

CP— 1/26/25 — The One Who Conquers

Revelation 1:9–11 — John Conquered in His Circumstances

“Revelation” = ἀποκάλυψις, meaning “a disclosure, uncoverin make known”

1. John and His Circumstances (1:9)

- Arrested, faced death, and exiled to Patmos
 - * “John, again, in Asia, was banished by Domitian the king to the isle of Patmos, in which also he wrote his Gospel and saw the apocalyptic vision; and in Trajan’s time he fell asleep at Ephesus.” (Hippolytus)
 - * “the Apostle John was first plunged, unhurt, into boiling oil, and thence remitted to his island—exile!” (Tertullian)
- Lost his community and ministry
- Experienced hardship because of his faithfulness

2. John’s Response to His Circumstances (1:10)

- He responded in the Spirit, not the flesh. (“I was in the Spirit”)
- He responded in faith, not doubt. (“the Lord’s day”)
- He responded in worship and obedience, not despair. (“in the Spirit on the Lord’s day”)

*****When you don’t know what to do, do what you know to do!**

*****If we are not in the Spirit trusting that the Lord is in control, we will be overwhelmed and overcome by our circumstances!**

3. John conquered in his circumstances! (1:4–8)

- He knew his God. (4–5, 8)
- He knew he was loved and free. (5)
- He knew he belonged to something greater. (6)
- He knew his circumstances were temporary. (7)
- He knew he was not alone. (8–9) - God was with him and other believers had suffered too!

4. The Fruit from John’s Circumstances (1:11)

- He received a fresh word from Christ.
- He gained a fresh vision of Christ.
- He was called to a new ministry for Christ.

Small Group Discussion:

1. How did the Holy Spirit speak to you through the Scripture passage and sermon Sunday? What stood out to you? What questions do you have?
2. Discuss the totality of John’s circumstances. How had he suffered, and what had he lost? Where was he, and what difficulties did he face?

3. Discuss the three ways John responded from verse 10 (Sermon Point 2). What stood out most to you from his response? What would be the hardest part of the three ways for you to respond like John? Discuss.
4. What does conquering mean for believers in the book of Revelation? (Answer: remaining faithful and loyal to Jesus). How did John gain victory and conquer in his circumstances? (Answer: He believed what he knew to be true.) What stood out most to you from 1:4–8? How does knowing other believers suffer help us in our circumstances?
5. What fruit came from John's circumstances? How does knowing that God is working in our circumstances help us endure them? Discuss times that you have struggled in your circumstances and what good God later brought through them.