**“Flickering Lamps – Christ & His Church” (Blackaby)**

**Week 4: ‘Christ’s Power and His Church’**

**October 14, 2020**

1. **A Timely Word (Revelation 1)**

“In this case, the risen Christ wanted to impress in awesome detail upon John and the early Church the glory and power of the One who offered them hope.”

**How the Lord Jesus is presently at work in His church:**

1. **Jesus Christ is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in His Church (12-13a)**
2. **Jesus Christ is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for His Church (robe – v13)**

**Romans 8:33-34** “Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us.”

1. **Jesus Christ \_\_\_\_\_\_ His Church (14-15a)**
2. **Jesus Christ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Authoritatively to His Church (15b)**
3. **Jesus Christ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ His Church (16a-b)**
4. **Jesus Christ is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ through His Church (16c)**
5. **Christ and His Churches**

“When John saw Christ in His exalted state, how could he or his readers have any doubt that their Lord had an answer for every one of their problems? Christ’s infinite power was manifested to the churches in the following ways:”

“The seven churches in Asia all had serious needs and problems – some were of their own making and others were the result of their enemies. Christ left no doubt that He was able to provide for their need, defeat their opponents, protect them from danger, deal with their sin, and restore their spiritual passion. The churches’ problems became an opportunity for Christ to put His power on display.”

**III. All Things Are Possible**

**1 Cor. 1:27 "But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong."**

“The challenge was for us to translate our belief that God was all-powerful into our actions. Many Christians believe in the doctrine of God’s omnipotence, but far fewer practice it as a lifestyle.”

“Which do you think will draw a watching world to Christ: A congregation that is tentative and cautious, only endeavoring what it can afford? Or a church that is accomplishing feats that can only be explained by God?...Unbelievers will be drawn to Christ when they see Him acting miraculously through a local church.”

**Important lessons learned concerning God’s power (Pgs. 63-65)**

1. You do not need divine power if you are not obeying what God said.
2. God’s power is most often seen in the ordinary moments of life.
3. The moment you choose to obey what God is telling you, be prepared to receive a host of reasons why it will be too difficult!

“We wish He would miraculous remove all of our problems or send us an enormous financial gift. But most often, God’s power is experienced through the steady grind of ordinary living experienced through the steady grind of ordinary living as we faithfully obey the last thing God told us to do.” (66)