



Revelation Chap. 1:5

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The Verse In Hebrew (Isa 11:2 DST)

וְנָחָה עָלָיו רוּחַ יְהוָה רוּחַ חֵכְמָה וְבִינָה
רוּחַ עֵצָה וְגִבּוֹרָה רוּחַ דַּעַת וְיִרְאַת יְהוָה:

(and) will sit (or rest) on him spirit of the Lord, spirit of wisdom (and) understanding, spirit of counsel, (and) strength, spirit of knowledge, (and) the fear of the Lord.

Note: Remember in the Hebrew the word *spirit* is not capitalized.

Some Review Is In Order

The Spirit of the LORD will rest on Him, This “spirit” is the Holy Spirit. Keep in the Spirit of the Lord is connected to the deliverance of God.

The spirit of wisdom and understanding, The spirit of counsel and strength, The spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.

These “spirits” are the qualities and characteristics of that are associated with God (in this context this is how the Israelites would know who the Messiah was, because they were familiar with these supernatural qualities/characteristics.

The Seven Spirits of God



spirit of the
LORD

spirit of
wisdom

(spirit)
of
understanding

spirit
of
counsel

(spirit)
of
strength

spirit
of
knowledge

(spirit) of the
fear
of
The LORD

THIS VERSE IS ALSO ASSOCIATED WITH
ZECH. 4:1-7.

Implications of This Verse

This lets the reader know that the **origin** of this message is from God Himself.

This lets those who are Jewish (or Israelites) know that this message is directly from God (as it is associated with the qualities and characteristics of the Old Testament).

In terms of this is to associate the seven spirits connected to Christ, which was underscored in His first advent, the present indwelling in Christ (Rev. 5:6), and will reign with the Spirit and these attributes in the future (c.f., Isa. 11:1-2).

Rev. 1:5 NASB

and from Jesus Christ, **the faithful witness,** the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To Him who loves us and released us from our sins.

Observations

“...the faithful...”

πιστός (pistos)-adjective (67x)

John 20:27

Acts 13:34

Acts 16:15

1 Cor. 4:17

Gal. 3:9

Rev. 21:5

Observations

“...the faithful...”

πιστός (pistos)-adjective (67x)

The “faithful” comes in that Jesus Christ was committed to what God the Father sent Him to do (c.f., Jn. 7:28; 8:26; 8:29)

“...the...witness”

μάρτυς (martyrs)-adjective (34x)

Matt. 18:16

Acts 22:20

Rev. 17:6

Acts 1:8

1 Pet. 5:1

Acts 1:22

Rev. 3:14

Observations

“...the...witness”

μάρτυς (martyrs)-adjective (34x)

In this case this word has to do with several factors:

The message proclaimed (Jesus/the Father’s message)(Christian/Jesus’s message).

Persecution (and even death)(common, but not a prerequisite).

Putting It All Together

“...the faithful witness”

This title points to the ministry of Jesus in His **first advent** and demonstrated this by fulfilling what the Father sent Him to do (c.f., Phil. 2:6-8).

Rev. 1:5 NASB

and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To Him who loves us and released us from our sins.

Observations

“...the firstborn...”

πρωτότοκος (prototokos)-adjective (9x)

It is used concerning conception (Lk. 2:7; Heb. 1:6) (concerning Christ)

It is used concerning the church (Heb. 12:23)
(in comparison to the Law of Moses)

Observations

“...the firstborn...”

πρωτότοκος (prototokos)-adjective (9x)

Concerning Christ: His Preeminence (Col. 1:15).

Something To Note

Culturally the firstborn is the concept where one receives all the blessings and privileges of the father (and their house of their father). In light of God He has followed this model: God's unique Son (who is God) was born into the world in flesh and by order has been given the full privileges of God the Father.

Observations

“...the firstborn...”

πρωτότοκος (prototokos)-adjective (9x)

Concerning Christ: His Preeminence (Col. 1:15).

Concerning the glorification of the believer:
(Rom. 8:29)

Observations

“...the **firstborn** of the dead...”

πρωτότοκος (prototokos)-adjective (9x)

He is also head of the body, the church; and He is the beginning, **the firstborn from the dead**, so that He Himself will come to have first place in everything (Col. 1:18 NASB).

What does this mean?

Observations

“...the **firstborn** of the dead...”

πρωτότοκος (prototokos)-adjective (9x)

This verse discussing Jesus Christ and how He was resurrected from the dead. In short this **seals** Jesus has received the full rights and privileges of this state (i.e., the physical kingdom of His Father). In effect, this is seen in the conquering of physical death.

Furthermore...this **seals** that believers (and unbelievers (c.f., Rev. 20:11-13)) will be resurrected from the dead.

Rev. 1:5 NASB

and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To Him who loves us and released us from our sins.

Observations

“...and **ruler** of the kings of the earth...”

ἄρχων (*archon*) noun (37x)

Concerning Satan (Jn. 16:11; Eph. 2:2)

Concerning synagogue workers (Matt. 9:18)

Concerning Gentile authorities (Matt. 20:25)

Concerning synagogue workers (Matt. 9:18)

Observations

“...and ruler of the kings of the earth...”

ἄρχων (*archon*) noun (37x)

This is discussing that Jesus is the ruler of the kings of the earth. The aspect is in the **present**. He is **not** the ruler right now however this highlights the prophecies concerning His rule from the Old Testament. This underscores the certainty of the promise of His rulership.

Old
Testament
Passages

3.) The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor the ruler's staff from between his feet, until Shiloh comes, and to him shall be the obedience of the peoples
(Gen. 49:10 NASB)

4.) "I also shall make him My firstborn,
The highest of the kings of the earth.**(Ps. 89:27 NASB)**

Rev. 1:5 NASB

and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To Him who loves us and released us from our sins by His blood.

Observations

To Him who **loves** us and released us from our sins by His blood.

ἀγαπάω (agapao)-verb (142x)

Just a note: John uses this particular (ἀγαπάω) word (and its respective cognates 51x in all of his writings!)

Observations

“To Him who loved us...”

Concerning the disciples (Jn. 13:1)

Concerning the command of Christ (Jn. 13:35)

Concerning abiding in Christ (Jn. 15:9-17)

Concerning John (Jn. 13:30; 20:2a)

Concerning the Law of Moses (Matt. 19:19)

Observations

“To Him who **loved** us...”

This term is written in the **present active participle**.

Technically it can be translated “loves us.”

Observations

“And has released us from our sins by His blood...”

λύω (lyo)-verb (43x) means “to loose” or “release”

This word is in the **aorist active participle**

The tense is *aorist* (event that occurred in the past)

The voice is *active* (the subject is doing the action)

The mood is a *participle* (it is continuous)

The Explanation

This love (that is this act of one giving oneself for the benefit and well being of the other) is demonstrated by what Christ has done for us (by releasing us from sin) by His death (by His substitutionary atonement (c.f., 1 Jn. 2:1-2).

This is what John seeks to express in this discourse of presenting Christ.

Insights from
Paul

TURN TO 1 COR.
15:12-23



1 Cor. 15:15-20 NASB

Concerning the resurrection

Moreover we are even found to be false witnesses of God, because we testified against God that He raised Christ, whom He did not raise, if in fact the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised; and if Christ has not been raised, your faith is worthless; you are still in your sins. Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. If we have hoped in Christ in this life only, we are of all men most to be pitied. But now Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who are asleep.

Col. 1:15-20 NASB

Concerning Christ Himself

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by Him all things were created, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things have been created through Him and for Him. He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together. He is also head of the body, the church; and He is the beginning, **the firstborn from the dead**, so that He Himself will come to have first place in everything. For it was the Father's good pleasure for all the fullness to dwell in Him, and through Him to reconcile all things to Himself, **having made peace through the blood of His cross;** through Him, I say, whether things on earth or things in heaven.

Jesus is...

To Sum Up...

Found in Old Testament Prophecy

THE FAITHFUL WITNESS: Corresponding to His first advent and earthly ministry (including His death).

THE FIRSTBORN OF THE DEAD: Corresponding to His resurrection (guaranteeing our resurrection)

THE (FUTURE) RULER: Corresponding to His Second advent and theocratic earthly rulership.

THE LOVING SAVIOR: Corresponding to the means by which we are loved, forgiven, and reconciled to God.

To be continued...

On to verse six...