



# Revelation Chap. 1:10-11

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# Recap of Rev. 1:9

John states his identity in Christ (i.e., “in Jesus”), and the effect of the identifying with Christ.

John was identifying with the suffering and enduring of the saints.

John also points to the his future destiny in Christ.

Points to the historical veracity of Biblical truth.

Rev. 1:10-11 NASB

I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like the sound of a trumpet, saying, "Write in a book what you see, and send it to the seven churches: to Ephesus and to Smyrna and to Pergamum and to Thyatira and to Sardis and to Philadelphia and to Laodicea

# Question

WHAT DOES “IN THE SPIRIT” MEAN?

# Observations

“I was in (the) Spirit on the Lord’s day”

This phrase is actually “I was *in Spirit* on the Lord’s day...”

The phrase in the Greek text is ἐν πνεύματι, which is translated “in Spirit.”

# Observations

This phrase is used 3x in the Book of Revelation

After these things I looked, and behold, a door standing open in heaven, and the first voice which I had heard, like the sound of a trumpet speaking with me, said, “Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after these things.” **Immediately I was in the Spirit**; and behold, a throne was standing in heaven, and One sitting on the throne (**Rev. 4:1-2**).

# Observations

This phrase is used 3x in the Book of Revelation

Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls came and spoke with me, saying, “Come here, I will show you the judgment of the great harlot who sits on many waters, with whom the kings of the earth committed acts of immorality, and those who dwell on the earth were made drunk with the wine of her immorality.” And he carried me away **in the Spirit** into a wilderness; and I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast, full of blasphemous names, having seven heads and ten horns (Rev. 17:3 NASB).

# Observations

This phrase is used 3x in the Book of Revelation

Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues came and spoke with me, saying, “Come here, I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb.” And he carried me away **in the Spirit** to a great and high mountain, and showed me the holy city, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God (Rev. 21:10 NASB).



# A Minute of Minutiae w. Dr. Smith

All of these in Spirit (ἐν πνεύματι) have interesting details associated with them.

**Example One:** In Rev. 1 “in Spirit” is associated with the description of Jesus (c.f., Rev. 1:11-20)

**Example Two:** In Rev. 4 “in Spirit” is associated with the description of the throneroom of God (c.f., Rev. 4-5 respectively)

# A Minute of Minutiae w. Dr. Smith

All of these in Spirit (ἐν πνεύματι) have interesting details associated with them.

**Example Three:** In Rev. 17 “in Spirit” is associated with Babylon (c.f., Rev. 17:1:18 respect)

**Example Four:** In Rev. 20 “in Spirit” is associated with the description of the New Jerusalem (c.f., Rev. 21:10-27-22:1-5).

# Things To Note

There are times where “In *the* Spirit” is an identifier for believers in Christ (c.f., Rom. 8:9).

These “in Spirit” in Revelation would appear as a special use for John (the means of these ecstatic visuals).

A closer verse would be Eph. 3:5 for “in Spirit” (however notice the details of this passage)!

John had a special type of experience. This is not a prescriptive experience for all Christians!

# Observations

This was to move the prophecy concerning what John was receiving and what God wanted to communicate to the bondservants along.

Rev. 1:10-11 NASB

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# Observations

“I was in spirit on the Lord’s day”

This phrase “the Lord’s day” only shows up here in this verse!

# That the “Lord’s Day” John is referring to is Sunday

“But let every one of you keep the Sabbath after a spiritual manner, rejoicing in meditation on the law, not in relaxation of the body, admiring the workmanship of God, and not eating things prepared the day before, nor using lukewarm drinks, and walking within a prescribed space, nor finding delight in dancing and plaudits which have no sense in them. And after the observance of the Sabbath, let every friend of Christ keep the Lord’s Day as a festival, the resurrection-day, the queen and chief of all the days [of the week]. Looking forward to this, the prophet declared, “To the end, for the eighth day...”

Ignatius of Antioch, Chap. IX. *Epistle to the Magnesians*.

## That the “Lord’s Day” John is referring First Day of the Week

Further, He says to them, “Your new moons and your Sabbaths I cannot endure.” Ye perceive how He speaks: Your present Sabbaths are not acceptable to Me, but that is which I have made, [namely this,] when, giving rest to all things, I shall make a beginning of the eighth day, that is, a beginning of another world. Wherefore, also, we keep the eighth day with joyfulness, the day also on which Jesus rose again from the dead. And when He had manifested Himself, He ascended into the heavens.

Barnabas, Chap. IX. *Epistle to the Magnesians.*



That the “Lord’s Day” John is referring to is the Future

But [verse 10-11] it could refer to the future day of the Lord spoken of frequently elsewhere in Scripture.

Constable, *Revelation 1:10-11*. Expository notes of Thomas Constable.

# Observations

“I was in spirit on the Lord’s day”

This phrase “the Lord’s day” only shows up here in this verse

Three prevailing thoughts concerning this phrase:

- THAT THE “LORD’S DAY” JOHN IS REFERRING TO IS SUNDAY
- THIS IS REFERRING TO THE FIRST DAY OF THE WEEK.
- THE HOLY SPIRIT IS “FAST-FORWARDING” HIM IN THE FUTURE.

## Answers Concerning “Lord’s Day” in Revelation Being Sunday

The Lord’s day in the Book of Revelation is never mentioned as being on Sunday. This is mostly due to church tradition from the first century theologians.

# Observations

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# The Answer that the “Lord’s Day” John is referring First Day of the Week

The Lord’s day in the Book of Revelation is never mentioned as being on the first day of the week. This is mostly due to interpretation to church tradition from the first century theologians.

# Observations

“I was in (the) Spirit on the **Lord’s day**”

This phrase “the Lord’s day” *only* shows up here in this verse.

Three prevailing thoughts concerning this phrase:

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# The Answer that the “Lord’s Day” John is referring to the Future

## “The Day of The Lord”

ἡ ἡμέρα τοῦ κυρίου (1 Thess. 5:2; 2 Thess. 2:2; ἡμέρα κυρίου (2 Pet. 3:10)

## The Lord’s Day

Τῇ κυριακῇ ἡμέρα (Rev. 1:10)

# Points Concerning These Words

The definite articles and the forms of the words are different (nominative vs. dative).”

The “Day of the Lord” is consistent in terms of the words themselves.

The context of the “Day of the Lord” vs. “the Lord’s Day” is different.

This is the only time this phrase, in the word order, in this form, shows up.



# Points Concerning These Words

We have already established the “in spirit” is not the Holy Spirit, but the state of John and his spirit (i.e, his spiritual nature).

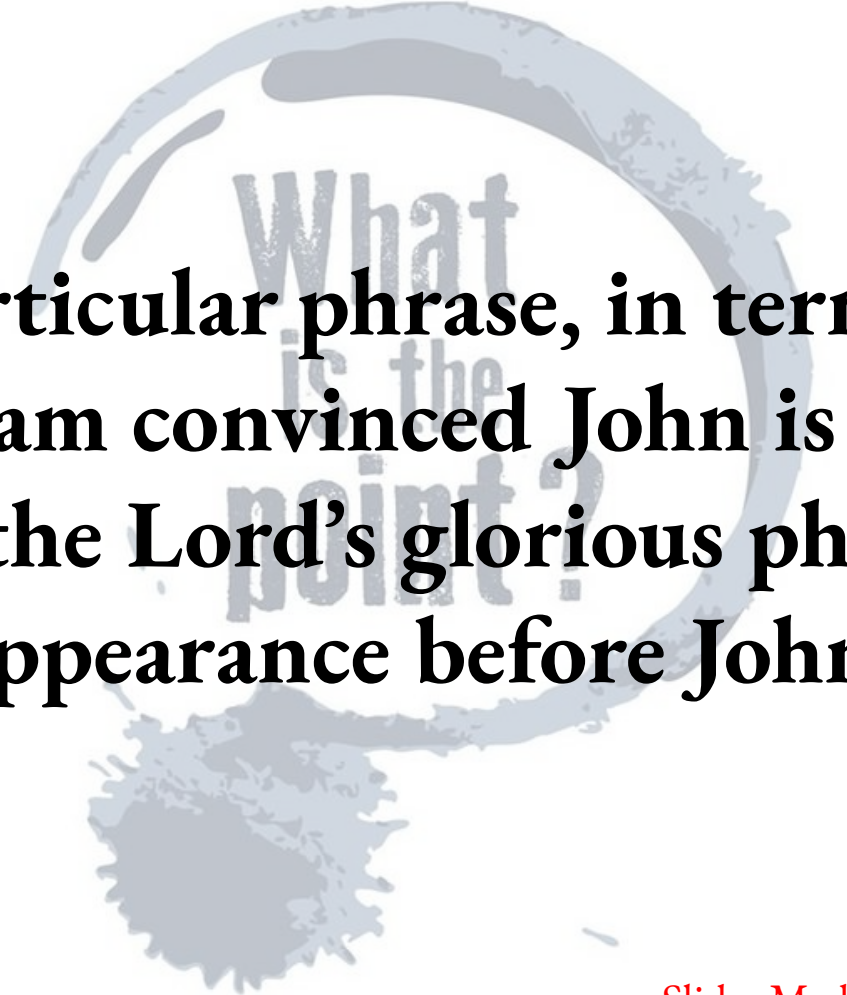
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**This particular phrase, in terms of its context, I am convinced John is discussing that the Lord's glorious physical appearance before John.**

Rev. 1:10-11 NASB

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# Observations

“And I heard behind me a **loud voice**...”

John writes literally that he heard behind him a “mega phone” (or voice).

The two words is μέγας (pronounced *megas*), meaning “mega,” “huge,” or “big” and φωνή (pronounced *phone*) meaning, “sound,” or “voice.”

# Observations

“**Like** the sound of a trumpet...”

This is the comparative adverb ὡς (pronounced *hos*).  
Where one thing is compared to another thing.

In this case it is compared to a **trumpet**.

**Question:** WHAT IS MEANT BY THIS  
WORD “TRUMPET?”



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# Observations

“Like the sound of a trumpet...”

This word “trumpet” is the word *σάλπιγξ*  
(pronounced *salpigx*)

This word is used 11x in the NT

**Question: WHAT IS MEANT BY THIS  
WORD “TRUMPET?”**



# Trumpet

The word for “trumpet” in the NT has different uses (mostly eschatological)

**Concerning the church:** in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last **trumpet**; for the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed (1 Cor. 15:52 NASB)

**Concerning judgments:** And I saw the seven angels who stand before God, and seven **trumpets** were given to them. (Rev. 8:2, 6 NASB).

# Trumpet

The word for “trumpet” in the NT has different uses (mostly eschatological).

**Concerning Israel:** And He will send forth His angels with A GREAT **TRUMPET** and THEY WILL GATHER TOGETHER His elect from the four winds, from one end of the sky to the other (Matt. 24:31 NASB)

**Concerning the Church:** in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last **trumpet**; for the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed (1 Thess. 4:16 NASB).

# Some Things To Note

“Like the sound of a trumpet...”

This word “trumpet” is the word *σάλπιγξ*  
(pronounced *salpigx*)

The Hebrew word for “trumpet” is *שׁוֹפָר*  
(pronounced *showphar*)(Septuagint)

**THIS SOUND (I AM CONVINCED) WAS MORE  
LIKELY LINKED TO THE SOUND OF A SHOFAR**



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Could It Sound Something Like This?



## Rev. 1:10-11 NASB

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# THE SEVEN CHURCHES



ABOUT 800 MILES AWAY

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## A Bit of Review

Even though the audience were these specific churches, these may have been specifically chosen because of the strategic placement of these cities to spread this letter all over the known world at the time!



# Final Thoughts

John begins to detail the supernatural account of his experience (apostolic authority).

This is to detail the historical account of his experience.

These small details (voice of a loud trumpet) connects back to the John's very real account.

Address to these seven churches (and is relatable to the body of Christ)

**To be continued...**

On to verses 12-16...

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