

The Revelation of Jesus Christ

The Book of Consummation

Lesson 1
Chapter 1

HISTORY

In the History section of our lessons we will be studying the factual. Learning about the what, where, when, and who. Our goal is to give you a sound anchor, and a base, a foundation that you can always go back to.

Just like Genesis is the Book of beginnings, Revelation is the Book of consummation, or in other words the book of endings, where something is completed. So we have a beginning and an end. Revelation is the end of the story, the last chapter of the good book. It is the end of the world as we know it, but what's really cool is that the very end is really the beginning again!

Revelation means unveiling or disclosure. The title in the Greek text is *Apokalypsis Ioannou, Revelation of John*. However the real title comes from the very 1st verse: *Apokalypsis Iesou Christou, The Revelation of Jesus Christ*.

The author of this book is God Himself! (Rev. 1:1) The Father gave revelation to His Son, and the Son gave revelation to John, and it was signified (written with signs, 15:1, wonders 12:1-3, and miracles 19:20) by an angel. Why did God use symbolism? Because symbolism is not weakened by time, and also, it's kind of a "spiritual code" understood by those who know Christ personally. Back then the Roman soldiers wouldn't have understood a thing in this book. It was an enigma, a puzzle, but God is going to reveal to us a mystery. A secret that would otherwise not be known! This is the only Book in the whole New Testament that focuses mainly on prophetic events. It is the divine and wonderful program of God.

His plan of redemption is completed, and the holy name of God is vindicated before all creation, Jesus takes His rightful seat on the throne as King of Kings and Lord of Lords. Jesus was always, is always, and will be always in control. Things are going according to His plan and He is coming back soon!

The Lord told John (the “disciple whom Jesus loved”) to write the revelation down, so that we would know what’s coming. The message is so important that it is the only book in the whole Bible that comes with a blessing (1:3), a curse (22:18, 19), and its own divine outline.

- I. “The things which you have seen” (Chap. 1)
 - a. GOD gave this revelation to Jesus Christ to show us what was going to shortly take place. (v.1)
 - b. Jesus made it known to John so that He could write it down for us to read. John was His faithful witness. (v. 2)

- II. “The things which are” (Chap. 2-3)
 - a. Jesus gives 7 messages to 7 churches.
 - b. These letters are not only historical, but relevant today. They not only speak to the body of Christ (His church) but they speak to us personally.
 - c. They all refer to an aspect of Christ.
 - d. They tell us that the Lord knows what we’re doing. He’s watching!
 - e. They contain a command, a condemnation, a correction, and a challenge.

- III. “The things that must take place after this” (Chap. 4-22) John is caught up to heaven where he sees everything that is going to happen in the last days:
 - a. The throne of God Chap. 4-5
 - b. The tribulation Chap. 6-19
 - c. The 2nd coming with His church (end of chap. 19)
 - d. The Millennium--the 1000 yr. reign with peace and prosperity (Chap. 20)
 - e. The new heaven and the new earth! (Chap. 21-22)

During the second round of Christian persecutions, (the 1st was Nero A.D. 64-67) Emperor Titus Flavius Domitian tortured and killed approximately 40,000 believers in another Roman effort to wipe out the Christian faith because he wanted to be worshiped as “Lord and God.” After a failed attempt to boil him in oil alive, John was banished to the island of Patmos. Patmos is a rocky volcanic barren island where the Romans sent political offenders and criminals. This was around A.D. 95.

John suffered on this island, (Matt. 20:20-23) and it was on this island that John was caught up to heaven and witnessed the most amazing things, from the throne of God to the warnings, signs, wonders, destruction in the last days, and the return of Jesus Christ! All the precious promises fulfilled. The wrath of God for the disobedient is contrasted with the joy and hope for the redeemed.

Memory verse:

“Behold I am coming quickly! Blessed is he who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book.” Rev. 22:7

Read Revelation Chapter 1 (before starting, please open in prayer, thanking Him always for everything. Ask Him to lead you and guide you in all things and pray for wisdom)

Let’s take a look at verses 1-3

1. (Revelation 1:1) who wrote this book and why does He want this Revelation revealed? (v.1)
2. Look up the word “signified” and write out its definition.
3. Who reveals secrets? (Amos 3:7) (Deut. 29:29)

4. Who is the writer in verse 2? What does verse 2 tell us about the writer?

See (1 John 1:1-4) (John 13:23) (John 1:14)

John is known as the “apostle of love.” His whole message was of love (1 John 2:8-10; 3:14) (John 3:16). There was only one disciple who was at the cross (John 19: 26,27) and John understood the Deity of Christ (John 1:1, 14). John was very selective about what he wrote in his epistle. He said, “And there are so many other things that Jesus did, which if they were all written one by one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that would be written. Amen. (John 21:25). He is the disciple who testifies. He saw everything and wrote these things down and he was believed. They knew he was telling the truth (John 19:35). When John wrote the Book of John, he chose to leave out a lot of stuff and concentrate on the person, the Deity of Jesus Christ.

5. Why did John choose to write the gospel in this way? (Rev. 1:10-11)

6. In verse 3, what miraculous things are promised when you read this book?

(v. 3 “...reads and those who hear...” in Greek translates to read out loud.)

7. Why do you think there is a blessing for those who read out loud and for those

who hear these words read? (James 1:22-25)

Spiritual Application:

While this Revelation deals primarily with God’s judgment, **John begins with grace and peace!** John begins by telling us that we can receive

what we do not deserve - GRACE! There is also peace! Grace and peace come from our Father. We receive grace from Him and that gives us peace. Furthermore, the source of grace and peace is from the Holy Spirit. It is the Holy Spirit that in all His glory brings grace and peace to believers. (Gal. 5:22)

1. Write out the definition of grace.

In John 9:35 Jesus tells us who He is. Jesus asks, “Do you believe in the Son of man?” (v. 36) He answered and said, “Who is He Lord that I may believe in Him?” (v.37) and Jesus said to him, “You have both seen Him and it is He who is talking with you.”

2. Has anyone seen the Father? (John 14:7, 9)

3. Who is God? (Ex 3:14, John 1:1)

(Leaders guide - Jesus is God with skin on (John 1:14) He is the Word (John 1:1) all things were made through Him and without Him nothing was made that was made. The beginning and the end, with Him all answers to all the questions are answered. Jesus is the Alpha and the Omega, the first to the last letter of God's person, character, and wisdom.)

4. Write out the description of Jesus as given in verse 5.

5. How does this relate to you?

6. How can there be peace when there are disasters, wars, famine, disease everywhere? Write out Phil. 4:6-7 in your own words.

7. In verse 7, it says that He is coming back with the clouds and every eye will see

Him. What do you think this is going to look like?

(See Luke 21:27, Matt. 24:30, Exod. 40:34-38, 2 Chron. 5:13-14, Ezek.1 (specifically 1:28))

8. In verse 11, Jesus tells John to write down what he sees in a book and send it to

the 7 churches. (v.20) John sees 7 golden lampstands / 7 stars, which represent

the 7 churches. Write the meaning from verse 20.

(A candlestick is self-consuming, while a lampstand supports a lamp with a wick, which is fed by oil, and with proper care can burn continuously!)

a. Who is the Light?

b. Who is the Oil?

c. Who is the lampstand?

(Leaders guide - Jesus is the light, the Holy Spirit is the oil, the church is the lampstand)

9. (v. 13-16) is a beautiful description of Jesus. Read Isaiah 53:2-12 and re-read

the description of Jesus in Rev. 1:13-16. What do you come up with?

(Leaders guide - **eyes of fire**; the eyes of the Lord pierce through into every arena and corner so that there is no secret that can be kept from Him. (John 4:29) **feet of brass**; brass speaks of strength and the furnace where brass has been burned speaks of purification. (Hab 1:13, Mal 3:2) **voice like a sword**; (Heb 4:12 NIV, Eph 6:17, John 3:16) the compassion of God was seen clearly in Jesus' **face like the sun shining**; (Matt. 17:2) (the transfiguration) (2 Cor. 4:6))

10. Re-write verse 18 in your own words.

11. Jesus was dead, but now He lives and only He has the keys to death and Hades. Using John 14:6 and Roman 6:23, describe how we ought to be living.

Personal:

1. Here is the Revelation, but 1st John describes who he is, and where he is.

John is on the Island of Patmos. He is alone and probably around 90-100 years

old. He is separated from his family and friends because of his faithfulness in

proclaiming God's Word. John could be depressed, but his circumstances did

not keep him from worshiping and seeking the Lord. What was John given on

Patmos?

2. Are you on your own Island of Patmos? What does it look like?

3. Describe the value of solitude?

4. What is the encouragement that God is giving to you personally?

5. What is your prayer?

6. What is the one question or comment you have from the chapter 1 study?

The Revelation of Jesus Christ

The Letters Part 1 Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamos, & Thyatira

Lesson 2 Chapter 2

Memory verse:

“And you shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. This is the first commandment.” Mark 12:30

The Letters:

These 7 letters / messages have four purposes:

1. They are 4 stages of church history over 7 epochs of time.
2. They were to be applied locally to the churches of that time, but also to our church and the needs and problems of today.
3. They apply personally, to help us individually.
4. They are prophetic. For us today most of the events are history now, but when John wrote them a lot of these things hadn't happened yet.

Every letter begins with a personal description of Jesus Christ taken from the vision given in the 1st chapter! (Example Rev. 2:1)

“Who holds the 7 stars and walks among the 7 lampstands?” (Jesus) it's repeated from the 1st chapter (Rev 1:12,13,16 and Jesus speaking in v. 20)

Then Jesus acknowledges that He knows what's going on. He tells them what they are doing right and He tells them what needs change. He concludes with a warning to repent and to listen, “He who has an ear.” This is speaking to us individually, and so we must apply them personally as we examine our own hearts. So if you have two ears, this applies double to you.

All the churches were located in what we call Turkey today. 2 were very good: Smyrna and Philadelphia. 2 were very bad: Sardis and Laodicea. Three were partly good and partly bad: Ephesus, Pergamos, and Thyatira.

Message to Ephesus 2:1-7 The church that Left Their 1st Love

History of Ephesus:

The period of this church was about A.D. 33- A.D. 100. By A.D. 97 when John went there after Patmos the place was already a mess. The purity of the church had been compromised, thus, you have the letter. It was a proud rich trading port located in Asia Minor (Turkey). It became a place of travel for tourists interested in carrying away statues and souvenirs of the gods and goddesses they worshiped there. The Greeks called her name Artemis and the Romans worshiped and called her Diana. She was the mother goddess of fertility and sexuality in all of Asia. Her temple in Ephesus was one of the 7 wonders of the ancient world (See Acts 19:34, 35). As Ephesus started relying more and more on the sale of idols and worshipping the occult they started literally losing their safe harbor. It started turning to silt (fine sand and clay carried by water and deposited in a channel or harbor) how ironic!

Ephesus was visited by Paul (Acts 19), Timothy, and John to name a few.

The name Ephesus means, *to relax, to let go of*. That's exactly what Ephesus was doing spiritually- beginning to relax and let go of the Lord.

Questions - Historical

2. What is the Character of Jesus revealed in v. 1?
3. Name 5 things that the Ephesians were doing right. (v. 2,3)
4. What did the Lord have against them? (v. 4)
6. What did Jesus tell them to do? (v. 5)

2. What would happen if they didn't do it? (v. 5)
3. What did they have in common with the Lord? (v. 6)
4. What's their reward if they overcome their desires? (v.7)

Spiritual Application:

This was a serving church, a sacrificing church. Their doctrine was "pure" and they were well taught. Their Pastors were some of the very best: Paul, Timothy, Apollos, and John). V.2 states that they can't bear those who are evil. Apostasy means abandoning the truth, to revolt against it, or a total departure. This wasn't the case with the Ephesians. The tendency today is tolerance, to be accepting with everyone and everything. Not Ephesus! They got so big on doing right that they were wrong. It's also interesting that the only passion and emotion spoken of is "hatred." They hated the doctrine of the Nicolaitans. The Nicolaitans probably taught the Gnostic doctrine, that the human body was evil; therefore it didn't matter what a person did with it. This view encouraged sexual promiscuity, and an "anything goes" type of lifestyle.

Although the Ephesians hated evil, which God also hates, they no longer gave God 1st place in their hearts. Nor did they reflect His love to others as they should. They became self-righteous and that's what happens when we judge others. It's interesting that the letter says they didn't lose their 1st love, they left it.

6. Do you ever ask yourself, "Does the Lord notice what I'm doing? Am I making a difference?" (Luke 12:7)
9. What is the motivation behind your service? Be honest!
3. Paul says in 2 Cor. 1:24 that **"We do not seek to have dominion over you, but we are helpers of your joy."** What does that mean to you?
4. What were you doing when you were on fire for the Lord?

5. What is the 1st commandment? (Mark 12:30)

6. What is the 2nd commandment? (Mark 12:31)

When the world sees you as a Christian, do they think, “Oh, how they love us!” or do they think, “Oh, how they hate us!”

Repent simply means *change direction*.

Message to Smyrna: 2:8-11 The Persecuted Church

History of Smyrna:

The church in Smyrna represents the period in church history from about A.D. 100 - A.D. 312. It was a well protected port off the west coast of Asia Minor (Turkey). Smyrna’s historical pride was in her Caesar-Cult. Smyrna was famous for its science, medicine, and the majesty of its buildings. They had no need of God. Caesar was their crown.

These years were filled with Roman emperors who launched such massive attacks against believers that between 5 and 7 million were martyred for their love and faithfulness to Jesus Christ. They were brutally put to death by crucifixion upside down, pulled apart, sawn in half, stoned, burned, beheaded, fed to lions, and used as human torches. They were unemployed and poverty stricken- poverty=means “abject poverty” possessing absolutely nothing.

The word “smyrna” comes from myrrh, a fragrance released only when crushed. Myrrh was offered to Jesus 3 times: At His birth (Matt. 2:11), on the cross as a pain killer (Mark 15:23), and on His dead body in the tomb (John 19:39-40), but when the women came to offer it on Easter Sunday to put it on His body, He wasn’t there. The tomb was empty! No need for the myrrh. Isaiah writes in 60:6 “They shall bring gold and incense” ...there’s no mention of myrrh because when Jesus comes back there will be no more pain, and no more death!

Historical Questions: read 2:8-11

5. How does Jesus identify Himself? (v.8) (1:11)
4. What is His main message? (v. 10a) (1:17)
3. What does He tell them to do? (v. 10b) (Matt. 10:22)
4. What will they receive? (v. 10b) (James 1:12)

Personal:

1. How do you stop being afraid? (this is a personal question)

(Leaders guide: my answer is...trust, the pain here cannot be compared to the beauty of being in our Abba Father's arms for eternity. As hard as it is to believe, the purifying fire of affliction makes the lamp of your testimony burn much more brilliantly.)

2. If you knew you were going to die tomorrow, what would you do tonight?

Message to Pergamos 2:12-17 The Compromising Church

History of Pergamos:

Pergamos was called "The Greatest City in Asia Minor" (Turkey). The Greek prefix *per*, as in pervert, means; *opposition or objection*. The suffix *gamos*, as in monogamy or bigamy means; *marriage*. So the name Pergamos itself means *objectionable marriage*.

The year was 312. The last of the 10 Roman emperors were dead. Constantine took charge, but he noticed that Christians weren't enlisting in

his army. He saw a vision of a cross in the heavens, became a Christian, and the Christians began siding with him. Christianity became the official religion of Rome. Constantine compromised with the pagan priests of Rome, thus a marriage of church and state took place. The coins that were issued were stamped on one side with a Christian symbol and on the other with a pagan symbol. From A.D. 313 - A.D. 600 church and state worked together as a political power (sound familiar?). As a result the church began its steady decline. Pergamos was the birthplace of Zeus. They built a 150 ft. high statue of Zeus in the middle of the city. According to Greek mythology Zeus was the Son of Satan. AKA "Satan's seat" (2:13). Antipas a faithful martyr was fried to death there for not renouncing his faith.

Historical Questions:

1. How does Jesus introduce Himself? (v. 12b) (1:16)
2. What does it mean when Jesus calls Himself a "sharp two edge sword?" (Heb. 4:12)
3. What are their circumstances? What good does Jesus acknowledge that their doing? (v. 13)
4. What are they doing wrong? (v.14)
5. What is their reward if they repent? (v.17)
6. What is the "hidden manna?" (v. 17) (Exod. 16:33)

(Leader's guide answer: We don't know, it's hidden! We'll find out later.)
7. What's written on the white stone? (v.17) (3:12)

(Leader's guide answer: We don't know, it's a new name that only Jesus knows!)

The Christian church of Pergamos was too tolerant of evil. Some church leaders advised Christians to practice pagan worship and all kinds of sexual perversion (2:14, 15). Pergamos today is a town called Bergama in modern Turkey, the ruins of Zeus have been uncovered and are a tourist attraction....again!

This church practiced the doctrine of Balaam (v.14) which taught one to compromise one's lifestyle while still continuing to profess Christ.

Personal:

1. Is there an area of your life that is compromised today?
2. What is your prayer?

Message to Thyatira: 2:18-29 The Corrupted Church

History of Thyatira:

The longest message was sent to the church in the smallest city! This was a military town. A commercial trade center with lots of trade guilds (craftsmen and merchants, usually having lots of power). They had a special temple built to the Greek god Apollo, a son of Zeus, also known as the sun god. This is probably why the Lord introduced Himself as "the Son of God." It's the only time in Revelation this title is used. The year is A.D. 600 and the church here had a major influence on Martin Luther and the reformers through A.D. 1500 so this church still carries on presently, which

is why Jesus now says, “till I come” in 2:25. It’s the 1st promise of Jesus return found in these letters.

1. How does Jesus introduce Himself? (v.18) (1:14b,15)
2. What are they doing well? (v.19)
3. What does 1Kings 21:25-26, 18:4, 21:5, 15, and 21:23 say about Jezebel?
(If you want more insight read 1 Kings 21)
4. The spirit of Jezebel also represents the mixing of any Occultism. What are some examples?
5. Who is “The Morning Star” of v.28? (22:16)

Personal:

1. Why is worship more important than works?
2. We all understand tolerance to a point, but when is it time to STAND UP for what is true?
3. How does your behavior match your beliefs?
(1 Cor 6:9-10)
4. The Lord is so patient not wanting any to be left behind. What does 2 Peter 3:10-12 NIV have to say about the future for those who choose not to repent?

5. Which letters do you see yourself personally? What is the Word saying to you?

The Book of Revelation

The Letters Part 2

Message to Sardis, Philadelphia, & Laodicea

Lesson 3
Chapter 3

Memory verse:

“And the second, like it, is this: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these.” Mark 12:31

Message to Sardis: 3:1-6 The Feeble Church

History:

Sardis was the chief city of Lydia built on a 1,000 foot bluff. Sardis was an extremely wealthy city that seemed invincible. Sardis was famous for their arts and crafts, and was the first center to mint gold and silver coins. They were so wealthy that Lydian kings became a legend for their riches. It was said that the sands were golden. Cyrus and his Persians captured this great citadel by surprise in 549B.C. Three centuries later the great earthquake of A.D. 17 completely destroyed Sardis physically and financially. Even though the Romans “bailed out” the city by a “stimulus package” of 10,000,000 sesterces (a Roman coin equal to one quarter of a denarius) the damage was done and the city never recovered!

Sardis means *escaping ones, those who came out, or remnant*. How appropriate because it is also the church that Martin Luther came out of. The Reformation swept across Europe and the Protestant Church was born so this Church is also alive today.

Historical Questions verses 1-6

5. How does Jesus identify Himself in v. 1?

2. Write out the correlating scripture in Chapter 1. (1:4, 16)

3. They may have a name or a reputation, but what condition are they in? (v.1)

3. What are the 5 things that the Lord tells them to do? (v.2,3)

4. What is the strict warning in v. 3?

6. What do the white garments represent? (19:8)

Challenge:

Do a little research on “The Book of Life” What do you come up with? (Phil 4:3) (Ex 32:32, 33) (Psalm 69:28) (Dan 12:1)(Rev 21:12-15)

Personal:

Sardis wasn't watching and their city fell, they had a “false sense of security.” We also can get so caught up in the busyness of life that we can fall and not even realize it until it's too late!

4. Knowing this, what ought you to be doing? (make it personal and practical)

(Leader's guide: 1 Peter 1)

5. It's easy to replace the work of the Holy Spirit, with the work of "servanthood" and "organization."

7. Have you ever done this?

8. When did you realize it or how did you recognize it?

c. How did you resolve it?

3. What does it mean to be filled with the Spirit?

4. Is your life filled with the Spirit?

5. How would you describe the Holy Spirit leading your life?

(Luke 11:13) (James 1:17)(Numbers 23:19) (Eph 1:13) (Rom 8:25-27)

Message to Philadelphia: 3:7-13 The Faithful Church

History of Philadelphia:

The word *Phileo* means *love of the brethren, or brotherly love*. Philadelphia was a Lydian city founded by Attalus, II Philadelphus (159-138 B.C.). The king loved and was devoted to his brother Eumenes, II when he died. Attalus, II started naming buildings after his brother and minted coins bearing his image. Consequently, the people of the town started calling it Philo-delphia, or the city of "brotherly love."

It was located on the main route from Rome to the East, so it was called "The gateway to the East." It was also called "Little Athens," because it was filled with many temples. The problem with this location was that it was prone to many earthquakes! It sat on a geological fault line and so in 17 B.C. it was destroyed along with Sardis and 10 other cities. Tiberius

gave a generous earthquake relief donation, so in gratitude the city was given a new name. The city was now called Neocaesarea. It became a “vine-growing” commerce and a center. It remained a Christian witness in spite of Moslem invasion and pressure throughout medieval and modern times. This church is alive today. Philadelphia is known now as Alasehir.

In Rev. 3:12, the believer who overcomes is compared to a pillar in the temple of God. Ironically, it is the pillars that are still standing in Philadelphia. The population in 1990 was 36,649, and they are known for their Sultana raisins.

Historical Questions:

7. How does Jesus identify Himself in v. 7?

1:18 says Jesus has the keys to death and hell, but now for the 1st time He brings in His lineage to David! Matthew traces Jesus genealogy back to Abraham, the father of the Jews (Matt 1:1,2) Luke wanted to prove that Jesus was the promised Messiah, salvation is for the whole world, therefore, he traces Jesus genealogy back to Adam, the father of the human race! (Luke 3:23-38)

10. Who is the door? (John 10:7) (James 5:9) (2 Cor 1:12)

3. Verse 8 is so comforting, there’s an open door! Who is it for? And can anyone shut it? (Rev. 3:20,21 4:1)

6. Describe the hour of trial in v. 10?

5. What is God’s promise to those who have a little strength, but have not denied His name and have kept His word and persevered?

4. What are the 5 things we get for overcoming? (v.12)

Personal:

The door is often used in scripture as a symbol of opportunity. The “Key” is the symbol of authority. Jesus opens many doors for us today, however He

will not enter them for us. There's a time to pray, and there's a time to act. It's useless to pray when God says GO! (Ex 14:15)

5. Have you missed opportunities to go when you've been procrastinating with much repetitive prayer? Give an example.

(Parable of 10 virgins Matt 25:10)

2. What are some of the ways you can lose your crown?

(Leaders guide - you can **leave** your crown by denying the Lord thru disobedience, pride, and apathy. You can be misled by false doctrines by, not reading the Word, loving the world more than Christ, etc.)

2. Since Jesus is coming quickly, what changes do you feel you need to make?

3. What encouragement is God giving you personally thru this letter?

5. What is your prayer?

Message to Laodicea: 3:14-22 The Lukewarm Church

History:

Laodicea located in Asia Minor (Turkey) was founded by Antiochus II in 261-246 B.C. The city was located on one of the great Asian trade routes, this sort of insured it's great commercial prosperity. Laodicea was a leading banking center, so when the big earthquake destroyed the city they refused the Senate's offer of relief funds.....the city was rich and so "they

had need of nothing.” They were also the major producer of fine glossy black wool, which was the source of fine cloaks and clothing sought after by the rich and famous. They had ample money to spend on entertainment---as evidenced by the thirty thousand seat amphitheater. They were also known for making fine wool rugs and carpets. Along with that, they were big on science and had a medical school that made powder for treatment of eye troubles that was highly valued in the ancient world.

Laodicea was built in a way that it couldn't defend itself, an unusual trait for back then. The only way it could survive militarily was to compromise with it's enemies. Another problem was that it was located in the middle between famous hot springs and Colosae, known for it's pure cold water, by the time the water traveled to Laodicea the water for the city was lukewarm!

The Greek word *laos* is where we get our word *laity* which means *people*. *Diece* means *decision* or *rule*. Thus the church of the Laodiceans was directed by the people rather than ruled by the Lord. Lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God.

Historical Questions v.14-22

4. How does Jesus introduce Himself in verse 14?
5. What's the corresponding scripture in Chapter 1? (v.5)
7. The Lord presented Himself as the Amen. The word truth is the Hebrew word amen. What does Isa 65:16 say?
4. What does 2 Cor 1:20 say?

(Leaders guide - this title speaks of Jesus authority and the certainty of the fulfillment of His promises!)

2. What does the Lord mean when He says He wishes you were either cold or hot?

2. What does the Lord counsel them to do in v. 18a?

a. What does this mean?

3. What's the great irony in v. 18? Remember He's talking to the Laodicean's.

(Leaders guide - they wear all the designer clothes (black glossy wool coats, etc) yet the Lord sees them as naked. They produce precious eye salve, yet the Lord sees them as blind!)

4. What element is missing from this letter that all the other letters have?

(Leaders guide - in every other letter there are some word of compliment. Here there is none. Yet here are some of the most tender and wonderful words Jesus has ever uttered.)

Spiritual Application:

1. How sad that Jesus is standing at the door and knocking to come into His own church! Describe how the Lord is received today?

Personal:

2. Our God is a gentleman, He is patient, long suffering, if you haven't already invited Him in, will you do it now?

a. Write a response to Him.

3. Who can you pray for that is blind?

4. How does this final letter encourage you?

These letters all end with “He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.”

5. What is the Lord saying to you today?

The Revelation of Jesus Christ

The Throne Room of God

Lesson 4 Chapter 4

Read verses 1 & 2

After reading about all the inconsistencies of the Churches through history, we might be tempted to think that Jesus would just plain give up on her. BUT NO, it's just the opposite! He is too much in Love.

As the times have been rolling on, Jesus has been busy preparing a place in heaven for His Bride and each passing year brings us closer to God's Appointed Day.

(Song 2:8 NIV) "Listen! My lover! Look! Here he comes, leaping across the mountains, bounding over the hills. My lover is like a gazelle or a young stag. Look!"

The rapture of the Church is the coming of our Great Lover, who is panting with passion, ferocity, a WARRIOR to the rescue. He can't wait to get His bride!

Memory Verse:

"In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump; for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed." 1 Cor. 15:52

Questions:

Rev. 4:1 "An open door in heaven"

6. Where was John when Jesus appeared to him?

5. What were his conditions?

5. Jesus told him to write 3 things, “The things which you have seen.”
“The things which are.”

a. What is next?

The events of the end of the world are about to take place. Starting in this chapter it's interesting to note that the church is never seen or mentioned again until chapter 19.

6. What happens in Rev. 19:1?

9. Describe what happens in Rev. 19:11-14.

4. What name does He have? Where is it written? (19:16)

It wasn't until after Jesus' Resurrection and the birth of the church that God chose to reveal His secret for a new body of believers and it was given to Paul to Reveal that secret.

(1 Cor 15:51-52 NKJV) “Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall be changed; in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.”

5. From this scripture, describe the mystery?

a. What happens to this group of people?

b. What is sounding?

Spiritual Application:

1. When does Jesus come for us?

(That's the great debate. It's one of great controversy among the church today.)

2. Turn to Exodus 19:16. What was happening and what was the sound?
3. In Ex. 19:20 write out the 1st 5 words?
4. What are the last 3?
5. In 1 Thessalonians 4:16, what trump is sounded by God?

In Exodus 19, God sounded the 1st trump when the Jews were gathered at the foot of Mount Sinai to hear the law. The last trump will also be sounded by God when the church is gathered to meet the Lord in the air.

6. What does Gen. 19:22 say?
7. What does Rev. 3:10 say?

The rapture before the Tribulation is also illustrated in Enoch (Gen. 5:24) who was taken prior to the flood because "He walked with God and so God took him."

Noah is a picture of Israel who will go through the tribulation, but will be protected. (Gen. 7)

The Tribulation is the Wrath of the Lamb (Rev. 6:16) and God (Rev. 11:18; 14:19;15:1)

8. But...What does it say in 1 Thessalonians 5:9?

Read Rev. 4: 3-6

As John beholds the Glory of God, he is overwhelmed. His Glory and Splendor are breathtaking! John describes it in the only human words he can come up with; *jasper = diamond, pictures the sparkling glowing radiance of Gods Holy presence. Sardis = ruby, symbolizes the immense*

value of the blood of Jesus. Inside each facet is another, then another, and another. The further in you go, the bigger everything gets. Like a rainbow of glory, with green like emerald forming a circle all around God's throne. In the Bible, *green* is the color of *life and creation*. His rainbow circles heaven, earth, the universe, and all Eternity. John is seeing a picture of eternal life, and all the creation in it! Usually rainbows here on earth appear like an ARC. But in heaven it's all connected, like a circle!

6. What was the purpose of a rainbow given in Gen. 9:11-17?

8. Do you think animals are in heaven?

11. Who does it say is in heaven in Rev. 5:13?

7. What entered the arc in Gen. 7:1-3?

6. What was in heaven and what was Jesus riding in Rev. 19:11?

Many interpreters believe, and I believe also, that the 24 Elders are both the 12 tribes of Israel and the 12 apostles which complete and combine the OT with the NT. The old Covenant is fulfilled in the New Covenant thru the blood of Jesus Christ and the fulfillment of God's eternal plan He had from the beginning. The lamps (Rev. 1:20) represent the 7 churches that are up there now (you and Me!) burning. They now are completely filled with all the attributes of God through the power of His Holy Spirit. We have been made complete, transformed, incorruptible, made perfect because of Him and what He has done.

6. What does 1 Cor. 15:51-54 tell us?

"The Living Creatures" Read verses 6-11

These living creatures are described in more detail in Ezekiel 1:4-21, 10:1-14 and Isa 6:1,2 where we are told that they are Cherubim. The Cherubim have to do with fulfilling God's purposes and decrees upon the earth. They have 4 faces! For everything there is a meaning and a meaning for everything!

Example:

3 = The God Head: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

7 = Completion, perfection

6 = Man

5 = Grace

4 = The world God has made / creation: 4 seasons, 4 corners of the earth,

4 winds, 4 points of a compass, 4 Gospels, 4 faces of the Cherubim, 4

Gospels that went straight out unto the whole world!

Each face represents a side or a facet of God Himself:

1. The Lion represents - strength, royal authority. Jesus has all strength, and all royal authority.
2. The Calf (Bull, Ox) represents - powerful servant or service. Jesus was a powerful servant of all and never tired of His service.
3. The Man represents - compassion, wisdom, character. Jesus was the Son of man, compassionate Savior to the world with love for all people, rich or poor, Jew or Gentile.
4. The Eagle represents - Deity, God. Jesus is God incarnate.

The Cherubim have these attributes plus they have 6 wings, (Ezek. 1:11,12 and chapter 10) represent humility, they cover themselves. 2 wings represent brotherly love, they touch each other. 2 stretched upward glorified God, they used them for flying. They never rest because they never tire of what they do!

The wheels: (Ezek. 1:15-21) (Ezek. 10)

The wheels represent the Holy Spirit, (v.11) it's the power by which they travel and they can travel at lightning speed. The eyes represent the fact that He sees everything.

Personal:

1. When you “go out,” are you moving in a straight path?

2. Are your eyes opened to everything around you looking for opportunity?

3. Are you as strong as a beryl? (Talking about the 4 Gospels...Jesus Christ Crucified)

4. Are you like a wheel, going back and forth to the Lord in fervent prayer so that you don't run on empty?

5. Do you think you would tire of worshiping the Lord?

6. What do you think heaven is like?

7. When we are cleaned, robed, crowned, and filled, we won't be able to help our self. The joy will gush out of us, we won't be able to help it! We will be overwhelmed. What does I Cor. 2:9 say?
 - a. Now turn to Isa 64:6 what does that say?

8. Read Psalm 30:11,12. Tell your personal experience of these verses.

9. Why is worship so important?

10. What happens when you worship?

11. Do you have a favorite worship song? What is it?

There's going to be such a big party in heaven and Jesus is the Life of the party. (Psalm 150:3-6) All creation will be singing and participating with joy insurmountable!

12. What is your prayer?

The Revelation Jesus Christ

The Sealed Book

Lesson 5
Chapter 5

Memory verse:

“I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up, and the train of His robe filled the temple.” Isaiah 6:1b

“Behold the Lion of the Tribe of Judah!”

Read Rev. 5: 1-8

In Chapter 4 we see God as the Creator, in chapter 5 we see Christ as the Lamb who was slain...The REDEEMER. In this sealed book/scroll we see a title deed to planet earth.

Back in John's day a title deed was written on eight-by-ten sheets of papyrus and connected horizontally and wound around a wooden handle. It was written on only one side, the smooth side, and then sealed (Jer. 32:6-9). The title deed of ownership included the land, the house, the goods, the valuables, and all things in their possession. If the owner of the property became unable to meet the financial obligations he would have to relinquish it. On the back side he would write his debts and it would be sealed with 7 seals. If at any time during the seven years he could pay off his debt, the seals would be broken and the title deed returned.

7. Who has the scroll in v. 1?
(Ezek. 2:7,9,19)

6. Why in v. 3 would John weep at no one being able to open the scroll?

6. In v. 6, who is in the midst of the throne?

7. Look up the word “midst” and write its meaning.
5. Who is at the center of all that transpires in Heaven?
6. Who does v. 5 say is worthy to open the scroll?
7. Write out what Psalm 2:7,8 says?
8. What does Hebrews 1:2 say?

What a beautiful picture of God the Father handing over the title deed to His Son (v.1). There is NO ONE found on heaven or on earth other than Jesus who is worthy. Jesus is The Lion of the Tribe of Judah, the Root of David (v.5, see also Isaiah 11). The root, simply means He’s the root. He is the beginning, He is at the beginning of the genealogy, He was there before David was.

Jesus was, is, and always will be the only one who is worthy to open the scroll, He alone holds the title deed. He alone loosens the seals because of what He did on the cross (v. 6). He alone is worthy because His death conquered all the sin of the world past, present, and future (John 1:29). The battle was fought and the Lamb is the proof. In the struggle of the whole world from beginning to end, between the Kingdom of this world and the Kingdom of God, it is the suffering Lamb of God that is the Victor!

So Jesus shows Himself in His slain condition; however, everyone can see at the same time that He has 7 horns and 7 eyes which are the fullness of the 7 spirits.

Verse 6b

1. He has 7 horns which equal perfect power, all conquering, all might.
2. He has 7 eyes which equal perfect insight, all wisdom, all knowledge.
3. The 7 eyes are the 7 spirits which are the fullness of God’s spirit. He is perfect in insight, wisdom, and knowledge.

In **Love** He has perfect insight, wisdom, and knowledge
In **Grace** He has perfect insight, wisdom, and knowledge
In **Mercy** He has perfect insight, wisdom, and knowledge
In **Peace** He has perfect insight, wisdom, and knowledge
In **Long-suffering** He has perfect insight, wisdom, and

knowledge

In **Patience** He has perfect insight, wisdom, and knowledge
In **Joy** He has perfect insight, wisdom, and knowledge

These 7 Spirits are lumped together in how we acknowledge Him. We say He is: "Omnipotent, Omniscient, and Omnipresent."

The scroll contains 7 seals which will be opened one by one starting in chapter 6.

These are the disasters, plagues, wars, destruction, and death which is to come upon the whole world.

The Lord is so patient. People have a choice there is no middle ground anymore. The time to be lukewarm is over (Rev. 3:16). Repent and live or choose to sin and die. It's black and white and it's just that simple.

Spiritual Application:

6. Why do you think people choose to keep sinning when they now know by this time that the Lord is in control of all things? (2 Thess. 2:10,11) (2 Co 30:8) (Acts 7:51)

7. I think the Scroll represents the deed of ownership to Satan, of man's original inheritance from God. What did God give Adam when He created him? (Gen. 1:26,28-30)

3. When Adam obeyed Satan and simultaneously turned his back on God, he

became a betrayer of God. He chose woman over God. We are no different than Adam. Can you list things that we choose over God daily?

4. What do you think it means to hand over YOUR title deed to the Lord?

In a real sense, Satan owns you. You are held captive and most times are oblivious!

Romans 3:10 NIV "There is no one righteous, not even one; there is no one who understands, no one who seeks God. All have turned away, they have together become worthless; there is no one who does good, not even one."

Romans 6:23 NKJV "For the wages of sin is death, but the GIFT of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

5. How can we go to heaven, the home of Jesus if Satan holds the title deed to our heart?

a. Don't we then belong here in his world?

b. What does Matthew 24:35 say?

9. Write what 1 John 2:17 says in your own words?

12. If the world is passing away, why would you want to stay here?

Verse 9 says: "And they sang a new song." YOU can sing a "new song" today by acknowledging that Jesus Christ is who He said He is and that He died on the cross for YOU so that YOU could be singing and joining in with a choir of angels and all creation up there with Him in heaven. Change

your mind about who your letting hold your title deed and repent! Confess your sins! Give the deed to your life to Christ, join the party before it's too late and the door is closed. Trust in the Lord with all your heart, mind, and soul, and He will give YOU a peace that surpasses all understanding. He will give YOU a "new song!"

8. Can you write a "New Song" of yours to the Lord? (just 3-5 lines will do)

2. What is your prayer?

"C.S. Lewis writes that sometimes it seems as if we have no desire for heaven at all; other times, it seems to him we've never desired anything else. In truth, he says, our yearning for heaven is *the secret signature of each soul*. It is the thing we have desired all along and will continue to desire, even when we don't realize it's the thing we want most." Dr. David Jeremiah

The Revelation of Jesus Christ

“Judgement”

Lesson 6
Chapter 6

Memory verse:

“But we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance; and perseverance, character; and character, hope.”
Romans 5:3-4

Chapters 4 & 5 are preparation for the wrath described in Revelation 6-9. We just don't understand the Holiness of God and the sinfulness of man. We don't get the full picture of what God wants to accomplish and how the forces of evil have opposed Him. God is gracious and long-suffering not wanting any to perish, but now it's time to judge sin and vindicate His servants. There is a war going on and God loves us and wants us to be with Him for all eternity.

Jer. 30:7 NIV says, “How awful that day will be! None will be like it. It will be a time of trouble for Jacob, but he will be saved out of it.”

Read verses 1-8 The 4 Horsemen

1. Who is on the white horse? Read (Dan 8:24 NIV) (Matt 24: 4,5,11,24) (Eph. 5:6)

a. What is his mission?

7. What does he have, and what is he sent to do? Read (Jer 6:14 NIV, Jer 14:13-14 NIV)

a. He has a bow, but what's missing?

- b. Are they conquering through a false sense of peace?
7. What was granted to the red horse to take from the earth? Read (1 Thess 5:3 NIV)
- a. What was he given?
8. What is his sword used for?
5. What color was the 3rd horse? (Matt 24:6-9)
- a. What did he have in his hand?
 - b. What do you think this means?
10. What color is the 4th horse?
- a. Who sat on it and what power was he given?

The 4 seals (the 4 horsemen) reveal to us how God is going to start off judging the world. The white horse represents Antichrist, the architect of world peace, a deception onto the whole world. He offers a “false peace” followed by a red horse, bloodshed, war, and holocaust. The black horse follows with scales in his hand. Famine follows as war destroys the worldwide food supplies. The 4th horse is pale. Death on a massive scale is the result.

Notice that the 1st 4 seals deal with the earth, they emphasize man's power of self-destruction. Judgment comes through the means that man has made.

Read verses 9-17

5. What does 2 Thess 2:7 NKJV say?

7. Who is the one who restrains?

8. What is the true church called in Matt 5:13-14?

10. Describe the world with the restrainer and the true church gone?

13. In the 5th seal, who are the martyred? (Matt 24:9)

6. What 2 things are they given in v. 11?

There will be many tribulation saints. They are the ones who did not receive Jesus as Savior until after the tribulation began. But now they have become faithful witnesses. It is important that we tell the world now about Jesus Christ so that after we're gone others will see the truth.

9. Name the 5 things happening in the 6th seal? (v. 12-14)

7. What do the “powerful leaders” do?

5. Do they recognize who is doing this? (v.16b,17 Luke 23:30, Rev 20:11)

Spiritual Application: Stay calm! Do not be afraid!

6. Jesus said He would never leave us nor forsake us. Read John 14:25-27, as we see the day approach, write out what this verse says to you.

3. Look up these scriptures and write in your own words what they mean to you.

a. Proverbs 17:27

b. Isaiah 7:4

4. Look up the word *calm* in the dictionary and write its meaning.

Proverbs 14:12 says, “There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death.” Don’t be fooled by what seems right, it’s all about what is right!

Personal:

3. Take a moment to evaluate your own life, how are YOU moving thru the midst of the storm.

4. Ecclesiastes 3:11 says that God has set eternity in our hearts, and that is heaven, our real and ultimate home. With that understanding how should you be living?

6. What is your prayer?

The Book of Revelation

“The Sealed”

Lesson 7
Chapter 7

Read 7:1-17

As the 6th seal has been broken and tribulation has been unleashed, it's like God has pushed the pause button. He has some business to do first. Before He opens the 7th seal, we find God sealing and sending 144,000 Jewish evangelists out into the world with the Gospel message. This seal will protect these chosen Jews from all the judgments that are to come upon the whole world. In scripture, a seal declares ownership and protection. Today, we who believe are sealed by the Holy Spirit (Eph. 1:13-14). This is our guarantee that we are the beloved, the bride of Christ! We are saved and we are safe. 1Thess 5:9-10 says, “For He did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. He died for us so that, whether we are awake or sleep, we may live together with Him.”

Verses 1-8 are the sealed 144,000 chosen Jewish elect whose eyes have been opened and now have a job to do. The Bible makes is very clear that

they are all children from the 12 tribes of Israel. (7:4) The bible then goes on to list the number from each tribe and states “were sealed.” These sealed tribes will go out and many will be saved because of them.

Verses 9-17 deals with the Gentiles who get saved after the church is gone, have been martyred, or killed for their faith, (v.14) and are now standing before the Lord in heaven. The bible says that there are so many that they can’t even be numbered! (v. 9) They are from every nation, tribe, people, and tongue. Ironically the biggest revival comes after the church is gone.

Memory verse:

“For the Lamb who is in the midst of the throne will shepherd them and lead them to living fountains of waters. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

Rev. 7:17

Questions:

8. As wrath is happening in chapter 6, who does God send and what does He tell them to do. (refer to 7: 1-3)

8. Where does He seal them and why do you think He seals them there?
Read (Ezek. 9:4) (Rev 20:4) (Rev 13:16)

8. God has used this type of sealing before. It’s nothing new. Look up Ezekiel 9:1-6. Write the message in your own words.

9. Satan wants to be God and therefore is a copy cat. What does Rev. 13:16 have to say about this?

9. Has God ever allowed Himself to be without a witness here on earth?
(refer to Is 1:9; 10:21; Ezek. 6:8)

a. What is a remnant?

b. Give an example.

11. Look up the word *seal* and give its definition in your own words..

2 Tim 2:19 “Nevertheless the solid foundation of the Lord stands, having this seal; “The Lord knows who are His,” and “Let everyone who names the name of Christ depart from iniquity.”

2 Cor 1:21-22 “Now He who establishes us with you in Christ and has anointed us is God, who also has sealed us and given us the Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee.”

6. The number 12 signifies *perfection of government* or *governmental perfection*.

It is found as a multiple in all that has to do with *rule*. What is 12x12?

a. What do you think they will be thought of as? Refer to: (Rev. 1:6; 20:6;

Isaiah 61:6)

6. What 7 things belong to God? (v.12)

Spiritual Application:

God's program is in full force throughout history. The distinctions still exist between the Jews, the Gentiles, the Church, and the Tribulations Saints. The "Bride of Christ" also known as "The Church" contains everybody who believe and obey the Lord before the rapture. They are with the Lord this whole time while judgments go on here on earth. The Tribulation saints are made up of those who do not believe by faith, but have to see to believe, thus, they wait until it is too late!

1.

1. In God's great and infinite mercy John lists 4 things that the Tribulation Saints

are doing. What are they wearing, holding, and saying in v. 9 & 10?

2. Where are they standing?

3. What a picture of Gods great mercy! Look up *mercy* in the dictionary, write the

definition in your won words.

4. Does this give you hope for your prodigals, or others you know, who just don't

believe that Jesus is who He says He is?

5. Who was Thomas, the APOSTLE, also known as? (See John 21:24-25)

6. When did Thomas really realize that Jesus is Lord? (See John: 27-29)

7. Who did Jesus say were blessed in John 21:29?
 - a. Knowing this, what is your hope for all who are not walking the way they ought?

 - b. What can you be doing for them that is most powerful and necessary?

8. What does it mean to you to be a *Bride of Christ*?

9. What does it mean to you to be a *Tribulation Saint*?

Nahum 1:7 says, "The Lord is good, a stronghold in the day of trouble; and He knows those who trust in Him."

Personal:

1. Which person do you want to be, a Bride of Christ or a Tribulation Saint?

2. Which person are you?

3. Do you have God's seal of approval? (Eph. 1:13 NIV)
 - a. How does this look personally and practically in everyday life?

4. What is the lesson you have learned from this study this week?

5. What is the 1 question, comment, or fact that you take away with you today?

6. What is your prayer?

The Revelation of Jesus Christ

The 7th Seal

Lesson 8
Chapter 8

Read 1-13 And There Was Silence in Heaven

Out of the 7th seal comes 7 trumpets which contain major disasters on the whole earth. The disasters of the first 4 trumpets, make us remember the plagues that God sent the Egyptians: Hail & Fire (Ex. 9:22-26), water turned to Blood (Ex. 7:19-25), and darkness (Ex 10:21-23). Yet still we see that God in His infinite mercy still restrains these judgments to only one third (verses 8-12) so that people would still have an opportunity to repent.

What is really scary is what is said right in the beginning of chapter 8, “there was silence in heaven” a silence before the storm, so to speak. Perhaps the silence is a moment to reflect on all the prayers of the saints and the cry of the martyrs. God is about to avenge their pleas. Chapter 8 culminates in verse 13, “...WOE, WOE, WOE TO THE INHABITANTS OF THE EARTH...”

God uses trumpets to announce facts and signify wars. God uses earthquakes to shake and wake people up. Out of the 7th seal comes 7 trumpets. A double dose of 7's and double dose of judgment because the first apparently wasn't enough for all to repent.

Memory Verse:

“We know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.” Romans 8:28

Questions:

9. The reality and the awesomeness of the opening of the 7th seal causes all in heaven to pause in silence. Why do you think this is?

2. Look up these verses and write in your words what they say to you.
 - a. John 5:24
 - b. Ezekiel 33:11
 - c. 2 Peter 3:9
 - d. Matthew 16:25
 - e. Jude 5

3. What does Rev. 6:10b and 8b have in common with Rev. 8:7a?

4. In the first 4 trumpet judgments, name the judgment, the target or impact, and the effect on humankind?

In verse 3 we see the use of a Golden Censer. The Golden Censer is used only in the Holy of Holies by the High Priest in the ritual of prayer. It is a golden container.

The brazen alter in the OT is where sacrifices were made. This speaks of the Cross of Christ (1 John 2:2 NIV). Fire is often used throughout scripture in regards to judgment. Incense is the prayers of the saints. God hears ALL our prayers and keeps them in a golden bowl with Him personally in the Holy of Holies. They are a sweet smelling aroma to Him! For over 2000 years God has allowed His judgment to rest upon His Son upon the cross. Now it is over. Judgment comes to those who after 2000 years of Grace and Mercy have rejected His Son. Without a Mediator, they will have to stand in front of God alone.

5. What does 1 Timothy 2:5 say?

Spiritual Application:

12. Hail mixed with blood falls, volcanoes erupt, the sea turns to blood, a comet or a star named Wormwood falls poisoning all of the water, and then everything goes dark! Why aren't people falling on their faces repenting? (See 2 Thess. 2:11 and Ex. 8:15)

a. Name the 7th plague that God sent against Egypt? (See Ex. 9:13-26)

b. Look up Joel 2:30. What does this scripture reveal?

7. Look up the word *wormwood*. Can you find where else in the bible this word is used? (use a concordance in the back of your Bible, or a Strongs)

8. What do you think would happen if all the fresh water: the rivers, the wells, the springs, etc. became *bitter*?

9. The first 3 plagues affect only a third of the land, sea, and water. The 4th plague affects the whole world. What do you think this is, and why do you think it affects the whole world? (Rev. 8:12)

11. What other times in the bible did God use darkness? (See Luke 23: 43-45 and Ex. 10: 21)

Personal:

1. There are two kinds of people who live here on planet earth, those who have their citizenship in heaven and those who don't. We know that the Lord Himself spits out the lukewarm. With this in mind, what does your passport say?

2. We all have had a, "Woe, Woe, Woe..." moment. Go back and remember yours. Did it change your course or did you need a repeat performance?

3. Knowing God is Good in all things, what is the common denominator in Rev. 8: 7b, 8b, 9a, 10b, 12a?
 - a. Why do you think only one-third was destroyed?

(Leader's guide answer - God restrained these judgments so that people would have an opportunity to repent)

4. What comment or question do you have regarding this lesson?
5. Knowing what's about to happen to the whole world, how should you be living your life today?
6. What's your prayer?

The Revelation of Jesus Christ

Woe, Woe!

Lesson 9
Chapter 9

Memory Verse:

“And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.” Rom. 12:2

Read verses 1-21

Verses 1-12 The 5th Trumpet, the 1st Woe!

These are some frightening times for those left on planet earth. In the 5th trumpet we see a whole host of horrible monsters, demonic in nature, appearing to John. An army of supernatural locusts coming out of the pit of hell, aka the Abyss (the bottomless pit) led by Abaddon = Destruction aka Apollyon = Destroyer, the Devil. These locusts obey orders!

Real locusts destroy plant life, but these supernatural demonic things torture the wicked and hard hearted who do not have God's seal. A Scorpion sting is painful but not deadly. These monsters torment but don't kill. A usual locust plague lasts about 5 months, but these demonic locusts will torment much longer. It will be so bad that people will try to kill themselves but somehow won't be able to.

10. Using the scriptures below, who do you think this fallen star is?

- a. Isaiah 14:12-14
- b. Luke 10:18
- c. 2 Cor. 11:14

2. Satan, our adversary, is one of the most common names used for the devil.

What are some other names that the NT uses to further provide information about his character? (See Rev. 12:10; 20:2,10; John 8:44; Matt. 13:19,39; Heb. 2:14)

3. Who really holds the keys to the bottomless pit? (Rev. 1:18)

4. What will happen to Satan when Christ returns? (See Rev. 20: 1-10)

5. As Heaven is the home of the Lord, His Angels, and His Saints, The abyss is
the home of Satan and his legion of demons. Even the demons don't want to be there! Look up Luke 8:30-31, what does it say?

6. In verse 12 it says, one woe is past, what's next?

Re-read verses 13-21 The 6th Trumpet, the 2nd Woe!

These 4 angels are bound at the great River Euphrates. These are evil angels waiting for thousands of years to be unleashed. They know their release date. Blood is on their mind and in their heart and they can't wait to kill a third of humanity.

8. In verse 15, what does it say about the 4 angels who released to kill a third of mankind?

9. Back in John's day there were only 200 million people in the whole world. Is it possible today to have an army that size?
10. Think about the colors mentioned in verse 17, what do you think they represent?
12. How many are killed? (v.18)
14. Did the survivors repent?
6. What was their sin?
7. When is this 2nd woe to finally pass? (Rev. 11:11-14)

Spiritual Application:

10. This is a big army these 4 angels are in charge of. Who is ultimately in charge? (Rev. 8:1; 13:7)
8. Look up 2 Kings 6:16-17, what does the bible have to say on this matter?
6. Knowing this, what should we not fear? Is that possible?
7. Who should really be afraid?
5. How does Daniel 12:1 and Matthew 24:21-22 help to encourage those left behind?

It seems as though evil goes on and on and God just seems to overlook it. However, things are not always as they appear... those angels of Rev. 9:15 had a release date. There is a date set, a set time, a set month and a year (Ecc. 3:1-8). Sin will run its course. The Lord lets it develop so He can wipe it out completely. God said to Abraham in Gen. 15-13, "All this land is yours, but for 400 years your descendants are going to be captive in a strange land." "...because the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet complete." Gen. 15:16

Personal:

1. Is your faith in God's control of the timing of events in your life strengthened by the knowledge that you've learned this lesson? How so?
2. Is there an area of your life that you think God wants to exercise more faith and trust?
3. Rom. 12:2, "And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God." What does this scripture mean to you?
4. Take a moment to ask God to help you see your sins from His perspective and give you a strength to change direction. Write out your prayer.

5. There's going to be a day when the time has run out. If you can't choose Christ

today, how will you be able to choose Him when all hell breaks loose? (2 Thess. 2:11)

6. Do you have a comment or a question from today's lesson?

The Revelation of Jesus Christ

The Little Book

Lesson 10
Chapter 10

Memory Verse:

“Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.” Matthew 28:19

Read verses 1-11 A Mighty Angel

God doesn't go without a witness to the world. Evangelism is still going on. In Revelation 10 we see a mighty angel, saying that the delay will be no longer. He gives John a little book, tells him to eat it, and then to prophesy **again about** many peoples, nations, tongues, and kings.

So, who is this angel? What are the 7 thunders that he uttered? What is the little book? What is he to prophesy about? Why did it make John sick?

Please take a moment to pray and bring the Lord into your study today.

Questions:

11. List 7 things that the scriptures tell us about this angel that might give you a clue to his identity. (See Rev. 10:1-6)

(Leader's guide--answer: 1. A mighty angel 2. Clothed with a cloud 3. Rainbow on his head 4. He holds the little book open 5. Voice is like a lion 6. 7 thunders uttered their voices 7. He raised his hand up to heaven and swore by God that there should be no more delay)

This sounds like Jesus; however, none of the nouns or verbs describing him are capitalized. Jesus often appeared in the OT as “the angel of the Lord.” (Ex. 3:2; Jud. 2:4; 6:11-12, 21-22; 2 Sam. 24:16) Michael is considered to be the archangel that protects Israel and the Jewish people. (Dan 10:10-21; 12:1; note on Jude 9) Michael’s name means *one like God*. The brilliance, the Dignity, the Majesty, all the heavenly gifts that God Himself created are in Michael who looks like God. If we saw Michael, we would probably think that he is Jesus!

9. What does Daniel 10:13, 21 say about who Michael is?

(Leader’s guide- a great prince)

10. During the tribulation, known also as the time of Jacobs trouble, there is a great prince who stands up and delivers the people. What does Daniel 12:1 say his name is?

10. In Daniel 12:5-8 the description matches Rev. 10:5,6. Who do you think it is? (clue - v.8 lord is not capitalized)

13. In Daniel 12:1 what book is Michael holding? Could this be the same book talked about in Rev. 10:8?

9. In Daniel 12:9 Michael tells Daniel to seal up these words until the end, but he gives him a time frame that will be understood in the future. This is a prophecy for the last days. What does the angel tell John in Rev. 10:11?

Back in Ezek. 3:3 the scroll/words were, “like honey in sweetness.” In Rev. 10:10 they are sweet and then bitter, a reflection of things to come.

It’s been said that the Book of Daniel is the key that unlocks the Book of Revelation. Two books that were hard to understand until the time that knowledge started exploding. Understanding prophecy is sweet in the fact that we have a future hope. Jesus is coming back, He rules and reigns as

King of Kings and Lord of Lords. However, it is bitter because we know the disobedience of mankind leads to destruction. People will be hurt, suffer, and die.

10. What things did the 7 thunders utter in v. 4?

(Leader's guide answer: We don't know, it's a secret!)

11. When does the bible say the mystery of God will be finished?

Spiritual Application:

1. When the mystery of God is finished, all questions will be answered, we will

know and understand everything! What mystery about God are you waiting to

have revealed personally?

2. God's Word is compared to food. Look up these scriptures and write what kind of food.

- a. Matt. 4:4
- b. 1 Peter 2:2
- c. 1 Cor. 3:1-2
- d. Ps 119:103

(Leader's guide answers: a. bread, b. milk, c. meat, d. honey)

3. Back in Rev. 6:10-11, we see the ancient question we all want answered, "How

long, O Lord, how long?" This has been the cry of God's people for thousands

of years. Why doesn't God do something about this or that? Why is there evil

in the world? What answer would you give to these questions? (John 1:29,

3:16; 12:31, 14:30)

(Leader's guide answer: God did do something about it, at Calvary when Jesus Christ was made sin and experienced all the wrath that should have gone to you and me. God is permitting evil to increase until it is ripe for judgement. Since Jesus already paid the price for sin in full, God can show up anytime He wants to, He can't be accused of injustice or unconcern)

Personal:

1. Knowing the price has already been paid and the battle is already won, do you still find yourself questioning God being discouraged and impatient that your demands haven't been met? (You may want to refer to Job 42)

2. Can you think of a time when taking your problems to the Lord just seemed bittersweet, like, that's nice but so what, nothings changed! Then thru time you see the wisdom of Gods patience, what you thought was a delay or unanswered prayer was really the answer!

3. What have you learned about the timing of God's judgment from your study?

4. What do you think the phrase "eat the Word of God" means?

5. How would doing this benefit you as a Christian, especially living in the last days?

6. Do you have an unanswered question or a comment from this lesson?

7. What is your prayer?

The Revelation of Jesus Christ

The 2 Witnesses

Lesson 11
Chapter 11

Read 11:1-19

Memory verse:

“We give you thanks, O Lord God Almighty, the One who is and who was and who is to come, because you have taken your great power and reigned.”

Rev. 11:17

Verses 11-14

Here we have more prophetic information. While the trumpets of chapter 8 & 9 are still taking place, the bible switches to what's taking place in Jerusalem during this first half of the Tribulation.

The Temple has been rebuilt under the protection of the Antichrist who is still seen as a great peacemaker. Israel is able to worship again and they are practicing sacrifices in the Temple. All seems well and good. In the first few verses we see John measuring the Temple. When you measure property, it usually means to claim it for yourself. This was an important act foreseen in the future, since right now it is run by Gentiles. Jesus said in Luke 21:24, "...until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled." The time of the Gentiles began in 606 B.C. when Babylon began to destroy Judah and Jerusalem. This will continue until Jesus Christ returns to deliver His Holy City and redeem Israel for Himself (Zech. 14). In the meantime, God still doesn't leave His people without a witness. In this case He sends 2 of His very best!

Questions: Who are these guys?

1. How does Zechariah 4:11-14 compare with Rev. 11:4 in the description of these two witnesses?

2. Who does Malachi 4:5 say one of the witnesses is?

12. What do olive trees represent, and what does a lampstand do? (See Zech. 4: 2,3,11,12,13,14)

(Leader's guide answer: They are Jewish and hold up the light. They shed light on the truth. Zechariah reveals to us that olive oil passes from the olive trees to the lampstand. We know that olive trees produce oil and oil feeds the lampstand. The lampstand which is a church, or witness (Rev 1:20) converts the oil it receives into light! This light will guide the way to the truth.

4. What was the job of the 2 witnesses and how long do they have to do it?

5. What were they wearing?

6. Who else wore sackcloth and what was his message? (2 Kings 1:3,7,8; John 1:6-13, 20-23; Mark 1:1-6; Matt. 3:1-4)

7. In Luke 3:4-9 John tells us that every tree that doesn't bear fruit is cut down. How does this apply to the two olive trees?

8. In Rev. 11:6 who had the power to shut heaven so that no rain falls? (1 Kings 17:1, 2 Kings 1:10,12)

10. Who had the power to turn water to blood and deliver plagues to the world? (Ex. 7:17, Ex. 4:9)

11. In Rev. 11:10 what are they called?

11. The two olive trees seem to me to represent 2 things; the law and the prophets. What 2 prophets were on the mount of transfiguration with Jesus Christ?

(Matt. 17:2-3; Luke 9:30)

11. In verse 12 what does the Lord say to them after their 3 ½ year ministry is over?!

14. What happens next in v. 13 and 14? Write this out in your own words.

Re-read verses 15-19 The 7th Trumpet

While all hell is breaking loose on earth, a major celebration is going on in heaven. Angels are shouting praises, the 24 elders are worshipping, and everybody is praising God. They are all so grateful to be there and that the time has finally come for Jesus to take over the kingdoms of the world!

1. In verse 19, where is the Ark of the Covenant?

So now we finally know where the ark of the covenant really is. It's not in India, it's not missing in the back of a large government warehouse, it's in the temple of God..... IN HEAVEN!

2. How does the 7th trumpet begin?

Spiritual Application:

10. In dealing with "your property" and the measuring of it. How can you relate spiritually to verses 1 and 2?

11. In relating to verse 4, who empowers you, what difference has it made in your life, and what difference have you made in the life of another?

12. What interrupted the global celebration following the death of the 2 witnesses?

13. How does this give you a future hope, and motivate you?

Personal:

Why do you think the Lord had John measure the temple and count the worshipers? Do you think he was measuring the spiritual condition of the people? Notice He placed the two witnesses "outside" the court. He planted them like two olive trees and two lampstands that stand before the Lord. Outside the temple is where the real miracles were taking place, the

anointing of oil and the witness of Jesus Christ. Inside the temple were animal sacrifices and apostasy, there was still no recognition of Jesus Christ as Messiah.

1. What kind of a witness are you in word and deed?
2. Is there a difference between repentance for what you've done and repentance because of sheer terror?
3. As you consider what's about to happen to the whole world, what thoughts and emotions motivate you to praise and worship Him now?
4. Think about God's reigning on earth and a REAL new world order with Jesus as KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS! What do you think it will be like? How does this expectancy affect you? Write a prayer response.

The Revelation of Jesus Christ

The Battle Since the Beginning

Chapter 12
Lesson 12

Read verses 1-17

Memory verse: (contains the 1st part of v. 10 and then 11)

Rev. 10a, & 11 “Then I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, “Now salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ have come,” and they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to death.”

Chapter 12 is a broad overview of what has taken place since the beginning. This battle has been going on since Genesis! (Gen. 3:15) Satan has wanted to be worshiped and so this battle between God and Satan is for control of the Universe. Throughout the OT Satan tried to stop the birth of Messiah by killing the genealogy. At one point there was only one little boy left! (2 Kings 11:1-3)

When Jesus was born Satan used King Herod (Matt. 2) and Judas. In every generation he has placed antichrists to destroy our faith and wipe out the Jewish people. Even today he has access to heaven and never stops accusing us day and night. He hates the Church, and he hates Israel.

Chapter 12 talks about what happened, and what’s going to happen, condensed all into 17 verses. In Chapter 13 (next weeks study) we’ll get into the “cast of characters” Satan’s unholy trinity that he’ll use to try to defeat God. His ego thinks he has a chance. What’s the best way to hurt God? Scare, deceive, and kill His kids!

Questions: A great sign in heaven

13. What did Joseph see himself as in his dream vision in Gen. 37:9-10)?

(Leaders guide) The sun, moon, and stars bowed down to me
Jacob=Israel, interpreted the dream to mean, “shall I, your mother, and your brothers, bow down to earth before you?”

11. What common things do you see between Joseph's dream and John's vision in Rev. 12:1?

(Leaders guide) woman, (Jacob/Israel) =sun; "moon under her feet"= nations, a company of nations; "a garland of 12 stars"= the 12 tribes of Israel, Israel's crown and glory

2a. What nation emerged from this family? (Gen. 35:9-12, 23-26)

(Leaders guide) God changed Jacob's name to Israel, "Be fruitful and multiply" a company of nations came from Israel and her 12 tribes. Israel shall be "Born again" (1948) and in the last days during the 7 year tribulation the 12 tribes will bring 12,000 from ea. tribe to evangelize the world, proclaiming Jesus as Messiah. (Rev. 7 & 14)

3. How does Isaiah 26:17 describe the nation of Israel?

12. Why does God use labor as an example? (Isaiah 42:14)

(Leaders Guide) God says He has held His peace long enough, and now He who has been restraining Himself, will do it no longer. He will cry out as if in labor and in great wrath, and He will give birth to something new.

From the beginning, God had a plan; He would redeem mankind and use the lines of Abraham and a small nation of Israel to bring Himself forth. Thus God Himself describes Israel as being a woman in labor. Clothed with the sun, and the moon and the 12 stars, is simply put.....Jesus is the light who will come out of Israel and the Word will go forth throughout all the land thru the 12 Apostles who are His witnesses. So in the Old Testament- Israel became a nation, and the 12 tribes went out. In the New Testament, Israel gave birth to Messiah Jesus, who gathered 12 Apostles unto Himself, and then He sent them out, powered by the Holy Spirit to tell the whole world the "Good News" and Nations were born unto Him.

12. Describe the 2nd sign that appeared in verse 3?

5b. Look up the word “diadem” in the dictionary, and write its meaning.

In verses 1-5 we see what’s happened. In verses 6-9 we see what’s happening. In verses 10-17, we see what will happen. In Rev. 13:1 we see again the description of the fiery red dragon, also known as: “The Beast out of the Sea; “The Antichrist. He has 7 heads, 10 horns, and 10 crowns, or diadems. 7 is the number of completion and 10 is the number of governmental rule. In the Bible “heads, horns, crowns,” show his claim to full authority and power on planet earth.....hence a 1 world government and 1 world ruler.

Heads=mountains of power, Leaders, or Kings, Princes, heads of authority.

Horns=kingdoms, nations, land masses

Crowns / Diadems=authority over these kingdoms, nations, lands...his crown of authority.

Example: Bill Gates is the head owner over a massive empire, run and overseen by a few presidents presiding over many territories where his companies have many branches. But they all answer, and pay homage to him, Bill Gates, as the OWNER/CEO...MAN IN CHARGE. (Rev. 17:9-12, 15-16)

15. In Rev. 12:7-9 what angel fought against Satan, and what was the outcome?

1a. Who will ultimately fight the dragon and win? (Zech. 12:8; Rev. 19:11-13)

11. What angel is identified with the nation of Israel? (Dan. 10:10-21; 21:1)

12. After getting kicked out of heaven permanently, what’s Satan’s attitude and what is he going to do next? (Rev. 12:12, 13)

12. What more than likely happens to the believers that are left? (v. 11)
13. In verse 14 God spares Israel, where do you think she is taken, and for how long?
14. How does the serpent try to kill the woman? (v. 15)
15. What does God use to help her? (v.16)
8. How does Satan try to hurt God? (v.17)
11. What ultimately happens to Satan? (Rev. 20:3-3)

Spiritual Application

Where else in the bible can you find that God uses nature for His will? (Refer to Ex 14:21; Jonah 1:17; Luke 23:45; Matt. 27:51) Try to find your own examples!

The phrase “like a flood” is Biblical language often used to describe severe persecution. Look up these verses and write a brief description:

Ps 18:4

Ps 32:6

Dan 9:26

Even though Israel was saturated with unbelief, God continues to protect her. What does this say to you about God?

Personal

9. How does this knowledge affect you in your confidence of His ability to save and protect you?

7. What correlation do you see between yourself and verse 4?

8. Knowing that Satan wants not, to just kill you, but devour you, how then should you be living your life?

6. What is your prayer?

5. What question or comment do you have from this study?

The Revelation of Jesus Christ

Satan's Cast of Characters

Chapter 13 Lesson 13

Read 1-18

Memory verse:

Rev. 13:18 "Here is wisdom. Let him who has understanding calculate the number of the beast, for it is the number of a man: His number is 666."

So here we come to the part in Revelation where everyone gets confused, so let's take it slow. There are two sets of times;

2 sets of 1260 days

2 sets of 42 months

2 sets of Three and one half years:

They're all saying the same amount of time which total 7 years.

There's 3 and 1/2 years before the Great tribulation known as the Wrath of the Lamb (6:16) Then there's the Great Tribulation known as the Wrath of God. (the whole 7 years is known as the 70 weeks of Daniel (Dan. 9:24) Let's now take a look at what's been happening during the 1st 3 and 1/2 years, aka 1260 days so far:

14. We have seen seals and trumpet judgments upon planet earth and afflicting humankind. (6-13)
15. We have seen the 2 witnesses prophesying in sackcloth for 1260 days, and then killed and resurrected to heaven (11:3)
16. We have seen the 144,000 Jews sealed. (7)
17. We have seen a mighty angel give a little book for everyone to eat and digest (10)

18. We have seen the people of Israel who heeded the warning protected in the wilderness for 1260 days (12:6, 12:14)
19. We have seen that the Holy City is being trodden by Gentiles for 42 months, aka 1260 days (11:3)

There's a lot going on here on planet earth! No wonder the angels said WOE! As the 7th trumpet is happening and the 3rd woe is about to begin, The Lord has John write about a cast of characters that Satan will be using, the Devil's unholy copy cat trinity. John sees them not as the "world sees them, he sees them for what they really are; A Beast (antichrist), the False Prophet (religious lying leader), and the Harlot (a church, who seduces people into believing and following the other 2 liars). John writes about where they come from, what they're doing, and how they are going to deceive people. Remember, this is still only the first half of the tribulation! The 2nd half starts when the Antichrist commits the abomination of desolation in the Temple, which we'll see happen in verse 6.

We left chapter 12 with the Jewish people tucked away in the desert somewhere safe and protected. This really enrages Satan, so he now goes after all believers not tucked away safe in the desert.

We see from John's point of view, not a charming peacemaker, but a Beast, out of the sea of the Gentile nations. A political leader in charge, he has full authority and all power. Verses 1-10 describe all that he has, and all that he does.

Questions: re-read v. 1-10; The beast out of the Sea (Antichrist)

12. What does Daniel 7:24 and Rev. 17:12 say that the 10 horns are?

(Leaders) (Dan. 7:24) there are 10 kings who arise from this kingdom (Rev. 17:12) gives further details: there are 10 kings who have received no kingdom, but they will have power (possible CEO's of corp. ; presidents are not kings, heads of state are not kings)

13. What does Rev. 17:9-10 say the seven heads are?

13. The Beast out of the sea (rev. 1:1) is Satan's "man," the Devil's version of messiah. What does Paul call him in 2 Thess 2:1-12?
16. Daniel prophesied that 4 great world powers would dominate the world over a course of time, he likens them to animals: Babylon=Lion; Medo-Persia=bear; Greece=leopard. Why do you think no animal is given to describe the 4th? See Dan 7:7; what does he call it instead of an animal?
13. As Daniel is considering these world powers, he sees something coming up among them...what do you think this is? (Dan. 7:8, 8:9, 11:21; Rev. 13:5-6)

Rome didn't fall over night, it just deteriorated over time. We can see today a revised New Roman Empire called the European Union, (see map) it pretty much encompasses all the ancient territory. The USA is a branch of that empire that separated from it a few hundred years ago. With the globalization of planet earth, the world trade system, the internet connecting us all, and the future "New World Order," the stage seems to be set for a one world leader who will control a one world government, a one world religion, and a one world church that supports it! When a world is going along just fine no one needs change, but when a world is falling apart, that's when it's ripe for a human takeover. Just look back at history.

Look up Ecc. 1:9, & 3:15, and write what they say.

13. What things do you see in common with the beast of Rev. 13:1 and the dragon of Rev. 12:3? What differences do you see?

14. Who do the people worship in verse 4 and why? (hint-look in v. 3)
15. Who gives power to the antichrist in verse 4?
16. Look up the word “blasphemy” and write it’s meaning.
12. What do you think his message says against God and His people?
10. In rev. 13:6 the antichrist blasphemes God in His tabernacle; this act kicks off the Great tribulation known as the Wrath of God! What does Daniel 12:11 call this event?

What does Matthew 24:15 say about it?

8. List some events or scary things that happen in Rev. 13:8-10.

Questions: re-read v. 11-18 The Beast out of the Earth (False Prophet)

9. List this 2nd beast’s job? (v.12-17)

This other beast named here---the false prophet is to Antichrist what the Holy Spirit is to Jesus Christ. The False Prophet comes across like a lamb (13:11) meek and mild, non-threatening. Just like the ministry of the Holy Spirit puts the focus on Jesus Christ, the false prophet will put the focus on Antichrist. The horns mentioned in 13:11 suggest that the false prophet has authority, but a crown is absent probably meaning that his authority is not political. He is a religious leader and the Harlot is the apostate church that follows him, thus following the Antichrist. He performs many great signs and wonders in front of the beast (antichrist) to deceive all peoples into believing the antichrist is the real messiah.

7. Satan finally gets his wish...to be worshiped, (v.4) what does Matt. 4: 8-9 say?

4. Satan can do nothing without God's permission; (see Job 1-2) and (Luke 22:31-32) so in this last half of the tribulation how much time does Satan have left? See verse 5

5. What does Daniel 7:19-28 say about this fourth empire?

5. What do Rev. 13:3, 12, &14, all have in common?

(Leaders guide) they all give more information about the "Beasts deadly wound that was healed. V.3 it was a mortal wound, V. 12 the deadly wound was healed, V. 14 he was wounded by the sword, and lived.

6. In v. 18 fill in the blanks. "Here is _____. Let him who has understanding _____ the number of the beast, for it is the number of a _____. His number is _____."

Spiritual Application:

It's so easy to be deceived, the bible warns us over and over not to be deceived. Find 3 scriptures that warn us about being deceived in these last days.

(Leaders guide) Eph. 5:6; 2 Ti 3:13; 4:3-4; Matt. 24:4

Why do you think the Bible is warning us so much of deception? If, even the "elect" can be deceived, do you think you can't be?
(Refer to Matthew 24:24-26; Eph. 5:7-11)

Discussion:

Do you see a world being set up for a great take over?

Do you see a mass deception going on concerning "moral values," and an "all religions lead to God" type of attitude?

In light of this, what can you do personally, as a family, and as fellow sisters?

Personal:

Is your name written in the book of life? How do you know?

What can you pray for to help you “stay on course,” and to not be deceived?

Do you have any comments or questions from this study?

The Revelation of Jesus Christ

The Redemption & Voice of 144,000

Chapter 14 Lesson 14

Memory Verse:

1 Peter 1:18-19, "Knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot."

Read verses 1-20

In chapters 6-11 we see Seals and trumpets, judgment poured out on earth; then a little pause just to tell us about the rise of the apostate church, antichrist, the false prophet, and his world empire in chapters 12-13.

Here in chapter 14 we see again the 144,000. The redeemed, the sealed (Rev. 7) standing with Christ in the heavenly Mount Zion! (Heb. 12:22-24) They were called "virgins" because they were true to Christ, whereas the "false church" is called a "harlot." They called the "first fruits," because they were the first 144,000 out of the tribes of Israel to follow Messiah and preach the gospel through out the world against antichrist. They were God's tribulation finest!

We now see them in heaven singing a "new song" that only they know, because how can anyone relate to what they've just gone through? The 7 years of tribulation will be the worst time in all of human history, yet God sealed and protected them! If you know Christ you are sealed and protected also!

Eph. 1:13-14 “And you also were included in Christ when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation. Having believed, you were marked in Him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God’s possession--to the praise of His glory.” NIV

Questions: reread verses 1-5 The Redeemed.....

20. Who is standing with these 144,000? (v.1)

2. Where are they standing? (v.3, 5, 17)

3. How are we presented to Christ? (2 Cor. 11:2)

4. What is the “new song” that these redeemed sing?
(Leaders guide-answer: no one knows, except them!)

Questions: reread verses 6-18 Angels and judgment.....

Here we see 6 angels flying around with 6 messages. In the questions below list all 6 messages that these angels bring, in your own words.

13. What is the 1st angel’s message? (v.6-7)

14. What’s the 2nd message? (v.8)

Babylon was once a city created by Nimrod (Gen. 10:8-10) In Daniel 4:30 it is the prize and great palace of Nebuchadnezzar that he created unto himself. Isaiah describes it as a place where its inhabitants were enslaved by magic, idolatry, and sacrilegiousness (Isa 47:1, 3, 9-13; also Jer. 50:35, 38 & Dan. 5:1-3, 3:18) Babylon now, has become the whole world.

What is Babylon called in Rev. 17:5?

14. What's the 3rd message the angel brings? (v.9-10)

17. In verse 14 we see someone very special, who is He? (ref. Dan. 7:13-14)

14. What's the 4th angel's message? (v. 15)

14. What's the 5th and 6th angel's message? (v.18-18)

God doesn't mess around with sin, He may allow sin to grow and reach it's full potential then He will pull it out by the root and be done with it so that it doesn't infect the whole crop. A "harvest" is not always a picture of salvation, it can also be a picture of judgment as seen here in verses 18-20.

Spiritual Application:

15. How does 2 Peter 3:10 describe the day of the Lord?

Do you think the people left at the end of verse 18 are surprised at the judgment coming upon them? Explain (still refer to 2 Peter 3:10)

16. Look up Matt. 24:43; write in your own words what it says.

3. Look up 2 Thess. 2:11, what does it say, in your own words?

17. What is your own personal insight on Luke 17:20?

People won't recognize the truth when they hear or see it. Many Pharisees, leaders, and rich men didn't recognize Jesus when He was right there in their midst performing many miracles!

Many people today don't recognize the voice of God thru the words and service of His saints. People will be caught up in worldly concerns and in their circumstances which will entangle them. Therefore, they won't be listening, so they won't be watching, so they won't be prepared for Jesus's coming. Example: "Noah's Ark" (Gen. 6) They will ignore and mock the Kingdom of God which is already at work through the power of the Holy Spirit poured out in the hearts of His people.

Right now, "The Kingdom of God" refers to Gods rule of grace in the world, a period foretold by the prophets of the OT and identified by Jesus as beginning with His ministry. Jesus said it would be like a hidden treasure (Matt. 13:44) But soon, and very soon, it will be a very real place indeed!

13. What did the Apostles say and ask of the Lord in Luke 17:5?

6. What does Isa. 5:2 say the Lord put in His vineyard?

Personal:

Knowing that our God is patient and long-suffering, waiting for sin to be fully ripened and then taken out with fire and a winepress.....what kind of a person should you strive to become?

Can we do anything in our own strength?

What encouragement do you get from the first part of today's study?

How can you apply this to your life today?

What is your focus today?

What is your prayer?

The Revelation of Jesus Christ

The Voices of the Overcomers!

Chapter 15 Lesson 15

Memory Verse:

Ephesians 2: 4-6 "But God, who is rich in mercy because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus."

Read verses 1-8

Here we have the preparation ceremony, a time of praise, worship, and thankfulness, before the great wrath is completed. Everyone who is in heaven is so grateful to be there, they all know that they didn't deserve it! They all know that they deserved death, and hell! They all know what Jesus did for them, not just grace, but grace for grace! They see Christ, and His entire story! They understand who He is fully, and what He did completely for them! They have overcome and are overwhelmed!

21. Look up John 1: 16, what do you think he means "grace for grace"? (ref. Col. 1:19; 2:9)

(Leaders guide) "grace for grace" literally means "grace upon grace" --it's a continual grace, inexhaustible grace. Where sin abounds, grace abounds even more (Rom. 5:20) When you trust in Jesus, He pours on you a continual grace.

14. Look up the word “grace” in the dictionary, and write out the definition.

Jesus was the fullness of all God had to offer us, and it pleased Him to offer us grace (pardon, undeserved favor, goodwill) through His Son, who was and is the embodiment of HIS grace.

Jesus was the Word who became flesh and dwelt among us. The GOD, who dwelt in the O/T Tabernacle, now came as a human being. The apostles and other witnesses beheld His divine glory in His miracles, (John 2:11) crucifixion, (John 19:34-35) and resurrection (John 20:24-29) they knew that God, in fact, was among them; pouring out grace upon grace!

Questions:

Before the angels pour out the bowls of the last judgments, John takes time out to notice what’s going on in heaven instead of just concentrating on what is happening on planet earth. In heaven they’re all singing and filled with great joyfulness!

Heaven is filled with the overcomers of the Beast and the world system! They did not love their lives unto death, and they did not take the mark of the beast, they died, but they LIVE!

15. There was an outburst of unutterable joy at the first sight of their Heavenly surroundings and their first sight of an unclouded vision of God, and so they sang. What song is this similar to in Ex. 15:1-21?

15. Go back and read Exodus 14:29 and let the Spirit guide you as you reflect back, and make current this scripture to what the 144,000 must have gone through in the tribulation. Where once they had a “sea” of tribulation all around them, what kind of sea do they have now in Rev. 15:2?

18. In Exodus 30:18, what was the water between the tabernacle and the altar used for?
15. In verse 6 how many angles came out of the temple, and how many plagues did they have?
15. Why do you think the number is 7? (refer to Rev. 15:1)
16. What was the Temple of God filled with in verse 8?
17. For how long was no one able to enter the temple?
8. What are these saints given in heaven after all they have gone through? (Refer to 2 Thess. 1:7)

Spiritual Application:

18. Do you see a correlation between the Tribulation Saints and the Israelites following the Exodus from Egypt? (Ex. 14: 13-31) Explain
14. Read the beautiful song in Ex. 15:1-18. What did the women do? (v.20)

11. The Israelites had to cross thru the water by faith. Joshua and the people crossed the Jordan by faith. (Joshua 3) What did Rahab say in Joshua 2:21a?

9. What did Mary mother of Jesus say when the angel Gabriel told her she, being a virgin, would give birth to messiah? (Luke 1:38)

10. How are you saved? Do you believe?

7. What's the promise of Jesus in Acts 26:18b?

8. Look up these scriptures and write a brief meaning:

Habakkuk 2:4-

Luke 17:5-

Romans 1:16-17-

2 Corinthians 5:7-

8. Look up the word "faith" in the dictionary and write it's meaning.

5. Now write out what the Bible says in Heb. 11:1.

11. God knows all your troubles, what is the reward for you and all who believe and look forward to His appearing? (2 Tim 4:8a)

Personal:

Take a moment to picture the scene in heaven, millions and billions, too many to count, but all can be heard singing, loudly, joyfully, so happy to be there! Surrounded by a rainbow of creation, a crystal blue sea of peace, and the brightness of His beauty, His eyes, His hands, His smile, His powerful love for us! We're unable to contain the pure love we've been given for all, and the emotion of it all fills our entire being to overflowing as if we could fly and be lifted off the ground! Eternity seems like only a moment because of the pure ecstasy, the wonders, and the joy and excitement of it all!

In your own words, what do you think heaven is like?

Has a song ever moved you to tears? Why?

As John took his eyes off the world catastrophes and focused on heaven, he saw and heard a new song. Will you today, take your eyes off the world for a moment, focus on heaven, and the face of Jesus, and write your "new Song!"

What is your prayer?

Do you have any comments or questions regarding this study today?

Isaiah 35:4 “Say to those who are fearful-hearted, be strong, do not fear!
Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God;
He will come and save you.”

The Revelation of Jesus Christ

Let the Bowls Begin!

Chapter 16 Lesson 16

Memory Verse:

From Psalm 76:7 “whom may stand in your presence when once you are angry?”

Read verses 1-21

The 1st 4 bowls that the angels hold and pour out on the earth are more of the same as in the first 4 trumpets, except exceedingly greater! The people left are just so hard hearted that the Lord has to keep repeating Himself over and over with a louder and stronger voice because they just don't want to listen.

The first bowl is personal. The 2nd - 4th bowls harm again the earth, sea, rivers, and sun. The 5th bowl targets the antichrist and his kingdom. The 6th bowl targets the river Euphrates, (because God has a plan) and the 7th bowl ends with a bang! It's payback time. There is a personal reason why each bowl is targeted where it goes and why.

People still living on what's left of the earth have already suffered tremendously. Instead of repenting, obeying, and fearing God, they blaspheme God, and remain hard-hearted, unrepentant just like Pharaoh. These final series of judgment bowls will fulfill God's plan, cause the fall of "Babylon," lead to the great war of Armageddon, and the ultimate glorious appearing of Jesus Christ as KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS!

Questions:

22. What was in the first bowl and who did it target? Do you think this was personal and why?

2. What was the second bowl and what did it target? What happened?

15. What was the third bowl, and what did it target?

4. Why do you think the Lord turned all the waters into blood? (refer to Rev.16:6)

5. What did the 4th angel pour his bowl on? What power was given him?

16. What's different about the 5th bowl in verse 10?

7. What does this darkness cause the people to do?

16. In verse 12, on what does the angel pour out the 6th bowl, and why?

9. Satan, the Beast is furious, what does he release on planet earth and why? (v. 13-14)

10. What is the warning given in verse 15?

11. Where are all the demonic armies of the kings and Satan gathered?
(v.16)

The name "Armageddon comes from two Hebrew words, har Megiddo, = the hill of Megiddo, and the word Megiddo, means "place of the troops." or "place of the slaughter."

12. Where does the 7th angel pour his bowl, and what does the Lord say?

13. What is the result of God's great earthquake in verse 20?

19. God cannot be denied! What is the weight of the hail that fell on men and why do you think that size? (v.21)

15. Look up Lev. 24:16 what does it say the punishment for blasphemy is?

Spiritual Application:

16. These loathsome sores remind us of the plagues that swept thru Egypt. Look up Ex. 9: 9-10b; write out the comparison.

16. What's the promise for those who change their mind and repent? (Deut: 28:7)

17. When the 2nd trumpet sounded in Rev. 8:8 only one-third was turned to blood.

Fill in the blanks from Rev. 16:3b. "___ became blood, as of a dead man; and _____ living creature in the sea died."

4. What happens when all of the water is dead and bloody? Can you think of why the Lord would choose this as a perfect form of justice?

5. What does Malachi 4:1 say about the heat of the sun?

6. In the 5th bowl judgment, there is a very bad darkness. What was the darkness like according to Exodus 10:21b?

7. God's judgments are perfect! Where did the darkness come from in Rev. 9:2?

The armies of Satan and all his little parlor tricks are NOTHING for The LORD THY GOD KING OF THE UNIVERSE!

We have to remember how wicked the people who are left at this point are! The sinful people who are left in the world hate God and despise His people. They are filled with pride and utter hatred for God; they mock and blaspheme Him and His complete goodness.

Satan, like always thinks he can win, and be god, so much so that he gathers together armies of demons and kings to fight HIM on the hill and valleys of Har Megiddo. But our GOD is an awesome GOD, and the LORD laughs at such folly!

Psalm 2:4-5, "He who sits in the heavens shall laugh; The LORD shall hold them in derision. Then He shall speak to them in His wrath, and distress them in His deep displeasure."

Personal:

The bowls are filled with wrath, not grace! Today, grace abounds! In light of what you've just studied, what do you think it takes to end the stubbornness of humankind?

How long did it take you to accept the grace of God?

We live by faith, and since faith is a gift, how do you think you can get more of it?

People are going to get saved and people are going to die and go to hell. Knowing time is short and these are the last days, what is your prayer?

Do you have any comment or question from today's study?

The Revelation of Jesus Christ

The Great Harlot

Chapter 17 Lesson 17

Read verses 1-18 The Apostate Church is described

Memory Verse:

Jude 17, "But you, beloved, **REMEMBER** the words which were spoken before by the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ."

The Harlot is identified with Babylon. (v.5) Babylon has become the whole world. It is the giant beast of a one world governmental system.

The harlot is the one world accepted global church. It is a worldly, wealthy, false religious whole system that has merged with the governmental one world system! It means church and state are one, working together.

John sees the church for what it is, a great harlot. Like a prostitute, she takes money for favors, she entices, corrupts, seduces, bribes, and most of all deceives people into following her way of thinking, and her way of thinking is to follow Antichrist as messiah. The Antichrist just uses her to get people to follow him. If people think the antichrist is "religious," they're more apt to think him a kind, charming, a "good person."

The False Prophet is the man in charge of the Harlot. He is the head of the church. (Example: the Pope is in charge of the Catholic Church) Anyone who doesn't follow this liberal, all inclusive antichrist worshipping church will be killed and thought of as unpatriotic, a heretic, bigot, etc.....and they will be beheaded! (Rev. 20:4)

The true church, (in heaven now) is called the “bride of Christ.” “Wife of the Lamb,” (21:9) she is also called’ “A city!” The New Jerusalem, the Holy City. (19:7; 21:2, 9) So it’s no wonder that the antichrist would have a bride also. His harlot, is also called a city, (v. 18) however, she get’s killed when he doesn’t need her anymore! (v.16) Antichrist wants to be worshiped alone as the one true god.

Questions:

1. What are the 7 heads, and ten horns mentioned in verse 3? (v.9 & 12)
2. Can you think of a religious system today that sits on 7 mountains, and or hills, that’s called a city?

Leaders Guide- Istanbul, Turkey; Vatican City, Rome; Capital Hill, Washington DC (the religious system is money/power)

3. God is still giving chances to repent! What does He say in 18:4?

23. Who is the scarlet beast that the woman (church) sits on in verse 3? (v.8)

16. Scarlet is a brilliant red color, what color is Satan? (rev.12:3)

17. What does Is. 1:18 also say the color of sin is?

17. What do you think John means when he says 10 kings that have no kingdom yet? (v. 12)

Leaders Guide- (politically powerful people behind the scenes, powerful people like CEO’s, corporations, oil tycoons, technology tycoons, the hidden rich and not famous, people who control the money)

8. What are these kings planning on doing to the Lamb of God Jesus Christ? What will Jesus do as the Lamb? (Refer to v. 14)

The harlot, aka the church, sits on many waters, and kings, or rulers, and people have all bought into her deceptive and wicked ways (v.1) the controlling power is Satan himself who controls the world and uses the harlot (church) for his benefit until he needs her no more. Then he destroys her completely, making her desolate, in other words--no more church of ANY kind, since he alone wants to be worshiped.

It's both literal, and metamorphic. It's literal in the sense that it is an actual place, probably surrounded by water. Probably a bustling city, a great city of wealth and commerce, politics and back door deals; where a multitude of different people from different nations and languages all meet.

It's metamorphic in the sense that the world and the people in it have all been corrupted, have all made deals with the devil and compromised on something. The harlot is everyone, and sits on many waters because the whole world is drowning in sin. We all need a Savior, and we all need to repent or be lost forever in a sea, an abyss, of sin and death.

1. Look up Rev. 2:13, where does it say Satan's throne is?

20. What country is Pergamos located in? (you can use the internet, concordance, or atlas)

17. What happens to this harlot church when Satan is done with her? (v. 16)

17. In verse 17a, who gives the kings (the 10 horns) the idea to get rid of the harlot?

Spiritual Application:

18. John was amazed and marveled when he saw the harlot was adorned in beauty, her “outward” appearance, far different from the “inward” appearance. Relate the description in verse 4a to the inner of v. 4b-6 and how you might be deceived by such a church.

(Leaders guide- how many people go into a church and join because it's popular without finding out what's going on behind the scenes? How many people are Bareans about the scriptures? How many people hear a movie star and believe them just because they are famous? How many people believe the history channel just because it's on TV?)

18. Dan. 11:38-39 gives more insight on how the antichrist will deceive people. What does it say?

19. What is hidden in the harlot's cup? (v.4; 18:24)

3b. Look up “abomination” in the dictionary, then look up “loathing” and write its meaning.

15. What does Nahum 3:1, 4 call Nineveh? And what does he accuse her of?

12. What does Jeremiah 51:7 call Babylon?

10. Match what the last words of 2 Kings 9:36 (describing the death of Jezebel) to the description of the “the harlot’s’ destruction in Rev. 17:16b.

Nineveh, Babylon, Egypt, Jezebel, have all been used as metaphors to describe a harlot, an abomination, a filthy and disgusting thing unto the Lord. This compromising lifestyle looks good on the outside because it seem to be “Inclusive.” But, in reality, it is seen as harlotry to the Lord. Its ways and paths lead to destruction and death and so the Lord who is rich in grace and mercy pleads again in Rev. 18:4 “Come out of her my people!”

7. What is the warning from Jesus in the letter to Thyatira in Rev. 2:20? What do they go thru if they don’t repent? (Rev. 2:22b)

Personal:

We are all attracted to “outward beauty,” but it’s the “inward beauty” that sustains us. Can you think of a personal experience where you “judged a book by its cover” and were very wrong?

How much time do you spend maintaining the beauty of your outside, verses the real beauty of your inside that God sees?

What are some of the worldly things you are attracted to?

Can you see this becoming a “trap?”

What brings control?”

As the world calls us to be more “tolerant,” loose and accepting of all things and all religions, do you feel the call to more moral purity? Why or why not?

Do you think, “Tolerance” paves the way for the harlot church to fully emerge?

In light of this, how are you living your life?

What is your prayer?

Do you have any questions or comments from this weeks study?

The Revelation of Jesus Christ

Babylon the Great is Destroyed

Chapter 18 Lesson 18

Read verses 1-24

Memory Verse:

“And I heard another voice from heaven saying, “Come out of her my people, lest you share in her sins, and lest you receive of her plagues.....” Rev. 18:4

In chapter 17 we see the one world religious Babylon, in chapter 18 we see the one world economic and political Babylon.

The Lord says in verse 4, “Come out of her my people.” A last cry from the Lord in heaven to wake up and leave the things of the world behind, because it is going to be destroyed and you will get what she gets if you remain in it.

Babylon originated with the spread of civilization over the earth after the flood. In the Old Testament it was called Babel, where human government began its rebellion against God. (Gen. 11:1-9) Started by Nimrod, this wondrous ancient city would later enslave Israel. Its name, “Babylon” would survive throughout history as representing a corrupt system which would grow to enslave the whole world like a giant beast, and be a trap for the true church.

The phrase, “is fallen, is fallen,” in verse 2, suggests a double or dual judgment, and is confirmed in verse 6. Perhaps this double judgment is also because there are 2 sides to Babylon; Babylon the harlot in chapter 17

and Babylon the political giant of chapter 18. Since this system has polluted and deceived the whole world, it must be judged and destroyed.

Questions:

Reread verses 1-19

24. Fill in the blanks concerning this angel the Bible talks about in verse 1. (taken from NKJV) "After these things I saw another angel coming down from heaven with _____, and the _____ was _____ with _____ glory.

(Leaders guide--- great, authority, earth, illuminated, his)

17. Describe in verse 2 what's happened to the world and what's it's become in your own words.

(Leaders Guide --This mighty angel is shedding light on a very dark and demon possessed world. Exposing that the whole world has become Babylon, and a dwelling place full of demons, everyone is imprisoned here)

18. What does verse 1 call Babylon?

(Leaders Guide- the earth)

3. In verse 3, who has been deceived by her, and by what means?

18. What happens to those people who choose to stay? (refer to v. 4, 8)

5. What is the reaction of everyone when Babylon is destroyed? (v. 9b, 10a, 11a)

6. In the destruction of this Babylon, v. 13 describes all the things lost. Write the last 6 words of verse 13 (NKJV).
7. How long does it take to wipe her out? (v. 8, 17, 19)
8. While the earth is weeping over the destruction, what is heaven doing? (v. 20)
9. What's the final blow to Babylon in verse 21?
10. Verse 24 gives the reason for such a final destruction, what is it?

Spiritual Application:

21. What does Jer. 51: 7 say Babylon was in the Lords hand? What did she do? Explain in your own words, if you have any insight on this.
18. God is so merciful! He always takes time in the midst of judgment to call for separation. (Rev. 18:4) Go back to Lot in Gen. 18:23-32. Abraham negotiates the number of people who would be saved, if they could be found. With what number did he start out, and with what number did he settle? Was God faithful?

3. Compare the destruction of Sodom and Gomorra, (Gen. 19: 24, 28, and 29) with the destruction of Babylon. (Rev. 18: 8, 17, 21, 23)

18. In Rev. 18: 23 what goes out, and doesn't shine anymore there?
And who is not heard there anymore?

5. How is God's invitation in the middle of Rev. 4:1 different from the warning given in Rev. 18:4?

God has given the final warning in Revelation 18:4. There is no more remnant left in this place! Our God is so patient and long-suffering; He will still keep his promise of Rev. 3:10 to any who will listen at this last time.

“Because you have kept my commandments to persevere, I also will keep you from the hour of trial which shall come upon the whole world, to test those who dwell on the earth.” Rev. 3:10

Suggested reading: 1 John 2:15-23

Personal:

Go thru the list of all the merchandise that Babylon supplied and traded with the people in verses 12-13, what items stand out to you and why? What would you miss?

Why do you think Lot's wife was turned into a pillar of salt for just looking back?

God is calling you "out" to be sanctified, because He does not want anyone to perish. He loves you, He died for you, and He reaches in to the uttermost areas of your heart and being, to pull you out of the world. What idols hold you back? Is there anything keeping you from loving Him the way you should?

In these last days, as the wheat is being separated from the chaff, there are two kinds of people, metaphorically speaking, those who live in Babylon, and those who live in the New Jerusalem. What do you think I mean by that, and where do you live?

What's your prayer?

Do you have any questions or comments from this weeks study?

The Revelation of Jesus Christ

KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS!

Chapter 19 Lesson 19

Memory Verse:

Rev. 19:16, "And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS!"

Read verses 1-21 **The 2nd Coming of Christ**

It's all coming to an end, which is really the beginning! God had a plan, and we are seeing the fulfillment of that plan! Heaven's response to the destruction of Babylon.....REJOICE!.....ALLEUIA, which is the Greek word for the Hebrew word, HALLELUJAH, which means=PRAISE THE LORD!

One of my favorite scriptures in the Bible is Isaiah 26:9

"And it will be said in that day: "Behold, this is our God; we have waited for Him, and He will save us. This is the LORD; we have waited for Him; we will be glad and rejoice in His salvation."

Both the satanic economic-political system and the apostate religious system have been wiped out. They were both guilty of deception, corruption, and the slaughtering, persecuting, and beheading of God's people.

There are 2 suppers spoken of here: There is the marriage supper of the Lamb, (v.9) with Jesus Christ and His wife, (v.7). And, there is also the supper of the great God, which includes all the birds of heaven, (and I don't think these are your cute little sparrows or hummingbirds!) These are probably very hungry birds of prey, like vultures, (v.17, 18) that are sent to eat the flesh off of the dead at the battle of Armageddon.

There are 2 rewards: One is the beautiful white robe, (v. 8) given to all those who enter heaven. The other is a reward of death, fire, and brimstone, (v. 20, 21).

Right now we see things from our own earthly perspective. We don't and can't possibly see the whole picture. But, when we get to heaven all questions will be answered as we see things from God's heavenly perspective. So until then, we trust, because He is the righteous, true, and faithful good KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS!

God has been reigning in heaven, but now He is going to take His rightful throne here on planet earth. He is coming in a blaze of glory, on a white horse, sword drawn, in victory, with us, His wife following behind Him on our own white horses. From now on there is joy and great rejoicing because the end of the tribulation and the reigning of the KING has come!

There is NO power in heaven or on earth that is above Him! Satan is captured, and the false prophet is killed! So, the last part of the Lord's Prayer is fulfilled: "FOR THINE IS THE KINGDOM, AND THE POWER, AND THE GLORY, FOREVER, AND EVER AMEN!"

Questions:

Verses 1-6 speak about tremendous praising, worshiping, and singing. We do not rejoice at the sufferings of others, or the sinfulness of man, but we rejoice because God is "faithful, true and righteous!"

25. Compare the worship between the elders and the living creatures in verse 4 with the praise of the multitude in verses 1-3?

18. How important do you think worship is here on earth today and why?

19. In Rev. 3:20 the door is closed and Jesus is standing there knocking. What do you have to do to let Him enter?

19. What does John see in Rev. 4:1? What are the usual reasons for an “open door?”

22. Why now is “heaven standing open” in verse 11?

b. Who do you see and what is He riding?

c. Who is following Him (v.14) and what are they wearing and riding?

6. Look up the word “Omnipotent” in v.6 and write its meaning.

7. See Is. 1:18; Rev. 7:14. What has God already done to make you ready for this event?

8. After the marriage ceremony described in v.7-9, what subtle change do you see in verse 7?

Table Leaders guide- (answer: she is no longer a bride, but a wife!)

19. In verse 10, John is overwhelmed at what he’s seeing. He probably thinks this is the Lord as he begins to worship him. Who does this turn out to be and what does he say?

10. If I saw an angel, I would probably think it was Jesus too! Why shouldn't we worship angels? (Refer to Heb. 1:4-7, 2:8)

19. The angel gives a blessing in verse 9, what is it? And how does this encourage you?

12. Who treads the winepress in v. 15?

19. Go back to Rev. 14:20 what does it say about the winepress?

14. What do you think Jesus speaks out of His mouth to stop the war at Armageddon?

15. What happens to Satan and the false prophet? (v. 20-21) (Dan. 7:11)

Spiritual Application:

19. Look up these scriptures and write the promises of God.

Is. 25:8 --

Rev. 7:17 --

Rev. 21:4 --

2. According to Isaiah 66:14a, what's the 1st thing that we will feel at Jesus 2nd coming?

3. Who worships the Lord in Is. 66:23b?

20. What does Zechariah 14:7 say about the day that Messiah comes?

“Then the LORD will go forth and fight against those nations, as He fights in the day of battle. And in that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, which faces Jerusalem on the east, and the Mount of Olives shall be split in two, from east to west, making a very large valley; half of the valley shall be moved toward the north and half of it toward the south....” (Zech. 14:3-4)

Personal:

As a bride of Christ myself, one of my most favorite scriptures is Rev. 19:16. As a bride of Christ yourself, what is one of your most favorite scriptures?

Brides always prepare for the wedding. Rev. 19:7 says that the “wife has made herself ready...” Is there an area of your life that you need to make ready before His 2nd coming?

Read John 1:14, 18, and then again, Rev. 3:20. Have you opened the door of your heart to Christ?

If you would like to, bow your head and get on your knees and pray these simple words:

Dear LORD, I know that I am a sinner, and I am so truly sorry for the way that I have conducted my life.

PLEASE FORGIVE ME, I REPENT, I WANT TO CHANGE MY DIRECTION!

I want to follow you all the way to heaven
and everywhere
as you take your place
as KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS
in my heart and in my life forever and always.

I accept your grace, and am grateful for your sacrifice.

Thank you Lord for forgiving me and loving me, and waiting patiently for me all this time.

Now will you please help me to follow you all the rest of the days of my life?

I love you Lord
and I praise and worship you alone
in Jesus name
Amen.

Do you have a question or comment on today's study?

The Revelation of Jesus Christ

The Millennium

Chapter 20 Lesson 20

Read verses 1-15

Memory Verse:

Isaiah 6:1, "I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up, and the train of His robe filled the temple."

There are more prophecies about this kingdom than any other topic in the whole Bible. The coming of Messiah is the very heart of the Old Testament prophecies. The phrase "thousand years" appears 6 times in verses 1-7!

Millennium comes from 2 Latin words, mille, (thousand) and annum (year). Finally! Jesus the Christ is ruler over all the earth! This is the fulfillment of God's promise. (Matt. 6:19; Psalm 2; Luke 1:30-33). This is a peaceful world free from sin and bondage, where the light of Christ's glory shines brighter than the sun, and a river of living water flows from His throne. (Rev. 22:1) This is the blessed hope that we have been waiting for. (Rom. 8:19-24)

Satan is captured and bound for a little while then released and then thrown into the lake of fire and brimstone to be tormented day and night FOREVER AND EVER!

There is a great white throne judgment, the books are all opened and people either get their rewards or not! All are judged, and evil is cast away.

Questions:

1. In Rev. 20:1-2 it's very specific with whom the angel captured, what names are used?
2. Describe how the angel put Satan into the bottomless pit, aka-hell, the abyss? (v.3)
3. What activity is Satan's imprisonment designed to stop? (v.3)
26. How long is his prison sentence?
19. Who does 2 Peter 2:4 say the bottomless pit (hell) was created for, and why?

Rev. 20: 4 "And I saw thrones, and they sat on them and judgment was committed to them. Then I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for their witness to Jesus and for the word of God, who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and not received his mark on their foreheads or on their hands and they lived and reigned with Christ for a thousand years."

20. According to Rev. 20:4-6 who will be included in the 1st resurrection and what will we be doing? (see also Dan. 7:27; Matt. 25: 21)
- 6b. Who does the 2nd death have NO power over?
20. Do you think Satan will change after 1000 years in hell? What does 20: 8 say he does after being released?

23. How does the Lord put Satan into the lake of fire and brimstone?
(v.10)

20. Who is Satan's company there? (v.10)

10. Death and Hades were the "holding tanks" so to speak for the lost, who refused to acknowledge the Lord. Where is their ultimate destination?
(v.15)

11. 1. In the 2nd death, who is judged according to verse 12, and how were they judged?

Spiritual Application:

There are "Other Books" that the Bible talks about in verse 12 which record our works. There is also "The Book of Life" which is given freely to all those who believe and choose to follow Jesus Christ as their Messiah. Look up the following scriptures and write a brief meaning in your own words.

John 1:12--

John 11:25--

John 14:6--

20. How does the bible say Jesus will rule and reign on planet earth?
(for further insight see Zech 8:3, 5, 8b; Zech 14:9-10)

20. Jesus is Holy and He reigns in holiness, look up Zech 20; Ex 28:36
and write the name used in the New Jerusalem.

3. Write the definition of the word "Holiness."

4. Look up Ephesians 6:12, what won't we war against anymore?

20. Write out Eph. 2:8-9, what is the gift given to us by God Himself?

(Leaders Guide "For by grace you have been saved through faith and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast.".....it's GRACE)

6. Look up these two scriptures and write their meaning in your own words:

Titus 1:16--

2 Tim 3:5-7

Two sets of books, with two different outcomes, for two sets of people. It's a sobering thought.

Personal:

The Bible says we will sit on thrones and judge. (Rev. 20:4) Given that fact, how much responsibility should you be given in heaven today, if it were based on your walk today?

Why do you think Satan will be released after the 1000 years?

Heaven is not going to be boring because God is not boring! Look what He did in just 6 days! What do you think or hope heaven will be like?

What's one of the things you want to ask the Lord when you see Him?

What is your prayer?

Do you have any comments, or questions about todays study?

The Revelation of Jesus Christ

A New Heaven and A New Earth!

Chapter 21 Lesson 21

Read: Rev. 21:1-27

Memory verse:

Rev. 21:3b, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God."

The story of man began in a beautiful garden. It now ends in a city that is a beautiful garden city paradise! The eternal city of God is compared to a beautiful bride (Rev. 21:9) because God will live with His people forever! God had a plan! So what began in Genesis is now completed in Rev. 21!

Questions:

Compare Genesis with Revelation, and fill in the blanks:

1. Genesis: Heaven & earth created (1:1)--
Rev. 21:1 what's created? _____ & _____

2. Genesis: Sun created (1:16)--
What is the light in Rev. 21:23?

3. In Genesis 1:5 the night was established--

What is gone in Rev. 22:5? _____

4. In Gen. 1:10 the seas created--

What is there no more of in Rev. 21:1? ____ _____

(Leaders Guide: The night is a metaphor for darkness, ignorance, and blindness. The sea can also be used as a metaphor for turbulence, trouble, severe persecution, and unstableness.)

5. Gen. 3:14-17; there the curse began--

What is gone and why in Rev. 22:3? ____ _____

6. Gen. 3:17 sorrow and pain begin--

What is there no more of in Rev. 21:4?

6. b What does Isaiah have to say about tears in 25:8 and 65:19?

7. Gen. 3:24 man is driven away from the Tree of Life--

What is found in the middle of the street in Rev. 22:14?

7b. Read Ez. 47:1-12 "The Tree of Life." In your own words list briefly what the tree of life is for.

Reread verses 9-27

John describes a beautiful city as he is watching it descend from God out of heaven. It is an amazing display of jeweled light and wonder! There are layers of precious stones and even the great pearly gates that we've all heard about! It is on a great high mountain. God loves mountains. The Garden of Eden was on a mountain. Ez. 28:13-14, "You were in Eden, the Garden of God....you were on the Holy Mountain of God....."

Our eternal home is a city, real and actual. It is called; "The New Jerusalem" and we who will inhabit it are called "The Bride, the Lambs wife." (Rev. 21:10) We will have the glory of God shining through us like light shining through a precious jewel, jasper, which is a diamond, clear and bright.

27. What is the city made of in Rev. 21:18?

2. What were the foundations of the wall all decorated with? (v.19)

Is. 61:10, "I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my soul shall be joyful in my God; For He has clothed me in the garment of salvation, He has covered me with the robe of righteousness, As a bridegroom decks himself with ornaments, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels."

20. What is written on the 12 gates? (Rev. 21:12) says,

(Leaders Guide: the names of the 12 tribes of the children of Israel)

4. Who does Ezek. 48:31-34 say they are?

21. Whose names are written on the foundations of the city found in Rev. 21:14?

6. Is there a Temple in the New City, and who does it say the temple is? (Rev. 21:22)

21. Are the gates ever closed in the New City? (Rev. 21:25)

Spiritual Application:

24. Write out Isaiah 65:17.

(Leaders Guide: “For behold, I create, new heavens and a new earth; and the former shall not be remembered or come to mind.”)

21. In Isaiah 65:19-25, it goes on to give more detail on how life will be different in the New Earth. In brief, can you list some of the different things?

21. Why do you think that there will be no more sea? (Rev. 21:1)

21. The Bible tells about all the dwelling places of God through out it. First God walked with man in the garden, and then He dwelt with Israel in the tabernacle, and later in the temple. Later Jesus came and tabernacled among us. (John 1:14) Where does God live today? (1 Cor. 6:19-20) & (Eph. 2:21-22)

21. Where does God NOT live today? (Acts 7:48-50)

6. Where will God ultimately dwell? (Rev. 21:3)

7. What does Ezekiel 48:35 name the city “from that day on?”

21. Why are the gates never closed to the New Jerusalem? (Rev. 21:25; Is. 60:11)

8b. Why do you think the Gentiles bring Him wealth? (See Isa. 60:10)

(Leaders Guide: Because God had mercy on them)

16. Who cannot enter this city, and who can? (See Rev. 21:27 and Phil. 4:3a.)

Personal:

The Lord Himself will wipe away all your tears, knowing that, “Daddy Himself” will do it, what image does that conjure up in your mind? How do you as a parent wipe away the tears on a child’s face?

When you picture a beautiful sunset over the ocean, or mountains, or a rainbow, or a colorful autumn day on a lake, what strikes you most is

probably how God uses all the colors to paint a beautiful picture. Thinking of the colors of the New Jerusalem, describe what images it brings to your mind?

God uses precious jewels to show the foundation of this beautiful city. God sees you as one of these precious jewels! The colors are the brightness of our glory given to us by the LORD HIMSELF! Out of all of the stones, which precious jewel do you think you are to the Lord and why?

What is your prayer?

Do you have any comments or questions on today's study?

The Revelation of Jesus Christ

Our Happily Ever After!

Chapter 22 Lesson 22

Read verses 1-21

Memory Verse:

Rev. 22:7 “Behold, I am coming quickly! Blessed is he who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book.”

Here in Chapter 22, the first 5 verses are the end of the story, which is a new beginning for us. This is our happily ever after! We have a pure river of water of life that flows from the throne of God forever.

The Tree of Life is in the middle of the street bearing all kinds of fruit, (v.2) and children are playing in the street, (Zech. 8:5) **Jesus is on the throne** reigning as, “KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS!”

Jesus is the pure water, Jesus is the bread of life, and Jesus is the light of the whole world!

John 8:12, “Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, “I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life.”

John 6:35, “And Jesus said to them, I am the bread of life. He who comes to Me shall never hunger, and he who believes in Me shall never thirst.”

John 4:14, “But whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst. But the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life.”

Verses 6-21 in Revelation are a conclusion to the whole matter. The importance of the book is given in the beginning where the Lord is giving a blessing for those who read this book (Rev. 1:3) and at the end, a strict warning for all those who would tamper with this book. (Rev. 22:18-19) The book is filled with the reaffirmation that this is THE WORD OF GOD! It is a message of hope for all the "Over-comers" and a message of grace, that God gives chance after chance for all the stubborn and hard hearted. It is also a final warning to get off the fence.

It is the final proclamation that Jesus is who He says He is.

Jesus is coming quickly; this book asks.....ARE YOU READY?

Questions:

1. Look in Gen. 2:10-14, how many rivers are in the Garden of Eden?

2. How many rivers are in our "New Garden?" (Rev. 22:1)

28. Turn to Ezek. 47, from the temple, where does the water flow? (v.1)

21. In 47:7, what was along the side of the river? (see Rev. 22:2)

22. In 47:9 how did the water affect everything?

- c. Ezek. 47:10 lists at least one activity that we will be doing in heaven, what is it?

22. What are the trees and leaves used for?

25. In Rev. 22:4a, what shall we see?
confirm this?

How does Matt. 5:8

22. Describe in your own words 1 Cor. 13:12:

22. Write in your own words Rev. 22:18-19.....this is a personal message, and I don't want you to forget it!

Spiritual Application:

22. David, "a man after God's own heart," wrote about the loving kindness of God. What does he say in Psalm 36:8-9?

22. In this New World, the Lord wants us to rest and be satisfied, when we delight in Him, what does He want to give us? (Psalm 37:4)

Psalm 22:27-28, "All the ends of the world shall remember and turn to the LORD, and all the families of all the nations shall worship before You. For the Kingdom is the LORD'S, And He rules over the nations."

3. Take the scripture above and answer the following questions:

a. Who shall remember the LORD?

b. What families shall worship Him?

22. Who does the Lord rule over?

4. In Rev. 22:20 who testifies to all these things written in this book? (Rev. 1:1)

17. What's the invitation in Rev. 22:17? Who do you think He's talking to?

6. What does John write after "Amen in verse 20?"

Is that your attitude today?

Look up the first 3 or 4 words of these scriptures and write them:

Rev. 2:26

Rev. 3:12

Rev. 3:5

Rev. 3:21

Do you see a theme here?

Personal:

Now that you've studied The Book of "The Revelation of Jesus Christ," what is your personal response to all this?

What is your practical response?

What is your emotional response?

The Lord wants your mind, your emotions, and your will.....so does Satan. It's a battle; God wants either all or none! You can have too much of the world in you to be hot, or you can have too much of the Lord in you to be cold. What side of the fence have you chosen to be on?

What's your "take away" from this study, in other words, what have you learned most about the Lord?

What's your prayer?

What's your comment or question about this final chapter?

Questions or comments that will help Dana become a better teacher. (These can remain anonymous if you'd like)

What did you like most about this class and study?

Were you bored, confused, or just didn't get it?

Were your questions answered?

Do you feel you are a little better prepared for when Pastor Ray goes through this book?

Does this make you want to understand prophecy more?

Did you feel that I tied in the OT with the NT enough?

Was there too much homework, or too little?

Should I teach again? If so, what?

PLEASE TURN THIS SHEET INTO YOUR TABLE LEADERS!

References: Used in the study guide

I used Pastor Ray's personal notes and his personal study. I used many misc. quotes from him throughout! THANK YOU PASTOR RAY!!!! AND THANK YOU VICKI FOR ALL YOUR SUPPORT!!

My Bible! NKJV (The Open Bible by Nelson)

Halley's Bible Handbook

Jon Courson's Commentary

Warren W. Wiersbe's "Be Victorious" Revelation Study

Dr. David Jeremiah's book "What in the World is Going On"

Various global internet sights