

## Revelation

1. One day there will be no COVID and no pain.
2. In the NJ we will be assured of permanent healing.
3. How is Revelation relevant to us in the 21<sup>st</sup> century?
4. This AM we will 1<sup>st</sup> seek to review Revelations 7 parts.
5. Then we will look at 7 practical ways to respond to Revelation.

## Review

- **Prologue: John described 7 characteristics of Jesus (Rev 1).**

I. In the 1<sup>st</sup> part of the book's body,

**Jesus evaluated 7 local churches (Rev 2-3).**

II. **Jesus will judge unbelievers for 7 years (Rev 4-18).**

- A. Tribulation period is between church's rapture & Jesus's return to earth.
- B. The first half of 7-yr tribulation will last for 1260 days (11:3).
- C. The next 3.5 years will bring more persecution & 7 series of plagues (Rev 6:12-18:24).

III. **Jesus will return with His bride, the church (Rev 19).**

- *That's us.*

IV. **Jesus will punish Satan, & reward tribulation saints (Rev 20:1-4).**

- A. He will have Satan bound for 1000 years.
- B. Deceased tribulation saints will be rewarded to rule w J for 1000 yrs.

V. **Jesus will rule for 1000-years on the earth (Rev 20:5-6).**

- This is the millennial kingdom of Christ.

VI. **Jesus will send Satan & followers to their lake (Rev 20:11-15).**

- A. Satan will be released to lead the final rebellion (20:7-9).
- B. Satan will be thrown into the lake of fire (20:10).
- C. All unbelievers will go to the lake of fire (20:11-15).

Finally,

VII. **Jesus will host all believers to live with Him forever (Rev 21:1-22:6).**

- **Conclusion: Jesus promoted 7 responses (Rev 22:7-21).**

## 7 Right Responses (Rev 22:7-21)

We are directed here to praise, proclaim, persevere, purify, plead, preserve, and pray!

I. **Praise God (22:8-9)!**

- A. John's immediate reaction to the revelation was to worship.
  1. Yet, he worshipped an interpreter of Rev, not its author.
  2. *Let's not praise G's messengers more than we praise God.*
    - a. *Some people praise a Xn minister more than God.*
    - b. *An affective Xn prompts people to praise G not himself.*
- B. He was redirected to worship God.
  1. Worship involves praise (Luke 24:51).
  2. Worship is matter of heart not art.
    - a. Worship is about our awe of God.
      - i. It not about the angle of our legs, arms, or head.
      - ii. *When I'm in awe, I might spontaneously give a physical response or a musical response.*
      - iii. *Let's each seek to give God our awe-ful praise.*
    - b. The Pharisees hearts were focused more on their legalism than their praise of God.

C. *Application*

1. *This coming week, stop & appreciate what God is showing you about Himself.*
2. *Let God bring you a greater awe of Him.*

II. **Proclaim Revelation (22:10)!**

- A. John was not to seal up the prophecy but proclaim to others.
- B. *Let's not withhold from others the information of this book.*
- C. *Application: Recognize that this book is rarely taught in local churches these days.*
  1. *Many pastors say it is irrelevant or too controversial.*
  2. We are not to bundle it up, but to unroll it for all to see.

### III. Persevere faithfully (22:11-12)!

- A. People will be stuck in their decisions and sins.
  - 1. This cemented deception will come to unbelievers when Antichrist desecrates Jerusalem's temple.
  - 2. Now a days, people can change their ways.
  - 3. *Evangelism is "one thing we will not be able to do in the New Earth."*
  - 4. Jesus directed His followers to focus on evangelism.
  - 5. They were not to use their time and energy to set dates for the rapture and J's kingdom (Acts 1:6-8).
- B. Jesus is coming soon w rewards for faithful Christians (11-12).
  - 1. Unbeliever's sins will condemn them to the lake of fire.
  - 2. Believer's faithful service will secure eternal reward.
- C. Let's be faithful in our assignments from God.
  - "Only one life will soon be passed. Only what's done for Christ will last."

### IV. Purify souls (22:11-15)!

- A. Like God the Father, Jesus is the Alpha and Omega.
  - 1. The Father claimed this for Himself.
  - 2. Yet, the Son also is fully God.
    - a. Alpha is the first letter in the Greek alphabet.
      - i. Jesus was in existence at the beg of time (Col 1:15).
      - ii. *Jesus is the alpha in our dog sled team,*
      - iii. *He leads us through this life.*
    - b. Omega is the last letter.
      - i. Jesus will be with us at the end.
      - ii. He will usher us into the eternal state.
- B. Blessed is the purified.
  - Purification comes by accepting J's blood for forgiveness (Col 1:14; Matt 26:28).
- C. Cursed are the unwashed.
  - 1. Dogs is a derogatory term for people of low character.
  - 2. *Will there be dogs in heaven?*

### V. Plead for Jesus to come back for us (16-17)!

- A. Let's get ready for Jesus!
  - 1. Revelation is for our churches.
    - It will also help believers in the trib to find their way.
  - 2. Jesus is David's ancestor (Matt 1:1).
  - 3. Jesus is David's descendant (Luke 2:4).
  - 4. Jesus's return will announce the dawn of a new day.
- B. Accept Jesus's invitation for you!
  - 1. The Spirit [of God] and the bride [the church] invite thirsty ones to come to God.
  - 2. *As Ian & Claire invite others to their wedding, God & His bride invite us to our wedding.*
- C. Accept Jesus to gain real life for free (John 4:14; 10:10).

### VI. Preserve Revelation (22:18-19)!

- A. J will punish anyone who adds to or subtracts from Revelation.
- B. Jesus's followers are directed to keep Revelation just as it is!
  - 1. Do not add prophecies. *Cults add new revelation to Bible*
  - 2. Do not set dates for future events.
    - a. *Radio preachers air predictions that are not in Rev.*
      - i. *The have announced to the world that Jesus will come this October.*
      - ii. *Christians get all stirred up about current events that merely reflect the tribulation period.*
      - iii. *People are led to believe that certain events mean that Jesus is returning in the generation that witnessed the rebirth of Israel*
    - b. *Here are some things that cause Xns to think that Jesus is coming back in this decade.*
      - a) *Global banking, open borders, superpowers' alliances, rise of charismatic leaders, inflation,*
      - b) *NYC fitting B's description.*
    - ii. Jesus told us not to do that (Matt 24:6).
    - iii. Date setters lose credibility when they are wrong.
    - iv. Let's not be like the *The Boy Who Cried Wolf.*

## VII. Pray for speediness & grace (22:20-21)!

- A. Jesus announced His soon return.
- B. John affirmed that he wanted Jesus to come sooner than later.
  1. Jesus instructed us to pray this as well (Matt 6:10).
  2. Jesus said to remember His soon coming whenever we have communion (1 Cor 11:26).
  3. Paul closed 1 Corinthians by asking the Lord to come.
    - The Aramaic, *Maranatha*, means “Our Lord, come!”
- C. John then asked for God's grace to bless the seven churches.
  1. How does Jesus's grace affect us today.
    - a. His grace helps us endure pain and aging (1 Cor 12:9).
    - b. His grace gives us peace during our storms.
    - c. His grace prompts us to invite others to experience Jesus' grace of salvation (Titus 2:1).
  2. *There have been many conversions because Christians clarified Revelation to others.*
    - a. *I know a couple who accepted Jesus by reading a book that clarified the immanence of Jesus's return.*
    - b. *They got ready for eternity. Are you?*
  3. What are we to do with Revelation?
    - a. Let's praise Jesus,
    - b. Let's proclaim Revelation's truths.
    - c. Let's persevere in doing G's assignments for each of us.
    - d. Let's purify ourselves by accepting Jesus's blood.
    - e. Let's plead for Jesus to come quickly.
    - f. Let's preserve Revelation just as it is.
    - g. Let's pray for Jesus's grace to reach people in the UP, the UK, and the UER: the United Emirates Republic.