

**Glenview New Church Sunday Morning Program**  
**Preschool Lessons, Phase 2 – Lesson 35**  
**John on the Isle of Patmos (Revelation 1:9-18)**

**Theme:** The New Church

**I. Underlying Ideas for the Teacher**

- A. The revelation given to John in the Isle of Patmos was given to provide the early Christian church with new instruction and encouragement.
- B. The Lord gave the internal meanings of these visions to Swedenborg, and he recorded them in the books *Apocalypse Revealed* and *Apocalypse Explained*.
- C. God gave these visions to John. This shows us that those who are in love to the Lord are open to enlightenment from Him (*AE* 8, II).

**II. Story Circle**

- A. Introduce the story
  - 1. Do you know what the last book of The Word is called? It is called "Revelation".
  - 2. It was written by John, the same John who wrote the book in the Word called "John" and whom we have known as one of the Lord's disciples.
  - 3. After the Lord died and rose from the tomb, many people knew that He was God and wanted to have churches to worship Him. John started one of these churches and was in charge of it.
  - 4. But the people that killed the Lord did not want anyone to worship the Lord, so they tried to get rid of all the church leaders. They sent John away to an island. This island was called "Patmos."
  - 5. When John was there, the Lord gave him many strange and wonderful visions. John wrote them all down, and they became the Book of Revelation.
  - 6. These visions were to help all the people know that the Lord really went to heaven and to help them believe that He was God.
  - 7. These visions also teach us about heaven and about the new church that would come later. That new church is our church, and we call it "the New Church."
  - 8. The first vision that John had was of the Lord. We'll read about that today.
- B. Tell/Read the Story
  - 1. Revelation 1:9-18
- C. Ideas to Discuss
  - 1. What is the last book of the Word? (Revelation)
  - 2. Who wrote this book? (John)
  - 3. Who was John? (One of the disciples)
  - 4. Where was John when he wrote the book of Revelation? (On an island)
  - 5. What was the island called? (Patmos)

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6. Why was John on the island of Patmos? (Because the Romans who killed the Lord didn't want him to teach people about the Lord, so they sent him there)
7. What happened to John when he was on the island? (He had visions)
8. Why did the Lord give him visions? (To teach us all more about the Lord, and about heaven, and about His church)

### D. Further Ideas

1. We like to learn about John's visions near to June 19<sup>th</sup> because John's visions teach us about our church and about our church's birthday.
2. We will learn about a few of these visions over the next few weeks.

## III. Enrichment Activities

### A. Music

1. Look in the *Liturgy* and *Hymnal* and find the June 19th hymns.
2. Ask the children if they have any favorites.

### B. Activities

1. Make a puzzle: Hand out pictures of John on the Island of Patmos, or have the children color one themselves. Then the children can cut the drawing into big pieces - between 5 and 10 pieces. Let the children trade and see if they can complete their friends' puzzles as well as their own.
2. Provide envelopes for the children to take their pieces home.

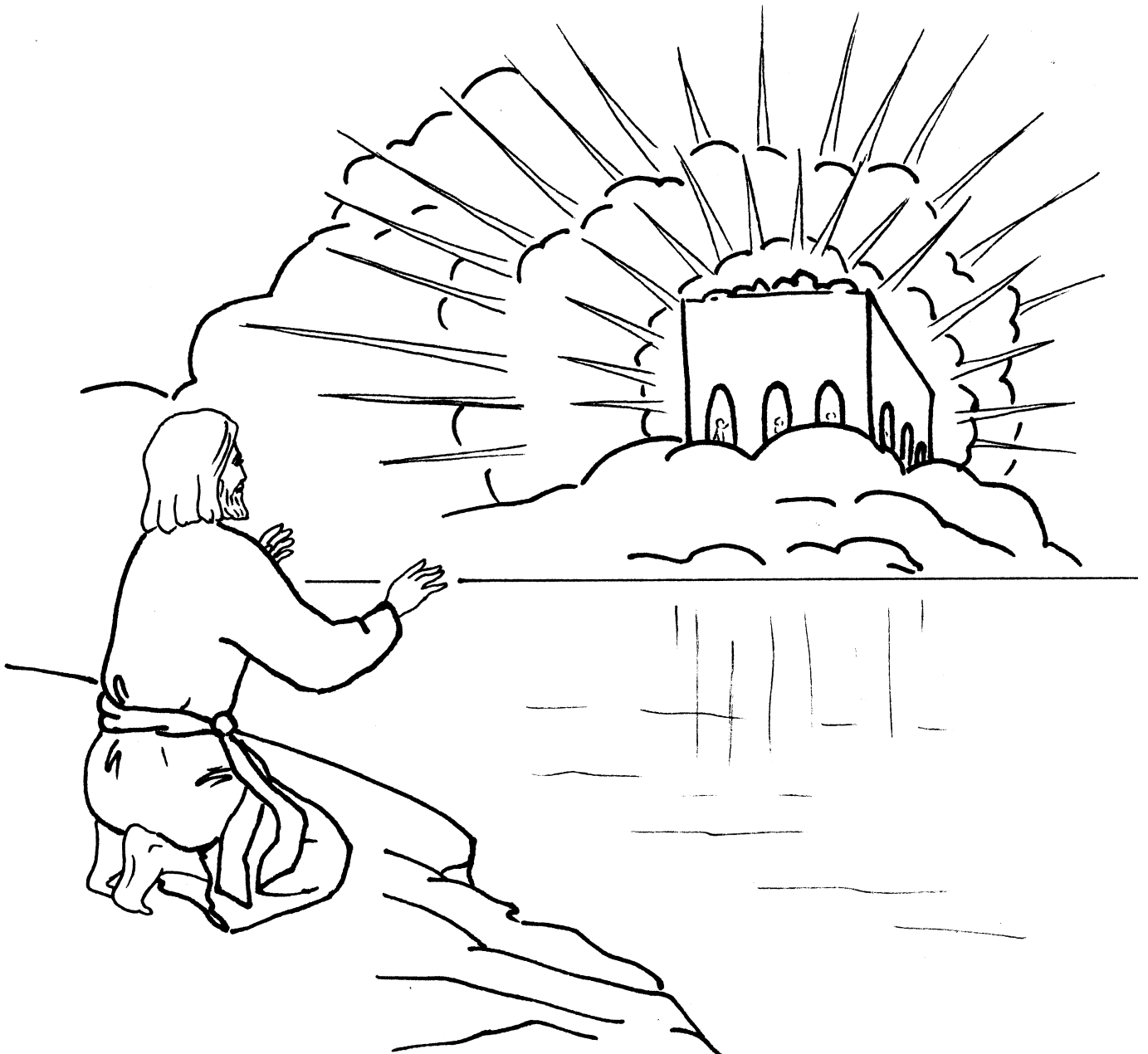
### C. Project: John's visions

1. Materials needed: Big pieces of paper, photocopies of many different Revelation scenes, crayons or markers, scissors, glue
2. Before class: If your students are too young to handle scissors, cut out images from the different Revelation scenes.
3. In class: each child may draw John on their page. Then they can color in and cut out various scenes from the Revelation visions. Then they glue these different scenes as a collage throughout the sky portion of the page.
4. Text slip: "The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him, to show His servants things which will shortly come to pass; and He sent and signified it by His angel unto His servant John...." (Revelation 1:1)

## IV. Teaching Activities

- A. Illustrations of John on the Isle of Patmos

## V. Further Reading for the Teacher



JOHN'S VISION ON THE ISLE OF PATMOS  
REV. 1:9-10 21:2

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