



Seeing God differently

February 12, 2018

REVELATION 1:13-17 NKJV – (13) and in the midst of the seven lampstands *One* like the Son of Man, clothed with a garment down to the feet and girded about the chest with a golden band. (14) His head and hair *were* white like wool, as white as snow, and His eyes like a flame of fire; (15) His feet *were* like fine brass, as if refined in a furnace, and His voice as the sound of many waters; (16) He had in His right hand seven stars, out of His mouth went a sharp two-edged sword, and His countenance was like the sun shining in its strength. (17) **And when I saw Him, I fell at His feet as dead.** But He laid His right hand on me, saying to me, "Do not be afraid; I am the First and the Last.

At the sight of Him, the Evangelist fell as one dead. "Was this He whom upon earth John had known so familiarly? Was this He in whose bosom He had lain at that Last Supper, and said, 'Lord, which is he that betrays You?' When I saw Him thus transformed, thus glorified, I fell at His feet as one dead. Well might such be the effect, even upon the spirit of a just man made perfect and John was still in the body of such an open revelation of the risen glory of Christ". In this awful and glorious form, John was perfectly overwhelmed with the majesty of his appearance, **so that he fell at his feet as dead.**

The effect here described is one that often occurred to those who had a vision of God. See **Daniel 8:18**, "Now as he was speaking with me, I was in a deep sleep on my face toward the ground; but he touched me, and set me upright"; **Daniel 8:27**, "And I Daniel fainted, and was sick certain days; afterward I rose up, and did the king's business."

"It is I; be not afraid." The fact that it was the Savior, though he appeared in this form of overpowering majesty, was a reason why John should not be afraid. Why that was a reason, he immediately adds - that he was the first and the last; that though he had been dead he was now alive, and would continue ever to live, and that he had the keys of hell and of death. It is evident that John was overpowered with that awful emotion which the human mind must feel at the evidence of the presence of God.

Though many today have not experienced Christ as John or Daniel, we must see God differently. Does it take seeing Him face to face before you are impacted or does His word already give you that experience?

SCRIPTURE READING

EXODUS 14:13

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Never let your feelings sit in judgment over your faith.