

Revelation

Series: Ten Messages from John 17

Rod Myers

February 13, 2022

Paul told the Athenians about the god they worshipped as Unknown. Paul through revelation gave their god a promotion to becoming the Only True God. God always gets promoted in our hearts when we come to know him. Too many of the gods of this world dwell in secrecy. They never speak; they never listen; and they never move. Jesus came to make God known to man in the most complete way. The four direct ways God is made known include:

- Nature
- Conscience
- Written Word
- Jesus

Notice: Contextually Jesus is talking about the apostles who were with him that night before his death. But, what was true of them is now true of us.

Our text: "I have revealed you to those whom you gave me out of the world. They were yours; you gave them to me and they have obeyed your word. Now they know that everything you have given me comes from you. For I gave them the words you gave me and they accepted them. They knew with certainty that I came from you, and they believed that you sent me." (17:6-8) (NIV)

"I have manifested your name to the men whom you gave me out of the world; they were yours and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word, Now they have come to know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words which you gave me I have given to them; and they received them and truly understood that I came forth from you, and they believed that you sent me." (17:6-8) (NASB)

Notice the phrase "out of the world" which indicates that these men are being moved from one culture to another, from one understanding of reality to another, from one experience to another. Later in John 17:14 Jesus will say, "...for they are not of the world any more than I am of the world." And 17:16, "They are not of the world, even as I am not of it." Jesus is reeducating the apostles to live a kingdom existence, a spiritual existence, being seated in the heavenly realms with him. Their citizenship is in heaven. They need their eyes to be opened to this new reality of living IN CHRIST.

The key word is "revealed" or "manifested" which is the Greek word Phaneroo meaning to bring to light, to set in a clear light, display, to appear in true character. (AGL p.422)

- Revelation Begins With A Name (Who's In Charge?)
 - What is the first thing we normally ask a stranger? What is your name?
 - Remember knowing the Father and the Son is the essence of eternal life.
 - Mention of the Name of God is to reveal the many-faceted nature of God.
 - My study of the names of God (pull some from there)
 - "Name" also connotes authority.

- Revelation Requires Words (What is the Language of the Realm?)
 - In this case "rama" is the spoken word.
 - John 8:42-47 42 Jesus said to them, "If God were your Father, you would love me, for I have come here from God. I have not come on my own; God sent me. 43 Why is my language not clear to you? Because you are unable to hear what I say. 44 You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies. 45 Yet because I tell the truth, you do not believe me! 46 Can any of you prove me guilty of sin? If I am telling the truth, why don't you believe me? 47 Whoever belongs to God hears what God says. The reason you do not hear is that you do not belong to God."

- Revelation Leads To Response (What is the Mindset of the Kingdom?)
 - Acceptance or Reception (Catch or Receive)
 - Belief
 - Obedience or Kept (To keep watch protectively, guard, strictly)
 - Certainty or Come to Know the Truth

Imagine "revelation" like opening a door to an entirely new world which is qualitatively different than anything we have experienced here. You walk through the door and you have to learn to live in this new land. Jesus is your guide, your teacher, and your coach. That is what he has been doing with his apostles for almost three years. He wants to do the same for you and me.