 Glorifed –Jn 12:23; Jn 13:31 Returning in Glory – Mt 10:23; Mt 16:27,28; Mt 19:28; Mt 24:27,30,37,29,44; Mt 25:31; Mt 26:64; Mk 8:38; Mk 13:26; Mk 14:62; Lk 9:26; Lk 12:40; Lk 17:22,24,26,30; Lk 18:8; Lk 21:27; Lk 22:69; Lk 24:7 We will stand before him – Lk 21:36 He is from heaven – Jn 3:13; Jn 6:62 He is in heaven – Acts 7:56 Our suffering is for his sake – Lk 6:22 He will confess us before angels – Lk 12:8		
Clothed in a long robe	Priestly/Royal Royal priesthood - 1 Pet2:9 All your robes are fragrant… Ps 45	Rev 1:13

Golden sash around His chest	Priestly according to the order of Melchizedek - Heb 5:6-10; 6:19-7:18; Gen 14:18; Ps 110:4 King and Priest Heaven is both temple and royal court.	Rev 1:13
Eyes like flames of fire	Passion: Love & Anger Jealous - Deut 4:24 He searches the hearts and minds – Rev 2:28	Rev 1:14
Hair - radiant white like wool & snow	Eternal pre-existence: Like the Ancient of Days – Dan 7:9 Purity and perfection of wisdom	Rev 1:14
Feet like burnished bronze, glowing brass	Judgment - Tested and found true – Tramples the enemy under His feet Ps 110	Rev 1:15
Voice like roar of many waters	Ps 29:3f; Is 6:8; Is 66:6 A voice to be listened to and obeyed Dt 13:17-18; 1Sam 12:15	Rev 1:15
Holds 7 stars/angels/messengers in His right hand	Holds His leaders in His hands – strength in our weakness	Rev 1:16
Sharp 2 edged sword from his mouth	Logos of God - is alive and full of energy - sharper than any 2 edged-sword - Heb4:12, Eph 6:17 John 1:1 The Logos is with God and is God Two-sides of the sword: Justice& Mercy	Rev 1:16
Face shines like the fullness of the sun	Glory – who can gaze upon the sun? Weapon against his enemies – 2Th 2:8 Glory of God in the Face of Jesus – 2 Cor 4:6	Rev 1:16
First and the Last	Humanity & Deity	Rev 1:17
I have the keys to Death and Hades	Complete authority over death and Hades	Rev 1:18
Living one - died but alive forevermore	I am alive and because I am alive, you will live as well! 1Cor 15:12-26 He understands the cruelty of death, he understands our frailty, that we are but dust.	Rev 1:18