

To the Saints of God at Topeka, Kansas – November 24, 2019

Jesus, the Captain, Part 2

In my previous sermon in August I spoke about the Lord being the Captain of the host of the Lord (Joshua 5:14). I was beginning to compare passages in Daniel 10, Revelation 1 and others regarding characteristics of the Lord Jesus Christ.

*Daniel 10:2 In those days I Daniel was mourning three full weeks. 3 I ate no pleasant bread, neither came flesh nor wine in my mouth, neither did I anoint myself at all, till three whole weeks were fulfilled. 4 And in the four and twentieth day of the first month, as I was by the side of the great river, which is Hiddekel; 5 Then I lifted up mine eyes, and looked, and **behold a certain man clothed in linen, whose loins were girded with fine gold of Uphaz: 6 His body also was like the beryl, and his face as the appearance of lightning, and his eyes as lamps of fire, and his arms and his feet like in colour to polished brass, and the voice of his words like the voice of a multitude. 7 And I Daniel alone saw the vision: for the men that were with me saw not the vision; but a great quaking fell upon them, so that they fled to hide themselves. 8 Therefore I was left alone, and saw this great vision, and there remained no strength in me: for my comeliness was turned in me into corruption, and I retained no strength. 9 Yet heard I the voice of his words: and when I heard the voice of his words, then was I in a deep sleep on my face, and my face toward the ground. 10 ¶ And, behold, an hand touched me, which set me upon my knees and upon the palms of my hands. 11 And he said unto me, O Daniel, a man greatly beloved, understand the words that I speak unto thee, and stand upright: for unto thee am I now sent. And when he had spoken this word unto me, I stood trembling. 12 Then said he unto me, Fear not, Daniel: for from the first day that thou didst set thine heart to understand, and to chasten thyself before thy God, thy words were heard, and I am come for thy words.***

Rev. 1: 10 I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet, 11 Saying, I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last: and, What thou seest, write in a book, and send it unto the seven churches which are in Asia; unto Ephesus, and unto Smyrna, and unto Pergamos, and unto Thyatira, and unto

*Sardis, and unto Philadelphia, and unto Laodicea. 12 And I turned to see the voice that spake with me. And being turned, I saw seven golden candlesticks; 13 **And in the midst of the seven candlesticks one like unto the Son of man, clothed with a garment down to the foot, and girt about the paps with a golden girdle. 14 His head and his hairs were white like wool, as white as snow; and his eyes were as a flame of fire; 15 And his feet like unto fine brass, as if they burned in a furnace; and his voice as the sound of many waters. 16 And he had in his right hand seven stars: and out of his mouth went a sharp twoedged sword: and his countenance was as the sun shineth in his strength. 17 And when I saw him, I fell at his feet as dead. And he laid his right hand upon me, saying unto me, Fear not; I am the first and the last: 18 I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.***

*Dan. 10:2 In those days I Daniel was mourning three full weeks. 3 I ate no pleasant bread, neither came flesh nor wine in my mouth, neither did I anoint myself at all, till three whole weeks were fulfilled. Daniel is troubled in his spirit. He is worried about his own sins and the iniquity of the Jews. Daniel 9:5 *We have sinned, and have committed iniquity, and have done wickedly, and have rebelled, even by departing from thy precepts and from thy judgments: 6 Neither have we hearkened unto thy servants the prophets, which spake in thy name to our kings, our princes, and our fathers, and to all the people of the land.* He also may be concerned with the vision and prophecy of the 70 weeks which the Lord had just told him about (Daniel 9:2).*

*Dan. 10:5 Then I lifted up mine eyes, and looked, **and behold a certain man clothed in linen, whose loins were girded with fine gold of Uphaz:***

One of my loved ones recently told me that the most amazing thing happens when you die or if the Lord comes. *You a-c-t-u-a-l-l-y and in person, get to meet the Lord Jesus Christ, our King and Sovereign – what is better than that?* After you fully take in the appearance and character of Christ I think you will come to that same conclusion.

And behold a certain man – The Lord Jesus Christ could appear in any form that he wanted or desired – any form – angel or otherwise. But he chose to take the form

and appearance of a human – a fallen race – now brought back to its original glory, unspotted and with no vesture of sin and depravity.

The Lord Jesus Christ is clothed in fine linen. His clothing is white, pure, clean, beautiful, and spotless. There are no blemishes on this garment. It shows his innocence and His righteousness.

Rev 19:7 *Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready. 8 **And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints.***

Rev. 19:14 *And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, **clothed in fine linen, white and clean.** 15 And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron.*

Is that not amazing language? You, also, as God's elect by virtue of having your name written in the Lamb's Book of Life will take possession of a likewise amazing fine linen garment exactly like the Lord Jesus Christ's. Mt 22:11 *And when The King came in to see the guests, he saw there a man which had not on a wedding garment: 12 And he saith unto him, Friend, how camest thou in hither not having a wedding garment? And he was speechless. 13 Then said The King to the servants, Bind him hand and foot, and take him away, and cast him into outer darkness; there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth. 14 For many are called, but few are chosen.* You have to have a wedding garment beloved. There is no sneaking into the wedding feast privily. This is one event and place that you cannot "crash." There is only one place to get this wedding garment and it must be obtained lawfully.

Re 15:6 *And the seven angels came out of the temple, having the seven plagues, **clothed in pure and white linen,** and having their breasts girded with golden girdles.* His dress is priestly, for he is the true high priest. In the Old Testament the priests wore linen garments (Ex 39:28 *And a mitre of fine linen, and goodly bonnets of fine linen, and linen breeches of fine twined linen...;* Le 6:10 *And the priest shall put on his linen garment, and his linen breeches shall he put upon his flesh...).* Christ is both the high priest and was the sacrifice for his people.

Rev. 1:13 And in the midst of the seven candlesticks one like unto the Son of man, clothed with a garment down to the foot. This priestly, linen garment, covers his whole body. Some say it is representative of or is a wedding garment as referenced above in Rev 19:7. It is probably a long, majestic robe. Priests and royalty wear long robes as showing of power and high rank. Ex 28:4 And these are the garments which they shall make; a breastplate, and an ephod, and a robe, and a broided coat, a mitre, and a girdle: and they shall make holy garments for Aaron thy brother, and his sons, that he may minister unto me in the priest's office.

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*Rev. 1:13 And in the midst of the seven candlesticks one like unto the Son of man, clothed with a garment down to the foot, **and girt about the paps with a golden girdle.***

This is the finest and purest gold available. He is girt about the breast with a golden girdle or belt. The priests had a girdle or ephod. Ex 28:8 *And the curious girdle of the ephod, which is upon it, shall be of the same, according to the work thereof; even of gold, of blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine twined linen.* But unlike the high priest's girdle which had gold interwoven into it, this one is made of pure gold. This is a rich and beautiful ornament that is to show his majesty, royalty, dignity, rank and honor. When Christ appeared as a man on earth at his first advent he appeared as a lowly servant, not royalty. His occupation was a carpenter and he disdained to be made a king. He rode into Jerusalem on a donkey. Not so now. Now, he is the Captain of the Host, The King, to be exalted unto heaven and to assume the throne of the Most High God. He is aware of His condition and comfortable "in His own skin" as Ruler of all.

Rev. 6:15 And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains; 16 And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb: 17 For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand? It is all men, and they are terrified of just His countenance, let alone the real weaponry He has, which is his Word.

Isa 9:6 *For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.*

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*Dan 10:6 **His body also was like the beryl, and his face as the appearance of lightning, and his eyes as lamps of fire, and his arms and his feet like in color to polished brass, and the voice of his words like the voice of a multitude.***

Beryl is a precious stone. Barnes says “Beryl” is “a mineral of great hardness, occurring in green and bluish-green six-sided prisms. It is identical with the emerald, except that the latter has a purer and richer color.” Barnes says it may have a double refraction. Gill says that the part of His body not covered with the linen garment, and was seen, was like such a precious stone, said to be of an azure and sky colour, signifying he was the Lord from heaven. I personally have never been much of a rock person per se. It’s a rock. They are all around us. Dig in the dirt and pretty soon you will hit one. But my little family loves rocks. They are enamored with them. When we were at Yellowstone last year, they spent an hour-and-a-half at a small, insignificant, garden variety rock store. I thought we were never getting out of there. Now, I try to steer clear of rock stores unless we have hours to be there. But truly, that was nothing. We were recently at the Smithsonian Museum of Natural History. This is nothing short of the mother of all rock stores. The Lord has truly made some amazing, beautiful rock and crystal and diamonds and formations and prisms that I have never seen the likes of before. I truly do not know how to describe them all, but that they were overwhelming, had great variety and were dazzling and beautiful. I think that is what is being described here.

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Christ’s face is as lighting! Try to explain what lightning is to anyone - it is indescribable. Words are a poor and insufficient medium for describing lightning or describing Christ in His glory. It is a flash of the most brilliant light you have ever

seen - blazing fast – bright as the sun, lighting up the whole sky and with a high explosion at the end, and usually followed by an incredibly loud noise that rocks your soul. Lightning is nothing to mess with. It is scary and dangerous. Here is what Gill says: *Christ is exceeding bright, very dazzling to the eye, and striking terror to the mind; expressive of something very awful and majestic; and agrees well with Christ the sun of righteousness, whose face or countenance at his transfiguration on the mount, and when John saw him in a visionary way, was as the sun shineth in his strength, in the summer solstice, or at noonday, #Mt 17:2 (And was transfigured before them: and His face did shine as the sun, and His raiment was white as the light). from whom is all the light of knowledge and truth, of joy, peace, and comfort, of grace and glory; and which darts as swiftly and as powerfully from him as the rays of the sun, or as lightning from one end of the heaven to the other; and irradiates and illuminates as brightly and clearly:*

Mt 24:27 For as the lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.

Re 4:5 And out of the throne proceeded lightnings and thunderings and voices: and there were seven lamps of fire burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God.

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Think the character “Sauron” in the Lord of the Rings movies. In the movies he is represented as a single eye of fire suspended above a huge tower that can see everywhere.

Human eyes are usually, blue, brown, or green. His eyes are as lamps of fire! They will burn right through his enemies. He can see all of their sin and impurities in an instant. They say a person’s eyes are the gateway to their soul. Eyes are incredibly important when trying to decipher what is going on with a person. Just by looking at the eyes you can instantly discern whether someone is happy, sad, mad or insane. That’s why when people are playing competitive poker a lot of gamblers wear sunglasses – because they don’t want their opponents to get any insight into

their poker hand. A lot of entertainers will wear sunglasses so their audience can't see how old they really are. The eyes give it away. When you see an entertainer with sunglasses on you know they are trying to hide something.

If you look into the eyes of Christ you will be sorry, you will get more than you bargained for if you are his enemy. His righteousness burns within Him! His righteousness will burn his enemies. Christ doesn't need sunglasses; his eyes are ageless and timeless. Gills says: *Denoting his omniscience of all persons and things; and how piercing and penetrating his eyes are into the affairs of men and states, by whom they are clearly seen, and to whom they are exactly known; and how fierce and terrible his wrath is towards his enemies, and whose looks must inject dread and terror into them; see #Re 19:12: 12 (His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself.)*

Rev. 1:14 *His head and his hairs were white like wool, as white as snow; **and His eyes were as a flame of fire.** John's account is that Christ's eyes were as "a flame of fire." Barnes says: *Bright, sharp, penetrating; as if everything was light before them, or they would penetrate into the thoughts of men. Such a representation is not uncommon. We speak of a lightning glance, a fiery look. Gill: His eyes are very searching and penetrating, and discovers and brings to light things - the most dark and obscure; and also Christ's eyes of love upon his own people, which have both heat and light; Christ's love never waxes cold, and, being shed abroad in the hearts of his people, warms theirs; and in the light of his gracious countenance do they see light; and his love, like flames of fire, melts their souls into a true and genuine repentance for sin: or else, rather his eyes of wrath and vengeance, as set upon his enemies, are here meant: which will be fierce and furious, bring swift and sudden destruction on them, before which there is no standing, and from which there is no fleeing.**

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Christ's arms and feet – what little is showing is like polished brass, bright and spectacular. This shows his strength and glory and that he will cast down his

enemies and subdue them. Polished brass is ageless – it has no imperfections. It shows his raw power. Rev. 19:15 *And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.*

Rev. 1:15 And his feet like unto fine brass, as if they burned in a furnace;

Barnes says the word here means “white brass.” Brass is a compound metal. It is made of copper and zinc. We typically think of brass as gold colored, but the color varies depending on the compounds used to make it. That is a little bit interesting because in Song of Solomon 5:10, Christ is described as being “white and ruddy.”

Dan 10:6 His body also was like the beryl, and his face as the appearance of lightning, and his eyes as lamps of fire, and his arms and His feet like in color to polished brass, and the voice of His words like the voice of a multitude.

Rev. 1:15 ***and His voice as the sound of many waters.***

Rev. 14:2 ***And I heard a voice from heaven, as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of a great thunder: and I heard the voice of harpers harping with the harps.***

A person’s voice is important. Is the sound of a person’s voice consistent with their physical stature? Walter Payton was a running back for the NFL Chicago Bears from the mid 70’s to the mid 80’s. He helped win a Super Bowl for them in 1986. He was also the NFL’s all-time leading rusher for many years; and even today, he is still number 2 on the all-time leading rusher list, even though he has been dead for 20 years. For 10 years in the NFL he lined up against the biggest and baddest defensive lineman there were (typically 200-300 pounds and 6’4 and taller). So, you imagine that Walter Payton would have a deep and manly voice. Every time I heard Walter Payton speak, I was stunned. He had the shrillest most feminine voice imaginable. It was not his fault, it was the voice the Lord gave him, but it was unexpected to say the least. It did not remotely match his persona.

In the case of Christ, does the sound of His voice display power, authority and omnipotence? The answer to that is “yes.” The sound of his voice has a melodic tone to it that resembles many men talking or the voice of many waters. Have you

ever heard a loud stream, or a river, or the ocean? It is difficult to describe, but it is strong and powerful and unlike any other voice. His voice his unique and different. It conveys omnipotence and royalty and brings with it a serious, sober feel of wrath and vengeance. His voice has the quality of thunder, booming and important. Sometimes when you are a parent, you must use “the voice” to command attention and respect. Sometimes you must get the attention of the hearers to stop what is going on and change the direction of the conversation. The thunder aspect of his voice means “terribleness” to his enemies. There was a phrase I heard growing up: “you ain’t just whistling Dixie.” It means you are not kidding around. This is important stuff and if you don’t hear who is talking, it is to your peril or hurt.

*Rev. 19:5 And a voice came out of the throne, saying, Praise our God, all ye his servants, and ye that fear him, both small and great. 6 **And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunderings, saying, Alleluia: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth.***

The voice of Christ cannot be copied or mistaken for another.

Rev. 1:16 And he had in his right hand seven stars: and out of his mouth went a sharp two-edged sword: and his countenance was as the sun shineth in his strength.

The seven stars are the pastors of the seven churches. They are in his right hand, which means they are important and dear to Christ. They are Christ’s ambassadors. They receive light from Christ, and they preach His Word and lighten this dark world around them. *Mat. 3:17 And James the son of Zebedee, and John the brother of James; and he surnamed them Boanerges, which is, The sons of thunder.* We have up to this point, relatively speaking, been talking about His countenance. Now, we are talking offensive weaponry. *And out of his mouth went a sharp two-edged sword.*

Eph 6:17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. Heb 4: 12 For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

13 Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do. The Word of God is omnipotent and powerful. It speaks of reproof and punishment. The Word of God is the most powerful thing in the universe. It cuts on both sides of the blade and is equally powerful on either side. It slays men's souls and is death to Satan and Satan's forces. ***And His countenance was as the sun shineth in his strength.*** You can't look at the sun except for maybe a second at a time. Its splendor is overpowering. Christ's person is terrifyingly beautiful, overpowering to all our senses and is amazing. It is TRUE "shock and awe." Shock and awe are known as "rapid dominance". It is a tactic based on the use of overpowering and spectacular displays of force to paralyze an enemy's perception on the battlefield and destroy their will to fight. That is what happened to Joshua, Daniel and John. This is what George W. Bush said we were doing in Iraq when he started a big war with them. He said we were using "shock and awe." They didn't stay "shocked" too long, because we stayed a long time in Iraq and in fact, we still have troops there and it is coming up on 20 years since he started that war. This is the real deal. It is clear from Daniel 10 and Revelation 1 that to see Christ as they described is a terrifying event.

Eccl. 8:1 Who is as the wise man? and who knoweth the interpretation of a thing? a man's wisdom maketh his face to shine, and the boldness of his face shall be changed. 2 I counsel thee to keep the king's commandment, and that in regard of the oath of God. 3 Be not hasty to go out of his sight: stand not in an evil thing; for he doeth whatsoever pleaseth him. 4 Where the word of a king is, there is power: and who may say unto him, What doest thou?

Here are some additional descriptions of Christ:

Mat. 17:2 And was transfigured before them: and His face did shine as the sun, and his raiment was white as the light.

Rev. 19:11 And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. 12 His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself. 13 And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God. 14 And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed

*in fine linen, white and clean. 15 **And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations:** and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. 16 And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.*

The Song of Solomon also includes a description of Christ, but I believe instead of seeing Christ as his enemies would see him, we get a description of Christ as the love of his life would see him – how the church views him.

Song of Solomon 5:10 My beloved is white and ruddy, the chiefest among ten thousand. 11 His head is as the most fine gold, his locks are bushy, and black as a raven. 12 His eyes are as the eyes of doves by the rivers of waters, washed with milk, and fitly set. 13 His cheeks are as a bed of spices, as sweet flowers: his lips like lilies, dropping sweet smelling myrrh. 14 His hands are as gold rings set with the beryl: his belly is as bright ivory overlaid with sapphires. 15 His legs are as pillars of marble, set upon sockets of fine gold: his countenance is as Lebanon, excellent as the cedars. 16 His mouth is most sweet: yea, he is altogether lovely. This is my beloved, and this is my friend, O daughters of Jerusalem.

I love you all, amen.