

CLIFFORD BAPTIST CHURCH

635 Fletchers Level, Amherst, VA 24521

Wednesday Night Bible Study



***INTRODUCTION TO
THE BOOK OF
REVELATION
Rev. 1:1-3***

Note: no study notes for introduction



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Wednesday Night Bible Study, Nov. 7, 2012

Revelation 1:4-17

The Picture of Jesus

Who are the first recipients of the Book of the Revelation?

7 Churches in Asia

God the father is described as He who is, was, which is to come

The 7 Spirits represent Holy Spirit

Beginning in Rev. 1:5 we see a powerful picture of Jesus

Why are believers called “Kings”?

Believers share the inheritance of heaven.

Why are believers called “Priests”?

Believers have the right to enter the presence of God

Believers are a witness for Him

As we study Rev. 1:7 – this is a statement of *Jesus’ second coming*

In Rev. 1:8, what are Alpha and Omega? Why does that describe Jesus?

- *First and Last Letters of Greek Alphabet*
- *Contains all the wisdom of God*

In Rev. 1:9-11, describe the circumstances of John.

- *He is old*
- *On the Island of Patmos/modern day Alcatraz*
- *It is the Lord’s Day - He is ushered into the presence of God into the throne room of heaven*

In Rev. 1:12-13, the seven golden lampstands stand for *Churches in Asia*

The unfolding Picture of Jesus Christ in 9 Points

Point #1

"like unto" Jesus but glorified state

Point #2

Clothed in robe/belt of power

Point #3

Hair was white

Point #4

Eyes flame of fire

Point #5

Feet like brass

Point #6

Voice as sound of many waters

Point #7

Right hand held 7 stars (pastors)

Point #8

Sharp 2 edged sword from Jesus' mouth

Point #9

Countenance as the sun – shines with God's glory

In Rev. 1:17, why did John fall at Jesus' feet?
Jesus was overwhelmingly holy/pure/glorious



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Wednesday Night Bible Study, Nov. 14, 2012 Revelation 1:17-20

What is the focus of Revelation?

To reveal Jesus Christ as Lord to the saved.

Why was John on the island of Patmos?

Punishment for preaching Christ in the Roman Empire.

This letter of Revelation was first sent to 7 Churches (Asia.).

John's first vision in the throne room of God was the image of The Risen Savior, Jesus.

What proceeds from the mouth of Jesus?

Sword with 2 edges – (cuts to bless and cuts to judge)

What does John do in his encounter with Jesus in Revelation?

Falls at His feet.

Jesus gave John great comfort by

Laying His hand on him.

What are some of God's most important words to the saved?

Do not fear.

What is the primary fear in the hearts of human beings?

Death

Jesus says that we need not fear, for He holds the keys of Hell and death.

The outline of the book of Revelation is summed up in 3 points:

1 – The image of the Savior

2 – The letters to the 7 Churches.

3 – The book reveals prophecy about our future.



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Wednesday Night Bible Study, Nov. 28, 2012 *The Church at Ephesus Revelation 2:1-7*

As we begin, what is the key outline of Revelation?

1. Write down what thou hast seen.
2. Write down things which are.
3. Write the things which shall be hereafter.

The letters to the 7 churches have a 2-fold interpretation:

1. Direct message to 7 churches in Asia Minor.
2. The letters present a picture of all churches of all the ages.
In these letters, God gives a word of commendation and a word of condemnation.
(The exceptions – No negative words for Philadelphia for Smyrna.
No positive word for Laodicea)

The letter to Ephesus –

This city had the largest harbor in Asia, and was considered a cultural center.

Ephesus was the center for the pagan Temple of Diana. This Temple also served as a bank.

The 6 commendations of God to Ephesus:

1. I know thy works
2. I know thy labor
3. I know thy patience
4. Cannot bear those who are evil
5. Tried false apostles and found them liars
6. Labored and not become faint/weary

The one MAJOR condemnation of Ephesus:

They had begun to worship out of habit or tradition.

Our love of Jesus, our passion for the lost, and our desire to be one in the Spirit keeps the church alive!

One more positive point with Ephesus:

They hate the deeds of the Nicolaitans.

This group led many Christians into adultery.

The key to ALL worship and Ministry:

Keep Jesus as your first love.



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Wednesday Night Bible Study, Dec. 5, 2012 *Revelation 2:8-11*

John is imprisoned on the island of Patmos.

One Sunday God lifted him to the throne room of heaven where he sees a vision of Jesus as Lord and Judge.

As Jesus speaks to John, He tells John to write three messages to send to seven churches of Asia.

1. Write down the vision of Jesus.
2. Write down a message to each church.
3. Write down the prophecy of our future.

Last week, we studied the letter to the church of Ephesus. The most sad message against this church is: You have left your first love.

The second letter is to the church of Smyrna.

This church is the martyr or persecuted church.

The word Smyrna means myrrh.

This word stands for death.

In the day of Revelation, this city had several temples to false gods. Some of those gods were Zeus, Diana, Aphrodite, and Apollo.

Christians were not welcome in Smyrna. In fact, Pastor Polycarp was burned alive.

Whereas most of the letters have positive and negative words from Jesus, Smyrna has no word of condemnation in it.

It is also the shortest letter of the seven.

Jesus gives 7 commendations to Smyrna:

1. Though you go through trouble, you are brave.
2. Though you are poor, you are actually very rich.
3. Implied that Smyrna has true faith.
4. Do not fear suffering – I am with you.
5. Implied that they will be faithful, even in prison.
6. Their persecution will come to an end – stay strong.
7. They remained faithful, even in the face of death.

As Smyrna stays faithful, they will not be hurt by the second death.



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Wednesday Night Bible Study, Dec. 12, 2012 *Revelation 2:12-17*

Revelation is the only book of the Bible that promises we will be blessed reading it.

Revelation was written by John, who also wrote Gospel of John, I, II and III John.

Revelation 1:19 serves as the outline of the entire book.

We have already studied the letters to the churches of Ephesus and Smyrna.

Tonight's letter has two names, depending on the translation of the Bible Pergamos or Pergamum.

"Pergamos" means citadel.

Parchment is a writing material made of animal skin.

The greatest library of the pagan world was in Pergamos, with 200,000 volumes.

The city was also the center for many pagan cults.

The church was truly surrounded by _____.

Jesus gives Pergamos 3 commendations:

1. They minister in a very Satanic city.
2. They are not compromising or renouncing Jesus.
3. They did not deny the faith, even as they saw Antipas die.

The word martyr means witness.

Jesus has 2 condemnations against Pergamos.

1. They began to invite heathen practice into their lives.
2. They began to hold the Nicolaitan doctrine, which led them to adultery.

Jesus is our bread from heaven, or hidden manna.

The white stone is a picture of what?

Our invitation to the celebration of heaven.

What are the 2 constructive things we learn from this letter?

1. We hold fast to the name of Jesus in pagan culture.
2. When we step out of God's Word, even in small ways, Satan can get a foothold in the church.



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Wednesday Night Bible Study, Jan. 2, 2013

Revelation 2:18-29

The Church of Thyatira

The Book of Revelation was written by John on the prison island of Patmos.

The 3 point outline of Revelation is:

1. Write the vision of Jesus (chapter 1).
2. Write a letter to the seven churches in Asia Minor (chapters 2-3).
3. Write the prophecy of our future (chapters 4-22).

We have studied the letters to Ephesus, Smyrna, and Pergamos.

Tonight we study the letter to Thyatira.

This was a city built in a valley, and had no natural defense system.

Some of the articles produced in Thyatira were:

Pottery, leather, cloth, robes

But its greatest industry was dying cloth, coloring it purple.

One lady who sold this product was Lydia.

According to this letter, the eyes of Jesus search us for outward purity and inward faithfulness.

Jesus' brass feet symbolize judgment for the church when it falls away.

Jesus' words of commendation are in one verse: Rev. 2:19.

But this one verse gives 6 positive traits:

1. He knows their good works
2. He knows their charity/love
3. He knows their service
4. He knows their faith
5. He knows their patience
6. He knows their works are growing, the last is more than the first.

Thyatira's condemnation is in Rev. 2:20. The church can be misled by one person.

An Old Testament example is in I Kings 21, which describes the woman Jezebel.

The woman in Thyatira taught that God permitted immorality for Christians.

She refused to repent of this lifestyle, and Jesus promised she would go to hell.

But Rev. 2:22 has 6 very important words: "Except they repent of their deeds."

In Rev. 2:25, Jesus tells the faithful church members to hold fast.

Rev. 2:27 is a direct quote of Psalms 2:8-9. Jesus is the morning star.



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Wednesday Night Bible Study, Jan. 9, 2013

Revelation 3:1-6

The Church of Sardis

Tonight we study letter # 5 of the seven letters to the churches. This is the letter to Sardis.

The city sat 1,500 ft. above sea level, and was greatly fortified.

The primary industry then was harvesting wool, dying it, and making clothing.

The most famous resident of Sardis was Aesop.

Sadly, this church was characterized as the dead church.

The 7 Spirits of God actually describe our God as Complete.

He is perfectly holy, perfectly powerful, perfectly all-knowing, perfectly loving.

The 7 Stars are the leaders of the church.

The church was in trouble, for it was on the verge of death.

This church has a few committed members, but most of the church members were apathetic, non-working, lazy and nonchalant.

Jesus commands the church to repent of laziness, and get to work.

Jesus can resurrect a dead church!

In chapter 3, verse 5, we see a statement of security for the believer.

When a person is truly saved, their name is written in the Book of Life.

A sister statement is in Revelation 20:15.



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Wednesday Night Bible Study, Jan. 16, 2013

Revelation 3:7-13

The Church of Philadelphia

Tonight we study letter # 6 of the 7 letters of Jesus to the churches.

Tonight's letter goes to the church of Philadelphia.

It is one of two churches that received no condemnation. The other is Smyrna.

In verse 7 of this letter, we learn 4 things about Jesus:

1. He is holy.
2. He is True.
3. He has the key of David.
4. What Jesus opens, no one will shut; what He shuts no one will open.

In this letter of no condemnation, we see Jesus give Philadelphia 3 major commendations. (All are in verse 8.)

1. I know thy works.
2. I have set before thee an open door.
3. Have little strength, but have kept the Word and have not denied His name.

Verse 9 is a statement of a great Truth:

The Jews need Jesus as Savior. Verse 10 says the church at Philadelphia has kept Jesus' patience.

Verse 10 also says the world faces a great hour of trial/trouble. This is a reference to the Great Tribulation.

A Pre-Tribulationist believes the church is raptured/caught up out of the world before the Great Tribulation begins.

Verse 11 indicates that Jesus will come for His church quickly/suddenly.

In verse 12, we are told Christians will become a pillar in God's Temple.

All of God's people will bear an inscription, which will be on our passport to the New Jerusalem.



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Wednesday Night Bible Study, Jan. 23, 2013

Revelation 3:14-22

The Church of Laodicea

Tonight we study letter # 7 which completes the letters to the churches; it is the letter to Laodicea.

The city was located on the Lychus River Valley. The city was wealthy, with an emphasis on science, culture, and literature.

Christian worship was not practiced a great deal in Laodicea. Most people worshipped Zeus, the god of the heavens.

Laodicea was known for 3 major industries:

1. banking
2. expensive wool clothing
3. production of a medical eye-salve

Another important fact about the city: it had a short water supply.

Laodicea is the only church of the seven that receives no word of commendation from Jesus.

In Rev. 3:14, Jesus describes Himself in 3 ways:

1. He is the Amen
2. He is the faithful and true witness
3. He is the beginning of the creation of God

According to Rev. 3:15-16, the lukewarm church is a dangerous church.

- It does not have the alarm of deserting Jesus
- It does not have the fire of serving Jesus

The water of Laodicea was brought in by an aqueduct system; the water was neither hot or cold, and it had a bad, dirty taste.

God says, Church of Laodicea, I will spew or vomit you out of my mouth.

According to Rev. 3:17-18, Laodicea was also a very rich city. Yet, Jesus sees the people as a very poor, blind, and naked.

Jesus commands the church to change from a club house to a light house.

In Rev. 3:20-21, Jesus is knocking on the door of his own church, asking to come in!



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Wednesday Night Bible Study, Jan. 30, 2013

Revelation 4

An Open Door

The book of Revelation falls into three natural divisions.

1. John's vision of Jesus
2. 7 Letters to the churches
3. The things which which shall be hereafter.

Tonight is our first step in division 3 which God's prophecy of the world's future.

The word church is mentioned 19 times in chapters 2-3. But as chapter 4 opens, how many more times is it mentioned in Revelation? 0

The church is raptured out of earth, to heaven. How does it leave the earth? See I Thessalonians 4:16-18.

Also I Thessalonians 5:9 says God does not appoint his children to wrath.

How quickly will we leave this earth? In I Corinthians 15:52, Paul says it will happen in the twinkling of an eye.

But, as this point of history, is the opportunity for salvation closed? No

When Jesus sees the throneroom of heaven, he sees 3 things:

1. God on His mighty throne.
2. 24 elders and their thrones
3. 4 living creatures

God's appearance is condensed into 2 rocks and a rainbow.

We will never be able to look at God and forget Jesus' blood.

What color is the rainbow? Green That is the color of life.

Surrounding God's throne are 24 thrones, on which sit 24 elders.

In the peace of the scene, Rev. 4:5 says a storm is coming. God is preparing to pour out His judgment and wrath upon the sin of the world.

Also around God's throne are 4 creatures (beasts). Every one had eyes, 6 wings, and they do not sleep. Yet, each one looked different: one looked like a lion; another a calf; another a human; and the last looked like an eagle.

The overall picture in chapter 4 is that heaven is a place of praise of God.

What does a crown signify?

It is a heavenly reward for our earthly faithfulness.



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Wednesday Night Bible Study, Feb. 27, 2013 *Revelation Chapter 5*

With the beginning of chapter 4, we have entered into the prophecy section of Revelation.

As John sees the throne of God, he beholds 24 elders and 4 living creatures. The creatures shout holy, holy, holy. The elders cast their crowns at God's feet.

However, in the midst of the praise, a storm is approaching.

As we open chapter 5, one object catches John's eye: a scroll. This is the title/deed of the earth/creation.

The scroll is sealed with 7 seals.

As John realizes the scroll cannot be opened, what does he do? Cries/weeps

But, there is one who may open the scroll. Who is it? The Lion of the Tribe of Judah

But John does not see a lion – Rather, he sees a lamb. It bore the scars of being slain.

Who is at the center of the Book of Revelation? Jesus Christ

As Jesus takes the scroll, heaven is overwhelmed with praise.

The 4 creatures and 24 elders fall before the Lamb.

They each have a harp, and they sing a new song.

As John looks over heaven, he is surrounded by angels.

Revelations shows us Jesus Christ as the true Savior, but also as the true Judge.



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Wednesday Night Bible Study, March 13, 2013

Revelation 6:1-8

The Beginning of Tribulation

With the beginning of chapter 4, the church is never mentioned again.

When the body of Christ is called away from earth, it is called the Rapture.

In chapter 5, the Lamb of God (Jesus), takes the scroll out of His Hand.

So, Chapter 6 begins, we see the beginning of the Great Tribulation.

Tonight we study the four horsemen of the Great Tribulation.

The first seal is broken, and a rider on a white horse rides out. Who is the rider? The Antichrist.

The second seal reveals a rider on a red horse.
This is the horse of war or division.

The third seal reveals a rider on a black horse. He holds scales which symbolize hunger.

The fourth seal reveals a rider on a pale horse. The color is yellow/green. It is the horse of death.

According to Rev. 6:8, 25% of the earth's population will die.

This is a very dark picture of the world's future.

But what is the good news for every believer in the Lord Jesus Christ?

We will not be present on the earth in these terrible punishments. We are part of the raptured church.



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Wednesday Night Bible Study

March 20, 2013

Revelation 6:9-17

As we look at the Great Tribulation, we will see widespread war, bloodshed, and fear.

But, remember these 3 things:

1. Turmoil is direct result of sin/disobedience.
2. Church is raptured out.
3. God is always in control.

Judgment upon the sinner and salvation for the believer are both the holy right of God.

In Revelation, as the Lamb takes the scroll of universal ownership from the hand of God, 2 things happen:

1. Blessings poured upon the saved.
2. Wrath unleashed upon unsaved.

The word “tribulation” comes from the Greek word “tribulum” which was a crude cart for tearing grain apart.

The first 4 tribulations bring forth:

1. Antichrist (white horse)
2. War/bloodshed (red horse)
3. Starvation (black horse)
4. Death (pale horse)

Although the church is gone, people of God are still being killed.

The 5th seal deals with their vindication. God brings justice for shedding their blood.

When the 6th seal is broken, nature becomes disjointed. The world will have an overpowering fear.

With seal #6, we see God’s fury/wrath unleashed upon sin.

We see the most powerful, devastating earthquake of history. Volcanoes spew ash. Stars/Meteors fall from the heavens.

With seal #6, all people on earth will recognize that this is the wrath of the Lamb.

Sinners will attempt to hide from God.



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Wednesday Night Bible Study

March 27, 2013

Revelation 7

The prophecy section of the Book of Revelation begins in Chapter 4.

The last days of this earth will experience the Great Tribulation. But also, the world will see an evangelical push to bring people to Jesus.

Tonight, an illustration is given about the rapture of the church from the Book of Genesis. The key person involved is Lot.

In Revelation 6, Jesus begins the Great Tribulation by breaking the seals of the scroll of ownership. This is God's holy way of dealing with sin.

Up to this point of our study, 6 of the 7 seals are broken.

Chapter 7 is an interlude of the upheaval.

God seals a group of people as a witnessing force during the Great Tribulation.

Notice in 7:1, four angels stand at the four corners of earth and hold back four winds. The wind symbolizes God's judgment.

The number of special missionaries are 144,000. It is a select number of Jews from the 12 tribes of Israel, with the exception of Dan. That tribe is replaced by Manasseh.

In Revelation 7:9-10, we see the fruits of the labors of the 144,000 witnesses. Multitudes come to Jesus as Savior, but they were killed because of their faith. Revelation 7:17 says the Lamb will be shepherd of the saved.

As chapter 7 closes, we see it as the great chapter of evangelism.



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Wednesday Night Bible Study April 10, 2013 Revelation 8

As we open chapter 8, we are in the intensity of the Great Tribulation.

This is a time on earth when God's wrath is poured out on sin.

To set the stage of our study:

*As chapter 4 opens, the church is raptured away from earth.

*In chapter 5, John sees the great scroll of ownership, sealed with 7 seals.

*The only one who can break the seals is Jesus.

*As each seal is broken, a Tribulation is poured out on the earth.

We have studied the first six seals, and their meaning:

1. The AntiChrist deceives the nations
2. War & bloodshed
3. Starvation
4. Death & Hell for the unsaved
5. God will punish those who killed Christians
6. Natural disasters & fear

In chapter 7, God seals a great host of witnesses, coming from the nations of Israel.

The seventh seal remains, which is opened in chapter 8.

As the seal is broken, there is silence in heaven.

This last Tribulation is carried out by 7 angels blowing 7 trumpets of judgment.

An 8th angel holds a bowl of incense, which stands for the prayers of God's people.

Tonight we will study 4 of the 7 trumpets.

*Trumpet 1 - hail and fire fall on the earth.

*Trumpet 2 - a burning mountain is thrown into the sea.

*Trumpet 3 - a star falls: Its name is wormwood.

*Trumpet 4 - God decreases the intensity of the sun by 1/3.

In essence, with all these natural calamities, God is allowing the earth to die.

In chapter 8:13, most Bible translations say an eagle flies through heaven, crying woe, woe, woe.

BREAKING OF THE SEVEN SEALS

Tribulation Seal #1 – White Horse/Antichrist (6:2)

Tribulation Seal #2 – Red Horse/War (6:3-4)

Tribulation Seal #3 – Black Horse/Starvation (6:5-6)

Tribulation Seal #4 – Pale Horse/Death (6:7-8)

Tribulation Seal #5 – Martyrs Cry for Justice (6:9-11)

Tribulation Seal #6 – Nature Goes Haywire (6:12-17)

Tribulation Seal #7 – 7 Trumpets Sound Judgment

Trumpet #1 – Hail and Fire (7:7)

Trumpet #2 – Mountain Cast Into Sea (7:8-9)

Trumpet #3 – Great Star Falls from Heaven (7:10-11)

Trumpet #4 – 1/3 of Sun, Moon, Stars Darkened (7:12-13)

Trumpet #5 – Locusts Upon Earth (9:1-12)

Trumpet #6 – Four Angels Loosed (9:13-21)

Trumpet #7 – 7 Vial Judgments

Vial #1 – Sores on People (16:1)

Vial #2 – Sea As Blood (16:3)

Vial #3 – All Waters Become Blood (16:4-7)

Vial #4 – Sun Scorches People (16:8-9)

Vial #5 – Antichrist's Kingdom Punished (16:10-11)

Vial #6 – Euphrates River is Dry (16:12-16)

Vial #7 – Mighty Earthquake (16:17-21)



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Wednesday Night Bible Study

April 17, 2013

Revelation 9

As chapter 5 opens, God Almighty on His throne holds a scroll. It is sealed with 7 seals. This document is the deed of ownership of heaven and earth.

The seals on the scroll represent God's punishment upon the sin of the world.

In chapter 8, Jesus opens the 7th seal. This is the greatest seal of wrath upon unrepentant, hardhearted sinners.

It is very important to remember that it is God's right to punish the unbeliever as to save the believer.

Seal #7 is carried out by the blowing of 7 trumpets. The first 4 trumpets show us nature in a tailspin.

Tonight we will study Trumpets 5 & 6. In this phase of the Great Tribulation, the devil and demons will be released, and hell will rule on earth.

(We will read chapter 9)

When the 5th angel blows his trumpet, a star falls from heaven. It is Satan himself. (See Ezekiel 28)

God gives him the key to the bottomless pit. It is the prison of countless demons.

When demons invade the earth, they look like locusts. These demons could not hurt the 144,000. They could not kill anyone, but could make people suffer for 5 months.

These demons wear crowns, signifying earthly control. They are intelligent, having faces like men, and hair like women.

Their leader's name is (Hebrew) Abaddon or (Greek) Apollyon.

As this woe passes, angel #6 blows his trumpet. 4 demon angels are released from bondage at the River Euphrates. This is the same river that flowed in the Garden of Eden. This is where the first murder took place, and where the Tower of Babel was built. These demons will kill 1/3 of humans.

At the end of Trumpet #6, 1/2 of the world's population is dead.

Revelation 9:20-21 is very important – Those humans not killed will refuse Jesus/Savior. Their hearts remain hard.
(or) sins remain unforgiven.

BREAKING OF THE SEVEN SEALS

Tribulation Seal #1 – White Horse/Antichrist (6:2)

Tribulation Seal #2 – Red Horse/War (6:3-4)

Tribulation Seal #3 – Black Horse/Starvation (6:5-6)

Tribulation Seal #4 – Pale Horse/Death (6:7-8)

Tribulation Seal #5 – Martyrs Cry for Justice (6:9-11)

Tribulation Seal #6 – Nature Goes Haywire (6:12-17)

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Vial #5 – Antichrist's Kingdom Punished (16:10-11)

Vial #6 – Euphrates River is Dry (16:12-16)

Vial #7 – Mighty Earthquake (16:17-21)



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Wednesday Night Bible Study

May 1, 2013

Revelation 10

In the Great Tribulation, God is pouring His unbridled wrath upon sinners.

In chapter 5, God holds a scroll, sealed with 7 seals.

In chapter 10, all seals have been broken, and the worse of the Great Tribulation is poured out.

As seal 7 is broken, seven angels blow seven trumpets.

As the last trumpet is blown, seven bowls of wrath are poured out. We will not begin that study yet. Tonight we study an interlude chapter (Chapter 10).

At the beginning of Chapter 10, John sees a mighty angel. Some say this is an appearance of Jesus. Others say this is an angel of God.

Mike's interpretation is: this is not Jesus.

The angel is wearing a uniform:

He is wrapped in a cloud; His helmet is a rainbow; His face shines like the sun; His legs/feet are like pillars of fire.

The angel holds a little scroll.

The sealed scroll is now an open book.

The angel speaks as seven thunders.

This angel lifts his right hand and takes an oath that God will finish His Great Judgments.

This is the one place in Revelation that John is forbidden to write.

John is told to eat the scroll. It will be sweet in his mouth, but bitter (nauseating) on his stomach.

For believers, God's Word is sweet because of its promises of heaven. However, we realize it is bitter for unbelievers who are facing hell.

As believers, we should have a passion for the lost, and when someone continually refuses Jesus, it causes us pain/worry.

Our knowledge of God's judgment for the lost pushes us into the world to witness to unbelievers. We have a true worry and anxiety because we know their future!



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Wednesday Night Bible Study

May 8, 2013

Revelation 11:1-14

We are studying the Great Tribulation, which is a 3 1/2 year period when God releases His wrath upon sin/sinners.

The church is raptured to heaven, but countless lost people are being saved. Other lost people continue to reject the Savior.

In chapter 5, God gives Jesus a sealed scroll, and now in chapter 11, all 7 seals are broken. The Tribulation (wrath/punishment) of God is now in full gallop.

In chapter 10, John is told to eat the scroll. It is sweet in his mouth, but bitter to his stomach.

During the Tribulation period, God will send two heavenly prophets to proclaim Jesus. Their testimony will be accompanied by signs and wonders.

Although the Temple was destroyed in 70 A.D., Revelation indicates it will be rebuilt.

During the Great Tribulation, the Antichrist will move into the Temple and will declare that he is God. (see II Thessalonians 2:3-4)

But during this time, the two prophets come from God. It is highly probable they are Moses and Elijah. They also came to the earth at the Transfiguration of Jesus, described in Matthew 17.

These men have only one message:

They proclaim (or witness) Jesus and His salvation; All who reject Him will go to hell.

These men are clothed in sackcloth, which symbolizes God's broken heart (mourning) over the lost.

These prophets will preach for God's allotted time, and then they will be killed.

The lost people of the world celebrate, and are able to gaze on their dead bodies in the city of Jerusalem. But after 3 1/2 days, God will resurrect their bodies, and they ascend back to heaven. Within that hour, an earthquake shakes Jerusalem.

What 3 lessons should we learn from this study?

1. The prophets preach Jesus and warn the lost. So should we.
2. Our message will not always be popular.
3. We carry out our task until our time is complete on this earth.



CLIFFORD BAPTIST CHURCH

635 Fletchers Level, Amherst, VA 24521

Wednesday Night Bible Study

May 22, 2013

Revelation 11:15-12:6

John wrote Revelation from the prison island of Patmos.

There are three major things that God shows to John, and these are the major divisions of Revelation

1. Vision of Jesus Chapter 1
2. 7 letters to 7 churches Chapters 2-3
3. God's prophecy for the world Chapters 4-22

We are now in the middle of God's prophecy of future events.

The last days of earth's history will be immersed in the Great Tribulation as God releases His wrath upon sin.

The great scroll of God, given to Jesus, is sealed with 7 seals. As the seventh seal is broken, seven angels blow seven trumpets.

Tonight we will study Trumpet #7.

(Reading Rev. 11: 15-19)

*These few verses are the climax of Revelation.

*God is saying, I reclaim My creation.

With the seventh seal opened and the seventh Trumpet is blown, the 24 elders fall to worship God. John sees the ark of God's promise of redemption.

This is the Covenant of Calvary: Every person who confesses Jesus with their lips and believes in their heart that God raised Him from the dead will be saved. (Romans 10:9)

That is the climaxing message of Revelation and of the Bible.

Now, in chapter 12, God makes a statement of His final authority.

From chapter 12 forward, Satan challenges God, but it is a losing battle.
(Reading Rev. 12:1-6)

John sees a sign in heaven: it is a woman. She is symbolic of the nation Israel. She is ready to give birth to the Messiah/Savior.

John then sees another sign: a dragon, who is Satan himself. The dragon's tail sweeps one-third of the stars/angels of heaven to rebel with him.

Satan tries to kill the nation of Israel and Jesus. He will fail in these attempts.

The basic message of Revelation is this: in the end, God will be the victor over all!



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Wednesday Night Bible Study

May 29, 2013

Revelation 12:7-17

In our last study, Rev. 12:1-6, we saw a woman symbolizing Israel.

She is about to give birth to the Messiah. However, a dragon (who is Satan) is trying to destroy the child.

He never succeeds in killing the Savior. Jesus' greatest victory is when He rose from the grave.

In the latter part of Rev. 12, we see a war arising in heaven.

(We will read Rev. 12:7-17)

The Great Tribulation is causing a tumult on earth; there is also a struggle in heaven.

Rev. 12:8-9 tell us that Satan is cast from heaven for the final time, and for all eternity.

Rev. 12 gives us understanding as to how Satan works to draw people away from the love of Christ.

He is called an Accuser.

Yet, Jesus is our Advocate.

Rev. 12:11 gives us three ways we overcome Satan:

1. We conquer him from Calvary.
2. We conquer him through confession.
3. We conquer him by our commitment to Jesus.

As Satan is cast to the earth, he know his end is near.

He particularly hates the Jews.

Satan hates all people because he hates God.

He attacks God's people/children to wound God.

While Satan pursues the Jews, Rev. 12 tells us God protects His people.

Rev. 12:14 says the woman (Israel) is given wings to fly away from satan.

Rev. 12 shows Satan is in a rage.

Does the Bible ever describe Satan as the Chief of Demons with a pitchfork? How is he described in Biblical terms?

*No, he is described as disguising himself as an angel of light – See II Corinthians 11:14.
His attractiveness fools people into submission to him.*



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Wednesday Night Bible Study

June 26, 2013

Revelation 13:1-10

As we study Revelation, we maintain the theological position that the church of Jesus Christ is raptured away before the Great Tribulation begins. This is called the Pre-Tribulationist view.

The light of the world and salt of the earth is removed before God pours out His wrath.

In Rev. 6:1-2, as the first seal is opened on the scroll, a white horse appears. The rider of this horse is the Antichrist.

As chapter 13 opens, The Antichrist appears. The Great Tribulation has been going on 3 1/2 years. We are at the halfway point of Tribulation.

(Read Rev. 13:1-10)

In 13:1, John sees a Beast rising from the sea. The sea symbolizes all the peoples/nations of the world. The beast is the Antichrist.

The Antichrist and Satan have the same description: 7 heads, 10 horns, 7 crowns. In 13:2, the Antichrist is described in animal terms: a leopard, a bear, and a lion.

Satan directly empowers the Antichrist.

In Rev. 13:3-4, the Antichrist is described as very attractive/charming/charismatic.

In Rev. 13:3, he appears to have a mortal wound, but has been healed.

People actually worship the Antichrist.

Satan is reaching his goal: to draw people away from the Savior as they fall for the lies/deception of the Antichrist.

The Antichrist will blaspheme/undermine God for 3 1/2 years, and has the power to kill Christians.

John writes, in Rev. 13:10, that the people of God must have patience and faith.



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Wednesday Night Bible Study

July 10, 2013

Revelation 13:11-18

Revelation was written by the disciple John, as God commands him to record the events of prophecy. These events begin in chapter 4.

Did John understand everything he wrote? No
What is the one central revelation of this book? Jesus.

Beginning in chapter 5, Jesus begins breaking the 7 seals of the scroll of God. Each seal releases God's judgment on the earth.

Seal #1 allows the Antichrist to ride forward.

He is directly kin to Satan, who empowers him.

He is a handsome, charismatic, influential, witty leader on earth.

He will blaspheme Jesus.

Tonight, at the end of chapter 13, another person is revealed. He is called another beast. He actually becomes the Antichrist's public relations director (press secretary). He represents the Antichrist before the world.

(Read Revelation 13:11-18)

This second beast is called the false prophet.

So, we now see a trinity of wicked leaders: Satan, Antichrist, and false prophet.

This false prophet is Satan's mouthpiece. He inspired the world to worship the Antichrist.

The false prophet is also a master of miracles.

We see Satan's attempt to perform false miracles in the Old Testament book of Exodus.

In Revelation 13:16-18, we see the dangerous program of all people receiving a permanent mark on their right hand or forehead.

The number of the beast is 666, and it stands for incompleteness, humanity.



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Wednesday Night Bible Study

July 17, 2013

Revelation 14:1-5

As we begin chapter 14, we are deep within the Great Tribulation at this point. In these 7 years, nations will be confused, and nature will be in turmoil/travail.

The Antichrist shows up as world leader.

In chapter 13, the Antichrist institutes a world finance/tracking system in which people will be marked on the right hand or forehead. This is the mark of the beast.

Chapter 14 is not a “punishment” chapter. Rather, we see believers in heavenly reward. We learned in chapter 7 that God seals 144,000 evangelists. These are converted Jews, who bring millions to Jesus.

Chapter 14 deals with this group. They are now in heaven and their ministry is complete/over.

(Read Rev. 14:1-5)

These believers do not have the mark of the beast; rather, they have God the Father’s name on their foreheads. They have accomplished their evangelistic task.

Scripture is plain that every member of the 144,000 was in heaven. Each one was saved and sealed in God’s protection.

True children of God have eternal security in salvation.

Chapter 14 describes the joys of being in Jesus Christ. The 144,000 sing a unique song that belongs only to them.

According to verse 4, all 144,000 were men. Did they ever marry? No
Other Old Testament figures who never married were Jeremiah and Daniel.

Their moral lifestyles point to spiritual purity. That kind of life is how we live as the bride of Christ.

Three points from this passage are important:

1. When we are saved we are sealed.
2. When we are sealed we are sent.
3. Jesus, our husband expects us to be pure.



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Wednesday Night Bible Study August 14, 2013 Revelation 14:6-13

At the beginning of chapter 14, we see the Lamb of God in heaven, surrounded by the 144,000 evangelists. They were sealed to bring millions to Christ during the Great Tribulation. Their work as evangelists is now complete.

As this group praises God, angels come forth with messages.
(Read Rev. 14:6-13)

Message #1, we see a preaching angel, proclaiming the gospel.

He proclaims that we fear, respect (worship) and adore (praise) God for He made the heavens and waters (sea).

Is a preaching angel unusual in the Bible? Yes

Message #2 – This angel proclaims the fall of Babylon. This is a world-wide prophecy of judgment.

Jesus will judge worldly hatred (neglect) of His holiness.

Message #3 is the message of the destination of all who reject God's love. It is a message of hell.

There are 2 ways to die:

*In the Lord, you are eternally saved.

*Outside of the Lord, you are eternally lost.

The church has a two-fold mission: We must proclaim the joys of heaven; and we must broadcast the warning of hell.

In order to go to hell, must a person worship Satan or perform pagan rituals? No

You automatically choose Satan if you never claim the Savior.

Many will be surprised the first minute of earthly death. (see Matthew 7:21-23)

Who rules hell? Jesus Christ

It is a place of utter anguish and hopelessness.

Because God is not in hell, there will be no light there.

The first death last for seconds.

The second death lasts for eternity.



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Wednesday Night Bible Study

August 21, 2013

Revelation 14:14-20

During the last days of human history, Jesus is still willing to save anyone who comes to Him. However, one main promise of Revelation is that sin and sinners will be judged. This book does give fear to the unbelievers, but it gives security to the believer.

Rev. 14:14-20 foretells the greatest battle of earth's history. It is called Armageddon. The army of Jesus meets the armies of the Antichrist.

The Battle of Armageddon is likened unto a final harvest.

(Read Rev. 14:14-20)

We see the Revelation of Jesus Christ,
He is seated on a cloud of glory;
On His head is a crown;
In His hand is a sharp sickle.

What we see in Rev. 14 is not Jesus the Redeemer, but Jesus the Judge; He is the great Harvester of sin.

In Rev. 14:15-16, an angel cries to Jesus that the harvest is ripe; it is time for judgment.

Judgment will be like the vineyard keeper, pulling grapes, and treading them in the winepress.

Although it is not a pretty picture, the winepress of Jesus brings destruction to every person who rejected Him and His offer of forgiveness/grace.

In Genesis 3, God foretells that Satan would bruise Jesus' heel. In Rev. 14, we see Jesus destroying Satan's head.

The holy promise of the Bible is this: You will either meet Jesus as Savior or Judge
In the Battle of Armageddon, as many as 200 million human soldiers will come against Jesus; They will be slain by God's holiness.



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Wednesday Night Bible Study

Sept. 11, 2013

Revelation 15

In this study,

We are deep within the Great Tribulation

*nature is in upheaval

* Kingdom of the world are in turmoil

*The Antichrist is the world leader

He initiates a world-wide financial system, and every person must receive his mark/tattoo.

Christians must refuse this form of identification.

Chapter 15 shows us people in heaven in reward, and God's final preparation to pour out His wrath again sin.

Zephania 3:8 prophesies this anger of God.

(Read Revelation 15)

John looks into heaven and sees 7 angels with 7 plagues.

When God pours out these 7 expressions of His wrath, the GT is over.

In review, when Seal #7 is opened, we see

*7 trumpets blow

*When the 7th trumpet sounds forth, 7 bowls of wrath are poured out.

As John describes the floor under God's throne, it looks like a sea of glass mingled with fire.

This sea in Revelation 15 is a solid foundation/floor. It represents the promises of God's Word. The fire in this floor is the Holy Spirit.

As the tribulation saints stand on this floor, they have harps of God, and they are singing a combination of 2 songs:

- The song of Moses
- The song of the Lamb

The first song was sung when God brought His people out of Egypt.

The second song was sung when God brings His people into heaven.

In v. 5, John sees the heavenly holy of holies opened.

The point of this great picture is that God alone will judge the world, and no one will be able to stop it.



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Wednesday Night Bible Study

Sept. 18, 2013

Revelation 16:1-11

As a recap of the beginning of our study of Revelation, what are the 3 things John is to write down?

1. His vision of the Lord Jesus Christ (Chapter 1)
2. 7 letters to 7 churches of Asia Minor (Chapters 2-3)
3. The prophecy of the future of the world (Chapters 4-22)

The end of the book is simple: The saved will inherit heaven; the lost will inherit hell.

Chapter 16 shows us the most terrible period of the Great Tribulation.

However, during the worst of tribulation, people will still hear the gospel, and millions will be saved. Yet, Millions of others will reject Jesus.

During these days, the Antichrist rules on earth, and people will receive a permanent mark. Those who refuse the mark will be persecuted.

Chapter 16 is the halfway point of the Great Tribulation. The outpouring of the 7 bowls of wrath takes 3 1/2 years.

(Read Rev. 16:1-11)

Bowl #1 produces open sores on the followers of the Antichrist.

These are the same sores described in Exodus 9, Job 2, Luke 16

Bowl #2 produces a change in the sea water. It will be filled with clots. Sea animals will die.

Bowl #3 pollutes the earth's fresh water. People will be thirsty.

Bowl #4 causes the sun to heat up.

Bowl #5 brings darkness. Physical darkness symbolizes moral/spiritual darkness in the lost people.

In Revelation 16:9-11, scripture says the lost people KNOW these punishments are from God, but they further reject/blaspheme Him.



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Wednesday Night Bible Study

Sept. 25, 2013

Revelation 16:12-21

At this point in Revelation, we are at the climax of God's wrath and punishment upon faithless/unrepentant human beings.

As we recap the progress of Revelation:

- In Revelation 5, the Lamb receives the scroll of ownership of heaven and earth.
- The church is raptured away from the earth
- God pours His wrath upon the sinful world, and this is called the Great Tribulation
- During this time, the gospel is preached and many people are saved.
- But the Antichrist is in power, and Christ - followers are persecuted.

As the wrath of God is poured out, Trumpet #7 blows, and 7 bowls of wrath are poured. This is the pinacle of the Great Tribulation.

Tonight – we study the Final 2 bowls of wrath – Read Revelation 16:12-21.

The 6th bowl of wrath leads forth the greatest war of earth – It is called Armageddon. The great Euphrates River dries up. In Armageddon, the nations of the world will not come to God, but decide to kill Israel, the people of God.

Revelation says three fowl spirits come out of the mouths of the Antichrist, the false prophet, and Satan. These demons look like frogs.

As the nations conspire to war, about 200 million soldiers enter the theater of Armageddon. God utterly destroys every soldier.

The “miniature picture” of Armageddon is in John 18.

In Armageddon, all soldiers are destroyed by the Word of God.

This destruction is Bowl #7. God's mighty voice rings from heaven, says It Is Done. The Great Tribulation is now over.

Except Jerusalem, every earthly city is destroyed, an earthquake shakes the world, and hailstones fall on sinful people.



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Wednesday Night Bible Study

Oct. 2, 2013

Revelation 17

As we come to the final chapters of Revelation, we see God ushering out the world scene, and ushering in the Kingdom of God.

There are 3 reasons this study is important to us:

1. It is the Word of God
2. The rapture/GT could be soon
3. Every human being will face God

As we open chapter 17, there are 2 main characters: The Antichrist and a prostitute.

She symbolized a false Religion that rises up in the Great Tribulation.

(Read Chapter 17)

One of the 7 angels leads the disciple John to see a new prophecy:

an adulterous women sitting on the Beast/Antichrist royalty.

She is adorned in luxury and SPLENDAR, which symbolizes a rich, but false church.

This false church has an intimate connection with the Antichrist. He uses this church to bring a spiritual unity to the world.

As John sees this sight, he is astonished/marvelled to see this unholy union.

An angel explains to John that the world's people will marvel at the Antichrist. He receives a mortal wound and appears to be resurrected.

According to the angel, the 7 heads of the beast are 7 mountains.

The 7 also stands for 7 Kings of 7 empires.

The final empire belongs to the Antichrist, but verses 8 and 11 say it will be short.

The Antichrist will unite the Kingdom of the world, and pull them together to make war against Jesus and Israel.

At the end of the chapter 17, the Antichrist will divorce the prostitute (false religion).

At this point, he will claim to be God.



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Wednesday Night Bible Study

Oct. 16, 2013

Revelation 18

The 7 year period of the Great Tribulation shows us that God WILL repays/punish sin and sinners.

The church is extracted/raptured out of the world, and God begins the process of concluding human history.

A satanic ruler called the Beast/Antichrist rises up, and establishes a wicked rule of all nations.

The Great Tribulation is accomplished in 3 phases:

1. Jesus receives the scroll of the earth's ownership, sealed with 7 seals. As Jesus breaks each seal, a Tribulation is delivered upon the earth.
2. When the 7th seal is broken, 7 trumpets blow.
3. When the 7th trumpet blows, 7 vials/bowls of wrath are poured out.

Now, we must remember that during the Great Tribulation the door of heaven is open. This is God's final call to be saved.

In chapter 18, the Antichrist has established a political and financial kingdom that is very rich. That Kingdom is called Babylon. All nations bow down to Babylon.

(Read Chapter 18)

We will look at Babylon's personality:

Her wickedness will exceed anything we could even imagine:

- *Satan worship will be rampant there
- *People in Babylon will live deliciously
- *It will be a center of drug usage.

In Revelation 18:6, God says He will double their repayment for sin.

In Revelation 18:8, God's punishment will be swift/total, similar to Sodom/Gemorrah in Genesis 19.

Three classes of people will weep over Babylon:

1. Kings/rulers
2. merchants
3. mariners/sailors

As Babylon is destroyed, the earth's politics and finances are ruined.

A principal lesson from chapter 18: God tells us NOT to be caught up in materialism and spiritual adultery.



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Wednesday Night Bible Study

Oct. 23, 2013

Revelation 19:1-10

God's character has extended patience/endurance over human sin and hardheartedness. However, in His timeline, there comes a time to repay sinners and sinful attitudes.

Beginning in Revelation 4, God raptures His church out of the world, gives Jesus the scroll of ownership, and He begins breaking its seven seals.

When the seventh bowl of wrath is delivered to the earth, the Great Tribulation is over. The last act of the Great Tribulation is in Chapter 18: The Fall of Babylon.

What happens next? Two suppers take place

*A supper of joy

*A supper of judgment

(Read Revelation 19:1-10)

When the Great Tribulation is complete, the union of the church with Jesus is likened to a wedding.

In Revelation 19:1-10, an angel tells John about three distinct divisions in this wedding of the church to Jesus:

Division 1: we see the anticipation of the wedding service.

The principle word of this division is hallelujah. (The two universal words of the Bible are salvation and amen)

*The first hallelujah (19:1) says salvation and honor/glory belong to Jesus

*The second hallelujah (19:2-3) rejoices that God has judged sin.

*The third hallelujah (19:4-5) says everyone has an intimate relationship with Jesus.

*The fourth hallelujah (19:6) is a chorus that states, "Our God reigns."

Division 2: The bridg comes out. She is the church. She is described as beautiful/adorned/prepared.

A future husband gives an engagement ring to his future bride. What does Jesus give us? The Holy Spirit.

Division 3: The marriage takes place, and heaven celebrates with a marriage supper.

Why did Jesus not marry when he lived on the earth?



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Wednesday Night Bible Study

Oct. 30, 2013

Revelation 19:11-21

The Book of Revelation has 3 major divisions:

1. Chapter 1: Risen Christ
2. Chapters 2-3: 7 letters/7 churches
3. Chapters 4-22: Prophecy of end of world

During the 7 years of the Great Tribulation, the scroll of God is opened by Jesus.

*The Lord breaks 7 seals of Judgment.

*On Seal #7, it brings forth 7 Trumpet judgments

*On Trumpet #7, it brings forth 7 Bowls of wrath.

In chapters 17-18, we see this world progressing toward destruction. But the kingdom of God is being perfectly established.

Chapter 19 begins with a Supper of Joy. It describes the marriage of Jesus to His bride, the church.

The second supper of chapter 19 is the Supper of judgment, which takes place at the Battle of Armageddon. It is here that the world comes to war against God/Israel.

As the soldiers converge at Armageddon, they look up to see Jesus Christ sitting on a white horse.

*They will see the brightness of Jesus' eyes.

*They will see crowns on His head.

*His True name is unknown; His title is King of Kings; Lord of Lords.

This portion of Chapter 19 is the final installment of Jesus ridding His creation of sin.

What is behind the General Jesus?

All the armies of heaven.

Jesus has a sharp Sword coming from His mouth – The sword of His Word.

As Jesus and the armies come forth, the sky darkens with birds. They will eat the flesh of dead soldiers/kings/captains and horses.

The Antichrist and false Prophet are captured, and they become the first residents of hell.



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Wednesday Night Bible Study

Nov. 6, 2013

Revelation 20:1-6

The book of Revelation is written by the Apostle John, who was lifted up from the prison of Patmos.

All the Tribulations show us that things of the world will take us to a dead end. Jesus is the only open road to joy/peace and eternal life.

What is God's logic in the Great Tribulation? His great punishments cause people to reach up to Jesus as Savior. The temporary negatives of the Great Tribulation bring the external positive result of salvation.

In Revelation 20, the Antichrist is now defeated, but Satan is still on the loose.

(Read Revelation 20:1-6)

The two things we learn from this study are:

1. The day will come when Satan will be bound.
2. The day will come when the Saints will be blessed.

In Revelation 20:1-2, a mighty angel captures Satan, binds him with a chain, and casts him into the Pit of Hades for 1,000 years.

All demonic activity on earth is stopped for those years.

Jesus then reigns on earth for 1,000 years, which is called the Millennium.

The Old Testament prophecy concerning the Millennium is in Isaiah 11:6-10.

Who reigns with Jesus during the Millennium? Every believer/person of faith of all the ages on earth.

The Bible speaks about two Resurrections:

The Resurrection of the saved, and of the lost.

The Resurrection of all the people of faith, in the Old and New Testament ages, takes place before the millennial reign of Jesus.

A farmer harvests in 3 phases:

*The first fruits; the general harvest; and the gleanings.

(over on back)

In terms of the Bible, the harvest of resurrection of believers are:

Phase I – the first –fruit Resurrection of Jesus

Phase II – the General Harvest of the Church/Christians, and the Old Testament saints.

Phase III – The gleaning of the Great Tribulation Saints.

All of the above are part of the first Resurrection. It is a resurrection to great joy.

(We will discuss the Second Resurrection in the next lesson)



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Wednesday Night Bible Study

Nov. 13, 2013

Revelation 20:7-15

The Great Tribulation is 7 years of wrath poured out by God; it is also a time of intense preaching of Jesus Christ. Even in the darkest days of earth's history, we still see the light of Jesus.

Tonight's study picks up at the end of the 1000 year reign of Christ, called the Millenim.

(Read Revelation 20:7-15)

Satan has been bound in the Pit for 1000 years. After the Millenim, Satan is allowed by God to be released; The devil will be filled with awful vengeance.

Sadly, Satan will once again deceive the nations.

There is still a remnant of humankind on earth, left after Armageddon and during the Millemim. In fact, the population has grown tremendously, with no disease and plentiful food.

Even after Jesus reigns on earth for 1000 years, many people are unsaved/lost. They sin, not because of Satan's deception; Their sin comes from their heart.

Sadly, here is a primary Biblical Truth: People given free will will choose sin.

*In Genesis, Adam and Eve chose sin.

*Although Noah survived the cleaning of the flood, he got drunk.

*The Godly prophet Jonah ran from God.

*Peter followed Jesus, and yet denied his Savior.

At the end of human history, Satan tempts humans, and they once again rebel against God.

With this final attack of Satan, fire falls from heaven to devour them all.

The final appearance of Satan in the Bible is in Rev. 20:10.

He is cast into hell forever, and all unrepentant, unforgiven sinners are raised from their graves.

They will stand before God's judgment at the Great White Throne.

The 4 classes of people at this judgment will be:

1. atheists

2. self-righteous

3. Procrastinators

4. Some church members



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Wednesday Night Bible Study

Dec. 4, 2013

Revelation 21:1-8

At the end of the Great Tribulation, the earthly kingdom of the Antichrist will be destroyed.

The Antichrist and the false prophet will be the first ones thrown into hell; they will be there before Satan.

Satan is bound for 1000 years, as Jesus and His saints reign on earth. This period is called the Millenium.

At the end of the 1000 years, Satan is loosed. He stirs the unsaved to one final war.

Every lost person is judged at the Great White Throne. Satan and all sinners are now gone, inhabiting hell.

For the first time since Adam and Eve, creation is at peace.

Chapters 21 & 22 deal with the peace, love, and home of the saints of God.

(Read Revelation 21:1-8)

As Revelation described heaven, there are 6 characteristics we need to know:

1. Heaven will never pass away.
2. Heaven will be absolutely, indescribably beautiful.
3. Heaven will be filled with rejoicing.
4. Heaven is a place of complete peace.
5. Heaven is a place where the love of God sustains us forever.
6. Heaven is a place where we are completely secure

The primary message the Bible give us about heaven is this: IT IS REAL!



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Wednesday Night Bible Study

Dec. 11, 2013

Revelation 21:9-22:3

As the Book of Revelation closes, we can see that at physical death, the lost immediately go to hades, and the saved immediately go to paradise.

When God consummates history, all unsaved will be judged and sent to hell. Likewise, all the saved will be given their permanent home, called the New Jerusalem.

The city of God is surrounded by 4 walls, and 12 gates.

Beginning in Revelation 12:15, we see an actual description of the New Jerusalem. We are given its true dimensions.

Revelation 21:16 tells us the New Jerusalem is equal in length, breadth and height; it is shaped like a cube. Each side is roughly 1,500 miles; it is somewhat bigger than the moon.

With all the people of God living inside, we do not have to worry about being overcrowded.

The wall of heaven is made of jasper, which is most likely diamond.

The gates of heaven are each a single pearl.

There is no church inside the New Jerusalem, because the whole city is God's House.

The city is not lit by an outside source, such as the sun; it is lit from the inside by the glory of God.

And because God's glory never dims, there is no night in that city.

According to chapter 22, the River of life flows out of the throne of God.

And although it is often misquoted, there is only ONE street of gold.

In Genesis 3, we see the Tree of Life denied to Adam and Eve; In Revelation 22, it is freely accessible on both sides of the River of God.

Revelation 22:3 says we will all have holy work in heaven: "his servants shall serve him."



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Wednesday Night Bible Study, Jan. 8, 2014 ***Revelation 22***

In Revelation 22, the end of Revelations sets forth the blessings of God upon the saved.

(Read Revelation 22)

Within the New Jerusalem, the Throne of God and the Lamb have a central position for all to see and adore.

Issuing from the throne is a River of the water of life.

Another major image that we see in Revelation 22:2 is the Tree of Life. We first see this image in Genesis chapter 3 in the Garden of Eden.

Adam and Eve were banished/denied access from the Tree.
In Revelation, access to the Tree is restored.

Through sin, we lost the Tree of Life.
Through grace, we freely touch it in Heaven.

Revelation 22:3 is an important verse, because we see that God's servants will serve Him in heaven.

Revelation 22:4, scripture tells us we will look God in the face.

His name will be inscribed in the believer's forehead.

In Revelation 22:8, John repeats a major mistake:
He falls to worship an angel. He also commits this mistake in Revelation 19:10.

This is a key to a Godly life: In all we do, we worship God Alone.

In Revelation 22:10, the angel tells John to leave the Book of Revelation open. People need to read and hear these words.

He is the overarching theme of Revelation; This Book reveals this Truth:
Jesus alone is worthy.

Revelation 22:17 are words of an invitation.

- Everyone is invited to the water of life.
- Anyone who is thirsty is welcome to drink, and be saved.

Revelation 22:18-19 concludes Revelation with a warning: Do not tamper with God's written Word!

The Word of God ends with this promise from Jesus: He is coming back soon (quickly).