

## REVELATION

**DANIEL** - A glimpse of what is coming.

1. Daniel 2: The king has a dream that disturbed him.

a. By his logic, if his spiritual advisors were actually in touch with the gods, they ought to know what he dreamed as well as what it meant.

- He appears to have believed that his religious leaders had been manipulating the crown (Ez 21:23).
- He believed them to be imposters.

b. His advisors (“the Chaldeans”) sought to buy time and when pressed, admitted that the gods didn’t communicate with men. This infuriated the king and he ordered all of them killed.

c. Daniel asked for time and went to his friends to fast and pray.

- God answered and Daniel went to the king.
- Daniel gave all the glory to God.
- Daniel gave the meaning and the dream to the king.

d. Nebuchadnezzar’s dream:

- Statue with four segments: Gold, silver, bronze, iron and clay.
- Each segment represented a kingdom, starting with Nebuchadnezzar’s (head of gold).
  - \* Human dominion will be superseded and shattered by the kingdom of God, not by human agency (“Rock cut out of a mountain but not by human hands”).
  - \* God’s kingdom will fill the whole earth, be given to the saints and endure forever.

2. Daniel 7: Daniel had a dream that disturbed him.

a. Four kingdoms would arise from the sea (humanity).

- Each beast represented a kingdom.
- The fourth and last beast had iron teeth and a little horn that spoke boastfully against the Lord and His saints.

b. The court was convened, the Lord sat on His throne and one “like a son of man” came on the clouds of heaven and executed judgment, and He was worshipped by all people, His dominion is eternal and His kingdom indestructible.

- \* See how Jesus applied this passage: Mtt 24:30, 26:64; Mk 13:26, 14:62, 21:27; Rev 1:7,
- \* The message seems to be one and the same as the message of Daniel 2.

3. Rev 13:1-10

a. A beast came out of the sea (See Dan 7:2+17).

b. The beast seems to be a clear composite of the beasts of Daniel 7.

c. He had a mouth that uttered proud words and slander against God and the saints (comp with little horn in Dan 7:8).

d. Beasts will get regulated by the Lord Jesus upon His return (Rev 19:11-21).

Take a look at Daniel 2:31-35 What stands out?

1. From verses 27-30 what is time period did the king's dream referred to?

2. What did he dream?

a. A large, enormous, dazzling \_\_\_\_\_.

- How many main segments did the statue have? \_\_\_\_\_.

- How was the statue destroyed? (vs 34-35).

- What is significant about the rock being "cut out of a mountain but *not by human hands*? For similar thoughts expressed elsewhere check out Ex 3:4-5, 20:24-26, Josh 5:13-15 and Eph 2:8-9.

- What happened with the rock after it struck and destroyed the statue?

3. What did the dream mean? See vs 36-45

a. The head of gold was who? \_\_\_\_\_

b. Describe each of the three successive kingdoms:

- Silver was \_\_\_\_\_ (vs 39).

- Bronze would rule the \_\_\_\_\_.

- Iron (and Iron and clay) would be \_\_\_\_\_ as iron (vs 40).

c. What does the text say about the coming kingdom that God will set up? (vs 44-45).

- It will never be \_\_\_\_\_.

- It will \_\_\_\_\_ the four human kingdoms, and endure \_\_\_\_\_.

- It won't be given to any but its intended recipients (that would be the saints!).

Now look at Daniel 7 - What stands out?

1. From this vision what is similar to the king's dream in Daniel 2 and what is different?
  - a. How many beasts?
  - b. Where did they come from (vs 2-3, 17)?
  - c. One of them had 10\_\_\_\_\_, one of which displaced three others and spoke boastfully?
  - d. Who do you think is the "Ancient of Days" described in verses 9-10?
  - e. In verses 11-12 what was (or *will be*) the fate of the beasts?
  - f. In verses 13-14 one "like a son of man" is featured - describe Him.
    - How does He come?
    - What will be His authority and position?
    - How will humanity regard Him?
    - How long will He rule?

2. Now look at vs 15-27 for the interpretation:

- a. The four great beasts are four \_\_\_\_\_ that will rise out of the \_\_\_\_\_ (See 7:2-3 - the sea = the \_\_\_\_\_).
- b. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the Most High will receive the kingdom and possess it \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Does this kingdom correlate to the "rock cut out of a mountain" seen in Dan 2? Explain.
  - What did the horn of the fourth beast (that displaced three others) do (vs 19-25)?
    - \* How will he treat the saints and for how long?
    - \* How will he speak about God?
    - \* What will he try to change? \_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. He won't like God's plans!
- c. The court (whose court?) will sit and the horn will be judged.
- d. To whom will the sovereignty, power and greatness of the whole world be given?

OK, now take a look at Rev 12-13 - Read the two chapters and again, what stands out? Why?

1. Rev 12 -

a. Who do you think the woman about to give birth in 12:1-6 is? See also Gen 37:9-11 to see a similar description.

b. Who is the son, the male child born of this woman?

- Describe him from this text (vs 5-6. See also Psalm 2, Rev 19:15).

- A scepter is the symbol of a ruler's authority. What is the thought given by saying that the male child will rule the nations with an iron scepter?

Quote from California constitution election law attorney Mark Meuser:

"California Constitution does not permit state officials to order every resident, regardless of their individual health condition, to "self-quarantine" or "shelter in place."

Article I of the California Constitution reads: "All people are by nature free and independent and

c. In vs 7-12 Satan is shown being booted out of heaven (where, although he is in rebellion against God, he still has access (think about Job 1:6 and 2:1). When time gets short he will lose his right to appear there.

- What will be his reaction? (See vs 12-17)

- Who does he hate?

2. Rev 13:1-1 where is the dragon standing? Remember Dan 7:2-3, 17). The sea = \_\_\_\_\_.

a. Describe the beast from verses 1b-4.

- How many heads and horns?

- What did it look like?
  - What *is* it? (Hint - what were the statue segments in Dan 2 or the four beasts in Dan 7?)
  - How will the world view this beast?
  - Like the horn of Daniel 7, this beast will utter proud words and blasphemies and exercise his authority for 42 months. Does this at all correlate to “time, times and half a time?”
- b. How will this beast treat the church? (See also 7:19-25)
- c. How will unbelievers react to him (13:7-8)?

OK so consider:

Dan 2 statue = 4 kingdoms/human rule.  
 Dan 7 beasts = 4 kingdoms/human rule.  
 Rev 13 beast = global/human rule.

Dan 7 - fourth beast and its leader (horn) will assail the saints and be successful for a while before its judgment.

Rev 12-13 The beast will assail the saints and they will need patience during his time (42 months).

Dan 7 - fourth beast and its leader (horn) will speak against God.

Rev 13- beast will speak against (blaspheme) God.

Are you seeing a pattern here?

I hope that this helps.

**Revelation**  
**Chapter 1**  
"The veil is parted"

1. The book gets its title from the very first verse. But, although some printed bibles have the title page listing this book as the "Revelation of John," it ought to be called something else. *From verse 1 what ought that to be?*

2. Look at verses 1-3:

- a. What are Jesus' servants being shown in this letter?
- b. How did He make it known?
- c. What did John testify to?

3. God will \_\_\_\_\_ those who both read and \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ the contents of this letter.

4. Look at verses 4-8 and answer the following:

- a. To whom was this letter initially sent?
- b. Where was the *province of Asia* (Not today's *continent of Asia*)?
- c. Look up and define the terms "grace" and "peace."

- Grace means: \_\_\_\_\_.

- Peace means: \_\_\_\_\_.

d. From who will this peace and grace come?

- How is God described in verse 4-5? Him who \_\_\_ and who \_\_\_ and \_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_. Compare this verse with John 1:1-2. What does this say about God in general and about Jesus in particular?

- How is our Lord Jesus described?

\* Faithful \_\_\_\_\_.

\* firstborn from the \_\_\_\_\_.

\* Ruler of the \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_.

- Look farther into the context (vs 5b-8). What has He done for us?

\* \_\_\_\_\_ us.

\* Freed us from our sins by His \_\_\_\_\_.

\* Made us to be a \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ to serve His \_\_\_\_\_.

(You might want to compare this with Ex 19:5-6, Eph 2:1-22, 1 Pet 2:9-10).

- In verses 7 what biblical passage is John quoting concerning Jesus?

e. Lastly, precisely *who* is the alpha and omega?

- What *are* alpha and omega? Google it:)

- How else is He described in this verse?

**Revelation  
Chapter 2  
vs 1-7**

**1. To the angel (a messenger, either human or heavenly) of the church in Ephesus write:**  
“These are the words of Him who holds the 7 stars etc. - See chapter 1:12-20 for the explanation.

**a. I know** (*see, understand, comprehend*) :

- your \_\_\_\_\_ (“works”)
- \_\_\_\_\_ (“labor/toil”) and \_\_\_\_\_ (“endurance, patient waiting, steadfastness” - the idea is that of “keeping on keeping on while facing resistance).
- that you cannot \_\_\_\_\_ (“to bear, carry,” the idea being to endure, said of a burden too great to be carried) ) wicked [men] (lit: “evil”).
- that you have \_\_\_\_\_ those claiming to be \_\_\_\_\_ and found them false (“lying, deceitful, untrue”) Look up 1 Cor 2:4, 4:18-20, 2 Cor 10:8, 11:13, 12:12, 13:2-10; 1 Jn 4:1).
- you have \_\_\_\_\_ endured (“again, the idea of patient endurance,” *waiting, remaining steadfast*) for the sake of My name and have not grown weary.

**b. But I have this against you:**

- You have forsaken (“abandoned”) your \_\_\_\_\_ love.
  - \* Remember the height from which you have \_\_\_\_\_ (“fallen, fallen down”) and repent (“reconsider, think differently”).
  - \* And do the things you did at first (“do the first works”).
- Or else I will come to you quickly, and will remove your \_\_\_\_\_ from its place unless/except you repent.

**c. SO, when is a church not a church.**

**d. What can you discover about the Nicolaitans? (Who are the compared with in 2:14-15?)**

**e. Who is speaking here (See also vs 7).**

**f. What will Jesus grant to those who are victorious? What does that even mean?**



## Revelation Chapter 2

### Smyrna vs 8-11

#### 1. Jesus identifies Himself (vs 2)

#### 2. He made it clear that He knew:

- a. Their afflictions.
- b. Their poverty.
- c. Their riches (How is that measured?) See 2 Cor 8:1-2, 9:6-11, Jas 2:5.

#### 3. He told them not to be afraid of what they were *about* to suffer.

- a. At Satan's instigation some of them would be imprisoned to be tested ("*tried, tempted*") In Lk 22:31 a similar thought is conveyed using a different word - "to sift, shake." The basic idea is the same. The enemy tries to see what he can do to damage Peter's walk/faith/witness. The enemy may mean things for our harm, but if God allows them, it is for a good purpose (Ro 8:28).
- b. They would face persecution over a 10 day period.
- c. They were to be faithful unto death and those who were would receive the crown of life. See Jas 1:12.
- d. Notice that our Lord has offers no rebuke to this congregation. Only an acknowledgment of their situation and a word of encouragement.

### Pergamum vs 12-17

#### 1. Jesus identifies Himself? Look up:

- a. Is 11:4
- b. Is 49:2
- c. Jn 12:48
- d. Eph 6:17
- e. Heb 4:12-13
- f. Rev 1:16, 2:12, 16

How is the word like a sword? See also Jer 51:20-24. What does this say about the power of God's word?

#### 2. What message did the Lord have for them?

- a. He knew where they lived - where Satan had his \_\_\_\_\_.
- b. Yet, they had remained true to His name. What does that mean?
  - Even in the days of Antipas, who was \_\_\_\_\_ among you.
  - How is Antipas described?
- c. What did our Lord have against them?

- Some held to the teaching of Balaam. What was his sin? Look up the following:
  - \* Num 22-24
  - \* Num 25:1-18, Nu 31:15-18
  - \* 2 Pet 2:15
  - \* Jude 1:11
- What did Balaam teach Israel according to Rev 2:14?
- Likewise (or, “in the same way”) - there were some who held to the teaching of the Nicolaitans. See 1 Cor10:14-22.
- d.** The Lord called on them to repent! Or, what would be the consequences?
  - What might it mean for Jesus to fight against us with the sword of His mouth?
  - When our will and God’s collide, who wins?
- e.** Finally, He calls on them to listen and act (“He who has an ear...”).
  - What would He give to those who overcame?
  - Whats with the white stone?

**THYATIRA**  
**Rev 2:18-29**

- 1. How does the Lord identify Himself (vs 18 and also see 1:19-20).**
- 2. What does He say that He knows about them that is good? (vs 19)**
- 3. What does He have to say against them?**
  - a. Describe the woman called “Jezebel.”**
    - She called herself a \_\_\_\_\_. (vs 20-21)
    - She misled God’s servants into what?
    - She was unwilling to \_\_\_\_\_?
  - b. Her judgment would be what?**
    - She would be cast on a \_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_.
    - Those she’d slept with would \_\_\_\_\_.
    - He children would be struck dead (Is this always a bad thing? See 1 King 14:1-13).
  - c. What would be the result? (See Rev 2:23b). What would the churches know?**
  - d. From Rev 2:24 what was the theme of her teaching?**
  - e. What did Jesus command the church? See Josh 23:8, 1 Cor 15:58, Gal 5:1, Phil 1:27, 1 Thess 5:21, Heb 3:6, 4:14, 10:23; 1 Pet 5:9. What does this mean?**
- 4. What will Jesus give to those who overcome?**
  - a. How does Ps 2:9 apply to us? Remember Dan 2 and 7, and look up 2 Tim 2:12, Rev 5:10.**
  - b. What is the “morning star?” See Rev 22:16 (Nu 24:17, and counterfeit - Is 14:12).**

**REVELATION**  
**Chapter 3**

**Sardis**

**1. How does our Lord identify Himself in the first half of verse one?**

**a. What are the “seven spirits of God?”** Look up the following passages and record what you discover:

- Zech 4:1-10 - note the 7 lamps on the one lamp stand. Note vs 7 and 10.
- Rev 5:6
- Rev 1:4-6
- Is 11:2 - Seems to show a seven fold ministry of the Holy Spirit. He is called
  - \* The Spirit of \_\_\_\_\_.
  - \* The Spirit of \_\_\_\_\_.
  - \* The Spirit of \_\_\_\_\_.
  - \* The Spirit of \_\_\_\_\_.
  - \* The Spirit of \_\_\_\_\_.
  - \* The Spirit of \_\_\_\_\_.
  - \* The Spirit of the \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_.
- Prv 15:3

My personal bias is that the text refers to the Holy Spirit. But, that is merely my opinion.

**b. What are the “seven stars?” (See 1:19-20).**

**2. What does our Lord tell this church that He knows about them? (vs 1b, 4)**

**a.** What was their reputation?

**b.** How did their reputation clash with their reality?

- What does this say about the importance of knowing God (as opposed to merely knowing *about* God)?
- Can church-going yet unbelieving people be self-deceived? Explain.

**3. What does Jesus tell them to do? (vs 2-3a).**

**a.** Jesus had found their deeds \_\_\_\_\_ in the sight of God. Is partial obedience actual obedience? Explain.

**b.** What were they to remember?

**c.** What were they to do with that information?

**d.** What does He warn them about in vs 3?

- What is the difference between a robber and a thief?
- What does this say about His promised return?

**3. What does He mean when He says that a few people among them had not soiled their clothes? Check Zech 3:1-10, esp vs 3-4.**

a. What does white clothing represent? (This is review from earlier in the study).

b. What do you make of ... the Book of Life? Look up:

- Ex 32:32-33
- Ps 69:28
- Lk 10:20
- Rev 13:8
- Rev 17:8
- Rev 20:12
- Rev 20:15
- Rev 21:27

What does God know?

When does He know it?

When is a person in (or taken out of) the Book of Life?

**Philadelphia  
3:7-13**

**1. Looking at verse 7, how does our Lord describe Himself?**

- a. Look up and define the word "Holy."
  - We are commanded to be holy in scripture so we need to ask, what makes us holy? And what does this look like in our lives? (Lev 11:44-45, Is 6:3, 1 Pet 1:16, 2:9-10)
  
- b. Look upon and define the word, "true." You might want to check out Jn 14:6 and Col 2:9, 1 Jn 5:20).
  
- c. What is the key of David? What does the text say He can do? "Key" is indicative of authority; the power to open and shut. Look at the following verses:
  - Rev 1:18
  - 1 Sam 2:6
  - Mtt 16:19
  - Mtt 28:18
  - Jn 11:25,
  - Jude 1:25.

**2. What does the Lord say that He knew about this church (vs 8)?**

- a. He knew their \_\_\_\_\_.
- b. He had placed before them and open door. What does this mean? See also Acts 14:27, 1 Cor 16:9, 2 Cor 2:12, Col 4:3.
  
- c. They had little strength.
  - Is God's ability to work in and through us based on our strength or His? Explain.
  - Despite their relative weakness, what had they done (two things are mentioned)?
  - \*
  - \*

**3. What does our Lord say He will do for this church?**

- a. Those (in this case Jews) who opposed them He would cause to acknowledge that He loved them. When would this take place?
  
- b. He would keep them from the hour of trial that was coming on the whole world to test its inhabitants. When would this be? See Mtt 24:36 for a hint. DOn't stress over this, just think about it.

**4. In verses 11-13 the Lord makes both statements and gives promises. List them.**

- a. He is coming \_\_\_\_\_. Read 2 Peter chapter 3.
  - On whose timetable? Why is it hard for us to understand the term "soon?"
  - We are to hold on to what we \_\_\_\_\_. What do you think that this means? See 2:25.
  
- b. **What will He do for those who overcome/hold on?**
  - Certain solid leaders were called "pillars" by people in the early church. See Gal 2:9. If everyone who overcomes will be made a "pillar," what does this say about the family of God?
  - How do we overcome/triumph? See Rev 12:10-11.
  - Those who overcome will never have to leave the presence of God. Think about it. In the Old Covenant the High Priest was the only one who was allowed into the inner sanctuary of

the tabernacle/temple. He could only do that one day a year, on the Day of Atonement. He had to offer first the blood of a sacrifice for his own sin, and then for the sin of the people. One day a year. Any other time he would have been struck dead for entering the presence of God. Yet as God's children, believers in Christ not only live in His presence but in fact *are* the place where God chooses to dwell (e.g., 1 Cor 6:19).

- God will place on us three things: His name, the name of the new Jerusalem and His new name. We are His family (e.g., Heb 2:11, 1 Pet 2:9-11).

**REVELATION**  
**Chapter 3**  
**Laodicea vs 14-22**

**Read 3:14-22 and describe the Laodicean church as described by Jesus.** Laodicea was a prosperous city located about 99 miles east of Ephesus. It was a center of regional banking, trade, especially in black wool; it had a well known medical school, was known for the manufacture of a medicinal eye ointment and for its nearby mineral springs. Laodicea had a large Jewish population as well. The city was prosperous and twice refused financial assistance offered by the government in Rome when the city was damaged by earthquakes. They preferred to handle things themselves. To them Jesus brought His message.

**1. Jesus said that He knew their deeds. Which were:**

- a. They were neither \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_.
- b. They considered themselves \_\_\_\_\_ and did not need a thing.
- c. In Jesus' eyes they were \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ and naked.

**2. What did Jesus counsel the church to buy from Him?**

- a. In what way were they wretched and pitiful?
- b. From the text they were materially prosperous. But what of their spiritual condition? e.g., see 1 Tim 6:6-10, 17-19.
- c. Why would Jesus say that they needed white clothes to cover their shameful nakedness?
  - What do white clothes represent? (We covered this early in this study).
  - How can even Christians become blind?

**3. In verses 19-20 Jesus brings both a warning and gives a promise. What are they?**

- a. The warning:
- b. The promise:
  - Who are the people He is speaking to?
  - Can believers shut themselves off from fellowship God?

**4. What will Jesus give to those who overcome?**

**5. What kind of things lull believers into complacency and ineffectiveness today?**

**REVELATION**  
**Chapter 4-5**  
**Before the Throne**  
**Pt 1**

**1. Read Rev 1:9-20 again and describe what John saw and heard.**

- a. How is Jesus described in verse 13?
- b. In Daniel 7:13-14 “one like a Son of Man” is described. What does the text say about Him?

**2. Read Rev 4-5** Remember that while for the moment, the church was assaulted by the empire and the Enemy, in heaven the more perfect reality was in charge.

- a. Read verses 4:1-11 and Job 36:22-37:24, Is 6:1-8, Ez 1:1-28, 10:1-22.
  - In what ways are these passages the same?
  - In what ways are they different?
- b. What did the voice tell John he would be shown? Are these things events in the past? Future? Or are they the things that “are.”
- c. Where do the things described on Rev 4-5 take place?
- d. What can you find out about Jasper and Carnelian.

**3. Reading chapter 4, describe “Him who sits on the throne:”**

**4. Who are the 24 elders? Just make your best “educated guess.”**

**5. What did the four living creatures:**

- a. Look like?
- b. Do?
- c. When the living creatures worship Him who sits on the throne, what is the elder’s response?
  - What do they say about the one on the throne?
  - Reading Jn 1:1-5 and Heb 1:1-3, who created all things?



**6. What is the impression that you get about this scene in heaven as you read it? Look up:**

a. Prov 19:21

b. Ps 33:10

c. Is 14:27

d. So, who rules?

- What is the message here to a suffering church? Remember Jesus' words in 2:2, 9, 13 etc.

- How do we know for certain that God is not against us? Rom 5:1-11.

- If the Lord rules, how do we reconcile that with the world as it is today? Think about Mtt 26:57-68, Rom 8:28.

**REVELATION**  
**Chapter 4-5**  
**Before the Throne**  
**Pt 2**

The scene in chapter 4 is one of Christ on the throne, with angelic attendants (Cherubim? See Ez 1 and 10) serving before Him and the victorious saints worshipping Him. In their praise He is said to be worthy to receive glory, honor and power! Why? Because He is the Creator and sustainer of all life. See Jn 1:1-5, Col 1:15-17, Heb 1:1-3 etc. Chapter 5 continues this picture of Christ on His throne.

1. In His right hand our Lord held a scroll:

- a. It had writing on \_\_\_\_\_ sides.
- b. It was closed up by seven seals.

2. A mighty (or, “strong, powerful”) angel making an announcement: “Who is worthy to break the seals and open the scroll? See Ecc 7:13-19, 8:17 - who can straighten what God has bent? Who alone can reveal what He has hidden?

a. Look at verse 3 - Was anyone on earth able to reveal the information in the scroll? Men or angels, Satan?

b. In verse 5 one of the elders speaks to John - according to Him who is able to open the scroll and reveal the future.

- Who is the Lion of Judah? See Gen 49:9, Is 11:1-10, Ro 15:12.

- What has He done? \_\_\_\_\_! How? See Col 2:5, 1 Cor 2:8, Jn 18:5

3. Now the scene shifts a bit - who now is on the throne? A \_\_\_\_\_ looking as if it had been slain.

a. He is in the \_\_\_\_\_ of the throne.

b. He is \_\_\_\_\_ by the four living creatures (Who do they stand before?!) and the elders.

c. He had seven horns and eyes - what’s with this?

d. Who did He receive the scroll *from*?

e. What was the response of the living creatures and elders when He took the scroll?

f. What were the 24 elders and the four creatures holding in their hands?

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g. Describe their song of praise to the Lamb: Why is He worthy?

- He was \_\_\_\_\_.

- With His blood He \_\_\_\_\_ men for God from all nations!

- He has made them to be a kingdom and priests to serve our God. See Ex 19:6, 1 Pet 2:5, 9; Rev 1:6.

4. Who else joined in their praise to the Lord?

a. What did they say in their songs?

b. Who joined in their praise?

**REVELATION**  
**Chapters 6-16**  
**The Seals**  
**Pt 1**

**This section is the core of the book, in that most of the narrative is drawn from these chapters. Read the whole book through if you can. Don't try to figure out the linear flow of events as this book is thematic as well as linear. And answer the following questions.**

*OK, now this is a big chunk - don't obsess on details. The text is "painting with broad brush strokes." There are some general themes being shown us that God wants us to remember. What you need to do is read over the text, and look for the most obvious meaning - what jumps off the page as you read. We will get more detailed in the coming weeks.*

**1. List what happens when each of the seals are opened:**

**a.** First seal:

**b.** Second seal:

**c.** Third seal:

**d.** Fourth seal:

**e.** Fifth seal:

**f.** Sixth seal:

- When God's judgement is exacted, how does the world react? See these passages:

\* Is 2:6-22

\* Is 24

\* Hosea 10:8

\* Lk 23:26-31

- We have a description of sudden calamity overtaking humanity by God's decree. Why will they be taken by surprise?

\* Mtt 24:37

\* Mtt 25:1-13

\* Lk 17:26-29

\* 1 Pet 3:3-10

\* Based on the passages listed above, how should we regard the fulfillment of the Lord's promise to return and judge the living and the dead?

**g.** Seventh seal:

**2. Looking at these judgments, do they describe “business as usual” for planet earth of do they point to specific future events?** This is an “opinion” question to be based on your observation so just give your best answer and don’t stress on it!

**3. What judgments are announced when the seventh seal is opened?**

- a. How are they announced?
- b. How are they different from the events announced by the opening of the seals?

Is there a limit to God’s patience?

Gen 6:3  
Gen 19:13/Ez 16:49-50  
Dt 4:26  
Jer 44:22

Is there a message for us in this? See 2 Chr 28:25, Rev 2:20-23

Does it matter to you that there is a time set for judgment? Heb 9:27, 10:27,  
1 Jn 4:17

- How should this fact make a difference in how we live? Rom 13:12, 2 Pet 3:1-18
- How should it encourage us? Rom 8:18-25, Phil 3:20, 2 Pet 3:13

**REVELATION**  
**Chapters 6-16**  
**The Seals**  
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***As we read through the description of the seals being opened it becomes apparent that they are akin to a Russian “nesting doll.” Out of the 7th seal come the trumpet blasts announcing seven judgements. These seem to differ from the things revealed as the first six seals were broken. Conflict, war, famine, death, martyrdom - these things are the result of human rebellion against God. The sixth seal is different. Natural disasters, disturbances in space / atmosphere, etc., and on a global scale.***

**1. In chapter 7 there are a few things that catch the eye:**

- a. Four angels hold back the wind.
- b. They are commanded by another angel (who had the seal of the Living God., i.e, spoke with His authority):
  - They had been given the power to harm the land and the sea.
  - Not to use their power to harm the land sea and growing things *until* God’s servants were sealed.
    - \* Where will these servants come from? (See vs 4)
    - \* Does it say anything else about them here?
  - We see them again in chapter 14:1-5? Write down what the text says about them.
  
- What are “first fruits?”
  
- c. Describe the multitude mentioned in 7:9-17.
  - Who are they?
  - What are they wearing (and what does that signify)?
  - What are they holding in their hands? (Lev 23:40, Jn 12:13)
  - Where are they standing? (See also Rev 3:4, 5:9, 6:11, 7:15).
  - What does it mean that God will spread His tent over them? (Lit: “tabernacle over them,” dwell with them, overshadow them.”) How important to you is it to know that you are in His family?
  
- d. And the Lamb at the center of the throne. What does it say about Him? (7:17)  
For more about “springs of living water” see Jn 7:37-39.
  - What was been Israel’s (and our) spiritual problem? (Jer 2:13)
  - What does God offer? (Is 55:1-2, Jn 4:10-14)

**2. Chapters 8-9 describe the opening of the 7th seal and the judgments that are sent against the world.**

a. Describe them:

- 1st trumpet
- 2nd trumpet
- 3rd trumpet
- 4th Trumpet
- 5th trumpet
- 6th trumpet

**3. OK, time for a break in the action to investigate that 5th trumpet.**

a. Read Gen 6:1-8 Note the term “sons of God.” This word in the Hebrew is “bene elohim.” It’s pretty straightforward. It means “sons of God.” This term is used in three other passages in the bible. Look these verses up and write what they say these persons are:

- Job 1:6
- Job 2:1
- Job 38:7

b. In Gen 6:1-8 what does it say that these “sons of God” did?

- What was the result? (Gen 6:4)
- When did this happen? (Gen 6:4)

c. In Rev 9:1-2 where were the “locusts” when the angel let them out?

d. In Lk 8:26-39 the legion of demons that were in the man begged Jesus repeatedly not to order them to go where?

- This implies that Jesus *has* the authority to make that judgment and they knew it!
- This implies that not all demons were sent there (the legion in the demon possessed man were running loose on the planet).

e. SO - what type of crime sends a demon to the abyss?

- Look up Jude 1:5-10 Note that the sin of the angels is the same as the sin of Sodom and Gomorrah.
- And like these angels, the false teachers (in addition to their immorality) despised authority and slandered celestial beings (Lit: “Glorious Ones”).
- Finally, look up 2 Pet 2, paying special attention to verses 4-9. What does God say about the angels who sinned?

**OK, that was a lot but Revelation ties in with the rest of scripture. We read individual books and can miss the “forest for the trees.” We need to take the word as a comprehensive whole. Re: the angels who sinned. That it was a particular sin is evident.**

**Jude even names it. Genesis alludes to it. The Jews and the early church took these “sons of God” to be angels who took on human bodies and cross bred with humans. Angels are a separate species of being and God forbids them to reject the place that He called them to. In a similar way God made us male and female. To reject the purpose for which He created us as men and women is to reject Him. Some fallen angels “crossed the line” and God judged them. In the judgment announced by the 5th trumpet an apparent horde of fallen angels gets busted out of “jail.” But, although they hate God and redeemed humanity, who alone are they allowed to attack in their rage?**

**Finally, despite the severity of the judgments poured out on a world that hates God and persecuted His people, how will the world respond? See 9:20-21**

**The 5th trumpet judgment is the 1st “woe.” In our next study session we will investigate the 2nd and 3rd woes, and the 6th and 7th trumpets. :)**

**REVELATION**  
**Chapters 6-16**  
**The Seals**  
**Pt 2**  
**Continued: Chapters 10-11**

**1. The 7th trumpet (*The trumpets announcing judgments come from the opening of the 7th seal. And from the 7th seal come seven bowls representing 7 judgments poured out on the world*). Chapter 10**

**a. John was given a bittersweet message**

- He saw a “mighty” (imposing?) angel astride the land and sea. Describe him:
  - \* Where was he coming from?
  - \* What did he look like?
  - \* What was he holding in his hand?

**b. What does the text say about the Seven Thunders?**

- Are they mentioned anywhere else in scripture?
- Why do you think that God (or the speaker) ordered John not to write down the message of the 7 Thunders?
  - \* What possibilities are there?
  - \* What does it mean to “seal up” the message? See also Dan 12:9-10.

**c. What did the angel swear (vs 5-7)? See also Rev 6:9-11.**

- Who did He swear by? (See Dt 6:13, 10:20)
- How does He identify Him?
- What was about to be accomplished? (For *mystery*, see Rom 16:25-27, Eph 3:1-6, 6:19; Col 1:26-27, 4:3).

**e. What was John told to do with the scroll? (10:9-11) See also Jer 15:15-18**

- How would it effect Him?
- What would be the result?

**2. The Two Witnesses Chapter 11:1-14**

**a. According to the text, how long will the Gentiles trample the outer court/Holy City?**

- How many months is 1260 days figuring the standard 30 day lunar month?
- How long will the witnesses prophesy?

**b. How long will the two witnesses prophesy?**

**c. Describe them (from 11:1-6)**

- What are they clothed in?
  - \* What might they be mourning?
  - \* Look up Gen 6:5-7 - how did God feel about the world in the 120 years prior to the flood?
- What about the “two olive trees/lampstands” - See Zech 4:1-14
  - \* Now obviously, the two are not actual trees or lampstands, they are mortal men (they can be killed).
  - \* Now this is deduction (and opinion) on my part so take it “for what it is worth.” “It is appointed for all once to die and after this, the judgment” (My paraphrase of Heb 9:27). In



all of the history recorded in scripture, only two people are said to have escaped death: Enoch (Gen 5:18-24, Heb 11:5-6, also, compare Jude 1:14-15, Dt 33:2, Is 26:21, Dan 7, Matt 16:27, 25:31-33) What do these verses/passages have in common? Make a list!

\* The other one is Elijah. In 2 King 2 you can find out how he departed this world without having to die.

**d. What will their ministry be like? Describe it:**

- How long will they enjoy God's protection?
- What will God give them the power to do? (See also Ex 5-11)

**e. Describe their death and resurrection?**

- How long will they lie on the streets of Jerusalem?
- How will the world react? (11:9-10)
- When God raises them to life, how will the world respond?
- How will they return to heaven?
- Does any of this sound familiar? Compare this with Jesus' death and resurrection.

**3. As they rise, what will happen in/to Jerusalem? (vs 13-14)**

**a. What will be the effect?**

**b. Are the people in vs 14 saved? Explain. You might want to refer to Phil 2:5-11 (Who will acknowledge Jesus' lordship?). Compare - Jn 18:1-11+Jn 13:2, Mtt 26:20-25, Jn 13:18-30.**

**The 2nd Woe at this point has passed, the 3rd is coming (Refer back to Rev 8:13, 9:12 and the things that they describe in their contexts).**

**4. The 7th Trumpet (11:15-19)**

**a. What is the message of heaven when this trumpet sounds (vs 15-18)?**

- It's time (Dan 2/7) - for what?
- What do the elders give thanks to God for?

**b. The temple in heaven was open - how did it effect earth? What can you find out about the temple in heaven (See Heb 9)?**

**REVELATION**  
**Chapters 6-16**  
**The Seals**  
**Pt 2**  
**Continued: Chapter 12:1-13:1**

**1. 12 :1-13:1 cover a lot of ground. Remember that this book is thematic, not linear. In this passage we look at history “macro.”**

**a.** A great and wondrous sign appeared in heaven:

- A woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet and a crown of 12 stars on her head.

\* I know of only one other passage that uses this imagery and I believe that it explains this one. Gen 37:1-12. In vs 9-11 we see how Jacob understood it. It plainly seems to refer to Israel.

\* This woman was pregnant and about to give birth to a male child who will rule the world with an iron scepter. See Ps 2, Gen 49:10, Nu 24:17, Rev 19:15. In Rev 2:27 it speaks of believers (those who overcome) ruling with His authority. This child is Jesus the Christ.

**b.** Another sign appeared in heaven:

- An enormous red dragon appeared in heaven.

\* He had seven heads, 10 horns and seven crowns on his heads. Look the the following passages: Is 27:1, Dan 7:7, 20; Rev 12:7-9, Rev 13:1. What is the same and what is different?

\* His tail swept a third of the stars out of the sky and flung them to earth. Satan drew other angels into his rebellion. See 12:9.

\* He stood in front of the woman (Israel) to devour her child the moment He was born (Think of Herod the Great ordering the death of boys in Bethlehem 2yrs old and under). This all began at the Fall (See Gen 3:14-15). From, the garden of Eden until present Satan Has opposed God and His people. His method doesn't seem to change but he never quite succeeds. God uses the enemy's efforts to further His own work (Think Rom 8:28 or Gen 45:4-7). Imagine how infuriating this must be to the enemy!

\* The child is further identified as the One who will rule all the nations with an iron scepter (Jesus!).

\* Not only was Satan unable to destroy the Lord, but after His triumph at the cross and tomb, Jesus ascended to heaven. Satan cannot touch Him and in fact, when Jesus returns He will destroy the enemy (see 2 Thess 2:5-12 where the “Man of Sin”/AntiChrist, a satanically empowered and controlled world leader is destroyed just by Jesus' glory and presence when He comes).

\* Israel (woman) will flee to the desert for 1260 days (or time, times and half a time, or 42 lunar months. However one slices it, it is 3 1/2 years).

c. There was war in heaven and Satan was evicted. He was hurled down to earth.

- He leads the whole world astray (See Eph 2:1-3).
- His angels (demons) were evicted with him.
- Heaven praised the Lord Jesus Christ:

\* His salvation, power, kingdom and authority have come (Think of Mtt 28:16-20).

\* The accuser of our brothers/sisters has been hurled down (He didn't walk out, he was thrown down!)

\* He was overcome by the blood of the Lamb and the word of their testimony (Their confession of Christ). Satan can not comprehend the faith of believers. Abraham's Faith surely puzzled him. Job's faith likely depressed him. When believers stand in faith on the lordship and gospel of Jesus he loses. He is overcome! Every time an unbeliever Passes from death to life, his kingdom is plundered. He just cannot understand the love for God of a believer (e.g., Gen 15:1 God was Abraham's great reward.). 1 Jn 4:4 applies here. Even the smallest child who truly trusts and knows God has power over Satan.

\* He was filled with fury for he knows his time is short!

d. When Satan saw that he had lost his place in heaven, he pursued the woman (Israel). For time out of mind Satan has tried to orchestrate the destruction of the Jews. But God *always* Preserves a remnant. Always. Satan tried with Haman, Hitler, Russian Tzars etc. European nations persecuted, evicted, vilified, killed Jews wholesale. The crusades were at times as much a War against the Jews as a war to regain the Holy Land. Jews were robbed, killed, raped and generally brutalized by crusader armies. Yet still they endure! A testament to the faithfulness of He who promised.

- God casted the earth to help the woman and protect her from the torrent of abuse spewing out of the enemy' mouth.
- Prevented from annihilating the Jews, Satan went after the church.
- And the dragon stood on the shore of the sea. In the next study guide, we will explore what the "sea" is as we begin.

*May God bless you as you dig into this book. Satan's ambition, agenda has never changed. Neither has God's. We live, move and exist within His infinitely wise and powerful will.*

*I am setting up the ability to livestream lessons in real time as well as archiving them. Stay tuned. In the interim, more lessons will be forthcoming. Please let us share prayer requests. The only caveat is that any requests shared within our number must remain confidential unless the person sharing the request indicate otherwise. Please, if you have questions about any of this email me at <[loubetole@gmail.com](mailto:loubetole@gmail.com)> I will enjoy staying in touch with you all.*

**REVELATION**  
**Chapters 6-16**  
**The Seals**  
**Pt 2**  
**Continued: Chapter 13:1-18**

**1. And the Dragon stood on the shore of the sea (13:1).** The question is, “What is the sea?” Scripture gives us a pretty good idea in the passages that deal with this in Daniel 2 and 7. The Images in Rev 13 are a composite of the four beasts of Daniel 7.

**a.** Dan 2 shows human dominion represented and a statue with four segments.

- Human dominion would be crushed by a rock cut out but *not* by human hands (2:34). This indicates that the crushing of human dominion will not be of human agency. It is all of God.
- Human dominion, represented by the statue, will be crushed and blown away.
- The rock (God’s kingdom - see vs 44) will endure and fill the earth (vs 35).

**b.** Dan 7 shows the same message expressed a bit differently. Instead of a four-segmented statue, human dominion is shown as four beasts (“kingdoms”).

- The beasts rose up out of the great sea (7:2-3).
- The sea is identified as “the earth” in 7:17. So the “great sea” is equated with “the earth.” These beasts (kingdoms) rise up out of humanity (for which the “churning of the great sea” is a good analogy. The world is always in turmoil.

**c.** Here in Rev 13:1, the dragon (Satan) stood on the shore of the sea. He is contemplating humanity and plotting how to bend it to his will.

**2. John saw a beast (kingdom/nation) coming out of the sea.** Maybe it is an existing nation that we know of today, maybe not.

**a.** This beast has 10 horns (see Dan 7:7, 20) and 7 heads and ten crowns on his horns. Each head had a blasphemous name. It has a resemblance to the devil (See 12:3). As we will see, that is no accident. In 2 Thes 2:1-4 the leader of this beast (Who we call the “Antichrist”) is described:

- He is doomed to destruction.
- He will oppose and exalt himself over everything that is called God or is worshiped.
- He will even set himself up in God’s temple (yet to be rebuilt) and demand worship.

**b.** It is a composite of the four beasts of Daniel 7. But we get some additional information here:

- One of the beast’s heads seemed to have a fatal wound that had healed up (A leader who survives an assassination attempt? Maybe?).
- The kingdom and its leader astonished the world and they followed them.
- Men will worship the dragon (Satan) because he had given authority to the beast.
- Men worshipped the beast and boasted of its invincibility. See vs 4. In our own time we have seen the personality cults that arise and are cultivated by leaders. Think of V Putin, or North Korea’s Kim Jong Un etc. This is nothing new.
- The beast will utter proud words and blasphemies (assailing the nature and character of

God. Think of Gen 3:1-ff. In the first place in scripture where we see Satan, he is trying to question God's word and character.

- He will be given authority for 42 months.
- He will have power to make war against the saints, slander God and rule the world.
- Those who worship him will not be in the Lamb's Book of Life. There will be hard times for people who living at that time, trusted Christ as their Savior.
- \* Read John 16:33 - does God promise that believers will have it easy?
- \* Read Rom 8:28-39 - what does God promise us?

### **3. Next John sees another beast coming out of the earth.**

- a.** This beast had two horns like a lamb (a Christ-like figure, spiritual leader) but he spoke like a dragon (Satan/devil).
- b.** This leader will exercise all the authority of the first beast (the kingdom and its leader) on his behalf.
- c.** He will coerce people to worship the first beast (whose fatal wound had been healed).
  - He will deceive people with great and miraculous signs.
  - He will cause the beast to be worshipped, causing an image of the first beast to speak.
  - Those who refuse to worship the image will be killed.
  - He will exercise economic control over humanity.
- d.** Satan's methods change little. From the garden to the present he wants control and worship.

Satan tries use humanity for his purposes. His false prophets lie to humanity (2 Pet 2:19). They always have (See 2 Cor 11:13-15).

**REVELATION**  
**Chapters 6-16**  
**The Seals**  
**Pt 2**  
**Continued: Chapter 14**

**Please read chapter 14 through a couple times and then spend some time with the following questions:**

**1. What is happening in verse 1-3?**

- a. Where is the Lamb and what might this indicate?
  
- b. Who is with them?
  - What can you learn about them from Rev 7:1-8? Yeah, make a list!
  
  - What music was playing and where did it come from?
  - Is this the song of defeat or victory?

**2. From 14:1-5 write down a list of things you can observe regarding the 144k**

- a. What does it mean when it says that they were purchased as “firstfruits?”
  - See Jas 1:18 (Don't forget Jas 1:1).
  - See also Eph 1:11-14. - think about the “we” and “you.”
  - See Num 18:4, 12 - describe the firstfruits.
  - In what way is our Lord “firstfruits” (1 Cor 15:20-23)?
  
- b. Are the Jehovah's Witnesses right? Are only 144k people going to be saved? (Hint - Nope!). Then what does it mean that they have been redeemed from the earth?
  
- c. About their being “blameless” - is that any different than it is for any other believer?
  - Look at Jude 24-25. Who is meant here?
  - Ps 32:2 - How about here?
  - Jn 1:47 - Was Nathaniel sinless?
  - Rom 8:1-4 - How about we who trust in Christ?

**3. From 14:6-13 there are several questions to be answered and considered:**

- a. What is the next sign that John saw in his vision? (vs 6-7). Remember that this book is *not* chronological. What message is being conveyed here to the churches of Asia who were initially the recipients of this book? The gospel will go out to the nations.

- What were they going through (See Rev 1:9-11, Chpts 2-3)?
- What is the message to us in this time of global uncertainty? (See Eph 5:15-6:18)
  - \* What is humanity's most pressing problem? See Rom 3:23, Ecc 7:20, Rom 6:23)
  - \* What is the most important information anyone can receive? (Jn 6:68)
- Who is this message *for*? See also Rev 7:9-10.

**b.** A second angel proclaimed the fall of Babylon. Don't worry about Babylon yet. We'll dig into Babylon in another chapter or two. File it away and we'll come back to it.

- c.** Yet a third angel followed and pronounced a judgment:
- What is the fate of anyone who worships the beast and his image?
  - What is the fate of those who "buy into" his system and take his number?
  - Is there any second chance? Verse like Heb 9:24 make it plain that sooner or later, everyone must make a choice. For those in the Tribulation, a time will come when a choice must be made and cannot be put off.
  - What will this time entail for those who believe? (See vs 12 and 13:9-10)
  - How does God see His suffering people during this time? (Rev 6:9-11)

#### **4. In 14:14-20 we come to a signal event - "Go time" for judgment.**

**a.** Who is on the cloud in verse 14? Explain.

**b.** What is about to happen?

- What is a sickle used for? See Mtt 3:11-12 for another metaphor describing the same idea (Heb 9:27).
- Who holds the power over life and death? Job 14:5, Ps 139:16
- God has set a time with at least two qualifiers, what are they?
  - \* Rom 11:25
  - \* Rev 6:11

*Consider, there is a time to be born and a time to die (Ecc 3:2). In Gen 15 God told Abram that although He was giving him the land, not he but his descendants would take possession Of it because "the iniquity of the Amorites is not et complete" (Gen 15:16). God in mercy gave the Amorites (Also "Canaanites") generations longer to repent. But when time was up, He sent Israel in to clean them out. People have a time to be born and die, so do nations, so does humanity.*

*- There is some figurative language used here in 14:17-20. Humanity is likened to clusters of grapes. I've stood in and seen ancient winepresses in Israel. The ones I saw were cut into rock, about 18 -24 in. deep. Grapes were dumped in and people trampled the Grapes into juicy pulp. Here humanity = the grapes. God is coming to harvest and judge.*

**REVELATION**  
**Chapters 6-16**  
**The Seals**  
**Pt 2**  
**Continued: Chapter 15**

*Are you wondering why the lesson title still states, "The Seals?" It is because the judgments announced with trumpets and the "bowl" judgments all come out of the seventh seal. We finished chapter 14 last Monday with the "harvest of the earth." Just at it is appointed for all men once to die, so the nations have their time for judgment as does humanity as a whole.*

**1. John saw in heaven *another* great and marvelous** ("awe-evoking, moving." something provoking wonder) **sign.** See 2 Thess 2:1-12.

- a. Where else have we read these words in Rev.?
  - See 12:1 - What does this sign represent?
  - See 12:3 - What/who, is the great red dragon? How do we know?
  
- b. What is the sign referred to here in 15:1?
  - 7 angels with the 7 last plagues. Why "last?"
  - What is the sea of glass? See also Rev 4:6
    - \* First, where is this taking place? See 15:5
    - \* What was placed before the earthly tabernacle/temple?
      - Ex 30:18-21
      - 1 King 7:23
      - 2 Chr 4:2
      - Rev 4:6
    - \* What was its purpose?
  
- c. Who is standing beside the sea?
  - Who did Moses serve? See 1 Cor 10:1-5.
  - What does their singing indicate? (Rev 5:9-10, 12-13; 7:9-10, 14-17; Is 25:6-9 - what do these passages indicate?)
  - What did they say in their song?
    - \* God's deeds are great and marvelous.
    - \* His ways are just and true.
    - \* He is the King of the Ages, He will be feared and praised. (See Is 45:22-25/Phil 2:5-11)

**2. After this John looked and what did he see?**

- a. In the heavenly temple/tabernacle of the Testimony (Ex 38:21, Heb 8:5, 9:11-14, 23-28). What dwells over the ark?
  
- b. From the ark came 7 angels with 7 last plagues.
  - Describe them from vs 6
  - What were they handed?
  
- c. What was the result in the temple? Who could not enter?!

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God - God has to do a work in us. For those:



- Poor in spirit
- Who mourn for their sins
- Who are meek (want God's will done first and foremost)
- Who hunger and thirst for righteousness
- Who are merciful
- Who are pure (having been cleansed) they will see ("perceive, look upon") God.

God, from whom earth and heaven flee away.

God, whom no one can see as they are and live.

God, who dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has seen or can see here.

We will see Him as He is for we shall be like Him (1 Jn 3:2)

**REVELATION**  
**Chapters 6-16**  
**The Seals**  
**Pt 2**  
**Continued: Chapter 16**

**1. The Bowls: The completion of wrath - A loud voice from the (heavenly See 15:5-8) temple, "Go, pour out the seven bowls (*phiale'* in GK = a shallow, flat bowl), of God's wrath on the earth.**

- a. **Bowl #1** - Ugly ("*evil*"), painful ("*malicious*") sores (*sore, wound, ulcer*) broke out on the people who had the mark of the beast and worshipped his image. Where else did this happen? See Ex 8:20-23, 9:1-4, 12:12, 13-26; Ezk 9:1-6, 2 Pet 2:4-10a, Rev 7:1-4) What will the attitude of the earth's people be? (Rev 9:20-21)
- b. **Bowl #2** - The sea turned to blood (*like that of a dead man*) and everything in it dies.
- c. **Bowl #3** - Fresh water turns to blood.

**Now we have a comment inserted by the angel of the waters**

- God was just in these judgments, He who is (KJV "art"), who were/was (GK "*having been*"). Think about how God describes Himself as YHWH - "I Will be What I Will Be," or, "I Am Who I AM." The uncreated, omnipotent, eternal and only God. See Rev 1:4-5, 8, 17-18).
- Why? Because of the way the world has treated His saints and prophets (See 2 Thess 1:3-10, 2 Pet 2:9)
- Because they shed the blood of God's saints, God gave them blood to drink as they deserved.

**The altar responded that God's judgments were true and just (or "*righteous*").**

- d. **Bowl #4** - The sun became hot enough to scorch people with fire.
  - They were seared with intense heat and cursed God.
  - They refused to repent and glorify God.
- e. **Bowl #5** - The kingdom of the beast plunged into darkness.
  - Men gnawed their tongues in agony and cursed God
  - yet they refused to repent of what they had done.
- f. **Bowl #6** - The great river Euphrates' water dries up to prepare the way for the kings of the East. (See Rev 9:11-16).
  - Three evil spirits the looked like frogs came out of the mouth of the dragon, beast and false prophet.
    - \* They are demons performing miraculous signs (e.g., 1 Tim 4:1)
    - \* They go out to the kings of the whole world to gather them for battle on the great day of God Almighty.

**Now the Lord Jesus Himself enters the narrative: "Behold, I come like a thief! Blessed is he who stays awake and keeps his clothes with Him, so he may not go naked and be shamefully exposed." See Matt 25 and 1 Cor 3.**

- Then they (*I assume from the context that “they” refers to the dragon, beast and false prophet*) gathered the kings (leaders) together to the place that in Hebrew is called Armageddon. Armageddon signifies either the “city of Megiddo,” or the “Mountain of Megiddo,” or “the Mountain of Cleaving.” A reading of Zech 12-14 might give some insight to this name.
- g. Bowl # 7** - “It is done!” A loud voice from the throne said. This was accompanied by flashes of lightning, rumblings, peals of thunder and a severe earthquake.
  - A note about this earthquake. From the text it is not localized to a particular region. It is a “world quake.” It will level the cities of the world, Jerusalem itself (“the great city” - see chapter 11) will be split into three parts and Babylon the Great will experience the Fury of God’s wrath.
  - Yet, Men did not repent, but cursed God.

Now, Babylon the Great was introduced back in Rev 14:8. As you read chapters 17-19 pay careful attention to Babylon and write down/list any facts that seem to jump the pages at you. We will cover Babylon next Tuesday. The study guide for next Tues will be posted to the church website tonight or in the morning and I will also email it out to anyone desiring it. Let me know if PDF, Pages or Word is your preferred format. [\*\*pastor@standishbiblechurch.org\*\*](mailto:pastor@standishbiblechurch.org)

## REVELATION

### Chapters 17-18 *Babylon the Great*

Read chapters 17-18 and then let's answer some questions about the text

#### 1. What is Babylon called? Verses 1-6

- a. The great prostitute who sits on many waters .
  - Look up Daniel 7:2 / 7:2-4 / Jer 51:13 and especially 17:15. Many waters equate peoples, multitudes, nations and languages.
  - With her the kings of the earth committed adultery: How? Think, how did Israel commit adultery against God? (Ez 23, Jer 3:1-13)
- b. What effect did Babylon's adulteries have on the world? For a similar thought applied to Nineveh (capitol of the Assyrian Empire) see Na 3:4 or Ps 73:10. Her allies/trading partners couldn't get enough. They wanted what she had.

#### 2. In 17:3-6 Babylon is described as a woman riding a scarlet beast.

- a. Describe the beast:
  - What color is it? Scarlet
  - How many heads? 7 Who does this remind you of (Rev 12:1-4, 13:1b). Satan
  - How many horns? 10
  - What covered it? (See Dan 7:23-25, Rev 13:5-6). Blasphemous names.
- b. Describe the woman:
  - What is she dressed in? Purple and scarlet. What does this signify? Wealth, luxury, self indulgence.
  - What covered her and glittered? Gold, precious stones and pearls.
  - What did she hold in her hand? A golden cup filled with "foul, disgusting, abhorrent" things and "unclean, tainted, impure" things. Think about western society in our own time: Moral sin is touted as "good," sinful conduct is glorified publicly and celebrated. Pre-born children are slaughtered. Moral filth is sold per view. Did you know that the overwhelming majority of e-commerce globally is porn? Especially child porn. My point in stating this is that what you read here is already reality. It is by no means far fetched.
  - What is her title? Mystery, Babylon the Great, Mother of Prostitutes and of the Abominations of the earth.
  - What has made her intoxicated? This entity will be a persecutor and will murder the saints.

### 3. In verses 6b-8 The Beast is described:

- a. It once was, now (John's time) is *not*. It didn't exist at the time of John's receiving of this prophesy.
- b. Where will it come from? (Abyss). It was "about to" come/"spring up" out of the abyss. It isn't exactly clear where and what the abyss is but...In Rev 9 the Abyss is mentioned and it seems to be filled with what from the narrative appear to be demons (disclaimer - this is my opinion intruding here so proceed with caution :) In Lk 8:30 the "legion" of demons begged Jesus repeatedly not to order them to go into the Abyss. So, it is a place of demonic confinement. Saying that the scarlet beast would come up out of the Abyss is similar to the description of it having seven heads and ten horns: It is identified closely with Satan (See 13:1-4, Dan 7).
- c. Where will it go? To its destruction! See Dan 7:11 - into the fire.
- d. Who will be astonished when they see this beast and why? See (13:1-4). Humanity!
  - Where will their names not be written? The Lamb's book of Life.
  - So, these folks are saved or unsaved? Unsaved.

### 4. The angel (See vs 1&3) explained the woman:

- a. The seven heads are seven hills on which she sits. Now, upon this earth there have been and are a number of these: Rome, Edinburg, Seattle, Prague, Moscow, Brussels, Jerusalem etc. etc. among them. *From the text what we know is that whatever it is, is didn't exist at the time John saw this.*
- b. What also do the seven heads represent? Seven "kings" (or rulers).
  - This is where it gets a bit cloudy - the Beast seems to be both a kingdom as well as its 8th and final ruler.
  - The 10 horns are 10 kings who delegate their authority to the beast (and its leader).
    - \* There is precedence for this.
    - \* It happens in parliamentary govt. too.
  - Collectively, what will they be united in doing? (See verse 14). Selecting one of their number as a supreme leader.
    - \* Who will come against them? The Lamb/Lord/Son of Man (See Dan 7, esp vs 13-14)
    - \* Who will be with Him? (See 19:11-21 for details!). His followers (called, chosen, faithful). To these churches dealing with opposition and persecution, this is a reminder that their Lord is and will be victorious, and with Him, they also.

## REVELATION

### Chapters 17-18 *Babylon the Great* *Continued*

#### Chapter 18

**5. What did the angel (vs 1-3) announce?** The Fall and destruction of Babylon.

- a. **See Is 13 for a similar thought.** Does that passage refer to the then-extant city and empire or does it refer to something in further in the future.
- b. **Why is Babylon condemned? See vs 3.** The nation's were drunk on the maddening wine ("Wine of her wrath") of her adulteries. Think about our own nation: Many countries eager for trade deals and foreign aid have flushed their morals down the toilet, began promoting immorality, abortion etc. for the sake of gain. Happens all the time. Can you say Quid pro quo? Her trade enriched the world's merchants.

**6. From verses 6-8 what is said:**

- a. **God's people?** God's people need to come out of her. (See also Jer 51, etc). This either means get out physically or refuse to participate in its sins. Think "in the world but not of it."
- b. **Regarding Babylon itself?** God will remember her crimes, pay her back, punish her. She like Nineveh and ancient Babylon, thought they would rule forever. She would be destroyed in one day, consumed by fire.

**7. Who will mourn her destruction and why?**

- a. The kings of the earth, aghast at such destruction in a short time.
  - Who joined her in her commerce? The world's rulers.
  - They shared her adultery and will see the smoke of her burning.
- b. Why will the world's merchants weep and mourn? (vs 11-17). The population that they sold their goods to is gone. Trade has been ruined.
- c. **How long will it take to destroy this place and how will it be destroyed? Read all of 18.** It will be destroyed by fire in one hour.
- d. **Why will the world's marine shippers and their employees mourn?** They will have lost a global trading customer that had enriched all the sea going transport owners and workers through her trade.

**8. From verses 21-24 describe the results of “Babylon’s” judgments.**

- a. How complete would her destruction be?** Violent, total and permanent.
- b. Who were her merchants?** The world’s great men.
- c. What effect did she have on the world?** Akin to placing the world under a magic spell. This city controlled and led astray the nations. Everyone wanted in on her trade, wanted to make money, coveted her luxuries and lifestyle. And followed her in her depravity.
- d. What caused her bloodguilt?** She had become a persecutor nation. God would hold her accountable for the blood of His saints.

# REVELATION

## Chapter 19 The Second Coming of the Lord

From Revelation chapter 19, Zech 12-14 and Daniel 2 and 7.

### 1. In 19:1-5 why will heaven rejoice? Make a list!

- a. Salvation, glory and power belong to our God. As at Babel, the Lord has asserted His authority and confronted demonic and human rebellion and arrogance. He and He alone is Lord.
- b. God's judgments are just and true. There isn't, and cannot be, true justice at the hands of the enemy or humanity. But God's justice is true, and prevails.
- c. The Great Prostitute has been judged, the blood of God's people, avenged. (Deut 32:35)
- d. And she will never quit smoking!

### 2. From verses 6-10:

- a. Who are the multitudes rejoicing in heaven? The 24 elders (vs 4), and in my opinion, the saints of God - Old Testament believers and the church from all ages. In contrast to Ps 2:1-3 and Isaiah 17:12-14, where Satan is always churning up the "sea" of humanity in his rebellion against the Lord, this "churning" is one of worship, praise, thanksgiving and joy!
- b. What is the Wedding of the Lamb? See related passages (Matt 22:1-14, Lk 14:1-24). The Wedding of the Lamb seems to represent the union of Christ with believers (OT and NT saints). Jesus used this image in His teaching (E.g., Matt 22, 25 etc.). The people of Israel thought of the coming age of their Messiah as a feast (Lk 14:15). In Eph 5:22-23 marriage is stated to be a representation of Christ's relationship with the church. What I see in this is our Lord victorious, preparing to inaugurate His millennial kingdom with its center Jerusalem.
  - The bride is ready, clothed in the righteousness of God.
  - Blessed (happy) are those invited to the feast! (Phil 3:20, 1 Pet 1:17 - This world is not our home.)
- c. What does fine linen represent? Remember Zech 3:1-5, Matt 22:1-14 - The righteous acts/works of the saints. The redeemed are given the righteousness of Christ (2 Cor 5:21).
- d. Who is the Bride? (See Eph 5:22-32 - who is he speaking of here?). See "b," above.
  - By calling it the "Wedding Supper of the Lamb," who is its focus? Jesus!!!!
  - Is this a possibility or a certainty (vs 9)? There is no other way this can go. It is His will.



**3. In verse 10 John, overwhelmed, fell at the feet of the angel who was speaking with him. What happened next?**

- a. Who is alone worthy of worship? God! (See Deut 6:13, Is 45:22, Matt 4:10, Act 10:25-26, Rev 22:8-9).
- b. Who is the author of all revelation? Think of Matt 5:17, 21-22, 27-28, 31-32, 33-34, 38-39, 43-44.

**4. In verses 11-21 we see the second coming of the Lord and an end to the Antichrist, Beast and the all the world's nations that are allied with him.**

- a. From 11-16 describe the rider.
  - He is sitting on a white horse.
  - He is called Faithful and True.
  - He is just in His judgments and warring (unlike humanity and the enemy).
  - His eyes are like blazing fire (Rev 1:14).
  - On His head He wears many crowns.
  - He has a name written on Him known to no one but Himself (See Jdg. 13:18).
  - He is dressed in a robe dipped in blood. (Look up Is 59, 63:1-6 - He comes in glory with salvation for His people and retribution for His enemies - See Is 34:1-4, 61:2)
- b. How does He judge and with what authority? (See also Is 11:1-9, Jn 5:22-23, Dan 7)  
All judgment has been committed into His hands (Jn 5:22-27).
- b. Who is coming with Him? The armies of heaven. See also Rev 17:14 - saints and angels!
  - How are they dressed? vs 8,14. - in fine linen (comp. w/ 19:8 - righteousness)
  - How will He strike the nations? (See Ps 2:9, Is 11:4, Is 63:2-3, 2 Thess 2:5-12, esp vs 8; Heb 4:12, Rev 1:16, 19:21). With His word!
  - About the winepress (See also Rev 14:14-20, Joel 3:9-16).
    - \* Obviously this is figurative. But what is being said? He will render judgment and exact punishment.
    - \* How will the Lord strike the unbelieving nations? See Zech 14:12-15. With a terrible plague.
  - The aftermath of the "battle" will be a mess (vs 17-21, Ezk 39 may likely be speaking of this as well).

**5. What will be the consequences for the Beast (Antichrist), and false prophet? They will be captured and thrown alive into the "fiery lake of burning sulphur." See Is 30:33, Dan 7:11, Rev 14:10, 20:10-14, 21:8**

**6. Looking over Zech 12-14 give an overview of the days when the Antichrist, his kingdom (Beast) and their allies come to destroy Jerusalem, Judah and the Jews.**

- a. **How will Jerusalem prove for the nations? (12:3).** An immovable rock. All who attempt to lift it ("heave it away") will injure themselves (be "cut to pieces").
- b. **Who will God save and in what order?** Judah and then Jerusalem (12:7-9).

- c. **How will He protect them?** He will create a valley to enable them to escape. He will come and stand on the Mt. Of Olives, splitting it from East to West creating a valley by which His people will escape. And He will fight for them. (See chpt 14).

**7. From chapter 13, how will the remnant of Judah react to their Lord at His coming? See also Rom 11:25-27.** The remnant will repent en-masse.

- a. **What is the “fountain” that will be opened?** The blood of Jesus! They will “look on Me, the One they have pierced,” and mourn. And they will be the recipients of an outpouring from God (12:10-14).
- b. **What prophesy is spoken of in Zec 13:7?** When Jesus was arrested, His followers (except John and the women) abandoned Him.
- c. **What appears to be the result in Israel of the Antichrist’s attack prior to the Lord’s intervention on behalf of Israel? 13:8-9.** Two thirds of the Jews will perish, the city (Jerusalem) looted and the people treated brutally.

**8. The events of 12-14 are described again in chapter 14.**

- a. **Describe what will happen when the nations gather, and the Lord returns. Make a list. 14:1-5.**

A Short Battle:

- God will gather the nations against Jerusalem to fight against it. (See also Joel 3:1-16)
- The city will be captured, houses ransacked, women raped.
- Half the city will go into exile, half remain.
- God will fight against the nations. (See the plague described in 14:12-15)
- He will stand on the Mt of Olives and split it into a great valley.
- People will flee.
- The Lord will come.

**b. As the Lord begins to reign, describe His kingdom:**

- **Climate.** No more cold/frost.
- **Daily cycles of light /darkness.** No more day/night, cold or frost. (21:23, 22:5).
- **Scope of His reign.** The whole world. One Lord; His Name the only name.
- **What will the land be like (you might have to do a little sleuthing)?** God will heal the land and make it lush. The “Arabah,” is the Jordan plain. In our day the Jordan River is controlled and its water used. Much of the plain is desert except where it is irrigated. In the time of John, it flooded seasonally and the waters spread out over the plain north of the Dead Sea. It was lush/green. The Dead Sea will be healed (Ez 47, Joel 3:17-18).
- **Who will the nations worship during the reign of Jesus?** The Lord alone. Jesus!
- **What will happen if they don’t?** The Lord will withhold their rain.

# REVELATION

## Chapter 20 The Millennium and Final Rebellion

- 1. An angel comes down from heaven with the key to the Abyss (See 9:1-11, Lk 8:31, Rev 20:7 - What can we know about the Abyss? It was a place of imprisonment/ confinement. Demons did not want to be sent there! It will serve for Satan for the 1000 years. 1-3**
  - a. He angel seized Satan and bound him for 1k years.
  - b. He threw him into the Abyss.
  - c. He sealed him in so he could no longer deceive the nations. *Which gives us insight into the way he works.*
  
- 2. The Tribulation saints are judged: 4-6**
  - a. Their judges sat on thrones (A delegated authority) See 1 Cor 6:3 for a similar thought.
  - b. Those who had been beheaded because of their testimony for Jesus and because of the Word of God were “judged.”
    - They had not worshipped the beast.
    - They had not worshipped his image.
    - They had not taken his mark.
  - c. They came to life and reigned with Jesus 1k yrs. (The unsaved dead were not raised until after the 1k yrs.
    - This is the 1st Resurrection (see also 1 Thess 4:16. The First Resurrection is the resurrection of the righteous and it appears to come in two parts: At the rapture and after The Second Coming. The Second Resurrection takes place after the 1k yrs. and is the resurrection of the unsaved and subsequent judgment.
    - Blessed are those who have a part. They will be priests of God and reign with Him. (17:14) About us being priests: See Ex 19:3-6, Is 61:1-7, 1 Pet 2:5, 9-10; Rev 1:6, 20:6.
  
- 3. The Final Rebellion 7-10**
  - a. At the end of the 1k yrs, Satan will be released from his prison (Abyss).
  - b. He will go out to deceive the nations and gather them for battle.
    - They will come from across the earth in countless numbers.
    - They will surround the camp of God’s people.
    - Jesus will deal with them: By fire.
  - c. Satan will be thrown into the lake of burning sulphur to join the beast and false prophet for eternity.
  
- 4. The Second Resurrection. 11-15**
  - a. God reigns over an eternal kingdom (Dan 7:13-14, 26-28).
  - b. The dead, small and great are assembled before God (Jn 5:16-30 - Before Jesus!).
    - The books will be opened (Book of Life).
    - The dead will be judged in accordance with their recorded deeds (See Mtt 10:26, Mk 4:22, Lk 8:17, Heb 4:12, and Ps 139:1-16).
    - The unrighteous dead will be cast into the Lake of Fire.
  - \* Anyone whose name was not found written in the Book of Life.
  - \* See the following passages: **Ex 32:33, Da 12:1, Lk 10:20, Phil 4:3, Heb 12:23, Rev 3:5, 13:8, 17:8, 20:12, 21:27.**

## REVELATION

### Chapter 21 The Restoration Or “Paradise Regained”

**1. So, the final judgment and second resurrection is over, the world has been remade and the church of God along with the Old Testament saints are entering an eternal life that will just keep getting better:**

- a. A new heaven and earth are shown to John.
  - What happened to the 1st ones (See 2 Pet 3:10-13)?
  - Look up Isaiah 65:17-25 and describe them:
    - \* What will not be remembered?
    - \* What will we rejoice in?
    - \* What will never be heard again in it?
    - \* Now this will puzzle your brain but - from verse 65 what will never exist again?\*
    - \* What are the “days of a tree?” (Note - is he referring to a post-fall tree or a pre-fall?)
    - \* What sort of communication will we have with our God? (vs 24)
    - \* What will be healed? (vs 25, Is 11:1-9, Rom 8:18-27)
    - \* What will serpents “feed” on?
  - Is 66:22-24
    - \* What will endure (The implication being that it will never be destroyed)?
    - \* What does it mean to you that your name and descendants will endure?
    - \* What does verse 24 mean (Yes, I know that it seems harsh. Just describe it).
      - + Who quoted verse 24 in His teaching (Mk 9:48)?
      - + What else does the word tell us about this (See Mtt 3:12, 25:41, Lk 3:17)?

**2. From 21:3-4 what is proclaimed to be our future?**

- a. Where will God live?
  - b. What will be our relationship with God?
  - c. Will there be any sorrow? (See Is 25:6-8)
  - d. What will God do? (vs 5).
    - What will cease? (Can you imagine this?)
    - How certain can we be regarding this?
  - e. Who is the person speaking? (See Rev 1:8, 2:6, 22:13 and also Is 41:4, 44:6-7)
  - f. What will He give to those who thirst? (See also Jn 7: 37-39, 3 :31-34, See Is 55:1-3)
  - g. Who will inherit?
- \* Many “end times” prophecies given in scripture deal with the “what,” not the “when” or “how.” In this passage it seems that both the millennium and new earth are mentioned w/o making a distinction between them.

**3. Who will be cast into the lake of burning sulphur? Look up Mtt 5:20, Jn 3:34, 1 Cor 6:9-10, 1 Cor 15:50, Eph 5:3-7.**

- a. Who was this place prepared for? (Mtt 25:41). The devil and His angels!
- b. Why do you think it is called the Second Death? I think (and this is only my opinion) that it is called this because the spiritual death of the unbeliever will be united with the resurrected body in its conscious, never ending separation from God. Can you imagine standing before the throne of God, seeing the beauty of Him and heaven, realizing what had been rejected in life and going from there to an eternity with only yourself for company, in darkness and torment. And this *knowing* the opportunities and testimony that one had rejected in life. Jn 3:36, Rom 1:18-20, Heb 10:26-31.

**4. John is then shown the Holy City (vs 9-26).**

- a. What is the city called? The Bride, the wife of the Lamb (Eph 5:21-ff)
- b. Describe it:
  - Where does it come from? Heaven
  - From who does it come? It comes from God.
  - What is it like?
    - \* Radiant with the glory of God.
    - \* Shone like a jewel, clear as crystal.
    - \* Surrounded by a great, high wall.
    - \* The city will be foursquare, as wide, tall and long in each direction (1400 mi).
    - \* It will have 12 gates with an angel at each gate, and each gate with the name of a tribe of Israel, and be made each of a single pearl.
    - \* The city will have 12 foundations (for the 12 apostles) made of precious stone.
    - \* The [great] street was pure, transparent gold.
  - What are its dimensions? See above.
  - Why is there no temple in the city? God is the temple (and I might add, so are we).
  - What will be its light source? Is 60:15-22/Rev 21:26, 22:5. God Himself.
  - What will not be there? Sin, impurity, evil, etc. It will be holy.