

## Yet to Come: LESSON 13 (Apr 27/28, 2021)

### *The New Heaven and Earth, The Defeat of Babylon, the Fall of Satan*



#### Read Rev 21–22

1. Verses 21:1-4 begins to describe the new heaven and the new earth as well as God's promises. Which one of these promises sticks out to you the most and why?
2. Read Ezekiel 43:7. Which promise does this passage refer to? Why is it important to read Revelation in light of the Old Testament?
3. The Father speaks directly to John in 21:5–8. What does the Father say to John and why do you think He says this?
4. John describes a lot of wonderful things about our future existence in the New Jerusalem, but not a lot of details. Why do you think that is the case?
5. The ultimate good news for God's people is the ultimate bad news for those who refuse to believe. What will you do to reach the unreached so that perhaps their names might be written in the book of life?

#### Read Rev 17–18 (ESV Heading: *The Great Prostitute and the Beast, The Fall of Babylon*)

6. How do the opening verses of Ch. 17 describe the relationship between the great prostitute and kings of the earth?
7. This woman was described as being "drunk with the blood of the saints, the blood of the martyrs of Jesus" in verse 17:6. The persecution of God's people—to the point of death—is a sobering reality. Why do you think we rarely talk about persecution in North American churches?



8. Pastor Mark mentioned in his sermon that sometimes the strange images we see in Revelation are explained if we keep reading and do so carefully. How does verse 17:18 help us understand the image of the prostitute and what she represents?

9. Psalm 2 is very helpful to get fuller understanding of Revelation 18. Read Psalm 2, noting the descriptions of those who are plotting/planning against the Lord and against his Anointed (Ps 2:1–2, 10–12). Which of these groups do you see in Revelation 18?

10. Read verses 18:4–8, which is a warning for God’s people to stay out of Babylon because “her sins are heaped as high as heaven.” What do you think the root of all Babylon’s sin is, as revealed in her heart (18:7)?

11. The voice from heaven also says that the kings and merchants of the earth and others will weep and mourn for Babylon. What danger does this reveal to us? How do we avoid following Christ in our words but accommodating Babylon in our deeds and lifestyles?

12. Read Revelation 20. How does it feel knowing that one day Satan will be defeated?

13. Revelation 20: 11-15 describes a judgment scene before a great white throne. Is it a comfort or a concern to you that there will be a final judgment?

14. We have reached the end of CASKET EMPTY! As we started, the tree of life stood in the midst of the garden (Gen 2:9) and humans walked in the presence of God, but we were thrown out due to sin and it was lost to us. But as the redeemed people of God, redeemed by the blood of the Lamb, one day we will see the tree of life again and eat from it freely in the new Jerusalem (Rev 22:3, 14) as once again we will dwell directly in the presence of the Lord God Almighty. How would you explain this awesome truth to someone far from God?