



## THE VOICE SPEAKING FROM THE MIDDLE

*“9 I, John, your brother and fellow partaker in the tribulation and kingdom and perseverance which are in Jesus, was on the island called Patmos because of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. 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.’ Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking with me. And having turned I saw seven golden lampstands; and in the middle of the lampstands I saw one like a son of man, clothed in a robe reaching to the feet, and girded across His chest with a golden sash. His head and His hair were white like white wool, like snow; and His eyes were like a flame of fire. His feet were like burnished bronze, when it has been made to glow in a furnace, and His voice was like the sound of many waters. In His right hand He held seven stars, and out of His mouth came a sharp two-edged sword; and His face was like the sun shining in its strength. When I saw Him, I fell at His feet like a dead man. And He placed His right hand on me, saying, ‘Do not be afraid; I am the first and the last, and the living One; and I was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of death and of Hades. Therefore write the things which you have seen, and the things which are, and the things which will take place after these things. As for the mystery of the seven stars which you saw in My right hand, and the seven golden lampstands: the seven stars are the angels of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands are the seven churches.’” (Revelation 1:9-20, NASB1995)*

### **Apocalyptic literature has two pastoral purposes:**

**Purpose 1:** Set the present moment in light of the unseen realities of \_\_\_\_\_

**Purpose 2:** Set the present moment in light of the unseen realities of \_\_\_\_\_

### **THE FIRST FEATURE:** \_\_\_\_\_

Revelation 1:10 - “I heard a loud voice behind me”

Revelation 1:12 - “And I turned to see the voice”

Revelation 1:18 - “And the voice was like the sound of many waters”



**LITERARY DEVICE:**

**Chiasm:**

**Western:**

**Middle-Eastern:**

**Revelation 1:**

Not...

1. Head
2. Eyes
3. Feet
4. Voice
5. Hand
6. Mouth
7. Face

But...

1. Head
2. Eyes
3. Feet
4. Voice
5. Hand
6. Mouth
7. Face



**THE SECOND FEATURE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Two Commands:**

1. "Do not be afraid"
2. "Behold/Look!"

**THE THIRD FEATURE:** \_\_\_\_\_

Revelation 1:13 - "In the middle of the churches"

Revelation 5:6 - "In the middle of the throne"